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Gardening ILLUSTRATED

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

VOL. LI.—No. 2600 Saturday, January 5, 1929 TWOPENCE

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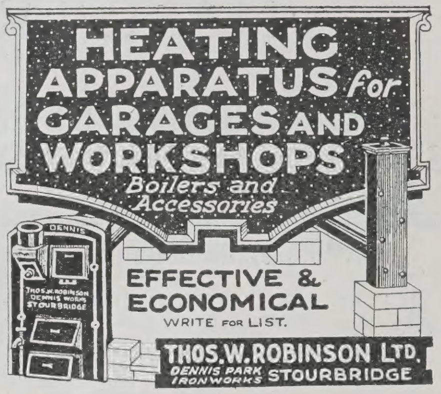

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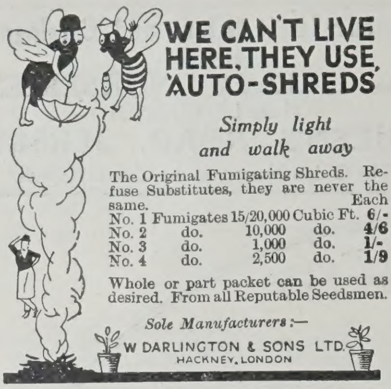
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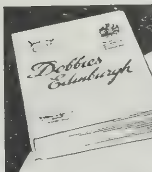

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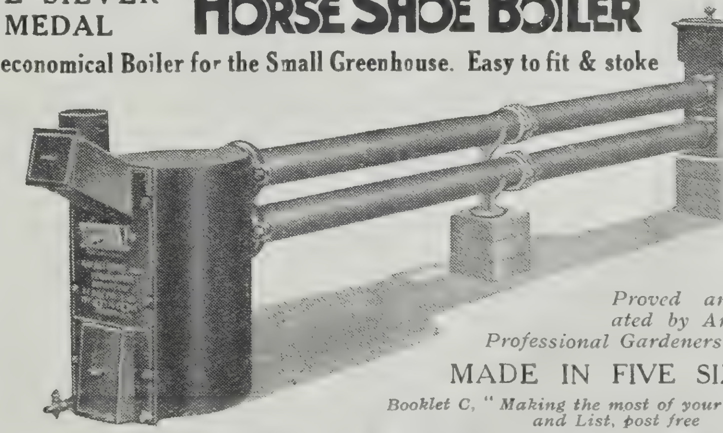

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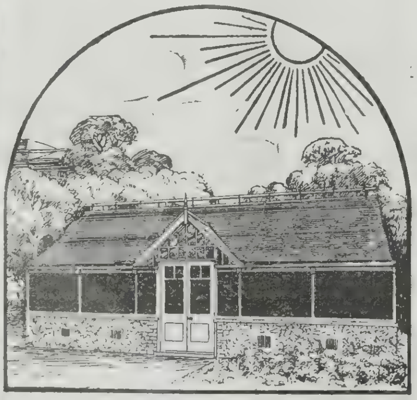

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GARDENING

Illustrated

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Ricardi Irises: A Warning and an Appeal

This article will be eagerly welcomed by many lovers of bearded Irises, but it is likely to provoke criticism, and we hope correspondence, from those anxious to defend their pet race of Irises

DURING the last few years Iris growers have encountered a difficulty which is increasing in intensity year by year, nd, in the interests of amateur gardeners, it necessary that a warning be given at once. he matter is of some urgency because the ajority of those who order from catalogues re unaware of the trap which is lying in ait for them, and some, even, of those who re following the modern developments in ises are sometimes hard put to it to apply eir knowledge.

The trouble is at new varieties erived from rosses between is Ricardi and ther bearded Irises re being raised in ver-increasing umbers and put nto commerce ithout any warning that they are nsuitable, generlly speaking, for utdoor culture in ost parts of this ountry.

There has been, nd still is, some onfusion between Ricardi, I. ypriana, and I. esopotamica. xperts are not greed, but the iews held by Mr. ilkington, the ecretary of the Iris ociety, receive a rge measure of cceptance, and ay, for all practical purposes, be dopted by amateur gardeners, at least until ey are modified by some new accessions of nowledge. Mr. Pilkington apparently olds that the three are distinct but allied ecies, although in one place he does refer I. Mesopotamica as a form of I. Ricardi. ome raisers, *e.g.*, Foster and Hort, have sed I. Cypriana to a considerable extent in eir hybridising, and several American isers are using I. Mesopotamica, but the reatest recent development arises out of the se of I. Ricardi as a parent.

I. Ricardi certainly came to Europe from Syria and, as a native (possibly) of that hot, dry country, does not find itself at home in England, and sulks accordingly. Unfortunately, nearly all of its derivatives do likewise, and it is no comfort to English gardeners to know that these varieties are happy with Mons. Denis in the south of France, and are actually rampant growers and free flowering in the gardens of Countess Giulia Senni in Rome.

The lovely pale mauve Iris Mdlle. Schwartz

Tall and free flowering, it is one of the refined race of Ricardi Irises that with a little protection appears to have a good chance of success in English gardens

The characteristics of the Ricardi hybrids are tall stems, large flowers, late habit of blooming and delicacy of constitution. The difficulty of cultivating them here is not lessened by their tendency, given a suitable soil and aspect, to grow steadily throughout the winter, with the consequence that they run the risk of being cut down by spring frosts, only to recover when it is too late to produce flowering stems. The tall stems are flexuous and the weight of the heavy flowers is often too much for them, so that it is not unusual for the stems to bend and eventually sprawl on the ground.

Some growers are hopeful that in these hybrids we shall in time secure the ideal, tall, bearded Irises, with perfect form, large flowers, horizontal or flaring falls, strong stems, clear colours, and, perhaps, two crops of flowers in the season. They point out that some of them have accommodated themselves fairly well to English conditions, and, of course, it is quite possible that the present weakness may be bred out. But there is a considerable distance to go yet if we may judge by the experiences of those who are at present cultivating them to any extent. For example, Mr. Baker says that in his Kent garden he finds it difficult to keep them alive for more than two years, Mrs. Murrell declares that at Orpington they are almost a complete failure, and Mr. Pilkington (Lancashire), who is growing them better than anyone else in England, has to give them the protection of specially designed frames. In America, Mr. Wister and Mr. Schreiner declare that they cannot get on with them. On the other hand, it is only fair to mention that Mr. Long had considerable success with them in his Surrey garden without taking any special precautions. He has exhibited fine spikes of Mons. Cornuault, and speaks well of Mme. Durand. Mr. Sadler is another member of the Iris Society who, at Streatham, does not find it necessary to make any differentiation in his treatment of Ricardis.

On the whole, it appears that it would be well to put Ricardi derivatives in a class by themselves. Let the Iris Society declare a separate classification and request nurserymen to group Ricardis in their catalogues under one heading, with a warning note that they are hardly suitable for outdoor culture. The rating of these Irises, too, should be a subject for discussion. My own opinion is that it should be held in abeyance until it is possible to judge a fair number of varieties which, like Fismes, Troost, and Mdlle. Schwartz, seem to have a good chance of success in our gardens. Whether Cypriana and Mesopotamica derivatives should also be included in this special section is doubtful. American growers find a difficulty in growing and flowering Sir Arthur Hort's Cypriana hybrids in the northern half of the United States, but the same difficulty does not appear to have been experienced here, at all events not to any marked extent. Mohr and Mitchell, in America, have used I. Mesopotamica freely, and their introductions are beginning to be seen in England. It is to be hoped that their constitution is better than that of the Ricardi hybrids, but it is alarming to find that some of the American growers are already sounding a warning note with regard to them.

So far as I have been able to trace, the following Ricardi hybrids are in commerce. I should be glad to be informed of any errors in the list or omissions therefrom. Avril, Algol, Arsace, Boréal, Carthusian, Clement Desormes, Flavescens Ricardi, Fismes, Gargantua, General Galliéni, Gernez, Henri, Hestiones, J. B. Dumas, Jussieux, Lepinoux, Leverrier, Mme. Cecile Bouscant, Mme. Chabal, Mme. Claude Mounet, Mme. Durrand, Mme. J. Vernoux, Mme. Lamouche, Menetrier, Mdlle. André Autissier, Mdlle. Schwartz, Micheline Charraire, Miss Cawell, Mons. Brun, Mons. Chaber, Mons. Cornuault, Mons. Hautefeuille, Mons. Hubert, Mons. Massé, Mons. Olivier Perthuis, Perdita, Renée Denis, Renée Laborde, Ricardi blanc bleuté, R. foncé, Saüll, Silva, Souv. de Lœtitia Michaud, Troost.

WYNN HELLINGS.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

The bird bath in frosty weather

IN times of severe frost birds not only suffer from hunger and cold, but also from thirst. When lakes and ponds are frozen over a small portion is kept open, and any ice broken each morning. Any small vessel, such as a bird bath, containing water is always liable to be cracked by frost, as the formation of ice brings a considerable pressure to bear on the sides. It may be saved from damage by placing an empty stone jar in the water within the bird bath with the neck downwards and kept from touching the bottom by allowing it to rest on four flat pieces of stone. The inverted jar is, of course, filled with air, but this is compressed when the water freezes, and acts like a cushion, so relieving the pressure of the ice on the bird bath. When constructing large receptacles to contain water the sides should not be made perpendicular, but slightly sloping, so that the top is larger than the bottom. If this rule was observed many a troublesome crack and leak would be avoided. Fountains and more elaborate constructions should be emptied and care taken that no snow accumulates or rain-water allowed to freeze. The protection of the bird bath is assured in an easy way by the above simple method.

H. H. W.

Brighton.

Fumigating with Cyanogas

With reference to fumigating with Cynogas, G Grade, its effect on Vine leaves, especially Muscat and Lady Downes, I fumigated with Cynogas as soon as we cut Grapes in a Hamburgh house—containing one young Muscat and one Lady Downes—in
early September for Mealy Bug without
jury to the foliage. I used material stron
than directed by Mr. Geo. Monro with spl
did results. The house was clear exc
a few plants for a test. I wetted lea
of Coleus and left some dry. Wet o
burned. In summer a dull day or night
best to fumigate with Cynogas. Its eff
on Mealy Bug is splendid and, with c
care, quite safe. I have used it for th
years to control Bug, and am well plea
with its effect.

READER

Anchusa myosotidiflora

In defence of Anchusa myosotidiflora (pa
770 of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED), it is obvi
that "An Amateur of Hardy Flowers"
growing this moisture-loving plant un
hopeless conditions. Probably he has one
those dry, tidy, weedless, English bord
which fill us western Irish with amazeme
Let him move the abused plant to a wet
not dark part of his garden and see
difference if the plant is not too far gone
recover.

I have given this Anchusa to Engl
friends, and scarcely recognised it in th
gardens as the same plant. Here it is
soil which at this moment (December 2
one might fairly call mud, but I know t
next year during April, May, and June
will be a mass of feathery plumes, som
yard long, thickly covered with its small s
blue flowers and impervious to the late fr
which injure modern Forget-me-nots.

I consider that its only drawback is its s
each plant in congenial conditions taking
a lot of room, and it is here as unsuitable
a herbaceous border as a Megasea would

A lump of suet for the blue tits

They have been feeding on insects all the summer and autumn and they deserve a little help in these lean days

Robins like chopped Almonds, cheese, mealworms, biscuit crumbs, and currants ay I beg your correspondent, if he has not suitable damp position, to give it to some riend who has. The individual flowers are mall, but so are those of Astilbes.

Co. Fermanagh. W. L. C.

—— I should like to suggest to " An mateur of Hardy Flowers " that the reason e fails with Anchusa myosotidiflora is that e plants it in ordinary, perhaps rich, garden oil. I put one or two in the herbaceous order, but quickly took them out as they ere practically all leaf. Now I grow quan-ties in the wilder part of the rock garden. n sandy, dry, poor, very poor, soil, and ere the leaves are small, the flowers stand p high above them in sheets of blue, and ey last for weeks. They are universally dmired. A sloping bank of them with ielytra formosa below and Grape Hyacinths among the latter forms a charming picture.

Godstone. N. S. C.

Berberis Wilsonæ as a wall plant

AS a reader of your valued paper I think the enclosed snap might be of interest to you—viz., Berberis Wilsonæ, grown s a wall plant on my entrance porch here, nd which, I think, one rarely sees grown this manner. The photograph was taken n December 7th when the berries were, ossibly, just past their best. It was, how-ver, amply furnished and most effective. nfortunately, I am not expert enough at hotography to have brought out the full eauty of the shrub or do it full justice. s the aspect of the position is full south, little imagination only is needed to com-lete the picture. J. SUTCLIFFE PYMAN.

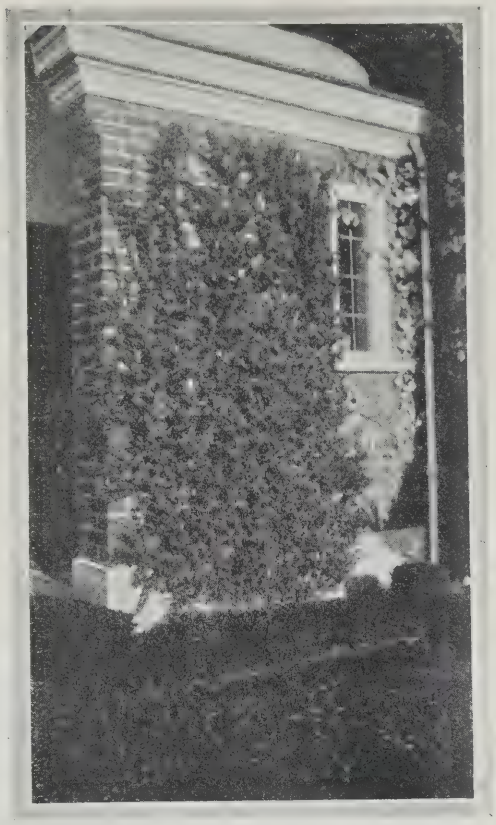
Norsebury, Sutton Scotney, Hants.

Potato crops

In GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, December 1st, Adam " gives a few interesting particulars f a crop of King Edward VII. Potatoes more than 3 cwts. of Potatoes from 14 lbs. f seed). The crop is certainly very good, nd credit is due to him.

Some years ago I was very interested in he cultivation of vegetables, and, on the hole, was very successful. Looking up ome records of Potato crops recently, I ame across the following. I am now going ack to 1910 and 1912, the seasons when the rops were grown.

Previous to 1910 I had been growing a ariety of Potato called New Guardian, a econd early or mid-season variety, which ad done exceptionally well with me for everal years, so I decided to test its cropping nd table qualities with a view to recording he results. The variety was sent out by essrs. Webb, of Stourbridge, a few years rior to 1910, and they described it as a onderful cropper, of first-class table quality, nd a good disease resister. These qualities ere all borne out by the test. The test was n ordinary one made with a view to its use-ulness in the ordinary way of cultivation. he ground was bastard trenched (double-ug) during the winter months, incorporating t the same time a liberal dressing of stable anure. The seed was sprouted previous to lanting. The resultant crop was obtained rom 8 lbs. of seed Potatoes planted on April th and lifted on September 17th, yielding 45 lbs. in weight, or an average of 30 lbs. 0 ozs. to each pound of seed planted. All he tubers were of a suitable size for use, here being an absence of very small tubers, he few of which were not included in the eight stated. Two years later (1912) I grew he same variety again on the same plot of round, treating it in precisely the same anner as before. This time I planted 4 lbs. of seed, the crop being lifted on Sep-ember 3rd, and weighed 4 cwts., or an aver-ge of 32 lbs. to each pound of seed planted.



Berberis Wilsonæ as a wall plant

The crop was grown on a plot of ground which was previously a part of the kitchen garden of Bournville Hall, at Bournville.

J. L.

Rock gardens at Chelsea Show

I am glad to see that Mr. Dillistone's letter in your issue of December 8th, criticising Col. Durham's communication *re* rock gardens at Chelsea Show, has been answered by Mr. Wood, than whom no one is better qualified to write. I do not propose to refer either to Mr. Dillistone's or Mr. Wood's letters, except to say that what the former calls the " inherent virtue " of mountain limestone is the ease with which it is laid compared to sandstone. A few cartloads of limestone tipped on to the ground out of a cart would almost make a passable " rockery," whereas sandstone demands very careful laying, and this rock garden exhibitors have found out, with the result that limestone is used at Chelsea *ad nauseam,* and I am not surprised that the public is getting sick of it. It would be both interesting and instructive if Mr. D. would show us at Chelsea next year what he can do with some stone other than mountain limestone.

I would like, also, to make one remark on what Mr. Wood says about the giving of awards. If he and other exhibitors are really of opinion that the true artist's style is cramped by the thought that through the ignorance of the judges he may not get the award to which he thinks he is entitled, then let them petition the Council to refrain from making awards, and I feel sure that their wishes would receive every consideration from what one of your correspondents calls the benevolent old gentlemen who form the R.H.S. Council. M. F.

—— I have been much interested in the various letters which have appeared in your paper with reference to the rock gardens at Chelsea. Possibly, some readers may know that shortly after the last show I wrote an article in the horticultural Press stating that, in my opinion, and in the opinion of many of the friends to whom I have spoken, it would be desirable that a fresh site should be allocated by way of a change for the rock garden exhibits, as the exhibits of late appear to merely provide a repetition of mountain gorges.

I pointed out that there are many who desire rock gardens but who are not fortunate to possess a sloping bank or undulating ground, and that, consequently, if the site of the rock garden at Chelsea were changed, the results would be more varied and more educational both from the point of view of the amateur and the professional gardener. I feel sure that a change of environment would of itself suggest the possibilities of other types of stones, and that there would not be the repetition of style which has been so obvious of recent years.

At the present time I am engaged in the construction of a large rock garden at Southsea, and I realised before the work commenced that it would not be possible to follow the dogma, " Use local stone or none at all," for the simple reason that there is no natural rock within a distance of 50 miles. The selection of suitable rock, however, was quite a problem, but I ultimately chose a limestone from Gloucestershire, although I had strong leanings to Purbeck, which I have proved to be exceedingly good for this purpose.

Sometimes my cogitations induce me to soliloquise as to who the experts were who first stated that " rock gardens were primarily for Alpine plants." This, in my opinion, is a fallacious doctrine, as in our own country and in Alpine countries one sees plants growing in the meadows where no rocks abound and the same genera and species of plants growing in other localities amongst rocky scenery.

There are some, also, who would not dare to plant a tender plant in the rock garden, but who have no scruples as to using it in formal beds amongst other plants of a hardy character. Yet are there not many plants from tropical and sub-tropical countries the natural habitat of which is amongst stones of the lowlands?

In the rock garden which I am constructing my chief object will be to grow as representative a collection as possible from the littoral of our own or any other country in temperate regions, as I believe these would be more appropriate than plants from high elevation, although if these care to thrive at approximately sea-level they will not be rejected. F. BAKER,
Parks Superintendent.

Portsmouth.

—— I am afraid both Mr. Wood and myself will be justly accused of saying very little of importance in many words. Although it might be amusing it is neither necessary or profitable to follow him through all the devious paths he treads in his inconsistent contribution to your columns of December 22nd.

I shall continue to pay Mr. Wood the tribute of judging the excellence of his taste and work by what he *does* rather than by what he *says.* From 1912 to 1927, inclusive, he had 14 opportunities of doing what he says ought to be done, and using a rock other than grey limestone for an exhibit at Chelsea Show. Once he did so (1915, I think), and although I should not characterise his effort as the " lamentable failure " to which he says all great artists are subject, it was, in my opinion, the least attractive of his many wonderful achievements. Is it unfair to surmise that he recognised this and, on subsequent occasions when he exhibited, remained true to his first love?

I have used the word inconsistent. He is tired of a stone "the facility with which one gets the *same old* pretty effects," but has continued to use it "*varying considerably* the form of my exhibits from year to year."

After describing the results achieved at the International Show, 1912, as "a mixture and chaos of thought," "some very beautiful and others—astonishing," he says "there was bound to come something good." I presume he means (as he is writing after the event) that it *has* come. The result is that from "mixture and chaos of thought" we have arrived by a gradual process of evolution at what he now describes as "our annual monotonous display." So he says of the letter that gave rise to this correspondence: "It is obviously an effort—to make a forward move that should have been made long since." A forward move to what? If Mr. Wood is right it is backwards to "mixture and chaos of thought."

There is much in Mr. Wood's letter that I am incapable of understanding, but to *me* (it may not be so to others) the most inexplicable sentence of all is the one in which he says "the rock garden section of our big show has a mission far greater than the mere bringing together a group of rock builders for the purposes of competition." What is that mission? Is it pride of achievement? It is there, but is hardly a "mission." Is it without thought of reward to interest, amuse, or educate the public? This might be a "far greater mission," and if it is Mr. Wood's I respect his altruism. But neither Mr. Wood, myself, nor anyone else believes for one moment that an exhibitor at Chelsea has such an object in view. He is there with the sole object of impressing the visiting public with the superiority of his own conception and workmanship over that of his competitors. He does this with the sole idea of gaining (obviously at the expense of his rivals) business that will feed, clothe, and house him and his during the following year. Every exhibit has "strictly business" for its motive. If this is a "mission far greater" than the friendly rivalry that enters into a competition for an award of no intrinsic value and the sporting acceptance of the referee's decision, even though one believes a mistake has been made, it is beyond my comprehension.

I know Mr. Wood does not mean to proclaim the gospel of "Art for Art's sake" at Chelsea Show. He is much too sincere for that.

Mr. Wood chooses to read into my remarks a personal opinion that no other stone is suitable for the construction of a rock garden. Nothing I have ever said justifies this. My contention is that the present condition of affairs must be due to selective forces working on the minds of exhibitors. By a natural process they seem to have arrived at the same conclusion. Are they all right or all wrong? They *have,* and have always had, that "one big free field for self-expression." There has never been any rule compelling exhibitors to use any particular material. It was this very fact that the Secretary's letter suggested the time had come to tell exhibitors what to use that called forth my (perhaps ill-advised) remarks. If the exhibitors are not all wrong or all right who is wrong and who right?

There is one remark of Mr. Wood's that sounds clever, and perhaps for that reason its applicability is not quite clear to me. "If you ask an artist which is the ideal colour," etc. If Mr. Wood moves in a circle in which a remark that certain colours are most suitable for certain purposes evokes an invitation to drink, his artist friends are hospitable creatures, but are they better artists?

Mr. Wood first quarrels with my remark that the grey limestone is "eminently suitable for small rock gardens," and then says, "It is just as suitable for large ones." Of course it is! And there are not many rocks that have this dual and facile capacity.

Of all Mr. Wood's desires, which, summarised, appear to be freedom of expression, freedom to use any material one chooses, freedom to experiment, freedom to use 20 different sorts of stone in one exhibit if he so chooses, he and every other exhibitor has had them all for years. The only freedom that he will never attain so long as there are two exhibitors left is freedom from "competition" in a more acute form than mere "awards" impose.

GEO. DILLISTONE.

Chimonanthus fragrans (Winter Sweet)

Chimonanthus fragrans is a remarkable and delightful shrub. It was introduced from Japan in 1766. The common name, "Winter Sweet," lends a certain charm to the fragrance of its flowers, their perfume being diffused around when the shrub is in bloom. From its flowers it derives the name of "Winter Sweet." Another name is the "Japanese Winter Flower." It is also known as Calycanthus præcox, a synonym under which it is occasionally listed. It is a deciduous shrub growing about 8 feet high in the open, of a compact and bushy habit. Although perfectly hardy, it is advisable to give it the shelter of a wall, on which it can be trained, in the more exposed and colder parts of the country, when it will grow considerably higher than that mentioned above. As previously stated, the flowers are deliciously fragrant, produced usually in December and January, earlier or later, according to the state of the weather at this time of the year. The flowers are solitary, disposed at the joints of the previous summer's shoots; the colour of the flowers is a yellowish-green, the inner petals being smaller and purplish. The sprays when cut are exceedingly useful for indoor decoration displayed in large vases in association with some hardy evergreen subject.

Chimonanthus fragrans (the Winter Sweet)

When grown in the open very little
pruning is required, but when growing on
wall it is essential that pruning should
resorted to annually. This consists
shortening back the stronger growths and
entire removal of the weaker shoots. T
should be done immediately after floweri
not later than February, in order that as lo
a season as possible may be allowed for
development of the new shoots on which
produced next winter's flowers. This shr
does very well on a wall with a southern
western aspect. I have seen it doing exc
tionally well in the open in that m
favoured part of the country, Bournemou
where it grows and flowers annually with
greatest freedom. This, however, should
deter anyone from growing this delight
shrub, as it is quite hardy, and in the col
districts of the country needs only the p
tection of a wall, or some other shelter
enable it to produce its flowers most fre
at a time when very few shrubs are in bloo
namely, mid-winter.

There is also a variety, C. f. grandiflor
with larger flowers of a purer yellow colo
The flowers of this variety are more shov
but their fragrance is not so pronounced
in the type. The shrub is generally lar
in all its parts, and grows somewhat talle

Propagation is effected by means of lay
and seeds; cuttings are very difficult to ro

J. LODGE

Sternbergia lutea

On page 811 two letters are printed, in
of which "C. T. K." tells us that if we w
Sternbergia lutea to flower we must on
account disturb the bulbs when once plant
In the second letter Mr. S. Arnott, on
other hand, advises us to take the bulbs
every year in order to ripen them off. Un
the circumstances it might be of interest
other readers to know of my experience h
in the Exeter district of Devon. Last y
(1927) I obtained 12 bulbs from Veit
planted them as soon as they arrived, and
flowered in October, if I remember right
which is somewhat early. So far this agr
with Mr. Arnott. In a garden close by
friend of mine flowers Sternbergia lutea y
after year; the bulbs are never disturbed
far as I know. This year, notwithstandi
the very hot, dry summer in a very hot,
garden, these bulbs did not flower nearly
well as usual. Mine did not flower at
though they were left undisturbed with
exception of one or two, which were
turbed accidentally while searching for ot
bulbs. They are planted in a very warm a
in summer excessively dry corner of the g
den under a hedge facing due west.
seems a pity that a plant which is so intere
ing both geographically and historica
should be so difficult to flower. Perhaps t
is the reason why Sternbergias are so rar
met with in gardens. It has been suggest
that these are the "Lilies of the field"
the Bible. Both Clusius and Parkins
cultivated them, and the latter called th
"the great autumn Daffodils."

EDWARD CAHEN

Proposed Society of Garden Architect

Let us be independent of the red tape
established Societies. May I suggest t
the most practical way of forming a rea
representative Society is for garden arc
tects of all varieties, whatever their soc
status, theoretical or practical qualificati
—and these rightly vary immensely—shou
write Mr. Sudell at 9, Gower Street, W.C.
as he has proposed (see issue December 8
page 779). The thing that matters
genuine interest in and ability for the wor
Eventually a meeting of those interest
could be arranged for the evening of t
second day of the Chelsea Show, one of t

few days possible for the majority to be present. HUGH E. SEATON.

Merriott, Somerset.

—— The correspondence in your journal about the proposed Society of Garden Architects is interesting, and much good should come of it, though a better word than "architect" might be found. My training and my sympathies lie in the direction of architecture, but I fear that too often an architect's design for a garden shows too much stonework and ornament, and very little knowledge of trees and plants, the important units of the design; mere drawing-board stuff and more architecture than gardening. The other extreme is the average nurseryman's arrangement, showing an intimate knowledge of his living material, but very little conception of form or colour. But of the two give me the latter. At least, it is human and unpretentious, and comparatively inexpensive. The ideal happens, no doubt, in those rare cases where the architect is a fanatical gardener, or the gardener is a man of taste and invention.

There are many things such a Society could educate us in. Colour, for example. How many professional gardeners know the first thing about colour? Occasionally a writer in your columns expresses refined horror at what he calls "loud" or "crude" colours (meaning merely bright or clear colour) and showing a virtuous preference for what he refers to as "soft" colours and "pastel shades" (meaning, usually, dingy and washed-out tints). Heaven forbid that one should shock their sensibilities by planting a drift of magenta-coloured flowers (this colour seems to be considered ill-bred for some reason or other), but the accomplished artist can find a use and a place for all colours and tones in their proper proportions, and no colour is unclean when handled with discrimination. A spot of flaring magenta in certain circumstances can be as splendid as a trumpet-note in a symphony. Some attempt might also be made to raise the standard of production in what are known as "garden ornaments"—figures, bird baths, etc. The quality of design, especially in concrete examples, is pretty low, and many people whose homes contain fine furniture and porcelain have to accept a lower ideal in choosing their garden decorations.

This country is justly proud of its preeminence in horticulture. Our garden designers might very readily raise certain factors to a higher level still if their efforts were united. JOHN ADAMS, A.R.C.A.

Campanula Miranda

I am very glad to see Mr. Watson's letter citing Farrer, who proves that the name of Campanula Bellardii Ten. has precedence over C. pusilla Haenke. A little botanical light on nomenclature is all for the good, though I feel that there is much doubt as to whether gardeners will take up the name. Can anyone tell us now what C. cæspitosa is? I have always understood it to be synonymous with C. pusilla, but do not know which has priority.

A. H. WOLLEY-DOD.

Cytisus præcox

THIS fine hybrid Broom is a splendid subject for growing in groups and masses. Treated in this manner it is exceedingly effective when in bloom. It has a distinct, graceful, and bushy habit, ultimately reaching a height of about 5 feet. The flowers are produced in great profusion along the slender shoots in April and May of a sulphur-yellow colour. Known also as the Warminster Broom, on account of its having had its origin at the latter place. Unfortunately, the flowers are possessed of an unpleasant odour, which detracts somewhat from its usefulness for planting near to dwellings. On the other hand, it is a most pleasing sight when in full bloom viewed from a distance.

The illustration shows one of several groups that were originally planted on the edge of a plantation of trees and shrubs. J. L.

Cytisus præcox, a splendid subject in groups and masses

December Roses

Correspondents have been sending you at various times throughout November accounts of the wonderful variety of plants in bloom in their gardens, and that, if you please, in the sub-tropical counties of Hampshire, Kent, and Essex. If your correspondents saw what things are blooming in the open ground in the bracing hyper-borean climate of Inverness—not in November, which, after all, is but a late autumn month, but in December, the month of the Winter Solstice (which, thank heaven, took place yesterday), they would save their ink for garden facts really worth writing about. I am not going to follow the example of your loquacious correspondents, but will only say that I have in the house at the present date (December 22nd) a bowlful of quite beautiful Roses of the choicest kinds from the open border—Mme. Butterfly, Lady Pirrie, Chatenay, etc. In this cool—though not exactly cold—weather I expect them to last over Christmas. If plants continue this disregard for times and season we shall have to think seriously of changing their names. If Helleborus niger will bloom in November what is the use of calling it the "Christmas Rose"? Various forms of H. orientalis began pushing up heads of bloom early in December. It is surely an absurd misnomer to call these Lent Roses (not Lent Lilies as one of your contributors calls them, the Lent Lily being a Daffodil). Whether it is the flowers that are playing false to their several natures or our Inverness climate that is displaying its geniality at the wrong season it is hard to say, but clearly there is something out of joint. A. W.

Inverness, Scotland.

—— I have read in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED the account of Roses, etc., at this time of year. I have six vases of the following Roses from the garden:—Marian Cran, Shot Silk, Frau Karl, Papa Gontier, and several old-fashioned Roses. I have also had Lavender and Mignonette. Marian Cran is well worth cultivating as she lives beautifully in water at this time of year, one blossom having lasted 10 days. A. WOOLSEY-BULLER.

Milestown, Castlebellingham,
Ireland.

Seaweed as manure

With reference to your correspondent's remarks as to Seaweed, there is no doubt that it is quite useful for the Brassica family, but I do not agree that it requires supplementing by kainit. Seaweed contains a good deal of potash and a great deal of salt, which are the important constituents of kainit. Moreover, I should never advise lime to be mixed with it. This would involve a loss of nitrogen. Apply the lime in advance. J. KNELLER.

Penrhyn Castle Gardens,
Bangor, N. Wales.

—— I notice Mr. J. S. Higgins finds Seaweed unsatisfactory in the garden. Can it be a different kind? We use it so much here; the difficulty is to get it. We have often mulched with it, and it has never had any smell. Usually the trouble is, it dries up. At Girvan, in Ayrshire, they consider the reason their early Potatoes are so good is that they use plenty of Seaweed. Could Mr. Higgins try a row or two of Potatoes with fresh Seaweed and see what happens?

Godstone. N. S. C.

A charming colour scheme

It is probably uncommon in many gardens to find the three following plants grouped together, but the effect is charming, *e.g.*, Rhododendron præcox, Erica carnea, and Cyclamen Coum.

All three make an unusually pretty combination of colour. The Rhododendron, with its rose-purple "butterfly" blooms, the little Cyclamen like a rich purple carpet underneath, and in the background the flesh-pink tint of Erica carnea make a pretty picture.

All three are hardy and easy to grow in any garden. They require no special soil or treatment, and can be obtained from most gardening firms. Frost, if very severe, may cut the blooms of Rhododendron præcox, but this does not happen in many winters.

The Cyclamen appreciate the slight shade of the little Rhododendron bushes, and if a few tubers are put in they will seed themselves and increase rapidly.

The Heath and Rhododendron can be planted from now on till early spring.

Near Bristol. A. C.

View from Glengarriff

Looking across to Ilnacullin from Glengarriff

Ilnacullin and its Gardens

The home of Mrs. Annan Bryce at Glengarriff, Co. Cork

If you sail to the nearest spot in Europe to America, namely, Castletown Bere, in the County Cork, and entering Bantry Bay, sail 20 miles up the Bay, due east, and then turn north, into what appears to be stern and forbidding mountains running up to not more than 2000 feet, you will find your way apparently blocked. But, if you are brave, and sail on, you will find a deep enough passage to take any sized vessel, and beyond the beautiful Bay of Glengarriff, wooded down to its shores, dotted with small rock islands. You will then see that what appeared to be a barrier to the entrance to this entrancing bay, is a large island, with a Martello tower on its summit, built by the English in 1815 as a protection to a possible invasion of the French under Napoleon. This fortress, in which there was a guard of one officer and 10 men, was abandoned as a fortress in 1825, and left to the sea birds and a flock of goats.

In 1910 it occurred to Mr. and Mrs. Annan Bryce to acquire this island of Ilnacullin from the British War Office, with a view to making gardens and building a house, and giving employment to the large and poor population living up the glens, the district being what is called "congested"—that is, the land is too poor to make a living off.

Before starting the work Mr. Harold Peto, the well-known architect and garden architect of the Italian Renaissance period, was called to advise.

He went up to the Martello tower, from whence it is possible to see most of the island, and, waving his magic wand, produced what is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful gardens of the world.

In the centre of the island arose a walled garden built in steps and strongly buttressed without, like an old Italian walled town; this is the kitchen garden, and is an acre and a rood in size; its gates, of which there are four, north, south, east, and west, are of very beautiful wrought iron, from Spain, of the 17th century.

Entering by the east gate and going out by the west gate, you come to a hard tennis court, completely screened from wind by an English Yew hedge, 15 feet high and 5 feet through. Beyond this is a smooth lawn of grass, capable of taking three tennis grounds and one croquet ground, with, to the north, beds of shrubs, containing Azaras Magnolias of many kinds, the beautiful Magnolia stellata, which comes out in very early spring before its leaves, like masses of Gardenia, followed by M. purpurea, Osaka, and Watsoni, large trees of Crinodendron Dependens, Acacias of all descriptions, the beautiful sweet smelling Skimmia Japonica, Raphiolepis indica, Embothrium coccineum, Andromedas of many kinds with their Lily of the Valley blooms, and many other (in this country) rare shrubs. The background of all these is a wood of various Pines, including the Monterey Pine, Douglas, Scotch (Pinus sylvestris), Cedars of Lebanon, also Cedrus atlantica and C. a. glauca. This wood acts as a protection against the north and north-west winds, as well as making a very beautiful background for the flowering shrubs.

South of the tennis grounds is another high bank, partly grass, but in parts planted with Heaths, Erica mediterranea, which here grows 8 feet high, Erica stricta, Erica carnea, the beautiful white E. codonoides, blossoming in January, and continuing for months with its waving branches, 2 feet long and more, and many others.

The west end of the tennis courts is closed right across by a very beautiful Italian tea house, used often as an annex for putting up guests. Mr. George Russell (Æ.) sometimes stays there, and turns it into a studio for his beautiful paintings.

This little gem of architecture is built of Bath stone; also all the pillars of its loggia, which extend for 57 feet to each side. They support solid beams of Teak, which have weathered the exact colour of the Bath stone. On the outside of the tea house are columns of "Rosso Antico," of which so much is seen in Rome. These columns were taken from the re-discovered quarry, and are of a beautiful red colour. Inside, the walls are panelled with slabs of marble from the Island of Scyros (a white marble thickly veined with a rich yellow). This is set in Carrara marble, of which there is also a dado, the floor of green Connemara marble done in Scaglila, the work of Italians brought over for the purpose.

As you walk through this tea house you see before you a sunk garden, surrounded on all sides by a hedge of English Yew, 15 feet high. This, besides being a magnificent background for the numerous rare shrubs and plants, makes a screen from all winds.

On the level of the tea house is a path, partly paved with flags of the local stone (Mica slate), and partly closely-mown grass, on one side the Yew hedge, on the other a hedge of Lavender, the real sweet Lavender of the old gardens, which was got from an old Irish garden. Going down five steps you come to the next level, the path of which is mown grass, with a deep bed full of rare Himalayan sweet-smelling Rhododendrons, Camellias, white, red, and some with flowers half white and half red, Polygala grandiflo that wonderful little shrub with its mau pea-like flowers, which is never out of bloo Leptospermum of various kinds, that beau ful shrub from New Zealand, which is 6-foot glory during May and June, Drim aromatica, and Drimys Winterii.

On the next and last level you come to broad flagged parterre, with another de bed containing more sweet-scented floweri shrubs, with various rock plants trailing o over the flags, low-growing Fuchsia, and between plants which vary according to t time of year, always a glory of colour. In t centre of this parterre is a Water Lily pon 15 feet by 30 feet, with an old lead copy of t winged Mercury of Giovanni da Bologna the centre springing from the water. Th Lily pond is lined with small blue-gre tiles to give the illusion of sea water, a round the edges in the water are pots rais on bricks of Iris Kæmpferi, tiny Bulrush and Reeds of various kinds. This Lily po contains myriads of goldfish, and in the ea morning the brilliant many-coloured kin fisher is to be seen darting over the pon occasionally, too, a melancholy heron m be seen standing on one foot gazing into t depths of the 3-foot pond, licking his lips, a heron is capable of such an action, over t goldfish, which are just out of his depth.

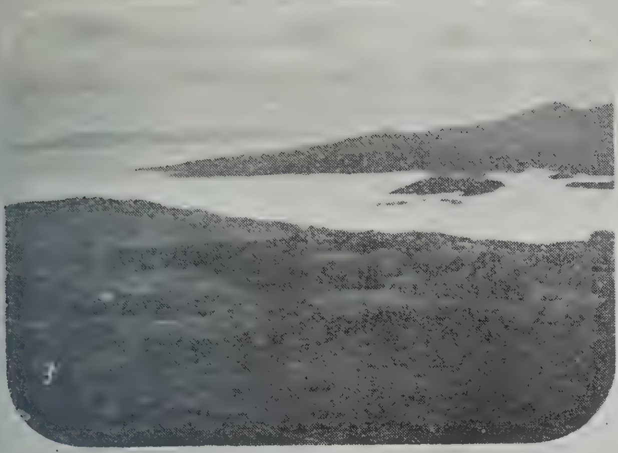
Round this pond are many tiny dwa Japanese Oaks, Maples, and Junipers, so of them 100 years old.

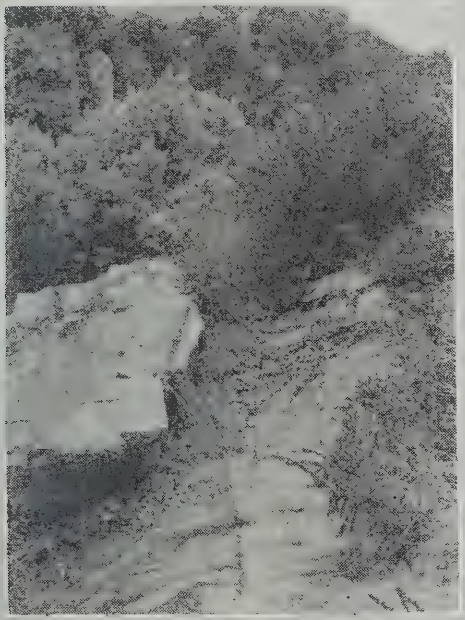
To the west the sunk garden is finished a beautiful Italian temple, with arches a open sides, the arches supported by pillars Rosso Antico, with white Carrara mar balustrading. Through the triptych form by the arches of this little house can be se the mountains of Slieve Ghoil Mor and Slie Ghoil Ben, with their rough glens of ro and Heather, and every here and there small dwelling, where often families of and 17 are reared.

The rest of this island of Ibera is plant with groups of Pines, and here and the plantations of Rhododendrons of all colou and shades, making a magnificent effect du ing May, June, July, and into early Augu while in other corners are beds of ma coloured Azaleas, with backgrounds of t great Pinus insignis or Monterey Pi Much of the island is left to its own w beauty of Heather, and patches of wild Gor with magnificent rocks peering up and ref ing to be hidden.

In some of the little coombs between roc are to be found the beautiful Epacris of A tralia, and many of the delicate Ericas South Africa, making in all an island never-to-be-forgotten beauty.

It was on this Island of Ilnacullin th Bernard Shaw got much of his inspiration writing "Joan of Arc," in 1924.





ILNACULLIN AND ITS GARDENS, THE ISLAND HOME OF MRS. ANNAN BRYCE, GLENGARRIFF, CO. CORK

1. Glengarriff, from Cob Dhu.
2. Bold clumps of Erica australis in full bloom.
3 & 5. A rocky way through the Heath garden.
4. Steep slope, where Pines and Heather grow in many species.
6. Step garden within the wall.
7. The loggia of the Italian garden house, columns of Rosso Antico.

Aster corymbosus

WHERE clumps of shrubs come close to the lawn there is usually a little space of ground either between the shrubs or just in front of them. Such places are not always treated to the best advantage; they are often merely filled up for the summer with any surplus bedding plants or half-hardy annuals. They have been more carefully considered in the garden where these notes are written. The picture shows one such space that has a quite satisfactory filling. A few groups, each of two or three plants of the large form of Megasea cordifolia, are interplanted with the pretty little Aster corymbosus, neat and short, with quantities of the whitish bloom gracefully carried on stalks that look like fine dark wire. The large leathery leaves of the Megasea are a becoming setting to the little starry Aster, and both plants seem to gain by their extreme diversity of form and habit.

G. J.

Aster corymbosus, with Megasea cordifolia major

Propagate Carnations

Select sturdy but not unduly stout side shoots and insert firmly round the edges of small pots filled with very sandy compost. If a little bottom heat can be given so much the better, but really strong heat will lead to failure.

Gladioli of 1928

SO far as my garden was concerned the year 1928 produced more disappointments than surprises. Of the new stocks of some of the older varieties the Primulinus Asia and Tea Rose were marked for "discard"; those of Bronze Queen and L'Anthie were mixed; Bernard Kuhn, Dr. Karl Ochs, Mrs. F. C. Hornberger, Walter Bloom, Appleblossom Pontiac, Miss Madison, Halycon, Hopewell White, London Smoke, Temblor, Mrs. J. K. Armsby, Margaret Glendenning, Wedgewood, Chateau Margot, Susanne Worden, Garden Beauty, and the whole of the varieties I obtained from Australia were failures—some total and others in a lesser degree. For instance, of Temblor only one bloomed out of 25; Dr. Karl Ochs and Bernard Kuhn only four each out of 12; Walter Bloom two out of 12; Ella Kelway eight out of 12. On the other hand, Rose Ash, Mrs. Leon Douglas, Beatrice, Dr. van Fleet, Aristotle, Liberty, Fastidious, Lexington, Leen Wone, and Golden Measure, among others, did well. This year I steeped all bulbs before planting, using a 10 per cent. solution of Formalin. I cannot say that it had much effect.

ARABIA (20.8) struck me as one of the darkest Gladioli I had ever seen. The buds, like some others, appear perfectly black, but, unlike those, open out with the same depth of colour. Seeing how often one has been disappointed with the unclosing of dark buds of many in the past, it was a surprise to find that the dark colour held as the flower gradually developed.

ALGONQUIN (4.9), named after one of the Indian tribes still existing in the Province of Quebec, did not appear to me to be anything out of the ordinary run of seedlings.

ALMA (26.8) had a spike of 20 pips with eight flowers open. The colour is a good pink. A strong grower.

BRIDAL VEIL (15.8) may be added to the list of good whites.

BLUE TORCH (9.8), a welcome addition to the blue class.

CAMPANELLE (18.8), a Primulinus grandiflorus, salmon with yellow throat.

DELIGHTFUL (24.7), a very pleasing flower with five out on a spike of 15 pips. The colour is deep salmon with a yellow spot. Very appropriately named.

DOROTHY VAUGHAN (28.8), a rather thin apple-blossom pink.

EDITH MASON (30.8), another pink with a cream centre. A strong grower with a spike carrying 21 pips with five open flowers.

ELFIN (9.8), a very free-flowering Primulinus. The general tone is saffron-pink melting away to maize-yellow in the throat with delicate feather of nopal red. A tal spike with 16 pips.

ELSIE McCORMICK (22.8), a rose-pink with dark blotch. The flowers are rather crowded and somewhat irregular.

FOREST SPRITE (10.8), a bold flower, striking in appearance. A good spike with scarlet flowers edged with white.

GOLDEN AMBER (8.9), a deep yellow Primulinus grandiflorus, the back of the petals being bronze.

FIMBRIATUS.—As the bulbs of this variety were planted very late the date of flowering would be misleading. A lacinated variety yellow in colour, of remarkable form and habit.

GOLDEN VICTOR (7.9) was also very late planted, but should, under normal conditions prove worthy of its name.

GOLDEN DREAM (Groff) (26.8) proved a disappointment. Can hardly believe it came true.

HELEN WILLS (16.8) is not new, but worthy of mention, as it produced the finest white spikes in my garden.

HELEN HOWARD (12.8).—Not a tall grower the spike carrying only 13 pips, but is a pleasing colour, buff flushed coral.

IMPROVED SCHWABEN (27.8), quite distinc from the old variety, being deeper in colour and the blotch on the lower petals is a dul purple. The flowers are also larger and wel placed on the spike. A strong grower.

IMPROVED MARTHA WASHINGTON (28.8) taller and deeper in colour than the origina Martha.

KUNDERD'S YELLOW FAVOURITE (12.8), and one of mine also (see illustration).

LEXINGTON (28.8), a good free-flowering scarlet.

LAVENDER BEAUTY (11.8), one of the lacinated varieties, but must be well grown to please. Twenty-two pips on a 4-foo spike.

LILIOLA, a wide, open flower, mostly a right angles to the spike, yet a good flower for the border, not too tall. The top flowers open before the lower ones become untidy the whole being borne on sturdy stalks. The whole effect reminded me of the beds of purple and white Petunias of 50 years ago.

LOYALTY (12.8), a deep, rich, pure yellow of medium height.

Kunderd's Yellow Favourite

Improved Schwaben

Mme. Herriot (23.7), a good orange Primulinus.

Martha Phillips (1.9).—This did not appear to be a strong grower, notwithstanding that it produced some good spikes of dark red flowers in rather close formation.

Manistee (17.9), a late ruffled pink.

Mary H. Dick (12.8), a Primulinus grandiflorus variety producing a clear, well-flowered spike of pink blooms with yellow centre. Eighteen pips with six or more open at one time.

Midnight (15.8), a medium spike with flowers suggestive of its name.

Milady Imogen (14.8), a very pleasing pure white, quite one of the best. Many open and remaining good for many days in the open.

Mrs. Julius Rosenwald (22.8) produces a spike with 14 pips well placed on a slender stem. The colour is wine-red.

Mrs. L. S. Hubbard (15.8), a plum-coloured Primulinus grandiflorus which should prove a welcome addition to this section. Unfortunately, the bulbs in this colour section are not, as a rule, of very robust constitution.

Nellie Grant (14.8), a red-purple, a colour not much in demand.

Orange Butterfly (2.9), a Californian Primulinus of great promise.

Patricia Carter (12.8).—This is a much-praised lady, and one expected much. Well, we were not carried away at first sight, but, nevertheless, she is a beauty.

Piccadilly (26.8), almost a white, free-flowering, and of medium height. Lasts well.

Queen Esther (28.8), described as "a brilliant purple and gold Gladiolus," proved a poor grower.

Princess Elizabeth (12.8) proved outstanding in many ways—in form, colour (clear pink), and growth.

Radiant (5.9), a strawberry-pink Primulinus with 11 pips.

Radiant Orange (22.8), another good Primulinus grandiflorus.

Riding Hood (10.8), a bright red Primulinus.

Sandusky (11.8), not a large flower of the fancy type. I should think it has some J. T. Pirie blood in its composition.

Sir Thomas Lipton (1.8).—To those who like them tall this one should be welcome. It is pink in colour and you do not have to stoop to see the flower.

Tiger (27.8) will appeal to those looking for a good fancy.

Tobersun (3.9), so named because it flowered, where raised, in the month of October. A very good yellow of more pronounced form than Golden Swallow.

Verdun (29.8) is one of the purple pansy-coloured varieties of which there are a good many named and on the market, few of which, however, are worth growing. This one seems likely to prove the exception.

White Pendleton (29.8).—Introduced in 1917, it is some years since I first saw this flower, and its blooms of white with a dark purple blotch were good to the eye.

Zona (31.7), another of the small round Primulinus type. The colour is a deep salmon-rose.

Primrose Princess (17.8).—This is a fine flower. One bulb produced a main spike which was cut just above the first of the three side shoots.

Should any reader wish to grow flowers of more than average height there are two varieties which are taller than any I have previously planted. One is Mary O'Mine, a rather coarse white, which is well over 5 feet, and the other is Gallant Leader, a pink which, I think, is even taller. You could easily be lost to view in a bed of either. Smilax.

Centropogon Lucyanus

This fine greenhouse perennial is no new plant. It was raised by M. Despard, of Marseilles, in 1856, by the crossing of C. fastuosus and Siphocampylos betulæfolius. It belongs to the natural order, Campanulaceæ.

It is a very pretty carmine-pink in colour. The flowers are tubular and are produced freely at the end of short lateral spurs. C. lucyanus makes a capital plant for basket culture, owing to its semi-procumbent habit, which shows off its beauties to advantage. When grown in pots, however, this plant requires staking, short green stakes being used so as to be as inconspicuous as possible.

Flowering as it does in the dead of winter it is altogether a useful and delightful addition to any conservatory.

Propagation is effected by means of cuttings. Young shoots 3 inches or 4 inches in length make ideal plants after striking in sharp sand and loam.

The soil should be made as porous as possible to counteract the tendency of it becoming sour.

Some very fine specimens may be obtained by cutting back old plants and repotting into larger size pots.

Young plants struck in spring and flowered in 6-inch pots will suffice for all general purposes. F. H. Wright.

University Botanic Gardens,
Cambridge.

New Paths for Old

A Colas drive at Lilford, near Peterborough

THE increase of modern traffic has undoubtedly revolutionised the methods of road construction and maintenance during the past few years. Nor is this revolution in constructional methods confined to the public highways, for the problem is almost as acute on estates where heavy lorries and fast-moving cars play havoc with the ordinary gravel drive surface.

When the necessity for binding the loose gravel surface was first felt the estate owner was confronted with many difficulties. The only course open at that time was to apply a protective coat of bitumen or tar heated to a high temperature, but not only was this operation a dangerous one unless carried out under expert supervision, the results were not always satisfactory. Furthermore, an essential condition for the application of hot bitumen or tar is a perfectly dry surface, and as estate labour was hardly suitable for such work it is, therefore, not surprising that the more costly course of periodical regravelling was pursued in nine cases out of ten. A further objection to this method was the unpleasant black surface provided, which softened and bled readily during hot weather and which was dangerous to all forms of traffic, both horse and motor, when the surface was damp.

Modern science has evolved binding materials which can be put down by unskilled estate labour at any time of the year and which produce a really satisfactory surface capable of standing up to the heaviest traffic without requiring the usual constant attention demanded by the ordinary gravel drive.

Colas is a British product manufactured by Colas Products, Ltd., 38-39, Parliament Street, London, S.W. 1, and is pure bitumen in cold fluid form. It arrives ready to apply in sturdy steel containers, or, alternatively, it can be delivered and applied under pressure by 1,000-gallon tank lorries. Colas provides a clean, hard surface which affords plenty of grip in all weathers for all kinds of traffic. The results are durable, and the treated surface harmonises perfectly with the surroundings—the colour is determined by the colour of the stone chippings, shingle, or fine gravel with which the dressing is covered. This material is becoming increasingly popular on estates large and small throughout the country for modernising drives and paths without spoiling their appearance. The illustration shows a Colas drive at Lilford, one of the most beautiful estates in the country. In preparing these drives it was of the utmost importance that both drives and paths should harmonise perfectly with the surroundings, and this has been effectively carried out.

Another new process for making an excellent adamant surface, which obviates mud, weeding, rolling, and scouring under stormwater has been devised by a firm of paving experts of many years standing, Chittenden and Simmons, Ltd., Bank Buildings, Maidstone, which they appropriately name "Gravelite." This secures the durable, cleanly, and labour-saving qualities of tar-macadam combined with the general colour effect of gravel. This process has proved very satisfactory after an exhaustive period of test. The manufacturers offer to go carefully into the requirements of any interested inquirer and quote for the material supplied and laid complete.

"Cold Chon" is a pure bitumen emulsion made by the well-known firm of manufacturing chemists and tar distillers, Richard Smith's Executors, Ltd., 182, West Street Glasgow, which, when poured on the road or path, soon hardens and holds tightly the gravel, chips, or cinders spread on it. This preparation binds the gravel into a solid conglomerate and makes it impossible for the surface to be broken by floods. Although setting very hard, it produces a resilient and durable surface where weeds have no possible chance of taking root. In calculating the quantity required the condition of the surface must be taken into account. If it is very rough, with many ruts and potholes to fill in, 1 gallon to 12 superficial yards would be required. If an ordinary avenue surface is to be covered 1 gallon to 2 square yards and if the surface is very good 1 gallon wil be sufficient for 3 square yards. Although Cold Chon has a bitumen base the colour of the path is that of the gravel used on the top.

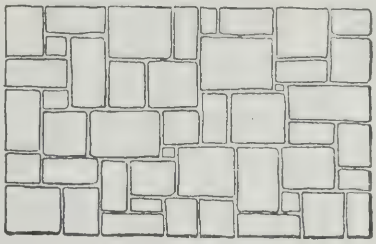
An entirely different path to the above is the "Noelite," consisting of tiles made in various sizes and in six different colours and shades. The surface of each tile is covered by means of a patented process with minute corrugations which prevent slipping in wet weather. Severe tests have shown Noelite to be free from all risk of damage by fro t. This paving is supplied by the square yard, which is more advantageous than by the ton. The paths on which the tiles are to be laid are first made perfectly smooth and wel rolled. A thin layer (½ inch) of sifted soil or sand is then spread on the surface and the tiles laid in position one by one and firmly pressed down. The best effect is obtained by leaving a space of about ½ inch or ¼ inch between each; soil or sifted sand is then thrown over the surface and well brushed into the spaces. At the end of two or three weeks no movement will take place in the tiles and the path will need no further attention. Fuller particulars of "Noelite" are obtainable from Noel Thomas, Borough Green, Kent.

A broad path being treated with "Cold Chon" (tree shadow in foreground)

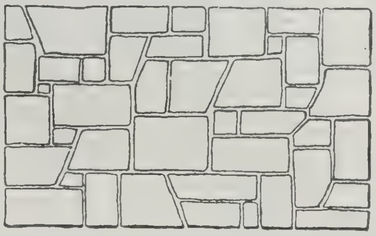
There is, perhaps, nothing to equal both for effect and durability good solid squares of

"Noelite" terrace in brick red

METHOD WITH CRAZY PAVING



Random squares



Random squares and pieces

ork paving. Crazy has still an enormous ogue, and when used with restraint and ith an eye to fitness of the site it certainly as much charm. Too often one sees it used discriminately and with pernickety re-ilts. This latter can be avoided if it is well id and two solutions of this problem are own in the illustrations kindly lent by Rhymney Quarries, 76, Chancery Lane, W.C. 2—Random squares (Fig. 1) and Random squares and pieces (Fig. 2). These while more expensive than ordinary crazy, are recommended when a more formal effect is required, as in terraces and loggias.

Crazy paving can be laid without a great deal of preparation by almost any amateur and to almost any path that is fairly level. From ¾ inch to 1 inch space should be left between the flags to allow rock plants, grass, or Moss to be cultivated, and if, after the paving is laid, road sweepings be swept between the joints, the appearance will be greatly enhanced as these sweepings contain sand, manure, and seeds.

HERBACEOUS BORDERS

TO-DAY we have at our disposal a wealth of splendid hardy-plants and an infinite variety of form and colour to suit every quirement. There are plants for sun or iade, for forming colour schemes, for argins of streams, for open woodland ades, and every part and purpose in the irden.

Also if the right kinds of hardy plants are iosen we may have a succession of flowers actically the year through, from the early rocuses and bulbous Irises in sheltered spots January to the Christmas Roses in ecember.

The vast improvement that has been made hardy plants during the last 20 years, pecially in such genera as Delphiniums, upins, Carnations, Irises, Antirrhinums, quilegias, Poppies, Pæonies, etc., has pro-ded the garden lover with enough material produce an ideal picture of beauty in the irden.

As to the borders themselves, there are veral types in present-day gardens. First all we will take the one very frequently et with, the straight border at the base of wall. Such a border I should recommend be not less than 7 feet to 10 feet wide, in der to make the fullest use of tall, medium, id dwarf hardy plants. The wall, of course, ust be clothed with suitable climbers, hich may consist of Roses, Honeysuckles, lematises, etc. We shall then not only get good background to the plants in the order, but it will break up the flat surface the wall.

With regard to the front of the border, the st effect is obtained to extend the lawn to s margin, but where it is necessary for a avel path there should be a margin of turf out 18 inches wide between the border and ith.

On no account use tiles as some do. If an lging has to be made arrange pieces of rock quite in an informal way and the interstices planted with trailing Alpines, such as Sedums, Saxifrages, Arenarias, Veronicas, Helianthemums, and many others. There will then be a delightful living fringe to the border.

Then there is that fine type of border frequently met with in large gardens. Really there are two borders with a broad grass path between forming a glorious vista and feast of colour. It is not only a natural way, but an artistic one, of making borders for hardy plants. No one can deny that the broad green path adds greatly to the beauty of the flowers and is far more pleasant to walk on than a hard surface. Such borders I would terminate with simple archways of Honeysuckle and Clematis Jackmanii. But a similar idea might even be carried out in the small garden. If the garden runs north and south make wide borders on the west and east sides, and the centre entirely occupied with grass. This would give a far more beautiful effect than the usual grass plot and patchy little beds.

Undoubtedly, grass is the best foil or setting for a good herbaceous border. I have seen a wide crazy path between the borders with Alpines in the crevices here and there, and although I must confess it was effective, there was an air of formality about it.

Frequently in gardens of some size there is a choice collection of flowering and ornamental shrubs, and here it is we have another effective style of perennial border. Of course, I am assuming that the shrubs have been planted to form irregular bays jutting out here and there, and not in a formal straight line.

Here, then, hardy plants will associate themselves well with the shrubs, producing a glorious effect. The shrubs in question are the choice sorts, not the vigorous common shrubs whose roots penetrate the soil all over and would rob the plants of food and moisture.

Where a large supply of cut flowers is required herbaceous borders are often made in the kitchen garden. These vary from 4 feet to 8 feet in width, with a background, perhaps, of espalier fruit trees. These borders are generally planted with such useful things as Campanulas, Lupins, Delphiniums, Ox-eyed Daisies, Gypsophila paniculata, Michaelmas Daisies, Pyrethrums, Phlox, Pinks, and annuals like Asters, Sweet Peas in groups, Scabious, and many others.

Borders formed in front of such things as Holly, Laurels, or Box the perennials never thrive for long, owing to the poorness of the soil, due to the roots of the shrubs. It is also unwise to grow hardy plants in front of walls covered with strong-growing Ivy for the same reason.

To make all borders a success and to grow the hardy plants really well the ground must be deeply dug and well enriched, as the plants have to occupy the same position for some years.

F. H.

INDOOR PLANTS

Winter flowering Begonias

Taking cuttings

FOR winter decoration these profuse-flowering plants are very useful and their value cannot by any means be over-estimated. Most of them make remarkably handsome, bushy plants, covering themselves with their brilliant flowers when most other things are at rest, while the long duration of the flowers renders them almost indispensable. Since the first variety came out there has been considerable improvement both in form of flower and constitution.

The first variety, raised by Mr. J. Heal, made quite a stir in the horticultural world, and was greatly admired. This was followed by Mrs. J. Heal, Julius, Winter Cheer, Success, and Ensign. Since then, however, many other beautiful varieties have been introduced. There is only one fault with these Begonias, some of the varieties, such as Gloire de Lorraine, are liable to almost flower themselves to death, making it very difficult to obtain cuttings for propagation. It is simply a useless operation to insert cuttings with flower-buds on them, for these in a very short time expand and thoroughly exhaust the cuttings. Some system must, therefore, be adopted to stop the plants flowering in order to induce suitable young shoots to spring up from the base that can be used for the purpose of propagation.

To obtain these cuttings the first thing is to reduce the water supply to a few old plants that have flowered for some time during the winter months and place them on a shelf in full sun in the greenhouse to afford them a few weeks' rest. At the end of this time cut off the plants close to the rims of the pots and take care to keep the soil on the dry side. Careful watching will now be required, and directly it is seen that young shoots are pushing up give a little more water and stand the pots in a warmer part of the structure.

When these succulent young shoots attain the length of 2 inches they should be removed and inserted in well-drained pots filled with a compost of one part loam, one part leaf-mould, half a part peat, and half a part of silver sand. A little pure sand should be placed on top, as then the dibber will carry a little down for the base of the cutting to rest upon.

A gentle watering with tepid water through a fine-rosed can should be given after the cuttings are inserted, and allow the pots time to drain. Plunge them then in a gentle bottom heat, but this is not absolutely necessary, for I have rooted them freely when stood over the hot-water pipes, taking care they never become dry.

No matter which plan is adopted, it is most essential to shade them from all sunshine, for if this is once neglected there is great danger of the whole batch being spoilt.

When the cuttings are well rooted pot off each singly in 3-inch pots, using a similar compost to that used for the cuttings, taking care to press the soil moderately firm about their roots.

When the operation of potting is completed place the whole batch in a warm, moist atmosphere and give them a slight syringing over two or three times a day, which will prevent them flagging and also encourage quick root-action.

As these pots become well filled with roots —which will be in six or seven weeks—they must be shifted into 5-inch or 6-inch pots, in which they should flower. The compost for this final shift should consist of equal parts of good loam and leaf-mould with a third part each of well-decayed cow manure and sand, mixing the whole well together and used in rather a coarse condition. About a fortnight before this final potting the plants should be pinched to induce a bushy growth. From the beginning of June till the end of September the best place for the plants is a cold frame.

When the time for housing the plants arrives they should first of all be removed to a cool greenhouse and afterwards transferred to a warm house to flower. As with most plants newly potted, watering must be carefully done; afterwards, when well established, liberal supplies will be required during the growing period, and a syringing morning and evening in bright weather will be conducive to vigorous growth.

One of the most important details in the cultivation of these Begonias is to see they are shaded in warm weather during the growing season, for if this is neglected the foliage suffers, presenting a yellow and unhealthy appearance instead of a beautiful healthy green colour.

If cuttings were rooted about April and treated as advised the plants should come into flower some time in October and continue without a break until April.

A little liquid-manure will be required by the plants during this period, say, once or twice a week.

A liquid I find good for these Begonias can be made by placing half a bushel of horse manure and half a peck of soot in a coarse canvas bag and immerse it in a tub of 40 gallons or 50 gallons of rain-water. Before applying to the plants dilute it until it is of the colour of pale ale.

During the growing period a temperature between 65 degs. and 70 degs. should be maintained, with a liberal amount of moisture in the atmosphere, which can be obtained by damping down the walls and stages of the structure.

If given good cultivation they are not much troubled with insect pests. Green Fly is the worst enemy, but this can soon be got rid of by vaporising with nicotine. F. H.

VEGETABLES

Broccoli in winter

WHILE there is little difficulty in maintaining a supply of Cauliflowers during the summer and autumn months, the regular supply of their counterpart, the Broccolis, during the winter and spring months depends to a large extent on a well-organised system of cultivation. Much as the Cauliflowers are appreciated during their season, the Broccolis are even more highly appreciated during the winter and early spring months because there are fewer varieties of other succulent vegetables available for furnishing the needs of the kitchen. Further, it may be said that our modern varieties of Broccoli are in appearance, flavour, and food value quite equal to the finest Cauliflowers, and that by a careful selection of varieties and a good system of cultivation, unbroken supplies may be maintained, provided that climatic conditions are not of unusual severity.

The hardiness of Broccolis is sometimes challenged, and one must admit that it is not absolute, but hardiness is a relative term, and it is within the power of the grower to fortify the plant to resist inclement weather conditions by studying and supplying its needs. It is undoubtedly true that large areas of Broccoli succumb to spells of severe frost even in relatively sheltered gardens, but this is often not so much due to the severity of the weather as to the fact that insufficient consideration has been given to the selection and preparation of the site on which they are grown, and this applies particularly to those varieties which are intended to stand the winter and produce supplies during the spring months. While the Broccoli is a moisture-loving plant, anything approaching stagnation is inimical to its welfare, hence the first consideration in its successful cultivation is well-drained land. An open situation should also be selected where the plants get full exposure to light and air, and sufficiently wide planting should be practised to allow a free circulation through the bed, promoting sturdy and well-ripened growth. The soil should be firm and not too rich, and it is good practice to prepare the ground some time before planting to allow of thorough consolidation, or they may even be planted in ground recently occupied by other crops without further preparation, if such ground has been liberally treated.

Seed is usually sown in April and May, an care should be taken that the plants do nc become weakened through overcrowding ur til they are ready for their final planting i June. Some growers sow thinly and neve transplant previous to the final planting, an if ample room is given in the seed-bed goo results may be obtained by this method, bu transplanting ensures stronger plants. Th rows should be at least from 2½ feet to 3 fe apart, and after planting the soil should b kept constantly stirred to promote health growth.

Plants grown under the conditions her described generally withstand all but th severest weather, but if long spells of fros occur when the heads have almost develope they may suffer, and the practice of layerin the plants so as to face north and preven the sun from getting to the hearts, form some measure of protection. The actua freezing does little damage, but alternat frost and thaw caused by the sun thawin the hearts by day is destructive. Batches ma also be lifted with a fair amount of so attached and placed in a light, well-ventilate shed, where they will keep good for a cor siderable length of time and maintain sup plies. They soon deteriorate, however, i stored without the roots being surrounde with moist soil, and once the heads are cu they should be used immediately.

There is an ample number of good varie ties to enable the grower to provide for regular supply from late autumn till lat spring. Michaelmas White, Veitch's Sel Protecting and Walcheren yield heads durin November and December. For January an February supplies there are several goo types of Winter White, all of which hav well-protected heads. A selected stock c Penzance or Cornish White, which is so ex tensively grown in Cornwall, is also an ex cellent and esteemed variety. For use i March and April that old favourite, Knight' Protecting and Leamington, a variety of hig quality, may be relied on; while Late Queer Model, and Latest of All carry the supplie on through May, and in late seasons we into June.

The most serious disease in the cultivation c the Broccoli is that of Finger and Toe, whic attacks the various Brassicas, and is ver destructive. In some soils it has become ir creasingly difficult to grow this crop becaus of the virulence of the disease, and it is to b feared that in some cases conditions hav been aggravated by the injudicious use of aci manures. The most effective preventative i lime, and it is noticeable that the disease i almost unknown on calcareous soils. Th use of ground limestone is effective, but nc so quick in action or powerful as burned lime which is slaked before spreading. It is als a manifest advantage in the control of th disease to practice rotation of crops, but a so many Crucifers act as hosts to the diseas this is sometimes difficult, and the goo effects of the practice are frequently mini mised by the growth of cruciferous weeds.

W. AUTON.

Horticultural Examinations, 1929

Candidates for the examinations of th Royal Horticultural Society are reminde that the closing dates for entries for th 1929 examinations are as follows:— General Examination (Seniors and Juniors) January 14th, 1929; Teachers' Examinatio (Preliminary and Advanced), January 14th 1929; National Diploma in Horticultur (Preliminary and Final), February 1st, 1929 Scholarship Examination, March 30th, 1929 Entry forms and full particulars may b obtained from The Secretary, Royal Horti cultural Society, Vincent Square, London S.W. 1.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Mr. E. Markham, the writer of the Calendar for Southern and Midland Gardens

For nearly 17 years Mr. Markham has been head gardener to William Robinson, the founder of "Gardening Illustrated," at Gravetye Manor, East Grinstead

Southern and Midland

A Retrospect

In many respects the year 1928 has been a very fine one in this district. Fruit has been plentiful and of fair quality. If, in the case of Apples it was a little on the small side, we have every reason to be satisfied, and in the case of Pears and other fruits more than satisfied. Vegetables, too, were never better than during the year now gone. The New Year is almost like the arrival of spring to the keen gardener, who at once looks forward to the arrival of more sunshine and light, the effect of which is quickly noticeable upon plant life, under glass especially, and if not at once so apparent among the open-air subjects it is, nevertheless, unmistakable to a keen observer.

The seed list

Without this important annual we could not, I fear, record much progress, but our seedsmen never fail in placing their carefully arranged lists before us, and here I would add that the humble catalogue of seeds should be examined with the same care as those of more imposing dimensions, for it is by no means unusual to find in one of the former some old or new favourite which, for various reasons, has been omitted from the latter. Therefore peruse seed lists with care, bearing in mind the successes and failures of the past year, and where the latter have occurred endeavour to replace with a different variety of seed, even if it entails the risk of a novelty. Whenever possible the order sheet provided by the seedsmen should be used. It is equally important that orders should be early to avoid disappointment.

Plants in frames

During frosty spells these are sometimes, of necessity, kept covered up for days together, and for this reason every care should be taken during favourable weather to admit air freely and remove every particle of damping leaves, otherwise this will spread rapidly and ruin quite a number of plants. This applies particularly to autumn-struck cuttings, which are, of necessity, planted close together.

Plant houses

Light is of the greatest importance at this early date, and in order to admit of its full penetration to the plants all glass should be washed thoroughly, also all woodwork, with strong soapy water to which has been added a little paraffin emulsion. Gravel clothing the stages should also be cleansed by the use of a sieve and low tub of water before being replaced; and after this the plants themselves, so far as possible, and green pots should be scrubbed.

Climbing plants

These must be taken down, pruned, and in some instances sponged with a good general insecticide before being replaced. A little of the surface of their soil should be taken off and fresh, sweet material added.

Vines

The earliest house will, ere this, have been cleansed and prepared in readiness for starting, and succession houses must be taken in hand at the earliest opportunity. Any remaining bunches of late kinds may be cut and placed in bottles in the Grape or store room, where they will keep as well, or even better, than they would in the house. The work of pruning, cleaning of house and Vine, top-dressing of borders, etc., may then be proceeded with.

Fruit trees

Whenever the atmospheric conditions permit, the pruning of Apples and Pears must be carried on. The ties of trees trained to walls should be carefully examined at the same time and renewed where necessary, as nothing is more aggravating than to find a branch or cordon when laden with fully developed fruit broken down and damaged beyond repair owing to this neglect.

Flowering shrubs

Thinning and pruning of most of these may be taken in hand with considerable advantage to the shrubs themselves. The beauty of carefully thinned and balanced specimens is vastly superior to the congested examples we too often see. Not only are such more elegant in appearance, but the quality of their flowers is superior in every way.

Kitchen garden

Protect Celery and Celeriac with light litter during frosty weather. Lift a few roots of the latter, Salsafy, Scorzonera, Parsnips, and Artichokes, and place in a cool store for use when atmospheric conditions render lifting difficult. Wheel manure upon plots during frosty weather and spread it as a protection to the surface. This will facilitate digging operations. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

MR. CHARLES BLAIR,
Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow, the 1929 writer of our Calendar for Scottish Gardens.

New Year Greetings

I should like to offer to all readers of these notes the heartiest good wishes for the New Year. While 1928 gave us by no means a good gardening season here in the north, still, on the whole, it was much better than its immediate predecessor, and we will hope that 1929 may again be an advance, and that good crops may reward us for all the care and labour we devote to the cultivation of the soil.

Rhubarb and Seakale

Continue to introduce fresh roots into heat according to requirements. As the season advances growth is much more easily excited, so it will be necessary to see to this more frequently than formerly. It is also a good plan to cover a few stools of Rhubarb in the open garden with barrels, boxes, or proper cans, surrounding these with a generous amount of leaves, or leaves and long stable litter should such be obtainable. Movable lids should be fitted to each barrel, box, or can, so as to provide easy access at any time. Seakale may be forced in the same way, the resulting heads, as a rule, being finer than from lifted roots.

Planting Horseradish

Where there is a steady demand for this root it is necessary at times to lay down a fresh bed, and the present time, providing the weather be open, is very favourable for carrying this out. The site should be deeply trenched and a fair dressing of well-rotted manure worked into the lower spit. If it is likely that the new bed will be required to provide supplies in autumn, then good strong roots having each a crown attached must be used, whereas when the bed can be left undisturbed for at least a year then pieces of root 4 inches to 5 inches long and as thick as a man's forefinger should be taken, and these planted about a foot below the surface.

Manuring and digging

With so much damp weather during autumn and early winter this work in many gardens is considerably in arrears, so every favourable opportunity must be seized to push forward such, for the earlier the ground can be turned up to the elements the sweeter and more kindly it will be in the coming spring. Trenching and double-digging should also receive early attention when the soil is in a workable condition.

Bulbs in pots

Later batches of these should be dug out of the "plunge" and set for a week or 10 days in a cold frame before placing them in warmth. Very gentle heat should be given, especially at first. Those coming into flower will last much longer and be of finer colour if kept in a greenhouse or pit from which frost is merely excluded.

Chrysanthemum cuttings

The bulk of the single-flowered and decorative varieties succeed well if cuttings be secured about this time. While roots are formed more quickly when warmth is applied to these cuttings this is discounted later, the resulting plants being weaker and lankier than are those rooted under cool conditions. Frost must, of course, be excluded at all times, but no more heat should be given than is necessary to ensure this.

The seed order

This important duty should be attended to at an early date as numerous items require to be sown almost at once, and in any case it is so much more comfortable to have the year's supplies at hand so that no suitable opportunity is missed to get these consigned to the soil at the proper time. Early ordering is also advantageous by ensuring that everything required can be supplied, whereas the late-comer is often faced with the words "sold out, so and so sent as substitute."

Earliest seeds to sow

To ensure the resulting plants blooming the first year it is desirable to sow the seeds of Begonia, Gloxinia, Streptocarpus, Pentstemon, Hollyhock, and Pelargonium during the next 10 days or so. The first three demand a moist temperature of 70 degs. to 75 degs., the others doing nicely with 10 degs. less.

Tomatoes

To have ripe fruits about the end of May seed should be sown at once and placed in a temperature approximating 70 degs. Under favourable conditions growth will appear in about a week's time, and, as soon as it does, have the pots or pans raised up close to the roof-glass or the little seedlings will "draw" badly.

Leeks and Onions

Where large samples of these are desired seeds should be sown now, using boxes of rich compost set in a temperature of not less than 60 degs. Cranston's Excelsior and Ailsa Craig are probably the best varieties of Onion for present sowing, while Pitt's Monarch and The Lyon are both very fine Leeks.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Fixing a Chrysanthemum sport

I have a lovely sport on a Chrysanthemum plant, Blanch Poitevene. It is a splendid deep incurved flower, and I am anxious to get all the plants I possibly can from this sport. Will you, please, inform me through your valuable paper how best to get the cuttings?

WM. H. ASTBURY.

[The best method of fixing a sport and obtaining a fair number of plants of the variety is as follows:—When only one branch of the original plant has sported all other branches should be carefully cut away; then the dead bloom of the sport should be removed, but all the leaves should be left on the branch. Now turn the plant out of its pot and lay it on its side in a greenhouse or frame; if the structure is slightly heated so much the better. Cover the root system and branch with Cocoanut fibre and arrange the plant so that the buds in the axils of the leaves are just buried and the greater portion of each leaf is above the fibre. This treatment induces each bud to grow out into a shoot, and when these are long enough they should be taken off as cuttings and struck in the usual way. Plants obtained by the above means, taken from the actual shoot that has produced the sport, should reproduce the desired flower. Any cuttings that arise from the base of the sported plant should be struck. Some of them may produce flowers of the sport you wish to perpetuate.]

ROSES

Rose on wall

(Feathers).—From your description of the site on which your Rose is growing it does not appear to be an ideal one. The actual cause of the marked foliage is not, however, due to site, but to the attack of an insect, viz., the Rose Leaf-Hopper (Typhlocyba rosæ). If you examine the foliage on the underside you will find one or more dried insect skins. These are the cast skins of the creatures concerned. The life-history of the Rose Leaf-Hopper is as follows:—The adults appear in May and are pale yellow in colour, and their length about one-sixth of an inch. When disturbed they take flying leaps into the air by means of a long pair of hind legs. Females place their eggs just under the skin of the leaf. In due course these eggs hatch and the young larvæ fix themselves to the leaf by means of their proboscis and feed on the leaf sap. Later they get too large for the skin, and this then splits and the active pupal stage emerges,
and from these the adults develop some tin
in September, and egg-laying commenc
again. Winter is passed in the larval, pupa
and adult stages. The best control you ca
adopt at this period is to give the tree
thorough spraying with a good nicotine wa
and then pick off all the leaves and bu
them. Watch carefully for the appearance
the pest in the spring and use your spr
fluid as often as is necessary to obta
control.

FLOWER GARDEN

Trouble with Gladiolus

In cleaning up my bulbs this year I ha
found quite a number affected with sca
What is it? The bulbs were planted
ground which had never grown Gladiolus b
fore, so my surprise was great, more pa
ticularly as from ground which had h
Gladiolus planted in it two years ago I lift
bulbs without a speck. In some cases t
scab was only on the surface, and when r
moved the bulb was quite dry, and in othe
it was an eighth of an inch deep, and wh
removed there could be seen a minute sp
of deep yellow or orange liquid. A few da
ago I received the contents slip of t
"British Gladiolus Annual" for 1929,
which I noted that it is to contain an artic
on "Gladiolus Diseases." I immediate
sent a subscription for the same, but in t
meantime I should be glad if you or one
your readers could advise me as to wh
steps, if any, I should take to effect a cur
I fancy I can hear some say, "Burn the lot
but in the case of one or two expensive vari
ties, if some treatment is possible I shou
like to try it.

AMATEUR.

[It is impossible to give any treatment f
this disease with any confidence because v
cannot recognise it from the description. W
should like the opportunity of examining t
corms if you could send us one or two whi
are of no particular value, or if you sent
valuable one we could return it after e
amination. It occurs to us that if all t
"scabs" which you describe could be r
moved and the corms treated with a mi
antiseptic, such as a 1 per cent. formal
solution, it might arrest the progress of t
trouble if it be a fungus or bacterial diseas
We would much rather examine the corm
however, before advising treatment.]

GREENHOUSE

Begonias as house plants

The article by Mr. H. Greaves (iss
November 17th), entitled "Begonias
House Plants," is interesting. I ha
specialised in Begonias for nearly 20 yea
and find no difficulty whatever in growi
them to perfection under glass or in the op
border. My experience, however, has be
that the tuberous Begonia is the least ada
able of all plants for growing in rooms.
therefore came somewhat as a shock to n
to read that Begonias make "very satisfa
tory plants for indoor use." On readi
further, however, I note that it is deem
advisable to have a sufficient quantity gro
ing in the greenhouse in order that the hom
sick plants can be hustled back for tre
ment. It will be some months befo
Begonias will be again in bloom. This w
give growers time for thought and discussio
otherwise I would advise their going wari
before taking their choice doubles indoor
With regard to the photograph publishe
would Mr. Greaves kindly tell us wheth
the Begonia was photographed when fir
taken indoors or at the end of three weeks
It would be helpful to your readers if oth
Begonia growers gave their experience.

E. R. BLUNSDEN.

[I do not think my experience wit

tuberous Begonias as house plants is at all uncommon. In reply to Mr. Blunsden's query I may say that the photograph reproduced in your issue of November 17th was taken when the plant had been in the house just over a fortnight, but when my note was written, about a week after, the plant was in the same flourishing condition. It is by no means difficult to maintain a house atmosphere thoroughly congenial to tuberous Begonias during the summer months. The plant in question spent a portion of its time in an open, sunny window, and the remainder of the day on the sideboard, and due attention was given to watering throughout its stay indoors. The reason why many plants fail when brought indoors is that they are more often subject to neglect. Greenhouse plants are visited regularly, but the care of the house plant is anybody's job, which means too often that it is nobody's job.—H. Greaves.]

Treatment of Nepenthes

I SHOULD be grateful if you could give some details through the columns of your interesting paper as to the cultural treatment of Nepenthes Khasiana (the Pitcher Plant), of which I have recently been given a well-grown specimen. A. H. Whelan.

C/o The National Bank of
India, Ltd., Bombay, India.

[There are many species of the Pitcher Plants, the majority of them being natives of the Indian Archipelago, although there are also varieties which have been obtained by cross-breeding in British and American gardens. The species N. Khasiana comes from the Himalayas and has green pitchers marked purple. All Nepenthes are surface-rooting plants and must be potted in rough fibrous peat and Sphagnum Moss. Drain well and water very freely both by means of the watering-pot and of the syringe. The plants enjoy a strong heat and a moist atmosphere, but they must not be exposed to the full influence of the sun. It may interest our correspondent in India to learn that Nepenthes may be raised from seeds. Seedlings grow away fairly quickly after germination takes place. The foliage bears tiny pitchers very soon after the seeds germinate.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Privet hedge dying

(Mrs. Hungerford).—It is impossible for us to say what is the cause of your Privet dying unless you send us some specimens for examination. It appears likely that something has killed the roots. Please send us some of the dying growth and also a portion of the root from one of the affected plants and we will report in due course.

Four sweet-scented "single" Lilacs wanted

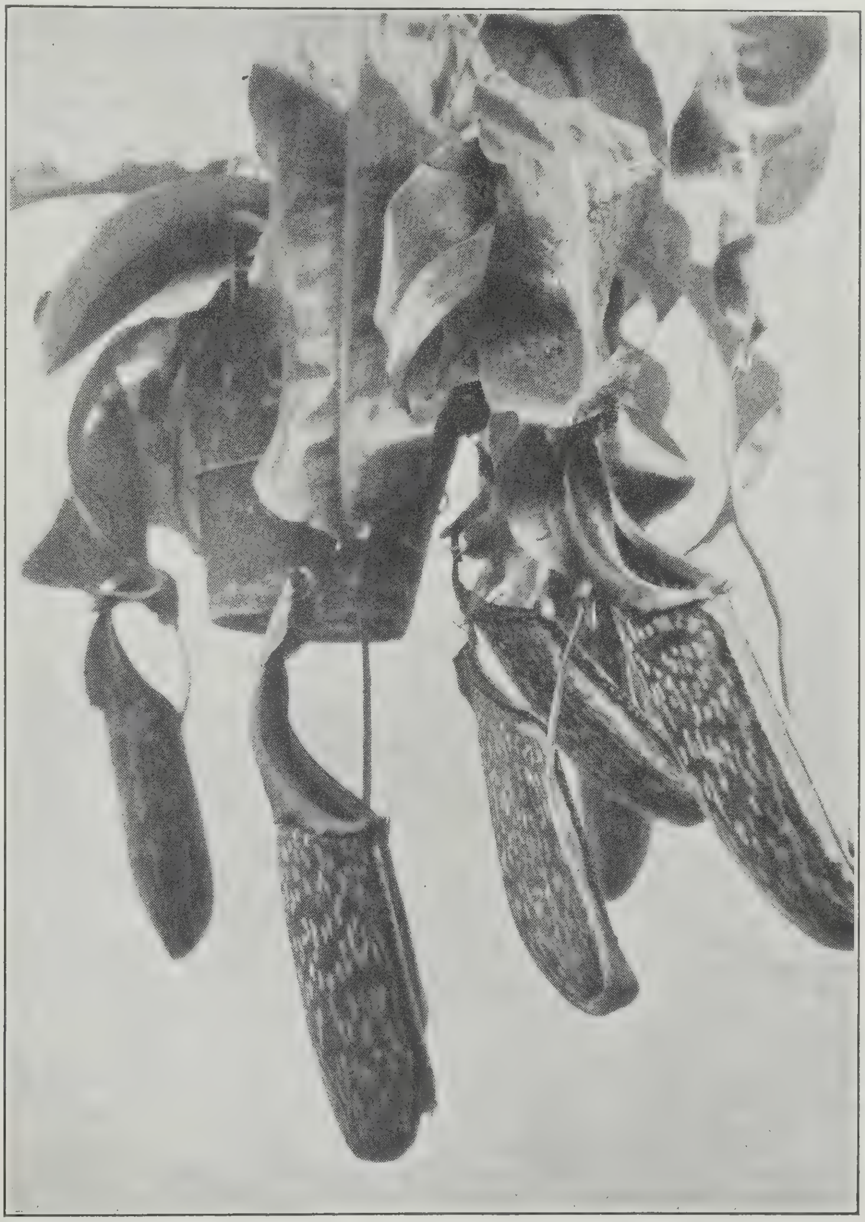
(Pakeha).—White, Marie Legraye; rosy-lilac, Mme. Francisque Morel; deep purple, Souvenir de Louis Spath; red, Phelemon.

VEGETABLES

Diseased Celery

I am sending you a specimen stick of Celery. All in the garden has failed this year. It was earthed-up in good weather with brown paper packing. Can it be possible the ground was over-manured? A. R.

[Your Celery is attacked by Celery Heart Rot, which is caused by Bacillus carotovorus. This bacillus is the cause of a soft rot in many kinds of plants and is difficult to control. Your best plan will be to lift all the affected plants and burn them. The site on which the Celery is growing should not be used for Celery, Carrots, or Onions next year because each is liable to attack. The manuring may have had something to do with the disease, *e.g.*, the organism may have been introduced into the garden by means of the manure, or if the plants had received too much nitrogen from the manure it may have made them soft in growth and therefore an easy prey to the bacillus. We are inclined to this view because all the leaf-stalks were pithy. You would find that your Celery plants would be improved another year by giving the trenches a dressing of three parts superphosphate of lime and one part sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per yard run of trench. If you can improve the drainage of your land it helps to keep diseases of this character in check. Lime increases the chances of attack.]



Nepenthes or Pitcher Plant

Stove plants that require a high temperature and abundance of moisture. Even in winter the temperature should not be lower than 60°

Garlic trouble

Kindly inform me if there is any method of destroying or holding in check the common or wild Garlic other than digging it up. A portion of our grounds in which bulbs are thickly planted and which we wish to avoid disturbing contains a great deal of it, and it appears to be increasing rapidly. In early spring, before the grass begins to grow, the clumps of dark green foliage are too conspicuous. William J. Harris.

[We do not think you can do anything except lift the Garlic and destroy it. Anything which you could treat the soil with would, if it killed the Garlic, also kill the bulbs. If you could prevent the Garlic making any foliage you might be able to weaken it in time so that it would die out, but we are afraid it is rather a forlorn hope. Garlic in such a position is almost a hopeless proposition, but to lift and destroy seems to be the only method, if it is practicable.]

Potato Sefton Wonder

(C. D., Berks).—Having grown Sefton Wonder we have no hesitation in saying that it is a Potato for every grower. Anywhere where Potatoes can be grown it will give satisfaction. It is certified by the Ministry of Agriculture as a new and distinct immune Second Early variety. It is earlier and a better keeper than its parent, Great Scot. It has a similar sturdy growth, but has a beautiful golden russet skin, and the flavour of that epicurean Potato, Golden Wonder, even when dug early in its immature stages. Well sprouted, and planted early, it compares favourably with any First Early variety.

FRUIT

Paradise stocks for Apples wanted

(Pakeha).—Messrs. George Bunyard and Co., The Royal Nurseries, Maidstone, possess a very fine form of Paradise Stock known as the Broad Leaf of Rivers, upon which their Apples are worked, and they would probably supply you with all you require.

Rabbits eating Apple trees

A rabbit got into the grounds here a short time ago and started gnawing at some new Apple trees which had recently been planted. The base of the stem of each tree was then smeared with gas tar. We so treat young Spruce trees which are planted in the coverts to keep the rabbits from them. A man living near has since told me that such treatment of young fruit with either gas tar or creosote is bad for the bark of the tree, and such system should not be carried out. I shall be much obliged if in your columns you will kindly tell me if any harm is likely to result to the Apple trees from our treatment. MAJOR E.

Knowle.

[We agree that it is dangerous practice to treat the stems of young fruit trees with tar or creosote to prevent rabbits eating the bark. We have seen many trees killed after being so treated, and the rabbits may just as well kill a few of the trees as for you to injure them all by your treatment. The best and safest treatment to prevent rabbits eating the bark of fruit trees is undoubtedly to wire the enclosure or to wire each tree. Many experiments have been tried as to material for treating the bark, and, while success is claimed by some, a repetition with the acclaimed material does not work under all conditions. Protecting the bark first of all with grease-proof paper and then using tar is, perhaps, the best preventative. Another plan we have seen successfully used was to tie small bundles of dead twigs around the stem, but it appears to us that if there is any quantity to protect, wiring would work out cheapest in the end. It is curious that rabbits and hares often injure newly planted trees, but often leave untouched those that have been in position several years.]

Mealy Bug on Vines

Kindly tell me the best way to deal with Mealy Bug in Grape Vines under the following conditions:—The vinery is used for other plants, including Cinerarias and Primulas, also Ferns, and Smilax is planted under the wall of the vinery. I have no other house in which to move the pot plants, so I am unable to fumigate owing to the other plants. R. H. TUCK.

[Please see reply to "Cum" on page 711 of our issue for November 3rd *re* fumigation with calcium cyanide. We think that if you use calcium cyanide in very light doses fairly often you would in time reduce the Bug; at any rate, to reasonable proportions. The firm from whom you obtain the calcium cyanide will give you full instructions as to how the material should be used and also what plants are injured, but most plants will stand very light doses. If you do not care to use this material the Bug actually on the Vines could be killed by scrubbing with Gishurst Compound. A house filled with miscellaneous plants *plus* a Vine is always difficult to keep free from Mealy Bug. A mixture of half methylated spirit and half water is useful for painting the pest on the Vine during summer, but even at that period calcium cyanide is the quicker method. *Re* a shady greenhouse, you cannot be expected to grow good plants or Vines in a house shaded in the manner you describe, and for you to obtain good results it is essential that the shaded conditions should be removed. On the other hand, the shaded conditions have nothing to do with the spread of Mealy Bug. The facts are that the Bugs are present in the house and go on increasing as long as they are allowed to remain and have food plants.]

Fruit trees for west wall

We have suddenly decided to do away with Loganberries on a wall facing due west and put in oblique cordons—Greengages, Plums, and Pears—and I should be so grateful if you would tell me if we can put them in early in the spring, or if we must wait till autumn. I am going to have the border trenched and manured at once, and I do not think I can have it ready, even if the weather suits, before the latter end of January, as labour is a difficulty. If you say we can plant this spring would you kindly give me the names of suitable trees? We have Pitmaston Duchess and Williams' Bon Chrêtien, and I should like a smallish sweet early Pear, one of those delicious, juicy things I have eaten but of which I do not know the name. It will be most kind of you to help me. M. A. PILKINGTON.

[Your decision to do away with Loganberries is a wise one; a west wall is much too valuable for these rather over-rated subjects. You can plant Pear trees and Plum trees from now until the middle of March, although, of course, late autumn planting, when it can be done, is preferable. Meantime prepare the stations. Take out good-sized holes, 2 feet in depth, and refill at least 1 foot with good turfy loam well chopped, to which should be added some lime-rubble or lime in some form, with a little bone-meal. The remaining soil may be returned at planting time, afterwards mulching the surface with strawy litter. See, too, and especially during March and April, that the trees have plenty of moisture. Oblique cordons planted 2 feet apart would be suitable. Good Plums would be Kirke's Plum, Washington, Jefferson, Coe's Golden Drop, Reine Claud de Bavay, Brahy's Gage (early and late), and Transparent Gage. Pond's Seedling makes a good, large variety, but it lacks the quality of the others. Pears might include, in addition to those named, Beurré Giffard (small and sweet), Hessle (ditto), Winter Nelis (ditto, late), Louise Bonne of Jersey, Beurré Hardy, Marie Louise, Doyenne du Comice, Autumn Bergamot, Glou Morceau, and Josephine de Malines.]

Orange trees in tubs

(F. T., Ciboure).—If the trees appear to be very badly attacked by scale there is nothing else for it but to constantly syringe them with an approved insecticide or solution of soft-soap and water, after first of all sponging the leaves with soft-soap and thoroughly scrubbing the bark of the trees. This is a long and tedious job, but it must be done thoroughly. The ants are not doing any harm, they are merely present to take away the honey-dew deposited by the aphis. It is a good thing to thoroughly cleanse the trees, especially at this dull time of the year. The reason why the fruits do not mature is probably because the trees are not in good condition; also it may be due to the Orange-blossom not being properly fertilised. If the flowers are not visited by insects, then it is necessary to pollinate them by hand, dusting the flowers over with a hare's tail about mid-day, when the flowers are open and the pollen is ready to dehisce.

MISCELLANEOUS

Fog in lawn

I have to thank you for your most kin answer to my question *re* "fog" in lawr "Fog" is, perhaps, better understood "Moss." If, however, you do not qui understand I will be very glad to have a piec sent on for your inspection. It is not a gra or plant, but more like the material used retain the moisture in Orchids. My own ide is to have the lawn top-dressed with a coatin of good, sharp sand. N. R. J.

[We are interested to learn yet anothe name for Moss in a lawn. Your plan giving the lawn a top-dressing of good, shar sand is a sound one. It would be best fo you to commence operations by giving th surface of the lawn a vigorous raking wit an iron rake to remove as much of the Mos as you can. Follow this by obtaining besom which is almost worn out and, there fore, stubby, and brushing the surfa thoroughly, again to remove as much of th Moss as is possible. To allow the sand work well into the top soil and turf we shoul loosen the turf with a digging-fork, just pres the fork home, and gently raise the surface the turf; then top-dress with the sand an allow rain to wash in the sand; afterwar roll well. The growth of Moss on a lawn often due to bad drainage. Are you sure th drainage is good? To spend labour on badly drained lawn is largely waste of tim and the Moss will grow again. Follow th above treatment by giving sulphate of am monia in April at 1 oz. per square yard.]

Hardy Cyclamen seeds wanted

("Reigate"). — Messrs. Thompson an Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich, are the on firm we know who offer seeds of these har Cyclamen. Their seed list not only contai the kinds you mention, but several others interest.

Address wanted

Will our reader, Alice Kirke, who recent wrote Mrs. Torkington, The New Ha Maidenhead, with reference to Campanu Allionii, kindly get into touch with her agai

NAMES OF PLANTS

Cæsar.—Hymenanthera dentata R. B Var. Angustifolia Benth. Fl. Aust., 1, 10 See Cheeseman, "Manual of the Ne Zealand Flora," page 49. More recent introduced to gardens than H. crassifolia, only bushes of lesser size are known. seems to have a stiffer, more upright ha than the older species, loses its leaves mo readily, but bears small white berries of similar size. The tips of young growths pr duce few leaves and stand out from the bu as grey, sharply pointed twigs, and a pleasantly distinct in appearance.

A. B.—The Veronica with stems li polished whipcord is V. Hectori.

C. T., Surrey.—Raphiolepis ovata. It also known as Japanese Hawthorn.

Register of Growers of Certifie Stocks of Potatoes

During the past season Inspectors of t Ministry of Agriculture have examined near 9,000 acres of growing crops of Potatoes wi a view to certification as found to be true type and reasonably free from rogues. Pa ticulars of crops certified as reaching t required standard of purity of not less th 99·5 per cent. are given in the Register Growers of Certified Stocks of Potatoes 1928, which has just been issued by t Ministry.

Growers are reminded that, under the Wa Disease of Potatoes Order of 1923, the on Potatoes that may be planted in land which Wart Disease has occurred at any ime are Potatoes of approved immune varieties which have been inspected whilst growing and certified as true to type and easonably free from rogues, or Potatoes of approved immune varieties saved from crops grown on the land in the previous year. The Order further provides that, on the sale of any Potatoes for planting, the number of the relative certificate issued under the Order must be quoted. In the case of Potatoes of approved immune varieties, the certificate number to be quoted is that given in the Register of Growers, but in the case of other varieties the number to be quoted is that of he relative Clean Land Certificate issued to he growers concerned, and not that of the Purity Certificate quoted in the Register.

Copies of the Register of Growers may be obtained from the Ministry on application to ts Offices at 10, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1, price 1s.

Jottings from the Riviera

A SEASON of extremes in temperature, drought, and rainfall has made its mark in gardens on this sunny coast. How many old favourites have disappeared, killed at the root either by drought or heat, and yet how many have enjoyed it as reminding hem of the climates from which they have sprung! The flowering Aloes have especially enjoyed these conditions, and should, with ordinary weather, give a glorious harvest of bloom later on. The little Iris stylosa or unguicularis, when cut back in September to "bare bones," are now one mass of flower, and it is pleasant to chronicle the fact that this severe treatment has proved very successful in England, also, as the check seems to force up the flower-buds.

Many climbers and plants are late as the drought and heat persisted till mid-October, and the three weeks' deluge that followed entirely spoilt the late summer flowers, but Roses are very unusually good, having been well rested during the summer months, and the autumn Sweet Peas have equally enjoyed the conditions. Both Anemones and Narcissus are much later than usual; the ground was too hot for them to start till after the rain of early November. Since then the constant sunshine and even temperatures have produced a harvest of flower I have rarely seen at Christmas time. The Salvias and Phlox Drummondi, with bold groups of Centaurea Clementei and the Orange Cosmos igneus, give an air of summer that is a surprise to newcomers, while the Hellebores or Christmas Roses and the Snowdrops are only just beginning to recover from the heat and drought. The Cyclamens have found the conditions extremely favourable. I never saw finer leafage or promise of blossom; a few C. persicum are already opening their first blooms.

Carnations suffered so much from the heat and drought that it was not until the autumn rains and cooler air that the growths could consolidate. At this moment they are in fine condition, a great contrast to the entire blank of last year after that terrible frost of December 18th. The cool nights and bright days of this season are much to their liking.

Cypripediums insigne in variety and their hybrids are in profuse flower, while the charming late autumn Nerines of the Manselli type are almost a failure, owing to my gardener's fear that the heat and drought of summer would be too much for them, so he watered them once every fortnight, with the result that only a few pots sent up any flower-spikes. Had they simply been covered up from the sun's heat and left dry I have little doubt but that their flowering would have been normal. It is the difficulty of knowing exactly how to rest Nerines that prevents their culture being more general.

Yuccas, especially Y. gloriosa, have responded marvellously to the heat and drought. There are more flower-spikes in beauty now than I have ever seen so late, and the contrast between the pure white Gloriosa spikes and the brightly tinted buds of hybrid seedlings are very effective. In this climate I find it a good plan to pull out all the spikes that come in spring and early summer while they are quite young, and the autumn blooms are more abundant in consequence.

EDWARD H. WOODALL.

British Trade journals

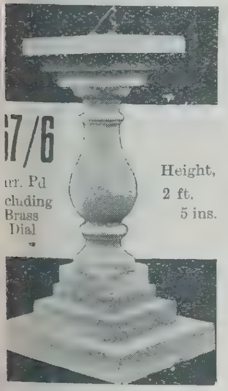
A new departure in trade journalism is announced by Benn Brothers Ltd., which recently acquired the business of William Agnew, Ltd., publishers, of Mark Lane. William Agnew, Ltd., were the publishers of "The British Trade Journal," among other papers. "The British Trade Journal" was the first export trade journal, and has led that field for the last 67 years. Benn Brothers Ltd. established 30 years ago "The Export World," which has had a highly successful career.

It has now been decided that these two publications should join forces under the title of "The British Trade Journal and Export World." The first number of the combined publication, which will be larger, more comprehensive, and more influential than any export journal ever published, will appear in February in good time for the business opportunities presented by the British Industries Fair.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Dobbie and Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Plants for spring, 1929.

James Carter and Co., Raynes Park, London, S.W. 20.—Garden and lawn.



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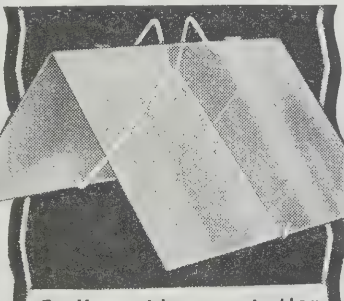

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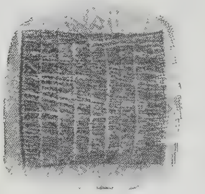

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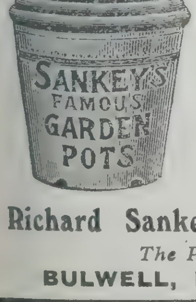

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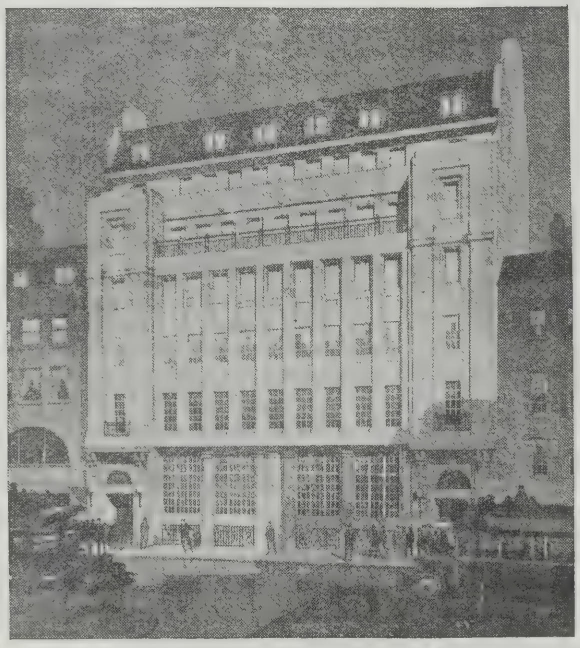

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FLOWERS · FRUIT · VEGETABLES · BEES · GARDEN DESIGN
TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

VOL. LI.—No. 2601 Saturday, January 12, 1929 TWOPENCE

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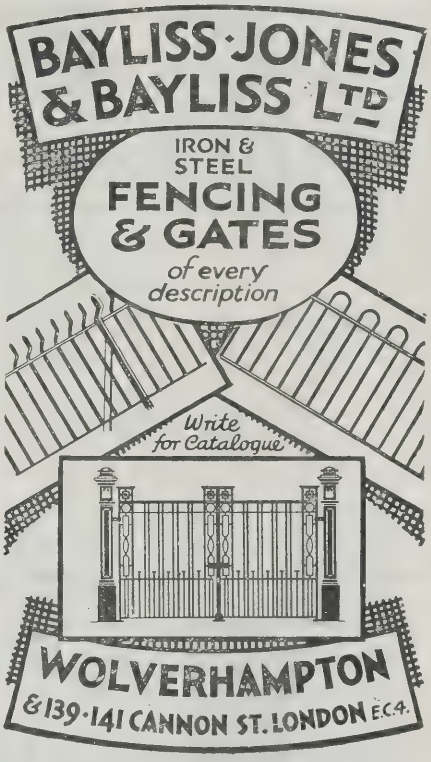

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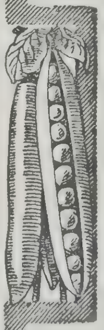

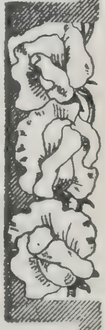

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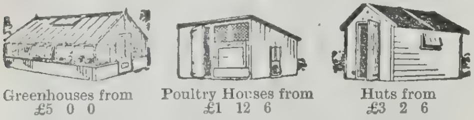

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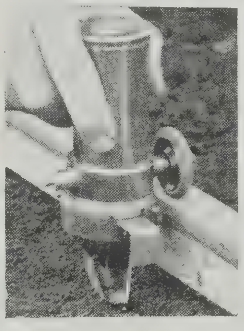

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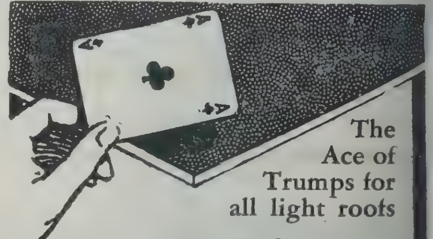

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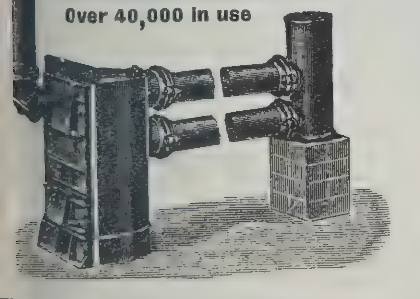

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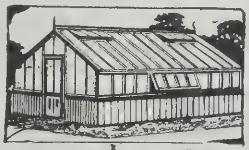

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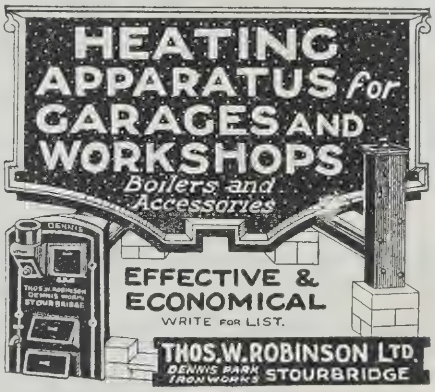

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— **BATH** —

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Among the Hardy Flowers

I WOULD like to bring before other amateurs the merits of the Heliopsis, a good border plant with flowers like those of small Sunflowers, but coming into bloom before the perennial species of Helianthus. I have found the plants of this genus of good appearance towards the back of a border; and the blooms come in usefully as cut flowers, especially if cut before the disc or central florets have opened. Cut at this stage they keep fresh much longer. Of the genus there are several species or varieties in nurseries, and I have grown a few in my own garden. They all grow to a height of 3 feet or 4 feet and give a long succession of flowers. The three mentioned are, I consider, about the best. Heliopsis major, sometimes called H. scabra major, is a good one, with large, ingle, deep yellow lowers. Then, one which was, I understand, introduced a good many years ago as H. pitcherianus, has an additional row of ray lorets and is of a good orange-yellow. The newest of the varieties is H. zinniæflora, which is he most distinct form we have among the plants of the genus. It as double flowers ormed like those of a Zinnia and of a good range-yellow. Any of hese will grow in good arden soil, but to do hem justice I consider hat they should be well nanured. They should e staked in good time, s, although quite obust, they may be blown over in stormy eather.

The Cape Hyacinth (Hyacinthus or Galtonia candicans)

Bulbs should be ordered now for spring planting

The tall spikes are from 4 feet to 6 feet high, each bearing from forty to sixty pure white bell-shaped flowers

HE CAPE HYACINTH

From what I see the Cape Hyacinth altonia, or Hyacinthus candicans, is a bulb hich is not so much grown as it was a few ears ago. Some of my friends to whom I ave spoken about it inform me frankly that ey always forget about bulbs for spring anting, with the possible exception of ladioli and Anemone. This is a pity, as eil-grown plants of this Galtonia have a stinct value in the garden, especially where her hardy flowers are much grown and where groups or masses of this noble flower are splendid when in bloom. When well grown in good soil they will be from 4 feet to 6 feet high, and will look really superb with their numerous white flowers on elegant plants. There is just one trouble worth mentioning, and this is that if the plants are left in the ground during winter they often deteriorate in some gardens and come up quite dwarf and stunted. This would seem to happen more frequently in cold, wet districts; and the only thing to do is to lift the bulbs when the foliage withers in autumn and keep them free from frost until March, which is the best time to plant. G. candicans is now so cheap that it should be largely planted.

HEPATICAS

Most growers of hardy flowers love the old Hepaticas, now classed among the Anemones by botanists, but more familiarly known to both amateur and professional gardeners as Hepaticas. I rather like the old popular name of Noble Liverwort. But this is a digression, and I intended, when I began, to say a little about the cultivation of these old-fashioned flowers. An experienced grower of them once told me that a great point in the successful cultivation of the Hepatica is to keep the foliage fresh as long as possible. This means that the plants should have, at least, partial shade, either by planting them in a shaded place or by putting something over them after they have flowered to keep the sun off them. This, he said, was only natural, as they are mostly woodland plants. He suggested branches of Spruce or other Conifers over the plants. This may not please some people, who would sacrifice everything for tidiness, but lovers of the Hepatica will not mind this if it secures good plants with plenty of flowers. The soil should be rich and deep, with plenty of leaf-soil, but the planting should be done firmly. I like the grand varieties of Hepatica or Anemone angulosa, but there is something inexpressibly appealing in the smaller flowers of the old favourite Anemone Hepatica, the Noble Liverwort of our ancient writers. — AN AMATEUR OF HARDY FLOWERS.

Galtonias (Hyacinthus candicans)

SOMETIMES one hears disappointment expressed at the non-appearance of Galtonias in the flower borders in the spring by people who have looked upon them as entirely hardy. It is certain that in some soils that are light and sandy it is safe to leave the bulbs in the ground for the winter without harm, but on soils that are cold and heavy there is considerable risk in so doing. The safest plan is, I think, to lift the bulbs after they have done flowering in autumn, and to store them in sand in a shed or cool place out of the way of frost. The foliage should not be cut away, but left to dry off naturally, just as one does with Gladioli. My plan is to tie them up in bunches with the bulbs up, so that the moisture does not drain into the bulbs, causing them to rot off. They keep well enough in sand for the winter, and can be replanted in March. Do not leave the bulbs to chance in the soil. MIDLANDER.

Early morning frost scenes can be surprisingly beautiful in winter

On the left is a glimpse in the rock garden; and on the right a Tamarix with its twigs wreathed in hoar frost

NOTES OF THE WEEK

National Rose Society

THE 52nd annual general meeting of the Society will be held at Caxton Hall, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. 1, on Wednesday, January 16th, at 2.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Mr. Arthur Johnson, the new President of the National Rose Society.

The Ricardi Irises

The article in our last issue on the beautiful Ricardi Irises, with a warning as to their hardiness, has, as we expected, brought correspondence from leading Iris enthusiasts. In this issue we publish an interesting letter on the subject from Mr. G. L. Pilkington, the Hon. Secretary of the Iris Society, who, as is well known, is one of the most successful growers of Ricardi Irises in the country. As Mr. Pilkington rightly points out, at least 90 per cent. of the Bearded Irises are hardy border flowers in any part of this country. Those who wish to be kept informed on Iris matters such as these would, we suggest, do well to join the Iris Society. The Hon. Secretary's address is Lower Lee, Woolton, Liverpool.

Pensions for aged gardeners

There are 36 deserving candidates, of whom only 20 can be elected to the funds of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institutio at the forthcoming annual general meeting The election this year will be held at th Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, o Thursday, January 24th at 3 p.m., when th chair will be taken by Mr. Leonard Sutton Chairman of Committee. Subscriptions an donations are earnestly solicited. Th Secretary is Mr. George J. Ingram, 92 Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Dianthus sylvestris

I WONDER if any readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED would be interested to hear of my experience with that little-known Alpine, Dianthus sylvestris? It has such a bad reputation—that, I suppose, is why it is so seldom grown—but is so graceful an beautiful that it is a pity that it is not see more often. In all ignorance of what I wa getting I brought it from Switzerland my self, giving it most unsuitable treatment fo a fortnight or more while I was movin about. When I got home I put it into rather shallow old stone sink on a terra facing south. There it has been for sever summers now, and always flowers wel Unfortunately, the birds are fond of it, an either nip the buds off or tear the flowers ribbons unless it is well protected. I alway give it plenty of water from about April ti the flowers are over.

(MISS) A. H. DODSON.

Wootton Rectory, Northampton.

A standard colour chart

There is published in France " Repertoi de Couleurs des Fleurs, des Feuillages et d Fruits," published by the Société Françai des Chrysanthemistes et Rene Oberthu ouvrage couronne par la Société Nationa d'Horticulture de France.

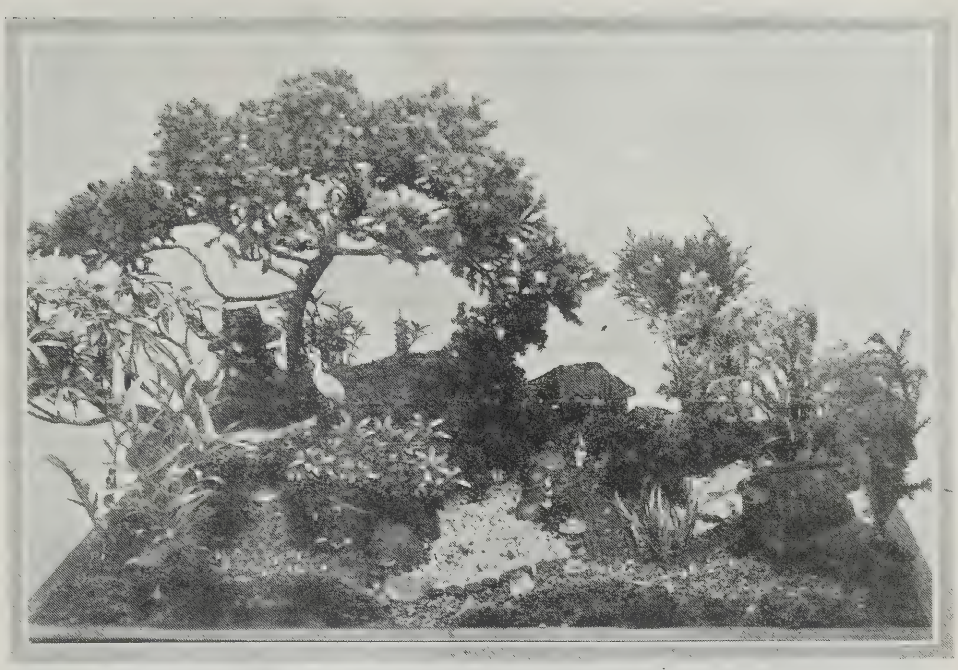
In my opinion it would add greatly to th value of this really important proposition the Royal Horticultural Society would tak it up.

In " Hunting in Africa, East and West, by C. P. and R. C. Curtis, page 265, th authors say : " The colour book was perfectl

Anemone Hepatica triloba, flowers single blue

This is one of the shade-loving Noble Liverworts referred to on the previous page fascinating. Every colour shaded here, 1,431 in all, were classified and named."

Salcombe. A. S.



Japanese landscape in a square earthenware dish, comprising a lake with bridge, thatched cottage, Bamboos, pagoda, Junipers, and other trees

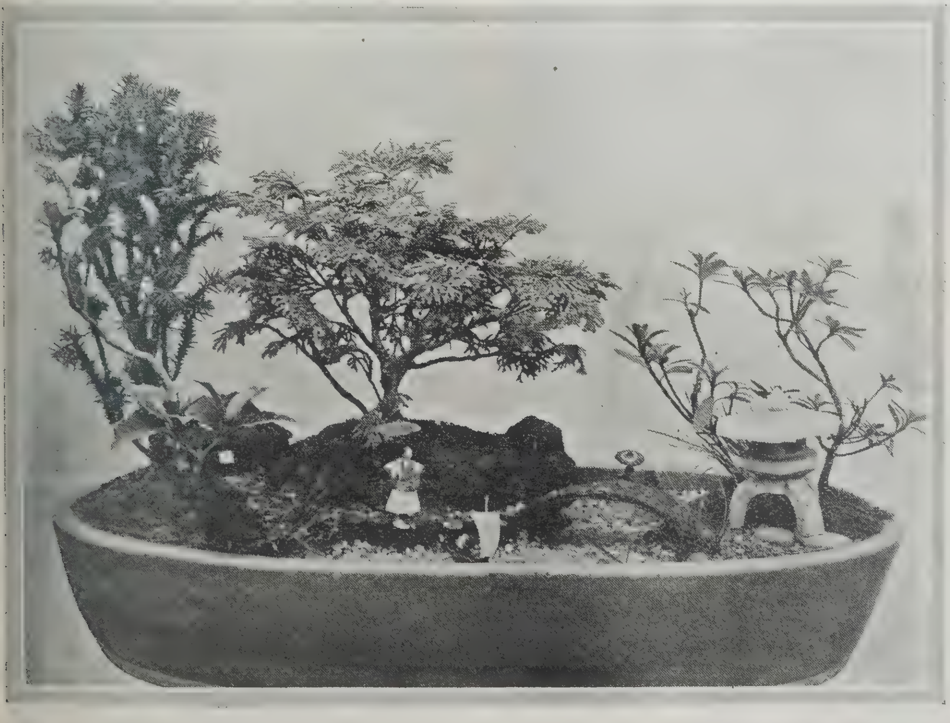
Hachi-niwa: Pie-dish gardens

WHEN the little dish gardens appeared in England in shops where Japanese goods were sold, and first were seen in some of our flower shows, they were treated merely as toys for children, and raised a smile, though possibly one of appreciation. The art of representing a well-known scene, a perfect landscape, or charming garden within a space measured by inches was certainly not taken seriously. Within the last few years these miniature gardens have become far more popular, and there is something very fascinating in building up such little pictures. Although a good deal may be learned by the study of a well-constructed one, far more is to be learned by laying one out, and many happy hours can be spent in making these delightful little gardens. Small temples, shrines, thatched cottages, lanterns, and bridges, Torii, boats, and the most beautifully modelled figures—perhaps less than an inch in height—representing coolies, pilgrims, priests, and Japanese ladies in their picturesque dress may all be purchased at an astonishingly low price. Pigmy trees representing venerable Pines, specially grown and dwarfed, can also be obtained at prices which vary from pence to pounds.

At Kyoto an exhibition is held annually of these little living gardens and landscapes. Handsome prizes are awarded to those considered the best. The making of these Hachi-niwa is a favourite pastime for the ladies of Tokyo, but the interest in them is not confined to women and children, the exhibitions are thronged with the best-known men in the land.

There is no doubt whatever that the construction of such small gardens in the British style, with all the miniature accessories, such as those provided by the Japanese, would do much to encourage the art of garden design.

In many a household a Japanese dish garden, given as a toy to the children, has become a source of delight to the parents. One can picture a charming little scene representing an old Tudor garden or Dutch garden, such as may be seen at Hampton Court, carried out on a scale only occupying a foot or two of space. But to obtain perfect little models of ancient garden houses, sundials, and little figures, perhaps of the Tudor and Stuart periods, when our native dress was picturesque, we should probably have to go to Japan to get them made accurately and cheaply. The great thing to be remembered in their construction is to get everything in proper proportion, not only as regards each accessory used, but also as regards the size of the shallow dish in which the whole scene is built up. It is a fascinating and delightful art and it adds a new interest to some of our little native plants that we sometimes call weeds, but there is a beauty in Chickweed, Eyebright, and the Shepherd's Weather Glass. H. H. WARNER.



A pie-dish garden

Ricardi Irises

I have read Mr. Wynn Hellings' article in your issue of January 5th with great interest, and am in agreement, to a large extent, with all he says, particularly with regard to the necessity of informing the general public on the subject of the "hardiness" or otherwise of the modern garden Irises.

The fact remains, however, that 90 per cent. of the Bearded (Flag) Irises listed in the growers' catalogues to-day are perfectly hardy, another 5 per cent. may be called fairly hardy, and the remaining 5 per cent. admittedly difficult to grow under our average weather conditions. To this latter category most of the so-called "Ricardi" Irises belong.

Iris Ricardi itself, as Mr. Wynn Hellings states, originally came from a warm climate, and, owing to the fact that the weather of the summer and autumn in this country is often so consistently wet and comparatively sunless, the rhizome rarely gets properly ripened, and the plant fails to flower in consequence, and in course of time often dies out entirely.

The fact that certain people can grow these Irises satisfactorily is almost entirely accounted for by a combination of circumstances, such as "good position" in the garden and weather prevailing in their particular district.

As I live in a district where the rainfall is heavy and the winters usually mild, I have adopted the method of giving protection from rain in the form of overhead glass shelters during the autumn and early spring, and find that this solves, to a large extent, the difficulties of growing these Irises; and, whilst admitting that Irises requiring such treatment cannot be regarded nor recommended as "garden" Irises in the true sense, I am of opinion that by judicious hybridising a race of Irises possessing most of the qualities of Iris Ricardi as regards size of bloom and flower-spike, together with the necessary "hardiness" for our garden, can, and will, be evolved.

Several of the Irises mentioned in Mr. Wynn Hellings' list are extensively grown in amateurs' and "growers'" gardens, and can be generally classified as "hardy," notably Mdlle. Schwartz, Leverrier, Fismes, Menetrier, and Troost, which latter, however, Mons. Denis informed me, is *not* a Ricardi seedling, though erroneously stated and accepted as such in many trade lists both here and on the Continent.

It should be noted, also, that practically all the Irises in this list are " first crosses," and, as such, can hardly be expected not to exhibit the characteristics of their " tender " parent to a large extent. Later generations, however, may certainly be expected to outgrow them, and it is towards this end that some of us enthusiasts are striving.

On the other hand, Iris Cypriana (which was sent to the late Sir Michael Foster from Cyprus in 1888) must not be confused with I. Ricardi, and Iris lovers must bear well in mind that had it not been for the Cypriana and the work of the late Sir Michael Foster, who used it so largely in his hybridising, our gardens would be without many of the tall, branching varieties which adorn them to-day. Such well-known varieties as Caterina, Lady Foster, and Shelford Chieftain are all direct descendants of I. Cypriana, and, furthermore, this Iris has been used much by Mr. Yeld and Sir Arthur Hort in the production of many of their finest Irises.

Gentiana verna angulosa growing and flowering well in a stone sink

Gentians, Saxifrages, Dianthuses, Androsaces, Campanulas, and other Alpines may all be grown successfully in stone troughs and sinks. Apparently the plants love it!

The suggestion by Mr. Wynn Hellings that growers should list the Ricardi Irises under a separate category in their catalogues would seem to be a simple method of informing the general flower-loving public on this question, and I trust that it may have their consideration.

As to the " rating " or " judging " of such Irises, a suggestion that they should be placed in a class by themselves for this purpose is probably correct at this stage, and has already been discussed, in its broadest outlines, by the Committee of the Iris Society.

The following " Ricardi " hybrids can be added to Mr. Wynn Hellings' list, and are added largely as a matter of interest, as very few of them will be found in the catalogues of our English growers, but chiefly in Continental ones.

The list does not include any of the American-raised varieties, which are largely of Mesopotamica parentage, and, as such, would necessarily fall into the same category as the Ricardis, as regards their hardiness, until proved otherwise. Megas, Mdlle. Jeanne Bel, de Forcrand, Jeannie, Peronne, Prof. Scheubel (all Denis), and Mopsa (Hort).

G. L. Pilkington,
Hon. Secretary, Iris Society.

—— I think Mr. Wynn Hellings is unduly pessimistic on the subject of Ricardi Irises. I have grown some 30 varieties since 1922, first in Southampton and later in Richmond. I have discarded some of them as superseded, but I have only lost two varieties from disease, and these arrived in that state from damp packing, and so never got started. The soil in both gardens was light, and there was good shelter from wind, but no special treatment was given. I was able to show a number of varieties at the Iris Society's show in 1927. Even after the very wet summer and autumn of 1927 and the severe winter I had practically all in bloom last summer, but, unfortunately, they were over before the show in many cases.

As the raising of seedlings is an easy matter, it is to be hoped that those in whose gardens these varieties bloom are raising seedlings from them so that even stronger varieties may be found. I have been doing a little myself since 1926, using several Ricardi varieties as seed parents. Nothing much appeared among the first set, which bloomed last summer, but, at any rate, they came through the winter quite well. I have at present a further set of seedlings from S. Autissier, Säull, Mme. Vermoux, Mme. Durand, Mdlle. Schwartz, Mme. C. Bouscant, and J. B. Dumas, which have made good growth and, so far, are standing the winter well in my new garden, which is quite different soil. B. R. Long.

Lucan, Square Hill Road, Maidstone.

Olearia insignis in the rocks at Kaikoura

Mr. A. Wilkinson, the veteran Treasurer and Secretary of the New Zealand Alpine Rock Garden Society, writes to Sir William Lawrence, dated November 24, 1928:—" I am writing this letter in Kaikoura, where I am staying. Mount Fyfe is in front of me, about five miles, and it is a great sight. Covered with snow and a perfect summer's day. The rocks all along the coast within three miles are covered with Olearia insignis; it is a wonderful sight. Roots just in cracks of rock. No soil, and they are one mass of buds. Then Veronica Hulkeana all about on slopes in full bloom and Linum monogynum growing in profusion. The leafless Clematis just over." We also learn that the headquarters of the Society have been moved from Nelson to Wellington, N.Z.

A dissertation on pig troughs

It can never have entered the head of any patient hewer of stone pig troughs that age would enhance the value of his utilitarian handiwork, but time has brought bargainings behind closed farm doors and motor cars driven furiously through the night laden with erstwhile porcine feeding utensils.

Stone sinks and troughs have opened up endless possibilities in Alpine gardening, and personally I think there is no more enjoyable way of growing the newer Saxifrage hybrids than in a stone sink built up with rocks rising high above the sink sides to resemble a considerable out-crop. By this means every aspect is easily obtained, the plants are thoroughly at home, can be enjoyed at close range, and are at hand for propagating.

Even those who have already a collection of these miniature gardens may not have quite realised what gems will live happily therein. Recently I saw a trough which was a masterpiece of arrangement and planting. Its inhabitants will, I think, be of special interest to those stricken with what for want of a better word I will call " Troughitis."

Here is the list, and first of all come the Saxifrages and Primulas:—

Saxifraga Primulaize, S. Tæssalica, S. Cecil Davis, S. Grisebachii (Wisley Variety), S. x The Duke, S. oppositifolia splendens.

Primula pubescens alba, P. Deschmannii, P. fasciculata, P. serratifolia, P. hirsuta, P. intermedia, P. Wulfenniana, P. Allioni, P. Auricula albo-marginata.

Next an isolated treasure, Dianthus musale. Now the rather stronger-growing or carpeting plants, Armeria cæspitosa, Arabis lucida variegata, Potentilla Breweri, Erigeron umbellata, Veronica Astonii, with last of all a miniature Noah's Ark tree, Juniperus communis compressa, and a quaint little Ivy, Hedera conglomerata minima, to give proportion.

To those who have tasted these little Alpines this is, surely, a most sustaining trough of rare and refreshing fare.

F. H. Fisher.

Sternbergia lutea

The writer (issue January 5th, page 4) expresses so exactly what I felt on reading the two contrary recommendations for successful flowering of the above that I, too, give my experience. My plants have never been moved, and are in very dry soil fully exposed to sun in a sheltered garden, and each year have thrown up fewer flowers, but never so badly as last year. In one of your issues some time ago it was said that if the Sternbergia lutea produced offshoots they would not flower. This has been the case with mine, and I want to know how it can be prevented, and if it is any use taking up these subsidiary plants and replanting them.

" Bosmere."

—— Writing from my experience in the south of England, I agree with " C. T. K." that if we want Sternbergia lutea to flower we must on no account disturb the bulbs when once planted. I was much surprised that Mr. S. Arnott should advocate taking the bulbs up every year in order to ripen them off, but I imagine this is because he has grown them in a cooler climate than in the south or west of England. My great-grandfather flowered them year after year uninterruptedly in Hertfordshire, planted in friable loam on a border facing due south, backed by a high brick wall. They continued to bloom during my grandfather's lifetime, and a clump lifted with as little disturbance as possible was dropped into a similar position in my father's garden nearby, where they blossomed for many years (30) without a break. These clumps were never listurbed yearly. It would have been regarded as an act of sacrilege.' I brought some to my present garden three years ago, ind for the last two years they have borne a ew flowers planted in a warm position acing south-west, and I would on no account disturb them. When one is dealing with a species and not some florist's variety he less disturbance plants receive the better, believe. This is certainly the case with ris unguicularis. The Agapanthus also resents disturbance. A large clump or two appeared to be potbound and were divided and ransplanted to larger pots. Plenty of leaves were produced, but it was some years before hey began to bloom. Exactly the same hing occurred with Eucaris Amazonica. They, like the Agapanthus, appear to enjoy pressure on the roots, and I believe this is also the case with the Algerian Iris and the Sternbergia. The motto, surely, is "let well alone." Imported bulbs of Sternbergia often reach England in a very dried-up condition, and have sometimes been removed rom their native land at the wrong time of ear, but if they can be obtained from France, or, better still, taken from the open in some English nursery, they are far more likely to succeed, as they have become acclimatised to our less sunny country. It must be remembered that they are natives of Asia Minor and he Caucasus. One correspondent who recently mentioned them and how easily they lowered in almost any position wrote from he island of Majorca, which, we believe, is iterally baked in the summer.

Brighton. H. H. W.

Sedum spathulifolium purpureum

I HAVE been growing this plant for a good many years now—several years before the war if I remember rightly—and as each eason passes I come more firmly to the conclusion that it is, without doubt, the finest stonecrop in cultivation. The old grey-leaved type of S. spathulifolium is a first-rate plant, but the purple variety with its larger, flatter leaves of a beautiful plum-purple with a delicate grey bloom over them, and changing in winter to fiery reds and oranges s really a superb thing. Any sunny position and light soil seems to suit it, and it is simply nvaluable for giving a touch of colour, character, and interest in the rock garden during the dullest months. The flowers, too, are handsome, broad heads of rich golden-yellow on red stems, but for its foliage alone he plant is in the first class without the added glory of blossom. My original plant was sent to me by some private collector in British Columbia, and I only wish I could remember who exactly it was who did me his good turn. I quickly worked up a stock, and was soon able to distribute it. I remember some plants which I sent to the Wisley ock gardens did particularly well there. If his note should reach the eye of the good riend who sent me my original plant I must say I should like to get in touch with him or ier. CLARENCE ELLIOTT.

Proposed Society of Garden Architects

I have read with some interest the communications which have appeared in these pages regarding the above suggestion, and I now request the favour of a little of your valuable space for a few comments thereon.

In the first place, I do not think the designation "Garden Architect" is the correct one to apply to the members. It smacks oo much of the Continental usage, just as 'Landscape Engineer" is distinctively American. The good old English name, 'Landscape Gardener," is good enough for me, and I think it should be good enough for all the followers of Repton, Loudon, Brown, Paxton, Milner, and many others who have left their impress on the art and practice of landscape gardening, both in this country and elsewhere.

But my chief concern is with the constitution of the proposed Society. Who are to be admitted as members of it? Is it to be open to any adventurer who may come along to become a member of it, or is everyone to be entitled to attach the letters "M.S.G.A.," or something of this sort, to his name for advertising purposes without any distinction as to his qualifications? If so, the formation of the Society will be a huge mistake, for it will only be a trap for the unwary. There are many people who are masquerading as landscape gardeners who have neither the training, the education, nor the aptitude for the work to enable them to carry out any important scheme, and to class such individuals in the same category as those who have made the art a life study would be folly.

Sedum spathulifolium, a first-rate Stonecrop for clothing a rocky boulder

I know of a good many little jobbing gardeners who could not make a plan of a kail yard who exhibit on their signboards and in the headlines of their business paper and elsewhere such designations as "Landscape Gardener" or "Landscape Gardening in all its branches," and there are others who have had no training whatever, either in gardening or planning, such as sand, gravel, turf, timber, etc., merchants, some of whom are doing a considerable amount of work of this kind simply by advertising themselves in the Press and elsewhere. They may have no aptitude whatever for the work, and their sole object is to make money out of it. Now, my point is, Are individuals such as these to be admitted on the same footing as the skilled section of the Society? If so, it will be grossly unfair. But if there is to be grading of them, and each is to produce evidence of qualifications for admission, according to the grades, then the Society will carry some weight. But if not, who can expect the outstanding men in the profession to give a lead in the institution of such a Society, or who can expect the public who wish advice to have confidence in a Society of this sort unless the members are properly graded and designated?

SCOTTISH LANDSCAPE GARDENER.

Cutting back a newly-planted Yew hedge

The advice given to "Kent," issue December 1st, page 773, is contrary to instructions I have always had, which is, on no account to cut the "leaders" of a newly planted Yew hedge until they have attained the height required for the hedge, and from experience I have no doubt that it is a fatal thing to cut the leaders. A portion of a newly planted hedge here was topped by an amateur during the second year after planting. I intervened when he had got halfway. The result is plain to be seen, the topped portion is about 4 feet high and the untopped over 6 feet and much denser. My advice is to cut the sides only the third year after planting and leave the tops till the height required is slightly exceeded. You will then get a dense wind-protecting hedge.

MEILOR BRIDGMAN.

Horsted Keynes, Sussex.

Roscoeas from seed

I note you had an inquiry *re* seeds of Roscoeas in a recent issue. I got some of Roscoea cautleoides from Rev. J. Anderson, Glen Hall, Leicester, last year, and have raised several plants from the packet.

B. D. H. WATTERS.

55, *Church Crescent, Finchley.*

Roses—Single and semi-double varieties

THE taste for single blossoms is seen in various ways in gardening, that at one time would have received but scant consideration. One notices this in Asters, Chrysanthemums, and not the least in Roses, both in climbing and bush form. Speaking to a man in the trade some time ago about Roses to cover an arch, he recommended Hiawatha, that delightful crimson single, which is noted for the length of time it remains in flower, as well as for its great output. For supplying blossoms for table decoration the singles are becoming more popular every year, and one has only to think of the charm of such varieties as Isobel, whose carmine blossoms are so freely produced throughout the season; Dainty Bess, pink; Princess Mary, crimson scarlet; Irish Fireflame, orange and crimson; Innocence, pure white; and Mrs. Oakley Fisher, an orange yellow.

Single Rose Innocence

A creamy semi-double variety, not met with so frequently as it deserves, is Trier, blooming in huge sprays both early and late, and can be grown either as a bush or pillar. Lovers of Roses are now busy studying what additions they shall make to their collections, and I would bespeak a word for the singles, especially where they have not been tried. For an arch or pergola, such sorts as Paul's Carmine Pillar or American Pillar (a lovely shade of pink) will quickly cover any space desired, and no garden where Roses are grown to-day can be considered quite complete without some of these dainty forms.

LEAHURST.

Snowdrops: Their likes and dislikes

One of the finest displays ever brought to my notice was in a woodland at Markyate Cell, Hertfordshire. This is on the side of a hill and is of considerable extent. It is to be hoped that these wonderful masses are still to the fore (it is several years since I visited this delightful place). It is presumed that the initial planting was done by the monks, who in days long gone by inhabited the estate (hence the name The Cell, Markyate, the proper designation), and who were, as most people are aware, very keen and expert gardeners. That the Snowdrop thrives exceedingly there I can vouch for, and the soil, which is of no great depth, rests on pure chalk, so the Snowdrop does not object to lime.

It is interesting to know that Daffodils refused to thrive in this woodland, the lady and gentleman who owned the place at the time of my visit having gone to considerable trouble and expense endeavouring to establish a colony of these fine bulbous plants, but all to no purpose. The bulbs grew and flowered the first year, but afterwards gradually faded away.

Another fine colony of Snowdrops that came under my notice some years ago was at Carnel, Ayrshire, where the soil is a rather heavy loam. Unlike Markyate, the Daffodil thrives equally with the Snowdrop at Carnel, and also gives a wonderful display in its season.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Margyricarpus setosus

This is suitable for the rock garden where a plant of trailing habit is required. Few things make a more pleasing feature during the dreary season than a broad patch of this evergreen, free-growing plant hanging over a huge rock. The plant has no brilliant flowers to recommend it, but it produces large numbers of pretty white shining berries which nestle in the handsome yellowish foliage.

In congenial quarters it spreads into broad masses covering the face of a large rock with the richest verdure. The plant is not fastidious as to soil, any fairly light garden soil suiting it. The position must be well drained as stagnation is fatal to it.

The plant is increased by seed or cutting
It is hardy in well-drained sunny positio
but it is advisable to keep a few plants
pots for fear of loss during the wet season.

H. STEVENS.

Violets in frames

Special care must be given to Viol
growing in frames. In 1926 from Nove
ber onward to the spring of 1927 editors
gardening papers and nurserymen genera
were inundated with complaints and sam
plants more or less destroyed by fung
disease, mostly Cladesporium. The con
tions favourable to its development prevail
mostly in the south and west of Englar
where the rainfall is greater, Devon being
special sufferer. Now what are the con
tions precedent? A rather sunless year w
heavy rainfall finds the plants in the autu
in an unripened state. The moving of t
plants into frames, unless done very careful
arrests their growth. If added to this t
plants are kept too close, moving air is e
cluded, while the outside conditions a
muggy, the air being stagnant and hum
with moisture, and sunshine at infreque
intervals. You have all the factors prese
for the development and spread of fungo
trouble, and this is what happened in 1926

Forewarned is forearmed. In articles
wrote for GARDENING ILLUSTRATED in Se
tember I advocated growing Violets f
bloom in positions fully exposed to sunshin
Where this has been done the plants shou
be hard and well ripened, the flowerin
crowns ready to burst, and the liability
mildew much less. If the following hints a
observed there should be little fear of a r
currence of the epidemic of 1926. Remen
ber, little can be done to arrest it once th
plants are badly attacked, as it spreads wi
frightful rapidity. Prevention, therefore,
better than cure.

Air must be kept on continually during th
day. Watering should be stopped and hea

ain kept off. The soil should be stirred between the plants every week or two. De- ayed leaves and flowers should be picked off nd the plants kept clean.

Sturmer. F. E. Dillistone.

'iolet leaves for examination

(F. W.).—The leaves of Violets sent are iten by slugs and snails and other normal ermin; possibly, too, the fertilisers have ome in contact with the leaves. If ground infested with grubs Kamforite or Vaporite re useful to dig in when ground is vacant, ut a good dressing of soot while plants are rowing every few weeks will keep off slugs id snails.

When idols have feet of ——

NLY a small percentage of the myriad new plants introduced to our gardens are the unqualified success Press opinion and ırserymen's eulogies make them out to be. ot that they are all failures; rather, that iexpected or unmentioned "snags" attend ieir cultivation or mar their beauty.

Consider, for example, the much-boomed rimula Florindæ. It has its uses in the rge wild garden, for its cultivation is easy, s propagation from seed no less so; but any people frankly confess that they find a disappointment. It is admittedly coarse," and lacking in gracefulness; more an that, its flowers seem disproportionately ıll and small when compared with the aves and great stout stems. P. microdonta picola is a similar, but far superior, plant, a great extent free from these faults, and cking only a little of Florindæ's size. The tter, indeed, is a better plant in its first ason's flowering (from seed) than when oss with age.

Meconopsis Baileyi, or betonicifolia—if ese *are* synonyms, which has priority, ease, someone?—had at first every appear- ıce of justifying fully its praise, and, with- ıt doubt, it is, except for our own Welsh ppy, the easiest of the genus as yet known rticulturally. Its blooms have a size be- ted to its rather stately habit, and what atter if its perennation does depend on the parently arbitrary production or no of condary basal shoots, for it is readily ised from seed?

Meconopsis Baileyi in cool woodland

The almost inevitable fly has appeared in the ointment, however. Whisper it softly, awful news; that marvellous blue which from a single peerless blossom dazzled the Chelsea crowds two years ago is not to be relied upon; horrid dinges, slates, and purples may replace it, and are hailed, incidentally, by one writer as the delightful promise of an increased colour range!

No one would advocate a chilly rejection of all the greatnesses thrust upon us without full credentials, or a timorous if economical waiting for the impossibly flawless plant, since perfection is not only always out of reach, but a matter of personal opinion as well.

It is too much to hope that "truth in advertising" in the widest sense will ever invade our beloved catalogues to the extent of pointing out not only the virtues of plants, but also the vices which sooner or later manifest themselves, yet such a policy might well be best for everyone in the long run.

Clay.

Border Chrysanthemums that withstand the elements

The very best of these border flowers is Dick Barnes, with bright Burgundy-red flowers produced freely on open symmetrical sprays. This is one of the best decorative varieties to date, wind and rain having no effect on it. Should not be disbudded.

Belle Mauve.—A very old variety producing great masses of its delicate mauve-pink flowers on good stems. Should not be disbudded.

Bronze Early Buttercup.—If disbudded, this gives very large flowers, but, to my mind, the blooms grown naturally are far more beautiful, being of a bright, shiny, bronzy-orange shade. Unfortunately, the plant is a very tall grower.

Bronze Normandie.—Being a week or two later than the variety from which it sported, this lovely bronze variety need not be disbudded.

R. Pemberton.—Although one of the oldest varieties, yet in cultivation is still indispensable, its rich wine-red flowers being produced in profusion, and nothing less than a really hard frost has any effect on it. Should be grown in sprays. There is a very good blood-red sport from this, with all the good points of the parent.

Framfield Early White.—This is the only white that withstands wind and rain with impunity here. It is a very chaste and shapely flower, good either disbudded or grown naturally.

William Ritchie.—A primrose-yellow sport from the last-named, has every good point of the parent, while, if anything, the flowers are more shapely. C. Blair.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

The latest certificated Chrysanthemums

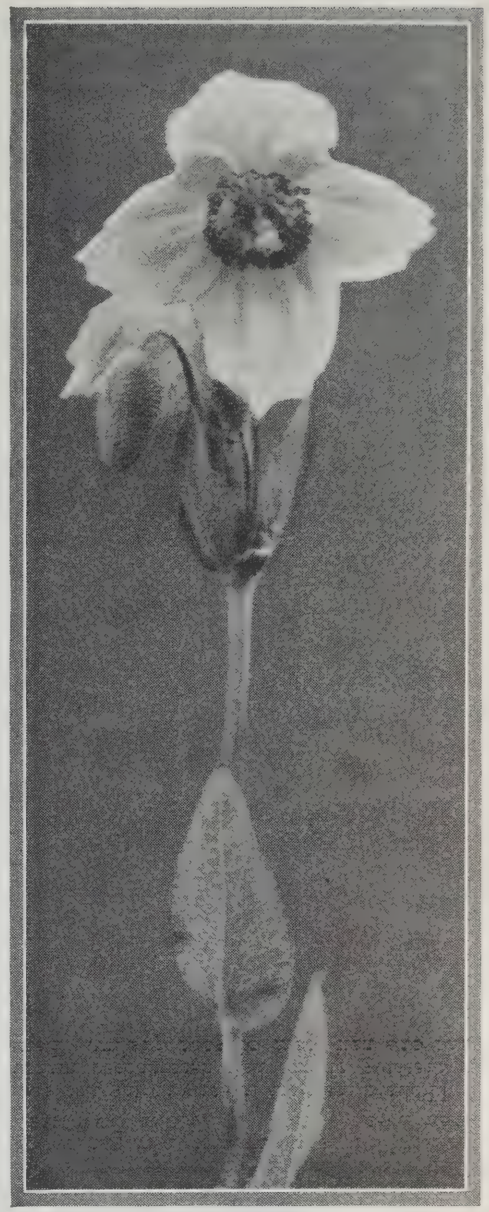
There were only three new Chrysanthemums shown at the last meeting of the current season of the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society, held at Vincent Square, Westminster, on December 31st last, and two of these received recognition as follows:—

Bronze Conquest.—This is an attractive bronzy-yellow sport from the well-known mid-December Decorative variety, Conquest, and was shown flowering in useful sprays. There is also a variety known as Crimson Conquest. Commended. Shown by Mr. H. Woolman, Shirley, Birmingham.

New Year.—A very beautiful and attractive single-flowered variety having two rows of fairly broad florets evenly arranged and a comparatively small yellow disc, building a flower rather more than 4 inches across. Colour, orange-bronze with yellow zone round disc. Beautiful under artificial light and valued for its late flowering. First-class Certificate. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Junr., Mayford, near Woking, Surrey.

The Committee wished to see again a single variety named Rosabelle; colour, rose-pink.

D. B. Crane.



A noteworthy blue Poppy

Meconopsis Baileyi, one of the most beautiful flowers of recent introduction. The plant attains a height of about 3 feet. The flowers, which show a tendency to vary in colour tone, are usually clear blue-mauve with golden-coloured anthers

Drainage

Badly drained patches in the garden are now more noticeable than at any other period of the year. The work of draining these patches should be undertaken whenever possible. Such work should always precede any other improvements that are in view; to spend good money on badly drained land is unsound practice. No great improvement can be expected if at certain periods of the year water collects in the soil, fills all the interspaces, and drives the whole of the air out.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Grouping different kinds of trees

TREES widely different in their affinities, but having a resemblance to one another in the size and forms of their leaves, may be associated in groups. Mixture of kinds, however, is most commendable when the trees posesss some other marked characteristic in common, such as colour of foliage, bark, and flowers, and habit of growth or form. Thus, when depth or darkness of colour in leafage is desired, fit associates exist in the Purple Beeches, Prunus Pissardi, Oaks, Elms, Hazels, and Barberries. Where light colours are wanted they are at command in the Corstorphine Plane, the Golden Oak (Quercus pedunculata Concordia), Golden Ash, Birch, Alder, and Elder, as well as in the Gold and Silver Yews, Moonlight Holly, Spruces, and the smaller Coniferæ; as also among the naturally silvery foliaged trees, such as the Abele Poplar, the Huntingdon, and some other Willows; the Whitebeam or Service Tree, and Sea Buckthorn; while among strictly variegated trees and shrubs there exists a wide field to select from. The autumnal colours and tints of fading foliage deserve marked attention at the hands of planters for ornamental effect. And whether the rich scarlets and purples of our native Geans, and of some American Oaks, the golden yellow of the Norway Maple, or whatever colours are wanted in plants that have been grown from seed, it is a wise precaution to select them in the nursery, when the colours are most marked, as the fading leafage of plants raised from seed is generally much varied, although these be of the same species or kind. Colour in bark is most appreciated when the branches are denuded of their foliage; and small or moderately-sized groups, having distinct colours, tend to break up or relieve that dull monotony which prevails in deciduous woodland scenery throughout the winter and early spring. The following may be instanced: With white or lightish coloured bark, the common and several other kinds of Birch, Constantinople Hazel, Snake-barked Maple, the Cane or White Welsh Willow (Salix decipiens), Cratægus punctata, and some other Hawthorns; with yellow or orange-coloured bark, the yellow-barked small and large-leaved Limes, Golden Ash, Golden and Copper Willows; and with reddish, dark, or blackish bark, the red-twigged or Coral Lime, Salix acutifolia, S. daphnoides, S. purpurea, S. nigra, and some other Willows, Cratægus M'Nabiana, and several other Hawthorns, and the Red Dogwoods. With regard to flowers, although the Horse Chestnut and the Gean are the only full or large-sized forest trees that produce showy blossoms, there are of smaller trees the Pavias, and other allies of the former; while belonging to the same natural order as the latter, there are others of the Cherry tribe, Hawthorns, Services, Mountain Ashes, Mespiluses, Almonds, and the wild forms of the Apple, Pear, and Plum. In other families there are the Scotch and English Laburnums, Robinias, Lilacs, and Elders, which, together with Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Weigelas, and other flowering shrubs too numerous to mention, are admirably adapted, when grouped according to their colours, for decorating the margin as well as the interior of our woodlands. And on prominent rocky points, natural sites for
the Rowan, the Gean, and the Sloe-tho
the snowy whiteness of the last two displa
before the earliest leafage of spring is e
the admiration of all beholders. Of disti
habited trees, drooping or weeping kinds
very serviceable for shutting out lower
near at hand unsightly objects, without i
peding the views of more distant and imp
tant scenery. In such a case, weeping tr
being comparatively few, a judicious mixt
of kinds becomes necessary in order to
viate disagreeable monotony and uniform
This suggests a procedure that is too ge
rally neglected in opening up views that h
become interrupted or shut out by the o
growth of injudiciously planted trees,
that of grafting some of these with weep
kinds at requisite heights, particularly As
and Elms, which are the most ea
operated upon; and the more general ad
tion of this practice would be the means
retaining many a fine stem or bole, wh
their presence is ornamental as well as ne
ful. Among upright, pyramidal, and coni
formed trees, we have the Lombardy Po
as the most important, from the great hei
to which it attains as well as from the
markably fastigiate upright habit of
growth, characteristics which render it hig
suitable for certain localities, but most
congruous in others. Thus, when neither
thickly nor over-widely grouped at the e
of a bridge, viaduct, or high-level top
embankment, these horizontal lines are,
it were, balanced and supported by the
pendicular lines of the Poplars, and the la
have a singularly important landscape ef
when seen rising from among ordin
plantations over these horizontal surfa
as well as over flattish-topped ranges
buildings, while, among or rising
hind groups of roundish-headed tr
their occasional presence has a very pleas
effect. On higher, drier, and more expo
grounds, some of the taller growing coni
topped conifers, such as the Silver Fir,
productive of similar results; but great
is requisite not to introduce either these
the Lombardy Poplars over-abundantly.
pleasure-grounds, a lower class of fastig
trees, such as the different upright grow
Elms, fastigiate Oaks, Hawthorns, Th
Acacia, Elders, Yews, Junipers, and Cyp
may be introduced with equally effec
results.

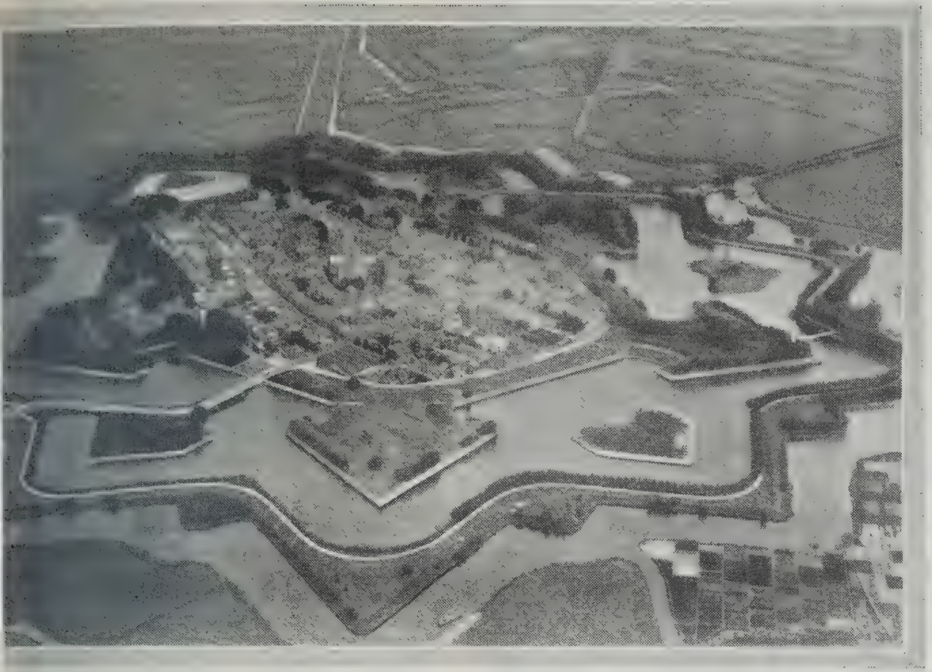
The Dwarf Almond (Prunus Amygdalus nana)

A small tree less than 2 feet high, with branches wreathed in deep pink blossom

The Dwarf Almond

EARLY flowers are ever appreciated,
dwarf shrubs which bloom in spring
are suitable for the front of the shrub
or the rock garden are always in dem
Sadly neglected is that delightful little p
generally catalogued as Amygdalus nana,
Dwarf Almond. It is fascinating in e
spring, as we see its slender stems ri
straight from the ground and wreathed
the dainty little pink flowers close to
branches. It flowers so early that t
blossoms may be the victims of a hard nig
frost. It looks forlorn after such an or
but when it comes mild weather again a f
crop of flowers appears, these having bee
bud and only awaiting the passing of
frosty spell. It has only one fault, and
is only a fault in certain positions. Th
that it sends up suckers which bear, in
turn, stems and flowers, and, unless wat
it may ingratiate itself among other p
to their detriment. I once had a group
level terrace in the rock garden and it
allowed plenty of room, but was car
over with Waldsteinia trifoliata. It co
several feet, and in spring these sle
growths, 3 feet high or so, were delightf
the early days of the year. A. nana is
fectly hardy, and though its flowers ma
destroyed by frost it does not suffer other

S. ARNO



Dutch enterprise in park making: A typical fortified town in Holland

Practically all of these have disappeared. This city is thus kept as an historical curiosity. The fortified areas are in many cases converted into parks

Cornus canadensis

general favourite with nearly all who cultivated it, the neat little Cornus cana- is deserves a little more appreciation than enerally receives from those who know about it. It does not make a special al to those who love flamboyant colour- Its floral charms are of a more modest , but the small flowers are surrounded conspicuous white bracts, and the pretty es are exquisitely coloured in autumn with ous bright hues, which give much de- t to the cultivator. It is of spreading t, and soon creates a mat of foliage when y, which it generally is when planted soil of loam with a good proportion of soil and sand added, and when planted ade, partial or entire. As may be antici- d, this Canadian Dogwood is perfectly y. It is increased by division of good- l plants or by seeds, when these are inable. S. A.

The Kentucky Coffee Tree

e decision to plant trees of various kinds g some of our new roads is a very happy and it is to be hoped that a wise selec- will be made. There are several of the trees that do well in this country might be tried, and among them the e-named, botanically known as Gymno- us canadensis, as it is a shapely tree of um size with light, graceful foliage. I rather a strange experience with one of trees at a place where I was then living. ad attained a height of 38 feet and was g away well when it came down in a and, being only about 12 feet from a bouring wall and falling on the same, pper part snapped off, whilst the lower was kept from falling right down by wall, and it was only partially uprooted. s about to clear it away when I noticed ng growth coming away from the main some 6 feet from the base, about the in length, and as straight as a gun- l, so instead of destroying the tree I d the broken edges off at an acute angle plastered the wound, then excavated the soil well underneath, and hauled the tree back to its former position, or nearly so, there still being several of the roots at the sides left practically intact. I do not know how it has since fared, but when I left the place the shoot was about 10 feet long, strong and healthy, and apparently on its way to make another shapely tree. Returning to the subject of exotic trees suitable for planting by the sides of our new roads, others that might find a place would be Ailanthus glandulosa (the Tree of Heaven) and Pyrus sorbus pyriformis (the Pear-shaped service), as both make very shapely, handsome trees of upright growth with beautiful foliage. The only objection to the Service Trees would possibly be the small fruits, which in some seasons are produced in great profusion and would make rather a mess of the ground beneath. E. Burrell.

Hardwick.

Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora

This hardy autumn-flowering deciduous shrub is an invaluable subject for massing or growing in groups. It is, undoubtedly, the most showy of all the Hydrangeas with the exception of H. hortensis, which, of course, is not hardy in all localities. The typical form, Hydrangea paniculata, attains to a height of a small tree or large shrub in its native countries, China and Japan. The variety under notice, H. paniculata grandiflora, was introduced from Japan nearly 60 years ago. It will grow and flourish in most parts of Britain, where it usually forms a shrub a few feet high. When liberally treated the flowers are produced in enormous panicles, forming closely packed pyramids of bloom from August to October. The colour of the flowers is a greenish-yellow on opening, changing to pure white, which later turn to purplish-pink and finally brown. Newly all the flowers are sterile.

This plant likes a cool, rich, loamy soil, and responds to a liberal dressing of well-rotted manure applied each season during the early spring. It is advisable to plant where the soil is not liable to become dry in the summer if the best results are desired. It can be grown and treated in the ordinary course, with little or no pruning, but treated in this manner the panicles of bloom will be smaller, though none the less elegant and pleasing. If, on the other hand, large panicles are desired hard pruning and thinning out of the shoots must be resorted to. These should be cut hard back in the spring before growth commences, limiting the shoots in proportion to the size of the plants. By adopting this method large panicles of blossom may be obtained 18 inches in length. It should be noted, however, that very hard pruning over a prolonged period has a tendency to shorten the life of the plants. As previously stated, it is invaluable for growing in masses or planting in groups under standard trees, and it is one of the best of autumn-flowering shrubs. J. Lodge.

Dutch enterprise in park making: Showing the conversion of an old city moat to a park

Typical sand dune country

This is converted into pleasant woodland for public parks by planting the shifting sands and encouraging natural growth in the areas thus protected

Dutch enterprise in park making

By Hugh E. Seaton.

DUTCH town-planning and park-making includes characteristic features very novel to us in England. The old moated cities with their intricate defences of wall and water have presented a splendid opportunity for developing a park ring round the densely built areas. This has been done by levelling and planting the ramparts while leaving part of the waterways to form a delightful series of ornamental canals and lakes.

Practically all these old fortifications have disappeared before modern progress, the city (illustrated by air photograph) being one kept intact for historical reasons. This large use of water in Dutch parks is very typical, and something which we in England seldom can afford to imitate, but its effectiveness is worth keeping in mind for cases where conditions may allow such treatment.

Another dominant phase of the Dutch landscape is the vast area of sand dunes. The shifting sands have been a menace and a problem.

The problem has been solved by strategic planting of the mounds, which has checked movement and formed sheltered spaces in which natural vegetation can grow.

These plantation-developed areas have become delightful natural parks and playgrounds, a species of extensive "Hampstead Heaths" open for the healthy recreation of the people.

Being so near water-level, patches of this dune country are actually under water, and form, after planting, beautiful woodland lakes.

The illustrations, obtained by courtesy of the Director of Parks of The Hague, convey better than any words the results of Dutch enterprise in park-making.

Improving heavy soils

Soils that are known to be heavy, such for instance where clay abounds, may be improved during the winter months as opportunity offers, by rough digging and working in road scrappings, leaves, and decayed vegetable refuse. It is a job that too often is put off, but if only a portion of the garden is done, the advantage will be seen another year. Lime, too, is useful for breaking up heavy ground. Stone lime left on the soil and exposed for a day or two will soon "crumble" down, and can then be spread about. It is particularly valuable on ground which has been occupied with cabbage and winter greens, and will help to exterminate insect pests. W. F.

Why not a Primula house

Why not indeed? Scattered up and
this green little, tight little island of
sheltering beneath cottage walls in the
expanse of the open country, standing
and bold in the fenced plots of
suburbia, or hiding shamefacedly in th
recesses of city backyards, may be
thousands of neat little greenhouses. G
houses, forsooth—empty husk, destitu
every living thing, except maybe a
Geranium or decrepit Aspidistra, throw
to ebb their last hours away amidst
tools and broken pots. Glasshouses, in
but greenhouses never, where "thro
stones" seems the only relief for the a
soul.

Is this an exaggeration? Ask yours
are many greenhouses guilty of the ch
What can one do? Geraniums will no
cheerfully through our cheerless wi
Orchids pine away and die without
warmth of an expensive stove.

Why not a Primula house? A pert
question, potent with possibilities to the
lover of flowers. Has it never struck
when your eye has been gladdened by th
sweet Primrose of spring, that this hu
member of a great family has innume
relations that will respond gladly to the
ter of the neglected cold house, that will
this garden lumber room into a veritable
dise with little real trouble and no expe

Maybe the beauty of Primula sinensi
overwhelmed you with its loveliness; m
too, P. malacoides has captivated wit
fairy grace, or P. kewensis with its g
glory. P. sinensis, alas, must be dism
without a word, it is far too exotic for ou
comfort, but P. malacoides and P. kew
can tell a different story. P. malacoides
cially will live cheerfully through the ha
frost. You should succeed with this
P. kewensis, too, but if our erratic cli
should defeat the most sedulous care, a
may, there is a host of other worthies to
our turn.

What of proud P. Auricula? Poor, sc
P. Auricula to-day, but no less beautifu
less desirable than when it was the ra

Sand dunes after conversion to wild park land

Accomplished by a combination of planting the shifting sands and encouraging the natural growth in the resulting protected areas he town, glorious in its showy splendour, ing out with friendly eye, bold, bright, ng, hardiest of the hardy too, a flower ove, cherish, and to charm.

ther Alpine Primulas there are, dainty diminutive, bold and sturdy, and above beautiful—beautiful with an irresistible m. P. Allionii, P. viscosa, P. marginata pubescens hydrids), P. Linda Pope, P. , P. The General, and P. Mrs. Wilson. ye tyros, hungry and thirsty in a desert of ertainty, get busy in this realm of wonder, n to love and coax these beauties to m for your delectation; they are crying for love and admiration, and will respond ove and care.

hen, when you have whet your appetite he high Alps of Europe, delve into the sures of Asia—the Caucasus, the Hima- s, China, and Japan. Primula cortu- es, P. Sieboldii, vieing with P. sinensis heir comely grace, but hardy, accommo- ng, ideal for the cold house, where their ty may shine unsullied by wet and gloom. rimula Juliæ and its wonderful hybrids, own sweet little P. farinosa, the "Bird's Primrose," and its bigger cousin of garia, P. frondosa. This last the most ble of Primulas, lovable because so lavish, ing its pretty eyes and smiling the happy le of nascent spring, when the days are raw and chill.

erhaps, even, you may tame the giant P. delabras of China to luxuriate for your sure. If not, search the Himalayas and P. denticulata, P. involucrata, P. rosea, last, but not least, P. Winteri, that veri- e "jewel of Asia," may gladden your rt with its wide-eyed blossoms in the dull s of drear December. RAYMOND ELLIS.

Saxifraga longifolia

his enchantingly beautiful Saxifraga, ly named "Queen of Saxifragas," must m first honours in a very large family of howy genus. Not only in flower is the t attractive, the handsome rosette of sil- leaves, often 6 inches to 9 inches in neter, is a striking object all the year nd.

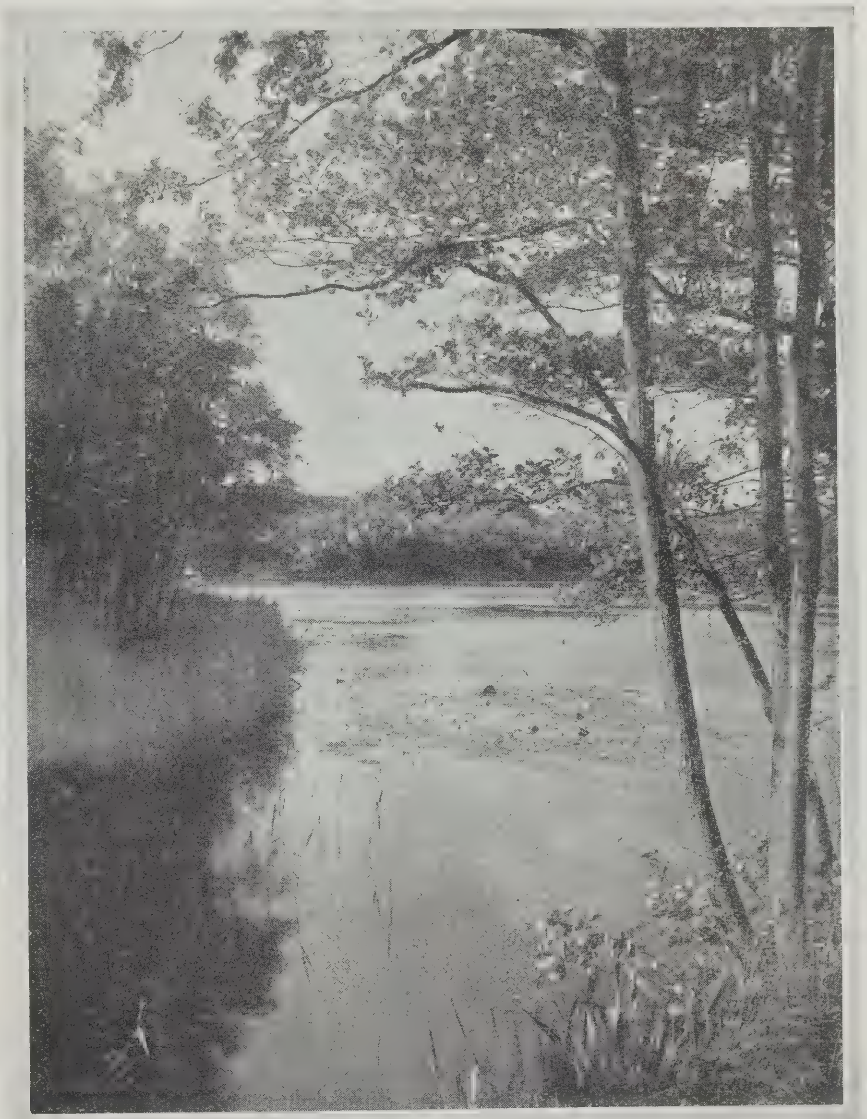
is wise to plant them between two rocks ch are more or less upright, so that water not lie in the hollow rosettes. Commence h strong plants, owing to their shyness lowering until the plant becomes strong. flowers are pure white, and are pro- ed in a dense pyramidal, unbranched e. G. L.

FRUIT GARDEN

The "best" Peach

AVING had experience in the cultivation of Peaches, under glass and on south walls, I am not infrequently asked intending planters: "What is the best ch?" On such occasions, I am afraid, f I may use the word) "hedge," by say- that Royal George is, unquestionably, best all-round Peach for general pur- es. Few, I think, will differ from me— variety is one of the best under almost y conditions save that, in a damp climate, al George is predisposed to mildew. Yet, ecommending this Peach, I do violence to own private opinion because, as a matter fact, there are two varieties which hold almost equal place in my estimation as "best" Peach. One of these is Walton Admirable, a really delicious Peach in ry respect—size, flavour, and colouring ng almost unsurpassable. Yet to the inary grower I would hesitate to recom- nd it because it is a shy bearer and de- nds unremitting attention. The other is lesse. This is also a magnificent variety, t I hesitate to recommend it because its our does not appeal to the average grower of Peaches. The fruits are very pale where shaded, but the skin is delicately streaked with red next the sun, while the flesh also is yellowish with a flush of red near the stone. I am rather at a loss to understand why high colour should be such a desideratum in a Peach. Doubtless ruddy fruits are more effective in the dessert, but, after all, the skin is removed before the fruit is consumed and, methinks, as in other cases, the beauty of the highly coloured Peach is only skin deep. The variety, raised by Rivers, Alexandra Noblesse, is almost equally good and is very hardy. These Peaches I consider to be the very best, followed, perhaps, by Raymackers, which is one of the largest varieties, rather after the style of Noblesse, but more highly coloured. Still, as I have said, Royal George is the best "all-round" Peach—not of the largest size, but a good grower which fruits abundantly and which has both appearance and quality in its fruits.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.



Conversion of dune country

Natural lake made beautiful by encouragement of growth of trees

Reversion in Black Currants

I have on several occasions been asked by cottage gardeners to look at their Black Currant bushes to see if I could tell them what was wrong and what remedy to adopt. The bushes, they said, seemed to be quite healthy, but they failed to yield any fruit; they flowered freely, but as soon as the tiny berries began to swell they dropped off.

On examination I at once saw the bushes were affected with reversion, and advised the owners to dig them up and burn them, root and branch, as it was worse than useless retaining them, there being no known cure for the disease. From observation during the past 10 years I am inclined to think this trouble is more prevalent amongst Black Currants than we are aware of. Unlike the "Big Bud" disease, which is easily noticed, the round, swollen buds, showing up very prominently, reversion is not so easily detected, and so may, especially with inexperienced growers, go on for years, and during all the time the bushes are barren as far as fruit-bearing is concerned, but yet all the time the disease is spreading. I am told that it can be, and is, conveyed from an affected bush to a healthy one by the pruning-knife. Now, I am not scientific enough to say whether or not this is really the case, but I have observed in rows of bushes that the trouble did not appear in isolated plants, but invariably two or three bushes adjoining were affected. Whether this proves the theory of the knife carrying the disease or merely that it is contagious had better be left to the more scientific to decide. All the same, it is a disease which threatens serious consequences to this most useful fruit, and it is to be hoped those in authority will take the matter in hand and devise means of combating it.

Cupar, Fife. ALBYN.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

The flower garden

An important business in many gardens is the annual pruning and thinning of climbing plants, such as Roses, Vines, Jessamines, Horse Briar, Rubus, Escallonia, Actinidia, and a whole series of graceful and extremely beautiful subjects, most of which may now be dealt with. These mostly require careful thinning, well-ripened shoots being used where extensions are necessary and shortening back of undesirable growths to within six or seven buds of their base. The Wistaria is a case in point, and when its branches have furnished their allotted space the only pruning necessary is that of cutting back the long, streaming growths of the past year to within five or six eyes of their base.

Roses

Although much planting still remains to be done, it should never be attempted when the soil is in a wet, sticky condition, and on heavy soils re-establishment is assisted if a little sand is shaken round the roots when planting. On all favourable occasions it is advisable to proceed with such work, and where—as in my own case—the ground beneath is carpeted with other dwarf plants it enables many of these to be got in, and the bed therefore completed for the season.

Protecting hardy and other flowers

Where not already done such precious plants as Romneya Coulteri, Convolvulus mauritanicus, Sparaxis (the Wand Flower), Sweet Verbena, and similar favourites should be given some kind of protection, such as a pile of ashes around the crowns, or a little straw or Bracken pressed about them. The protection of perfectly hardy flowers is against our enemy, the slug, and many lose their plants through the crowns having been eaten out whilst beneath the surface. This applies to Delphiniums, particularly Gypsophila paniculata, Platycodon, and various succulent Harebells, both in the flower and rock garden. A mound of coke or coal ashes placed over their crowns will save them; the surface should, however, be made loose and rough from time to time.

Salads in frames

Examine these frequently and remove decaying foliage, stir up the soil frequently, dust a little soot among the plants occasionally to check slugs, and air freely when the weather is favourable.

Roots of Chicory, Rhubarb, Seakale, and Dandelion

These should be placed in a warm, dark room every 10 days or so in order to keep up a constant supply of blanched heads. A temperature of 50 degs. to 55 degs. is desirable.

Digging, trenching, and draining

This work is constant from the present date, and vacant plots requiring the latter attention should be dealt with first, the drains being laid 3 feet deep so as not to be disturbed when such ground is being trenched in future years. By covering over the surface beforehand with manure, leaves, etc., digging may be proceeded with, even when the surrounding ground is hard caked with frost.

Broccoli

These have a habit of turning in at times when least expected, and it is advisable to examine the lines from time to time and protect such as are showing their flower.

Chives and Mint

Lift and place in boxes a few roots of these at intervals and stand in a warm house, such being much appreciated.

Chrysanthemums

Cuttings of those required for large blooms should be secured when about 3 inches high, and if such cuttings are attacked by Green Fly—as so often is the case—they should be immersed in a mixture of Quassia Extract before being placed in the cool propagating frame. It is usual to insert such cuttings singly in small pots, but excellent results are obtained by placing three or four in 3-inch pots, and a great saving of precious room. Sharp, sandy soil should in every case be used and the base of the cutting made very firm.

Indoor Peaches

After cleaning the houses of early kinds the trees must be pruned and cleaned, walls lime-washed, and after being thoroughly cleansed the trees must be carefully tied back in their place. It is a foolish policy to overcrowd such trees at any time, and if the winter pruning is carefully carried out much of this will be avoided. The actual fruiting branches should be at least 5 inches apart when the trees are tied out.

Flowering houses and conservatories

Containing as they do a large proportion of plants actually in bloom, it is very unwise to force up hot, dry temperatures during frosty spells, as this is ruinous to fully expanded blooms, therefore maintain a degree sufficient only to dispel frost on such occasions, and on mild occasions 55 degs. at night is ample in such houses. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Carnation cuttings

During the next week or two cuttings of the Perpetual-flowering Carnation should be secured. Sturdy side shoots make the best cuttings, and should be firmly inserted round the edges of 3-inch pots. The compost should have a liberal allowance of silver sand. As soon as the cuttings are got in give a good soaking of water and then plunge in gentle bottom heat. Strong heat must be avoided, being both unnecessary and dangerous.

Pot-Roses

If not already done, these should now be pruned and set in a cool house or pit. Should top-dressing have been overlooked in autumn this, too, may be carried out now, using the best procurable turfy loam, a little leaf-mould and some coarse sand. A dessert-spoonful of Thomson's Plant Manure to each plant in a 9-inch pot will be found most beneficial. It should be evenly sprinkled round the plants and covered with a little of the compost. Make all very firm and give a good watering when the work is finished.

Seedling Cyclamens

Plants raised in autumn and which are still in the seed-pans and growing in a fairly warm house or pit should be moved to another house with a somewhat lower temperature, this plant, after the initial stages, being better when grown in a moderate but genial warmth. Three or four weeks later they should be pricked off into 2-inch pots and be kept moving steadily, but not too rapidly, all along.

Raising Begonias and Gloxinias

If seeds of these two fine subjects be sown now and given decent treatment they will
bloom well in late summer and autumn.
the earlier stages both are treated alike.
preparing of the seed-pans requires a
deal of care, the surface having to be
very level and smooth. It is well, als
thoroughly moisten the soil in the pan
fore sowing. The best method for doing
is to plunge to the rim in a bucket of
for a minute or two. On removal from
water allow to stand and drain for a c
of hours. Scatter the seeds as thinly
evenly as possible and just sprinkle a pin
fine silver sand all over the surface. T
all the covering necessary. Cover each
with a piece of glass and a sheet of p
and set in a moist, genial warmth of
70 degs.

Chrysanthemum cuttings

All the " singles " and " decoratives "
now be propagated as cuttings become
able. Although roots will form more ra
if bottom heat be given, it is much bette
the future plant if it be rooted in a coo
or greenhouse. These cuttings, as a
wilt a little when so treated, but with
thing like decent handling the great maj
will root and grow into fine plants.

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine

The flowering period of these is well
so the plants should be cut back so that
may be able to throw up fresh, st
growths fit for cuttings. Do not over-
for a time, but spray overhead daily
clean, tepid water. A temperature o
degs. or so suits at this stage.

Pruning fruit trees and bushes

Any arrears of pruning should be see
as soon as convenient. It is a cold and
agreeable business at any time, but du
really cold weather it is hardly possibl
carry it on. It should, therefore, be atte
to as soon as a mild spell comes along.
prunings should be gathered up and bu
and thus destroy many injurious insects
their eggs, while the ash, if kept dr
valuable for many garden purposes.

Raising Onions

Even if only grown for home use it is
to raise a few plants of this valuable
table early, for by so doing the crop
frequently escapes the dreaded grub.
less intended for competition there is no
necessity for pricking off the little plants
other boxes, as quite good results are
by transferring direct from the seed-bo
their permanent quarters. The boxes
should be $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep and filled with g
fresh compost. Sow the seeds as thinly
evenly as possible, and cover to the dept
about $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Let in a genial tempera
of 60 degs. to 65 degs., and as soon as gr
appears get the boxes raised up quite
to the roof-glass.

To secure large Leeks

The seeds may be sown and treated in
initial stages in the same way as adv
above for Onions, but the little plants
be pricked off when about 2 inches to 3 in
high into other boxes of rich soil, gr
steadily on, and eventually planted ou
richly prepared trenches when fear of
is past.

Cauliflowers in frames

In open weather admit abundance of
to the frames where these are winter
Remove decaying foliage and weeds at
quent intervals and gently stir the sur
between the little plants with a pointed
Guard against attacks of mice and slugs.
C. BLAI

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

VEGETABLES

The cultivation of large Onions

TO grow large Onions approximating
2 lbs. and upwards a start should be
made early in January. The seeds
ould be sown in boxes in a compost con-
ting of fibrous loam, leaf-soil, and old de-
yed manure, with sufficient sand to make
e whole porous. This should be passed
rough a ¼-inch meshed sieve. The boxes
ould be filled with the compost to within
inch of the top and made firm. The seeds
ould be distributed thinly and evenly on the
rface and only just covered. After sow-
g, the boxes should then be placed in gentle
at under glass in a temperature of about
degs. and kept shaded until germination
kes place. When the young plants appear
ey should be gradually exposed to the light
d placed near to the glass. As soon as the
nts are large enough they should be
icked off into boxes 3 inches apart in a
ghtly rougher mixture of a compost to that
commended above, to which a little bone-
al may be added. The soil must again
made firm. The plants should now be
own on in a temperature of 55 degs. to 60
gs., still keeping them near the glass, and
ringing them frequently during the day
th tepid water. It is also advisable to stir
e soil occasionally in the boxes with a label
pointed stick in order to aerate the soil
d promote growth. About the middle of
arch the young plants should be gradually
rdened off, transferring them to a cold
me towards the end of the month. Later
they can be stood outside preparatory to
anting out in the open, usually from the
iddle to the end of April, according to
eather conditions. The young plants
ould never be allowed to suffer from lack
moisture at the roots.

The site on which it is intended to grow
e Onions should be liberally treated, the
ound prepared by trenching and manuring
ring the autumn and winter months.
ght soils are preferably trenched in the
tumn and strong, retentive soils in
bruary. Onions need a rich soil, and it is
rdly worth the trouble of raising plants
der glass if the after-cultivation is
glected. When trenching the ground a
eral quantity of farmyard manure should
worked into the layers as the work pro-
eds. The ground can be left rough and
mpy until spring; the weather during the
nter months will sweeten and pulverise the
il, which can then be brought to a fine
th at planting time. When planting-out
ne arrives the ground should be levelled
d raked down fine. When the young
nts are ready for putting out they should
lifted from the boxes with a hand-fork or
rden trowel, retaining as much soil as
ssible. The operation of planting out is
st carried out with a garden trowel, allow-
g a distance of 15 inches between the rows
d 9 inches to 12 inches between the plants.
ey should be planted firmly. Frequent
mping or syringing overhead is very bene-
fial to the young plants when first put out.
e soil between the rows should be fre-
ently stirred with a Dutch hoe and kept
e from weeds. Light applications of some
proved fertiliser and soot scattered between
e rows at intervals and hoed in will be
nd of great assistance to the plants after
ey have commenced to bulb. Towards the
d of August or the beginning of Septem-
r the crop will be ready for lifting. Be-
e storing away the bulbs should be
oroughly ripened off.

Undoubtedly, the best variety to grow for
ge bulbs is a good strain of Ailsa Craig.
e illustration herewith depicts this variety.

J. L.

A remarkably fine bed of Onion Selected Ailsa Craig

Notes on some of the newer varieties of Potatoes

THE following notes on some of the newer varieties of Potatoes may be of interest to the readers of this journal. All varieties have been tested for two years, except Arran Banner, and all have received exactly the same treatment. The soil is a typical Potato one, and always produces excellent crops of all the standard varieties, such as Kerr's Pink, Great Scot, Majestic, and Arran Chief.

ARRAN BANNER (Immune Maincrop).—This is the most outstanding variety that I have grown since Arran Chief was introduced. It has a strong distinctive haulm. The tubers are round, with white skin and white flesh, and the eyes are of medium depth. It is an enormous cropper, and the cooking qualities excellent. This is a variety with a great future. I am not judging it solely on my own trials. I have seen it lifted in various parts, and I am confident that it will be largely grown in the near future. We have had so many poor varieties introduced during the past few years that it is a great pleasure to find such a promising variety on the market. It has, with me, eclipsed all varieties for weight of crop, such as Kerr's Pink and Majestic. No new variety has done this since these two varieties were introduced. Potato enthusiasts who are on the look out for a "good thing" should keep their "eye" on Arran Banner.

ARRAN CONSUL.—Although this variety was highly spoken of, I have yet to lift a good crop. For three years it has been very disappointing with me. The tubers are oblong, and on strong land the "eyes" are deep. The skin is white and the flesh white. This year it has suffered severely from blight, and there has also been a good deal of "second growth." It is, however, a good cooker, and it also keeps well.

DUKE OF PERTH (Immune Maincrop).—This is another disappointing variety. Last year the crop was poor, this year it is not much better. It seems rather susceptible to blight. The tubers are oval in shape, with shallow eyes and white skin and flesh. It is quite a nice Potato, but a poor cropper.

SEFTON WONDER (Immune Maincrop).—During the three seasons that this variety has been under trial it has given most excellent crops of even-sized tubers of good quality. It is identical with Great Scot, except in the skin, which is a russety-brown. It is quite a nice tuber, and makes a good dish in a collection for the show bench. I like this Potato very much, but whether it will ever become popular remains to be seen. Perhaps many people will object to the colour.

GLASGOW FAVOURITE (Immune Maincrop).—So far this variety has done remarkably well. It is a heavy cropper and good cooker. The tubers are round to oval, eyes shallow, skin white, and flesh white. The haulm is strong and vigorous. This variety is well worth a trial.

PERTH FAVOURITE (Immune Maincrop).—This one has been very disappointing. It has produced light crops for two seasons, and a large percentage of "chats." The tubers are round, rather flat, with eyes of a medium depth. It is a good cooker.

HERALD (Immune Early).—One of the best early immunes that has been introduced for a long time. It gave a most excellent crop in 1927, and almost as good this year. The tubers resemble Majestic, the eyes are shallow, and it has a very fine, white skin. It is not so early as Epicure, or Duke of York, but is a heavy cropper, and produces very few "chats." It makes an excellent exhibition tuber. In the early part of the season it cooks rather soft and watery, but improves as the season advances. I have no hesitation in recommending this variety for trial.

"SOLWAY FIRTH."

Forcing Dwarf Beans

An early dish or two of this popular vegetable is always appreciated, so where suitable accommodation is available a start should now be made. Use clean, well-drained 7-inch or 8-inch pots, the compost to be a light, rich, and open one. Fill the pots only about three-quarters full and so allow space for future top-dressings of rich soil. Plant nearly a dozen seeds in each pot, but pull out about half of the resulting plants should all grow. Set in a moist, genial atmosphere.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* Gardening Illustrated *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* Editor *of* Gardening Illustrated, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* Publisher. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* Gardening Illustrated *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

TREES AND SHRUBS

Hydrangea paniculata

A number of these plants have been for years in a bed of rather light soil. Although pruned they throw out very little new growth and are poor, leggy specimens. When is the best time for pruning? Would they like manure? What could be planted to cover the bed under their rather bare and spindly branches? I tried Phacelia, but the bed is in too shady a position. S. M. M.

Co. Cork.

[The best time at which to prune Hydrangea paniculata is immediately after the flowering season, cutting the flowering shoots back to a couple of buds from their base. The fault is obviously in your light soil. Hydrangeas to do well ought to have a rich medium. Try working in some good leaf-mould among the roots, and, in addition, a mulch of well-decayed manure would be of much service, although the latter would interfere with your intention to carpet the surface with dwarf plants. This, for a season, might be omitted, but if plants are desired Violas would be most likely to give satisfaction. Hydrangea paniculata, like all members of the family, is rather a thirsty subject and ought never to be allowed to become at all dry. Watering with liquid-manure or with a good fertiliser in solution might prove a good substitute for mulching, and would permit of Violas being used.]

Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles

When can this be cut back? I read in your issue of December 22nd that it can be cut back hard, but no mention of time of year to do this. I have a very much overgrown bush of this in a shrubbery and am anxious to treat it properly. S. M. M.

Co. Cork.

[Any pruning which this plant may need ought to be undertaken immediately after the flowering season, cutting the shoots back to the desired length. If this was neglected at the time indicated the thinning may be lightly done, as a temporary measure, in April, and after the ensuing flowering season the plant can be more effectively dealt with. You are fortunate in being able to grow C. Gloire de Versailles as a "bush" in the shrubbery.]

Tulip trees dying

In a part of the grounds once called the Pleasaunce are some rather fine old Tulip trees upwards of 150 years of age. The curiously large round bowl-shaped bases from which the trunks start are beginning to decay by the ground, and the top branches are gradually becoming more leafless every year. Shall I be likely to save these trees by cutting down to, say, 15 feet or 20 feet from the ground, thus inducing the growth of a pollard? I fancy by this I might prolong their lives. Home Counties.

[Pollard the trees in early spring and apply a dressing of one half decomposed manure and one half loam of good quality. Better still, carefully remove, by scraping out from between the roots, all the old and spent soil, substituting that recommended above instead. In pruning off the branches cut at a good angle, so that the rain may easily run off, pare the edges of the wounds, and apply a coating of either paint or tar.]

Eurya latifolia variegata

I should be obliged if I could have a few hints as to the best time of year for, and method of, propagating Eurya latifolia variegata, of which I possess a good plant full of nice, healthy growth. W. S.

Ealing.

[This plant may be easily propagated by means of cuttings taken either in spring or in late autumn. In the former case select shoots 3 inches in length of the young growths, and, if possible, place them in a propagating case in which they will receive a moderate bottom heat, keeping them close until roots are formed. Should this means not be suitable take cuttings of half-ripened wood in September, insert them in sandy soil, and place in a greenhouse or in a cold frame, covering the cutting-pan with a sheet of glass till roots are emitted. Afterwards routine treatment, as in the case of your old plant, is all that is necessary.]

GREENHOUSE

Gardenias

Can you tell me why my Gardenias are not thriving? The leaves came in all white, so I pruned the plants hard back after re-potting them in good soil and leaf-mould. They are shooting out leaves, but they are again coming white. Can you tell me the reason and what I can do to get the leaves green? The plants are in the Orchid-house with temperature up to 65 degs. to 70 degs. I have had the plants some years and have taken cuttings every year, and they did very well for several years. Do they require peat? Also can you recommend a greenhouse heater for small greenhouse? I have an oil lamp heater. Would this do, or are the oil fumes injurious to the plants? In the greenhouse are two climbing Roses (a Maréchal Niel and a Nephytos) and a Plumbago growing, and various plants in pots. C. T.

[It is pleasant to reply to a query in connection with Gardenias, which are not now very widely grown. Assuming that the paleness of foliage, which is referred to, exists only in the young shoots no alarm need be felt; the lack of light is responsible, and the trouble will pass away as the days lengthen. It is not unusual to find Gardenias, Camellias, and similar plants behaving in this manner during the winter months. If, however, the trouble is general on old and young wood alike, it is probable that the plants are growing in exhausted soil and that repotting is necessary. An excellent compost for Gardenias consists of two parts sound loam, one part peat, a small quantity of bone-meal, and sufficient silver sand to make the whole porous. Pot very firmly and water cautiously for a time. As to y
other query. The fumes emitted by an
lamp heater are deleterious to plant grow
not deadly, perhaps, but certainly object
able. There are usually advertisements d
ing with inexpensive and effective hea
plants in Gardening Illustrated. By
sulting the advertisement columns you
no doubt, find a suitable and econom
apparatus.]

Cyclamens with small blooms

Can you tell me why my Cyclamen flov
are very small this year? The plants
healthy and full of bloom. They
brought on slowly in a warm greenhouse
Mrs. H.

[If the plants are, as you say, healthy
full of bloom, the only reasonable expl
tion of the smallness of flower is that
plants are getting old, or that, possibly,
have not been repotted before being star
Try the effects of a top-dressing of light
fairly rich soil, combined with occasi
waterings of weak soot-water. Young pl
of Cyclamens are always much more s
factory than old ones if large indivi
blooms be desired, and as they are ea
raised from seeds fresh plants could alw
be available.]

ROSES

Treatment of Rose

The climbing Rose (Bouquet d'Or) on
roof in my greenhouse has made great gro
and requires training afresh. How shoul
be treated as regards the new growth?
"Critic.

[In a case such as is described the Rose
the roof of greenhouse ought to be drastic
handled. Cut out, at once, the greater
of the strong green shoots, retaining me
as many as may be required to furnish
roof thinly. Prune all fore wood, or
growths, back to two eyes from the m
stems. Do not be afraid to handle the R
rather severely. Obviously the root-actio
right, and in a short time, even should
plant appear to be rather a skeleton, the
will furnish. When shoots are too num
ous, and if thinning be not thoroughly do
attacks of aphides and of mildew may
likely. See that the roots are kept well s
plied with moisture, but, in view of
strong growths, stimulants are not rec
mended.]

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Border Chrysanthemums

(Mrs. H. H.).—There are now so m
varieties of excellent border Chrysant
mums that to make a selection or to rec
mend varieties is a difficult task. Heig
too, as well as season of flowering, vary
siderably. It is suggested that you
Woolmans, Shirley, Birmingham, to send
their catalogue, in which you will find colo
height, and time of flowering clearly gi
and from which a selection could be ma
Your heavy soil might be lightened
preciably by the use of leaf-mould instead
manure, and the time for planting bor
Chrysanthemums is during late April a
early May.

FLOWER GARDEN

Diseased Cheiranthus Allionii

(L. B.).—The specimens are decayed
badly for us to be definite as to the cause
death. When the disease has developed
such an extent there are so many soil org
isms present that it is impossible to isol
the actual cause of death. We think that
foot rot is the probable cause, and, if so, yo
best plan will be to take up and burn
affected plants and to give the others a so

with a solution of Cheshunt compound. the other hand, the whole of the root-tems are rotted away, and this could have n caused by over-manuring with an arti-al manure, but we do not think it would likely to occur if farmyard manure only s applied. We are sorry that we cannot more definite, but with the material to d this is the best we can do. Cheiranthus onii loves lime. Are you sure that there plenty in the soil in which you are trying grow them? If there is anything in a ne, Sandgate does not suggest that there much natural chalk about in your soil.

rolas and Chimaphilas

s I wish to grow the various Pyrolas and imaphilas which grow here (New West-nster, B.C.) locally I would ask your ad- as to their propagation. Their long ng-like roots seem devoid of any rootlets l are very bad to handle. The rosy kes, rising from the glossy, leathery leaves Pyrola asarifolia red wether green, are y charming and grow here plentifully, , like the rest of the family, are, I believe, lined to be parasitic and need an acid soil. at fertiliser should I use with these wood-d plants, as they require an acid soil? the running nature of the plants be cked so as to be grown as pot plants in de? "AMATEUR."

anada.

We have never heard of any fertiliser be-used for these plants. Here we try and e them the acid soil and scatter Pine dles over them. They like light, not se shade, in England, and we have seen m in nearly full sun on woodland edges the sea. Nurserymen grow them in pots sale, but they are always difficult to do. have never tried them in pots, and so have only succeeded with the white form. maphila has so far failed.]

mula species

M. B.).—Primula sp. K.W. 5906 is ned P. pudibunda. It also came up ong P. microdonta alpicola. It is best cribed as a refined Sikkimensis. P. ltoni K.W. 6094 is a distinct species with utiful ruby-coloured flowers. The leaves habit of flowering is similar to P. kimensis. It is a first-class garden plant likely to become very popular. The et form is P. microdonta alpicola violacea. comes in various shades and often pro-es two or three whorls of flowers.

ubled flowered Primroses

T. Y. S.).—These may be obtained from s Adams, Torrent Hill, Dungannon, Co. one, Ireland, and from J. Stormont, kbride, Carlisle.

racenias

J. A., Canada).—Sarracenias need pond ces for growth, and to be well bedded in surrounded by Sphagnum Moss. They peat and loam with a certain amount of ad, and a sunny aspect.

rdy Cyclamens

gnorant).—Corms of the hardy Cycla-ns must always be planted during their mant period, or, rather, during their rest-period, and as soon after they cease to be ctive as possible. The situation ought to a rather shady one, and it must provide ter from cutting winds. A soil which is entive of moisture is fatal, and a little paration should be given to the selected . Add to the existing soil a compost of ady loam, leaf-mould, and mortar-rubble, plant the corms at least 3 inches beneath h surface. A few rough stones embedded ond groups are appreciated by the plants. od sorts are C. Coum, which blooms ing winter and early spring; C. repandum (which is the true C. hederæfolium), which blooms in April and May; and C. europæum, which produces its purplish-red and sweetly perfumed blooms in autumn. Other sorts are C. vernum, C. ibericum, and C. alpinum, which are forms of C. Coum, and C. ciliatum, which is generally considered to be a variation of C. europæum.

Preparing bed for spring plants

(Ignorant).—For the successful cultivation of the subjects mentioned you have at hand the very materials for the purpose. When the annuals cease to be effective clear them off and, after adding a very liberal amount of leaf-mould, not too well rotted, dig the bed deeply and thoroughly. Allow it to settle and, afterwards, sprinkle over the bed a good dressing of sifted mortar-rubble to which may be added a little sand. Previous to planting, incorporate the mortar and sand with the surface by raking it in. All the things mentioned will, or at least ought to, give the very best results. Do not add any manure, and the use of chemical fertilisers is unnecessary. A light sprinkling of old soot, however, if applied occasionally and during showery weather, will add intensity to the foliage.

FRUIT

Lichen on fruit trees

(Orchard).—The best way to remove the Lichen from your fruit trees would be to spray them with a good tar-oil wash as advised on page 803 of our issue for December 15th last. The cost of washing a 10-year-old tree works out at about 8d. per tree, which is not particularly cheap, but the work is efficiently done. A cheaper way is to use hot caustic limewash, but it is messy to apply and, while killing the Lichen, has little or no effect on insect eggs. The recipe for limewash is to take 15 lbs. of best fresh lump quicklime and just cover it with water, and allow to slake; then gradually make up to 10 gallons with more water, stirring all the while. The resulting limewash must be carefully strained before it is put into the spraying machine, and a coarse nozzle used.

Spraying fruit trees

(A. G. Forbes).—It should be sufficient to spray your fruit trees once with the tar distillate wash and you should take the first opportunity to get the work done in case bad weather prevents the work being done at a later date. If Red Spider troubles you later on use a dilute solution of lime sulphur. One gallon of concentrated wash added to 99 gallons of water would be strong enough for the purpose. You may have to repeat the lime sulphur spray several times if the spider is present in quantity. Write us again if we can assist you further.

VEGETABLES

Selection of Potatoes

(W. J. C., Essex).—As a selection of varieties we suggest:—Early Potatoes: Midlothian Early, May Queen, Eclipse. Second Early: British Queen, King George, Great Scot. Late: King Edward VII., Majestic, Up-to-Date. Potatoes vary considerably in different soils, but the above are varieties of proved merit generally.

Treatment of Celery

What is the best treatment for Celery, when earthed up, to prevent it being destroyed by millipedes and slugs? M.

[In order to prevent damage from millipedes and from slugs dust the soil freely with fresh soot before earthing-up. This is usually found to be effective, but if the garden is more than ordinarily full of these pests Celery collars, which can be procured from any seedsman, may be used. Stout brown paper or "corrugated" paper can be used instead of collars, but few people have a sufficient supply of either. The collars are inexpensive.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Discoloured paint

We should be much obliged if you could give us any reason why our greenhouses, recently painted inside and out three coats of best white paint, should in a very short time show a deep purple stain through the white paint wherever a little moisture settles. The contractor suggested that it was through using fumigants or insecticides, but as the stains have also come outside, that, of course, cannot be the reason. W. W.

Northants.

[Your trouble with the white lead paint is a common one with certain houses in certain districts, and we do not think that the contractor can be blamed in any way. This discoloration is due to a fungus which grows under or on the paint, and, apart from the colour, we do not think that it does very much harm to the paint. The trouble is most apparent in greenhouses which are kept fairly moist and warm. We believe that a lot of experimental work has been done to try and make a paint which would resist attack, but we have never heard that the experimenters have ever been successful. If it is a practical proposition it is best to get the work of painting done during summer and to empty and air the house, so that the whole of the woodwork is thoroughly dry before the painting is done. Insecticides and fumigation often discolour white lead paints, but from your description we do not think that they have had anything to do with your trouble.]

Weedy lawn

Two years ago I took over an old lawn which for years had been neglected. After raking off loads of Moss and "matt" I used a Moss-killing fertiliser and then sowed a fair amount of grass seed. This has come fairly well, but I have a lot of rough, stringy, low-lying grass, which I am at a loss how to be rid of. Can you suggest a fertiliser and say what amount and when it is best to apply? My employer has been recommended sulphate of ammonia. "CENCI."

[You do not state for what the lawn is used. If it be purely for ornamental purposes we think that you would be well advised to give the area a good dressing of quicklime at the rate of 1 lb. per square yard. This material should be applied at once. Follow this by giving a mixture in equal parts of high-grade basic slag and kainit applied at the rate of 8 ozs. per square yard towards the end of February. This treatment, if allowed to work for a year, should have the effect of reducing the "matt" and encouraging the firm grasses and Clovers to grow. If the lawn is used for tennis or other games the growth of Clover slows down the pitch, but even this would be better than the present condition of the turf. Would it be possible for you in the spring to again rake the lawn and so lift a lot of the rough, low-lying grass so that it could be cut by the machine or scythe? Such treatment would give the other grasses a much better chance to establish themselves. Sulphate of ammonia applied as a top-dressing to a lawn is a great help towards improving the turf when it is in a poor condition, but without the cause which produces a "matt." Your previous treatment has done much to remove the actual "matt," and if you adopt the manures suggested above you will remove the acid conditions which produce the "matt" and so prevent a recurrence of the trouble. The grass you mention is always a feature of soil acidity. Write us again after you have applied the above manures and allowed them a year to alter the soil condition, then we could advise you how to effect further improvement with sulphate of ammonia.]

Poultry manure

I shall be much obliged if you will tell me how pure poultry manure at 6s. cwt. compares in value with good farmyard dung at 10s. a load. "MEIKTILA."

[It is impossible to give a comparison of the poultry manure with good farmyard manure because we do not know the condition of the poultry manure. The following figures taken from the Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture, Vol. 31, will indicate that the plant food value varies considerably according as to whether the material is fresh or air-dried:—

—	Manure from Birds at Liberty.		Manure from Fattening Birds.	
	Fresh.	Air Dried.	Fresh.	Air Dried.
Moisture.. ..	59·5	10·0	70·3	15·0
Dry matter ..	40·5	90 0	29·7	85 0
Nitrogen.. ..	1·75	4·0	2·28	6·52
Phosphoric acid	1·00	2·27	·97	2·77
Potash	·54	1·22	·55	1·57

If you read these figures in conjunction with those we gave on page 790 of our issue for December 8th you will realise that poultry manure can be a very variable product. Perhaps the best line we can obtain on good poultry manure is indicated by a set of experiments carried out in Cornwall and quoted in the Journal referred to above. The experiments were carried out on grassland over a period of six years; the comparison was between 4 cwts. of poultry manure and a series of nitrogenous manure, each providing the same amount of nitrogen as in 1 cwt. of nitrate of soda:—

Treatment per Acre.	Hay: Cwt. per Acre, Average for Six Years.
No manure	9
4 cwt. superphosphate	15½
,, ,, + 1 cwt. nitrate of soda	31
,, ,, + sulphate of ammonia	30
,, ,, + dried blood	30
,, ,, + fish meal	30
,, ,, + guano	31
,, ,, + 4 cwt. fowl manure..	30

According to these experiments 4 cwts. of poultry manure is equal to 1 cwt. nitrate of soda, and we consider 6s. per cwt. dear; 3s. would be much nearer the price.]

Spent Hops as manure

(C. C. B., Hythe).—The value of spent Hops as manure is not very high—perhaps about the same, bulk for bulk, as that of half-rotted straw. Nevertheless, if not actively valuable, Hops have a certain use in the way of adding humus to and in lightening the present soil. The material is sometimes useful as a summer mulch. If nothing better is available in the way of manure give the soil a dressing of basic slag at the present time, and dig in a good bulk of the Hops in March. Of course, it is assumed that the Hops referred to are those received direct from a brewery, and not the advertised proprietary Hop manure which is specially prepared.

Liverwort in lawn

(C. T. Russell).—The specimen you send is that of a Liverwort, and its presence is an indication that the drainage of the lawn is at fault. You could remove it by brushing with a hard, stiff besom, or, perhaps, a rake would do. To remove the Liverwort permanently is a more difficult matter. Dig a hole a foot deep in the lawn and examine this hole 24 hours after a good, hard rainstorm. If water still stands in the hole 24 hours after the rain has ceased the area should be drained. If you find that the soil at this depth is drained the trouble lies nearer the surface, and could be put right by following the instructions given to "N. R. J." on page 16 of our issue for January 5th in connection with Moss in a lawn. We are giving you the rough test for drainage in the hope that it may save you the expense of draining the whole area. The brushing and treatment with sand should in any case be followed.

NAMES OF PLANTS

G. C. D.—1, A Spruce, but cannot name without a cone; 2, a Spruce (possibly Abies pungens), must have a cone; 3, Skimmia japonica; 4, Thujopsis dolobrata; 5, Berberis Aquifolium; 6, Cupressus nootkatensis; 7, Portugal Laurel; 8, please send better specimen.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Ant. Roozen and Son, Post Box 100, *Haarlem, Holland.* — Bulbs, herbaceous plants, Roses, etc.

Barr and Sons, 11, 12, *and* 13, *King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.* 2.—Vegetable and flower seeds, garden requisites, and horticultural sundries.

Toogood and Sons, Ltd., Southampton.—Seeds, nursery stock, and sundries.

W. Beattie and Co., 8, *Lower Grosvenor Place, Westminster, London, S.W.*—Sewage disposal for country houses.

Anthony C. Vanderschoot, Ltd., Hillegom, Holland.—Bulbs for spring planting, hardy perennial plants, rock plants, Roses, and climbing plants.

Joseph Bentley, Ltd., Chemical Works, Barrow-on-Humber, Lincs.—General illustrated catalogue of chemicals and sundries.

Daniels Bros., Ltd., Norwich.—Illustrated guide for amateur gardeners.

TRADE NOTE

Fisons' Fertilisers

An interesting feature in the catalogue of Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., is the report of two experiments recently made at the firm's Experimental Station. The photographs and figures given show how perfectly plants can be controlled and developed with the aid of scientifically compounded plant foods.

LATE NOTES

Horticultural Club

A Club dinner and lecture will be held on Tuesday, January 29th, at St. Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street, Westminster, S.W. 1, at 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. Following the dinner, Mr. William Hales, F.L.S., Curator of Chelsea Physic Garden, will deliver an address, illustrated by lantern slides, on "A Tour to Ceylon, Malay, and Java." The price of the dinner is 6s. 6d., exclusive of wine, and this will be collected at the tables. Members will realise that a subscription of 10s. 6d.—a temporary arrangement—is insufficient to meet the rental of the Club room and other expenses, therefore the Committee has decided that Rule 6, which reads: "The annual subscription for members shall be one guinea. All subscriptions shall be due and payable on the first day of January in each year," must again become operative as from January 1st, 1929, and members are asked to kindly send their subscriptions of one guinea for the current year to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Peter R. Barr, 11-12, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

Dianthus Lady Moore

Many charming Pinks can be raised from seeds of what are commonly called "rock Pinks," and these are generally single Pinks
of the plumarius class. D. Gladys Cra
may be cited as a favourite of this class
an older one called Cyclops is anoth
became the owner in spring of a very
one named after Lady Moore, one of our
ing plant lovers, in which she goes ha
hand with her talented husband, Sir Fre
Moore. Lady Moore, when sending m
plant, expressly stated that it was no
who had named the Pink. It is, howe
really lovely plant for the rock garden or
the front of the border, with large flow
a good rose with a deeper-coloured zon
appears to be of good constitution a
yield plenty of "grass" for propagatio

S. ARNC

Woolly Aphis

The losses which accrue to growe
Apples because of the ravages of the W
Aphis, or so-called American Blight, are
considerable, for the pest is widesprea
its control is somewhat difficult. The
culty in controlling the pest arises fro
amazing reproductive powers of the
(many generations can be produced i
summer), the highly protected position
insect through the woolly excretions an
globules which surround it, and the fact
it lives on the roots as well as or
branches, hence when the branches o
tree have been cleared by treatment a
infestation may occur as a result of mig
from the roots. To these points mig
added that the pest has few natural ene
and its increase continues largely unch
except by artificial means.

Most varieties of Apples are subject
tack, but those varieties with soft rind,
as Cox's Orange Pippin, Blenheim Or
and Ribston Pippin, frequently suffer
severely, as the ease with which the i
can puncture the epidermal tissues enab
to feed more freely and thus drain awa
sap more quickly. Although wingless
laying females occur towards the end o
season and lay eggs in crevices in the
near the base of the tree, and remain
mant till the spring, it is from vivip
females which hibernate under shelte
rough bark, Moss, or Lichen that the fo
ing year's generation more quickly sp
It is thus clear that the general clean
of the trees is a potent factor in the c
of the pest, and it is well known th
ravages are most acute in neglected orc
where the trees are covered with Mos
Lichens.

While the use of a caustic winter wa
tar distillate spray may destroy a large
portion of the hibernating insects and
some may survive, and a sharp loo
should be kept for the first traces to appe
the young wood in the early stages of gr
These should be attacked by spraying
paraffin emulsion, or they may be effec
checked by applying methylated spirit t
white wool covering by means of a
brush, and if such treatment is assidu
followed up the insect may be eradicate
season.

Where infestation of the roots occur
pest is more difficult to deal with, bu
best plan is to use bisulphide of carb
injecting a small quantity of the fluid in
soil at points about 2 feet apart over the
ing area of the tree. The difficulty of
plete control, however, is obvious, and
bably this can more easily be effected b
use of stocks which are immune or h
resistant to the attacks of the pest. I
long been known that some stocks are
resistant than others, and recent inve
tions indicate that the quality of immun
a varietal one. If, therefore, this quali
immunity can be bred into a stock posse
all the other qualities which constitute a
ful stock the future control of the pes
be considerably facilitated. W. AUT

By Appointment.

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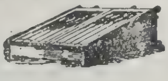

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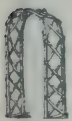

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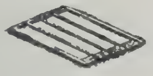

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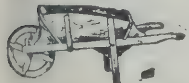

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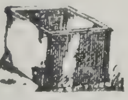

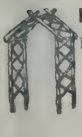

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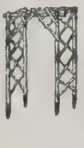

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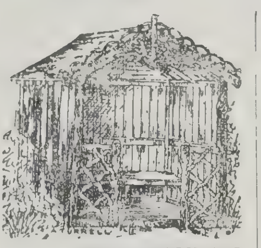

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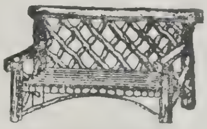

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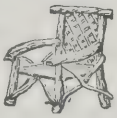

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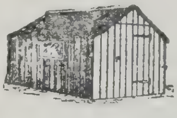

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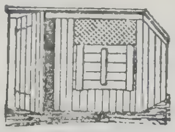

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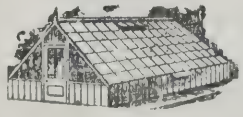

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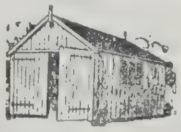

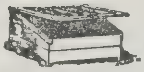

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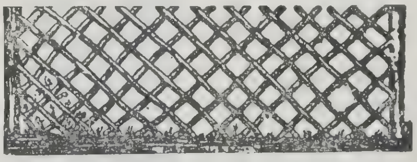

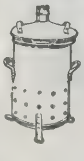

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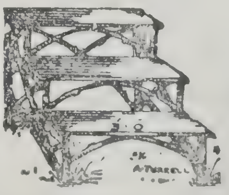

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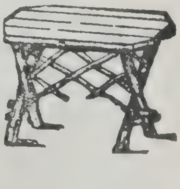

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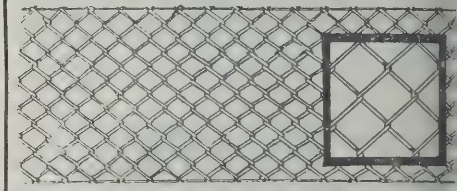

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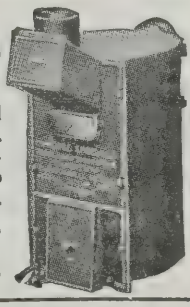

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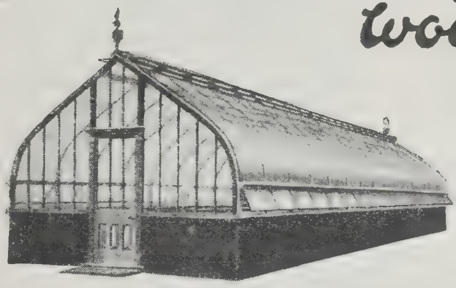

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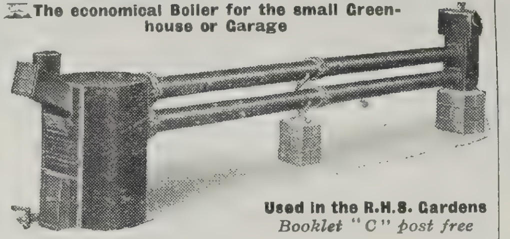

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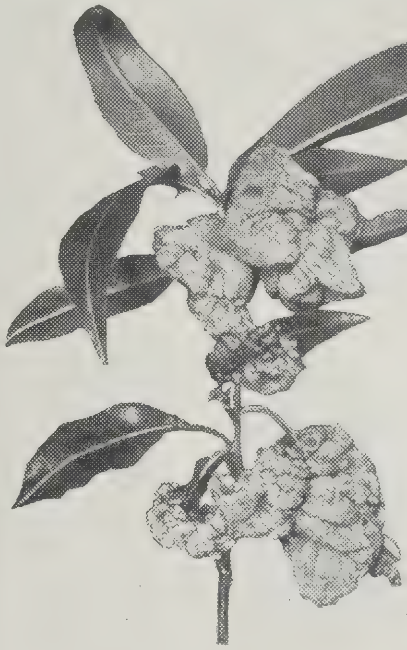

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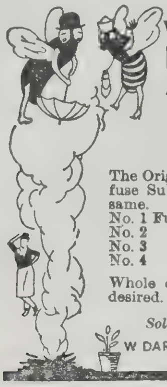

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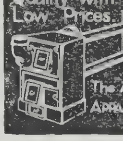

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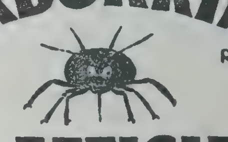

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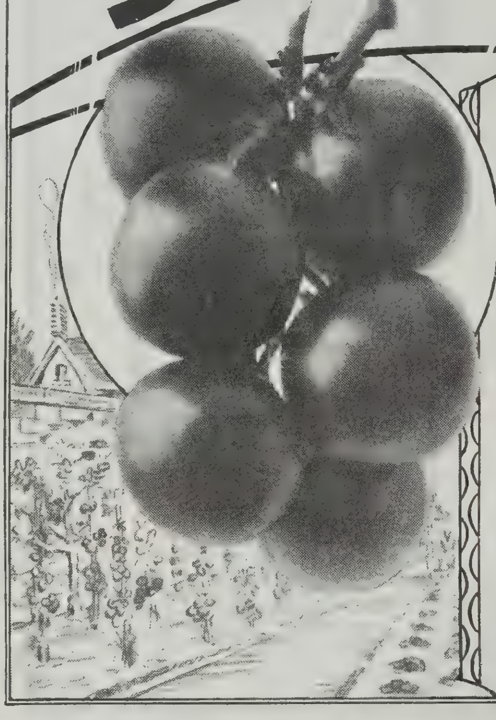

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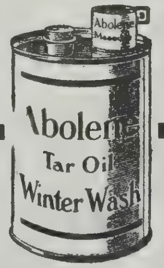

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Seed Lists

By Sir William Lawrence, Bart.

WHEN the skies are "ashen and sober" a scurry round the garden is enough. I throw another Lilac log to the fire and, to the crackle of "Mme. noine," I start on the seed lists.

irst of all, to use a phrase beloved of my ow-writers, I must choose "suitable sub- s to furnish" the annual border. Antir- iums I leave to Mr. Everatt, who used to w terraces full in Scotland, and with a king heart I start on eight pages of ers. Now the highbrow catalogue says, sters, see Callistephus," but this trick not had the success he original "Mari- d, see Calendula." trol stations, to se the R.B.A., have lers of annuals, and resent the following plet to a motorist stops to fill up:—

> hat are the flowers
> we see beneath us?
> alendula and Callistephus!"

he catalogue I am king at lists 397 rieties of China er! Who grows ers to such an ex- as to require 397 eties? I have never taken by a gar- er to see the Asters, are they a con- uous feature of the aces of great houses the beds of Hyde k. I am lost in this er. Ought I to r Pæony-flowered, Ostrich Feather, or us, or Californian, merican? I would "clear yellow" "sulphur-yellow," only I know that e are really and truly no yellow Asters more than blue Asters. An Aster I like ts by being white, with a violet flush, finishes by being violet all over—and I at least 12 that do this. Let us pass to her holy terror, Stocks. Of these there only 224. What is the difference be- n Ten-week Stocks, Brompton Stocks, Lothian, Summer, Autumn, Winter, ng, Nice, Excelsior Stocks? I should a "Heavenly Blue" Stock, but I look in the colour chart and desist. I am ly useless at this kind of thing, so leave the Stocks and let's get on.

At the Wisley trials there were some lovely annual Lupins, and I have ordered L. Hartwegii in blue, Heavenly Blue, white and rose, L. luteus Romulus, L. luteus splendens, L. nanus in blue and pink, having already my own saved seed of L. pilosus (that gracious fodder plant), L. Cruikshanksii, which comes out white and fades to purple, and that dainty dwarf, L. lepidus. A lovely thing at Wisley was the bright blue Salvia farinacea. I am not ordering the white form. Of scarlet Salvias, Harbinger and Fireball are the best. An annual I am never without is the blue Pimpernell. In Spain this plant is perennial and a sub-shrub, but if you plant the shrubby form in this country the woody stem dies down and a herbaceous form, identical with the annual, appears. This sounds like a fable, but it is vouched for by Mr. Ingwersen and Dr. Giuseppe, and I should as soon doubt Liddle and Scott as these two cultivators! Bartonia aurea I always have, and that pretty Cape plant, Diascia Barbaræ, the colour of Rose du bois Kascha. Next, two peerless plants, Hunnemannia fumariæfolia and Ipomœa rubro-cœrulea præcox. Hunnemannia makes a little grey-green bush of finely cut foliage from which rises in straight, upright stems glorious clear yellow flowers, which last a week cut and remain widely open. Ipomœa is the sky-blue Morning Glory, perhaps the loveliest plant in the garden. It is not too easy to get away, and the seeds are best sown singly in 60's. Order præcox as many varieties bloom too late to be of use. Single French Marigolds (Tagetes patula) I like, and the old Legion d'Honneur is as good as any. The big French Poppies are glorious and fill an immense space for the expenditure of a few pence, but their season is short. The largest number of "fixed" varieties is to be found in French seed, and the same applies to Viscaria (a variety V. bleu Dauphin is charming). The English strains of Antirrhinum and Sweet Peas are incomparably the best, and, indeed, most foreign strains of seeds are supplied by English nurserymen.

Lupins, both perennial and annual, form a pleasing feature of many gardens, and may readily be raised from seed

Lupinus polyphyllus, here illustrated, gives an abundance of long spikes of delicately scented flowers in June and July. Sown in March and treated as annuals, they make a fine show in the autumn

All this is child's play. Now I take up Thompson and Morgan's list, the list of the Floraire Nursery (Correvon), of Sündermann at Lindau, the lists of the Botanical Gardens at Kew, Edinburgh, Kirstenbosch, Peradenia (Ceylon), etc. As I only grow such Alpines as kind friends give me I am not a serious student of Correvon and Sündermann, but I picked out Gilia agregata, an elegant and brilliantly coloured Californian plant with a genius for damping off; Hylomecon vernale, from Japan, I think, like a yellow Eomecon; Lithospermum Gastoni, which I failed to find in the Pyrenees; that exquisite little Poppy, Papaver triniæfolium, which makes a rosette of blue-grey lace; Paris quadrifolia, which I want to naturalise (but Paris is dreadfully slow, even if you grow it on in heat); the pink Scorzonera; and Trientalis americana (because T. europea does well!).

Different botanical gardens adopt different methods of arrangement. Kew divides the seeds into "Hardy Herbaceous" and "Trees and Shrubs," Edinburgh into "Plants in the Open" and "Plants under Glass," Cambridge "Monocotyledons" and "Dicotyledons," Kirstenbosch into "South African Seeds," and others. A few things noted are Adonis flammea, Aphyllanthes monspeliensis, that dainty little plant with blue Lilies on Rush-like stems, the Cyananthuses, which are so difficult to grow here, Linum monogynum, which goes on well until a hard winter kills it, a few Primulas, the two "Kangaroo Paw" (Anigozanthus) for the greenhouse, Boenninghausenia, of which we read so often in "The Times" on Saturdays, Lathyrus pubescens and Lonicera Hildebrandiana, two first-class plants under glass, and, indeed, "nearly hardy," Sutherlandia frutescens, lovely in September with its apricot, Pea-shaped flowers and grey foliage, Templetonia retusa, another "nearly hardy" plant, with warm, mahogany flowers, Veronica Lavaudiana, pretty but difficult, Bellis mexicana, merely because I have no idea what it is, and I love B. silvestris and B. rotundifolia, Chrysanthemum Gayana (because I want to see the difference between this species and G. Mawii), Laurentia Michelii (because I already grow the slender Laurentine with its little blue and white Lobelias), Ourisia macrocarpa (because this is a family we fail with), and the peerless Eustoma, which the magician of Hyde Park grows in flower-beds! These lists from botanical gardens, being intended largely for students of classification, etc., contain a number of grasses, yet none contains that rare British gem, Mibora verna, which used to be grown in greenhouses and looks for all the world like Pampas Grass seen through the wrong end of a telescope.

This is becoming a catalogue itself, so I will content myself with saying of the private lists that my heart stood still when I read "Weldenia candida"!

Burford. William Lawrence.

A long border of double-flowered Stocks at Kew

East Lothian Stocks

This fine and well-known strain of the Intermediate section of Stocks should find a place in every garden wherever there is space for the plants to grow and attain full development. They are adapted either for bedding out or for the mixed border, where they always make a fine display until late in the autumn, when they usually have to make way, especially in the first instance, for spring-flowering subjects, but in the last-named they will, if left, flower most profusely in the succeeding early spring months in the warmer parts of the country. When so left I have known them to become very large bushes by the end of the season, passing unharmed through the winter, and supplying a great quantity of flowers for cuttings afterwards in the spring, when they are much appreciated. I have also found the Lothian Stocks equally valuable for winter and early spring flowering under glass. I remember the time when the ordinary Intermediate strain used to be largely grown for that purpose with varying results, but at their best the plants would not compare with those of the improved East Lothian strain for robustness of habit in regard to growth or floriferousness.

For winter flowering the plants are, of course, raised in early autumn, but for summer and autumn display the first or second week in February is a good time to sow the seed and germinate it in gentle warmth in a greenhouse. In order that the seedlings may be sturdy the seed should be sown thinly in pans, and, when up, placed on a shelf well up to the light. Here they should remain until ready for pricking out in a frame on a bed of leaves or slight hotbed. It being very essential that good balls of soil should be obtained when the plants are lifted for planting, the compost in which they are pricked out should consist of two-thirds loam and one-third flaky leaf-mould. A distance of from 5 inches to 6 inches should be allowed between the plants in either direction, and until the roots get a hold of the soil keep close and shade from the sun. Afterwards ventilate the frame in accordance with weather conditions and aim at growing the plants as hardily as circumstances permit, so that when ready for planting out each will be a sturdy little specimen. When they begin to grow freely and the weather is fine and sunny the sashes may be partly or completely drawn off for a few hours with advantage. Watering must be attended to, and when planting time arrives give a g soaking some 12 hours prior to lifting.

Beds in which they will eventually planted should be well manured a week so beforehand and the positions they ar occupy in the border similarly trea Planting time varies according to local ditions. In some cases it can take p early in April, in others it has to be defe till the beginning of May, but the ea within reason the better the results.

H. W

Honours in horticulture

The Council of the Royal Horticult Society at its meeting on December 1 1928, awarded the following Cups Medals:—

Victoria Medal of Honour to British h culturists resident in the United K dom deserving special honour at hands of the Society.

To Mr. Alexander Malcolm, the known amateur raiser of Sweet Peas.

To Mr. W. Atkinson, the managing di tor of the renowned nurseries of Me Fisher, Son, and Sibray, of Sheffield.

The Lawrence Medal for the best ex shown to the Society during the year.

To the Hon. Vicary Gibbs for his ex of vegetables on October 9th, 1928.

Veitch Memorial Medals and Prizes to t who have helped the advancement improvement of the science and pra of horticulture.

To Miss Gertrude Jekyll, V.M.H.: Medal and £50 in commemoration of services to horticulture and gardening.

To Mr. C. G. A. Nix, V.M.H.: Gold M for his services to the Society.

To Mr. John Fraser, F.L.S., V.M. Silver Medal and £50 for his work on P goniums, Salix, and Mentha.

To Mr. Samuel Smith, The Gard Pengerrick, Falmouth: Silver Medal for work in hybridising Rhododendrons.

To Mr. W. Reynolds-Stephens, P.R.B Silver Medal for his work in connection the Sculpture Section of the Internati Exhibition of Garden Design on Oct 17th-24th, 1928.

The Cory Cup for the best new hardy of garden origin shown to the So for the first time during the current

To Mr. F. C. Stern for his Rosa downensis, which was shown on Septe 11th, 1928.

The Loder Rhododendron Cup for not m floral display, but the value to hort ture of the work of the recipient, wh such work includes the productio flowers or not.

To Professor Wright Smith, of Edinbu M.A., F.L.S., V.M.H., in recognition o very valuable work on Rhododendrons Azaleas.

The George Moore Medal for the best Cypripedium shown to the Society du the year.

To Mr. R. Paterson for Cypripe W. H. Moore, Stonehurst Variety, w was shown on November 27th, 1928 illustration issue December 8th, 1928, 786).

The Sander Medal for the best new g house plant shown to the Society du the year.

To Baron Bruno Schröder for Amar Baroness Schröder, which was shown April 24th, 1928.

The Williams Memorial Medal for a g of plants of one genus which show e lence in cultivation. Fruit and v tables are excepted.

To Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H

cLaren for their exhibit of Primulas staged Chelsea, 1928.

To Messrs. Sutton and Sons for their ex- bit of Cyclamen staged on February 28th, 28.

These Cups and Medals will be presented the Annual General Meeting of the Society Tuesday, February 26th, at 3 p.m.

F. R. Durham, Secretary.

The Mulberry and the flower border

ONE of the joys of September is the ripening of the Mulberries on a young tree planted about 20 years ago. A ulberry should always be planted on grass, some of the best fruits are those that fall themselves. While they are falling it is ll to sweep the turf under the tree every o days, as many that come down are halften by wasps and others are trodden into messy squash. The Mulberry stands on a rrow lawn that runs the length of the main wer border. A high wall is at the back the border. Next the wall is a 4-foot rder and then a narrow path—not a made th, but just a little alley-way convenient getting at the back of the border and at is on the wall. Against the wall is a oup of Bays, and nearer in the lower picre a well-grown Magnolia conspicua and a oisya, their tops framing a doorway and ning in with a Guelder Rose that is at the ck of the wall. The whole space is large ough to admit of these bold groups, and ey form a good background to the flowers the border. Nearby, in front of the Bays, a mass of rich red, showing dark in the ture. Nearer the eye are white Dahlias, Yuccas (now out of flower), and to the extreme right the creamy-white Aster umbellatus, Hydrangea paniculata, and the lovely Aster acris, with a front planting of white Snapdragon and dwarf Ageratum.

G. J.

The Mulberry on the lawn

The south border in September

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

oposed Society of Garden Architects

HAVE been greatly interested in the recent letters on garden architects and the proposed Society or Association which some uld like to see formed. Such an Associan, composed of the right type of members, would no doubt be all right, but is such a Society really needed?

When we think of the stately homes throughout the British Isles and their pleasure grounds and gardens, and think of the qualifications of such men as Capability Brown, Sir Joseph Paxton, and the veteran, Wm. Robinson, the founder of this journal, to mention only a few, I do not think that garden owners are going to benefit so very much by a Society of Garden Architects. Members would possibly get uniform fees for water colour drawings and plans, similar to those received by a prospective house owner from his architect before he commences with his building.

A gentleman of my acquaintance received some of the aforementioned drawings and plans for his garden from an architect who also passes as a garden architect, and, to my surprise, practically all the rooms on the ground floor of the house would have to be re-arranged to suit the alterations in the garden. Needless to say, this was going to cost more than the garden owner bargained for. Now, I was under the impression that the gardens were made to suit the house, and not the house to suit the garden. Had this garden architect known more about horticulture I am sure such a suggestion would never have been put forward. The result is that the scheme is left on the table. I could mention instances where architects had the planning of ranges of hothouses which were an absolute failure from a horticultural point of view.

Why architects break into garden design I do not know, unless it be that there is not enough work for them all in the building trade. Should the proposed Association be made of such members I sincerely hope that owners of gardens requiring advice will be wise enough to call in the services of a good, practical foreman who has spent his whole time on such work from some of the larger nursery firms who are specialists in the laying out of grounds, or some person who has made landscape gardening his only profession. The successful arrangement of flower and vegetable gardens requires an expert knowledge of the needs of plants, and this should be fully considered before any special design of walks, borders, or beds are thought of. At the present time we are getting too much repetition of other people's work and not enough originality. We see sunk gardens, rock gardens, acres of crazy paving, and low retaining walls in place of grassy slopes wherever we go. I agree with Mr. Adams when he says that an architect's design shows too much stonework and ornament; each very nice when carried out in moderation, but both a great deal over-exploited. The Chelsea, Shrewsbury, and other large provincial shows are responsible for much of this present style, and the earlier the R.H.S. encourages originality the better it will be for British gardening, which has attained a high position throughout the world.

In conclusion I would suggest, like Mr. John Adams, that the word architect be dropped and something more suitable found to replace it. Garden designer or landscape gardener are, perhaps, not so high sounding, but they are, at least, much more appropriate. ALLEN-WATER.

The "Best" Peach

Your Scottish correspondent's note on this subject (issue January 12th, page 27) is very interesting and valuable. A word from the nurseryman's point of view may be interesting as to the Peaches in greatest demand, and of these Hale's Early is undoubtedly more planted than any other. Closely following this would come Peregrine, which your correspondent does not mention, but which is rapidly coming into the front rank and is more planted than Royal George, I should deduce from my own experience.

The best Peach to eat, which your correspondent does not mention, is, in my opinion, Bellegarde, but I quite agree that as an all-round Peach Royal George holds its own in popular estimation. E. A. BUNYARD.

Ranunculus Lyalli

THE reference by E. Markham to this New Zealander is interesting. Probably it is capricious to grow in England, as it is here also away from its natural habitat, but growing in the Southern Alps, as I saw it some years back on the McKinnon Pass, in large bold groups, it is a noble plant. There it is usually covered with snow through the winter months, and even in the summer at times. A. E. GRINROD.

Auckland, New Zealand.

Primula farinosa

" Pretty Birds' e'en " as a trusty perennial may well be the despair of the rock garden, as this, the most beautiful of our wild flowers, is a difficult subject to cultivate.

During the last year or two I have collected a number of plants from the marshes which surround Sunbiggen Tarn, a desolate pool made eerie by the cry of 10,000 gulls. Here the Bird's-eye Primrose shares with nesting plovers the tufts of grass rising above the peaty swamp, but, of course, in Yorkshire and Westmoreland this plant is not only found in marsh lands, but ascends the hills.

An amateur's efforts to establish collected plants may be of interest. First an endeavour to reproduce natural conditions by means of a tub sunken in the ground filled with a peaty mixture was made, and some 60 plants packed close together for root association. All flowered and produced abundant seed the first year, but only the older plants survived the autumn.

I have found repeatedly that old plants of Primula farinosa are more safely transplanted into the open than seedlings, and, as this is such a contradiction of the general rule, think it worth noting. Other good-sized plants were put in the granite scree and well watered throughout the growing season. Here there were no failures due to winter's toll, and they will probably run their life of three or four summers. I cannot subscribe to Farrer's early view that the plant " thrives best in sticky, very heavy loam, kept fairly dry throughout the growing season and almost incessantly wet throughout the resting and sleeping times."

Isolation it certainly hates, but one cannot gratuitously introduce tufts of grass into the rock garden, and Gentiana verna, as sometimes recommended, is too precious with me to act as its foil, so clumps of a dozen heads or so in the moraine or on a bank where early autumn wet will not cause the crowns to rot is the treatment which has met with most success in my garden.

Primula farinosa acaulis I have found, but somehow it seems that the flowers nestling among the foliage lose much of their fairy charm. A batch of the plant received from the Alps are of a decidedly brighter and truer pink, and also have the further advantage of being less lush in leaf and flowering just about four weeks earlier each year than our native forms, the dates approximating the fourth week in April as compared with the third or fourth week in May.

These Alpine dwellers, even when transplanted to the softer conditions of the English climate with its longer summer, still cling to their native habits of hurrying into bloom, anxious to flower and set their seed safely in the brief flash of an Alpine summer.

Ranunculus Lyalli

On the whole, perhaps, there is more chance of success in cultivation with plants collected from higher and drier altitudes.

It was doubtless remarked by those visiting the Primula tent at Chelsea last year that of the several exhibits of P. farinosa alba there was no batch of plants which one could really describe as true albino free from all suspicion of pink.

It would be of interest to obtain the experience of other gardeners growing our delightful little native, and to know whether there are at present any true albino forms in cultivation, especially the large-flowered P. f. alba Saundersæ. F. H. FISHER.

The rock gardens at Chelsea

I HAVE followed with immense interest the letters both for and against the policy of the R.H.S. shown in the letter issued regarding the rock gardens at Chelsea, and to me the mere fact that the point has proved so controversial is proof enough that a change of ruling was both imminent and necessary if only temporarily—surely those great men who produce our plants and transform our gardens are big enough to give
" the other fellow's opinion " a trial, fc
we have recently been told, limestone
been tried and has won for some years
altogether, I think, because of its entire
ability, but chiefly, as " M. F." says,
easier by far, and to quote Mr. Dillis
" the true artist will always select
material which best suits his purpose."
does, true enough, for does not the ver
finite strata in the formation of lime
lend themselves, nay, give themselves t
building of exactly the type of garde
have grown accustomed to seeing at Ch
and the less adroit of our gardeners
make a far better display with the sto
question than with sandstone, which, th
equally suitable, demands greater ski
the laying, simply because it is lumpier
does not lend itself to stratification.

With regard to cost, sandstone is
tainly the cheaper, unless, of course, on
purchase limestone as local stone; bu
the whole, the former is quoted by
firms at about one-third the cost of
stone (it is much cheaper locally), and
is there among us who would not rathe
vest two-thirds of the cost of the sto
plants?

Geologists and specialists in A
almost generally contend that sandsto
equally as good for the cultivation of Alp
Reginald Farrer says on the subject: "
body wants, and many are unable, to s
much money on importing stone," and
on to say that if one can spend, lime
from the Craven district of Yorkshire i
ideal; but, he says, " Any stone th
clean is suitable, and not too muc
wanted." Further, although lime-h
plants do not form a huge percentage o
whole of rock garden flora, it is signif
that chief among them are the Mecono
the blue species of which every Alpine
to-day is most anxious to include in h
her collection.

Another point which correspondents s
have missed is that, apart from the fact
the colour of the stone modifies and
tates, in a year or two it becomes, or sh
become, mostly covered and draped wit
those beautiful Mosses and trailing p
whose colours are right anywhere and
are reminiscent of any well-established
garden. This one misses at Chelsea,
apart from a few plants in the crevices
gardens are filled with numbers of s
plants, more or less in irregular
whereas the same plants full grown ar
their proper environment would look
different and tend to cover some of the s
thus giving the real garden effect to
natural outcrop.

The ideal, surely, must be that w
tones with the surroundings in each
dividual case, and this is not always
stone; let us, therefore, if only for one
have the gardens at Chelsea constructe
tirely of sandstone, and let us, above
have the same keen competition among
garden makers, and may the greatest a
again be represented. V. M.

—— I cannot join with Mr. Dilliston
disclaiming the importance of our a
ments. It is to me a very serious subj
that of " awards " especially—and I am
going to write columns about it and
deny its importance.

Also, I defy him (albeit in accents te
to show a single point of my screed of
cember 22nd to be inconsistent.

I did not show at Chelsea between
and 1927, and neither I nor other people
become wearied by the constant repet
of mountain limestone until much n
1927. Last year (1928) I also used it,
Cheddar and from Yorkshire, in com
with sandstone, and the effect was qu

rmonious. Why not? It is even natural. ere are plenty of sandstone boulders ongst the limestone on the sides of Ingle- rough where they have rolled down from top which, in places, is *all* sandstone.

I thank Mr. Dillistone for classing me ongst the "great artists." I take your reful readers to witness that I had not ne so myself—whatever I may have ought. But he is all wrong about 1915. exhibit *was* of limestone. I had a mar- llous sheet of bloom over it, but the effect s too warlike altogether. I was in iform, and whether it was that I was too shful that the exhibit should partake in ne measure of the atmosphere of those es or the fact that I was not able to be on ground more than a few minutes every y, and practically had no time to do any- ng but interfere, I cannot say, but cer- nly the effect was that of a moderate piece rockwork garishly planted and far too lerly to bear out the character of either ne or plants—massed companies of ntiana acaulis, detached platoons of white xifrages, etc., being harassed in rear by esponsible squads of Phlox Vivid—every- ng redolent of the parade ground. All s was too good to be true, especially the entians, each plant of which was probably ected from a dozen non-flowering ones— e usual procedure with businesslike ex- itors.

Single blocks of sandstone carefully placed can be very effective

Sandstone grit is used to prevent erosion of the banks of swift streams, and is both very picturesque and useful

Streams liable to flood must have their banks strongly revetted

Sandstone is most useful for this

If I believed in "awards" I should say at, for its half-heartedness, this effort did t deserve what it got—a Silver Cup, I ink.

Something good came out of the mixture d chaos of thought (at the 1912 show) at show itself. There were several outdoor rdens and effects there which have not been ualled since. I merely hinted at a few in issue of December 22nd. I have, I ink, made it quite clear in the same letter at Col. Durham's "forward move" is ward promotion of that free spirit of experiment so sadly lacking in our big show nowadays.

The "mission" (Mr. Dillistone objects to the word somewhat) of the rock garden section at Chelsea is (to Col. Durham, as I said) the putting before the public of a fairly representative show of the artistic skill and the stone and other material resources of our country. The use of limestone alone as a medium is neither fair to the rock builder nor to the other kinds of stone, so Col. Durham gives a kindly hint to the effect that other media would be welcome.

Not so much "strictly business," please! English people do not like it shouted at them from rock gardens any more than from other works of art. I have seen an exhibitor lovingly place bunches of the beautiful clean coralline roots of a waterside Willow in his pool where they would show to advantage and be quite proud of his little "touch of Nature." Did he think of business? Not

imula farinosa (British Bird's-eye Prim-
se) is at home in this Yorkshire moun-
n limestone, and its bright pink colour
es beautifully with the blue of Gentiana
acaulis planted alongside

"strictly," anyhow. And he did not take them out when another exhibitor told him these roots would "in a real rockery simply befoul the water in time."

"Art for Art's sake" is quite right if one really believes it. The phrase has, by overuse and abuse, become somehow connected with dilettantism. If one really takes it in its serious sense it is, to a large extent, expressive of the mental attitude of the very greatest artists of all time. But, of course, I do Mr. Dillistone the justice to say that he is evidently putting the phrase forward in its slang sense.

I have not read any of Mr. Dillistone's remarks so unfairly as he says. I should not accuse a man of his experience of thinking for a moment that "no other stone is suitable for the construction of a rock garden."

I am more concerned with that remark which says that exhibitors *have*, and have always had, that "one big free field for self-expression." It is quite true that there has never been any rule compelling exhibitors to use any particular material (nor to commit any other particular vice), but, as I have before explained, the present giving of "awards" makes many afraid to experiment on any other stone than that used by his neighbours, because an "award," though an evil thing, serves in itself to prompt the public mind. This is speaking generally, because, of course, there are always those minds too courageous to be so blinded, and which are strong enough to form an independent judgment, prompted only by the beholders' individual tastes.

It is hard to have to explain one's "clever" remarks. Enough to say that if I asked an artist which he regarded as the "ideal" colour he would not necessarily give me a "soft" drink, nor even a nice one, nor would he necessarily be hospitable. But mine of December 22nd did not say nor mean anything like "a certain colour most suitable for certain purposes." Also, I must say again that if limestone be as suitable for large rock gardens as it is for small ones it cannot be *eminently* suitable for either. Pax! This is not garden talk.

Again, and for the twentieth time probably, I say that the exhibitor before whom "awards" are flaunted is a tied man, worried by petty thoughts all the time that he should be quietly generating fresh ideas and ways of bringing them into sight.

I only wish the R.H.S. Council were as easily prevailed upon to discontinue the giving of awards as your correspondent, "M. F.," thinks they might be. Others beside myself have represented all kinds of trouble arising from the practice for some years past, not merely on our own individual account, but for the benefit of the peace of mind of the community (of rock builders).

I have received letters from one or two gentlemen naming "local" rocks I have not seen used for rockwork before, some of which sound rather good, though I would rather see samples first. Some rocks contain minerals poisonous to plant life. I find also that most kinds of gritty sandstone are rather more sympathetic to plants than mountain limestone. J. Wood.

4, *Fitzroy Street, W.* 1.

—— I have read Mr. Wood's article (issue December 22nd, 1928) about rock gardens at Chelsea. I often wonder why gardeners do not use Welsh stone. We have beautiful rock and quantities of stone, especially along the coast. I am not a geologist, but I believe the stones I mean are glacier remains; certainly in shapes and colour different from anything I have seen at Chelsea. They are *not* slaty shale; we have plenty of that, too. There is also red jasper in Carnarvonshire.

Aberdovey. A. C. C. W.

Choisya ternata "even in Scotland"

Whilst "L. J. C.'s" letter on a Cornish garden (issue December 8th, page 785) is interesting, he seems, however, to have formed a very poor opinion of Old Scotland, or is it grievous ignorance of the country?

I would point out for his edification that Choisya ternata, Camellias, and such-like stuff are used on its western seaboard as shelter plants and hedges for the more tender subjects, among which might be named Rhododendron Dalhousiæ, R. fragrantissima, R. Lady Alice Fitzwilliam, or Grevillea and Embothrium, all usually found in English greenhouses.

"L. J. C." has evidently formed the opinion with not a few of his countrymen on the other side of the border that Scotland is a bleak waste of water, rocks, and bog, with perchance an intermittent tuft of heather here and there. Where the natives bound about from crag to crag, scantily clad, with bare legs and mops of red hair (as seen in the pantomime), blowing a whisky-ladened breath into a machine called the bagpipes over a somewhat inflated stomach, doubtless owing to surfeits of haggis. I can assure him this is not quite correct, and there are men who do not bite "even in Scotland."

Granted there are not many Peaches growing in the open in Motherwell or Shotts, neither are there at Wigan nor Durham, but if he takes a trip along the western seaboard of Scotland commencing, say, at Logan, in Wigtownshire, taking Loch Ryan, the Ayrshire coast, the Clyde Valley, Argyllshire coast, Stonefield (where he will see Eucalyptus 40 feet to 50 feet high and Desfontainea spinosa 10 feet in diameter), Inverness-shire and Ross-shire coast up to Poolewe. At the end of his journey he will perchance be forced to say some things do grow "even in Scotland."

December is the bleak time here, nor will there be much bloom till nearly the end of this month, though a lady writing me last week said she had plucked no less than 26 different blooms in her garden "even in Scotland."

Mr. J. G. Millais, of Horsham, who knows the west of Scotland extremely well, and whose book on Rhododendrons is the standard work on the species, invariably couples Cornwall with the west of Scotland, never with Middlesex and Guildford.

If "L. J. C." is not accustomed to rain, he will perchance find *that* "even in Scotland," and he would be well advised should he meditate going thither to take his galoshes. Formakin.

Bishopton.

Truthful catalogues

Your correspondent, "Clay," is a little pessimistic when he says (issue January 12th, page 23): "It is too much to hope that truth in advertising, in the widest sense, will ever invade our beloved catalogues to the extent of pointing out not only the virtues of plants, but also the vices."

Truth, as we know, has not yet been satisfactorily defined, but if "Clay" will continue his researches he will find that there are several catalogues in which nurserymen put the whole truth as they see it in describing their goods, and there is some reason to believe that this practice is spreading. A Nurseryman.

—— I am unable to adopt the heading used by "Clay" on page 23 for obvious reasons, so write under the above title.

I am absolutely in agreement with your correspondent about the misleading descriptions in catalogues of new or newly introduced plants. It is, of course, only to be expected that those interested in their sale
should extol the virtues of their wares,
in some cases I know there is a gen
admiration for many new plants or sh
which I can only call unqualified hor-
De gustibus non est disputandum.
sooner we have a standard colour chart
has several times been suggested, an
alluded to on page 18, the better.

Apart from the exaggerated descript
by nurserymen, I have long ago learn
accept all eulogies by gardeners on ne
praiseworthy plants with a very large
of salt. I have expended "untold gold
recommended plants from time to time
to throw them away as undesirable for s
reason or other. No doubt we all
beauty from different standpoints. I,
example, have a dislike of all double flow
though, of course, there are exceptions
recollect my astonishment years ago at
of the Temple shows, where a lady sto
at an exhibit and ordered some do
flowered plant, I forget what, and follo
up her order with the question: "N
have you anything else double?" indica
that double flowers were all that appeale
her, quite apart from other merits.

Two instances occur to me as I write
note, but only as my personal opinion.
is that the good old Shirley Poppy strain
distributed by Rev. W. Wilks, has
spoilt by modern "improvements."
other is my surprise that Sedum specta
atro-purpureum should have ousted
superior type in some catalogues, though
course, if all were of my opinion there w
be no sale for the dingy purplish form.

There is another point in connection
the value of any given plant from a h
cultural point of view, and that is that
dividuals vary greatly. We see the bes
everything at Chelsea or Vincent Squ
and orders are freely given on the exhi
but how often does not our ideal have a g
fall when the plant arrives and flowers
our gardens? My advice is that garde
should see the plants growing and select
one that appeals most to them, and not o
haphazard from a show or a catalogue.

I do not wish to deny that there ar
whole host of novelties of a most desir
nature, and am not one of those who
to stick to old-fashioned plants mainly f
sentiment, but I do think we want a
more "truth in advertising."

A. H. Wolley-Do

December Roses

I am altogether at one with "A. W.
his tilt *re* December Roses (page 5) at t
correspondents who have sent in account
the "wonderful variety of plants in bl
. . . in the sub-tropical counties of Ha
shire, Kent, and Essex." And, may I
Cornwall and Devon.

I will not flatter Inverness or "A. W.
saying that it is a more congenial spot
this is in mid-winter, but I will say, wit
compunction, that a record of winter blo
either in Inverness or here, represents a
more remarkable state of affairs than a
10 times as lengthy from the "sub-trop
counties of Hampshire, Kent, and Ess
and that many of us gardeners so unhap
situated as to have to struggle to get
thing to do in the more Arctic north
really getting rather weary of our "
tropical" friends' assumption of all tha
marvellous or even "freakish" in the
formance of plants in their gardens,
though they had achieved something won-
ful when, all conditions considered, ther
nothing very remarkable about it! And
haps Inverness and North Yorkshire ma
allowed some degree of legitimate prid
the fact that sometimes they do pro
something verging on the wonders of
south, and, occasionally, on the abnormal

"Alpine slope" facing south at Farnham Vicarage
Erinus alpinus in full bloom

For, when all is said and done, who is the re skilful, to whom is the greater credit e, to him whose lot and gardens are cast the balmy conditions of the "sub-tropics," ere almost, if not absolutely, everything is him, where hardly anything will *not* w, or to him, unhappy soul, whose daily uggle lies amid conditions, of climate, uation, soil, where nearly everything is ainst him, where hardly anything *will* w?
J. R. K.
Skipton, Yorks.

Sternbergia lutea

The notes which have appeared lately in ur paper on Sternbergia lutea are interest- g to those who have tried to grow these tumn-flowering bulbs.

I have had an edging of them planted out 20 years ago; they have never been ied. They produce a beautiful foliage ich even now is green and unfaded, but ne years never a bloom, others just a few. e soil is hot and gravelly, which is sup- sed to be what they want. I believe they e lime. Personally, I do not think any lbs which require lifting and drying off ry year are worth bothering about.

C. G. O. Bond.
Furze Hills, Churt, near Farnham.

Saxifraga longifolia

n the note on this well-known subject on ge 27 I see that "G. L." advises one to ommence with strong plants, owing to ir shyness of flowering until the plant be- nes strong." From one sowing I have ays found that, as is generally under- od, no plant will bloom until two years , more often not before three. Does . L." mean by the suggestion above that nting out should be delayed until, say, the nger seedlings are two years old and the aker three, with the idea of obtaining om from most of them, if not all, within few months following planting? If so I not agree, for I have found by experiment t the blooms from plants of which the nting out has been delayed are infinitely erior to those of plants put in permanent itions when quite small; that is, when ge enough to handle and no more, thus wing the bloom to result from a longer roken period of growth.

nd the uncertainty of bloom each year is, course, overcome by planting out a group of freshly raised seedlings each year, so that while one has reached the flowering stage, another is half-way there, and so on.

J. R. K.

Fruit trees and birds

For some years I have been puzzled to understand why certain Apple trees which used to bear well have ceased to do so, in spite of careful cultivation in the way of pruning and fertilising. I now discover that almost every single blossom-bud has been picked out on these particular trees by birds, presumably tits, since we rarely see a bullfinch. The odd thing about it is that in almost every instance the trees attacked are of the late-blooming varieties, viz., Bramley Seedling, Sturmer Pippin, Blenheim Orange, Tom Putt, and Annie Elizabeth, one notable exception being Worcester Pearmain, which has also been completely stripped, while other varieties, including all the dessert Apples, have been left apparently untouched. If you or any of your readers can give me any suggestion as to the best manner of repelling the attacks of the birds I shall be very much obliged. I may say that the trees are too large to net, even if netting were likely to prove a safeguard, which, so far as my experience goes, is certainly not the case in preserving the early eating Apples from the attacks of tits in July and August.

Devon. H. C. G.

An Alpine slope

I DO not desire in any way to take part in the "conversations" between Mr. Wood and Mr. Dillistone, but may I suggest that such a thing as an "Alpine slope" is a possibility? Just sufficient local stone is needed to hold up the pathway on one side and act as a foundation on the lower side.

I enclose two photographs which will show the possibilities. A grand succession can be obtained of what some would call "common" things, but Aubrietia and Erinus, Alyssum and Rock Roses, just a sprinkling of double and single Arabis, Saxifrage, Heuchera, Dianthus deltoides, white and pink single Pinks, Gentian, and Anemone coronaria produced a glorious and beautiful mass of colour.

J. Bernard Hall.
Preston Rectory, Lavenham, Suffolk.

Campanula Miranda

Referring to Mr. F. H. Fisher's note in the issue December 22nd, the actual date of Farrer's sending home this Campanula was 1903, not 1905. In "The English Rock Garden," page 244, speaking of Saxifraga, he states:—"S. æi. Rex. springs from one clump discovered among thousands of the finest sandstone type on the upper moraine of the Dossenhorn in 1903, and sent home in the same box that was also illustrated by Campanula Bellardii Miranda."

J. Henry Watson, F.E.S.
Withington, Manchester.

Iris stylosa

I should like to know if any of your readers have had the same experience that I have this winter with Iris stylosa. Early in the summer a correspondent in France wrote to your paper saying that growers would greatly increase their number of blooms by cutting down foliage at end of July and covering roots with glass until end of September. This I did, and, alas! instead of dozens, I have had single ones, in all only 17. The chief reason I cut them down was that last year the foliage was so thick that I lost several blooms trying to pick them.

Dorset.

A steep "alpine slope" facing north (Rosa Moyesii on the right) at Farnham Vicarage, Knaresborough, York

FLOWERS FROM SEEDS

Some of the lesser-grown Annuals

I HAVE often been struck when looking through the seed catalogues at the immense number of annuals that are listed and the few we see grown in English gardens. Most of them are easily cultivated, and a gay garden may be had for a very few shillings if an open situation is chosen and ample space is allowed so that each plant has room for development.

The following are what I consider some of the most useful, both hardy and half-hardy:—

ANAGALLIS (Pimpernel).—Large blue, half-hardy, growing about 6 inches in height. This will flower all the season in warm soils, and makes an excellent pot plant for the conservatory.

BALSAM, ROSE-FLOWERED, an old-fashioned half-hardy annual. Sow in pans in April and place in a frame, and plant out in June in rich soil. If carefully grown and potted on, and hardened off before being planted in their flowering quarters they will make fine plants and bloom until the frosts come again.

BARTONIA AUREA, a good hardy annual. Sow in the open in spring. The flowers are bright golden in colour and something like a Thistle. Height, 1 foot.

BRACHYCOME (Swan River Daisy), a bright little blue and white half-hardy annual with flowers something like a small Cineraria. Sow in boxes in frame and plant out in bold groups at the end of May.

CARNATIONS, ANNUAL, a really good strain of seed is most essential. Sow in cold frame in February and plant out when large enough. Excellent blooms may be cut in July.

CLARKIA ELEGANS.—Hardy. Height, 2 feet or more when well grown. This is one of the finest annuals for cutting. The varieties Scarlet Queen and Salmon Queen are, perhaps, the best. They look splendid under artificial light, and are most useful for table decoration. A little superphosphate of soda will work wonders given in small doses just before blooming time.

COCKSCOMB, a useful half-hardy annual for formal beds. Some good ones are generally to be seen in the Dutch garden at Kensington Palace. The Cockscombs look well associated with the feathered variety (Celosias) and such plants as Cineraria maritima. They should be sown in gentle heat and planted out in June.

COSMEA.—Half-hardy, growing 2 feet in height or more, with attractive feathery foliage and a flower like a single Dahlia. White, rose, and purple shades may be had, and also a double variety. They are most useful for cutting, and will bloom all the summer.

DIMORPHOTHECA AURANTIACA, a most charming annual from South Africa. It may be sown out of doors in April. It likes a lightish soil and a sunny situation. D. aurantiaca has rich orange, Marguerite-like blooms with a conspicuous black disc. The hybrids are also beautiful, and range through various shades of cream to almost rose. D. aurantiaca is very striking when associated with Nigella (Love-in-a-Mist) Miss Jekyll.

ESCHSCHOLTZIA.—Hardy. Height, 1 foot. Once sown they will come up year after year, but some of the newer varieties simply must be grown for their rich colouring. The best of these are Double Orange, Carter's Crimson Carmine, and the Geisha.

GODETIA. — Hardy. The double pink variety should be grown for cutting. Sow where the plants are to bloom and thin out to 9 inches apart at least.

HIBISCUS AFRICANUS.—Seldom grown, but it is a showy hardy annual with creamy-yellow flowers with purple markings. Height, 1½ feet.

LARKSPURS.—The tall Stock-flowered varieties are the best, and, to my mind, Rosy Scarlet the nicest colour. Sow where the plants are to bloom and thin out well.

LEPTOSIPHON.—The French hybrids are little gems for rockwork. Height, only 3 inches. Sow where they are to flower. The colours are orange, lilac, purple, crimson, white, and golden-yellow.

LEPTOSYNE STILLMANI, a beautiful annual from California, and is quite hardy, and will flower a few weeks after sowing. Height, 1½ feet. Flowers, pale golden-yellow on long stems. Suitable for cutting.

LIMNANTHES DOUGLASSI.—Hardy, with attractive foliage and yellow and white flowers. Height, 6 inches. It will grow anywhere and is an excellent bee plant. It makes a good edging and blooms in a few weeks from seed. It seeds itself rather too freely, but looks very pretty as an edging to a border of Shirley Poppies.

Ostrich Plume Aster

LINARIA (Toad Flax). — Pretty hardy annuals resembling miniature Antirrhinums. Height, 1 foot. Sow where plants are to flower in March and April.

LINUM (Flax).—The scarlet variety is the best. Sow in open in April. Height, 1 foot.

MARTYNIA FRAGRANS, sub-tropical, but quite easily grown. Sow in pots in frame in March, pot on and plant out on a warm border in June. The flowers resemble small purple Gloxinias and have a peculiar but not unpleasant scent.

MATTHIOLA BICORNIS (Night-scented Stock).—Hardy. Height, about 1 foot. Sow in spring and thin out well. This should be grown for its powerful but delicious scent, which fills the garden when the lilac flowers open at sundown.

NEMESIA.—Well-known half-hardy annuals most useful for bedding out. When well grown the variety Blue Gem has smaller flowers, but is a good pale Forget-me-not blue and makes a charming edging to a bed of pale yellow Antirrhinums.

PHACELIA CAMPANULARIA.—Quite hardy and one of the few annuals with flowers of a Gentian-blue. Some of the best I have s
were grown from seed sprinkled roun
large Rose bed last April. They were in
bloom in July. Slugs love it; that is
worst that can be said about it. Hei
6 inches.

SALPIGLOSSIS.—Half-hardy. Height,
feet. Sow in pans in frame, prick out
plant in beds at the end of May. To
mind this is one of the choicest of annu
the Petunia-like flowers are most artis
The colours are white, crimson, and pur

SCHIZANTHUS.—This is generally treated
a half-hardy annual, but I have obtai
good results by sowing in a sunny posit
out of doors in April. The Orchid-
flowers are altogether charming. Hei
1 foot to 1½ feet.

THUNBERGIA ALATA, a very pretty h
hardy climber or trailer with creamy flow
with a black centre. Sow under glass
spring and plant out in June in sunny p
tions. It looks very well in hanging-bask
or vases in the garden.

VISCARIA.—Hardy. Sow in spring wh
the plants are to bloom. Carter's Blue F
is the best variety and well worth growi
Height, 9 inches.

ZINNIAS.—Half-hardy. These are
treated like Asters. They are little gro
now, which seems a pity as their colours
most artistic. They make a splendid bec
a sunny spot.

For those fortunate people with
warm, sheltered gardens Gerbera James
might be grown. It is really a half-ha
perennial, but often does best when trea
as a half-hardy annual. It is a most
tractive plant with scarlet flowers
Marguerites and hails from the Transva

A. L. WARNE

Annual Asters

THE most fascinating pages in the se
men's catalogues now coming in
those which describe the newest varie
of the various forms of Asters. There
scarcely an annual, Sweet Peas except
that gives so varied an assortment of cha
ing shades, and for this reason the A
may well be regarded as everybody's flow
A well-conceived selection from the vari
classes will give a succession of blo
during the whole of August and Septem
and later as the weather dictates. As
door decorative flowers Asters are proba
unrivalled among late-flowering annuals,
their lasting qualities fully equal those of
majority of cutting flowers. For bedd
purposes the claims of Asters are well re
nised, and many attractive colour sche
may be devised by gardeners of taste.

It is difficult to say which are the
popular kinds of Asters nowadays, but
various strains of Comet and Ostrich Pl
are probably the most sought after, wh
the modern strain of single-flowered va
ties is very highly prized for cutt
Apart from their use as garden plants, As
may be utilised for pot culture in the gr
house or conservatory. Single plants gr
in 5-inch pots, or three placed together in
8-inch pot, are convenient methods of cult
The plants may be lifted from the
ground just before the buds are ready to
pand, taking care to ensure a good bal
earth to each plant. The compost shoul
fairly rich and the potting must be f
Nothing is gained by sowing Aster seed
early. From the end of April to the mi
of May is a good time for outdoor sow
whilst the seed may be sown a little ea
where frames are used for this purpose.

H. GREAVE

FLOWERS FROM SEEDS

1. China Asters in woodland at Kew.
2. Nemesia, dark crimson.
3. Iceland Poppies (Papaver nudicaule).
4. Mont Blanc, a ten-week double-flowered Stock.
5. Chrysanthemum tricolor.
6. Cosmos or Cosmea, invaluable for table decoration. Early flowering strains only should be grown.
7. A fine bunch of the new Sweet Pea Dawn, salmon-pink, flushed orange.

RESTORING THE GARDEN WITH ANNUALS

Ornamental grasses

MANY of the ornamental grasses are well worthy of cultivation, whether for garden embellishment or for cut decoration purposes. Most border flowers are enhanced in grace by arranging some of the feathery and light varieties in the arrangement. Most of these grasses are not too particular as to soils, aspects, or surroundings.

Agrostis nebulosa, a beautiful feathery grass and most useful for bouquets and table decorations.

Stipa pennata (Feather Grass), a favourite border and decorative grass, lending its plumes most effectively in bouquets or Sweet Pea blooms.

Hordeum jubatum (Squirrel's Tail), a fine border grass with flower plumes similar to the tail of a squirrel.

Briza maxima and B. gracilis (Quaking Grass), an elegant and pretty grass, everyone's favourite, and most adaptable for arranging with Carnations and other flowers. Growing about 18 inches high, whilst patches or clumps introduced on bare places in the herbaceous or Rose border always command admiration.

Tricholæna rosea, a pretty grass with spikes tinged with rose and growing about 2 feet high. Will be found charming for table decorations.

Pennisetum longistylum, a perennial grass of great beauty and easily raised from seed. The flower-spikes are feathery and about 24 inches high, whilst their habit is graceful and elegant.

Eragrostis elegans (Love Grass), one of the most useful of all the annual grasses, and valuable for its use in lending a charm and pleasing effect when mixed with Sweet Peas and other flowers of a light nature.

Bromus brizæformis, a useful border grass growing about 12 inches high and useful for vase and table decoration. Will grow in most soils and any situation.

Coix lachryma (Job's Tears), an interesting grass with curious seeds often used as beads.

Chloris barbatus and C. elegans are useful border and bouquet grasses growing about 12 inches high. G. L.

Everlasting flowers

In my early days in the supervision of large gardens one of my most useful ventures was the growing of everlasting flowers, and needless to remark many of these pretty objects were found most useful for winter decoration especially in the nursery or library.

These everlasting flowers were generally cut before being too advanced, and preserved in the fruit room, and bring to mind using Rhodanthe rosea and R. Manglesii as a table decoration on December 18th to seat 35 guests, after a large pheasant shooting. The colour scheme was admired by everyone; the great, late Duke of Cambridge was one of the party, this being about 34 years ago.

The varieties I recommend for cut flower purposes are Rhodanthe Manglesii (rose and yellow), Maculata (rose with dark ring),
Maculata alba (white), and rosea.
chrysum Fireball, Golden Ball, and brac
tum are well known everlasting flowers,
retain their fresh colours for a long pe
Acroclinium roseum, album, and flore
are all pretty everlastings. Globe Ama
thus (white) and the orange-coloured var
Aurantiaca, are worthy of cultivation.

Xeranthemum annuum, various shade
a most useful flower, Statice sinnata,
Suworowii can be added to the everlas
flora, and highly recommended as being
excellence for decorative purposes.

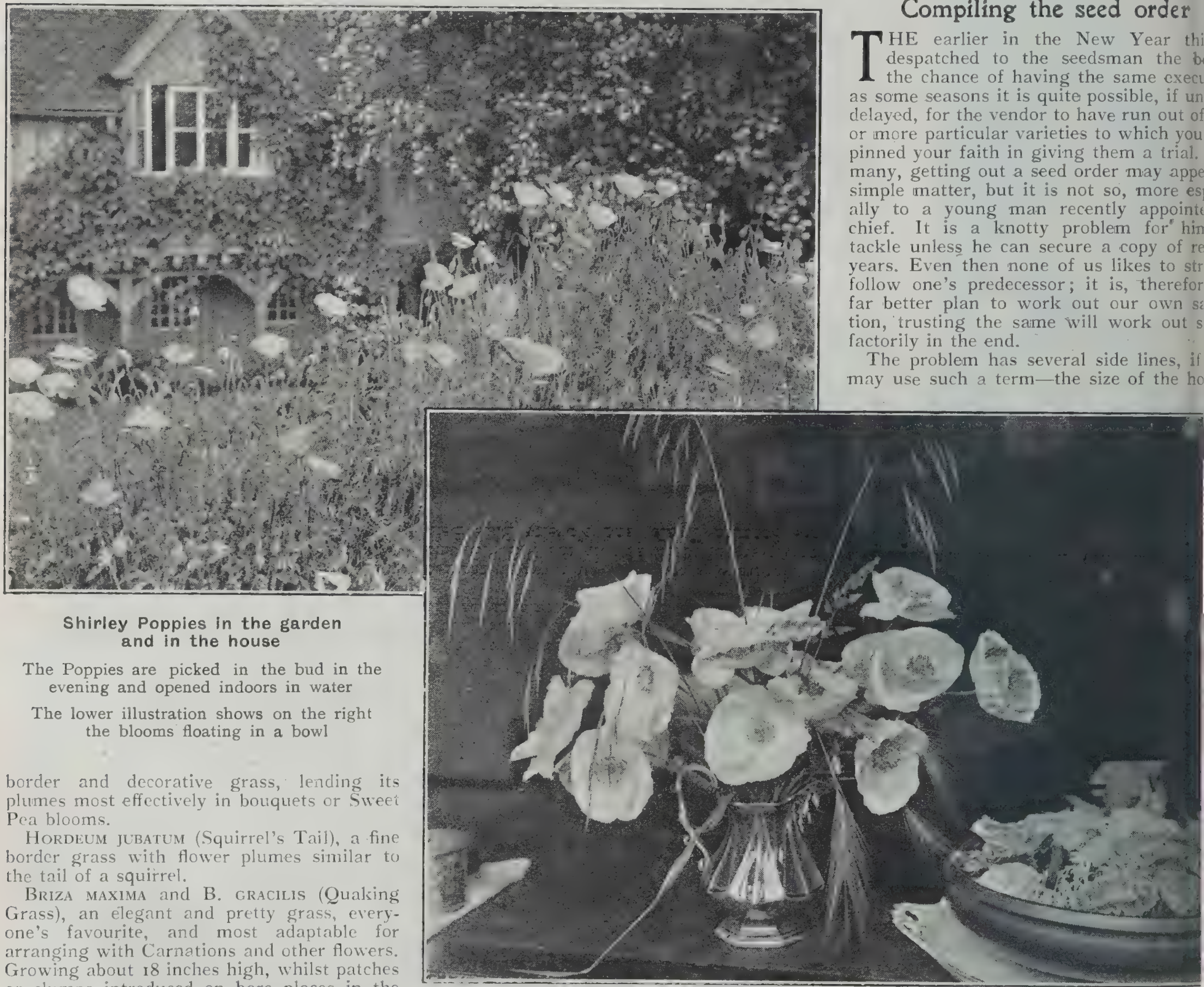
All will thrive in good ordinary ga
soils. G.

Compiling the seed order

THE earlier in the New Year thi
despatched to the seedsman the b
the chance of having the same execu
as some seasons it is quite possible, if un
delayed, for the vendor to have run out of
or more particular varieties to which you
pinned your faith in giving them a trial.
many, getting out a seed order may appe
simple matter, but it is not so, more es
ally to a young man recently appointe
chief. It is a knotty problem for him
tackle unless he can secure a copy of re
years. Even then none of us likes to str
follow one's predecessor; it is, therefor
far better plan to work out our own s
tion, trusting the same will work out s
factorily in the end.

The problem has several side lines, if
may use such a term—the size of the ho
hold, how long such are in residence, o
absent for any length of time, whether
plies are expected to be sent on to them,
finally, the size of the garden for vegeta
and flower seeds respectively, and, as pr
ously remarked, it requires well thinking
before finally committing it to pen and pa

We should also study the soil and situa
we have to contend with, especially in v
table culture, some varieties thriving
while, on the other hand, others may pro
partial failure; and this brings me to
question of novelties. While not in the l
condemning such (if it were not for them
should never make progress), it is decid
best not to rely on them for a crop until



Shirley Poppies in the garden and in the house

The Poppies are picked in the bud in the evening and opened indoors in water

The lower illustration shows on the right the blooms floating in a bowl

d out by testing whether they are suitable
your locality and an improvement on older
rieties. It is only by this method, com-
ned with good culture, you can really decide
nether such have come up to the standard
had hoped for. Men who have had long
perience in gardening know only too well
behaviour of the Potato, giving full satis-
tion in certain gardens, in others, pro-
ly a different soil, proving an utter failure.
obably this vegetable is the worst offender,
edible Peas are frequently known to act
etty much in the same way, so that we
ist study this question thoroughly from
start, and as regards novelties, doubtless
ey have proved them to be a decided im-
ovement on existing varieties, whether it
vegetable or flower. We should still re-
mber that they may prove unsatisfactory
der our culture. It should have been re-
arked earlier in these notes the propriety of
nsulting your employers as to their likes or
likes before filling in the list of require-
nts for the ensuing year; we all of us
ve different tastes as well as ideas. We
ist also study the earliness as well as late-
ss as regards vegetables, especially Peas,
uliflower, Turnips, Potatoes, Cabbage,
d Broccoli. It is galling to be told your
ighbour has gathered his first dish of Peas
cut his first Cauliflower. Earliness is
idied more than lateness by one's employer;
the latter one is at the mercy of the ele-
nts more than early summer, though at
nes we have cause to complain even then.

In the matter of seeds, it is always ad-
able to procure them from a reliable firm
you pay a trifle more for them. You feel
ey are true to name, and can depend, with
eful culture and little details, that germina-
n will be sure. The saving of one's seed
sens the seed order, but it should only be
ictised when the strain is exceptionally
od, while respecting the Potato, it is ad-
able to change the tubers fairly often that
ve been graded for seed purposes, and it is
imed that Scottish seed on its early ripen-
produces excellent crops capable of re-
ting disease to a very great extent; at all
nts, seeds from over the border certainly
ld good crops, choosing immune varieties
possible.

It should be borne in mind better results
rue when crops intended for seed purposes
grown widely apart if their true charac-
is to be maintained. This applies to
wers as well as vegetables. There is a
od deal of labour attached to seed-saving
d needs placing in reliable hands, and,
er all is said and done, it is our duty to
pport the trade as much as we can. They
roughly know their business, and have
ery convenience for cleansing the seed of
foreign matter, which few amateurs have.

J. MAYNE.

axifraga longifolia and S. cotyledon pyramidalis

The two Rockfoils mentioned above are,
my mind, two of the loveliest of the sec-
n. Saxifraga cotyledon pyramidalis bears
bust, erect sprays from 1 foot to 4 feet long,
th crimson-speckled flowers, most useful
cutting purposes or giving effect, most
arming in the garden. A sweet and well-
ained compost must be given to this
serving plant. Saxifraga longifolia,
ghtly termed the "Queen of Saxifrages,"
the splendid acquisition introduced from
e Pyrenees. The large, expanded rosettes
e always attractive, and a well-grown plant
flower, with the large pyramidal truss of
oom, is most beautiful.

When buying, it would be well to order a
o-year-old plant, as the yearlings will not
loom until they have been established a
ason.

G. L.

Outstanding Novelties Among Seeds

PRACTICALLY all the seed lists issued by the leading firms now have a special section devoted to attractive novelties. It would occupy a considerable amount of space to deal with these fully, so that only a few selections are possible.

Of all the annuals scheduled in the various lists probably novelties among Sweet Peas are the greatest in number. Flaming June is a fine scarlet-cerise which revels in the strongest sunshine and does not show any inclination to burn. It received an Award of Merit and was reserved for the Gold Medal for 1929 at the trials of the N.S.P.S., 1928. Both for exhibition and garden decoration it is an outstanding novelty. This is one of the novelties listed by Carters.

Sweet Pea Flaming June—a fine scarlet-cerise, reserved for the N.S.P.S. Gold Medal, 1929

Sutton's Scarlet Glow, Dawn, and Pink Delight are three excellent new Sweet Peas from Reading. They are all first-class varieties for exhibition. Dawn is a particularly vigorous salmon-pink and is said to be the strongest grown of this colour.

Montrose, a solid rose-pink, which secured an Award of Merit at both the N.S.P.S. and the Scottish Trials, and Novelty Blue Bell, said to be the finest blue Sweet Pea, are two attractions offered by Bolton and Son.

Among the novelties listed by Unwins are a dozen choice varieties of special merit, the outstanding one of which is, perhaps, Mrs. A. Searles, a new shade which might best be described as warm cerise-salmon with a golden glow. It is a most charming colour both by day and artificial light. Toogoods include some attractive new varieties, among which are Huntsman and Tom Webster, both of which secured Awards of Merit. The first is a rich shade of scarlet and the other a medium deep blue. Robert Sydenham, Ltd., have a dozen novelties the merits of which are detailed in their list.

Among Gaillardias is The King, which Ryders are offering. The flowers are immense and wonderfully brilliant. It blooms over a long period and is very conspicuous.

G. grandiflora Portola Hybrids is a new strain which bears flowers of a very large size, ranging in colour through the shades of bronzy-red. It has the robust origin of the well-known Portola variety. This latter is listed by Toogoods. Webbs, of Stourbridge, are now offering their new Sunshine Aster, a most attractive variety which is worthy of special notice.

J. R. Pearson and Sons, Ltd., tell us they have now a seed farm in Essex where they are growing highly selected stocks of vegetable and flower seeds. Sweet Peas are receiving special attention, and the crop in 1928 was a particularly good one. Mr. A. J. Pearson is managing this Essex farm, and during the few years he has been at the work he has already made great improvements upon many stocks of flower seeds. No less than seven pages in Dobbie and Co., Ltd.'s, catalogues are devoted to seed novelties of various kinds, and they include some very distinct strains, many of which are a great advance on old varieties and are, therefore, worth attention.

Ryders are offering seeds of Adonis Aleppica The Flame of the East. It is a glorious subject of a vivid colour, almost the shade of Anemone fulgens. The flowers are from 2 inches to 2½ inches across, of the same shape as Cosmos, and are splendid for cutting. Best results are secured by soaking the seed for four to six days, then sowing in light soil without allowing them to dry.

Narcissus Dawn (N. poeticus x triandrus) in the rock garden

Among vegetables, Webbs' new Macbeth Castle Potato has a combination of qualities which put it in the foremost rank. Ryders' Golden Wonder is a new dwarf French Bean the pods of which are long, fleshy, stringless, and of a delightful golden colour. It is an excellent cropper and particularly early. Carters have renamed their Solid Giant Tomato Carters' Fruit Tomato, as the flesh is more solid than last season's selection. It is said to peel like a Peach, and can be eaten raw like an Apple.

Some new and noteworthy flower seeds for 1929

MANY garden lovers are now on the look-out for some novelties and little-known plants which may be raised from seed, and already many seed lists are being distributed. Those who do not mind some trouble and are willing to wait for results can obtain many well-known Lilies from seed and also a large number of Irises. The seed of the very best-named Delphiniums can also be purchased, and some of the resulting seedlings may possibly eclipse the beauty of their parents.

In choosing our seeds those suitable for the rock garden should not be forgotten, and amongst those suggested for sowing in it the following are given:—The Violet Cress (Ionopsidium acaule), most useful for quickly clothing bare spaces and doing well in the shade. For growing in full sun we have the beautiful Portulacas and Phacelia campanulata, with its Gentian-blue bells. Then we have the dwarf Linarias, Meconopsis cambrica, Cheiranthus Allionii, Erinus alpinus, Silene alpestris, and many other small annuals, which will give colour and interest to the rock garden after Alpine perennials and early-flowering bulbs are over.

The Dianthuses are particularly suited for a place here, and one of the most easy to raise from seed is D. Hybridus Highland Queen. It produces a succession of large crimson flowers over a long period. Most of us are familiar with the old Gilea tricolor; Gilea Californica is also offered. After having been nearly lost to cultivation it has been introduced again. It grows about 3 feet high and bears handsome spikes of pink flowers. It is best raised from seed sown under cover in the early autumn and planted out in its flowering quarters early in the following summer. Another delightful plant shown as a novelty at the last R.H.S. "Chelsea" is the Ranunculus Lyalli, native of New Zealand (see illustration, page 36). It throws up glossy leaves and a stout, branching stem bearing a number of many-petalled flowers of ivory-white with striking golden anthers. The fleshy rhizomes of this plant made it most difficult to import, but when raised from seed fine specimens may be obtained. It should be grown in light, well-drained soil and in partial shade.

Among the many interesting species of the Primrose family the giant Primula Florindæ, discovered by Capt. Kingdon Ward in Central Asia, must certainly be noted. It attains 3 feet or more in height, and in July and August bears as many as 60 to 80 yellow pendant blossoms. Primula malacoides Snow Queen is a fine new variety bearing more numerous and larger flowers than old alba. Primula anisidora is of japonica type, producing blossoms as l as a sixpenny bit in whorls of a rich mar crimson tint. It is said to be of quite culture. Primula Burmanica bears wh of still larger flowers of a rosy-purple sh

We make no apology for mentioning name of the incomparable Meconopsis Bail which was one of the outstanding feat of 1928. This lovely plant, discovered Kingdon Ward in Thibet, is certainly on the finest additions to our garden plant recent years. We may surely be excused again drawing attention to a last ye novelty, the great Guatemala Dahlia, Maxoni, which attains the height of 10 and produces a dozen rosy-lilac flowers expanding together on the same st Gentiana Farreri, with its lovely Cambri blue flowers, must also be noted.

Some years ago a fine Calceolaria nar Albert Kent was sent out, and we have offered us the Albert Kent Hybrids, in wh there are a dozen or more different col ings. The plants produce large trusses blossom and are most useful for indoor outdoor decoration.

We also have some new Eschscholtz The drawback to the older varieties their straggly and untidy habit of grow but Enchantress is a variety with double crimson flowers on a compact, erect-grow plant. Buttercup has the same habit growth, with double yellow blossoms, Moonlight is another charming yell flowered variety.

The fine Feltham strain of Orier Poppies are well worth growing from se There are no black blotches at the base the petals, and the great globular blosso are of many delightful soft colourings va ing from pink, salmon, apricot, to oran scarlet, and crimson. Lupins are also lightful things to raise from seed, as th are so many colours to be found amon them. Last, but not least, we have our friend, the Pot Marigold, introduced to in a new form, for in Calendula officin flore-pleno Radio we have a wonder quilled flower giving quite a different appe ance to the blossom to those of the type. is a novelty that will very soon attain gr popularity.

The double-flowered Wallflower Ea Wonder can now be obtained in all colours of the old double Wallflowers, and sown in the autumn they will begin blo ing in four or five months, and success sowings should be made. This strain is result of a cross between the old dou flowered varieties and the Paris ann Wallflower. These are but a few of plants to be raised by seed listed amon the best novelties of 1929, and the list mi be very greatly extended; but in conclus we should like to mention the beauti Chinese Aster Delavayi, with its gr lavender-tinted flower.

Sweet-scented flowers

Garden lovers are in the minority who not acclaim their choice for scented flowe

The following kinds and varieties grow in any garden, whilst the pleasing f grance of various degrees should satisfy most fastidious.

Schizopetalon Walkeri, a beautiful annu and as a cut flower subject is well worthy cultivation; flowers white, fringed, nig scented, growing about a foot high.

Matthiola bicornis (Night-Scented Sto should be sown in patches, when the night will be permeated with a delightful perfum

Mignonette Orange Queen, Goliath, a Miles Spiral will be found some of the b rieties to introduce to the borders and ds, also for cut flower purposes.

Dracocephalum Moldavicum produces long kes of violet flowers, bushy in habit, and a y compact plant for the border.

ilia Snow Queen, a useful, fragrant riety, continuing in bloom a long time, and request for cutting purposes.

Silene Armeria (spice-scented) and Silene entalis (clove-scented), growing about 12 hes high, and known as Lobel's Catchfly.

Hesperis and its varieties are useful to w for their fragrance and use for decoran; commonly known as Sweet Rocket.

Centaurea moschata (Sweet Sultan) The idegroom, a lovely flower for cutting purses, the colour being a lovely heliotrope, th a delightful fragrance. This Sweet ltan is worthy of a place in every garden, matter how small.

Erysimum Peroffskianum, a showy cut-wer annual, producing flowers deep orange colour, growing about 15 inches high, with fragrance most pleasing.

Malva moschata, a useful plant for out-the-way corners or poor soils, its pretty wers of rose pink being very effective in ces where flowers are least expected to ive. There is a white form of the above ich can be associated with it in growth.

G. L.

Daffodils for the rock garden

F we except the well-known miniature species and wild forms of Narcissus it is very difficult to find any that are of a size fit in with the rightful inhabitants of a all rock garden. Even the beautiful tural hybrid, Queen of Spain, looks like lliver among the Lilliputians when towerg over a colony of Kabschia Saxifrages. e Hoop-petticoat and triandrus forms are t always easily pleased with the lodgings ovided for them, and tend to die out rather an increase.

The best of all to associate with the choice gmy population of the scree bed (*née* oraine) is the Pyrenean N. juncifolius. ould that others possessed such slender sh-like leaves, such dwarf flower-stalks, d also rejoiced as freely in the sharp draine and summer ripening provided by the tty soil! I find under such conditions it ds itself about freely. On larger ledges half-shade, where such plants as Anemone nda, Hepatica, and the choicer forms of morosa are at home, a little irregular oup or drift of a taller Daffodil would be ll placed. Nothing better could be chosen n a beautiful cross between a poeticus m and N. cyclamineus raised by Mr. P. D. illiams and named Beryl.

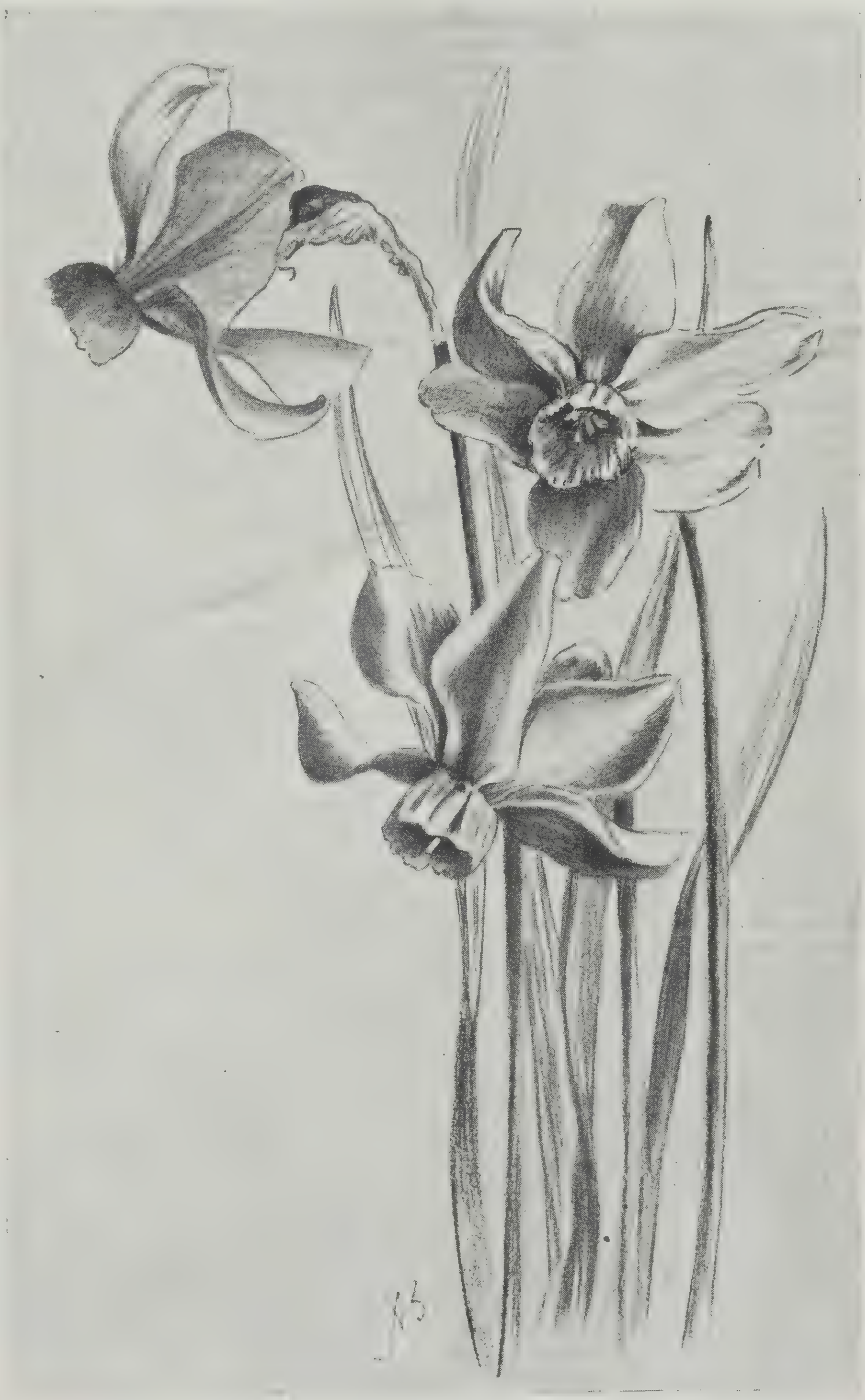
The charm of a recurved perianth is inrited from cyclamineus, but the kicking-rse expression of that parent has been anged into a graceful curve more like that a Turk's-cap Lily. Poeticus blood (or ght we not to say sap?) is shown in the ndness of the perianth segments and also orange rim of the cup. When freshly ned the flowers are of a clear, bright low, which grows paler day by day, and, frosts are about, more rapidly night by ht. Even in those springs which are so ing to Daffodils, when hot days succeed d nights, this growing pallor of Beryl does look faded, or "over-worn" as Parkinn would have written. Both growing on plant and cut for a small vase, the const of the bleached, older blooms with re recently opened and brighter ones is y pleasing, and as Beryl inherits the long al life of cyclamineus it is good to see a fortnight or more both in the garden d house.

E. A. Bowles.

Cotoneaster humifusa

There is a wonderful wealth of material for the garden among the Cotoneasters, but much of it remains unrecognised. They vary from little creeping shrubs to tall, tree-like plants such as C. frigida. For the rock garden or bank where there is plenty of room C. humifusa is a species of notable merit. It is not recommended where space is limited, but there are many gardens with large rocks or bare banks, where its presence would be a decided acquisition. It is a very low-growing species, rarely rising more than 6 inches above the surface of the rock, but forming a big prostrate mat of much beauty. The shining leaves are evergreen, and in late spring or early summer it bears a number of white flowers, which are succeeded by berries of coral red. I have in my garden one plant trailing over large stones close to a moraine, and another occupying a similar position in the rock garden, and this Cotoneaster attractive in both. C. humifusa is hardy, and is not at all particular as to soil or position. It is increased by cuttings or by berries.

S. A.



[*From a Drawing by E. A. Bowles.*

Beryl

Winter flowering Begonias

All Begonias should be cut back immediately their flowers are over and placed in a cool house. The plants should be kept on the dry side and as close up to the glass as possible. Syringing between the pots occasionally will encourage the development of sturdy young growths, which will be needed for cuttings later.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Shrubs for forcing

These may now be introduced to gentle warmth, a temperature of 45 degs. to 50 degs. being ample for the first 10 days, following which a gradual rise may be given until 60 degs. has been reached. To force unduly is to render the buds of Azaleas and Rhododendrons blind, and even those subjects which do respond to high temperatures are miserable specimens compared with those brought along more naturally. In addition to the above the following are very desirable for indoor decoration when forced:—Prunus triloba flore-pleno, Lilacs, Genista fragrans, Staphylea colchica, Deutzia gracilis, Magnolias, Wistaria sinensis, Cytisus Andreanus, Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora, Viburnum opulus sterile, and V. plicatum. As the plants begin to show colour they should be removed to cooler quarters, where their colour and strength will develop more prominently.

Arum Lilies

Strong and well-established plants which are now developing flower-spikes will benefit greatly from applications of diluted manure-water. These respond to gentle forcing freely, and where quantities are grown it is advisable to introduce them in batches, reserving a few at least for use during Eastertide, when their fine blooms are so precious. Such as these must be kept in a cool greenhouse temperature of about 45 degs. to 50 degs.

Lily of the Valley

Pot up retarded crowns every fortnight and so keep up a constant supply of cut bloom. These take about 21 days to force into bloom, but it is always advisable to allow the plants a week at least in a cooler temperature before cutting, as the leaves become greener and harder, and the flower-stems longer and stronger, enabling them to stand much longer—whether as cut flowers or otherwise—in rooms.

Bulbs for forcing

Remove these from the plunging ground when their growth is seen to be from 2 inches to 2½ inches in height, and place in cool frames for the time being; expose to the light gradually and give air freely after the first week. In about 10 days some of the earliest kinds may be placed in the forcing-house, and from this date no difficulty should be experienced in maintaining a constant supply of bloom. Though not generally grown in this way Friesias do remarkably well when started beneath a bed of ashes, such as are used for Tulips, Narcissus, etc.

Fruit trees

Planting should only be carried out when the soil is in good working order. Positions, however, may be prepared beforehand, the ground being trenched to a depth of 3 feet. All poor material should be cast aside and good fresh loam brought in where required. No manure should be used, but it is necessary to make up the stations with a good substantial loam, as such positions, once prepared in this way, will require no further attention for several years. Bring forward planting arrears on all convenient occasions, although there is still much time ahead for planting fruit trees and bushes.

Raspberries

Examine the supports of these, making renewals where necessary, and at the same time the future netting of the canes should not be lost sight of, and if the supports are carried a foot or 18 inches higher than required for the canes and a wire strained from post to post netting is quickly accomplished at a time when every hour is precious. Thin out the canes finally to about 1 foot apart and tie firmly those remaining. Apply a dressing of well-matured farmyard manure and no further care will be required until the spring.

Spring Cabbage

These are very promising, and an opportunity should be seized when the soil moves freely to draw up a little around the stems to prevent the plants being twisted by rough winds.

Hardy Lettuce

Stir up the soil between the plants so as to encourage a stocky hard growth, and at intervals dust a little soot and lime between the plants.

Vermin

During the long dark hours much damage may be done to bulbs and other choice subjects by mice and rabbits. I recently discovered mice stripping both leaves and flowers from a specimen of Clematis Forrestii. Trapping must be freely indulged in. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Spring Cabbages

As soon as the soil gets into a workable condition the autumn-planted Cabbages should have attention. Remove any dead foliage and then well break the surface with a Dutch hoe. A dusting under the plants of lime is not only excellent for discouraging slugs and other vermin, but is, also, good for the Cabbages. To ensure a succession to these autumn-raised plants a small sowing of some fast-growing variety, like Dickson's First and Best, can be commended. Sow in a box and set in a very gentle warmth.

Earliest Peas

Where space is available, say, in a Peach-house, a sowing of Peas may now be made in boxes or pots. To encourage sturdy, firm growth a minimum of fire heat only must be given, for to force on growth at this season is to ask for trouble later. Look out for mice, these little pests being very partial to the seeds of Peas of all kinds.

Prepare ground for Asparagus

Should it be contemplated to lay down fresh beds of this esteemed vegetable it is important to have the site for the new beds thoroughly prepared some time in advance of either sowing or planting. A generous supply of well-rotted farmyard manure should be given and the ground either trenched or double-dug, leaving the surface as rough as possible to permit of the sun and frost pulverising and sweetening it to as great a depth as possible.

Maincrop Tomatoes

Very early sowing is seldom advisable except for the raising of a few plants to provide a few early fruits, as, with the short, sunless days, the growth is, usually, lanky and long-jointed, with, of course, a rather sparse crop. By sowing from now on till the end of the month the little seedlings, when they appear, have the benefit of more daylight, and, with the spring "feel" in the air, make much sturdier and more fruitful plants. A temperature of about 60 degs. is necessary if good results are to be looked for.

Sweet Peas

The sowing of full stocks of this pop
annual should now be proceeded with,
even for garden decoration and the pro
tion of cut flowers for house adornmen
pays to raise the plants under glass. St
heat is neither necessary nor advisab
house or pit having a temperature of f
50 degs. to 55 degs. suiting admirably,
even a cold frame gives excellent res
although, of course, germination is m
slower. Good but not unduly rich
should be provided, and either boxes or
used. The former are least trouble, and
quite satisfactory results.

Lobelias from seed

The dwarf bedding Lobelias, when ra
from seed, may not be just always enti
uniform in habit or shade of colour, but
less entire uniformity is absolutely neces
the seedling plants have much to comm
them. They are usually very strong, st
growers, and withstand stormy wea
better than those do that are raised f
cuttings. Sow the seeds thinly and ev
in pans or boxes of light, sandy compost,
set in a temperature of something like
degs. Damping in the earlier stages is so
times troublesome, but thin sowing h
considerably to prevent this trouble setting

Gloxinias for early blooming

Some of the best tubers should now
placed either in small pots or in boxes f
with a light compost (mainly leaf-mould
sand). They should only be just covered,
if set in a house having a fairly steady t
perature of 65 degs. to 70 degs. growth
soon start away, and when once this
moving nicely the plants should be potted
and kept growing away freely.

Young plants for an early display

While the method described above will
a fairly early display of bloom, both ear
and finer flowers are had if young, unbloo
plants are brought on for this purpose.
have these, seeds should be sown during
first half of March and the resulting pl
grown steadily on all summer and autu
They should not bloom, but be kept mov
slowly all winter. About September
plants will be fit for 5-inch pots, and i
these they should occupy all winter. Wa
ing during the dark months must be
carefully carried out, for although they sho
never be allowed to flag from dryness at
root, it is of even more importance not
give too much water, or damping is pr
certain. About the middle of February
shift into 7-inch pots should be given,
cient drainage, and rich, fresh compost be
provided. If placed in a genial warmth
65 degs. to 70 degs. the plants will g
away rapidly and begin to throw up g
quantities of grand flowers in an amazin
short time.

Prepare for planting Roses

Owing to the very wet autumn experien
in many districts here in the north it
most difficult to proceed satisfactorily w
the planting of Roses, and many growers
to postpone this important duty until spri
Where this was the case it would now
well to have the beds richly manured
double-dug or trenched, so that all may b
readiness when a favourable opportunity
curs to have the actual planting carried o
Unless followed by a very dry or very c
spring Roses planted in February or the f
half of March generally succeed quite as w
as if put in in autumn. C. BLAIR

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Gartenschönheit

VER since men have taken an interest in
gardens it has been continually pointed
out that the characteristic feature of a
len should be beauty. This idea is sug-
ed by the title of the periodical under
ce, "Gartenschönheit" (the beauty of the
len). The paper itself, however, is sym-
cal of that essential characteristic of a
len. For its production is a work of art.
whole periodical is produced on art
er, which probably enhances the attrac-
ness of already beautiful photographs.
photographs are of course primarily re-
luced to illustrate the letterpress, but
e, it seems, are included for their artistic
e—which, we may add, is frequently very
n. Several pages of reproduction of
ured photographs are a constant feature.
majority of the illustrations are in black
white.

he periodical is described on the title page
' an illustrated periodical for the amateur
he professional garden and flower lover."
paper makes a strong appeal to the Ger-
reading public of Great Britain. Espe-
y in view of the fact that things English
ive prominent attention. In one of its
ures it embodies a doctrine which Eng-
men sometimes fail to realise, that men
nations can learn from each other. Under
title of "The Latest Gleanings from the
t of the World," short notices are col-
ed of the leading articles in the world's
horticultural papers. In the section de-
d to England we are glad to note that
DENING ILLUSTRATED is regularly men-
ed.

addition, the world outside Germany re-
es due recognition in the general articles
he paper. In a recent number, for ex-
le, an article appeared on Kew Gardens.
writer, by his description of the gardens,
a handsome tribute to all those who have
responsible for the development of the
lens from their inception to the present
Adverse criticism, however, does ap-
After pointing out that Kew com-
ds the respect of the world through its
evement of a century and a half, the
hor goes on to say that there is a ten-
y at the present day for Kew to rest on
aurels. On the other hand, towards the
of the article, he says: "If, however, we
much, and if there is much that cannot
al to us, yet on the whole we must be
ll with admiration and astonishment at
Briton's knowledge of plants and his
for the plant world, which is so well
trated in Kew." A flattering and—we
also—a true statement!

the same number we notice, among
rs, articles on "Carpets of Flowers"
tunteppiche), by Gustav Allingen;
olets" (Veilchen), by M. Geier;
odern Garden Romanticism" (Moderne
enremantik), by Gustav Brandes;
opical Gardens" (Tropische Gärten);
n the Mythology of the Mistletoe" (Uber
Mythologie der Mistel).

e selection of subjects is fortunately any-
ig but stereotyped. In a later number,
r example, an article appeared with the
ous title of "Winter Idyll of the Garden."
particular idyll here described, for the
efit of those who regret the passing of
beauties that spring and summer bring
them, is that quite different but no
pleasant appearance of the garden under
influence of Jack Frost.

ch then is "Gartenschönheit." Ger-
y has given to the world much that is
d, and this periodical is in line with the
that has been produced in the past.

R. BROWN.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

ORCHIDS

Lycaste Skinneri

Quite a small plant of Lycaste Skinneri has thrown up six spikes of bloom from one bulb only, one spike being fully out at the present time. Do you consider this number too many for a small plant having two back bulbs only, and would you advise taking any away so as not to weaken the plant for blooming another year?

Esher. SUBSCRIBER.

[For a small plant there are too many blooms, but their presence shows your treatment is right. Cut each flower after it has fully opened. They will last well in water, and you will have the pleasure of them without stressing the plant. When larger the plant can bear six or more blooms from one bulb with impunity.]

Dividing Cypripedium insigne

I have several large pots of Cypripedium insigne which have all bloomed fairly well this year. One of these plants is getting very large, and must measure almost 2 feet across, and I am rather inclined to divide this large plant, and should be glad to have your opinion regarding soil and time to divide. These plants are growing with a various collection of other plants in a winter temperature of not less than 50 degs. to 55 degs.

Esher. SUBSCRIBER.

[The better time to divide the plant with your temperature would be in March. With 60 degs. division and repotting could be effected now. For compost use three parts good fibrous loam from which all the fine soil has been well sifted, one part of good peat or Osmunda fibre—the better material—and Sphagnum Moss chopped into inch lengths. Add finely broken red brick or potsherds, more or less according to the retentive nature of the loam, but sufficient to keep the compost sweet and open. Mix well together. After repotting do not water for two or three days.]

GREENHOUSE

Cyclamen maggot

(B. A. Wolryche-Whitmore).—The control of weevil maggots at the roots of Cyclamen is difficult. You might try the effect of giving a very light dressing of powdered naphthalene to each pot and then watering it in. These maggots eventually become weevils, and when in this stage should be trapped by placing loose heaps of hay about the places which they frequent. Soil treatment for infested pots is at present very largely experimental. Worms in flower-pots can be removed by watering the infested pots with clear lime-water. To prepare this solution take 1 lb. of good lump quicklime and add enough water to slake it, then add a little more water to make the slaked lime into a paste; finally add 10 gallons of water and stir well. Allow the mixture of lime and water to settle down, and pour the clear liquid into another container. Water each plant infested with worms with the clear lime-water, and when the worms come to the surface they should be removed by hand and destroyed. Repeat the watering with clear lime-water as often as is necessary to obtain control.

Unsatisfactory Poinsettias

I should be pleased if you could tell me why my Poinsettias did not flower properly (about half to what they should). I cut down the old ones February, 1928, and grew them on the single stem, also had some young ones when cuttings were produced. The soil for final potting (6-inch pots) consists of one-half loam, one-quarter leaf-mould, one-quarter horse droppings, sand, a dash of soot, and bone-meal. I gave them plenty of air through August to harden and put them in the intermediate-house (heat 55 degs.). During the second week of September I gave them a pinch of artificial manure and watered twice with soot-water. The plants made growth (7 feet to 8 feet) with stems thicker than one's finger (large). After making such growth I expected them to produce bracts, but was disappointed. F. E. F.

[The plain truth is that your Poinsettias have been much too liberally treated. This has caused them to grow over-luxuriantly, and, as a matter of course, the bracts have been spoiled. In future omit the stimulating materials, such as horse droppings or artificial manures, in the compost at all stages. Good turfy loam three parts, leaf-mould one part, a little sand, and some mortar rubbish ought to suffice until the bracts are well developed. Afterwards weak liquid-manure or half an ounce of any good chemical fertiliser dissolved in a gallon of soft water and applied twice weekly would assist in the development. Pots 5 inches and 6 inches in diameter are quite large enough, otherwise the treatment afforded to the plants could not be improved upon.]

FLOWER GARDEN

Making an herbaceous border and shrubbery

I am making a new herbaceous border about 50 feet by 8 feet, also a shrub border about 56 feet by 10 feet, and shall be glad to know about how far apart in each case the plants should be put. A. M. B.

[It is impossible to answer this question without knowing what shrubs and plants are to be used. Various shrubs require to be spaced from 1 foot to 8 feet apart, and border plants may need anything between 6 inches and 18 inches. The shrub sent for identification is a Pernettya, a very useful dwarf shrub, especially in light soils. The one most commonly grown is P. mucronata, commonly known to nurserymen as P. speciosa. It has red berries. Some varieties raised some years ago by a nurseryman in Ireland, known as Davis's berried Pernettyas, are much to be recommended. The berries are larger and more numerous, and are in a variety of colourings—red, white, and pink; all desirable.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Raising Spruce Firs

(Spruce).—Spruce is always raised from seeds, but unless a large number is required it is more profitable to purchase such than to raise seedlings. The work in connection with the latter method entails a considerable amount of labour. Briefly, prepare a bed 3 feet 6 inches in width and as long as may be necessary. Dig deeply, pulverising the soil very thoroughly, then throw 4 inches of the surface soil to either side of the bed, afterwards rolling the latter with a fairly heavy roller. The seeds may then be sown broadcast and covered lightly with the soil which was removed. Rake the surface smoothly. It is advised that the seeds be damped and well coated with red lead before sowing, and if the bed is accessible to rabbits it is necessary to enclose it with wire netting. The seedlings will not be ready for transplanting for two years, as, in its early stages, Spruce is rather slow in growth. Sitka Spruce grows more quickly than the native sort. The seedlings must be kept absolutely free from weeds at all their stages. Seeds may be procured (the price varies from year to year) from Little and Ballantyne, Carlisle; Ben. Reid, Aberdeen; Learmont, Hunter, and King, Dumfries; while several of the Copenhagen dealers are willing to supply seeds in bulk. Probable price, from 7s. 6d. to 10s. per lb.

Bullfinches and buds

I should be so grateful for some hints as to how to prevent bullfinches destroying flower-buds on Prunus Pissardii trees. Every year about this time they are literally stripped. Bushes are much too tall to spray, and we have tried tying rags on, without much success. MRS. A.

Co. Cork.

[As your bushes are too tall to spray, it would also be impossible to dust them with soot or with a mixture of soot and freshly slaked lime, which would discourage the bullfinches. The only other remedy which can be suggested is the use of the gun. This is always to be regretted where birds are concerned, but when the latter become pests they must be treated as such. Have some cartridges loaded with snipe-dust, or, as some call such fine shot, "sparrow hail." The offenders will realise that the bushes are forbidden territory.]

FRUIT

Forcing Strawberries

(Anxious).—The correct method of forcing Strawberries is to place the plants over a bed of moist and slowly fermenting leaves in a sharp-pitched house or Melon pit, where they can be kept close to the glass. The Strawberry is a moisture-loving plant, and careful watering is imperative, especially at this season when moisture can be overdone. Careful watch must be kept for Red Spider, Aphides, and mildew, all of which may be troublesome in the case of forced Strawberries. The temperature at the outset must not exceed 40 degs. to 45 degs. by night, with a rise of 5 degs. to 10 degs. during day. No hard-and-fast rule can be laid down, as it sometimes happens that 40 degs. at night may be succeeded by 55 degs., or even 60 degs., on mild days. Turn over and renew the fermenting leaves occasionally, and when the plants are in bloom fertilise the latter by using a camel-hair brush or a rabbit's tail. When the fruits begin to swell use weak liquid-manure judiciously, stopping supplies before the fruits take on colour. Strawberries are often started in early Peach-houses and vineries. To force Strawberries successfully is not the simple matter which, to many, it appears to be.

VEGETABLES

"Pithy" Celery

(Regular Reader).—Nothing so much tends to make Celery "pithy," or pipey-stemmed, as neglect in its earliest stages. By neglect is not, in this instance, to be understood as carelessness or lack of attention, but simply, as not infrequently happens, that the seedlings have been left rather too long in the seed-pan before being pricked off. Celery seeds are, as a general rule, sown very much too thickly and, as the percentage of germination is usually high, the seedlings become congested and their roots intermatted. The check experienced when they are pricked off invariably leads to hollowness in the footstalks when the plants attain maturity. Otherwise your procedure is unchallengeable. This year try the effects of sowing very thinly, and prick off the seedlings as soon as they have made their first pair of true leaves. Do not use soil of a too rich description when handling the seedlings, but, if grown in boxes, a layer of well-rotted manure may be laid in the bottom of each box.

LEGAL POINT

Wages in lieu of notice

I would be very glad if you would enlighten me on the following matter:—When men are paid at an agreed rate "per day" (paid fortnightly) are they entitled to a fortnight's wages in lieu of notice? R. H.

[If a gardener is hired by the day he is not entitled to any notice, but if the hiring is by the week or the fortnight it must be a matter of arrangement. A general hiring of a gardener (not a labourer) to be paid every fortnight at an agreed rate of so much per day would, in the absence of any arrangement to the contrary, carry the right to a month's notice, that being the custom in regard to domestic servants, but day labouring is different.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Potash fertilisers

(J. A. Lane Allman).—Sulphate of potash should be applied to fruit trees at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. per square yard, $2\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. per square rod or perch, 112 lbs. per rood, and 4 cwts. per acre respectively. We do not think that you need worry about the actual area to be dressed, because if the roots are not in the soil now they will be extending each year, and if the whole area is dressed the potash will remain in the soil and be available as required. The dressing of potash should be applied yearly in March. If you have single trees and you dressed 12 square feet with the tree as centre you would require $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per tree. The area to be dressed could be extended each year.

Canadian Flea Beetles

I would be much obliged if you could advise me how to control the Flea Beetle. For the last two years it has been a very serious pest in this district, and only a few very strong Cabbages have survived to grow to maturity. W. B. M.

Galiano Island, B.C., Canada.

[The methods of control adopted in this country for Flea Beetles are as follows:—(1) Various devices are adopted for taking advantage of the fact that Flea Beetles jump when disturbed. One such device is a pair of wheels connected by a cross-bar or axil, and from the axil is hung a tarred sack. This device is made so that it will run over two or three rows of plants when in a fairly dwarf state. The sack must just touch the
crop so as to make the creatures jum
Rapid growth in the crop is encoura
applying a quick-acting nitrogenous m
If the crop can make growth quicke
the beetles eat the tissue the crop
saved. (3) All weeds belonging to the
order Cruciferæ are kept down. (4) D
the plants with an equal mixture of so
lime is carried out when the foliage is
(5) Flea Beetles are more troubleso
cloddy soil, therefore it is important
tain a good tilth. (6) Dusting with
cides is often tried with good results,
ture of one part powdered naphthale
four parts fine, dry garden soil applied
rate of 5 ozs. to 6 ozs. per 30-yard run
In America and Canada we believ
spraying with lead arsenate is employ
when Cabbage is the host this is dan
unless the crop is treated in the ver
stages. The recipe for the arsenate w
Lead arsenate paste, 1 lb.; water, 25 ga

Weedy lawn

My lawn is very badly overgrow
Moss and Self-heal (Prunella vulgaris)
growth of the Moss cannot be owing
of drainage, as beneath a few inches o
under the grass the subsoil is pure sa
give the lawn a top-dressing of wood
every winter, and occasionally one o
but last year the Moss was thicker tha
which is surprising considering the
summer we had. Lawn sand will, I b
kill the Moss, but will it also ki
Prunella? ARNOLD E. SH

[Give your lawn a thorough raking
an iron rake and remove as much
Moss as you can. Follow the raki
brushing the lawn with a good, stiff b
This treatment should remove the g
part of the Moss and also some
Prunella. When the raking and brush
completed the surface should be dresse
fine loam or sand. When growth sta
the spring dress the whole area with su
of ammonia at the rate of 1 oz. per
yard, and repeat the dressing of sulph
ammonia at least three times at fortn
intervals. Try and use the sulphate o
monia at periods when it is likely to r
dry for a day or so, and make sure th
Prunella foliage is well covered wit
chemical.]

Horticultural research

In reference to the article in GARD
ILLUSTRATED on improved fruit-grow
would be very much obliged if you wo
me know where Mr. Wallace's reports
Long Ashton and Mr. Grubb's recently
lished analysis of effects of potash fert
on Apple trees can be got.
J. A. LANE ALLM

[We understand that you can buy t
ports of Long Ashton Research Station,
Ashton, Bristol, and East Malling Res
Station, East Malling, Kent, by writi
the Secretaries at the respective sta
We believe that the price of these r
varies from year to year. In the case o
Malling Research Station persons ca
come members of the Kent Incorp
Society for Promoting Experiments in
culture by paying certain fees, which e
them to certain publications free or
duced prices. Details of the scheme c
obtained from the Secretary at East Ma
In addition to the reports of the above st
much information in connection with c
research can be obtained from the "Jo
of Pomology and Horticultural Scie
which is, in effect, the official organ o
Long Ashton Horticultural and Agricu
Research Station, the East Malling
cultural Research Station, and the Univ
of Cambridge Horticultural Station. P

(Continued on page 50)

By Appointment.

LAWNS Require Attention—NOW

NOW is the time to feed your lawns in preparation for the summer months. A reliable complete fertilizer will quickly create dense turf. Moss, clover, and weeds should be eradicated now by applying Fisons' Lawn Sand.

Fisons' Technical Bureau is maintained for the benefit of enquirers, without obligation.

FISONS'
LAWN GUANO
(A Compound Fertilizer)

The safest dressing for turf. It feeds the turf over a long period and will not burn or discolour the grass. Lawn Guano quickly strengthens the roots and encourages a dense growth of fine grass. As used by important clubs and municipalities. Apply now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court.

Prices, in Bags: 7 lbs., **3/-**; 14 lbs., **5/-**; 28 lbs., **9/-**; 56 lbs., **15/-**
1 cwt., **25/-**. Carriage paid.

FISONS'
LAWN SAND

The most effective preparation for destroying clover, moss, and small weeds, and in so doing stimulating the grass. A thimbleful destroys a large weed, such as a plantain. Should be applied now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court. Measure and full instructions sent.

Prices, in Kegs: 14 lbs., **5/-**; 28 lbs., **9/-**; 56 lbs., **16/-**;
1 cwt., **27/6**. Carriage paid

FISONS'
BASE FERTILIZER

should be incorporated with the soil before sowing grass seed. Specially prepared to promote strong root growth and give new grass a good start. Use 4 ozs. to the sq. yd. a few days before sowing the seed.

Prices, in Bags: 7 lbs., **3/-**; 14 lbs., **4/6**; 28 lbs., **7/6**; 56 lbs., **12/6**;
1 cwt., **20/**. Carriage paid.

FISONS'
GRASS SEEDS

are the finest procurable, being specially tested before selection.
Special Mixture (for Bowling and Golf Greens, finest grasses only).

Prices, in Bags: 7 lbs., **15/6**; 14 lbs., **30/-**; 28 lbs., **58/-**; 56 lbs., **110/-**;
1 cwt., **210/-**. Carriage paid.

WRITE FOR COMPLETE CATALOGUE

FISONS' FERTILIZERS

EXPERT ADVICE GRATIS

JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD., IPSWICH.

Insurance
against poor fruit!

The fine crop promised by a blossom-covered tree will never mature unless insect pests are controlled

For good, sound fruit and plenty of it, spray your fruit trees and bushes with Agrisol A. Poor crops and unsound fruit are caused by insect pests being left to reach maturity. Most pests are in the egg stage during the winter months; *Agrisol A sprayed on the trees will exterminate them.* Further, this treatment clears the bark of lichens and mosses, and greatly increases the vigour of the trees. Apple, pear, plum and all fruit trees, currant bushes, etc., respond to Agrisol A treatment. But don't leave spraying too late.

REE: A Booklet containing full descriptions of Fruit Tree Pests and their ctrol, sent free on application to the Sole nufacturers:

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risol A is packed in all sizes from ½ pint to 1 gallon. The average fruit t e requires ½ pint.

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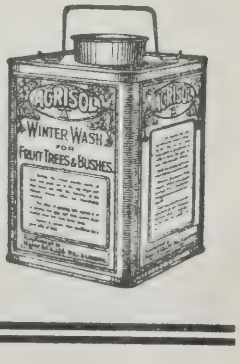
AGRISOL "A"

WINTER WASH FOR ALL FRUIT TREES


AGRISOL
WINTER WASH FOR FRUIT TREES & BUSHES

also appear in that journal on research work carried out at the Lea Valley Experimental and Research Station and the John Innes Horticultural Institution. The "Journal of Pomology" can be obtained from Headley Bros., 18, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. 2, at 25s. post free per annum. Mr. Grubb's paper on "Potash Fertilisers on Apple Trees" was published in the "Journal of Pomology," Vol. VII., Nos. 1 and 2, page 32. A single copy of this double number can be purchased for 15s. from Headley Bros.]

Shoddy

(M. V. Brown).—A shoddy containing 5 per cent. nitrogen should be applied at the rate of 5 cwts. per rood. If a higher grade material is used half this quantity should be sufficient. The method of applying shoddy is to spread it on the surface of the soil and dig it in. Shoddy is practically useless applied as a top-dressing. The earlier in the winter the shoddy is applied the better, but if for any reason the application has been delayed spring application will do, provided the material is well buried. We will deal with this question in more detail at a later date.

SHORT REPLIES

Strix.—Seed of Oxalis corniculata (purple-leaved) is offered by Messrs. Thompson and Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich, in 3d. packets, postage 1½d. We do not know of any firm specialising in ornamental foliage Geraniums, and think you will find it difficult to get rooted cuttings or plants of Pelargonium (not Geranium) tricolor from the plant trade, and advise a "Wanted" advertisement in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. We know the plant is still grown in some private gardens, and someone may be pleased to sell or exchange a few young plants.

A. Sadler.—Seeds of Cynoglossum nervosum are offered by Mons. Henry Correvon, Chêne-bourg, Geneva, Switzerland, at 10d. per packet.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Forest.—1, Erica lusitanica syn. E. codonodes; 2, Pieris floribunda syn. Andromeda floribunda; 3, Ceanothus rigidus; 4, Choisya ternata (Mexican Orange Flower).

G.—1, 2, 4, and 5, Skimmia japonica; 6, Leptospermum, possibly Nichollii; 7, better example required; 8, Ilex altaclarensis; 9, Azalea, cannot name without flowers; no number, Skimmia japonica var. Foremani.

NAMES OF FRUITS

W. G. C., Ascot.—Apple Golden Spire (small fruits).

J. C. G.—1, Mother Apple syn. American Mother; 2, Pear Bergamotte d'Esperen; 3, Apple Lord Derby.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

"Cultivation of Vegetables."—Collective leaflets issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, 10, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1, price 1s. 3d.

"Gardening on the Riviera."—Concise notes by an experienced writer, of value to residents in that part of France. Published by Sutton and Sons, Reading, price 2s. 6d. net.

TRADE NOTES

Maintaining drives

Under the title of "The Surface that Survives" Colas Products, Ltd., 38-9, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1, have issued a well-illustrated and informative booklet dealing with the problem of maintaining drives and paths under modern traffic conditions. The pictures are of drives laid down at Highclere Castle, Alnwick Castle, Westonbirt School, the Zoo North Entrance, and other important sites. Full particulars of "Colas" and its various applications are given, together with a list of notable users and many testimonials. Applicants for this booklet should quote reference N.C.A. or mention GARDENING ILLUSTRATED.

A gnomish gift!

We have received from Mr. A. H. Moorton, of 17, Eccleston Street, S.W. 1, a little gnome-like figure in red, blue, and brown, representing a twig-gatherer, complete with stick and basket, which would make a desirable ornament for house or garden. Mr. Moorton has a large selection of these figures, which are now much in vogue, and they certainly make an attractive splash of colour in the garden besides giving especial delight to the children. Mr. Moorton is a specialist in garden ornaments of all kinds, and is the designer of bird nesting-boxes, which are specially approved by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Manchester and North of England Orchid Society

At the meeting held on Friday, January 4th, the members of Committee present were Messrs. Hy. Astley Bell (in the chair), J. B. Adamson, A. Burns, A. Coningsby, A. Keeling, D. McLeod, W. J. Morgan, and H. Arthur (Secretary). Mr. D. Pitts was invited to sit with the Committee.

AWARDS OF MERIT

Cypripedium Kestrel (nitens Leeanum Bectoniæ x Swallow) and Cyp. Waratah var. Chieftain (Euryades Carter Place var. x Swallow), from Capt. W. Horridge; Cyp. Elaine (Mona x Leeanum), Odta Leonatus (C. noezliana x Odm Thompsonii), and Adaglossa Pittsii (Ada aurantiaca x Odm Pescatoreii), from Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons; Cyp. Lucinda var. Martin David Ramsay (Lucernale var. Lady Patricia x Alcibiades illustris), from Mrs. Bruce and Miss Wrigley; Cyp. New Year (Christopher x The Ghurka), from Mr. J. B. Adamson.

ORCHID GROUPS

Mr. J. B. Adamson, Blackpool (gardener, Mr. J. Howes), staged a group to which a Gold Medal was awarded:—Cypripediums in variety, including New Year, Minotaur, Perseus, Thisbe, Olympus The Chairman, Curlew, Bedfordæ, Stamperland, Niobe superbum, Hercules, Mem F. L. Ogilvie, Carola, Draco Westonbirt var. Pyramus The Premier, Odontos crispum Canopus, Illustre superba, Odta Colinge var. Ruth, B. C. British Queen, and fine plants of Vand Amesiana.

Mrs. Bruce and Miss Wrigley, Bury (gardener, Mr. A. Burns), staged a group to which a large Silver Medal was awarded:—Cyps. Alcibiades illustris, Bourtonense, March Along, The Pearl var. Lady Blanche, Invincible, and the following Bridge Hall Seedlings:—Actæus Lady Greensleeves, Queen Velma var. Queen Ena, Helsa var. Astrid, Carlo var. Young Pretender, Mario var. Leonora Cook, Ruzzio var. Santler, Caracticus var. Janet Coffin, Britain's Monarch var. George, Lucinda vars. Duke of Connaught and Martin David Ramsay, Tweedum, Erin, and others.

Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons, Bradford, were also awarded a large Silver Medal for a group:—Cypripediums in variety, including Elaine, F. M. Ogilvie var. The King, Perseus, Goldylocks, Makeda, Nesta II., Prince Albert, F. M. Ogilvie var. The Premier, and others, Odtas Leonatus and Brilliant, and the rare Adaglossa Pittsii.

Capt. W. Horridge, Bury (gardener, Mr. A. Coningsby), staged interesting home-raised seedling varieties of Waratah plants), Kestrel, and Minotaur var. Mc

Mr. D. McLeod, Chorlton-cum-I staged Cypripediums in variety.

Fluctuations in the numbers rodents

It is a well-known fact that in some the smaller rodents, notably mice and swarm over large areas of country a come a serious nuisance to farmers deners, and others.

It has been found that there is a goo of regularity in the occurrence of rodent years. Field voles in this count lemmings in Norway and Northern C swarm at intervals of a few years, and followed by a diminution in numbers, is apparently brought about by ep diseases.

We are carrying on an investigatio these cycles, and are desirous of obt information on the subject from v parts of the country, in order that ligh be thrown on their causes and prev measures devised.

The study of the epidemic diseases which the rodents suffer is also of ficance in connection with human and pathology.

We should be greatly indebted for a formation upon the following points:—

(1) Any pronounced increase or de among field voles, squirrels, or rodents, together with dates, loc etc.

(2) Any disease among rodents.

(3) Any increase or decrease in numb birds of prey, and of stoats weasels, in particular years.

A. D. MIDDLETON,
Department of Zoolo
and Comparative Anato
University Museum, Ox
(Rodent Investigatio

Thyrsacanthus rutilans

The crimson blossoms of this cha subject are greatly appreciated by f lovers at this somewhat dull period year.

Belonging to a branch of the Aca family, this plant requires stove heat moist condition at the roots.

Although often grown in pots, T. ru is seen to better advantage as a subject hanging-basket, where it has a better to display its long, trailing inflores with pleasing effect.

Several plants furnish better than a specimen. They each may be afforde port and placed at an angle to enab pendant flower-bearers to descend free the basket.

Syringing with tepid water will prove ficial, which, however, should be c tinued when the blossoms begin to ope

T. rutilans will prosper in a comp fibrous loam with a third of peat and sand.

Propagation is best effected by cuttin serted in the spring. J. F.

Shrewsbury.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Blackmore and Langdon, Bath.—Beg Delphiniums, Gloxinias, Cyclamens, plants, and seeds.

John Waterer, Sons, and Crisp, Ltd. Floral Mile, Twyford, Berks.—Flowe vegetable seeds, and bulbs and roo spring planting.

J. R. Pearson and Sons, Ltd., Nurseries, Lowdham, Notts.—General catalogue.

Ryder and Son (1920), *Ltd., St. Alb* General seed catalogue.

LAWN MOWERS

are manufacturers of **Spiral and Bottom des** for Lawn Mowers in all Sizes and Styles. Best ity. Agents for the best firms. Kindly ask for Price and particulars.

OH. PETER IBACH,
SCHEID-HASTEN - - - GERMANY

HEDGE PLANTS

We have a Choice and most Complete Selection of
HEDGE PLANTS, FLOWERING SHRUBS, AND ROSES
Stout flowering Plants,
Lists Free.
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REDUCED PRICES
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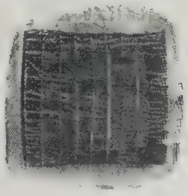
WATTLE HAZEL HURDLES



All 6 ft. in Length.

3 ft. high	now **2/6**	each
4 ft. ,,	,, **3/6**	,,
5 ft. ,,	,, **5/-**	,,
6 ft. ,,	,, **7/-**	,,

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

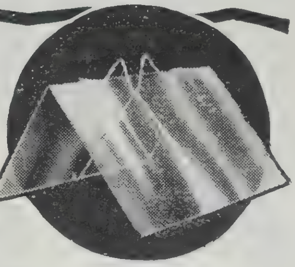
Write for LIST 22 *to-day*

T. & C. ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES, Ltd.,
98, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.1

Germination wonderfully improved

EARLIER, BIGGER, BETTER CROPS OF FLOWERS, VEGETABLES, SALADS

rotection from cold, wet, wind, and birds



HIS year why not bring on crops of flowers, vegetables and salads weeks rlier! That means "glass"? s—but not the expense of eenhouses or frames.

With the CHASE CONTINU- IS CLOCHE you make your n climate, and you can fely sow six or eight weeks rlier ***in whatever part of garden is most convenient.*** **us you get wonderfully imoved germination and rapid, unchecked growth. Earlier flowers, vegetables and salads mean a longer productive season—increased pleasure in gardening, and increased profit, too.**

Protect 1929 sowings with the CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE. All are taking up this great aid to successful culture. Last year alone we sold ***miles of cloches*** **and have enthusiastic letters from customers all over the country.**

SEED RAISERS

"Seedraiser" or "S" size cloches c st under 4d. per foot run of row. Fu'l particu ars in free list.

LOW PRICES

A set of 52 "A" size Cloches as above, to cover 60 ft. of row, costs 40/- carriage forward. Half quantity at 27/6, and trial set 15/-. Please send now for illustrated list.

Now is the time to make yourself independent of the weather. Start early, and make a full season's use of the cloches. List free from

THE MANAGER,
CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE
POUND ROAD WORKS, CHERTSEY

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Cc.5.

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Prompt deliveries of
21 oz. HORTICULTURAL SHEET GLASS
in 200 ft. boxes (one size in each box). F.O.R. London. 10 in. wide; 12-16 in. wide; 18 in. wide. V.P.

"OXFORD ROADLESS" BARROWS

ARE NOT RESTRICTED TO THE PATHS

They will carry their load over newly dug ground **without sinking,** and will prove invaluable when preparing seed beds.

SEVERAL THOUSANDS IN USE

VARIOUS TYPES AND SIZES IN STEEL AND WOOD

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

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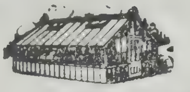

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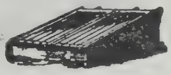

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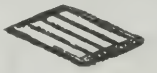

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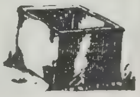

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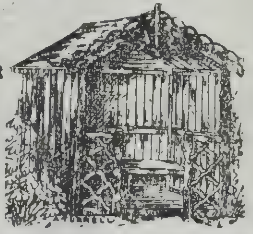

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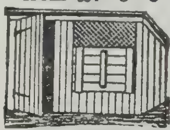

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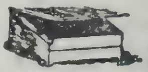

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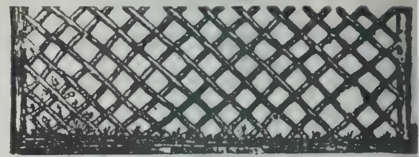

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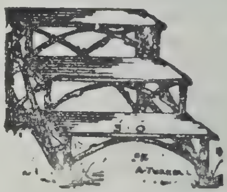

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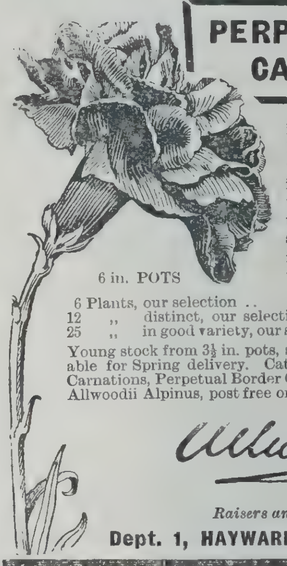

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Fruit Trees, Roses, Bushes, et
Must be Cleared
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WE PAY CARRIAGE ON ALL ORDE

STANDARD **Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherri Damsons, any names you wi 2/- each, to fruit this year. Bush Apples, Pea Plums, Cherries, Damsons, any names you wish, each, to fruit this year.**

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BUSH ROSES. Crimson Emblem, Druschki, Gold Ophelia, H. Dickson, Testout, Shot Silk, Chaten America, Madame Herriot, Old Gold, Sensation, Su burst, or any names you wish, **5/6** dozen, **3/-** half doz **STANDARD ROSES** of all above sorts and 100 ot names, **1/6** each. **CLIMBING ROSES, American Pill Crimson Rambler, Goldfinch, Hiawatha, Wh Dorothy, Pink Pearl, Shower of Gold, Double Crims Paul's Scarlet,** and many other sorts, **5/6** doz., **3/-** half d

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1 APPLE, Cooking; 1 APPLE, Dessert; 1 PLUM, Victor 1 PLUM, Monarch; 1 PEAR, William; 1 PEAR, Comi 1 CHERRY, Blackheart; 1 CHERRY, Whiteheart GOOSEBERRIES; 12 RASPBERRIES.

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The whole lot of strong trees to fruit this year We packed. Carriage Paid. **10/-.**

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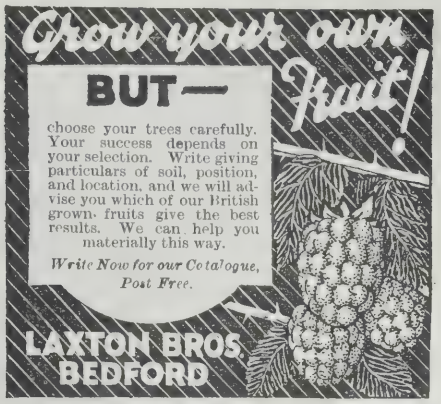

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choose your trees carefully. Your success depends on your selection. Write giving particulars of soil, position, and location, and we will advise you which of our British grown fruits give the best results. We can help you materially this way.

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10/- per doz., 5/9 per ½ doz., Carriage Paid.

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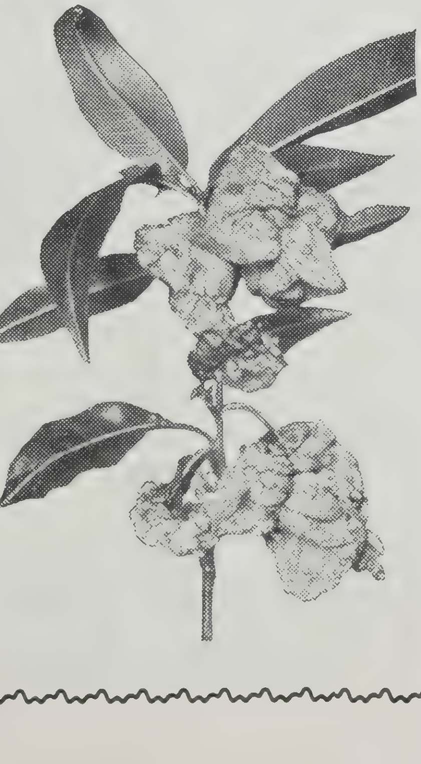

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was very bad in 1928

This disease cannot be cured, but is easily prevented by spraying NOW with

"MEDELA"

Order at once to ensure clean trees in 1929

Carriage Paid Prices:

½ gall., 4/6. 1 gall., 7/-. 2 gall., 11/6.
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Use 1 part "Medela" to 16 parts water.

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Established 1796.

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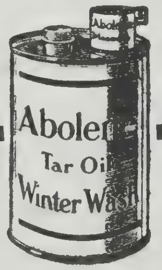

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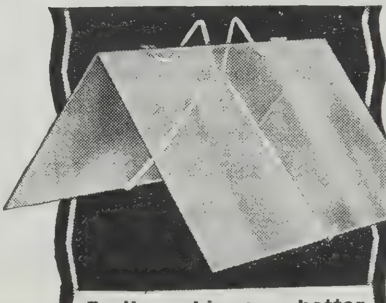
Tar Oil Winter Wash



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Order now for delivery at any time during the next three months.

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Have a better garden than ever befor

Handsomely Shaped Vegetable
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I. 2603—Vol. LI.

JANUARY 26, 1929

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Lilium auratum: How to Ensure a Fine Display

The Golden-rayed Lily of Japan is the queen of the Lily tribe. Its colouring is superb, and the fact that it bears from twelve to twenty flowers at once renders it second to none. As the season has now arrived when a large number of the bulbs are imported from Japan a few remarks as to culture will no doubt be welcome to many amateur and professional readers

N the first place it must be admitted that ilium auratum has given a certain mount of trouble, but this should not r would-be growers from trying it. If will only exercise patience they will it is as easily managed as any plant in ivation. It is as well to point out, how- , that home-grown bulbs are the . As a rule, imported bulbs d in clay are very good, but e-grown bulbs are better still, those who wish for the highest ess should by all means obtain e. If, however, imported bulbs obtained they should not be ved to flower the first season.

o ensure a fine display of pot ts of this Lily the bulbs should otted directly they come to hand. compost should consist of half n, one-quarter thoroughly de- d cow manure, one-quarter peat, a liberal addition of coarse r sand. The soil should be pped up and not sifted. For , ordinary bulbs 6-inch pots are e large enough. Place a layer eaves or Moss over the crocks. efully examine each bulb, and ove all damaged and decayed es. When potting, hold the bulb he left hand in such a manner o keep the scales close together, place it on a little compost in bottom of the pot. By all ns the compost must not get be- en the scales or decay is almost ain to set in. Keep the scales, efore, close together when put- in the compost, pressing the r moderately firm and leaving vel with the points of the scales, not covering them. The pots ld then be plunged in a bed of oanut-fibre refuse in a cold ne.

ot until growth commences t water be given, and as the ns rise from the bulbs fill up the gradually to the proper level the compost. Follow these ctions faithfully and there will be far er failures.

is not uncommon for the bulbs to come hand in a dry, shrivelled condition. In cases place the bulbs in a bed of oanut-fibre in a frame for a couple of ks before potting and they will nicely np up.

The Queen of Lilies: Lilium auratum platyphyllum

Where there are beds of Rhododendrons Lilies do well, as the necessary amount of protection is obtained and the flowers show up to great advantage against the dark green foliage of the shrubs

It may not be generally known that the finest display of this Lily in pots is obtained by planting the bulbs in a good bed of turfy loam or peat, and when the plants commence to open their flowers carefully lift and slip them into pots that will take the ball comfortably, returning them to the bed again as soon as the flowers fade. Carried out carefully there will be a magnificent display, far better than if grown entirely in pots. The roots suffer little or no check or injury, growth proceeds steadily, and the result is a fine display with a minimum of trouble.

It is not alone in the conservatory, however, that the queen of Lilies shows to perfection. Its finest growth is made in the open ground, leaving it undisturbed for some years, so that it may gain strength and develop fully.

At the spot selected for the Lily bed the soil must not be harsh or of a calcareous nature, as this is likely to prove injurious and will fail to produce healthy growth.

The bed must be well drained and the soil deep, mellow, and fertile, and there should be a small amount of shelter against the trying winds that frequently prevail at the end of spring.

Where there are beds of Rhododendrons the Lilies do well, as the necessary amount of protection is obtained, and the flowers will show up to great advantage against the dark green foliage of the shrubs.

The latter not only provide the necessary shelter to the Lilies when the stems and leaves are in a succulent state, but the soil will be found to suit them also.

After the flowering season is over of those grown entirely in pots water should be gradually withheld until the stems and leaves turn yellow. When this takes place cut down the stems and keep the soil quite dry, turning the pots on their sides in a frost-proof place until December or January. The bulbs should then be turned out of their pots and the old soil shaken away, and the bulbs repotted in fresh compost and treated as before.

Some of the forms of L. auratum are very beautiful; one of these, rubro pictum, has a stripe of yellow at the base shading into crimson at the top of the petal. Platyphyllum (see illustration) is a very strong-growing variety reaching the height of 6 feet and with flowers large in proportion. Another very fine variety is rubro vittatum, having a broad crimson stripe as well as being spotted with the same colour.

Sowing Antirrhinums

There is, really, no advantage to be gained by sowing these too early, any time during the next two or three weeks giving excellent results. Sow thinly, for the seedlings, if much crowded together, are very apt to damp off while yet too small for pricking off.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Early-flowering Gladioli

I AM glad to see a note in a recent issue drawing attention to this valuable, early-flowering section of Gladioli for pot culture, a purpose for which they are admirably adapted. When grown in variety they are extremely serviceable in the arranging of a display of flowering plants in the conservatory or show house. They are, moreover, of easy culture. They are equally valuable for planting outdoors in sheltered positions, either for effect or cutting purposes. When required in quantity for this purpose it is a good plan to grow them in a bed some 3 feet in width, having the protection of trees or shrubs to break cold winds from the north and east.
A. W.

Campanula Bellardii and C. cæspitosa

WITH reference to the recent correspondence on this subject, and especially that relating to the synonymy of C. Bellardii, C. pusilla, C. pumila, and C. cæspitosa, I may say that this is a question which has given me trouble for years. I have always been desirous of securing plants which I was certain were C. cæspitosa, and long ago I found in a good botanic garden three or four resembling dwarf forms of C. pusilla under the name of C. cæspitosa, but I could never obtain others of the same character. Farrer, however, in his "English Flower Garden," discusses the question under C. cæspitosa and says: "C. cæspitosa (Scop.) has nothing whatever to do with C. Bellardii, C. pusilla (Haenke), C. modesta, C. tyrolensis, C. pumila, or any other distinct species which have been shoved under its wing in gardens until all traces of the genuine species have been lost. C. cæspitosa is not a runner, but from one central tap throws up a dense cushion of many serried shoots, thick-set with little, narrow, toothed leaves, in no way distinct from those of C. Bellardii except by their number and density on the far more dense tuft, made up of far more and more close, packed, barren shoots, devoid of runners." He also describes the stems as a foot high, thin, and bare and wiry, with a loose shower of bells ribbed outside and drawn in at the mouth. Recently I wrote an obliging Continental botanist, who kindly told me that C. cæspitosa differed from C. Bellardii in two features:—"(1) The mouth of the corolla is not spreading as in Bellardii, but contracted somewhat. (2) It flowers late in August when the other is over."

Farrer, under C. Bellardii, gives as the reason for using that is that "the name of 1785 takes the precedence over Haenke's C. Hals pusilla of 1788." This should settle the question of whether we should employ C. Bellardii, or C. pusilla, or C. pumila.

Apropos of the subject, I wonder if anyone knows the whereabouts of the two varieties of C. Bellardii named by Farrer "Little Lady" and "Little White Lady," found by him in 1913, and a later one said to be the "Ariel" of Miranda, but powder-blue. It may seem ungrateful, but I am not sure that the older forms of C. Bellardii are not equal in charm to Miranda, Miss Willmott, and others. Size in flowers is not everything.
S. Arnott.

—— Campanula Bellardii, Ten., and C. pusilla (Haenke) being synonymous, and the first name taking precedence over the second, C. pusilla in its one hundred and forty-first year may be given a decent, but not too quiet burial. Referring to Col. Wolley Dod's query, C. cæspitosa is a distinct species and is described by Farrer as follows:—

"C. cæspitosa has nothing whatever to do with C. Bellardii, C. pusilla (Haenke), C. modesta, C. tyrolensis, C. pumila, or any other of the distinct species which have been shoved under its wing in gardens until all trace of the genuine species has been lost.

"C. cæspitosa is not a runner, but from one central tap throws up a dense cushion of many-serried roots, thick set, with little narrow toothed leaves in no way distinct from those of C. Bellardii, except by their
number and density on the far more
tuft, made up of far more, and more
packed, barren shoots devoid of run
But above this mat come shooting w
different flowers on wholly different ste
tall, very thin and bare, and wiry, at
ing as much as a foot, and arching and
ing out this way and that, with all the
grace of Dierama pulcherrimum, ber
the burden of a long, rather one-sided,
shower of the most lovely hanging
delicately strongly ribbed outside an
pulled in at the mouth that they look
elongated globules of exquisite clear
water.

"It can first be seen rather feebly
ginning in the Dolomites, occurring by
roadside between Toblach and Cortin
stony, poor places; but in the Karawa
it is the reigning bell, shaking tall sh
at the passer-by from every shady, b
road-cutting as he crosses the Seeland P

I have never grown this particular sp
but, collected by Mr. Ingwersen in 1926
the Skrbnja (insert vowels to taste) Pa
Serbo-Jugo-Slavia," it is now procur
It is interesting that, whereas Farrer s
the flower-stems attain a foot, Mr. Ing
sen gives the height as 3 inches, and per
if his eye lights on this paragraph he m
drawn into giving us still further detail
no mention of it is made in his recent e
lent notes in this paper on the sm
Campanulas.
F. H. Fish

—— Without wishing further to add t
controversy about the synonymy betwee
Bellardii, C. pusilla, C. pumila, C.
lensis, C. cochlearifolia, and C. cæsp
of various authors, I simply wish to co
with my friend Mr. Fisher's request he
give such little information of the rig
bearer of the name of Campanula cæsp
as I may possess from actual acquain
with this plant in the far-away rang
Carniolia.

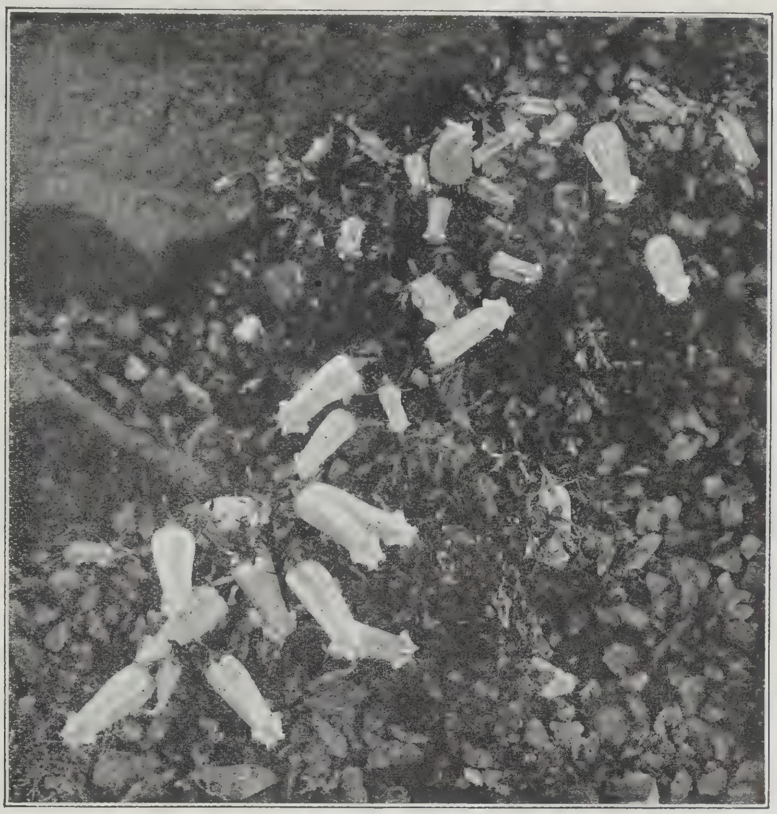
The late Mr. Farrer in his great
"The English Rock Garden" gives
an ample description of this plant, w
really makes any further attempt unn
sary, but perhaps some notes on how
travelling companion and I found this
may prove of interest to readers of Gar
ing Illustrated, especially as the plant
remains an almost unknown quantity in
English rock gardens.

The real reason for our venturing
Serbo-Jugo-Slavian territory, with al
difficulties of the language question,
that in that little-visited region, and es
ally on the great Triglav range, is the
home of that quaint and rare Campa
Zoysii, and whilst questing for this we
dentally found in the same sheer clif
hardest limestone wee tufts of very jag
roundish leaves just beginning to sprout
activity, for it was early in the season
late snow still sent down long tentacles
the north-facing gorges, and the cliffs t
selves were adrip with icy water from al

We had started our outing that
pleasantly enough in a small motor
from the Triglav Hotel at Bohj
Bistrjca, and left our conveyance some
further south, at the shores of that lov
of mountain lakes, Bohjnska Jezero,
pleasantly wandered along a good road
margin, watching whole shoals of trout
ing about in the clear water. Presently
passed a quaint church with a huge m
painting of St. Christopher carrying
Christ child through a raging stream,
then past a pathetic war cemetery
orderly row upon row of plain wo
crosses. Here we branched off to the
into glorious forest land. Various H
bores, the quaint Dondia epipactis, and
rare Astrantia gracilis, handsome Or
lamioides, and fine bushes of Me

Campanula Bellardii Miss Willmott, with exquisite pale china blue bells

issophyllum, both in its pure white and
he heavily blotched red form, Anemone
olia, and other pretty sub-Alpine plants
ered our way as we wound our short cut
fine military road which our map told
ve should strike a little higher up. Pre-
ly we found this road winding in huge
gs up and up, steeply but not un-
santly so, and we congratulated our-
s upon our luck in having so good a
k through the sweltering hot woods.
ıd then presently we turned a corner,
where was our road? Nothing but
r abyss confronted us and a huge semi-
e of cliff, and at the further end the
tiful road recommenced. There was
ing for it; either descend for miles and
s, and swelter up again, or try the sheer
and were it not for my friend, a noted
ber and proud member of the English
ne Club, down the hill I should have
cursing my luck, but his able eye saw
othold here and a hand-hold there, and
ently a whole series of such which he
made a possible track, and so, he in
and I with my heart in my mouth fol-
ng, we overcame our difficulty, and pre-
ly were on our road again, but, alack
alas! gap followed gap, and forced us to
se that this road had witnessed a hurried
at, and that as the guns were dragged
ecurity the engineers had blown up the
in all the worst places to prevent the
ny from catching up with the retreating
y, and so we sweated along, making the
of our difficulties, and were rewarded
ome fine colonies of Primula Clusiana,
which we persuaded the most easily
ned clumps to take a seat in our ruck-
s, and mightily cheered by this find we
d ourselves before overlong upon the
nja Pass, where, we were informed,
should meet Campanula Zoysii close to
Italian frontier, in the steep cliffs of
est limestone flanking the steep screes.
uesting around for some time we pre-
y saw, here and there, the little spoon-
ed leaves of the Campanula poking out
airfine cracks where a knife-point found
ntrance and ice axe and chisel had to be
isitioned to chip out bits here and there
re the screes gave us sufficient foothold
e both hands at once.
ow we laboured, and how we slithered,
how we had to scramble and slide to
eve rucksacks which suddenly started
ther downhill on the moving scree, and
the awful scramble up to the cliff-foot
n in the unstable and ever-rolling stone
ings.
last we decided we had enough, and
concentrating on some extra fine
amen europeum which grew between
big boulders firmly wedged in the scree
n we noticed above us in the cliff tufts
ch deeply serrated leaves that we de-
l it could only be Phyteuma comosum,
taking turns in supporting one another,
acked and chipped until of this, too, a
quantity was in our rucksacks, and,
ading down the screes, we soon reached
woodlands again, where we found a
spot, and under dwarf Alpine
rnums discussed our well-earned lunch.
nining our latest find more critically we
uded it was not Phyteuma comosum,
night be a Campanula, yet, if so, which
Finally, I wrapped our harvest into
bundles with some dry Moss and at-
d a label saying Phyteuma or Cam-
la, Skrbnja Pass, and the date, and
a few days dispatched them home as
ster ohne Wert" from an Austrian
Office, for a Serbo-Slavonic Post Office
beyond our combined linguistic achieve-
s. A few days later a light dawned on
vhen, on a sunny cliff of Triglav itself,
same plant was met with again, and this



The quaint and rare Campanula Zoysii in the moraine

time there were just one or two early flowers to help us, and as undoubted Campanula cæspitosa of Scopoli the plant was determined.

At home in our nursery the collected bits soon settled down comfortably, and although by an error an old and misleading description of the wrong C. cæspitosa, the one equivalent to C. Bellardii, slipped through in the edition of our catalogue offering this plant, it yet led to our selling out the entire stock of our collecting, so that nothing remains to me but to retrace my footsteps to the mountains east of the Tyrol and try and bring back a further haul for the benefit of my fellow plant lovers.

I will add nothing to the description of the flowers of this Campanula, which appears above Mr. Fisher's signature, but to say that the individual bells of C. cæspitosa Scop. closely resemble the urn shape assumed by the bells of the big Irish Heath, Menziesia polifolia, and that the colour is a smoked purple with deeper veins, and that the graceful stems may reach about 9 inches. To my mind it should always be grown as a plant for the narrow crevice lest it grows fat and stodgy as will the graceful Harebell of our poor and gravelly common lands.

W. E. Th. Ingwersen.

"When idols have feet of ——"

"Clay" might, with some advantage, have extended his examples of the point he raises (page 23) to the vegetable world, to fruit, to trees and shrubs. Almost all catalogues, as "Clay" says, set before us nothing less than a kind of horticultural "Utopia" wherein everything may be expected to be as vigorous, floriferous, and productive as the most noxious weed. He is right, Primula Florindæ is, indeed, coarse unless grown somewhat *out* of its element; Meconopsis Baileyi is a "wash-out" in five plants or five gardens out of six. May I add that at least half the culinary Peas put into commerce through "snap" in cultivation or quality are not worth the ground they occupy? And so on.

To set before us, as the catalogues do, an Utopian standard of perfection is, no doubt, in some ways both logical and legitimate. Perfection must always be our ideal, horticulturally as otherwise, but in the striving after it we shall probably be in no degree discouraged or suffer deprivations of interest and zeal if the pictures of perfection continually set before us be vested in the essential element of truth. And I do not think that the revelation of "vices" in plants as well as their "virtues" would deprive distributors and vendors of much, if any, of their material profit.

Probably the word "hardy" represents the greatest "snag" and, withal, the most attractive bait for the unwary. Plants are frequently described and catalogued as "hardy" when, as a matter of fact, they are so only in one select corner of the country or under certain conditions only of soil or climate. Thus again is the half-truth worse by far than the whole, and the Utopian ideal of a garden anywhere, furnished with everything desirable, nothing but a myth.

J. R. K.

Proposed Society of Garden Architects

I wholly agree with a "Scottish Landscape Gardener's" remarks on page 21. But I notice he refers to the "outstanding men in the profession" giving the lead to the institution of the suggested Society. Upon what basis, may I ask, or upon what evidences of qualifications, are such men to be judged as "outstanding" in so far as they might be fitted to give the lead? Reputation alone, one would imagine, is altogether inadequate; successful and impressive examples of work as seen at the great shows would seem to be equally so. The success of any such Society as that proposed will be governed largely by the true qualifications of those who "give the lead" in its formation. For experience reveals the indisputable fact that the efforts of many, but not all, of so-called outstanding garden "architects" (a designation rightly discounted by your correspondent!) are nothing less than lamentable.

Nevertheless, I am bound to say, in fairness, that I have seen, known, and worked in gardens which in no way could be unworthy of the description magnificent. Some I have seen at the shows, a few, but not many, relatively speaking, I have seen elsewhere! Undoubtedly, therefore, I am at one with a "Scottish Landscape Gardener" in urging the extreme importance of due and approved qualifications on the part of those who are to give the lead or be admitted to membership of the proposed Society.

J. R. K.

—— I was very glad to see the letter in your issue of January 19th by "Allen Water." It seems to me that anyone might subscribe to such a Society, and, when enrolled as a member, might work havoc with a garden. The name garden architect would be quite sufficient to keep one from interfering with those owned by many who really love them. One can understand the term architecture when applied to a building, but it is altogether a misnomer when applied to a garden, to say the least of it. "Abomination" is, I think, not too strong a term for it.

A garden plan drawn out for the making of a new one is still fresh in my memory. It had all the modern gadgets, introduced, of course, so as to be in the "fashion." There was a pergola to be placed where it justified the best views from the sitting-room windows, there was a Rose garden to be placed underneath them which would look untidy all the winter, and a low stone wall for the growth of rock plants was to be placed within a few feet of another sitting-room window.

I pointed out to my friend that the position chosen for his rock plants was too shady, and any which might happen to flower would do so on the side of the wall farthest from the windows.

The plan was, fortunately, scrapped. A rock garden was placed where the pergola was to have stood, and the view preserved, a lawn laid down under the windows with a border of Roses at the side of it, and a pergola of Roses on the other side of it to hide some not too beautiful outbuildings. As your correspondent writes, "owners of gardens requiring advice should be wise enough to call in the services of a good, practical foreman who has worked for one of the larger nursery firms, or one who has made landscape gardening his profession." Even then there is a danger of getting too much repetition of other people's work and not enough originality if not many stereotyped designs. It is an utter mistake to overload a garden with stonework and ornament, and the use of the word "architect" suggests it. The term Society of Garden Designers might, perhaps, meet the case (if one must have a Society), since one can hardly call laying out a small suburban plot landscape gardening, perhaps, but either term would be preferable to garden architect. Though this would be useful as a warning, I should never employ a member of a Society with such a name. If we must have guidance let us obtain it by visiting fine old gardens, yet remember that every plant and every plot of ground must have individual consideration and treatment.

Brighton. F. R. H. S.

—— I think "Scottish Landscape Gardener" is right in some of his comments on the above (issue January 12th). To begin with, I agree with him about the designation, which, I think, should be landscape gardener, a real old English term; also he is right for excluding every adventurer without qualifications from joining the Society. True, there are "jobbing gardeners," who do not know a thing about landscape work, masquerading as skilled men, but *not all*. I myself (at present) am a jobbing gardener, and yet most of my work has been landscape gardening, such as making new gardens, lawns, rock gardens, ornamental ponds, and drives. I have a natural aptitude for landscape gardening, and my work has always been very satisfactory to the people concerned, and there are others I know similarly situated. Why should not *we* have a chance of joining the Society? I admit that those people who have had a life-long experience should be in a higher class. I suggest that every prospective member, good or bad, should be given a chance by means of an examination, and that, I think, would end all dissatisfaction whatever the rank. The rising generation should be given a chance, through the Society, to make some headway in the profession. Jobbing Gardener.

Primula anisodora

On page 44, in an article on new seeds, Primula anisodora is mentioned as having flowers as large as a sixpenny-piece. I should be glad to know where this can be obtained, for the plants that I have always seen never had flowers anything approaching this size. In fact, this species seemed to be the smallest-flowered in the section Candelabra.

It is a great pleasure to see Mr. E. A. Bowles' writings and drawings again.

I hope it is the beginning of many more such contributions, for we see far too few of his nowadays. Reader.

Hampshire.

Covering bulbs

Will some of your experienced readers inform me why it is necessary to cover bulbs grown in pots or boxes with ashes, etc.? When planting similar bulbs in the open ground nothing further is placed on top of the soil. What is the reason, and what benefit is there in giving them such a covering, and is it necessary? Inquirer.

The leaves of Ranunculus Lyalli

With reference to the note and illustration of this beautiful New Zealand plant (issue January 19th, page 36), I note that seed is being offered this year by an English firm. A curious error, however, is made in the catalogue description by this well-known firm, which states: "The large, fleshy rhizomes throw up big, glossy, *sword-like* leaves." Surely the leaves are more like soup-plates than swords! Indeed, have we not heard of wanderers on the McKinnon Pass picking the leaves of this noble plant and using them as saucers? C. T. K.

Dahlia Maxoni

I should be glad to know of anyone's actual experience of Dahlia Maxoni. I bought seeds last year. They germinated well and the plants grew splendidly, but there was no sign of a flower.

A. M. A. H. Rogers.

St. Hugh's College, Oxford.

Some of the lesser-grown annuals

I fear the article (page 40) is by no means comprehensive and that there are omissions which need remedy ere the list of annuals could be called representative. I need mention only three, none of which is included, all shades of blue, the colour which is least often found and most frequently desired, and none of which seems to be grown as frequently as they should. They are Gilia achilleæfolia, 18 inches to 2 feet, cobalt-blue; Asperula azurea setosa, 1 foot, pale lavender-blue, so free in bloom as to appear
cloud; and Eutoca viscida (syn. Pl
viscida), deep blue with speckled and
centre, 1 foot. All are perfectly hard
satisfactory in ordinary light soil.
Asperula seems suited by either sun or
makes an admirable edging to large bo
and, if grown in a mass in conjunctio
the rather deeper-coloured Nepeta M
either in bed or border, the effect is
gether delightful. J. R

Poultry manure

In connection with the reply to "Me
(page 32 in the issue of January 12th)
that 6s. per cwt. for poultry manure
exorbitant price. Poultry farmers are
rule, glad to dispose of it for less tha
that price. All grades of this manu
valuable, however, although it require
handled carefully. It must be kept
cover until required. I find it most
when thoroughly dried and rubbed thr
small-meshed sieve. Afterwards it is
with double its bulk of dry sand and
similarly to ordinary chemical manur
the purpose of feeding vegetable
Onions and Leeks responding in a re
able manner to weekly applications
mixture. Pigeon manure is still mor
able, but, being even more concentra
must be handled with discrimination.
A Scottish Garde

Keeping down Carrot Fly

For years I failed to grow Carrot
seed germinated splendidly, then one
ing they all succumbed to the fly.

A new gardener came, and den
Carrot seeds. When the plants were a
high or so he put down a thick mu
grass cuttings from the box of the
mower. We never lost another plan
have excellent crops. "Triumpha

St. Andrew's, Fife.

Hellebores (Lenten Roses)

In regard to the name, I plead guil
careless slip. Of course, the Lent-flo
Hellebores should be known as Lenten
and not Lent Lilies, a name given
here to the wild Daffodils which g
countless numbers along the River Te

Mr. Hadden would appear to be qu
rect in regard to the colour of H. ori
which is purplish.

In some mysterious way I appear
confused H. olympicus and H. ori
both of which come from Greece, the
having greenish-white flowers. Und
illustration of Black Knight, which a
in Gardening Illustrated, there is a
statement that its parentage w
orientalis. Edward C.

Dunsford, Exeter.

Bearded Irises: "Eastern pallida" and their descendants

The Editor's invitation to critici
Wynn Helling's article headed "
Irises" (January 5th, 1929) prompts
make a confession, for which, as my
mentioned in the article, this seems t
opportunity. Incidentally, a little lig
be thrown on the subject.

To begin with the wild originals
plants under discussion, viz., the g
what may be called "Eastern *pallida*
it seems odd that Mr. Helling does r
to the high authority of the late Mr.
in whose great monograph, "The
Iris" *Ricardi* is said to be a variety
potamica. In his later work, "A H
of Garden Irises," the statement is
less positively. In both books cyp
carefully distinguished from mesop
I have heard Dykes express a doubt

her of these species was to be seen any
ger in any English garden. *Cypriana* was
roduced by Sir Michael Foster in 1888;
first appearance in this country of *meso-*
amica (from Armenia) does not seem to
on record; *Ricardi* (from Palestine) has
en successfully grown in the South of
ance, and much used, as by M. Denis, of
laruc, near Montpellier, for hybridisation.
ave never seen it in England. All three,
ording to Dykes, need more sun than they
erally get in our country; he recom-
nded for them a " heavy, calcareous soil."
the United States something called *meso-*
amica is grown. I have had two forms
t me from California, but, as they hardly
d rent with me, I gave them away to a
rmer garden.

o much for the wild forms, the hardiness
whose hybird progeny is challenged by Mr.
lling. And now for my confession, if a
her egotistic story will not be out of place.
Michael Foster gave me a bit of his
ginal plant of *cypriana,* sent to him from
prus. It never throve satisfactorily, and
long since gone west. I never raised any
dlings from it, nor used its pollen. But
ought from nurserymen plants listed as
riana, in order to see what they were
e, and from one of these, a fine stout
ng, but certainly not *cypriana,* I raised
rids, one of which is in commerce as
lingbroke, whose parentage I recorded in-
urately as " *cypriana* x Miss Willmott ";
seed parent's name should have had a (?).
art from this cross I cannot recall any
ers raised direct from either true or false
riana; but I have raised many seedlings
m Caterina (one of Foster's crosses of
riana with *pallida*), such as Ann Page,
via, Volumnia; and Leonato is a seedling
ain of Volumnia. Hence the expression
Sir Arthur Hort's *cypriana* hybrids " is
sleading, since, properly speaking, no such
rids exist. My Caterina crosses (which
doubtless the plants indicated) are second
third, not first crosses, and have in them,
well as *cypriana* blood, that of more
ust parents and ancestors. Two of these
ve indeed received the R.H.S.'s Award
Merit, which is only given to plants of
ved constitution. I do not of course deny
t the presence in them of *cypriana* blood
ggests that the more ripening they get,
better; but I submit that until 1928 they
not had in this country a proper ripen-
for several years.

have made confession No. 1, for which
excuse is that, when I began to raise
ses from seed and recorded their origin
h insufficient accuracy, my stud-book was
y meant for my own use, as I had no
ught of putting the plants in commerce.

Confession No. 2 is of like nature. After
ster's death his widow gave me some
ses, and, among others, a scrap labelled
the Shelford garden " *Ricardi* x." This
eloped into a huge plant with very tall
ms and handsome flowers of a reddish-
rple, which, however, were not first-rate
either form or colour. I used it freely as
seed-parent, and (loosely again, I fear) re-
rded the crosses as " *mesopotamica* x Lady
ster," etc., seeing that *Ricardi* is but a
riety of *mesopotamica.* From this parent
me Antonio, Eglamour, Shylock, Desde-
na, and others. All of those mentioned
em robust enough (Antonio, indeed, is a
rific grower), though it is true they can-
t be relied on to flower, whatever the sea-
, as freely as (say) Souvenir de Mme.
udichau. I cannot of course say what
s the pollen-parent of the original plant,
ster's " *Ricardi* Seedling," and probably
ster did not know, or he would have given
on the label. I am much to blame for not
ving indicated this plant with proper pre-
ion; the excuse is given above.

The moral of all this is that, so far as my experience goes:—

(1) The three " Eastern pallidas " are, in England, at least, not everybody's plants:

(2) The same must be said of some (not all) of the first crosses raised from them. Such plants require several years' testing:

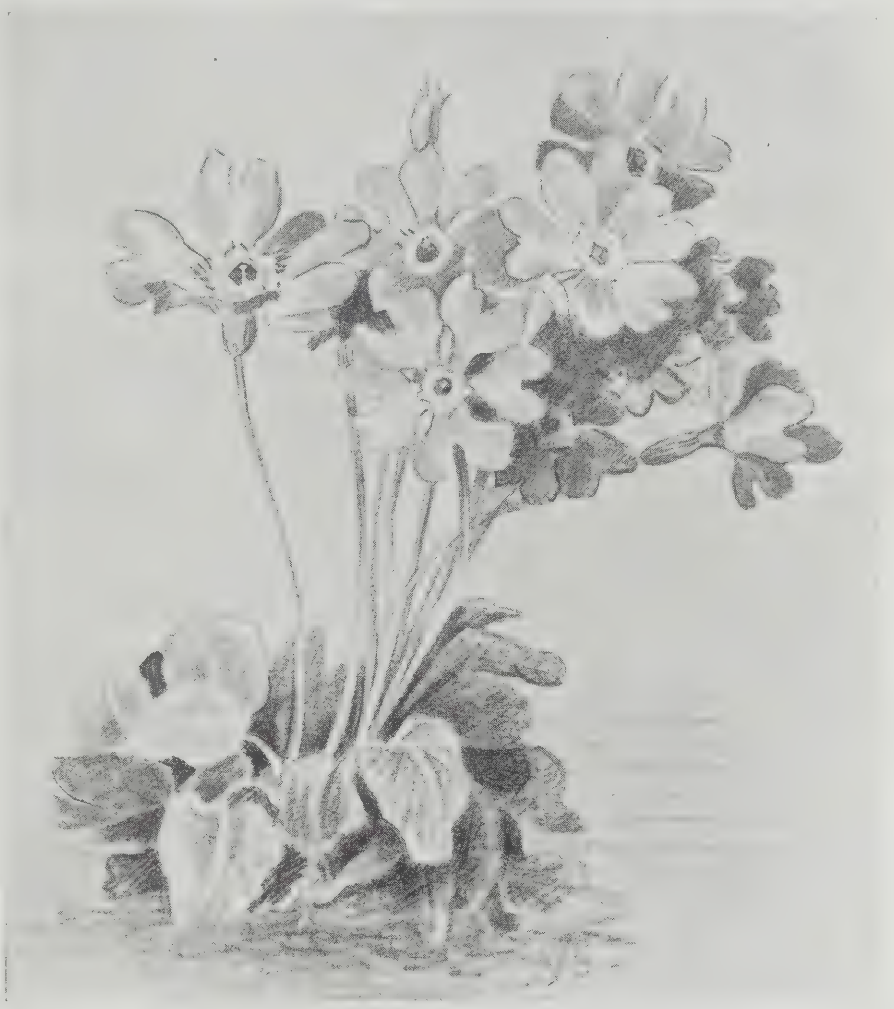
(3) But that if seedlings again are raised from these latter, many of them should prove to have a much more satisfactory constitution.

ARTHUR F. HORT.

Primula fasciculata

THE only fault I can find in this little gem of a Primrose is that it is still a very scarce plant in gardens. I had better say at once that I have no notion where plants can be obtained, and so check at its source a stream of letters of inquiry.

The drawing was made from a plant grown in a pot at Wisley—sent to me for that purpose—some years back. It still lives in the same pot, as I have never found the pluck to trust it in the open ground in this anti-Primula garden. If I knew of a large stone in my rock garden that retained one mossy face throughout July and August I would plant my ewee lamb (as the nice child called it) close against that mossy backing. In this land of hot, dry summers it is ever a puzzle where the chaffinches find enough Moss for their nests. I could not, and unless living on the charity of the last consignment of well-packed plants am obliged to send off my consignments wrapped in grass or wet newspaper. The drought that burns out our Moss kills our choice Primulas.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

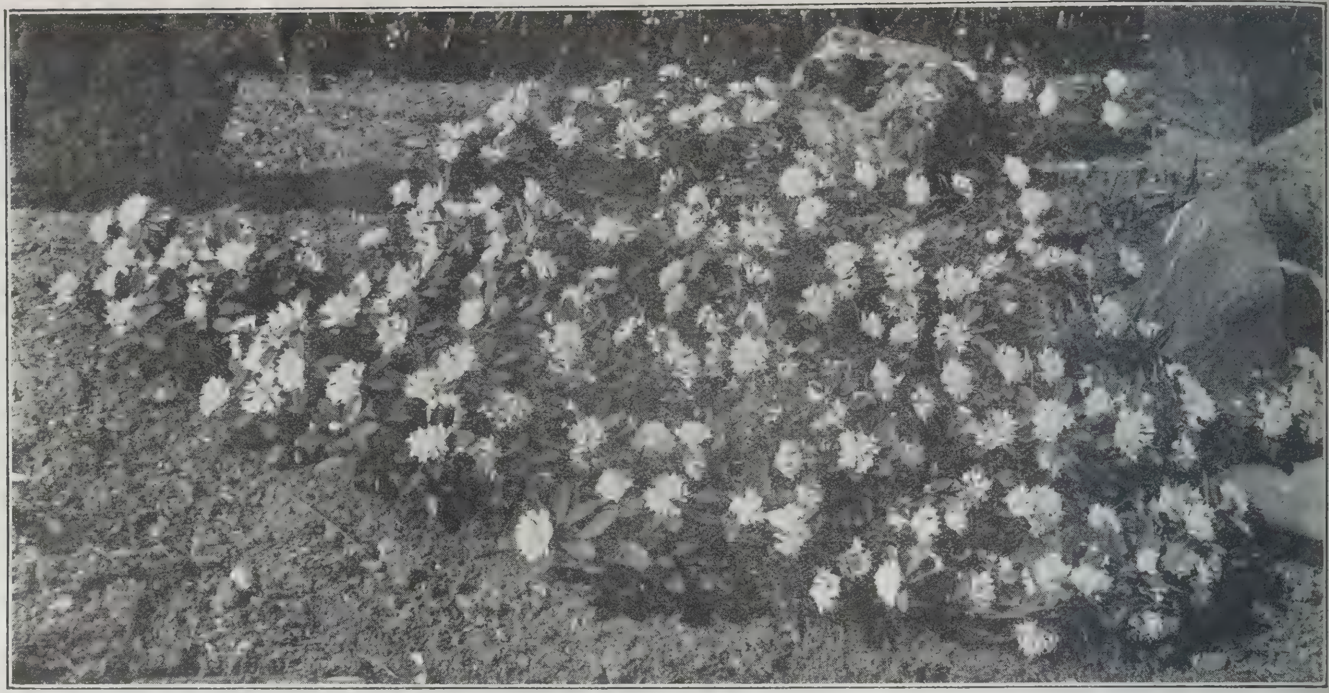
Primula fasciculata (slightly enlarged)

P. fasciculata was found in Yunnan by Captain Kingdon Ward in May, 1913, covering bogs on the Chungtien plateau, and was first described in Sir Isaac Balfour's list of 50 new Primulas in the Notes of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, for April, 1915.

What we might call its official identification disc would bear the inscription: " Like the East Himalayan P. tibetica, Watt, but differing in larger flowers, always solitary in the axils of the leaves." From a garden standpoint we may say it is what P. rosea would become if Titania turned it into a fairy. It possesses P. rosea's brilliant colour, a little refined and softened by a strikingly beautiful eye. The drawing shows the delightful shape of that clear yellow eye and the dainty edging of a deeper red that outlines its margin. Then look at the small size and neat arrangement of its leaves compared with the mass of flowers, each on its own slender stalk. A Primrose form with its individual stalk somehow pleases me more than the Polyanthus form with its stout communal scape, but I may be in a minority.

I am sorry to find that in the vagaries of reproduction my drawing, made on an enlarged scale to allow of the usual reduction, has grown a trifle larger. So those who are fortunate in adding this delightful species to their collections must expect something even more fairy-like in size than this enlarged portrait of a very fine and well-grown specimen.

E. A. BOWLES.



Daphne Blagayana
One of the daintiest and choicest of low-growing alpine shrubs

Early-flowering Daphnes

THERE is a subtle charm about the early flowering Daphnes which few are proof against, and their cultivation in most gardens is a matter of considerable interest. D. Laureola, our native Spurge Laurel, is a familiar species growing with great luxuriance in shrubberies and woods, and reproducing itself freely from seeds. It often produces its green flowers as early as January, and, having the merit of evergreen foliage, it adds to the effective decoration of the woodland. The old D. pontica closely resembles it in some respect and forms a cheerful object during the winter months. The flowers are a pale yellowish-green. It manages to store quite a perceptible amount of fragrance in its miniature but shapely blossoms.

Beautiful as these species are, there are, fortunately, many others of more refined beauty that are suitable for growing in our gardens. One of the most familiar is D. Mezereum, which may be found in many cottage gardens. It is a charming little shrub with clear purple-coloured flowers which crowd the twigs in cylindrical masses. Its fragrance is so powerful as almost to induce a sneeze, and it is difficult to get rid of the scent when it has once been inhaled. There is a white form equally as attractive, also another variety known as D. M. autumnalis. This species usually flower about November, and continue to do so until the typical Mezereum begins. D. Neapolitana (Fioneana) is an evergreen shrub of some 2 feet, with deep green evergreen foliage and terminal clusters of rosy-lilac flowers. It usually flowers in March, but I have known it flower profusely in February, when it makes a bright splash of colour. D. odora is a tiny evergreen shrublet with rosy-pink flowers. It can boast to be the most powerfully scented of all Daphnes, but, unfortunately, is not thoroughly hardy, and it is only in favoured districts or against walls that it may be trusted to survive our winters. It has an excellent substitute in D. Dauphini, which it closely resembles. This species begins to bloom in January and continues to flower till early spring.

D. Blagayana is a sturdy and dwarf little low-growing shrub, an Alpine from the heights of eastern Europe. It grows in a spreading, somewhat prostrate, loose manner, forming plants about 6 inches high, with dark evergreen leaves and large, white, sweet-scented flowers borne in clusters at the extremity of the shoot. The plant is good in habit as well as handsome in bloom. Even in the depth of winter it is attractive, owing to the deep colour of the foliage, which is as green as our native Box, and the clusters of flowers, deliciously fragrant, are produced freely enough to make a good display.

The plant enjoys in cultivation a wide, deep declivity between two rocks in which provision is made for a good depth of soil so that it may spread and root strongly between blocks of stone in a good, rough mixture of loam and peat. It may also be successfully grown on level spots and the plants placed between small blocks of stone near which the roots ramify and are kept cool and moist. Constant pegging down, top-dressing with sandy peat, and plenty of water during the hot season are the passports to success with this plant.

Many would have more success with the much later D. Cneorum if it were treated in the same way. It is a slow grower and suitable for the smallest garden.

H. STEVENS.

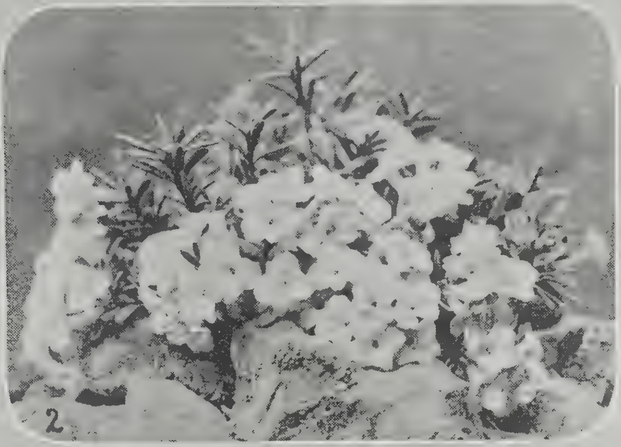
Gloxinias from seed

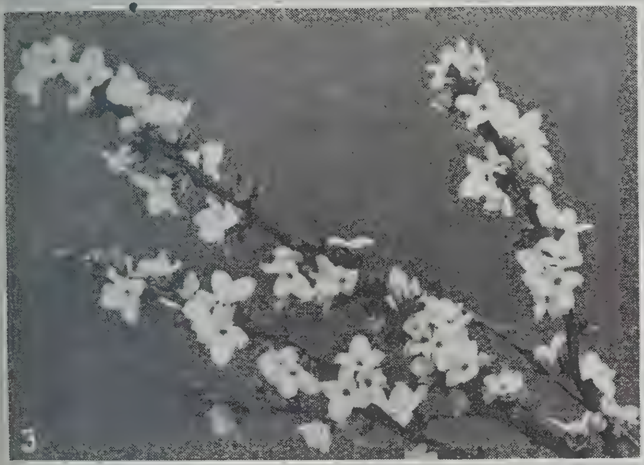
The modern varieties of Gloxinias, with their distinctiveness in habit, their exquisitely coloured and erect flowers, and their free and continuous flowering qualities, are amongst our most valuable indoor-flowering plants. The flowers of these modern varieties are of great substance and are remarkable for their richness and variation of colour. The range of colours include pure white, pink, scarlet, crimson, violet, and purple, while some varieties are delicately spotted with an infinite variation of colours which make them highly interesting and attractive objects, and striking contrasts to the self-coloured forms.

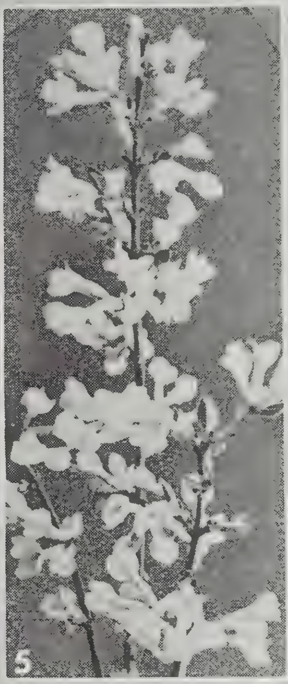
Few plants are so easy of cultivation, provided space can be found for them in a house which affords moist atmospheric condi
and a genial temperature, for plants ca
grown from seed to flowering stage in
relatively short period of six months.
should be sown in January or February
temperature of 65 degs. or 70 degs.,
well-drained pots or seed-pans filled to w
half an inch of the rim with light, sandy
See that the compost is moist before sov
make the surface perfectly level by sli
pressing it with a board for the purpose,
just cover the seed with very fine soil.
good practice to cover the pot or pan w
piece of glass to prevent loss of moistu
evaporation until germination takes
So soon as the seedlings appear they s
be gradually exposed to light and air,
when they are large enough to handle
should be pricked off about half an
apart in shallow boxes or pans, and
sufficiently strong transferred into small
For the early stages of growth a light
post consisting of three parts fibrous loa
two parts clean Oak-leaf soil, with a li
sprinkling of sand should be used, but fo
final potting rather more loam and less
soil may be used, and a 48 potful of
bone-meal per bushel of soil may be a
Pot moderately firmly and water spar
after repotting until root-action is a

Plants raised from seed in January
February will flower during autumn
early winter, and provide corms for th
lowing year. When the plants have
flowering gradually ripen them by
holding water, and when fully ripened s
the corms free from soil and store them
mixture of leaf-soil and sand which is n
dry, but containing sufficient moistur
keep the corms plump. They shoul
stored on a shelf where they can be e
examined and where the temperature
not fall below 50 degs. The corms ma
started again in January or Februar
placing them in a genial, moist house w
temperature of 65 degs., and so soo
growth is active they should be grown
the same way as seedling plants. The p
should be shaded from bright sunshine,
when they are well established in their flo
ing pots weekly applications of weak li
manure are of great benefit.

W. AUTC







EARLY-FLOWERING DAPHNES

. The Garland Flower (D. Cneorum), with clusters of rose-red flowers sweetly scented, the prettiest dwarf shrub in the Alpine garden.

. D. rupestris, syn. D. petræa. A treasure of the Eastern Alps.

. White Mezereum (D. Mezereum album), seen in many cottage gardens.

4. The most powerfully scented of all—D. odora, syn. D. indica, a greenhouse species from China.

5. D. Genkwa. introduced from China. Lilac-like flowers.

6 and 7. D. Mezereum flowering in March, believed to be truly wild in some of the southern counties of England.

Chrysanthemum New Year. Award of Merit

Royal Horticultural Society

THERE were Cypripediums, Carnations, late-flowering Chrysanthemums, early-flowering hardy plants, Poinsettias, collections of Apples, and a fine display of vegetables at the Royal Horticultural Society's fortnightly meeting held at Vincent Square on January 15th. The previous fixture was abandoned on account of the death of Lord Lambourne, the President of the Society, so that this was the first meeting of the year.

CYPRIPEDIUMS AND OTHER ORCHIDS

Three Gold Medals were awarded to Orchids on this occasion. The Cypripediums were remarkably good, but there was an absence of really good Cattleyas, due no doubt to the recent prevalence of fog throughout the country. Odontoglossums and Cypripediums withstand fog far better than Cattleyas. One of the best Cattleyas seen on this occasion was Bridal Veil, a really lovely white with a touch of gold in the labellum. This variety is illustrated and described on the page opposite.

The collection of Cypripediums sent by Miss A. B. Moore Chardwar, Bourton-on-the-Water, for which the Gold Medal was awarded, was the envy of all who grow Cypripediums. About 70 hybrids raised by the late G. F. Moore were shown. The Chardwar varieties are noted for their good forms, wonderful size, giant proportions, the breadth of the dorsal sepals, and for the fact that they are extremely well grown.

From Armstrong and Brown came the massive Cypripedium W. H. Page var. Grace (see illustration, page 61). The dark chocolate spots stand out in marked contrast on a green background, the pouch is bronze, and the dorsal has a broad, well-defined, white margin.

Gold Medals were awarded to Charlesworth and Co. and J. and A. McBean for superb groups of Cymbidium, Cypripedium, Calanthe, and Odontoglossum hybrids.

Among the Cypripediums shown by Cypher and Sons was the very pretty variety Cupid, pale amber with dark spots and tipped white on the dorsal sepal.

CHRYSANTHEMUM NEW YEAR

An Award of Merit was granted to Chrysanthemum New Year, a late-flowering single of medium size and of value for market and cutting. Shown by H. Shoesmith, Junr., Mayford, Woking. The colour is golden-orange with a yellow zone and the flowers are borne on long, stiff stems.

CHOICE VEGETABLES IN JANUARY

The Gold Medal collection of vegetables by Sutton and Sons was one of the finest efforts, from a cultural point of view, that has ever been displayed at Vincent Square in January. In addition to first-class pr
of the general run of forced vegetables,
as Carrots, Mushrooms, Lettuce, F
Beans, Dandelion, Marrows, Chicory,
Cucumbers, were the lesser known l
such as Tree Tomato Cyphomandra be
Cardoons, Chilies, Oxalis crenata (tu
and Stachys tuberifera. H.

Window plants

Lachenalias as basket plants and
Stag's Horn Fern

I can remember the time when wi
plants were few and far between; ther
little variety. Nowadays the many bea
varieties of Zonal Ivy-leaf Pelargon
Fuchsias, and other showy, quick-gr
things render the task of the window
dener very easy. Variety, howeve
charming, and there are other things
are distinct and attractive, and which
tax the skill of the grower—Lach
tricolor, the Leopard Hyacinth, so-nam
account of the foliage being thickly sp
In former days it was in high favour
amateurs. In some places it is still us
a basket plant, for which it is well ad
It is as easily grown as any of the bu
flowers now commonly used by window
deners. Pot the plants in August in nice
soil with good drainage, stand them i
open until October, when they shou
placed in their winter quarters. The g
green-mottled foliage renders this La
alia attractive even when not in bloom
I know from experience that it can be
tained in good condition during the w
months in an ordinary living apart
Very little water is needed, but in s
when in full growth and the flower-t
are developing, the soil must not be al
to become dry. It is not necessary to
the bulbs annually, every second year w
often enough. I have had this Lachena
6-inch pots which had not been disturb
five years. The bulbs were, of course,
crowded, but they produced a dozen spi
bloom and were very effective. In
places this Lachenalia is still used
basket plant for large conservatories,
20 to 40 bulbs being used, and in this

A plant of Cypripedium Cupid, shown by Cypher and Sons n they make a fine show. The Stag's rn Fern (Platycerium alcicorne) is a aint-habited plant and is very distinct from other members of the Fern tribe. In its ive wilds it grows on the branches of es. In cultivation it is attached to pieces wood to which it clings. It requires very ile atmospheric moisture. Formerly it s treated as a stove plant; nowadays it is wn in ordinary greenhouse temperature, y needing to be screened from very hot n. I once grew a plant several years in window of a living-room, and I was sur- sed to see that it remained quite happy d increased in stature. It was wired on to iece of wood which was stood in a 4½-inch t and which was filled to the rim with cks. The only attention given was to nd the pot in a pan of water so that the cks became thoroughly moistened. No nging or cleaning of any kind was done. Those who use window-boxes should have o sets, one filled in the autumn with spring- wering things, such as Silene, Forget-me- ts, Daffodils, and Hyacinths, to be placed position in March, these being replaced rly in June by summer-blooming things. this way there will be a nice display for out six months in the year. Those who ed plants for window-ledges cannot do tter than use encrusted Saxifrages, Sedums, d Sempervivums, as they are not affected extremes of heat and cold. A neighbour ted a box on to a ledge which he converted to a miniature rock garden, filling it with mixture of loam, leaf-mould, and brick- bble, with stones inserted at intervals. It s a great success and was much admired.

J. CORNHILL.

Asplenium bulbiferum

Those who want a foliage plant for the nall sitting-room as a change from the eful but somewhat hackneyed Aspidistra ight try this handsome New Zealand Fern. produces its graceful fronds freely under ch conditions, and they stand remarkably ell, a slight sprinkle overhead occasionally eeping them fresh and green. I picked up plant in the early spring that had ap- rently been thrown away as hopeless, with ur tiny fronds, one of which was broken, t as there were plenty of healthy roots I t it in a 32 pot, using a compost from a ap of good road sidings (free from tar), ith which was mixed a liberal amount of y horse-droppings well rubbed to shreds. here is no mistake about the response; it is w a shapely window plant with 15 hand- me fronds, some of them 16 inches in ngth.

E. BURRELL.

Hardwick.

ontradenia floribunda (syn. Plagiophyllum)

This pretty member of the family Melas- maceæ comes to us from Central America. he genus comprises six or seven species, hich are stove evergreens. Lovely lilac- se flowers are borne in panicles of seven eight to each. Leaves that are reddish on e under surface, together with stems of the me hue, combine to give to the plant a inty appearance, which "goes" well with e colour of the flowers.

Cuttings made from side shoots should be serted in coarse sand and loam during ebruary, keeping them "close" in a propa- ating case till rooted.

When this has been accomplished pot off to sixties and pot on when required.

The compost that this little plant thrives st in is one of sandy loam and decayed af-soil in the proportion of one of the former d two of the latter.

F. H. WRIGHT.

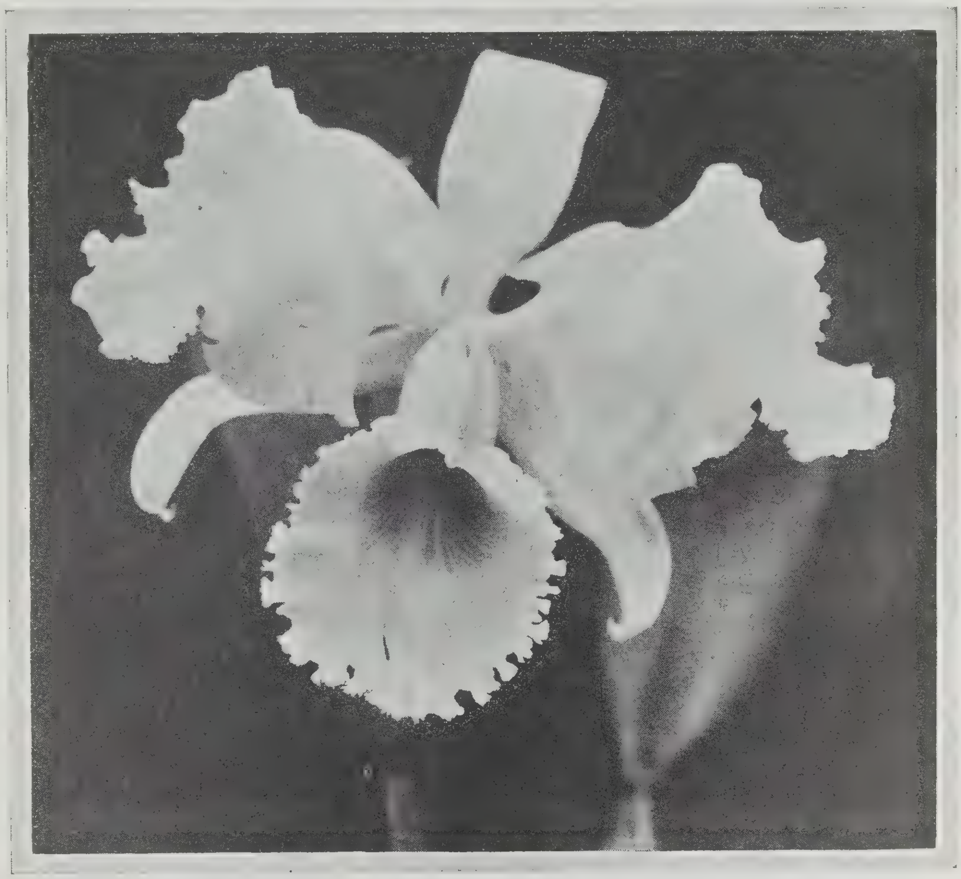
University Botanic Gardens,
Cambridge.

Cattleya Bridal Veil

THE illustration represents a very fine white Cattleya exhibited by Messrs. Sanders under the name of "Bridal Veil" at the R.H.S. meeting of January 15th.

Among white Cattleyas it is remarkable not only for the pure whiteness, but also for the shapely contour of the flower. The petals, some 4 inches in length, are nearly 3 inches in breadth, the sepals are in proportion, and the lip, the throat of which is somewhat tubular, with the margins meeting, develops the front lobe into an almost circular expanse, with a frilled edge. The only colour is the usual yellow, apparent in the throat beneath the column.

The hybrid was first exhibited by Messrs. Sanders in 1926, and was obtained from Cattleyas Lady Veitch and Mendelii alba. The Mendelii form is a species, but Lady Veitch was raised by the same firm, with Lueddemanniana alba and Warneri alba as parents. No doubt to the Lueddemanniana influence is due the breadth in the petals and the shape of the lip.



Cattleya Bridal Veil

White Cattleyas are more prevalent to-day. Twenty years ago they were only occasionally received among imported Orchids, and their rarity gave them a high value.

Most of the species yielded white forms, but never in quantities. White varieties from time to time were flowered from Mossiæ, the albino of which is known as Wagnerii, Lueddemanniana (better known, perhaps, as speciosissima), labiata, Warneri, Trianæ, Schroderæ, Mendelii, Percivaliana, Eldorado, and Gaskelliana.

The happy idea of crossing them arose, and Orchid collections are now enriched by a goodly number of pure white-flowered Cattleyas.

In that section of Cattleyas with two leaves surmounting the pseudo-bulbs albinos are, for some reason, not so common, excepting in the species Skinneri and intermedia. Skinneri alba has been grown for many years, and the white form of intermedia is also comparatively common, though now eclipsed by hybrids derived from it.

In this species the yellow present in the throat of most whites is absent, and in many of its progeny the yellow is reduced to a faint tinge or entirely missing.

The white form of Cattleya Harrisoniæ has also been imported and is in cultivation, but in such species as granulosa, bicolor, Forbesii, Bowringiana, velutina, etc., white forms, if they exist, have never got into general cultivation.

E. COOPER.

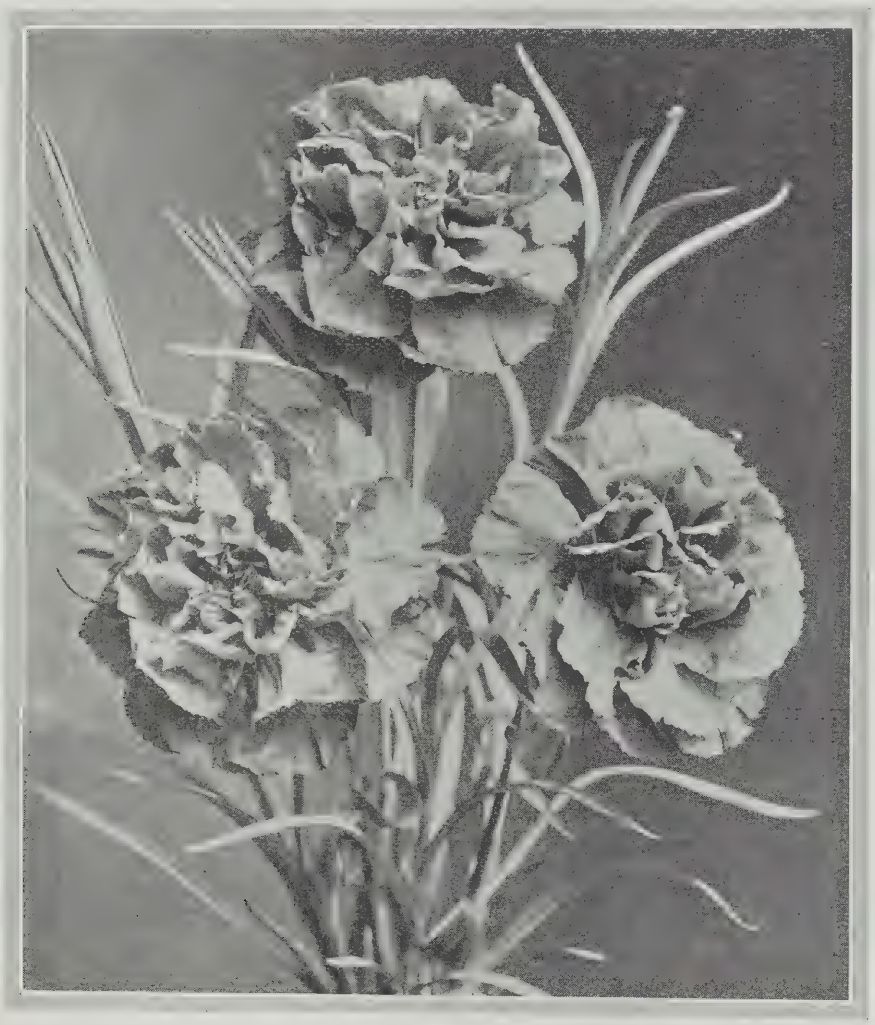
Climbing plants in the conservatory

If the climbing plants in the conservatory have not already been thinned out or pruned, according to their several requirements, the work ought not to be longer delayed. It is wrong, however, to treat them all alike. For example, to prune Habrothamnus (Cestrum) elegans now would be utterly wrong, the pruning ought to be done after flowering-time. Another instance may be cited in Bougainvillea spectabilis, which, differing from B. glabra, flowers on the terminals of the previous year's shoots. Here, too, pruning would be wrong. Lapagerias ought merely to be thinned, excising the weaker shoots cleanly. See that these plants do not get dry at the roots. Plumbago capensis may be pruned severely and freely thinned. If too much wood be left it is a brake on strong growths, and these flower most freely. Tacsonias and the commoner Passifloras should be dealt with moderately, spurring, rather than cutting hard back, giving the best results. Solanum jasminoides and Cobæa scandens must be drastically dealt with, otherwise they become masters of the situation. Prune Roses in corridors late in February.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Carnation Thomas Ives

THE colour of this new Carnation is bright cerise with clear, flat-shaped petals one-third larger than a halfcrown-piece. The individual flowers are sometimes 4 inches in diameter. The plant makes a particularly strong growth with very glaucous foliage. The Award of Merit was granted on a date which shows the variety to be a good bloomer in mid-winter. Exhibited by the raisers, Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Bush Hill Park, Enfield.



The new Carnation Thomas Ives, raised and shown by Stuart Low and Co.

A handsome weed

I call Helleborus fœtidus a weed, not because I think it weedy, for I do not, but because it is a native plant that grows freely in some places, though not everywhere, like other weeds. I remember some years ago finding a colony of this Hellebore in Selborne, in a somewhat ragged Beech wood above the Hanger. In his 41st letter Gilbert White heads a list of plants native to Selborne with—to quote from the letter—"Helleborus fœtidus, Stinking Hellebore, Bear's-foot, or Setterworth, all over the High Wood and Coney-Croft Hanger. This continues a great branching plant the winter through, blossoming about January, and very ornamental in shady walks and shrubberies." As regards the unhappy attribute "fœtidus," this Hellebore is not so very fetid; indeed, it is not fetid at all, as I understand the word. I can, myself, stand most of the vegetable scents fairly well (barring Stachys sylvatica), and though I would not exactly court the peculiar acrid odour of this Hellebore (which, by the way, it does not give out till it is crushed), I do not find it more unpleasant than the smell of, say, crushed Chrysanthemum leaves or the crushed leaves of the Scottish Bluebell. I know the name Setterworth only as a book name, having never heard it used. No doubt the Hellebore was the "wort" used in connection with a kind of animal surgery called "settering," and no longer practised.

Anyhow, call it what we may and smell as it will, the fetid Hellebore is a singularly handsome plant in summer or in winter, though it is at its best in the depth of winter—in January as the observant naturalist notes. Its large panicle of flowers, which go on expanding throughout January and February, and well into March, is a striking ornament in the garden, for, though the flower is green, it is a peculiar green, a light Apple-green, in contrast with the handsome foliage which looks as if carved out of dark jade. Here at the present time—that is, in the first days of January—the as yet unexpanded flowers are gathered on the dome of foliage in a loose bunch like a cluster of green Filberts. When the flowers open, each blossom is found to be rimmed with an edge of dark red, though this has to be looked for and does not contribute much to the general effect. But, after all, the glory of the plant is its handsome many-fingered foliage, of a dark green and as substantial as leather. The leaves are in the truest sense evergreen, as green in the height of summer as in the depth of winter. Everyone knows how easy it is to get flowers in the flower season, but how difficult sometimes to find suitable foliage. The Hellebore will often supply
felt want, for its leaves look right
almost anything. But it has two faul
the leaf-stalk is not long enough for flo
receptacles of any height, and then it ha
weakness peculiar to most of its tribe, it
no lasting power—that is, unless you
crush half an inch of the stalk with a pai
pliers or pincers.

FRUIT GARDEN

Current work in the fruit gar

THE work of spraying with tar-oil w
should now be undertaken on the
favourable occasion, because if dela
too long there is always the danger that
weather conditions may set in which
delay the work until it is too late to d
with safety. Tar-oils should not be used
Plums later than the end of January, bu
week later may be allowed for App
Some of our readers have written to
that they are using a tar-oil wash tw
once early in January and again during
last week in January. Twice spray
should not be necessary under any circu
stances. If the work is well done and
whole of the wood is thoroughly well cove
with fluid there is no need to do it ag
If the work is badly done it is waste
money, and to spray the trees the sec
time may result in injury to some of
buds. Choose, if possible, a dry, still
for spraying, and if our readers have
previously done much winter spraying t
will be surprised how very few dry, still d
occur between now and the end of the mo

The work of Apple pruning is now in
swing, and we have noticed that in m
gardens where this work is in progress
spores of Apple Canker are extremely ple
ful. Those of our readers who are troub
with Canker should examine the disea
patches at this period, when it will
found that the whole of the cank
areas are now studded with tiny,
pustules. These are the fruiting bodies
the fungus which causes Apple Canker,
contain spores which will start the dise
in new areas. Apple Canker is entirely
wound parasite, so that it must be danger
to be pruning, and so leaving open wou
on the trees, when so many canker sp
are present. The better plan would be
remove the cankered portions first and b
them. Those who have only a sm
amount of pruning to do might delay
work until later, but where the work is c
siderable it must be pushed on with, or it
not be completed in time.

In small gardens where birds are trou
some the pruning of Gooseberries should
delayed until much later in the season,
cause if the work is completed now,
then the birds take their share of the bu
the resulting crop is reduced. In such g
dens it is better to wait until the danger
birds is over.

Starting vineries

This is a very usual time for starting i
growth the bulk of Vines, more especi
where only one or two houses are devoted
the culture of the Grape. It is a mistake
start with a high temperature, as it is nec
sary to gradually increase the warmth
growth advances. For a start a night te
perature of 45 degs. to 50 degs. is desira
this being raised a little each 10 days o
fortnight. A moist atmosphere is always
advantage, encouraging steady, heal
growth and making it uncomfortable
insect pests.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Scotland

ch houses

e Peach is very easily excited into vth, so it is a mistake to keep unheated ses close shut with the idea of obtaining fruits earlier, for, although the trees are e hardy, the open blooms are not, and if ed into flower too early it is more than y that a severe frost may come along entirely destroy the chance of a crop. It etter, therefore, to rather try and retard time of blooming by keeping the house aired, day and night, rather than en-age early movement. It is, of course, e a different matter where the house is ed, as a little warmth can be afforded at time the necessity arises.

wberries in pots

hese are best on shelves not very far from roof-glass. Strong heat is bad for these ts at any time, but more especially when being started into growth. Keep the ts clear of Green Fly by an occasional rising with nicotine. Spraying overhead ine afternoons is beneficial, while a little le feeding may be given. On no account st the soil ever be permitted to get dry, or lew, Red Spider, and Thrip are almost ain to obtain a hold. Over-watering, of rse, is, likewise, very harmful.

in crop Tomatoes

a temperature of about 60 degs. can be ntained the main batch of this important should now be sown.. Use pots or pans are clean and well drained, filling these a nice light compost. Scatter the seeds ly and thinly, and cover with a little of soil. After watering with tepid water lay ece of glass over each receptacle and cover whole with a sheet of newspaper. Set in enial temperature of about 60 degs. As n as growth appears have the pots or pans ated quite close to the roof-glass and so ent the seedlings "drawing" up soft and y.

cing Kidney Beans

here suitable accommodation is available very popular vegetable should be grown pots for early supplies. Clean, well-ined 7-inch and 8-inch pots are the most able for the purpose, and these should be d only about two-thirds full with fresh, compost. Plant about seven to nine ds in each receptacle and cover to the th of an inch. The remaining space can filled in later with rich soil, which is a t benefit to the plants. A moist, lerate temperature should be aimed at.

t Lothian Stocks

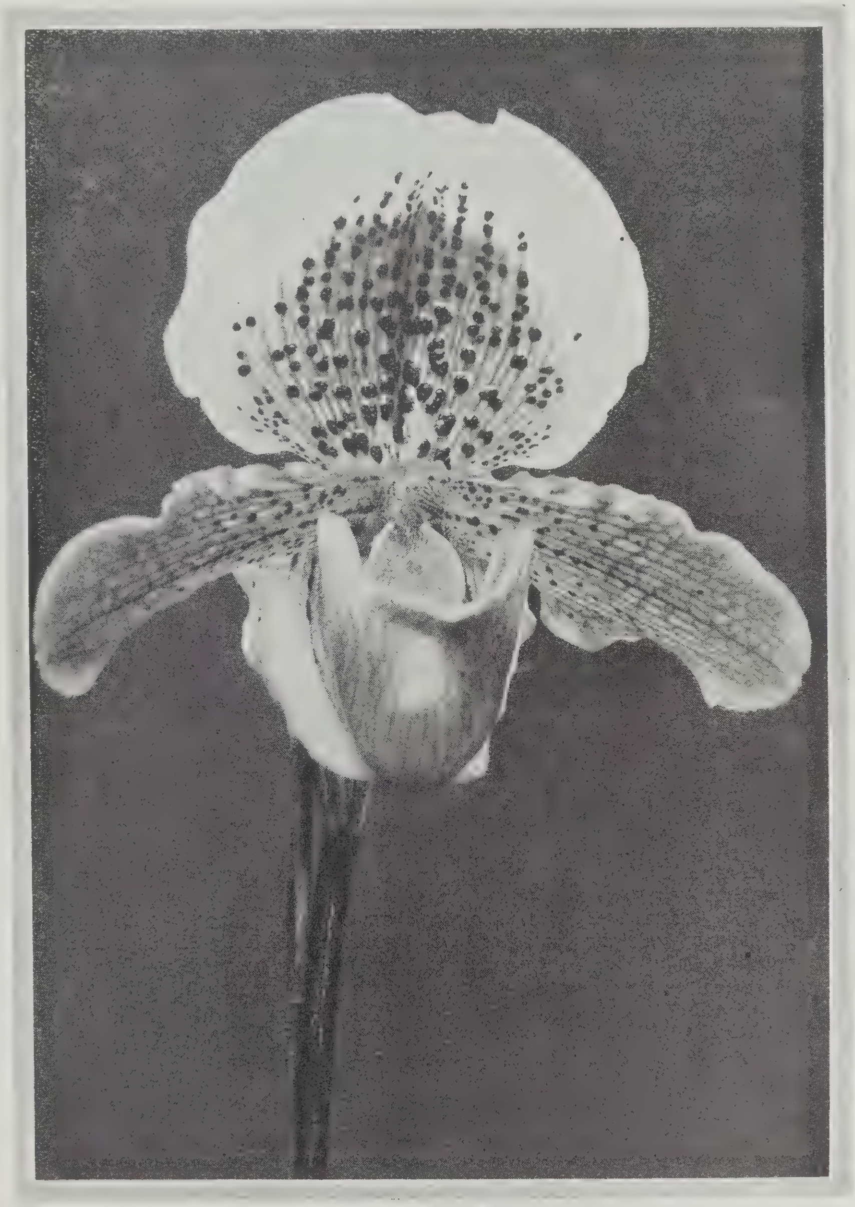
hen a good strain of this exquisite Stock vell grown there are few autumn flowers e beautiful and fragrant. If seeds be n now fine plants should be available for ing out just after the middle of May, and then have time to grow into large, hand-e plants and produce abundance of bloom. thinly in shallow pans or boxes and set temperature of 55 degs. to 60 degs. In earlier stages of growth damping-off is n very troublesome, and so to avoid this, y pricking-off is advisable.

e blue Primrose

his very lovely but rather troublesome ject gives, as a rule, best results from elling plants, although even with the finest ins a certain percentage of purple or lish shades will appear. To ensure ing fine plants before autumn seed should sown now in small boxes or pans filled h light compost. Set in a slightly heated pit or greenhouse, cover each box or pan with glass and paper, and in due course the seedlings will appear. They do so, however, as a rule, very irregularly, and as the weakest and latest seedlings usually produce the finest and bluest flowers none should be discarded until they have bloomed.

Polyanthus from seed

As with the Primrose, mentioned above, it is a good plan to raise young plants frequently, and by doing this under glass and early in the year much finer plants are assured, and these will yield a great profusion of flower next (1930) spring. Treat exactly as advised with the Primrose.



Cypripedium W. H. Page var. Grace, shown by Armstrong and Brown *(see p. 58)*

Sow Broad Beans

A small sowing of this useful subject should be got in as soon as ever the soil can be got in working order. A good strain of the old Seville Long-pod is very suitable for earliest work, being hardy, early, and prolific.

Sow earliest out-door Peas

This is a crop that one can never have too early, and as some of the varieties, notably The Pilot, are so hardy that even prolonged cold and wet fail to rot the seeds, a sowing should now be got in as soon as ever the soil can be got in workable condition. Select a sheltered south border, if possible, for this sowing.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Southern and Midland

Shrubberies

The pruning and thinning of flowering and other ornamental shrubs must now be taken in hand. There are, however, a few exceptions which should be left until later, and these include those actually in bloom, such as the Winter Sweet (Chimonanthus), Garrya elliptica, Erica lusitanica, Viburnum fragrans, and Witch Hazels, also Ceanothus, Buddleias, and those evergreens which are liable to get damaged by excessive frosts. First remove all dead wood and thin out the remaining growths sufficient to admit light and air to all parts, stopping down any strong growths which tend to overbalance the bushes. The cutting back to within a few inches of their base of a few of the older growths each year will encourage the formation of strong young wood and help to maintain the shrubs in a vigorous, healthy condition.

Bulbs among shrubs

Crocus, Snowdrops, Scillas, and other spring flowers are often used to carpet beds of Azaleas, and Lilies are wisely used between Rhododendrons, and if a light dressing of fine soil is applied at the present time over the whole surface it will prove most beneficial to them and also to the shrubs. Any odd soil will do, and quite a thin dressing will answer the purpose, which is that of holding down the accumulation of leaves, converting them into leaf-mould, and giving to the beds a tidy, finished appearance. Such leaves should never be removed, nor should the soil among such shrubs be dug over.

Herbaceous plants

Old growth should now be cut away, whether in the garden proper or in the wilder parts, including the fringes of streams and ponds, as the crowns of many are already prominent and may get damaged if left longer. The division and transplanting of such subjects may be carried out whenever the ground is in good working order, and the same applies to Alpine flowers.

Autumn-sown Sweet Peas

These have germinated better than usual, and the lines in the open ground are about 4 inches high. An application of soot and lime at intervals will serve to protect them from birds and slugs. Give plenty of air to those growing in cold frames when weather permits.

Open spaces in the foreground of shrubs

Spaces intended for colonies of annuals should be dug over deeply in order to admit of the frost pulverising the surface and thus render the work of preparation easier later. This applies particularly to heavy soils.

Spraying fruit trees

Follow up the pruning with spraying, and thus complete the winter's work. This will admit of the borders being dressed and lightly pricked over. Many favour caustic alkali, which is very effective in the destruction of Lichen and Moss. This should be used at the rate of 1 lb. caustic soda (98 per cent.) to 10 gallons of water. Always choose a still, dry day for its application. Glove the hands and wrists with rubber, and wear an old suit for this, as it is injurious to both skin and clothing. If insects and fungi have been troublesome I prefer lime sulphur, an excellent winter wash, which may be obtained already made up from horticultural sundriesmen.

Hotbeds

These should be made up of dry leaves and stable manure, and covered with frames before the soil is added. The latter may be about 5 inches in depth and of good heart. As soon as the testing-stick proves the heat to be receding, the seed of early French Horn Carrots, Turnips, and Lettuce may be sown.

Peas

Those sown during November in cold houses and frames are showing greater strength, and although plenty of air is advisable on mild occasions it should be given with care during very cold weather.

Brussels Sprouts, Onions, and Leeks

Those intended for early work and shows may now be sown in boxes containing well-prepared soil. After sowing and watering lightly with a fine rose stand the boxes on stages close to the glass in a house the temperature of which is maintained at 55 degs. to 60 degs.

Potato Onions and Shallots

These may now be planted, using well-prepared ground for them. The former should be put out at 1 foot between the sets, 3 inches deep, and 18 inches between the rows, and the latter should be merely pressed into the surface at 9 inches all ways.

Perpetual flowering Carnations

Cuttings inserted during December should now be rooted, and where these are in they may be hardened off to withstand l and air, before being potted up into 2- pots; no shading will be required at period. Continue to insert clean, hea cuttings as these become available, and a high temperatures in houses contai flowering plants, 45 degs. to 50 degs. at n being ample. E. MARKHA

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent tc press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plant be named should send fair examples of each— stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of le and points of shoots are useless.) Not more t four plants should be sent in any one week by same correspondent. Where more than one is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in diffe stages of colour and size of the same kind gre assist in its determination. Single, unripe, deformed specimens are difficult to name. do not undertake to name more than varieties at one time.*

GREENHOUSE

Cyclamen in the third year

I have a batch of Cyclamen in flower, raised from seed sown in August, 1926. I should be much obliged if you would advise me as to further treatment of same. I am under the impression that they will be useful again next winter, and would not be worth keeping for a third flowering. Mr. C. Blair gave a good article about a year ago on the raising of Cyclamen from seed to the flowering period, but I am doubtful as to after-treatment. REGULAR READER.

[After the plants go out of bloom set the pots in a cold frame and continue to give water in the usual way until the foliage shows signs of turning yellow, when supplies should be gradually diminished and finally stopped. Do not, however, expose the plants to the sun, but always shade them. After the foliage has quite died down remove it carefully, but still withhold water at the roots until growth begins to push up. A slight spraying overhead daily is good for them, and abundance of air must be given at all times. As soon as growth appears the corms can either be shaken free of the old soil and repotted into fresh compost or else a little of the surface soil can be loosened and removed, its place being taken with fresh, rich compost. Future treatment is the same as for young plants. The corms can be bloomed for several years, but the flowers get smaller, as a rule.]

Bud-dropping in Camellias

(Leytonstone).—The trouble to which you refer is not uncommon in the case of Camellias. Opinions vary as to its cause. Some put it down to over-dryness and others to too much moisture at the roots. Still others attribute bud-dropping to too much or too little heat while the buds are expanding. In your case, clearly, unripened wood has nothing to do with the trouble. You afford, however, a most likely clue by stating that, previous to being planted out, the Camellias were grown in 10-inch pots. As only this particular plant has been unsatisfactory it is highly probable that the ball of the plant, near the centre, had become dry, and when this happens it is almost impossible to moisten it thoroughly. Although the border may be in a satisfactory state of moisture inspection may reveal that the plant is quite dry at the centre of its root system. If it is possible to do so let the plant be lifted, and wash every particl soil from the roots with a hose, afterw replanting in fresh soil, which may added to it a little peat. This treatn ought to work a reformation. You ar be congratulated on the particularly hea and clean foliage of the specimen forwar

Primula obconica

My Primula obconica, raised from sown last year, are grown in 5-inch The leaves, both this year and in prev years, go yellow in patches. The plants watered either once or twice a week when the pots ring). Rain-water is and no manure of any kind is given. Pl are not watered overhead. The pl flower well, but are not very good except the first blooms. Please tell me how avoid the discoloration of leaves.

F. A. V

[The specimens sent for examination badly affected with Botrytis, a fungus w is common everywhere, but one whic usually a saprophyte and only rarely att living tissue. We are afraid that your control will be to burn the plants as cease to become useful, picking off the le that show the water-soaked areas, spraying the others with a weak solutio potassium sulphide might arrest the prog of the disease. With the evidence we it is somewhat difficult to account for fungus attacking Primula, and the thing we can suggest is that the rain-w used for watering the plants is contamin with the spores of the fungus concer If you are not in the habit of giving house in which the plants are grow thorough scrub down at least once a the dirty glass or woodwork may be cause of the trouble, or, again, the mat on which the pots stand may be harbou the fungus. A pure water supply coul assured by clearing out the container scrubbing it with a strong solution of manganate of potash or some other fectant. After this has been done rain-w might be allowed to run in again, but work of cleaning out the container shou carried out, say, once or twice a year you would like to send us the full cul details given to your Primulas we migl able to suggest cultural errors, if Primula obconica responds well to a weak manure and soot-water altern when the pots have become full of roots

FLOWER GARDEN

ceous border

n anxious to convert a shrubbery of
eens into a herbaceous border, and
red if you would advise me as to how
t the ground after the roots have been
out. The soil is heavy clay. I had
ed double-digging, putting manure in
ttom of each trench, and top-dressing
ime. If you think this would be satis-
I would be very much obliged if you
tell me whether to use slaked or quick-
and whether it is safe to apply it im-
tely before planting. O. C. M.

the soil is of heavy clay what is
as bastard trenching would be the
way in which to treat it. Double-
g is practically the same thing, but the
soil must not be brought to the sur-
f leaf-mould or partly rotted leaves be
ble put a liberal dressing in the
es, incorporating this with the subsoil.
the surface in a rough state until
ng time (end of March-beginning of
arrives, but, meantime, dress the sur-
vith freshly-slaked lime rather freely.
vill, of course, be raked in previous to
ng, and it will assist in the disintegra-
f the surface soil and make it fit for
ng. Manure at this time is not ad-
nor, indeed, is it desirable. As the
is being carried out see that all the
of the shrubs are cleared out to the
st possible extent. So treated the con-
shrubbery ought to prove a satisfac-
nome for the majority of such hardy
as do not call for special treatment.]

tmas Roses

M. M., Co. Cork).—It is evident that
Christmas Roses are starved and in
of lifting and replanting. Most of the
bores are most accommodating plants
ucceed in ordinary garden soil, but the
comes at length when they may collapse
nly. Therefore, when the leaves again
as they will most likely do with the
cing spring, lift the plants, thoroughly
or deepen the quarters, adding some
rubble and a proportion of leaf-mould
or of well-rotted stable manure, and replant. This ought to result in vigorous growth and abundance of bloom next season, and if the work be well done it ought to suffice for six or seven years.

Hardy Salvias and white stemmed shrubs

COULD you inform me of (1) a hardy blue Salvia which can be left out all winter in the milder parts of the country and (2) the white-stemmed shrub which was recommended some weeks ago in your columns as suitable for planting in connection with Dogwoods? G. C. D.

[(1) Salvia virgata is quite hardy and can be trusted anywhere through the winter. The colour, though usually called blue in plant lists, is not a pure blue but a purple-blue. The North American Salvia azurea should also serve your purpose, but it does not seem to be generally grown or offered in nursery catalogues. (2) The white-stemmed shrub for association with Dogwood may have been the white-barked form of Salix vitellina or a white-stemmed Bramble, the best-known of which is the Whitewashed Raspberry (Rubus biflorus). The white stems are most effective in winter. The white stems of the newer Chinese species, Rubus Giraldianus and R. lasiostylus are, we consider, even more effective.]

Above: **A large bed of the purple-flowered Salvia nemorosa virgata at Kew**

When in full bloom it is the source of great attraction to bees

: An herbaceous border at Kew, Crepis rubra, a pretty Hawksbeard, in the foreground

TREES AND SHRUBS

Privet hedge

(Regular Reader).—If very anxious to secure cuttings from the Privet hedge you could go over it with a knife and remove a shoot here and there. You can do this next month, or even in March. To ensure the hedge growing sturdy and well furnished right down to the ground you must trim it yearly. Cut back the young growths to about half their length in February or March.

Clearing out Poplar roots

(W. B., E. Dulwich).—The quickest way, in the end, would be to grub out the roots of the Poplars, and it would certainly be the most effective. If, however, the work is prohibitive, bore an auger-hole in each stump to the depth of 2 inches and fill the hole with salt or with weed-killer. In this case the roots, being left in the ground, would die, and most assuredly they would breed fungoid growths, which might be prejudicial to the welfare of flowers grown on the position. Such things as Nasturtiums or Poppies, which thrive on poor soil, might succeed, but, on the whole, you are strongly recommended, even at the expense of time, to grub out the stumps.

Trimming specimen Bay trees

(Regular Reader).—You may trim your plants in March or April. Leave a few buds on each young shoot, as hard pruning back gives a very stunted and artificial appearance to the trees. Use a sharp knife or secateurs and not the hedge shears.

MISCELLANEOUS

Awards at Flower Show

Will you, please, give a ruling, through GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, on this point. I was a visitor to a show some two months ago, and I noticed two exhibits in a class that had received their award with a Cup to the winner. Later I saw that the Cup had been taken away, and learned that the winner had been disqualified after protest from the runner-up for adding to the exhibit contrary to the wording of the schedule. I also noticed that the runner-up still retained second prize award. Was this right? Should not the second, which had complied with the rules, have moved up into first place? There is a rule which says that the first prize can be withheld if exhibits are not considered of sufficient merit, but this certainly did not apply in this case, for, in my opinion, it was the equal to the disqualified Cup winner. P. C.

[We hardly feel justified in giving a ruling in this case on the strength of the somewhat meagre information supplied. On the face of it it would appear that, in the event of a disqualification, the award should have gone to the next best exhibit, provided such exhibit was worthy of it, but it must be remembered that judges have power to withhold an award, and it is possible that, in this case, they had good reasons for so doing. At any rate, without a much fuller knowledge of the circumstances we should hesitate to pass a definite opinion on their judgment.]

Miniature Japanese gardens

(Kimona).—Small Japanese gardens in bowls, such as you require, may be obtained from Baggesens, Hardy Plant Nurseries, Pembury, Kent. Highly coloured Maples, including Acer Osakasuki and other Japanese forms, may be obtained from the same source.

Soot and lime

I put lime on ground last December. In February can I sow soot on same ground? I understand that lime and soot should not be used together. I am thinking of planting Gladioli on this ground. G. B. S.

[If lime has been applied to your garden last December you need have no fear of using soot on the same site early in February. Quicklime when fresh, added to soot, reacts with the ammonia contained in the soot, and the ammonia is liberated in the form of gas, which escapes into the atmosphere. The main use of soot is that it adds nitrogen in the form of ammonia to the soil. If the ammonia is lost into the atmosphere the value of the soot is wasted. After quicklime has been added to a soil it becomes gradually carbonated, and when fully carbonated its action upon soot is very slight. If your lime was applied as a top-dressing you should hoe the surface so that the material is thoroughly mixed with the top 2 inches of soil. Apply the soot in February. Repeat the hoeing and you will not waste any portion of the value of the soot.]

Treatment of old and weedy lawn

(An Ignorant One).—If the lawn in question is, as it appears to be, in rather a hopeless condition, the best remedy would be to trench it over and to sow it out with good grass seeds early in April. If this course be impracticable it may be dealt with as follows:—First, with a close-toothed steel rake remove as much of the Moss as possible, raking the lawn from top to bottom and from side to side. Then with a hand fork or a weed eradicator root out as many of the Daisies as occasion will permit. Even if the removal of these results in bare patches the work ought to be persevered with until, at least, the majority is disposed of. Then top-dress the lawn with finely sifted soil, and in April sow with grass seeds. After a good growth of young grass is secured a dressing of lawn sand applied according to the directions given with each bag may be applied, and this will, in all likelihood, dispose of the remaining Daisies. The renovation of an old and neglected lawn calls for patience, the work cannot be done in the course of a season, and, candidly, it is always preferable to "scrap" the present grass and to begin from the beginning.

BEES

Choosing a hive

FOR the last 30 years the hive used by the majority of experienced bee-keepers in Great Britain is that known as the W.B.C., which was designed by the late W. B. Carr, one of the pioneers of modern bee-keeping in this country. This hive has stood the test of time, and the largest recorded "takes" of honey in this country have been from this pattern. It has many advantages, especially to the beginner in bee-keeping, ease of manipulation being not the least important. Owing to its double wall—the hive proper being surrounded by an outer case with an air space between the two—the bees are kept warmer in winter and cooler in summer than would be the case with a single-walled hive. Again, it is so made that it can be enlarged upwards to any extent, a very important consideration in a good honey-flow.

The brood chamber is designed to take what is known as the British standard frame, which measures 14 inches by $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. This frame was decided upon by the British Bee-Keepers' Association, after repeated experiments, as the most satisfactory size for this country.

Of recent years, however, a certain number of experienced bee-keepers think that this frame is too small, and are adopting the larger sizes used in America, which are known as the Langstroth and Dadant, measuring respectively $17\frac{5}{8}$ inches by $9\frac{1}{8}$ inches and $17\frac{5}{8}$ inches by $11\frac{1}{4}$ inches.

For some time past a long controversy has been taking place in the different bee-keeping papers, but no agreement has been arrived at. Many County Bee-Keeping Associations are now trying the different-sized frames in their experimental apiaries. English W.B.C. hives and the larger American patterns are being worked side by side under exactly similar conditions, but these experiments, to be of any real value, must be conducted over a series of years before any conclusive results can be obtained.

So far the experiments seem to prove that in a very good bee district and in an exceptional season the larger frame has certain advantages, but, personally, I think that with our uncertain summers and for most districts the original frame fixed by the B.B.K.A. will always hold its own. One great drawback to the larger frame is its additional weight when manipulating, no mean consideration in a large apiary.

It must be remembered that, though each frame has its advocates, the production of surplus honey depends largely on the skill of the individual bee-keeper.

I have used the W.B.C. hives in my apiary for the past 20 years, and at different times have experimented with the American type, but I am quite satisfied that in this climate of ours the former hive with the British standard frame is unexcelled.

Unless one wishes to experiment one type of hive alone should be used throughout the apiary, as it is most important that everything be interchangeable; roofs, lifts, floor-boards, brood chambers, supers, etc., should be of one size, so that one part of a hive will fit a similar position in any other. Interchangeability saves much time and temper, and, from an economic point of view, is essential.

The frames themselves should be t
with a groove in the top bar, the wax
tion being fixed by means of hot wax
wooden wedge.

Those usually sent with hives have
top bar to hold the foundation. Th
not nearly so satisfactory.

In choosing a hive buy the best.
are many cheap hives on the marke
are generally expensive in the long
good, well-made hive, if kept
painted, should last a lifetime.

Wells. L. BIGG-W

Manchester and North of En
Orchid Society

At the meeting held on Friday, J
18th, the members of Committee
were:—Messrs. J. B. Adamson (
chair), A. Burns, A. Coningsby, J.
A. Keeling, D. McLeod, W. J. Morg
H. Arthur (Secretary).

AWARDS OF MERIT

Cypripedium Sumurun var. Sn
Cyp. Elidia (Elise II. x Idina Leean
Cyp. Elidia var. Cosmos, from Ca
Horridge; Cyp. Eurydore (Euryades
dens x Commodore) and Cyp. Mon
Dolcis, from J. B. Adamson.

CULTURAL CERTIFICATE

To Mr. A. Burns for Calanthes.

GROUPS

J. B. Adamson, Esq., Blackpool (ga
Mr. J. Howes), staged a group to w
Gold Medal was awarded. Cypripedi
great variety, including Roundhead,
Evelyn James, Viking, Commodore,
Sander, Mme. Jules Hye, Thundere
Bourtonense magnificum, Odm Asp
Sophronitis grandiflora, Oncidium Tig
Epidendrum Wallisii, and others.

Mrs. Bruce and Miss Wrigley, Bur
dener, Mr. A. Burns), were also awa
Gold Medal for a magnificent gr
Calanthes in the following varieties:
Murray, Bella, Brian, Kenneth, V
and Vestita oculata rubra.

Mr. John Evans, Colwyn Bay
awarded a large Silver Medal for a
Cypripediums F. M. Ogilvie, Eury
The King, Makeda, Anita comp
alcibiades illustris, and others, O
eximium and alvara, Odtas Lorn
Patricia, and seedlings.

Capt. W. Horridge, Bury (gardene
A. Coningsby), staged the home-raise
lings as enumerated in awards.

Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons, Br
staged Cypripediums Ena, Argo, Merli
Prince Albert, with Odm Regale splen

Mr. D. M'Leod, Chorlton-cum-
staged Cypripediums in variety.

The next meetings will be held
Houldsworth Hall, 90, Deansgate,
chester, on Fridays, February 1st an
1929.

The National Carnation a
Picotee Society

The Fiftieth Annual General Meeti
the above Society was held at 95, Be
Road, Victoria, S.W. 1 (by kind perm
of the London School Gardening A
tion), on Saturday, January 19th.
was a large attendance of members.

The Committee's 1928 Report discl
satisfactory state of affairs, the memb
roll having increased by 70 during the
and the balance in hand being over
as against £30 in the previous year
conjunction with the British Car
Society, a combined Carnation Exhi
was held at the R.H.S. Hall on July
and 20th, which was an outstanding s
and the Committee is pleased to report

to the happy relationship existing
n the two Societies, a similar com-
how will be held in the R.H.S. Hall
ar on July 18th and 19th. At this
exhibition the "Edith Drake" Chal-
Trophy for a vase of fifteen blooms,
riety or varieties, will be competed for
first time. This Cup, which is to
n three times in succession or four
n all, has been generously donated by
rake, an enthusiastic member of the
. Innovations in the 1929 schedule
so include new classes for fancy Car-
(other than white or yellow ground)
rdy border Pinks. The best thanks
Committee were accorded to all ex-
g members. The retiring President
dmund Charrington) was unanimously
ed in that position, with the hearty
of all members for his continued in-
hard work, and support, whilst Miss
r and Messrs. James Fairlie and J. J.
three of the Society's oldest and best-
exhibitors) were elected Vice-Presi-
Major George Churcher, for his many
ctions, was appointed Patron of the
. The meeting regretfully accepted
signation of the Hon. Secretary (Mr.
Lowe), at the same time expressing
nks to him for his whole-hearted
on the Society's behalf whilst hold-
t position. Mr. A. E. Amos, a Com-
member, was unanimously elected
n. Secretary of the Society, with Miss
Wells (re-elected) as Hon. Assistant-
ry. The Committee vacancies were
by Messrs. S. H. Gregg (London),
Child (London), E. G. Lowe (London),
Flindt (London), and A. Reynold
ngham). The meeting closed with a
vote of thanks to the President for
irmanship.

Awards to Carrots

The following awards have been made to the undermentioned Carrots by the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society after trial at Wisley.

AWARD OF MERIT.

Early Guerande	..Sent by	Messrs.	Speed, Evesham
Perfection ..	,,	,,	Bath, Wisbech
Nantes Selected ..	,,	,,	Zwaan and van der Molen
Carenton	,,	,,	Nutting, London
James' Intermediate	,,	,,	Carter, Raynes Park
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Oxheart..	,,	,,	Morse, San Francisco
Chantenay	,,	,,	Morse, San Francisco
Scarlet Horn	,,	,,	Morse, San Francisco
	,,	,,	Webb, Stourbridge
Early Horn Improved	,,	,,	Carter, Raynes Park
Early Scarlet Horn ..	,,	,,	W. H. Simpson, Birmingham
	,,	,,	Morris, Birmingham

LEGAL POINT

Sale of market garden

I let a 2-acre field which also contains 100 fruit trees to a market gardener for £12 per annum. He also has planted about 100 Currant trees and some Raspberry canes. The land is about to be sold. What notice is the tenant subject to? Also is he entitled to any compensation for the Currant bushes he has planted or for trade interference? There is also a rough shed on the premises.

F. W.

[The fact that the land is about to be sold makes no difference whatever to the tenant's legal rights. He is entitled to the same notice as he would have been entitled to if no sale took place. It is not absolutely necessary that he should have notice even now unless the purchaser desires it. If he has notice it will be 12 months' notice, and the compensation to which he will be entitled will depend upon the terms of the agreement under which he holds and upon the question whether that agreement is in writing or otherwise, as to which you give us no information.]

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

W. Smith and Son, Ltd., 18, Market Street, Aberdeen.—Seeds, plants, and sundries.

Edmunds and Co., Alexandra Nurseries, Milton, Cambridge.—Plants, seeds, and bulbs.

E. P. Dixon and Sons, Ltd., Seedsmen, Hull.—Vegetable and flower seeds, garden requisites.

Thompson and Morgan, Ipswich.—Choice flower seeds.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

R.H.S. "List of Awards to Plants, Fruit, and Vegetables, 1925-6," price 1s. R.H.S. "List of Awards to Orchids, 1925-6," price 1s. Published by the Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. 1.

LATE NOTE

Rabbits barking fruit trees

Now that we are having some snow it may interest your readers to know how I stopped the depredation of these pests during a heavy fall of snow. I had a lot of young trees in an open orchard, and, in my desperation, smeared tar on two sides of the stems up to as far as I thought the rabbits could reach. This stopped them, and I could not see any ill-effect upon the growth of the trees afterwards.

W. ELGAR.

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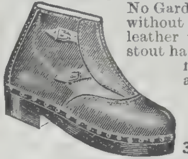

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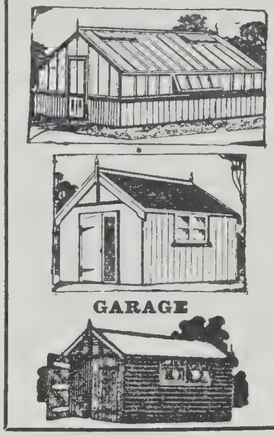

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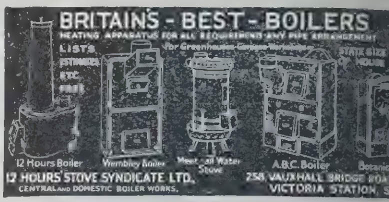
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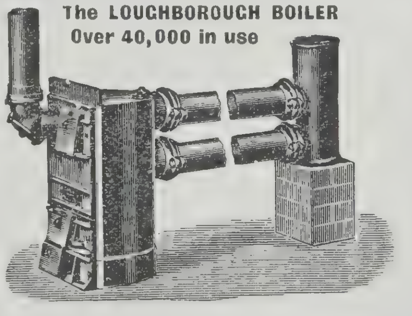

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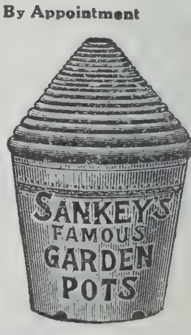

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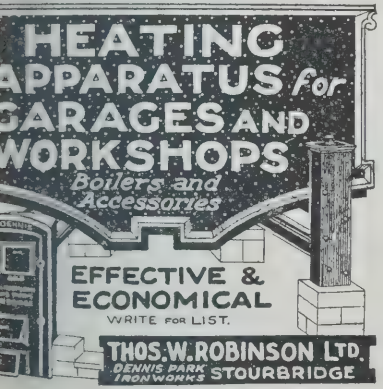

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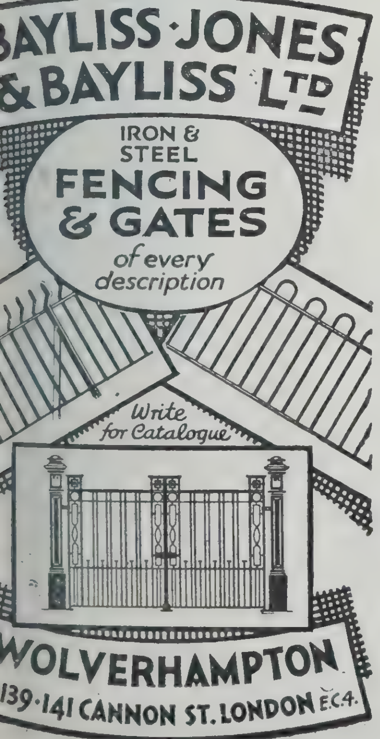

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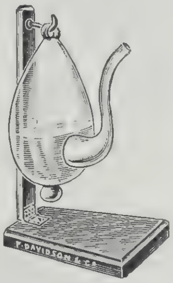

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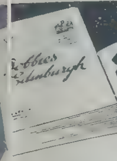

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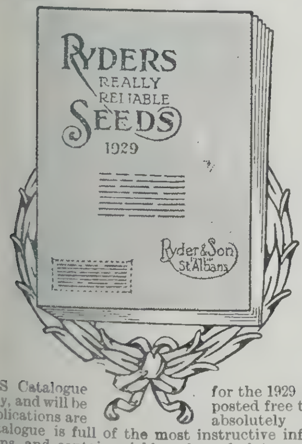

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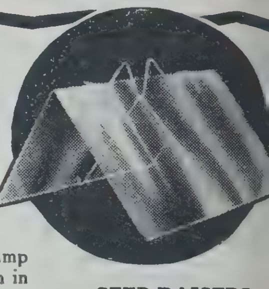

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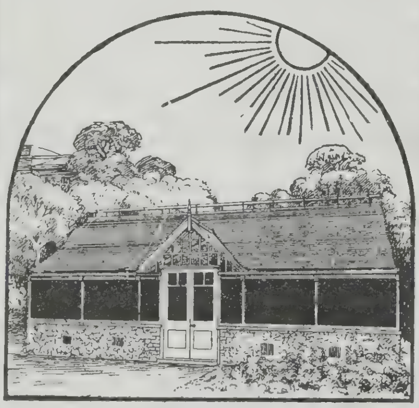

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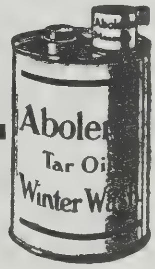

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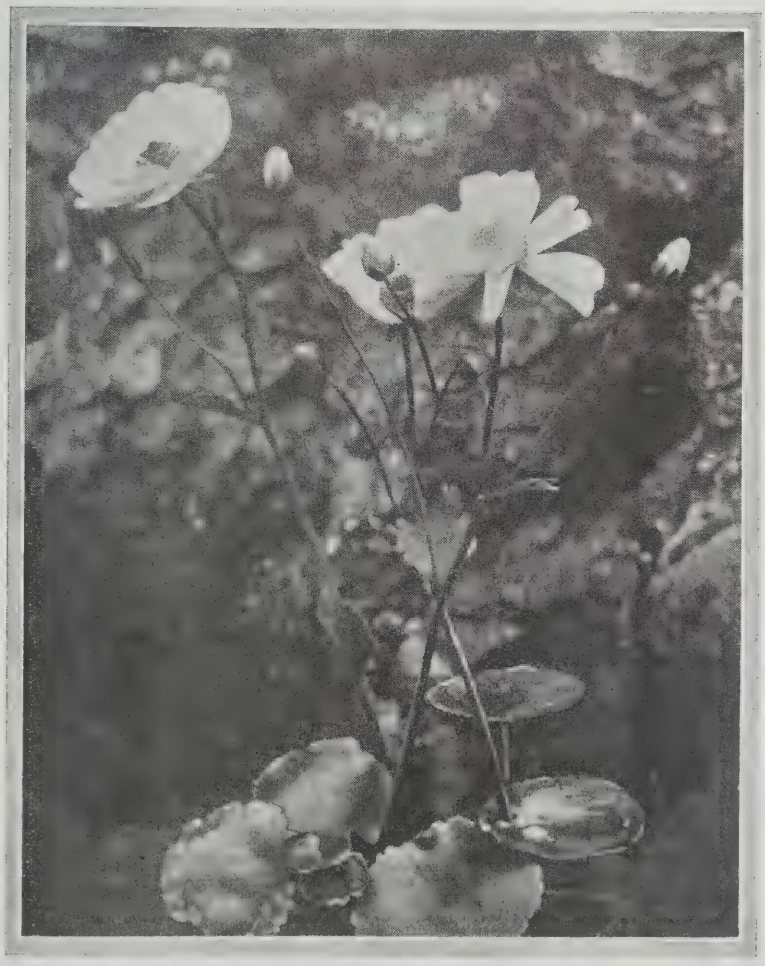
Ranunculus Lyallii

SEE that Ranunculus Lyalli is getting
me attention at present in your journal,
d a note, therefore, about this plant
one who has seen it growing by the
in its New Zealand habitat, who has
collected it and grown it in his garden
fair success, may be of interest, and
helpful, to those who would fain add it
eir garden flora. I think I have seen
oliage described as "sword-like." There
thing, however, of the sword about this
rcup—of the shield, rather, the leaves
what botanists would call peltate. Each
if flattened out, would approach the
lar, but the web of the leaf slopes up-
from its junction with the stem, and
s a cup or funnel, like the bowl of a
sh wine-glass. Indeed, in the Southern
of New Zealand, where one
times gets woefully thirsty,
ve more than once been
to use it as a cup. The
mounted on a strong stem
t or more in height, is stiff
eathery, of a dark, polished
on the upper side, but, as
ost plants, paler on the
r side. If it produced
ng but leaves this Ranun-
would look distinguished
g the handsomest of our
e plants. But, though
eaf is handsome, the blos-
is the thing. In early
ner—October or November
plant shoots up a branched
some 18 inches or 20
s high, each branch bear-
its quota of Buttercups,
of them as large as a
n-piece, though, as in all
inflorescences, there are
rs of various sizes, the
nal blooms being the
st. There is little about
flower to suggest the
ter," which has given its
to our meadow Ranun-
, except the stamens,
h are yellow enough. The
s are solid in substance
f a colour which has been
ibed as "snow-white."
e they certainly are, but as
member the flower (if one
split a hair) not the dead
of snow, but rather the
er white of swan's down.
Lyallii is a mountain
r. New Zealanders—who
d it as the Buttercup of
rcups and as one of the
glories of their Dominion
l the flower, regardless of
botany, a Lily—"Mountain Lily," or "Mt. Cook Lily." After all, the English word "Lily" has ceased to be the narrow equivalent of the botanical Lilium, and when we have ceased to call "Convallaria majalis" "Lily of the Valley" it will be time enough for New Zealanders to consider whether they ought not to call their flower "The Mt. Cook Ranunculus." Meantime—Lily or Ranunculus—it is a mountain flower in the strict sense—I would say, from my own experience, a glacier flower; and it remains yet to be discovered by patient experiment whether it can be induced to live permanently away from the eager air of its native glacier valleys. Though I have not seen R. Lyallii in all its habitats I think I am right in saying that where it grows luxuriantly it has its fleshy roots invariably anchored in moist detritus with, as often as not, a sprinkling of light Moss growing over them. On one occasion, in botanising Arthur's Pass, where the Province of Canterbury passes into that of Westland, I remember exploring a shallow ravine or watercourse which ran pretty well east and west, so that while one bank was well exposed to the sun the surface of the opposite slope got little direct sunshine, or none. On the moist, shady side the Ranunculus grew strong and in abundance, while on the drier, sunny side there was not a plant. It does not, however, follow from this that the Ranunculus should be planted in shade, but that its foothold should be cool, moist, and well drained—should have, in short, very much the conditions needful for growing Japanese or Himalayan Lilies. In our hemisphere a well-constructed scree, I should think, quite in the open and sloping easily to the north, would be ideal for this flower, yet more ideal, perhaps, if a thin coating of some variety of loose Moss could be induced to grow over the roots. I grew and flowered this Ranunculus easily enough in the Province of Otago, in the south of New Zealand, where the climate is not markedly different from that of England, but it required watching to ensure that the needful conditions were kept up.



Ranunculus Lyallii, a mountain flower from New Zealand

Failing a sufficient supply of root moisture the leaves in time would shrivel, while, on the other hand, stagnant moisture would be fatal. R. Lyallii is not a bog plant. A cool anchorage in moist grit, always moist but never boggy, on an open slope trending north is, in my opinion, the recipe for growing R. Lyallii in this hemisphere. I do not know whether there has been any success with this plant at Kew or elsewhere in this country. It is not exactly an easy plant to establish, even in its native home, and I cannot conceive its thriving in a snowless, iceless climate like that of Auckland, though it is unsafe to dogmatise as to what plants will or will not put up with. So far as latitude goes, any part of Great Britain or Ireland should suit this Ranunculus, provided care is taken to provide the needful conditions of a cool, gritty foothold, pure air, and sufficient moisture.

If it is to be established in this country it must, of course, be either by raising seedlings or by importing roots. The Ranunculus seeds abundantly, but as I have never attempted to raise it from seed I can only say on this point that as the plant in its native habitat spreads abundantly from seed it should be easily possible to raise it from imported seed, always provided that the seed is freshly gathered at exactly the right time and transmitted to this country in such a way as to protect it in transit from too high a temperature—say, in cold storage. As to importing roots, I see no good reason why this should not be done successfully. The plant has completed its season's growth by March or April, and if the strong, fleshy roots (almost like the rhizomes of an Iris) were lifted then, suitably packed in some moist, gritty material, and shipped in cool storage, they should reach this country as full of life as when they were dug up. The rest would be the business of growers here.

I should like to correct the notion—if such a notion exists—that R. Lyallii is the only handsome New Zealand Ranunculus. There are well on for 30 species of New Zealand Buttercups, and possibly a few remain still to be discovered. Many, perhaps most, of these species are of only botanic interest, but several, though they do not equal Lyallii, come within measurable distance of that noble flower. R. insignis, for instance, which I have myself grown, is a bold plant after the Lyallii pattern, but with flowers of a varnished yellow. R. Buchananii is a large and beautiful cut-leaved species which I have never myself grown, but have seen in cultivation. It has white flowers as large as those of Lyallii, but, as I remember it, with narrower petals and a slight tinge of colour.

I should be glad to think that R. Lyallii had become a permanent denizen of the best British gardens (it will never condescend to any but the best), but anyone who wishes to achieve its successful importation would be wise to get in touch, if possible, with someone at the other end who knows all about the plant, where to find it and how to grow it, whether by transplanting or from seed. No doubt there are several such, but I know only of one, whose name and whereabouts I hope I do nothing amiss in mentioning—L. Cockayne, Ph.D., F.R.S., Government Buildings, Wellington, N.Z. Dr. Cockayne is as skilful a gardener as he is an accomplished botanist. A. W.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

New President of the R.H.S.

As we go to press we learn that the Council at their meeting on January 29th elected Mr. G. W. E. Loder President of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. Loder is one of the best-known horticulturists in the country, and his beautiful garden at Wakehurst, Sussex, is rich in Rhododendrons, Heaths, New Zealand and Tasmanian trees and shrubs. For many years Mr. Loder has been a member of the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society, and he is the President of the Horticultural Club.

Starting tuberous Begonias

THE tubers or corms may be started any time during February, March, or April, and the best method is to place them in shallow boxes containing nice light soil consisting of one part each of loam, leaf-mould, and a half part coarse sand. Do not cover the crown of the tubers, and water very sparingly until they start into growth. When the shoots are about ½ inch long put into 4-inch or 5-inch pots, according to size of tuber, using a nice light potting compost.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Begonia Lord Lambourne, a noble variety not unworthy of the name of the late President of the Royal Horticultural Society

The colour is of a pleasing shade of deep salmon-orange. The flowers are of perfect Camellia shape, and the colour is well retained. A.M., R.H.S. Tubers should be started in shallow boxes containing potting soil any time during February, March, or April

Begonias as house plants

THE two experiences as to whether Begonias in pots are suitable for indoor decoration are interesting.

As an amateur grower of Begonias, and with due respect to Mr. Greaves, I should be very sorry to see any of my plants taken from the greenhouse to decorate the house, even for a day or two; and I think Mr. Blunsden will agree that if the plants were so treated, they would be finished so far as further blooms are concerned, and might as well be set aside for the season.

I note Mr. Greaves finds it easy "to maintain a house atmosphere thoroughly congenial to tuberous Begonias." I am afraid my house-proud partner would object to my damping down floors and surroundings, which Begonias so look forward to in hot weather. My object, however, in penning these lines is to mention a point missed by your correspondents, namely, that if Begonias are required for decoration, why not
them in wire baskets? hanging them
the greenhouse (or better, in the cons
tory), or, if the danger of frost has pa
in any loggia or outside section of the h
where they will be protected from rain.
or three 10-inch wire baskets, furnished
with three basket Begonia plants of colour each, are a picture to enjoy, and
attention to watering and taking off
blooms, will last all the summer.
varieties as Joan (coral red), Mrs. B
(salmon orange), Meteor (scarlet), G
(dark red), Betha (salmon pink), and G
Shower (William Allen Richardson co
are all suitable. H.

—— It is one of the failings of hu
nature that we always consider a writer
ticularly discerning whose opinions coi
with our own, and, on the whole, I
agree with Mr. Blunsden's letter in your
of January 5th that double Begonias d
make good house plants. My long ex

is that after removal from greenhouse ving-room they show considerable de- ration. If a tuber has been started and ght on in a living-room, which is quite ferent matter, it will probably do fairly if kept near a window and properly at- ed to, but to remove a plant when in full n from a greenhouse to the dry atmo- re of a living-room is asking for trouble. ever, it is inadvisable to be too dogmatic, it is not given to everyone to grow nias to perfection, and I still hold the that the one who discovers the means eby double Begonias may be kept in per- condition after removal from greenhouse om when in flower will be a benefactor egonia lovers, and his fame should echo the corridors of time.

W. J. Robinson.

Iris stylosa

was interested in reading the letter by rset ” in your issue of January 19th, as, seeing the article by the French corre- dent alluded to, I decided to experiment e lines suggested.

have five clumps of this Iris in a dry er against a wall facing east-south-east, ey get a maximum of sunshine during whole year. Three of these clumps I cut as low as possible, leaving the remain- two uncut. At the time of writing, it ars that cutting off the leaves tends to ase the number of blooms; it most cer- y advances the period of flowering com- d with that of the uncut clumps, as so he blooms I have cut (about two dozen) been only from the clumps so treated. t a fortnight since I had a bowl of 12 ns.

the weather in Dorset has been as cold e have had it in Kent since the end of mber, with the exception of odd days, what is of still more importance, as lack- in sunshine, I am not surprised that rset ” has only cut 17 blooms. I have carefully examined my clumps and find the “ treated ” ones are showing a good ly of buds which only want warmer and ter weather to develop, while those treated ” do not look so promising. ever, I think it is a little too soon to e an accurate or fair comparison be- n the two methods, and intend later on ve the result of my experiences.

“ Dorset ” is also interested in the varie- of Iris other than Stylosa, might I sug- in case he is not already a member, that hould join the Iris Society, and thereby, les having other privileges, be in a posi- to obtain useful information from its ications. The Hon. Secretary of the ety is G. L. Pilkington, Lower Lee, lton, Liverpool.

F. Burton.

ildenborough.

Hybrid Ricardii Irises

nce the unfortunate accident which d the Royal Horticultural Society of its etary articles in the horticultural Press ng with Irises, on which Mr. Dykes was ibtedly one of the outstanding authori- have been few and far between. It is eshing to see that space in the columns ARDENING ILLUSTRATED has recently been to a genus which is gaining favour dily with the gardeners in this country. contributor in the article dealing with rdii hybrids raises several issues which ome measure may be thought to be a rrent to the cultivation of this particular s of hybrid Iris, and some may not agree a trap is lying in wait for those who r from catalogues. One can only speak e issues raised on his or her personal rience, coupled with information ob- from others who grow the same varie- under dissimilar conditions.

Monsieur F. Denis was the pioneer of this class of Ricardii hybrids, and nearly 14 years ago the following varieties—R. Fonce, J. B. Dumas, Professeur Scheubel, Gernaz Troost, Flavescens x Ricardii Mme. Boullet and Clement Desormes, from his garden at Balaruc les Bains, came into my possession and were planted in sandy loam in the hottest part of my small garden facing due south and sheltered by a greenhouse on the east. The existing soil was about 6 inches above the adjoining path, and, before planting, a quantity of old mortar and bone-meal was thoroughly incorporated, and the plants thrived well in this position, increasing moderately.

The plants, however, were not free in producing flowers, although otherwise they were healthy, but had a strong tendency to throw out long rhizomes. Owing, probably, to insufficient vigour the flowering stems did not show in satisfactory quantities.

The garden of M. Denis at that time at Balaruc enjoyed the heat which is associated with the shores of the Mediterranean. Moreover, the soil was of a heavy nature, and these two factors, coupled with lime (which these hybrids require), are the conditions which induce these plants to grow strongly and bloom freely.

Now, it will follow that in this country it is difficult to find a spot hot enough to grow these hybrids in heavy soil, as they refuse to grow in such a medium if cold. A light soil fattened to some extent will give the vigour that is essential to free blooming, and this seems to be the best compromise. These requirements should not be sufficient to condemn the race as delicate, although they are not so hardy as ordinary hybrids. North of London it would appear that, unless these hybrids are treated as greenhouse plants it is better to try something that will give some measure of success as an outdoor plant until it can be demonstrated that hybrids with just a streak of Ricardii blood will stand the English climate generally.

The above remarks are based entirely on personal experience with hybrids of Ricardii. With regard to hybrids of Mesopotamica, these are not quite so fastidious in their requirements.

With regard to your contributor's suggestion that it would be as well to put Ricardii hybrids in a class by themselves, while there might not be any difficulty in so placing original first crosses, in the secondary and tertiary crosses with a lesser quantity of Ricardii blood in them such a classification would become complex and lead to similar confusion as arose on the old grouping system.

Quite a number of Ricardii hybrids suffer from having weak stems, but in subsequent crosses this defect often disappears. The lack of flowers would appear to be caused not by spring frosts, but rather from the rhizomes not being sufficiently vigorous to throw flowering stems. The large flowers, tall stems, colour, and scent are features which tempt the hybridist to continue his experiments in an attempt to improve and add to the genus which in the end may be a complete justification of the endeavour.

The list given on page 2 of Mr. Helling's article of Ricardii hybrids is by no means complete, but the varieties quoted may be regarded as quite a representative selection which includes practically all the best.

In conclusion, it would appear that those who have in hand the classification of names have quite a stiff task without further suggestions for classifications of kinds or varieties, and when the classification of names assumes a definite shape (and this will probably be some time ahead yet) then it may be desirable to take on further trouble.

W. Sadler.

Meconopsis Baileyi and Primula Florindæ

The letter of your correspondent, “ Clay ” (issue January 12th, page 23), on the variation in colour of Meconopsis Baileyi, savours of the machinations of that libellous old dame, Madam Gossip, for it is with a little of truth, leavened with a touch of venom, and spiced with “ whisper it softly,” that she usually proceeds to malign the reputation of her hapless victims.

Presumably “ Clay ” has singled out this beautiful Meconopsis as being the latest comer, for he might have extended his tirades and included the majority of blue flowers in cultivation, and certainly all the blue species of Meconopsis, for Meconopsis Baileyi varies no more than the other species.

Before condemning any blue flowering plants, it is well to bear in mind that blue is affected by local conditions, probably more than any other colour in flowers. Every gardener knows that by rendering the soil acid, the pink variety of Hydrangea hortensis may be changed to blue, but how few give it a thought that the reverse is also possible, and that blue flowers whose natural habitat is lime free, might just as easily vary in colour when grown in a calcareous soil. In such cases it is the growing conditions which are at fault, and not the plant

In nature, Meconopsis Baileyi is a plant of the woodland, and bright sunshine might also affect the delicate toning of its faultless blue. In common with other Meconopsis, M. Baileyi does vary slightly under cultivation. At Bodnant it may reach 10 per cent. of the plants, but these variations are of a not unpleasing shade of mauve (very similar to the best shades of mauve Sweet Peas). These plants would be appreciated, but for the fact that they are entirely out-dazzled by the glorious sky blue of their neighbours. I have never seen the horrid dinges, slates, and purples which “ Clay ” mentions, and one wonders whether he writes from actual experience, or only from hearsay, or imagination. If he does write from experience, it would be interesting to know under what conditions the plants were grown.

Meconopsis Baileyi was first shown at Chelsea in 1926, when we exhibited not a single flower, as “ Clay ” states, but a dozen plants. These were not selected for their colour, in fact they commenced their journey to the show whilst still in bud.

In describing the colour of the species as sky-blue, growers have followed the lead of its introducer, Capt. Kingdon Ward, whose judgment is surely unchallenged. His description is not based on a few plants, for he mentions in his field notes that he found it abundant everywhere at Tsela Dazong and Doshong La.

Meconopsis Baileyi or betonicifolia (I believe that the authorities of Kew and Edinburgh have now agreed that the latter is the correct specific name) is one of the finest introductions of recent years, and grown under rational conditions, its beauty will survive any criticism.

When criticising Primula Florindæ, “ Clay” does not mention its outstanding merits as a late flowering Primula. It is an adaptable plant, and if its coarseness is objected to, this may be tempered by reducing rich food. It makes a brave show after the glut of Primulas is over, and shares with Primula Mooreana the honour of continuing the display well into the autumn months.

“ Clay ” asks for truth in advertising, but if his descriptions of Meconopsis Baileyi and Primula Florindæ are meant to act as an example, one can but feel grateful to both the Horticultural Press and Trade for erring on the charitable side, for if they followed "Clay's" lead, we might be tempted to banish many beautiful plants from our gardens. Everyone with experience of plant breeding must admire the care and trouble which our nurserymen and seedsmen take to produce true stocks, and marvel at the success which they attain, but the time when they will be able to accurately catalogue what all seeds will produce is, I hope, far distant, for then plant breeding will have lost all its thrill, and gardening will sink to the commonplace of the machine made article.

F. C. PUDDLE.

Bodnant Gardens,
Tal-y-Cafn, Denbighshire.

Rose Mabel Morse

In reply to N. Leslie Cave (issue December 15th), as I have not seen any response I would like to give a few words in favour of this beautiful Rose. The writer wished to hear from an expert on Roses, but I do not profess to be such. I will give him my opinion by experience. I had two beds in a Rose garden which had done very poorly. I planted these two beds, one with yellow and the other with red Roses. The soil is a heavy clay with which I worked in six barrowloads of leaf-mould before planting. I had five varieties of yellow Roses, of which Mabel Morse was one, and, may I say, one of the best. I had it alongside Christine, Shot Silk, Mme. Ravary, and Rev. F. Page Roberts, and I must say it kept its place along with all of them.

I might mention that the gardens here are 900 feet above sea-level, and blooms were cut of Mabel Morse along with the others in November, giving a good show all summer and autumn, and special notice was taken of them by visitors from more favoured districts. As far as I am concerned Mabel Morse is "worthy of its reputation." The low-growing tendency "N. L. C." complains of is not altogether "crawling," or a very bad fault, as most Rose growers like to get growth as low as possible in bedding Roses, since nothing looks more ugly than long, bare branches, showing all the ground of the Rose bed. I am still on the look-out for other readers' opinions.

K. M. RANKIN,
Head gardener to the Right Hon.
Lady Invernairn of Flichity.

Inverness.

Proposed Society of Garden Architects

The interesting letters on this subject will no doubt be the means of further correspondence, which will give some useful information. Your correspondent (page 35), questions whether such a Society is really wanted. Surely the call for such comes from those who have the qualifications, and who make garden designing their profession. We may well ask, What are the due and approved qualifications? It will, I think, be readily admitted, that some of the objects in garden design, or improving and making interesting and beautiful an existing garden, are to use the technical knowledge and the æsthetic sense of the designer to give a harmonious and restful feeling together with right grouping of trees, shrubs, and plants, which will contribute to this object, which takes years to acquire, even when the designer has a natural aptitude and an artistic sense. Also the necessary knowledge to grow successfully the many beautiful trees, shrubs, and plants which now go to make pleasant pictures in the garden of to-day, which can only be accomplished after many years of experience, and under varying conditions. How are these qualifications to be revealed to the proposed Society? Surely an examination paper and viva voce would be necessary to form part of the preliminaries to the acceptance of members who are to benefit by the status given to them by being members of such a Society?

St. Leonards. F. A. L.

Sternbergia lutea

THIS has flowered best with me in a dry border close to the roots of a Banksia Rose. When covered by summer growth it has not flowered at all, in spite of being under a hot wall.

A. M. A. H. ROGERS.

St. Hugh's College, Oxford.

—— It is with much pleasure that I have read the further correspondence on this subject, and one is happy to have elicited so many experiences. The fact that the Sternbergias generally flower well the first year after planting shows that they appreciate a period of rest, which they cannot always receive if left in the ground in many parts of the British Isles. There are other bulbs which give similar results, one of which, Crocus sativus, is a greater puzzle, seeing that it was at one time so largely cultivated as the Saffron Crocus. Scilla peruviana is another. One thing I should like to discover, and that is the effect of lime in the soil with S. lutea.

The large yellow-flowered Sternbergia macrantha from Asia Minor

The flowers of this species are leafless, arising from long-necked bulbs as in the case of Colchicums

Another is whether the narrow-leaved form called S. angustifolia is more free-flowering than the ordinary S. lutea. I am of opinion that it is, but it does not appear to be differentiated by most writers and bulb dealers, although the late Mr. John Weathers does so. By the way, that good authority stressed the point that the bulbs of Sternbergias should never be removed until the leaves are withered. Of course, I would only suggest lifting and resting the bulbs where the Sternbergias did not flower.

S. ARNOTT.

Rock Gardens at Chelsea

Who would have guessed that all this
and fury would result from Colonel
ham's letter. As Secretary of the R.H.S
wrote very tactfully, suggesting that
Council would be glad to see a little
variety in the stone used by Rock Ga
Exhibitors at Chelsea. Mr. Dillistone
written at considerable length, and
Wood very much to the point. Somel
wrote something in rather doubtful
about the Council, and an optimist w
to say that exhibitors had only to ask
Council to abolish Awards, and Lo! Aw
would be abolished. Best of all has
Mr. J. Wood making witty rings round
Dillistone's injured dignity. I would
to make a confession. Mr. Dillistone acc
Mr. Wood of being the earliest offende
this matter of using waterworn Limes
at the International in 1912, and Mr. W
admitted the soft impeachment; but my
sins go back further than that. I used w
worn Limestone at the Temple Show in
and I have used it ever since. True, it
only a modest half ton or so, arrange
raised tabling, but it was in the days
Virgin Cork Bark was still in vogue,
therefore, perhaps, interesting as the
thin end of what has since become a
wide wedge. I will not say the thinnest
of the wedge, for it is possible that s
one will claim that he sprinkled York
Limestone Chips on his exhibit even ea
in the Stone Age. Mr. Wood was, of co
the first to use waterworn Limestone
large scale. I agree with Mr. Wood
this beautiful rock has become terribly h
neyed, but what is perhaps even more
tressing is what he was, no doubt,
modest to mention, viz., the repeated i
tion by others of his own inimitable
of using it. Captain Symonds J
originated a manner of his own some
ago, the dramatic cliff of Cheddar, an
mystic pool, and very refreshing it was
this, too, has been mercilessly copied.
seems very unlikely that exhibitors will
up using waterworn Limestone as lon
the R.H.S. continue to insist on judging
Gardens for graduated prizes. It is th
rock above all others which lends itse
pretty building, can be obtained
weathered, and which seems to mak
irresistible appeal to the judges. I am
ing myself to break away from water
Limestone this year, as I have found a
ready weathered and of good colour.
with my own exhibits I have always
my own way, trying to show good A
and rock plants as one might grow the
a Rock Garden at home. The judges
not always liked my efforts, though I
gained a fair share of approval from
whose opinion I most value. There has
a lot of dreadfully serious talk on the
tion of rock gardening about "
"artist," "geology," "Nature's w
"self expression," and goodness knows
else. Personally, I am content to rem
gardener, trying to help good plants t
press themselves. Very early in the
Age Mr. Wood was a realist, making
Yorkshire pictures in rock in which eve
retrained use of Alpines seemed an off
I twitted him about this, saying that, s
a piece of Yorkshire moorland was
exhibit, all one expected to see o
was a goat. Next year he proved my
tention by having two goats browsing o
Chelsea Rock Garden; hence, no doubt
R.H.S. rule that animals are not all
on exhibits. His more recent work has
freer, less imitative, and surely better.
so terribly like scraps of Yorkshire
make Alpine plants look illogical and o
place. I strongly agree with Mr. Wood

t would be a good thing if the Council of he R.H.S. would consent to abolish the disribution of prizes among the Rock Gardens it Chelsea. Entries would not, I am sure, e affected (if that is what is worrying them), nd the tendency would all be towards the reater variety for which they are asking, nd less of the repetition of one theme, in one ind of rock, which they deplore. If, hower, Cups and Medals must continue, I uggest that a system of "pointing" be nstituted, and made known among both udges and exhibitors, so that exhibitors may now what to expect from the judges, and he judges may know how to deal with xhibitors. As things are now, the exhibitor —if he is out for prizes—has no idea vhether prizes are being awarded for acrege, volume of water, quality of turf, weight f cement, comic effects or deadly serious ffects, Alpine plants or bedding plants, tender, hardy, or no plants at all—just chips.

This little controversy has done me, at any ate, one good turn. It has encouraged me o go more thoroughly than ever before into he question of source of supply of rock for Rock Gardens, with the result that I hope efore long to have a very complete list of uch sources of supply, and so be able to end stone from the nearest possible suitble quarry to wherever it is needed.

Stevenage. CLARENCE ELLIOTT.

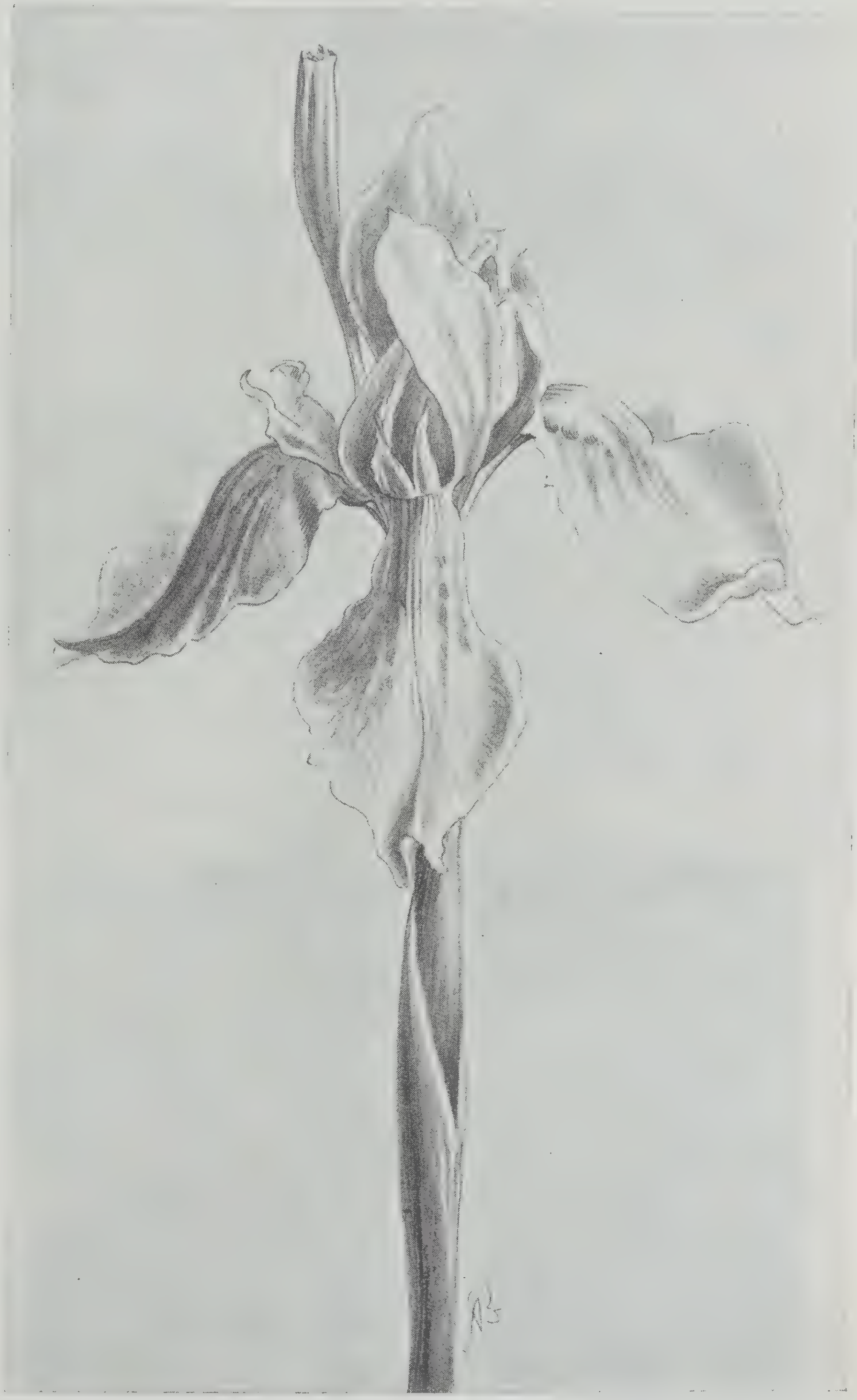
Dietes spathacea

THE genus Dietes was found by Salisbury to hold those species of Moræa in which the rootstock is a short rhizome nstead of a tunicated corm. That is the otanical way of stating it; in garden talk we nay say Moræa and its near relations have ascinating little bulbs with tough jackets of ery interesting patterns. Some of them re ribbed and netted with a variety of titches worthy of a modern pullover.

We should be wrong about the *bulbs,* for nside those jackets are solid *corms;* that is o say, shortened *stems* in which starch is tored, and not a collection of thick scales, vhich are *leaves* fattened up for the winter o hold the stores. Anyway, it is better to se the name Dietes for this group, as it so appens that all the plants with this running hizome also possess tough, evergreen eaves, and so differ at a glance from the eacock Iris Vieusseuxia (or Moræa) laucopis and the brilliantly coloured true Ioræas of the Cape, none of which are eally hardy in England, although they die own for their resting season.

It seems curious, then, that three of these vergreen Dietes can be grown in the open n the southern counties, and the subject of his note, contrary to general garden exerience, is at once the handsomest and the ardiest. It has been confused with a plant f earlier introduction, D. Huttoni, figured n the Botanical Magazine for 1875 at t. 6174 nd in "The Garden" of August 24th, 1889.

As the late Mr. Elwes pointed out in "The ardeners' Chronicle" for May 6th, 1916, ne leaves of D. spathacea grow to a length f 5 feet or 6 feet, those of D. Huttoni to bout 2 feet. Whether or no there are sufficent botanical characters to distinguish nese as two species, they are very distinct or garden purposes. I have grown both for nany years, and consider D. spathacea is ne of the most beautiful of fairly recent ntroductions, both for the border and for utting. Its clear yellow flowers are more nan twice the size of my form of Huttoni, re thrown up on taller stems, and their falls o not buckle and roll as do those of the esser plant, but spread out at just the right ngle to make a good contrast with the tandards.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Dietes spathacea

I never think the flowers of Huttoni large enough in comparison with their rather clumsy spathes to be worth gathering for a vase.

D. bicolor, with sulphur flowers marked with a deep brown blotch on each fall, is a lovely species. It has lived here planted at the foot of a south wall, but hardly ever flowers. In the late Captain Pinwill's wonderful garden near Truro it was never without flowers for many months. It behaves as generously here planted out in an unheated house alongside that fine variety known as Johnsonii of D. iridioides, whose large white flowers blotched with yellow on the falls and with lilac styles rival those of I. unquicularis in beauty of form. This is a fine plant to grow in a pot for plunging out in summer. One thing is important to remember, the flowering stem should never be cut off, however untidy it may look in autumn, unless it is evident that the whole of it is not only brown, but dead. It is the only Irid in which the flowering stem throws out fresh flowering branches for several succeeding seasons instead of producing a fresh flowering stem each year. An extra tidy garden boy can deprive one of flowers of D. iridioides for a year or two if his zeal for neatness is allowed to outstrip his knowledge. E. A. BOWLES.

Waltham Cross.

Armchair Gardening

JANUARY and February are such depressing months from many points of view that most of us are glad of any crumbs of comfort that come our way. New Year good resolutions (amongst which doubtless was one to be more economical in the garden) are already "sicklied o'er with pale thought," and the tax collector, with his Schedule A, is not the guest we like to come a-wassailing to our door. So it is with a feeling of "Begone, dull care," we draw up to the fire, surrounded with the attractive and seductive catalogues that helped swell the postman's Christmas load, and, pencil in hand, plan out all we are going to grow during the coming year. And here I join issue with Major Chappell in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED of December 15th *re* misleading descriptions of colours in various catalogues. Who has not suffered from the annoyance of having their colour-scheme wrecked through trusting to the compiler's of the catalogue ideas of colour values?

Gardeners and nurserymen are the most truly conservative of beings, and so I take it that these catalogues are still written and compiled by men, but I cannot help thinking that it would be vastly to their benefit if they followed the lead of all other professions and sought the aid of women, who are so much more used to all the delicate nuances of colour. Indeed, as I often ponder in my visits to various nurseries, what opportunities have been missed and what a difference a trained and educated woman's touch would have made in the picture.

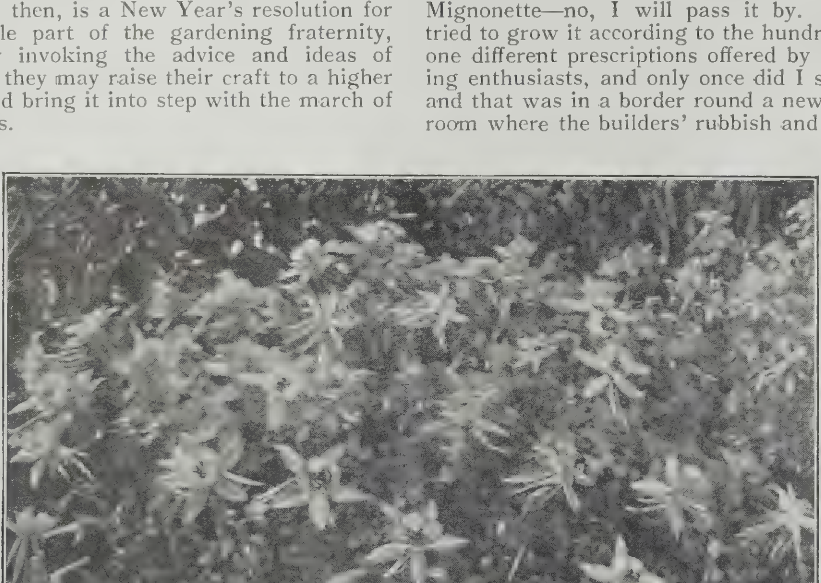
"The little more, and how much it is;
The little less, and what worlds away."

Here, then, is a New Year's resolution for the male part of the gardening fraternity, that by invoking the advice and ideas of women they may raise their craft to a higher level and bring it into step with the march of progress.

Now, my catalogue opens at Antirrhinums with three lovely spikes in salmon, pink, and cerise. So far so good, but last year's failure still rankles in my mind. I wanted a bed of glowing carmine, and ordered a packet of seed answering to that shade. Every seed germinated, and the last week in May we pricked out over 300 sturdy plants, but instead of my rich carmine came forth a dull claret-hued flower like a wine stain on a white table-cloth! So this year I shall stick to Nelrose, always reliable in its deep satiny-pink like an old La France Rose.

Bonfire is another shade to be relied on, deep apricot and orange, like the last rays of the setting sun, and Gay Gordon has somewhat the same effect, only in much deeper tones. A gorgeous-coloured plate of Calceolarias, with fat blobs of flowers like blotched balloons, makes one wish that they could be grown in the open instead of the common or garden yellow variety; but in this world it is always the unattainable that beckons, so we pass on to Clarkia elegans Salmon Queen, having been proved by experience the best variety, charming for vases and very lasting. And a packet of Cineraria maritima will make a delightful silvery setting for it, and one that will go on and on, long after the Clarkia has faded into nothingness.

Tall Antirrhinums are indispensable
forming bold groups, but should not
used for ordinary bedding

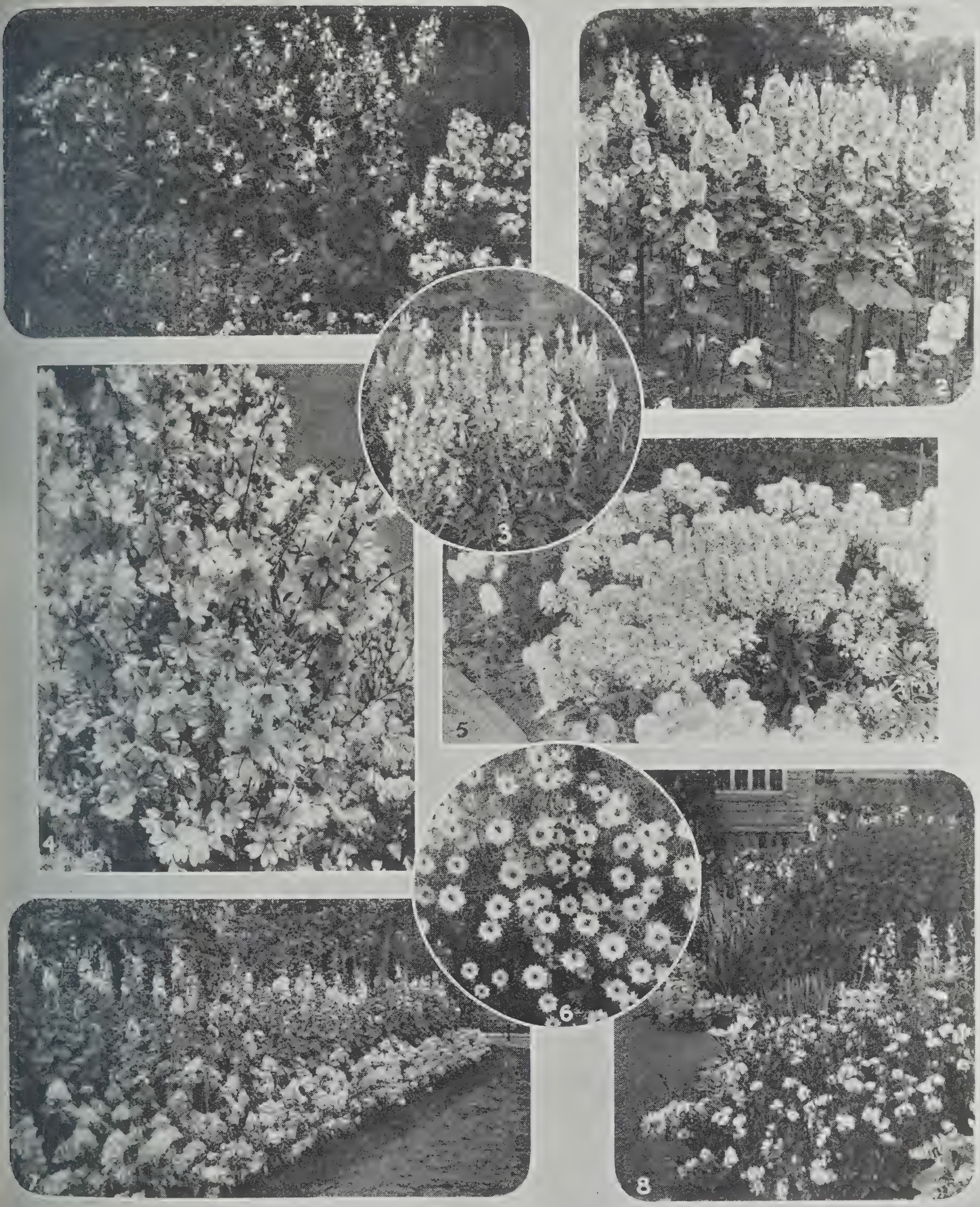


The long-spurred Columbine thrives in a semi-shaded position

The cook will welcome a sowing of the Ice plant (Mesembryanthemum crystallinum), for its cool, dew-spangled leaves make an uncommon setting on which to serve the lordly salmon or the blushing lobster. The word Lantana brings to mind that old-world plant with its prim heads of flower and its unpleasant smell, and I resolve to get a few plants in May to bed out. But as to Mignonette—no, I will pass it by. I have tried to grow it according to the hundred-and-one different prescriptions offered by gardening enthusiasts, and only once did I succeed, and that was in a border round a newly built room where the builders' rubbish and mortar
was to its liking, but when I tried a si
mixture for it elsewhere the result
failure. Mignonette is as fickle as For
Godetias are very accommodating; they
fer a moist summer, but put up with
one as long as they have plenty of
Double rose and double mauve are two
go well together, and may be sown in
odd sunny corner. Nigella, better know
its romantic name of Love-in-a-Mist,
broadcast over any open bit of ground
perpetuate itself year after year, and its
blue faces peeping out from the green
are too precious to be left out of the seed
Phacelia is another blue flower well wo
place, its blue being brighter and mor
tense than that of Nigella.

I cannot close my list without includi
packet of the new giant Dahlia-flov
Zinnia, for my previous trial of them
lighted me. I have a weakness for
Zinnia, with its "Prunes and Prisms"
redolent of the well-behaved, stately y
ladies of the Victorian era; quite out-of
nowadays, alas! But the pendulum sw
and the Zinnia, with its gorgeous colo
and massive heads, has come into its
again in its modern guise, so let us
despair that Time will bring good ma
and good taste into Fashion once more.

I have left Sweet Peas to the last, for
come into a category of their own.
year I resolve I will *not* be led away b
lovely novelties one sees on the great gro
stalls at Chelsea and other shows, and
year I fall lower than ever. I expect
not alone in this, however! Every year
I forswear those seductive apricot and or
shades, and again, as surely I wander
the Primrose path that leads to them
because of pleasant and successful rec
tions of that very Ancient Mariner, H
Eckford. But orange is a shade that
with wet, bleaches in the sun, and doe
blend in well with other tints, so I wi
content with well-tried old favourites
Mary Rose, absolutely satisfying in
charming true pink colouring; Blue
reminiscent of Maeterlinck's imm
fantasy; Fluffy Ruffles; Gleneagles, a p



SOW AND PLANT IN SPRING AND BE REWARDED WITH SUMMER FLOWERS

1. Tobacco flowers (Nicotiana sylvestris), with perennial Campanulas and Phloxes.
2. Bold group of double flowered pink Hollyhocks.
3. Verbascum, on the outskirts of woodland.
4. Lavatera Olbia, one of the most lovely of all pink Mallows.
5. A good white Rocket Candytuft, Iberis Giant Snowflake.
6. Devil-in-a-bush or Love-in-a-mist, Nigella damascena.
7. A good background of double flowered Hollyhocks, with Hydrangea paniculata in the foreground.
8. Godetia, double rose.

lavender; Hero, a good, rich cerise; and Hawlmark Pink.

My method is to line some seed-boxes with rotten turf, covering with a mixture of leaf-mould, grit, and soil, then dibbling each seed in at a distance of 2 inches apart. The boxes are placed under shelter of the house, facing south-west, protected from mice by raising them on flower-pots and covering with wire netting. In about three weeks' time the most precocious will poke through, and in April they will be planted out in a piece of ground that has been well trenched with old lawn-mowings. Of course, most geese are swans to their owners, but I rather fancy the results must be pleasing to others as well, for from June to the end of September I am able to keep many friends well supplied and to satisfy my own wants. The only drawback is the amount of time one must spend in keeping the flowers cut to prevent seeding, but has not every pleasure its aftermath, and does not the realisation of that fact help us to view life through rose-coloured spectacles rather than the smoked glasses of Philistinism?

E. D.

Antirrhinums for bedding

ANTIRRHINUMS are amongst our most useful and showy summer-bedding plants and have attained a wonderful popularity in recent years. Although perennial in habit, they are best treated as annuals for bedding purposes, and few subjects lend themselves so admirably to the production of gorgeous colour effects as our modern varieties of Antirrhinum. There are tall, intermediate, and dwarf forms, each including a wide variation of colour, and in large beds or wide borders a wonderful effect can be produced by a combination of the three types. Seeds of many distinct colour forms are listed in the leading catalogues, and the plants may be relied on to come fairly true to colour.

To raise the plants necessary for the summer display seeds should be sown during early February in light, sandy soil, and placed in a moderately warm house. It is preferable to use small, shallow boxes, and thin sowing should be practised to ensure sturdy growth from the commencement. So soon as germination has taken place the boxes should be placed in a light, airy position, and when large enough to handle they should be pricked off into larger boxes. They may be grown on under moderately warm conditions till the beginning of April, when they may be planted out in a cold frame and finally transferred to their flowering positions so soon as the sites are prepared for them. Antirrhinums have the advantage over more tender bedding plants, that they can be planted in their permanent positions earlier, and the few weeks in a cold frame prepares them for full exposure, so that they may be planted out immediately after spring-flowering subjects are removed.

Antirrhinums succeed well on all well-drained soils and few plants resist drought so well when well established. If due attention is given to the removal of seed-pods as they appear a good display of flower can be maintained till the autumn. The dwarf and intermediate forms support themselves without staking, but it is necessary to give the tall forms some support, as, under good conditions of cultivation, they frequently reach a height of 3 feet or 4 feet.

Apart from their value as summer-bedding plants Antirrhinums may also be us
produce a wealth of colour in the s
especially on light, friable soils. Fo
purpose seed may be sown in July, p
off, and grown on outside till the au
and transferred to their permanent pos
sufficiently early to enable them to b
well established before winter sets in.
perfectly hardy they withstand the w
provided that the soil is well draine
any attempt to winter them on col
drained soil is sure to meet with failur

W. Au

Planting Delphiniums

Amongst hardy-flowering plants fe
more conspicuous in the borders during
season of blooming than are Delphi
Probably because of the tall habits of
of them, some people think that for a
rately-sized garden they are too ungain
rather out of place, but those best acqu
with Delphiniums are aware that alt
as tall border plants they are better k
there are not a few varieties noted fo
compact growth, as well as for their b
ful blossoms. The flowering spikes a
ful for the decoration of vases, and last
time, if cut when the blooms are just e
ing; in fact, it has been remarked th
spikes remain in good condition longe
those on the plants. One argument tha
be reasonably advanced as to why De
iums should find a place in every g
where hardy flowering plants are appre
is owing to their hardiness and to th
that almost any deep soil suits them
vided that now and again they are n
gotten in the matter of manure, or on
when the time comes to divide the c

Phlox Drummondi and yellow-flowered Antirrhinums e of the causes why some fail with these rming plants is permitting them to go or years without any attempt being made ivide them, the result being that instead trong, healthy spikes, and, consequently, blooms, the clumps get into a weak con- on, owing to a conglomerated mass of and spindly shoots. It is only fair to that a clump carrying five or six spikes o be preferred to one with three times number, as with the latter it is almost ossible for the centre spike to get that t and nutriment so necessary if strong ering spikes are desired. It is therefore with clumps carrying a large number of ots to go over them early in the season cut the weakest away, tying up those are left to stakes, placing one to each ot of the tall varieties. If staking is left l late in the season, the stakes are likely e conspicuous, whereas, done early, the ge hides the supports, and the risk o age from rough winds is reduced.

elphiniums may be raised from seed, or may be increased by root division, the er plan being the one oftenest adopted, smuch, as a rule, not many plants are led in a garden. Clumps should be split n autumn, or early spring, and the ground re it is intended to plant them should be and deeply dug, some rotted manure g incorporated with the soil. It has to said of these plants, too, that although flowering season cannot be said to be a g one, they contribute much beauty to a den. As town and suburban garden nts they are worthy of more notice being en them.

Madonna Lilies, bush Roses, and Delphiniums in an old-world garden

ilium candidum, black-stemmed variety

ILIES may be roughly divided into two classes—those which one can grow in ordinary garden soil without much fuss trouble and those which require special s and treatments. Among the former, of the best of all is the old Madonna v. Lilium candidum, which is such a de- ntful feature in numerous cottage gardens, this beautiful plant is not always easy to w. It is subject to a disease of the leaf, l there are some soils in which it will not w. It seems happiest in a limy or chalky loam, and where it is happy it is a plant to use extensively. In recent years, a superior form of L. candidum has come to the fore, namely, the black stemmed variety, L. candidum variety peregrinum. This has the advantage of starting into growth a little later than the common form, and so often escapes late frosts which injure the type. The stems are very dark coloured, and the plant is, on the whole, more vigorous and I think healthier in constitution, or rather is less subject to the Lily disease. This question of stronger constitution is, I must confess, only a personal belief which I have arrived at after growing the two side by side. It would be interesting to have the views of other Lily growers on this point, and to learn if they find the black stemmed form more disease resistant than the type.

CLARENCE ELLIOTT.

Gypsophilas: their place in the garden

Both perennial and annual forms of Gypsophilas have long since established their reputation as useful for supplying quantities of blossoms suitable for employing as adjuncts to other flowers. Of the hardy perennial sorts the well-known paniculata and its double form have received a worthy addition in Bristol Fairy, a double variety twice the size of the older paniculata fl.-plena. Those, too, of a trailing or procumbent habit, like repens and cerastoides, have their use in certain positions in the rock garden. As now is the time when plants may be moved to fresh quarters readers are reminded of the fact that they are lime-lovers, and should the soil be deficient in this it should be made up in some form as, for instance, mortar-rubble, a spadeful or two being dug in the hole when getting out space for the clumps. They should be planted in a sunny position, and if the soil is heavy or inclined to be water-logged proper drainage must be provided. Annual forms of Gypsophilas can be sown out of doors in April, and it is well to follow with a further sowing a week or two later. Any light soil will meet their requirements, but a sunny place in the garden is essential. Present-day sorts embrace white, pink, and crimson. Broadcasting the seed in a bed or rows is the general practice in many places, as the annuals do not take kindly to transplanting. Few things of a light character amongst flowers have risen into favour more readily than have these simple blossoms, and there is scarcely a garden where they may not be grown.

MIDLANDER.

Gloxinias for early flowering

If young plants were kept growing all through the winter (an excellent plan), they should now be moved into their flowering pots. Fine plants may be grown in 6-inch pots, but if they are big and strong the 7-inch size is better. Use the best procurable fibrous loam and good leaf-mould, in equal proportions, with enough coarse sand to ensure porosity. The addition of a 6-inch potful of bonemeal and a 5½-inch potful of Thomson's Plant Manure to each barrowload of compost will make it almost perfect for the purpose.

Starting old bulbs

Failing a stock of young Gloxinia plants, some of the best of the old dormant bulbs should now be boxed, or potted, in leaf-mould and sand, and set in a warm house, where they will soon start into growth.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Early Peaches

Houses containing these may now be closed and some heat permitted, but a rush from a low temperature to a high one by means of fire heat must be avoided. A gentle circulation of warmth through the pipes which maintains such houses at 45 degs. to 50 degs. will be ample for the first fortnight, following which a rise of 5 degs. weekly will do no harm until the night temperature has reached 60 degs. to 65 degs., care being taken to see that vaporising troughs are filled each day. Little or no ventilation will be required until the trees are in bloom, and even then air must be admitted with extreme care at this early date.

The second vinery

This may also be started now. The same conditions as advised for Peaches will apply here also, with the exception that on very favourable sunny days the rods may be lightly syringed over immediately after 2 p.m. With the starting of these houses, valuable space becomes available for a variety of plants which it is necessary to bring forward, such as Strawberries, bedding plants which will shortly be required to provide cuttings, Cannas, and many flowering shrubs and bulbs, which respond gradually and very kindly to the gentle intermediate warmth to which they are introduced.

Annuals in pots

Such annuals as Mignonette, Schizanthus, Clarkias, Rhodanthæ and similar subjects which were sown in autumn should be grown as cool as possible, a temperature of 45 degs. to 50 degs. being ample at this season. Light and air being of the utmost importance, a position as near the glass as possible should be chosen for the plants and air given freely—but with discretion—whenever conditions are favourable; always air on the sheltered side of the house. Water only when the plants are absolutely in need of it—this will be proved by tapping the spot with a small stick, or preferably one's knuckles—and apply a light stimulant once every ten days.

Plants in bloom

Cyclamens, Primulas, Cinerarias, Freesias and Begonias should be given clear water only during their period of bloom. A little air admitted both night and day will prove beneficial and maintain the flowers in a fresh condition over a longer season.

Seed sowing

The following seeds may be sown now in a house in which the temperature is maintained at 60 degs. by night: Perpetual flowering and Border Carnations, Gloxinias, Cyclamen, Salvia splendens and S. patens, Poinsettias, Eucalyptus, Grevilleas, Begonias, Heliotropes and Achimenes. Shallow pots or pans should be used; they must be filled with fine sandy soil and be well drained. Some growers do not cover the seeds, but I prefer to use the lightest possible covering of fine soil. The receptacles should then be stood in a favoured position in the house and near the glass, a sheet of the latter being laid over each pan to prevent evaporation until germination has taken place, when it must be either raised or removed altogether. Should strong sunshine prevail, a little shading will prove advantageous during the brightest hours; damping of the seedlings must be guarded against.

Potatoes in pots and heated frames

Sprouted tubers may now be planted either in pots or frames. If the former are used they should be of 8-inch size, well drained and filled about half full with good turfy loam and leaf mould in equal parts. Two sets should be planted in each pot after having been disbudded of all but the strongest shoot, enough of the compost being added to cover the sets. For frames the same preparation of the tubers applies. The distance between the rows should be 16 inches, and between the tubers 12 inches, the surface of the border being at least 15 inches from the glass. May Queen, Midlothian Early and Webb's First Crop are excellent varieties for this purpose.

Asparagus

Lift strong crowns, grown for the purpose, and place them in the forcing house, where a temperature of from 60 degs. to 65 degs. is maintained, and whether such house contains a made up hotbed or not, the border should consist of the following compost: Two parts light loam, one part old mushroom bed manure and one part leaf mould thoroughly mixed. Place about 4 inches of this over the area to be used and lay the roots evenly over the surface, covering them with 3 inches of the same compost and finish off with a soaking of tepid water.

Planting trees, shrubs, and hedges

Most trees and shrubs may be planted whenever the soil is in working condition. It is necessary, however, to have the ground thoroughly prepared beforehand, and most things derive considerable benefit if a little leaf mould and sand is shaken over their roots at planting time; this is most noticeable among Rhododendrons and Azaleas, Kalmias, etc., the roots of which greedily consume the leaf mould. Positions for hedges should be trenched 3 feet deep, and the same width. If this were more frequently done we should not meet with so many disappointments. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Digging and trenching

Up to the moment of writing the ground is covered with snow and ice, especially ice, and outdoor gardening is entirely at a standstill, and has been for several weeks, with but small signs of any improvement. It will be necessary, therefore, to push on with all speed, digging and trenching as soon as weather conditions will permit. Meanwhile, if there is no snow, the wheeling of manure can be undertaken while the ground is frost-bound.

Garden rubbish heap

This is often a troublesome part of the establishment, especially where no attempt is made to keep the various kinds of rubbish separate. It is always well if this is done, the best method being to lay all such things as prunings, herbaceous stems, and all of a nature that will burn in one heap, all the softer material, like spent vegetable stems and leaves, annual weeds, and so forth, that will eventually rot down into vegetable mould in a second heap, while stones and other hard materials should be in a third heap.

Value of garden refuse

By periodically burning all the light rubbish of the first heap much va material may be had for mixing wit ting soils and for dressing herbaceous bo both in a manurial capacity, and fo discouraging of slugs and other vermi is also, if kept dry, invaluable for m with the soil when growing Carrots, and Parsnips. Then the contents o second heap, when well rotted, is but inferior to farmyard manure, and shou liberally applied to all vegetable qua when it will prove to be a great sa far less manure being required. Inde this material be well made (it shou turned and mixed about three times o the year), and given liberally to g ground, farmyard dung may, for a ye two be dispensed with for the ma of vegetable crops, any little deficienc ing made up for by slight dressin some good artificial manure.

Early Broad Beans

Although there is no great deman the humble Bean in some establishm it is still very useful at times, so it is to have a dish or two ready as ear possible. A row or two on a sunny should, therefore, be got in now, whe the soil gets into a workable conc Seville Longpod is one of the best for sowing, being very hardy and a good per.

Spinach

The old method of sowing Spinach tween rows of Peas is excellent, and is economical of space. It is also a good to put in a sowing of this valuable able every time Peas are sown, for b ing so an unbroken succession is tained, and the Peas in no way suffer.

Tomatoes

If not yet done the main batch of should now be sown and set in a tem ture of 60 degs. to 65 degs. Earlier ings should be picked off as soo sufficiently large enough to handle; use 2-inch pots, or boxes, and fresh, but n rich, light compost. Shade for a wee have the little plants as near the roof as possible to keep them sturdy.

Schizanthus

This, our finest annual pot plant, i growing in small pots, should very s be moved into the flowering sizes, usin fresh compost, but giving very little m of any kind, as the plants, if over-fed, leaves and stems and produce few fl Splendid little specimens for decorativ poses may be grown in 5-inch or pots. Cool treatment is best, but frost not touch them.

Border Chrysanthemums

It is advisable, as a rule, to mov pots or boxes of old roots from the where they have been wintering into a with a little warmth so as to encoura sending up of suitable cuttings, thes ing taken off when about 3 inches and inserted in boxes of light sandy Keep rather close and shade from th until rooted.

Seeds to sow now

There is still time to sow Pansy, East Lothian Stock, Verbena, and Holl to bloom this year, but no more time be lost in having this done. Good r may also still be had if a good, warmth of 70 degs. to 75 degs. ca maintained, by sowing at once Be Gloxinia, and Streptocarpus. C. BL

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Lachenalia pendula

T this time of the year things in the
floral world are naturally at a subdued
stage, and less space is occupied at the
nightly exhibitions at Vincent Square than
be required a little later on; but even
his period there is always something on
v which is well worth while, and occa-
ally the "something" is especially
resting because of its heroic appearance
such a discouraging season—as, for
ance:—At the exhibition of January 15th,
ssrs Barr and Sons, Ltd., had a character-
ally January display of dainty pioneer
gs—the advance guard of the season—
alongside them was a patch of strong
uring, which promptly caught the eye
arrested attention as being one of the
things which give a welcome dash of
d solid red at a time when strong colour-
is not prominent among the "flowers in
son." This arresting group consisted of
e three dozen spikes of Lachenalia
dula—a plant not nearly so well known
it deserves to be, seeing it is of dis-
tly easy culture, and is one member of
Lachenalia family which can be had in
bloom at Christmas (or earlier if re-
ed) when its cheery colour is especially
come. Most of the Lachenalias come
ng rather later, being generally at their
about from the middle of February to
end of March; we hope to write a little
e fully about them presently with details
heir culture and simple requirements, but
the moment the species "Pendula" is
outstanding representative of the family
ch claims our attention.

he group shown was of cut spikes, with
nossy setting, but unfortunately had to
exhibited without foliage, and, attractive
re the blooms alone, they are delightfully
e so as grown, say, half a dozen in a
with their natural accompaniment of
ad pointed leaves.

Ve suggest that our readers make a note
this bonny plant—an easily grown cold
se bulb—for adding to their floral
orations for next Christmas.

Impatiens

re not these showy members of the
aniaceæ ever to be seen in more than a
y few gardens? It is strange how some
nts are overlooked, even in places where
re is every convenience and scope for
wing them.

mpatiens are tender perennials, and need
tove or warm greenhouse to grow them
l.

he one best known to gardening is pro-
ly I. Sultani, and one sometimes comes
oss plants of this original, scarlet-flowered
cies in some of the old-established gardens
and down the country. But hybrids of
s type are now both numerous and beauti-
, and some delightful shades of pink now
ainable should find favour with flower
ers, especially feminine ones.

mpatiens Sultani is a native of Zanzibar,
l figures in Bot. Mag. t. 6643.

Another popular type is the scarlet, or
haps one should say orange-scarlet, I.
lstii, of East Africa. It, too, has nume-
s hybrid forms at the present time, and
y make a gallant show as pot plants for
conservatory, and flower over a very
g period.

he cultural requirements of the above are
by any means extravagant, moderate
rmth being the dominating factor. Seed
y be sown at almost any time, and any
d open potting material will suit their
ting requirements. It would, perhaps, be
well to add a word of warning in regard to
ughts. The stems and foliage of Impatiens are very succulent, almost transparent in some cases, and cold draughts, more than anything, seem to be fatal to them. The leaves will just drop off without warning, and the whole plant very soon is lost through the action of a cold draught.

One or two other Impatiens, not of so great a value for decorative purposes, and, consequently, but very little known, are I. auricoma, a yellow-flowered species from the Comoro Isles; and I. Marianiæ, from Assam, a species with silvery variegated foliage, and altogether a very elegant plant. I. Hawkeri is a robust grower, having large bright red flowers. This Impatiens is showy, but very coarse in appearance, and not likely to be a favourite with anyone.

H. W. Stenning.

Lachenalia pendula var. Guernsey

Exacum macranthum
A Gentian-blue greenhouse plant

There are some plants which will never become common, not because they are not worth growing, but for the simple reason that they are "miffy" and will only succeed when their requirements are really understood.

Exacum zeylanicum Var. macranthum has been in cultivation for many years, and although it produces abundance of flowers of great beauty, it still remains an uncommon plant. To those who are unfamiliar with this plant a brief description may induce them to purchase a packet of seeds and try their luck. As a pot plant it is ideal because it is compact and grows to about 18 inches in height, and produces great quantities of large Gentian-blue flowers which are rendered more conspicuous by the golden anthers, which stand out in bold relief against the dark blue petals. The flowers are produced on plants which have been raised from seeds sown the previous spring so that a start should soon be made now if flowers are required for next year. The seeds, which are obtainable from any of the leading seedsmen, should be sown in pots filled with sandy peat, and lightly covered with silver sand. These plants resent root disturbance, and no doubt most failures with them can be attributed to careless pricking off. To obviate this I recommend sowing several seeds in a 3-inch pot, and when the most vigorous can be determined, to reduce the number to three, and when the pot becomes filled with roots transfer the lot bodily into a 5-inch, in which they may be left to flower. This non-disturbance of the root-system is, I think, the secret of success, together with careful watering and a suitable compost.

The ideal mixture is three parts fibrous peat, one part loam, and one part leaf-soil, to which a small amount of sand and crushed charcoal have been added to assist in keeping the soil sweet. To induce the formation of a bushy habit it is necessary to pinch out the leading shoot when it is about 3 inches high, and the resulting side shoots should be similarly treated. The plants are well rooted in their final pots by the autumn, and careful watering is practised during the winter months, there is no reason why a good batch of plants should not be obtained to flower profusely the following summer.

G. F. Gardiner.

VEGETABLES

Control measures of Wart Disease in Potatoes

WART DISEASE has now gained world-wide notoriety. The loss it may occasion is equal to that of Blight, but there is an added evil with the Wart Disease fungus (Synchytrium endobioticum) which is not found with Blight, namely, that it contaminates the soil and renders it unsuitable for the future production of any Potatoes other than the immune varieties. This is due to the presence in infected soil of long-lived spore cases or sporangia which are particularly resistant to the action of fungicides. The disease is prevalent only in certain parts of the country, and the importance of using every means to prevent its further spread cannot be emphasised too strongly.

Description of affected plants.—The tubers are the parts which are chiefly concerned. In the early stages of the disease young warts may easily be seen in the eyes, though the time of their appearance varies with the variety of Potato. They increase in size and subsequently become irregular excrescences, which often run together, forming large masses. In certain varieties (*e.g.*, Arran Chief) all resemblance to a normal tuber may be lost, the entire tuber being transformed into a coralloid mass. The warts are at first white, but if exposed to light through not being covered with soil they may become green. As they become old they begin to turn black and finally form a putrid mass, from which a dark brown liquid exudes.

Control measures.—The only method at present known of raising clean crops on contaminated land is by restricting cultivation to immune varieties—*i.e.*, those which absolutely resist the attacks of the fungus. A selection of the best of these varieties is given below.

Many experiments have been made both in

this country and elsewhere with soil fungicides of various kinds, but with little or no success.

Until recently Wart Disease was only known to attack the Potato itself, but it has now been found to be capable of infecting also the Woody Nightshade (Solanum Dulcamara), the Black Nightshade (S. nigrum), the Henbane (Hyoscyamus niger), and certain varieties of Tomatoes, though apparently only to a very small extent. This fact should be borne in mind when attempts are being made to clear the ground of the Wart Disease fungus, and any specimens of these three weeds should be uprooted and burned. Tomatoes also should not be planted.

IMMUNE VARIETIES.—The trials carried out at Ormskirk under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have demonstrated beyond all doubt the immunity of certain varieties. Disappointment in the past as to immune varieties has been due (*a*) to wrongly named seed, (*b*) to the presence of "rogues," or (*c*) to the use of varieties which, though formerly supposed to be immune, had not been properly tested.

Statements have been made that varieties which are immune from Wart Disease lose that character if they become attacked by one or other of the so-called virus diseases (Leaf-Roll, Mosaic, etc.), but experiments have proved that this is not the case.

The following is a selection of some of the best immune varieties recommended by the Ministry for planting in contaminated land on most classes of soil :—

EARLY VARIETIES.

A.I. (Sutton)
America
Arran Rose
Balcarres
Coronation
Di. Vernon
Dunvegan
Earlyfield
Herald
Immune Ashleaf
Snowdrop

SECOND EARLY VARIETIES.

Adirondack
Ally
Argyll Favourite
Arran Comrade
Balvaird
Ben Lomond
Boston Kidney (Dargill Early)
Catriona
Clovullin
Cluny
Conquest
Crimson Beauty
Crusader
Early Market
Early Pink Champion
Edzell Blue
Great Scot
International Kidney
Katie Glover
King George
Lord Scone
Macbeth's Castle
Marquis of Bute
Mauve Queen
Mr. Bresee
Nithsdale
Norna
Oran Beauty
Scale's Pride
Schoolmaster
Sefton Wonder (A russet Great Scot)
Sunrise
The Baron
The Massie
The Towse (Climax)
Wild Rose

LATE OR MAINCROP VARIETIES.

Aberdeen Favourite
Abundance
Arran Banner
Arran Consul
Arran Victory
Avondale
Barley Bounty
Beauty of Bute
Benalt
Ben Cruachan
Bishop
Bounty
Boxer
Buchan Beauty
Burnhouse Beauty
Cambria
Captain Cook
Cardinal
Celurca
Champion
Champion II.
Clan Alpine
Claymore
Corona
Dominion
Doon Star
Duke of Perth
Dunaverney
Dundarave
Earl of Essex
Early Manistee
Early Templar
Edinchip
Electron
Flourball
Gigantic
Glasgow Favourite
Glenalmond
Glencoe
Glen Ericht
Glenmaid
Golden Lass
Golden Marvel
Golden Wonder
Grannispud
Gregor Cups
Harcarse Red
Hopeful
Incomer
Inverness Favourite
Irish Chieftain
Irish Queen
Irish Strain
K. of K.
Keay's Champion
Kerr's Pink
King of the Russets
Langworthy
Leinster Wonder
Liddesdale Lad
Lochar
Lord Tennyson
Main's Surprise
Main's Triumph
Majestic
Medland
Millar's Beauty
Perth Favourite
Pink Pearl
Purple Champion
Ranfurly Red
Rector
Response
Rhoderick Dhu
Royal Stewart
St. Malo Kidney
Scottish Chief
Shamrock
Sharp's Pink Seedling
Southesk
Spion Kop
Supreme
Templar
The Aberdonian
The Celt
The Cherry
The Craigie
The Mac
Tinwald Perfection
Utility
White Arran Victory
White City
Wonderful

Young Cauliflower plants in winter

There are two ways of obtaining early Cauliflowers—those nice, compact balls which are so much appreciated when the larger and somewhat coarser ones of the Broccolis are all used. The first way is that of sowing seeds in August and September, and wintering the resultant plants in cold frames or under some temporary covering; the second one is that of sowing seeds under glass in January and treating the resultant plants as half-hardy ones until the end of March.

I am now, however, only making reference to the plants from autumn sowings. They require very careful treatment or they will be spoiled. By careful treatment I do not mean, specially, coddling in frames. This would be harmful. Protection must only be afforded during frosty weather. When very severe frosts prevail the plants will, no doubt, be slightly frozen, notwithstanding the care taken to protect them. When this happens they must not be exposed to the air and sunshine until the frost is gone and the leaves are completely thawed.

The night prior to the uncovering of the frame raise the lights and syringe the foliage thoroughly with cold water. Then close the frame again. The following morning remove the mats, straw, or other material, and admit some light, also raise the glass-lights a little. Close the frame again at night. The second day remove the remaining covering material entirely and admit air freely. During milder weather expose the plants fully every day, but protect with the glass lights at night. The plants should be kept clean and the surface soil be loosened occasionally with a pointed stick. G. G.

Hants.

Lettuce, Radishes, and frame-grown Potatoes

The work of growing early crops of salads and vegetables is very interesting. To obtain the three named above there must be some forcing of growth, but not by means of fire heat.

They should be grown in deep frames or on hotbeds with frames placed on the latter. In suburban gardens, where tree leaves and litter cannot be obtained, the attempt to raise these crops should not be undertaken before the first week in February, as bottom heat will not be available. But, in the meantime, seed tubers can be brought on by placing them half-buried in soil in boxes in a greenhouse or similar structure. Where hotbeds are built up in deep frames use litter and tree leaves in almost equal proportions. Damp the material a little if it is very dry, but have it on the dry rather than the wet side, as the heat engendered in the former case will be steadier and more lasting. A suitable hotbed will be one about 2 feet deep where the soil has pressed it down. The heat in a bed of this kind will last nearly two months, and that is all that is required.

When engaged in building up the hotbed shake out the material loosely, then it will settle down evenly and firmly. Potatoes will grow nicely in pure, well-rotted leaf-soil, but I prefer to use good loam and leaf-soil in equal proportions with a small quantity of rotted manure if the latter is available. The depth of the soil should be 1 foot. Earthing-up will not be done. Plant the tubers 4 inches deep, leave a level surface, and sow seeds of Radishes and Lettuces very thinly and evenly on the surface, simply raking them in.

Place the glass-lights in position and do not remove them before the first seedlings appear, then admit a little air at the top of the frame; at the same time the dangerous steam arising from the hotbed will escape. Both day and night a small opening should be provided, otherwise the seedlings may succumb to the very moist atmosphere. Light in these frames can be admitted because the heat arising from the hotbed is sufficient to exclude slight frosts, but on very cold nights it is advisable to cover with mats in the depth of winter.

Early-maturing varieties should be grown, such as Tom Thumb Lettuce, Wood's Early
Frame, and French Breakfast Radishe
Eclipse and Midlothian Early Potatoes.
last-named is a yellow-fleshed variety,
good quality. The Lettuce plants sho
drawn while in a young state, and the
they and the Radishes will be cleared
the bed by the time the Potatoes are
for use. G.

Hants.

FRUIT GARDEN

Protecting the Apricot

THE Apricot being naturally dispo
expand its blossoms in advance
other hardy fruits, the trees should,
out further delay, *i.e.*, if the matter h
already had attention, be pruned, tr
nailed, and tied, as the case may be, s
protection can be afforded directly
comes necessary to do so.

With regard to this question, I ha
ways found it incumbent to protect the
cot in an earlier stage of bud develo
than is the case with the Peach and
tarine, for instance. In the last-men
instance protection can be withheld unti
time that the flower buds are on the
of opening, but with the Apricot it sho
in readiness to be applied directly the
begin to swell. They are then, if le
posed to the action of severe frost, ver
ceptible to injury. Some years ago
quite three-fourths of the fruit buds
outright by a hard frost, which wa
means of rendering the crop a very shor
After such an experience a point was a
made to have everything ready, so tha
tection could, as soon as occasion requi
be applied at once.

The form of protection used consist
"Frigi Domo" blinds, which is the best
material for warding off frost, and will,
reasonable care, last in good conditio
several seasons. Boards 11 inches lo
inches wide, and 1 inch thick were
immediately beneath the wall copings to
rain water clear of the trees. On their
edges pulleys were screwed, for the pu
of raising and lowering the blinds o
high walls, and hooks on which to su
them on the walls of lesser height. To
the blinds from chafing the trees, poles
let into the border 3 feet from the b
the wall and about 5 feet apart.
stakes were driven in by the side of the
in such a way as to form a V-shaped
to hold and keep the blinds off the g
during the day and when not in use.

Other means of affording protection
the employment of garden nets. Th
½-inch mesh are the best, and they sho
suspended from the edge of the
boards two or three thick, and allow
just reach the ground. Poles or stak
required to keep the nets off the trees
they should also be pegged down t
ground. I have occasionally secured
crops by the use of nets as a protective
but it is not so reliable a method of
ing protection from frost as when "
Domo" blinds are used.

The working of suitable pieces of
or Yew among the branches of the
secures a certain amount of protecti
the buds and blossoms, but they ha
disadvantage of weakening growth a
as buds and blooms owing to the exc
of a certain degree of sunlight and ai

After all, the Apricot is such a lu
fruit—no imported example that I hav
tasted being comparable with a well-
and fully-ripened specimen produced i
country—that when it succeeds the c
blinds, poles, boards, etc., ought not
grudged in order that adequate prot
may be given the trees. A.

Answers to Queries

eries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* ENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre- dents follow these rules: All communications ld be clearly written on one side of the paper , and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING STRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* ISHER. *The name and address of the sender required in addition to any designation he desire to be used in the paper. When more one query is sent, each should be on a rate piece of paper; the name and address g added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *to be sent to press some days in advance of , queries cannot always be replied to in the immediately following their receipt. We do reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FLOWER GARDEN

ing annuals in woodland

is my wish to sow various seeds—Candy- Primulas, Foxgloves, and Matthiola rnis—in a wood where grass has not n; wood is fairly light. Must the nd be forked up, or would mixing the s with a lot of soil do the same? Also could I prevent birds from taking the s? When is the best time? Would I bloom this year? IN DOUBT.

here appears to be no reason why seeds e flowers mentioned should not succeed. e the soil firmly with a steel rake, mix seeds with three times their bulk of sand f finely-sifted dry soil, and sow thinly. revent birds from eating the seeds damp latter with red lead. Slugs would most y be troublesome to the seedlings, and, iscourage these, dress the ground, after ing, with wood-ashes. Foxgloves and pies are certain to give a good account of nselves. If you sow annuals in March or y in April they will all bloom during sum- and autumn. Foxgloves, of course, are nials. If seeds be sown at the time indi- d a few of the resulting plants may bloom he autumn months, but the bulk of them ld not flower until next season.]

volvulus in neglected rock garden

n Doubt).—It is a very heart-breaking to eradicate Convolvulus when that pest obtained a footing, and especially in a garden. But on no account must weed- r be used; it would kill everything else, it would leave the fleshy roots of the volvulus unharmed, although any wths above ground would be destroyed. the effects of cutting over the young wths of the Convolvulus at the ground- l once a fortnight. Continual cutting weakens the roots, and these ultimately if the work is persisted with. In a ery, of course, a hoe could not be used, an old, sharp knife will be found service- . Tackle the problem at once and do not discouraged if the result does not appear e at once satisfactory. Badly polluted und has very often been cleared of Con- ulus, Snakeweed, Bishopweed, Couch ss, and similar weeds by persistently pping off the growths for a season or two.

e Cornflower

rchard).—It is assumed, of course, that Cornflower referred to is one of the ual varieties, and King of the Blues has ery likely name. An extensive selection be found in Messrs. Sutton's compre- sive catalogue. Sow in March or early il and thin severely.

conopsis Baileyi

. C,).—This is undoubtedly a variable ling from Tibet, and can only be regarded a geographical form of M. betonicifolia note on page 69). In its best form it unquestionably one of the most lovely hts of recent introduction.

Iris Pavonia

I have a batch of Iris Pavonia (imported) in pans of loam, leaf soil, silver sand, and a little four-year-old cowdung, rooted in cold frame and now in cool house. They do not seem happy, the grass very weak, and move very slowly, although one pan of offsets from home-grown bulbs that failed to flower last season grow well. Will you please advise me how to flower this Iris and give me the name of a good modern book on Irises in general? C. A. C.

[It is difficult to judge the cause of the plants not seeming happy without seeing them. If they are being grown from imported tubers it is quite possible that they arrived in a dried up condition and require time to acclimatise themselves. This Iris is a native of South Africa, where the seasons are just the reverse of those in the northern hemisphere. This species succeeds best when grown in peat, and we think the addition of cow manure to loam, even if of light character, was rather a doubtful experiment. As they do not look happy, we should have no hesitation in transplanting them into peat-soil and placing them in a sunny position, just keeping them damp. There are two varieties of the Pavonia, and the one known as Major is far the better. It is possible that the weak foliage may be produced by the smaller variety. They should bloom in a warm position in a well-drained part of the rock garden outside, but should be given a covering of dry Heather through the winter, where it should remain till the cutting winds are over. The Peacock Iris is sometimes listed under the names of Moræa glaucopis, and also that of Vieusseuxia glaucopis. We would suggest placing some pieces of rock amongst the peat, which I. cristata and I. Persica both like. Another lovely species of the Moræa is Iridioides, which bears spikes of white flowers with dark blotches. The M. Iridioides Johnsonii has spikes of white flowers with orange blotches and flattened stigmas of a lavender tint. Both the last named require a cool house, and we have seen them grown with beautiful effect in a hanging basket, in which they bloomed year after year undisturbed. A useful book on the Iris family is "The Book of the Iris," by R. Irwin Lynch (well illustrated), published by John Lane. The writer was for many years curator of the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge. The so-called Iris Pavonia is excluded as it is classed as a Moræa. The book is an excellent one, with a chapter on the Oncocylus section by Rev. Henry Ewbank. See also Dictes spahtacea, page 71.]

GREENHOUSE

Plant for name

(G. L.).—The leaf enclosed is not that of a Cactus, but of one of the Sedums, almost certainly Sedum japonicum, although the specimen was rather withered. This makes a very useful plant for window cultivation, but, naturally, it succeeds better in a greenhouse—even in an entirely unheated greenhouse. When the plant attains to the flowering size it ought to bloom annually. Cuttings are easily struck in light, sandy soil, either with or without the aid of artificial heat, and any ordinary potting compost (three parts loam, one part leaf-mould, and a little sand) will meet their requirements. Possibly the other plants to which you refer as "Cactuses" are of a similar nature, and may be treated in a like manner. A scullery window is not the most promising place in which to grow plants.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Planting a hedge and wind screen

I want to plant a hedge about 45 yards long on ground 4 feet to 5 feet above road to form a wind and sight screen. Soil is good loam with sand, gradually turning heavier, till 2 feet or so down it is clay. Situation: Sheltered from north and east, but very exposed to west winds off the Bristol Channel 400 yards away, and fairly exposed to southwest and south, from which direction gales in the autumn whipped the foliage off Privets and American Pillar Roses.

(1) Do you consider Lonicera nitida will thrive and retain its leaves during winter?

(2) How many plants would be needed to form a thick hedge?

(3) Can you recommend anything better and cheaper? Height is not a great consideration so long as it will attain 3 feet to 4 feet fairly quickly. I shall be very much obliged by your replies to these queries in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. My best thanks in anticipation. R. O. C.

Portishead.

[(1) Lonicera nitida, though cheap and a good grower, is not sturdy enough for a shelter hedge. It singes badly in the wind. It is useful as a dividing hedge inside a garden.

(2) Lonicera nitida plant 1 foot to 18 inches apart. Privet 1 foot apart in a double row, 1 foot between the rows.

(3) Privet is stronger and better than Lonicera nitida for shelter. The ground should be thoroughly well dug and prepared, the plants cut back at planting within 2 inches of the ground. March is a good time to plant. A second hedge of small Cupressus macrocarpa planted in May behind the Privet would give solid protection. It would pay to put hurdles in front of the Privet, which is the quickest-growing plant for the purpose. The outside of the hedge will singe in the wind, but inside it will be glossy and fresh. Privet is much cheaper.]

Dwarf trees

(In Doubt).—Some of the specialists in topiary and similar work might possibly have dwarf trees such as you desire. Try Messrs. Cutbush, Highgate Nurseries, N., or Baggesens, Hardy Plant Nurseries, Pembury, Kent. You may, however, find it interesting to experiment with Acorns, Beechmast, and seeds of some of the Pines. These, sown in 2-inch pots, readily germinate, and if kept in these pots and starved the seedlings grow into miniature trees. Seeds of the Locust Bean, so treated, produce elegant little trees. The real secret of dwarfing trees, which yet retain true proportions, is only thoroughly understood by those clever and painstaking gardeners, the Japanese.

Newly planted Larch trees

I should be much obliged if you could tell me whether it would be beneficial to mulch small, newly planted Larch where the soil is so shallow that a three-weeks' drought shrivels the growths, and what would be the best material to mulch with. LARCH.

[Mulching in the case of your Larch trees is clearly indicated. Not only would a good mulch be of present service, but it would add to the depth of your shallow soil. Do not, however, use manure, even if it be well rotted; good leaf-mould, and plenty of it, would be better. In addition, and during the searching winds of spring, it might be possible to afford the young trees a certain amount of shelter—even boughs of evergreens, such as Laurels, would be beneficial.]

Pruning shrubs

(Geo. Soper).—If you cut down your Solanum jasminoides it will not flower as freely as it will do if you will merely thin out the tangled growths. This is not easy, and demands much time and patience. Personally, we would cut it down in March, and take a little trouble to train the young shoots thinly and evenly. You can always cut away the weaker shoots and such as over-crowd their neighbours. Unfortunately, you do not mention the variety of your Buddleia, and different varieties require different treatment. B. globosa should be thinned out at the end of June, while B. variabilis, should have the wood of the previous year well cut back towards the end of March. If the mildew is the ordinary Gooseberry Mildew, it may be checked, if not completely banished, by spraying the bushes in spring with Bordeaux Mixture, while should it be American Mildew, you must at once notify the local authority, and they will advise you how to treat it.

FRUIT

Sweet Chestnuts

Is it possible to obtain in this country a Sweet Chestnut of the very large variety (for baking purposes), similar to those sold in the streets, which, I believe, are Spanish?

E. Davis.

[Good Standards that would fruit quickly, about 10 ft. high, may be obtained from 5s. to 6s. each. This is the variety that is used for roasting, and if planted in good, rich ground soon produces fine, large nuts.]

The best Raspberries

(E. S. E.).—We strongly recommend the following, bearing in mind your heavy soil:—Superlative, Royal, Hornet, Baumforth's Seedling, and Herbert. Perpetual fruiting varieties:—Perpetuelle de Billiard, Ameloire de Congy, November Abundance, and Surprise d'Automne.

Damaged Apple tree

(Orchard).—If the branch has been broken off close to the butt of the tree, and if the damage has caused a hole in the trunk, the only remedy is to fill the aperture with well-sanded cement, one part cement to three parts of sand, with a layer of pure cement at the top to the depth of half an inch. But if the cavity is in the damaged branch saw the latter off close to the stem, smooth over the cut with a very sharp carpenter's chisel, and dress with Archangel tar.

Black Currants and Gooseberries

(Nicotiana).—As your soil is poor and porous, is was wrong to bury the manure so deeply, especially as neither Black Currants nor Gooseberries are deep rooters. The latter do not require very rich soil, but all the same, as you have yourself proved, they do not grow very well on really poor ground. You would require to apply a fair dressing of well-rotted manure to the part intended for the Gooseberries, and a much heavier amount of the same where the Currants are to be put in. (1) If you prepare the ground as advised above, you could move the four-year-old bushes you have to the new site, where they ought to grow away all right. Do this in February. (2) As a cooker, Whinhams Industry is hard to beat, while for preserving Red Warrington is excellent. Any variety if picked while still in a small state is good for bottling, but the old Green Gascoigne, even if left until nearly full grown, is one of the best for this purpose. (3) Boskoop Giant and Seabrooke's Black, are two of the best Black Currants, but there are none absolutely immune to "Big Bud." We might say that your soil is not well suited for the cultivation of this fruit, which demands rich, rather moist soil to do reall ywell. You could help matters a bit if you could plant these Currants in a rather shady place, but not under trees. Keep the ground between the bushes well mulched with manure, and in really dry weather afford them a thorough soaking of water at the roots once a week.]

Apple warts

Can you tell me what is the cause of my Cox's Orange Apple tree throwing out large pimply wart-like nobs. They do not appear high up on the branches, nor low down on the trunk.

A. G. F.

[The wart-like growths which you send for examination are aerial roots and will not cause you any serious trouble. Certain varieties of Apples produce aerial roots very freely on all types of soil; other varieties only produce these roots under certain soil conditions. Cox's Orange does not, as a rule, produce aerial roots under ideal soil condition, and it appears likely that your soil does not suit this variety as well as it might. Are you certain that the soil is well drained? because defective root action would encourage the production of aerial roots. When spraying your tree pay special attention to the area bearing aerial roots, because insect pests shelter in such places, and unless the spray fluids are well driven in to the crevices, spraying is very largely useless. When an Apple tree sets a large quantity of fruit the number of fruits should be reduced early in the season. All trusses which bear more than one fruit should be reduced so that only one fruit is carried. If the trusses are very close together some of them should be relieved of fruit altogether; aim at getting your fruits spaced out so that on an average there is one fruit for each 6 inches to 8 inches of growth. We should advise you not to be too drastic in the pruning of your trees in the effort to keep them to a set height. The natural height of an Apple is not much over 20 feet, but by pruning this height can be exceeded. The easiest way to limit the height of a tree is to prune lightly.]

VEGETABLES

Cultivating winter Lettuce

(W. Croad).—Towards the end of September seeds should be sown in cold frames for this purpose, and about every 10 days throughout October where, should it become necessary, protection can be given. Frames or pits which can be heated at will are excellent for growing Lettuces, but care in the regulation of heat will at all times be necessary. A warm, moist atmosphere and a little air whenever possible is desirable. Another plan is to make up beds of leaves and stable manure to supply the warmth, but whichever is used, the surface border should consist of good, rich loam to which has been added a little well-decayed manure or leaf-mould, and the surface of the border should not be more than 14 inches from the glass. When large enough to handle put out the plants at 10 inches apart in successional batches as the various sowings become available. Others may be planted out in cold frames for later supplies, as such succeed remarkably well without any heat whatever, but airing must be strictly attended to as the sun gains power. During spells of bad weather it may not be possible to uncover the early frames for several days at a time, in which case damp-
ing may occur, and this must be look
and removed. To follow the frame
batches of Hardy Winter White Cos,
Density, Trocadero, and Black-seeded
sown in September and planted out on
tered border during October will be
most satisfactory, and a sowing mad
warm house or frame in February will
plants to follow the varieties men
above. These will mature about W
tide.

MISCELLANEOUS

Lime sulphur

Your issue of January 12th, under
ing of "Spraying Fruit Trees," has s
the information I sought, but, excu
ignorance, I have never heard of lin
phur. Where can I get it diluted, an
quantity of it should I put in to, say,
ful (ordinary servants' pails) of abou
six gallons to the pail? Two pailfu
about all I shall require at a time, as
not any tank to hold 99 gallons of wa

A. G

[You can obtain concentrated lim
phur from any firm who deals in insec
and you will find particulars of such
advertising in our columns from time t
The lime sulphur bought in this c
trated form only requires the addit
water to make ready for use. To ma
a solution of approximately one in 10
three gallons of water and slowly add
of concentrated lime sulphur, stirri
the while. Wooden buckets or tubs a
ferable for mixing lime sulphur, and
ing machines made of copper shou
be used because the sulphides present
solution eat away the copper. If yo
only a very small quantity it need n
in an ordinary bucket long enough to
either bucket or sprayer. Well wash
utensils after use. If you have not
used your tar oil spray you should a
forthwith.]

SHORT REPLY

W. J.—The Shoulder Hoe is a
labour-saving invention and efficient,
ally for hoeing between long rows
kitchen garden. It may be obtained
Hampson's Patents, 3, Hills Place,
Street, London, W. 1.

NAMES OF PLANTS

G.—1, 2, and 3, probably Polyantha
but cannot name from such poor
season specimens; 5, 6, and 7, seedling
ties of the Lenten Hellebore (Hel
Orientalis); 8, Erica mediterranea h
9, Osmunda regalis (the Royal Fe
possibly a Moræa. Please send w
bloom.

NAMES OF FRUITS

A. H.—Black Currant Edina may
tained from the raiser, T. A. Scarlett,
Market Street, Edinburgh.

C. E. B., Devon.—Apple probably
Blanche. Cannot be certain from a
specimen.

F. J. R., Kent.—Allington Pippin,
sample.

LATE NOTE

Trial of new Roses

There is every reason to assume th
trial of new Roses by the National
Society will prove a great success.
2,000 plants have already been receiv
planted from British, American, and
tinental raisers. Mr. Courtney Pa
Secretary, is making the necessary a
ments for the trials, which will be
Haywards Heath, and only m
of the Society will be allowed to visit t
ground. Awards at the trials will b
distinct from any that are now given
National Rose Society.

By Appointment.

LAWNS Require Attention—NOW

NOW is the time to feed your lawns in preparation for the summer months. A reliable complete fertilizer will quickly create dense turf. Moss, clover, and weeds should be eradicated now by applying Fisons' Lawn Sand.

Fisons' Technical Bureau is maintained for the benefit of enquirers, without obligation.

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The most effective preparation for destroying clover, moss, and small weeds, and in so doing stimulating the grass. A thimbleful destroys a large weed, such as a plantain. Should be applied now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court. Measure and full instructions sent.
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should be incorporated with the soil before sowing grass seed. Specially prepared to promote strong root growth and give new grass a good start. Use 4 ozs. to the sq. yd. a few days before sowing the seed.
Prices, in Bags: 7 lbs., **3/-**; 14 lbs., **4/6**; 28 lbs., **7/6**; 56 lbs., **12/6**; 1 cwt., **20/**. Carriage paid.

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are the finest procurable, being specially tested before selection.
Special Mixture (for Bowling and Golf Greens, finest grasses only).
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GARDEN FLOWER BOXES from 4/3

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Height 8 ft.	Usual Price	Reduced Price
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4 ft. 6 in. path ..	8/9	7/9
5 ft path	11/6	10/-

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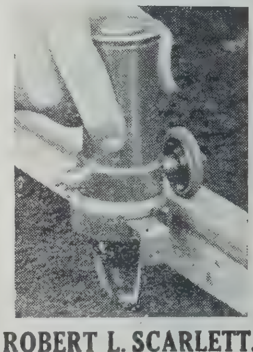

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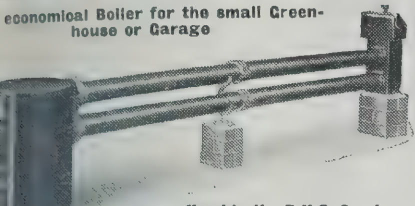

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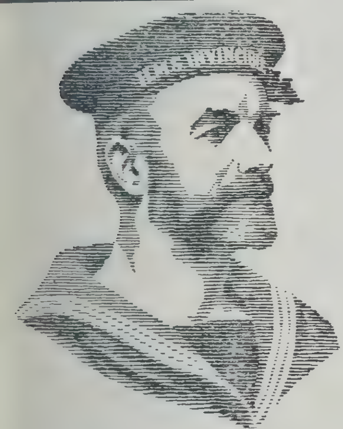

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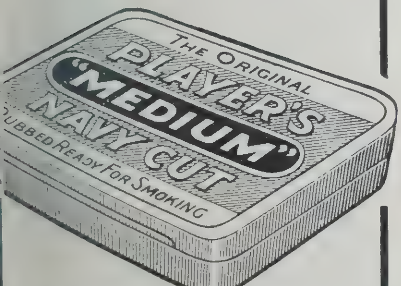

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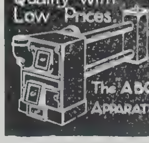

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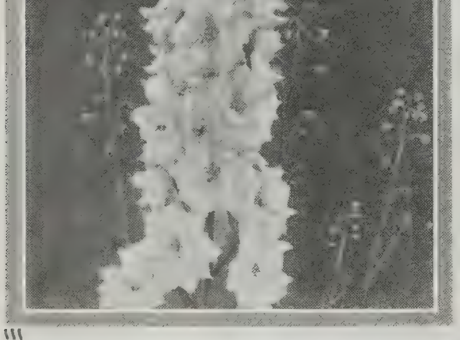

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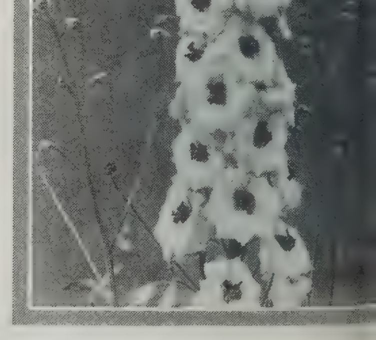

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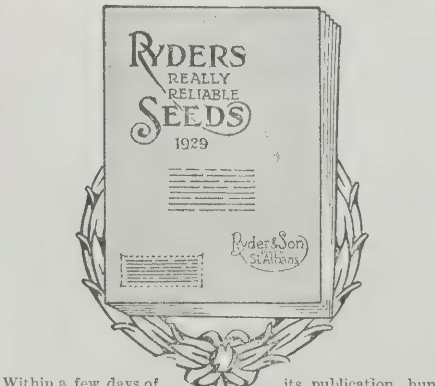

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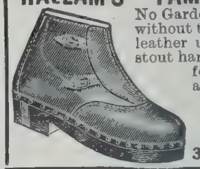

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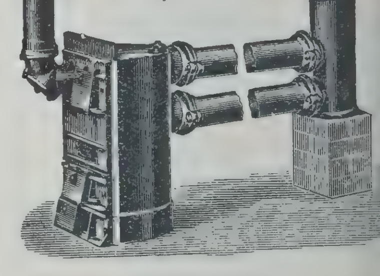

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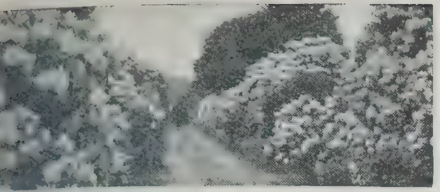

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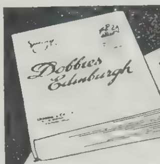

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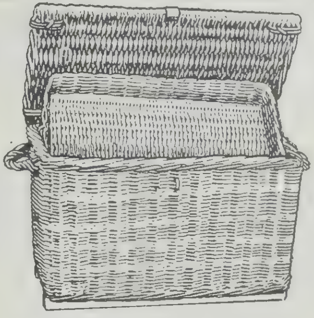

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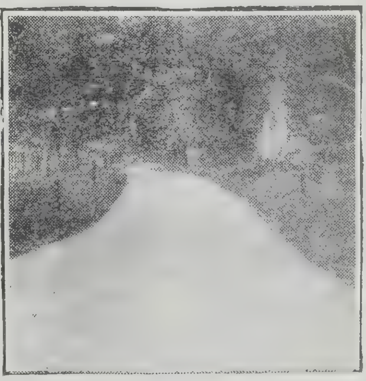

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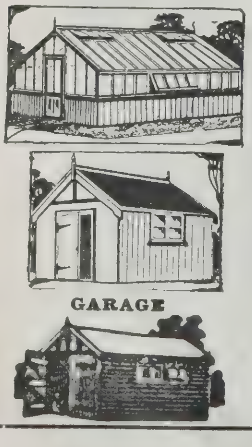

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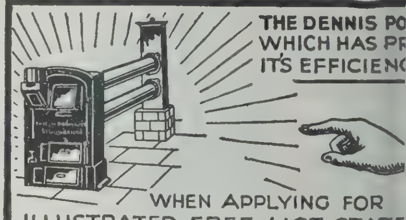
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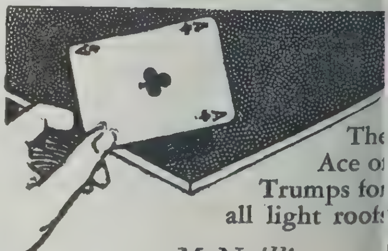
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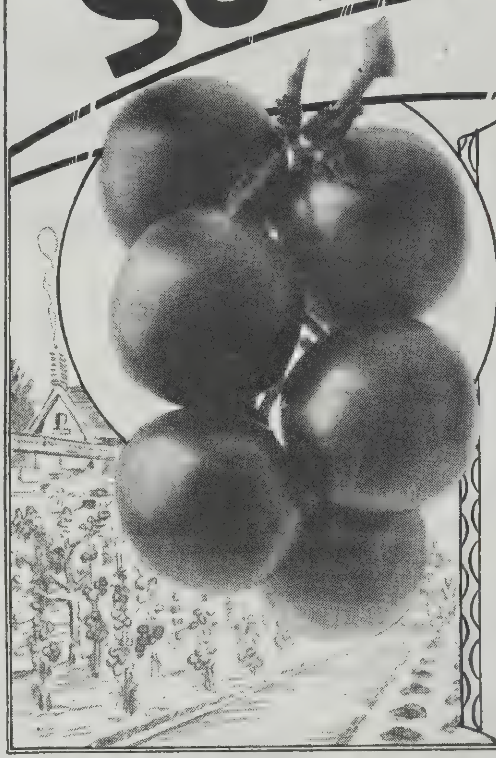

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Spring Flowers

How we got our favourite varieties. Triumphs of cultivation

HE general lover of spring flowers, who is, after all, the average member of the community, is usually content to love blooms for themselves alone, and knows of their origin and development. It ot fail to add, however, to his or her est in the charming blooms that bring them the first promise of brighter days the long and dreary winter to know ething of what art and skill have conted to their present perfection.

om amongst the numerous early spring ers three stand out as the most popular in greatest demand, the Hyacinth, the odil, and the Tulip. The cinth, also called the nth, supreme amongst flowers of the spring, is a e of the Levant, where it rs abundantly, in form unlike our common Hare- It is no new favourite, ng been in cultivation to 1597, at which date rd records the existence six varieties which are ated as "particularly and novel." Rea, in , mentions several single double varieties as being English gardens, and ce (1754) describes upds of 50 single-flowered eties and nearly 100 le-flowered ones, a selecof the best from the catae . of two of the then rated Dutch growers. of the Dutch sort, called Reine de Femmes, a e white, is said to have uced from 32 to 36 in a e, and on its first appearto have sold at from 50 ers a bulb, while one led Overwinnaar, or ueror, a double blue, sold first for 100 guilders, ria Mundi for 500 lers, and Koning non for 600 guilders. ral varieties are at that mentioned as flowering lin water-glasses. Justice es that he himself raised al very valuable doublered kinds from seed.

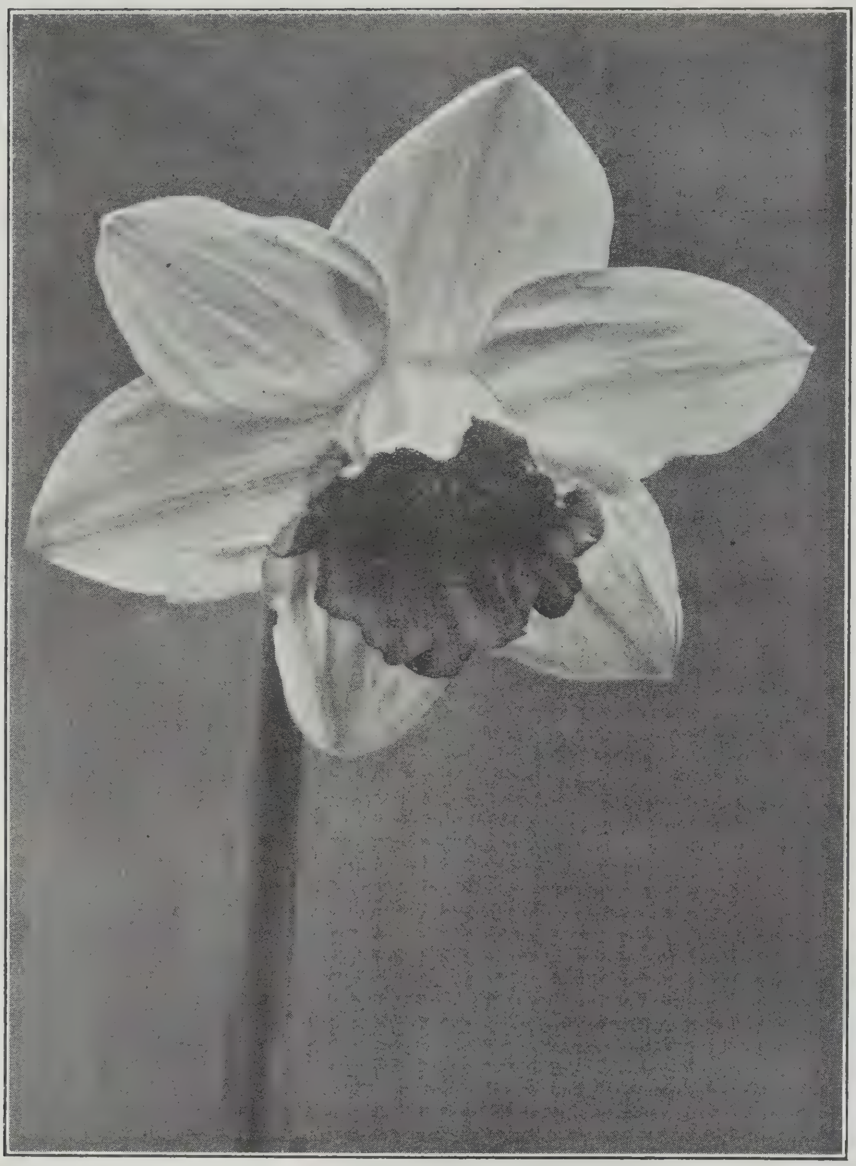
le original of the culti- Hyacinth is by comison an insignificant , bearing on a spike only w small, narrow-lobed, pale blue flowers. So great has been the improvement effected by the florist, chiefly the Dutch, that the modern product would scarcely be recognised as the descendant of the type referred to. The spikes are now long, dense, and composed of a large number of flowers. The spikes produced by strong bulbs not infrequently measure 6 inches or 7 inches in length and from 7 inches to 9 inches in circumference, with the flowers set on from bottom to top. Of late years much improvement has been effected in the size of the individual flowers and the breadth of their lobes, as well as securing increased brilliancy and depth of colour. The peculiarities of the soil and climate of Holland are so favourable to their production that Dutch florists have made a speciality of these and other bulbous-rooted flowers. Large areas of ground are devoted to the growth of Hyacinths in the vicinity of Haarlem, and are estimated to bring in huge revenues. In the spring garden the Hyacinth makes a very effective display dotted in clumps in the flower borders and arranged in masses of contrasted colour beds. There are no flowers which impart during their season a gayer tone to the parterre.

The new Narcissus Brawardine

Very pale primrose-coloured self of the Giant Leedsii type, and well expanded trumpet of great substance and broad waved perianth segments

The origin of the much-beloved Daffodil is lost "in the twilight of fable," and through the ages the production of new varieties has proceeded at an annually increasing rate. A comparison between the little wild Daffodil to be found in the woods and the meadows with the flowers exhibited at the shows provides some idea of the extent to which culture has been achieved by the experts. The present-day cult of the Daffodil, however, commenced about a century ago, when the then Dean of Manchester raised Daffodils from seed obtained by crossing varieties of the wild species with each other, thus laying the foundation of a department of horticulture which has now developed to considerable proportions. Many others carried on the good work of the Dean, and ultimately the Emperor and Empress trumpet Daffodils in yellow and white varieties appeared. The result of the culture was that Daffodils increased in size and bloom, accompanied, however, by a certain coarseness in some of the famous varieties.

Owing to its stately beauty the Tulip has been a favourite in European gardens for two or three centuries, and has been crossed and recrossed until it has become almost impossible to refer the plant to its original types. The lovely flowering Van Thol Tulips, the segments of which are mostly scarlet with



Narcissus Fortune, the forerunner of many new hybrids

yellow edges, are derived from a native plant of America, and Central Russia is the place of origin of some of the later-flowering varieties. The Tulipa sylvestris, with elegant, yellow, pendulous flowers, is a doubtful native of England. At the present day Tulips are less fashionable than they once were, and, consequently, the enormous prices given for new or improved varieties no longer obtain. It must, however, be remembered that the Tulip mania of the seventeenth century was really a form of gambling, in which admiration for the flower and interest in its culture were more often than not secondary considerations. Tulips were introduced into the low countries in the sixteenth century from Constantinople and the Levant by way of Vienna and Venice.

Though in all three cases the propagation of the bulb is largely centred in Holland, affording a very prosperous business to the Dutch expert, large consignments of the cut bloom are grown on English soil, including, of course, the Channel Islands. The delightfully mild climate of the Scilly Islands encourages the growth of spring bloom there in wonderful profusion, and the seafarer who has had the good fortune to be carried within a short distance of these shores in spring will retain the experience in his mind for a long time.

Finally, we can realise how much to the Tulip the public parks of our cities owe their spring beauty by the existence of this very popular bulb.

ARTHUR HASLAM.

New Daffodils

THE first list or catalogue of E
with the new prices for 1929, h
received from R. F. Calv
Coverack, Cornwall. None of the co
varieties are included, and therefore
new and choice Daffodils, which a
described, make it a useful reference
all who are interested in Daffodil-g
quite apart from the fact that in ev
Mr. Calvert has reduced the prices
year and in many cases the reductio
ticularly with the rarer varieties,
substantial.

Hebron, a beautiful yellow trum
been reduced from £9 to £4 10s., Ni
£3 to 25s., Pilgrimage from 20s. to
Mitylene from 25s. to 14s., Warlo
£10 to £7, Helios from 20s. to 12s
from 20s. to 12s., and Tenedos from
21s.

Perhaps the most useful reductio
connection with a bulb which every
should have, viz., Medusa, which
offered at 3s. each. When Mr. Ca
hibited this fine Poetaz at Penzance
son he was awarded first prize,
among others, Glorious, also a Poeta
was priced at £3 each.

In his new list he is offering for
time a number of new varieties of w
holds the entire stocks. It will be
bered that Mr. Calvert was one of t
successful exhibitors of Daffodils du
season, during which he won the lar
challenge cup, gold, silver, and
medals, and other prizes, besides
Awards of Merit for some of his new

The variety for which there is like
a demand as soon as he can off
Whiteley Gem, which created quite
tion when shown by him last year
which he was awarded the Gold Med
Daffodil Show organised by the
Gardens Guild. It was raised fr
famous Fortune, and is very simi
rather smaller. It has a clear, brigh
perianth of good form, with a long
red cup, and is borne on a tall ster
main point of interest is the fact that
about 10 days before Fortune. Some
the interest that was taken in this
when it was exhibited will be gather
the fact that four different growe
offered £50 for a bulb, but Mr. Cal
not see his way to part with any.
now had an opportunity of growing
stock, and is hoping to be able to p
a few bulbs this year, and he pro
offer it in his catalogue next year
each.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Bearded Irises: "Eastern pallida" forms and their descendants

SIR ARTHUR HORT'S notes in your issue of January 26th on the Eastern forms of Iris pallida are, like all his writings, of great interest. He is one of the few, nowadays, who can recollect personally happenings with Sir Michaël Foster at Shelford.

Regarding Iris Cypriana, I am afraid I cannot now identify the plant that Sir Michael grew, although I have now under cultivation a stock from a source which I believe has been growing in one garden for 25 years or more. Of its earliest progeny I have, however, clearer recollections.

My first acquaintance with Iris Caterina was as follows:—One hot morning in May
many years ago I walked the dusty
road leading from Shelford Station
Wells, and up the long drive, passin
left hand the border of Eremurus, th
best, and met Sir Michael at the fro
On the left hand was a small gr
on the floor of which stood a large
taining a magnificent Iris in flower.
so taken with its beauty that I imn
asked Sir Michael, "What is that?
even asking him how he was. He
his pipe from his mouth, and with his
teristic smile and chuckle, replied
that is Caterina," and together we
its beauty for a few moments in sil
can still picture the scene and the b
the flower, though over 25 years ag

Regarding the Iris Ricardii seedlin
tioned by Sir Arthur, the following m

bearing on the matter. We used to ve from the late William Siehe, of sina, immense rhizomes of an Iris called nia, which produced tall spikes of very , deep blue flowers, most heavily ed. The spikes, as the blooms de- ed, were so heavy that they generally psed on to their side. It was early in century that I first received collected of Junonia from Siehe. The flowers the largest of any Iris I have ever seen habit Mme. Durand is very similar. I plants of this to Sir Michael Foster, after flowering this Iris, came to the usion it was very similar to what he originally grown as Cypriana, which ob- tion was mentioned in "The Gardeners' nicle," July, 1905. I rather fancy that gh it was similar to his Cypriana he it out to be a bigger, bolder plant. In ng Dykes' book one is struck by the ecture that he made as regards the close nce of Junonia, mesopotamica, and tti. It seems to me quite possible that Michael's Cypriana plant might have a piece of Junonia that originally came from Asia Minor, hence the similarity he two. One of its most distinctive ires was its very heavy scent.

nother Eastern Iris which is responsible many garden hybrids is Iris trojana, at time distributed by me as Iris asiatica, r which name it received an Award of t from the R.H.S. The history of the duction of this plant as far as I am con- ed might interest readers. I was in Pro- e and Morris's rooms many, many years about October, 1895, when a small bag t the size of a peck measure was put up ry dry Iris rhizomes. Messrs. Protheroe Morris's head man, the late John Kelk, known to frequenters of the rooms, ed my arm and whispered to me: "You better buy these, sir, they have come the East." I therefore made a bid of and secured the bag. There were many dred rhizomes, and I planted them up in open in a field. Of course, the first year did not do much, but the second year were glorious, growing as much as 4 high, with branched flower-stems bear- magnificent-sized blooms. I took some hese to London and showed it as Iris ica at the R.H.S., where the late John ker, of Whitton (who was a great plant), said to us what a wonderful plant it It was since written of in the old urnal of Horticulture." Curiously gh, although the bulk of the rhizomes h I planted were Iris trojana, there was rtain mixture of orientalis and also a in number of Iris albicans flowered ngst them. These two species seemed to widely spread through the East. This probably the original introduction of trojana into our gardens. I sent it to Michael Foster, and he used it as a nt. Iris Shalimar and Stamboul are al hybrids of this true trojana. I have had the real plant for many years, ough I believe it masquerades in some ens under the name of Cypriana. It shows how mixed these Eastern forms and the difficulty of identifying them on material that is passed about from hand and to different gardens from time to .

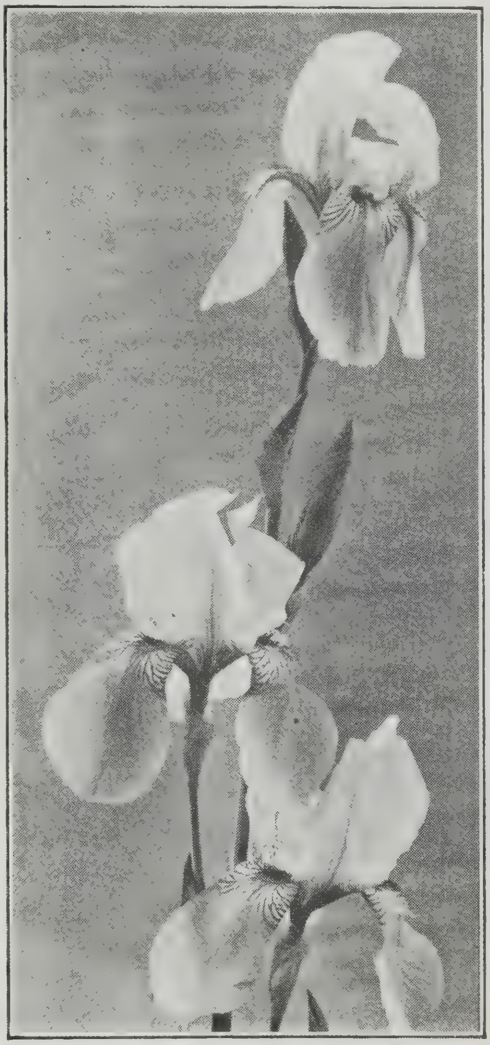
R. W. Wallace.

nbridge Wells.

Sternbergia and Dietes

ere seems a good deal of confusion about different varieties of Sternbergia. At ord the first to flower is S. Clusei, a very flower which is produced simultaneously the leaves in August. Next follow rent forms of S. sicula, which appears to e correct name for S. lutea, including the variety S. angustifolia. S. sicula begins with the variety S. s. cretica, with small, narrow leaves which lie flat on the ground. The flowers are also small and produced freely. S. s. græca is similar, but the leaves are upright. Next follows the type, S. angustifolia, of commerce, in which the dark green leaves are upright and the flowering season extends through October and November. Another variety of S. sicula I collected at Tlemçen, in Algeria. This has much wider leaves and very large flowers.

The bulb correctly called S. lutea is the species named S. macrantha by the nurserymen. The foliage is wide and the flowers appear before the leaves are fully developed, which is often deferred until the spring. This variety has a tendency to be a shy flowerer. The true S. macrantha is a rare plant and is grown exceptionally well by Major Pam at Wormley Bury, where he has a noble row under a south wall in the kitchen garden. We have had no success with this species, and I believe it has not done very well at Wormley Bury this year. The last Sternbergia to flower is S. Fischeriana, which appears in March. It is, apparently, a variety of S. lutea, and requires a hot, dry place for success.



Iris Stamboul

An admirable garden form, vigorous and free flowering, a typical hybrid of the true Iris trojana

As a general working rule it may be said that the Sternbergias that produce leaves with the flowers like a fairly heavy soil, and do not require nearly as much sun as the varieties that produce flowers before the leaves. These must have a well-drained sandy soil which is baked in the summer.

Mr. E. A. Bowles' article on Dietes gave me much pleasure. My experience coincides exactly with his. I think D. spathacea and Huttoni must be distinct species. The latter is an unsatisfactory plant here as it invariably gets cut, but I have seen it growing splendidly in an old orchard in Devonshire, where it formed a clump 6 feet across. D. iridioides Johnsonii is a great improvement on the type, as not only are the flowers much bigger, but they last much longer. There is another variety called D. i. Macowanii, but this is very similar to Johnsonii. An interesting plant is the New Zealand Diplarrhena Moræa. This comes from Australia, and is exactly like a dwarf form of Dietes iridioides. I raised two plants from seed supplied by the Edinburgh Botanical Gardens, and put them out in my desert garden. They now appear to be dead, but I saved plenty of my own seed. A most interesting class of Iridaceous plants, Marica, closely allied to Dietes, comes from tropical Africa. Marica cærulea and M. gracilis are two of the most beautiful stove plants I know. The first is bright blue and the second white, with the most marvellous markings in tortoiseshell and other colours on the standards and hafts. They reproduce themselves by small plants which are formed at the end of the flowering spikes.

Burford Dorking. William Lawrence.

—— Sternbergia lutea, like a cup of gold, was flowering profusely in the Tatoi garden of the late King of Greece, but only in the stone walls and stony banks, where it seemed to be wedged tightly between the stones. As the soil is everywhere full of lime this may, perhaps, answer S. Arnott's question. Grapes were being gathered in great quantities and in several varieties, but beyond a few belated Cistus flowers nothing else was out. This was in October. As the hills in spring are ablaze with Anemones I feel sure lime was everywhere.

A. Martineau.

Sweet Chestnuts

With reference to Mr. Davis' inquiry and the reply, the large-fruited Sweet Chestnut, of which a large number of varieties have been raised in France, is grafted on the ordinary Castanea sativa. Perhaps the best-known and most easily procurable variety is Paragon. Doré de Lyons, sometimes called Marron de Lyons, is another good one; Numbo and Nouzilland both have very large fruits. It is generally the case that the Sweet Chestnut has to make a tree of considerable height before it bears good fruit. I am told that the Japanese Chestnut, C. crenata, Siebold (C. Japonica, Blume), the Tamba, matures more rapidly. It is probably the largest-fruited Chestnut in the world and produces fruits 5 ozs. in weight. I have two trees, apparently grafted on the wild Japanese Chestnut; they have been planted five years and refuse to get away.

William Lawrence.

Bullfinches and buds

I saw, issue January 19th, page 48, a reader inquiring for suggestions for repelling attacks by birds on fruit and flowering shrubs, and send the following remedy which I have found effective on standards of Pyrus Eleyii and others, which consists of throwing a reel of black (as it is invisible to birds) cotton backwards and forwards over and through the branches and twigs, making a network, which in no way interferes with the leaves or flowers. I employed the remedy on a large bushy, half standard Pear, 8 feet to 10 feet high, which we were told never bore any fruit, and the result was that it was loaded with large Pears this year. It should be possible to do this to taller trees, with one person each side of the tree. OLIVE E. WADDY.

Taunton.

Iris unguicularis

WITH reference to the recent notes on this Iris, I think the question of its flowering or non-flowering depends less on the cutting down of its foliage than on its position and soil in which it is growing. Again, there are several distinct forms of this beautiful Iris, and these vary considerably in flower and foliage, and in time and freedom of flowering. With me the most satisfactory type which I have grown is the variety known, I think, as lilacina. Its flowers are darker in colour, with slightly shorter and broader petals than the type generally seen in gardens. The leaves are also broader. It usually commences to flower about mid-November.

In April, 1927, I planted a narrow bed of this variety about 6 feet in length against the south wall of my house. The natural soil, being stiff clay, was dug out to the depth of about 18 inches. This was replaced with a mixture of two parts well-rotted turves, one part old mortar-rubble, and one part broken bricks passed through a sieve of ½-inch mesh.

The Algerian Iris (I. unguicularis, syn. I. stylosa)

The flowers are cut in bud and brought indoors to open

On November 13th of last autumn I picked the first bloom. Since that date I have never been without a vase of this Iris on my table. Yesterday (February 3rd) 18 buds were gathered, and several more will be ready in a day or so. It is always best to pick these flowers in the bud stage as they open well in water.

The leaves of the above were not cut back last summer. Probably in the case of old crowded clumps the cutting back of the foliage is an advantage, in that it allows more sun to get at the rhizomes.

Wells. L. BIGG-WITHER.

—— I venture to send you my experience with these invaluable winter-flowering plants. I have 11 large clumps planted 15 or 20 years ago in a very poor border beside a greenhouse facing south. For the first few years I had very few flowers, but since then they have never failed me, and the number steadily increases. This year I picked three or four at the end of October, and no day has passed since (except a few days of severe frost in January) that I have not found a little bunch. The numbers increased up to 10 to 15 a day at Christmas, and now I am getting 20 to 30. This morning (February 2nd) I found 32.

The plants have never been moved, cut, or divided; all I do is to pick out the dead leaves in autumn that choke them up, and dust them once or twice in the season with Sanitas powder; this not for the plants, but to check the slugs, that destroy so many of the flowers. I find they are best picked in bud. M. B. MIREHOUSE.

The Hall, Angle, Pembroke.

—— Iris stylosa grows almost like a weed here in the open border. The soil is heavy, a clayey loam. I broke up a large clump about three years ago in the spring, and every little bit I planted has been producing flowers—the larger pieces in great abundance—all through this winter in spite of the slight frosts we have had. The white variety does not flower quite so freely. This was a very small, weak fragment when I planted it, but is now growing away and flowering quite well.

The Knoll, Exmouth. A. H. T.

—— This beautiful winter-flowering subject is a native of Algeria and requires a position close to the base of a wall where slight protection can be given them during the more severe and frosty weather. This Iris requires a rich, well-drained loam, and should be given copious supplies of moisture during its growing season. In these gardens we have a border facing south planted with these subjects, which gives yearly a wealth of flowers during the dull winter months. The flowers are of a lilac colour with a white throat streaked with gold, and are very useful for cutting, but require cutting in the bud state if wanted to last any length of time in water. These, when arranged in transparent vases with Maidenhair Fern, look very effective.

E. BAKER,
Head gardener to Mrs. C. L. Bourne,
Garston Manor, near Watford, Herts.

Rock gardens at Chelsea Sho

My real purpose in replying to the le
the Secretary of the R.H.S. has
achieved. It provoked discussion and
it certain that the letter would not be
looked. In this, my final word on th
ject, I should just like to repeat that I
sonally, have no preference for one
stone over another, and have used at
five different stones in the last few m
What I tried to do was to show the r
why exhibitors use the grey limestone
more than was the case years ago. In
of the complete unanimity amongst
other correspondents as to the desirabi
a change we may find this material m
at the show in May, but I doubt it. E
tors will still exercise their freedom of
and make use of that material which
consider advertises their own work best.

The fact that seems to emerge fro
Wood's letters is that, never having p
an exhibit himself without using lim
(at Chelsea), he is willing, indeed, app
be anxious, for other exhibitors to us
thing else. For some years now he h
let us forget his attitude towards the s
of awards. He apparently finds that
they are " flaunted " before him he " is
man, worried by petty thoughts," etc.
therefore wishes they should be ab
from any competition into which he
(The competitive element he *cannot*
nate.) The system of giving awards,
or recognition of outstanding merit go
and will go on, whether they are abolis
Chelsea or not.

I understand Mr. Wood to mean th
cause of this nervousness a competitor
do himself justice, and I presume he
from his own experience. Others do n
parently, find it impedes their progress.
rock gardens at Chelsea in 1927 an
were, in my opinion and in that of
other people, of a higher standard of a
ment than anything previously at
There was monotony, but it was the
tony of excellence. I do not believe the
tion of an award influences the origin
ception and design of an exhibit very
I do most emphatically believe (and
some experience) that it spurs a tired
tor to make the best *finish* he can. T
the end of the preparation of an exhi
is weary and rather inclined to let thi
themselves, but the thought that the
are more likely to notice those things t
not done, or done badly, prevents one
way to the slovenliness induced by f
Mr. Wood doubts the opinion of " M
regarding the attitude of the Council
point. If " M. F." is the gentlem
initials suggest he speaks with aut
and I think it is highly probable
Mr. W. could carry with him a una
request (or even a representative m
for the discontinuance of awards it wo
done. Most of the complaints I hav
heard have been not so much abo
system of giving awards as about the
opinions. Lack of confidence in its
tives (the judges in this case) is no arg
for the abolition of a system.

Most remarkable of all is the fact th
after he first gave expression to his vi
the question of awards we find his na
the list of " Judges of Rock Gardens "
of the greatest of the provincial
judges appointed for the sole purp
making awards. Really Mr. W. oug
to object to my use of the term inconsi

One little effort of his at side-step
must notice. Limestone *can* be "emin
suitable for two different purposes, pro
there are other purposes for which it
used (and there are). If I had sugge
was pre-eminently suitable for either, o
his pedantry would have been exc

ugh it might not have added much to the ter under discussion.

'Sandstone" in a recent issue tells a ty story about a fine rock garden con- rcted with stone raised on an estate by estate labour. If the labour was efficient i is exactly as it should be. He leaves us dering how this would assist any par- ar exhibitor at Chelsea towards bearing expense of demonstrating the use of that icular red sandstone. Purely as a matter hoice I would rather take grey limestone y from its locality and use it anywhere red sandstone, and, judging from his vious remarks, so would "Sandstone." sh he would tell us why.

M. F." suggests that a few cartloads of nstone tipped on the ground would make passable rockery," but that other stones ld *not*. Does this not imply that the nstone is a better material than the others? M. F." is right it is so suitable that you not go wrong with it. Who is there that, ning to make anything, looks round for less suitable material for the purpose? h things have been done, and they usually e labelled somebody's "folly." But the is that a few loads of sandstone tipped on ground would make an equally "pass- rockery." Passable is exactly the right d if one overpasses quickly enough to d seeing it. In any case I am sure her "M. F." nor anyone else wants ssable rockeries" at Chelsea.

hen Mr. F. Baker suggests moving the gardens to another site he is right in king it would bring about a change of n. He overlooks the fact that the R.H.S. at considerable expense, introduced a ial water supply and drainage system on rock garden site, and the correspondent ted by "M. F.," in using the term nevolent" in connection with the R.H.S. ncil, was not necessarily thinking of the rality with which it meets the requirements of exhibitors. I make another sugges- that is just as likely to be carried out. main avenue now devoted to sundries ht to be the most attractive picture in the le show. It is the point that visitors m Hospital Road see first, and could be le very imposing.

A. C. C. W." asks for Welsh stone to sed more. There is some very beautiful e in North Wales. It is of the same ogical formation as the Westmoreland Yorkshire limestones, and extends right oss to the West Irish coast—Galway, for ance. The rock garden at Earlham Hall home of the late Mr. Sydney Morris) was structed with the North Wales stone, and as been used at Chelsea Show. I think s more attractive than either Westmore- d, Yorkshire, or Cheddar stones, but the (away from its home) is enormously in ess of any other. If "A. C. C. W." in- led to imply that Red Jasper would be a sful stone for a Chelsea exhibit, well—Mr. od tells us Chelsea nowadays presents a oeful lack of the spirit of experiment," here is a chance for someone to prove he vrong and attain notoriety. If he refers he real Red Jasper he need not even plant t.

ome *in*, Mr. Elliott, you *are* wel- e. I have been expecting you for some e. So you think waterworn limestone the one rock above all others which is itself to pretty building, can be obtained dy weathered, and of good colour." And that it is "very unlikely exhibitors will up using it as long as the R.H.S. con- ne, etc., etc." Heartiest congratulations your tabloid paraphrase of my first letter the subject. I am afraid I have ap- iated neither the injury to my dignity (or n that I had any dignity) nor Mr. Wood's ty whirls around it. Mr. Wood is a *serious* contributor. To him it is a *serious* subject. Has he not assured us of this in plain terms? To whirl in giddy "rings" is surely incompatible with the gravity with which he regards the subject. I wonder how Mr. Wood will regard Mr. Elliott's deprecation of his "realism." He might quite reasonably ask him how the "*imitation* by others of his own *inimitable* style" could be achieved. It does not sound easy. There is also something curious in the suggestion that the farther Mr. Wood gets away from realism his work becomes "surely better." Recently Mr. Wood pounced avidly on my suggestion that he was a "great artist" in a manner that hinted that he had observed a slip in my reasoning. I was perfectly sincere, and intended just what I said. I consider that, as a "realist" in rock construction, Mr. Wood is a "great artist," an opinion I have held for many years, and which not even Mr. Elliott's contempt of this application of the term "artist" can change.

GEO. DILLISTONE.

Collecting wild flowers in Southern California

Having just returned from a collecting trip in the southern part of the State, where I gathered quantities of seed of Zauschneria californica, the paragraphs in the October 13th number of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, written by E. Markham, about this glorious plant, at once attracted my attention.

It is satisfying to know that this sun and drought loving plant is being grown so successfully in England, and the conviction that if anyone can grow a plant the English can is once more justified.

Zauschneria (commemorating Zauschner, a Bohemian botanist) blooms here in late summer, throughout the autumn, and well into winter, and fills a need at a time when wild flowers are scarce. It goes by the common name of California Fuchsia, while in the south it is often called Balsamea. The Spanish Californians used it as a remedy for cuts and bruises.

One wonders why this vivid plant is used so little in gardens. It is easy to grow and the mountain variety (Z. latifolia) is hardy, as it is occasionally found in gardens of the Eastern States and flourishes at an altitude of 9,300 feet in the Sierra Mountains, where it is particularly beautiful.

Zauschneria is found on rocky hillsides and dry benches. It has a brave manner of finding its way among rocks and rough bushes, and poking up a triumphant flower-head from some inaccessible crag or shrub on the canon side. It seems to have an affinity for Rhus diversiloba, as I found to my sorrow, for this poisonous bush retains its villainous propensities even when its drying foliage is the brightest among the autumnal colourings.

G. LESTER ROWNTREE.

Carmel, California.

Proposed Society of Garden Architects

Your correspondent, "F. R. H. S., Brighton," seems to have been unfortunate in his dealings with garden architects. Need he, though, one feels entitled to ask, wither the entire profession in this wholesale fashion because of his own unhappy experience? One sees the plans for a typically modern "jerry-built" bungalow, but does one necessarily go home and write to the Press a sweeping condemnation of the architectural profession as a result? I think one would exercise a little more restraint, perhaps, than that. In the same way, whilst I have no personal animus against your probably well-intentioned correspondent, I could yet wish that he had directed his wrath against those responsible for the preparation of the particular plan which aroused his displeasure rather than condemned the whole profession.

Further, I would point out that it is just the production of bad plans, such as we will suppose for the moment this one was, that the proposed Society is designed to prevent. Admittedly, much disreputable work, both in the matter of design and in execution, is being carried out to-day. At the same time there are men, in addition to the "good, practical foreman," who make it their business to study garden design from every aspect, and it is such men as these who would form the nucleus of the Society. Indeed, everyone who belonged to it would have, as a matter of course, to possess the necessary qualifications, and in this way it would provide a guarantee for the public of good work.

By all means have your "good, practical foremen." Such men are invaluable, and their worth is fully realised. In fact, the construction of gardens should always be done by them. Perhaps, however, your correspondent does not quite realise what more there is in this matter which he dismisses so lightly, and upon which he has the air of considering himself competent to give final rulings. If he did I think he would not be quite so ill-disposed towards the term Garden Architect. A garden *can* have design in it, and it can also have a considerable number of architectural features.

Formal terraces, balustrades, steps, walls, garden houses, and seats are all architectural features, and for this reason your garden designer requires a knowledge of such architecture as this, and more especially of planning, in addition to his knowledge of plants. Admittedly, the architect pure and simple will often put far too much stonework into a scheme, but so, on the other hand, will the plantsman pure and simple generally put no design into his.

No, it is undoubtedly true that the really successful maker of a garden to-day must combine a knowledge of architectural design and an artistic sense with a knowledge and understanding of plants and their ways. Consequently, I consider the term Garden Architect to be not only a suitable name for him, but an expressive one. Perhaps Landscape Architect is the next best.

To return to the immediate case, even here, apart from the general conclusions your correspondent has jumped to, he may have been a shade hasty in his judgment of the plan he describes. One cannot tell, of course, without seeing it, but what does strike one in reading his letter is his singular description of a pergola as a "gadget," and, again, of the placing of a Rose garden under the sitting-room windows as another "gadget." I have heard this strange term used quite expressively, but I must confess that in this connection it appears to savour rather more of a desire to be abusive than of a sane criticism.

Again, he describes these things as being in the fashion (whatever he may mean by that). Apparently one must on no account be in the fashion, and in order to avoid committing that breach of taste one must not put a pergola in any garden unless one can conceal it from view from the house; and, further, one must keep all Rose gardens well away from the windows. (Rose-lovers all over the country please note that you must never have your favourite flower under your windows, at any rate unless well diluted with something else, because, although it can give you a feast of colour and scent from June to October or November, it will look "untidy" in winter.)

The suggestion of your correspondent that one should obtain guidance from old gardens is admirable—one can only wish that the rest of his remarks had been equally helpful. On the other hand, if he follows it up himself I am afraid he must not be shocked if occasionally he finds a Rose garden under the windows. In Elizabethan times, for instance, they invariably had, if not actually a Rose garden, at least formal bedding out under the windows, which, I fear, could not hope to fulfil his requirements in the matter of winter effect. In fact, taking things all round, I should say that our gardens to-day had very much more of interest in them in winter than the old-fashioned ones, delightful as many of these were.

In conclusion, I must just point out that the finest of these old gardens to which "F. R. H. S." draws our attention were generally laid out by one or other of the men who founded and carried forward just those traditions of garden architecture which we are endeavouring to uphold to-day. Admittedly the difficulties are great, and shoddy work has already gone far towards bringing the craft into disrepute; in fact, that is precisely why we want this Society. But in spite of the cold water poured so ruthlessly on the attempts that are being made to improve matters by founding the Society it will come in the end. And when it does I believe it will live to justify its existence, and help to maintain the traditions of that art which has been called "the Mistress of the Liberal Professions."

F. C. SURTEES ROBINSON.

—— I have read with considerable interest the correspondence in your columns with regard to the formation of an Association of Garden Designers, and in response to my suggestion in a previous issue I have received a number of interesting inquiries.

It has been decided, therefore, to convene a meeting at 9, Gower Street, Bedford Square, W.C. 1, on Wednesday, February 20th, at 7 p.m. Those wishing to attend should send a stamped and addressed envelope for an invitation.

RICHARD SUDELL.

9, *Gower Street, Bedford Square,*
London, W.C. 1.

"When idols have feet of clay"

May I be allowed to suggest that the adverse criticism of Meconopsis Baileyi by your correspondent, "J. R. K.," may, perhaps, have been influenced by psychological as much as by horticultural factors?

"J. R. K." says that "perfection must always be our ideal, horticulturally as otherwise," but to the ordinary man such a standard seems a little grandiose and likely to beget a tendency to depreciation which will not be entirely objective. Such considerations would be out of place here were it not that a genus so variable as Meconopsis is capable of being improved in garden value by selection, and the more widely it is grown the more rapid will be the process of amelioration. Over-praise will check the spread of a plant in cultivation, but the disparagement of a disillusioned idealist is also an effective deterrent—if it is taken at its face value.

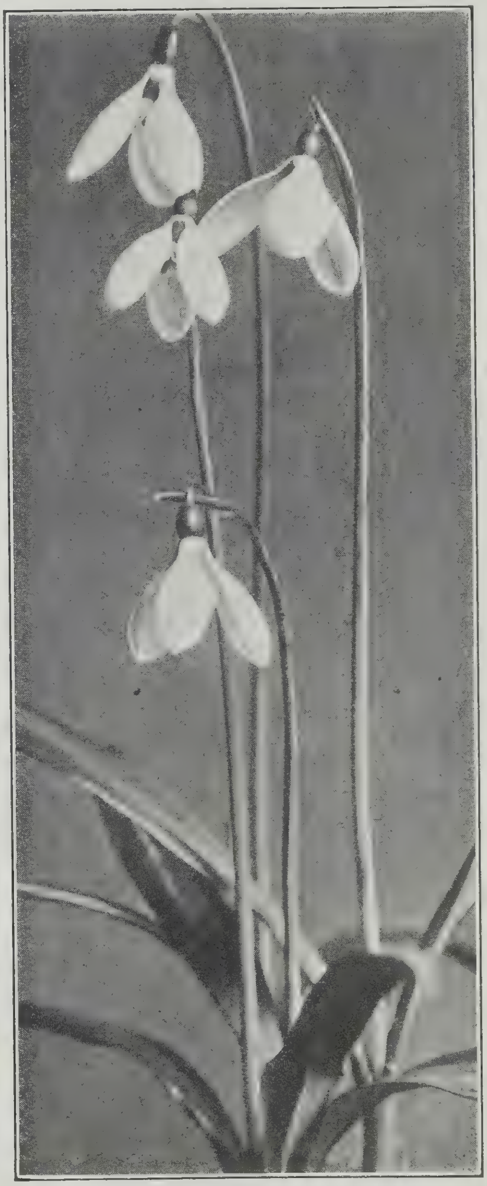
"J. R. K." says that Meconopsis Baileyi "is a washout in five plants or five gardens out of six." This seems rather a high proportion, for I have seen the plant sky-blue and flourishing—when it has been given a liberal supply of leaf-mould—in four quite different soils and climates. But no doubt "J. R. K.'s" experience is larger than mine.

I have found, as "J. R. K." complains, that vendors often over-praise their goods, but I have not found that this deplorable weakness of human nature is greater in nurserymen than in other tradesmen. On the contrary, I have the impression that nurserymen's catalogues are more truthful than the literature of patent medicine vendors, company promoters, and others which fills my waste-paper basket.

The nurseryman often warns us that a plant is difficult, that its flowers are "vivid magenta," or he adds an explanatory "lilac-pink" in brackets after a variety called "Maiden's Blush." In general, he seems to me (judged by the ordinary commercial standards) to treat his customers with commendable frankness.

I am sorry if Meconopsis Baileyi has given "J. R. K." more pain than pleasure, and I would ask him to give it another trial if only he did not cherish that ideal of perfection, but it is not as easy as Arabis nor, like the sky, is it always blue. I should, however, like to point out that the words "ideal" and "idol" are quite closely related, both in origin and meaning, and that if an idol has feet of clay the shortcoming must be blamed upon its maker.

F. A. HAMPTON.



Galanthus byzantinus

Clematis Flammula

The illustration and notes accompanying same interested me, knowing what a beautiful effect it has where it is allowed to grow at will, its long-reaching shoots hanging in all directions when the majority of climbers are about spent out. Some six years ago I purchased a plant from a reliable firm, planted it so that its shoots should overhang the window where most of our time is spent
when work is done, hoping to get a w
of its lovely scent when in full flower.
it turned out to be a scentless variety
my great disappointment. It was certa
C. Flammula in its growth and flower, g
ing ever so strong, and flowered abundar
but after the third season I consigned
the fire heap, thoroughly disappointed
my bargain and the labour spent on it.
any reader suffered in a similar respect

JAMES MAYN

[Clematis Flammula is commonly
scribed in plant lists as sweet-scented,
the scent, even on a hot day in Septem
is so faint that it hardly deserves this c
acter. A much more distinct scent, of
Vanilla kind, comes from Clematis mont
but it is only at the moment when
flowers are just past their best, and
lasts a day or two. Azara microphylla, w
can be trained to a wall, gives off a pow
Vanilla scent.]

Snowdrop time

Miss S. A. Marsh, of Glenlyon, Holyw
Co. Down, writes on February 4th:—"
tended writing two weeks ago to say I
picked enough Snowdrops to fill a M
covered bowl. They were a week earlier
us than other years, then the hard frost
and stopped their growth for 10 days;
it is so mild they are coming out so f
could hardly believe their growth coul
so rapid. We have not had a bloom of
stylosa. I rather think the reason for
Iris being so late this year is because we
no summer last year. I am sure they
the sunshine. I did not cut my Iris fol
but I will try cutting a few plants
season, I think, and see if that makes
earlier. I am sending a few Snow
with this, as they are in perfection for
ing now not too far out."

[We thank our correspondent for the b
of Snowdrops from Ireland, which arriv
perfect condition, as fresh as when pick
ED.]

The Giant Byzantine Snowdro
(Galanthus byzantinus)

THE most attractive flowers in the ga
at the present time are the early bl
of the giant Byzantine single S
drop. This is the finest of all species
we are indebted to Messrs. Barr and
for having re-introduced it from S
Eastern Europe. It has broad, g
plicate foliage, and bears on long stems
handsome, globular flowers, the inner
being marked with rich green, and in
cases it is entirely green. This spec
even superior to Galanthus Elwesii,
earlier, starting to bloom outdoors in Jan
When gently forced it makes a hand
pot plant. By placing several bulbs in
it is easy to have them in bloom by C
mas.

H.

Cupressus macrocarpa

Your correspondent, "H. G.," in
issue of December 29th, has offered a
timely warning *re* this beautiful Cy
Having had some years' experience with
plant I can endorse all he says and
some suggestions to those who hav
established hedge. My experience of thi
ject, gained in the once beautiful garde
Killarney House, where one could see
Cypress to perfection, was that whe
hedge had grown to the dimension of 1
high by 6 feet through (as it was at Kill
House) it was very apt to go off in pa
I found this was caused chiefly by the
mass of growth throwing off the rai
much so that the plant got dry and
poverished. I got over all this by di
out the soil to a depth of 3 feet each s
the hedge, and replaced this by fre

iden soil, and in a couple of years the bad ches were filled in again and the whole nt rejuvenated.

have never seen anything to approach Cupressus; when once the hedge has ched perfection there is something about that is so soothing to the eye which uld encourage anyone who is in a district ere there is some prospect of it succeed- ; but if planted and neglected as " H. G." ntions, the only remedy is to plant young s between the existing cut-backs to fill the bottom of the hedge, as a cut-back generally only break at the tips.

Iaving the following built up into hedges, , Escallonia, Euonymous, Bay, Portugal urel, Berberis Darwini, Laurustinus, oressus Lawsoniana, Beech, and Yew, in above-mentioned gardens, I was natur- interested in any subject I came across d for this purpose, and the most unique ge I have seen was at Shanes Castle, Co. rim, made up with Irish Yew, about 16 high, and feathered from top to bottom. m not sure, but I fancy this was not ped, but tied in in the ordinary way, yet e of these mentioned can be compared h Cupressus macrocarpa where the condi- ns are suitable. A. J. ELGAR.

Vard End Park, Birmingham.

Strangweia spicata

HIS interesting little variety is flowering here in an unheated house. It needs to be on a slightly larger scale and a little er in its colouring to be beautiful. It ks like a compound of a Chionodoxa, a schkinia, and Scilla italica. The flowers set in too close a spike to have the grace a Puschkinia. They do not open freely ugh to compare well with the stars of a onodoxa, and the white ground has a e of greenish-blue in it, while the bright tips and median stripes of each seg- nt are only found on the inner surface. erefore it is needful to look closely to ap- ciate the charm of the little plant. Its ves are the longest parts of it—some nches long—and it has had more names en to it than there are inches in those ves. It is Hyacinthus spicatus in Sib- rp and Smith's Prodromus of Greek nts. Boissier placed it as a Bellevallia, latore called it Foxia, Bertolino angeveia hyacinthoides, and Kunth schkinia dubia. One might think it had n specially created for the purpose of ng botanists something to argue about. tunately, Nature gave it one very curious racter, a pair of bracts below each flower ch seem to be put on the wrong way up. ey remind me a little of those on the la that often does duty for S. italica, and been called, rather doubtfully, S. sseniaca. But Strangweia's bracts are e extraordinary in shape, no two of them ng exactly alike, and, once noticed, uld serve to recall the plant to the mind any botanist.

t looks as though the reflexed, downward nting portion of each bract might be of vice in preventing small insects from wling up to chew the flowers or rob them pollen and honey.

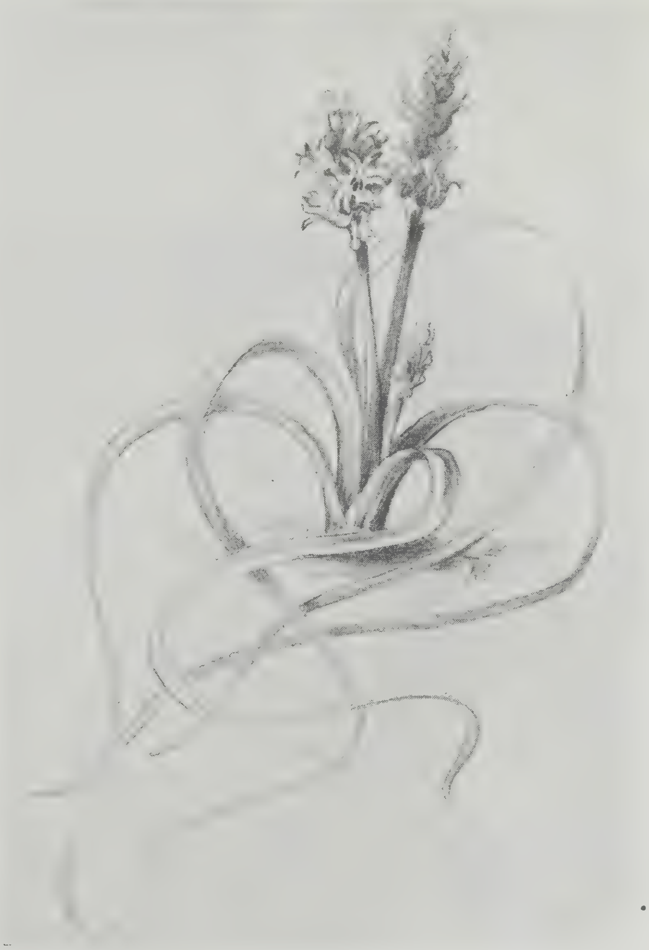
t is the only species known, if the genus angweia is considered distinct from acinthus, and it has been found in a few es in Greece.

My specimen came from Eleusis and wers freely, bearing three spikes from the b. So far it has made no offsets, but ripened seeds. If the leaves, which ap- r in autumn, will stand our winters it uld be a pleasing plant for the scree bed, t flowers from December to April.

should like to know if anyone has suc- led with it in the open.

There is a good figure of it in the Botanical Register, t. 1869, in the volume for 1836.

Waltham Cross. E. A. BOWLES.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Strangweia spicata

Lavender hedges

I have noticed how frequent are the complaints made to the Editor regarding the unsatisfactory condition or the failure of Lavender when employed as an ornamental hedge plant. Having had considerable experience with Lavender when used for the formation of hedges of some 3 feet to 4 feet in height, it is, I must admit, from a durability point of view, the least satisfactory of the various subjects laid under contribution with which to form a low-growing hedge.

At the same time it may be stated that with the exercise of a little forethought and judgment this difficulty may be overcome by anticipating the period when deterioration begins to show itself in having a supply of plants in readiness to supersede them.

With properly prepared soil, that is, double-dug and enriched with well-decayed manure, a hedge of Lavender will, according to my experience, remain in good condition about eight years. After this the side branches are apt to become partly detached, and lie sprawling on the ground, while some plants will unaccountably lose some of their branches or die outright.

It is when these occurrences begin to take place that the old hedge should be dug up and a new one planted with examples of good bushy habit some three years old, which will yield a good supply of flowers the following season if planting takes place in the autumn.

Suitable-sized plants can, of course, be purchased, but they can, if space is available for so doing, be raised on the spot. This is a very simple process, all that is necessary in the first instance being to select strong, healthy side shoots to the required number and detach them with a heel from the parent bushes.

Beyond trimming the ragged edges of the "heels" and the removal of a few of the lowermost leaves no further preparation is needed. The " slips " or cuttings should then be dibbled in or planted 6 inches to 9 inches apart in rows 12 inches apart on a border of any aspect except that of north, the soil of which is in good condition from having been well dug and manured for a previous crop. Propagation may be effected about the end of August or early September, and should be carried out some two or three seasons beforehand, according to the size the plants will be required to be. The young plants should be lifted and transplanted each autumn, when, to admit of their becoming robust and bushy in habit, allow plenty of space both between the plants and rows.

Many imagine that Lavender may be close-clipped after flowering each season, but it resents such treatment, and I have found that a light trim-over after the flowers have been cut, or trimming the stems to maintain symmetry and alignment when the spikes are allowed to remain until the flowers have faded, particularly if the hedge is straight and of any length, is all that is necessary.

Some may demur at going to all this trouble in order to keep a Lavender hedge in a satisfactory state, but the effect produced, especially during the blooming, is ample compensation when such attention as that outlined is bestowed on its care A. W.

Anemones at Creagh Castle

THE Anemones here are a perpetual joy, as they flower nearly all the year. They began flowering in August, and we have had two tables covered with large bowls of them ever since. I find now one must be absolutely ruthless with them, and if I see any washy-coloured mauve ones I dig them out at once. I am profiting by the result this year, as some of the colours are splendid. There is a plum-coloured one I have been trying to fertilise, and, much to my joy, many plants have come true to colour this year. There is no doubt Anemones love a sunny position and lots of manure, and they are the grandest flowers for lasting in water. In the spring these beds really are every colour of the rainbow. DOROTHY BUCKNALL.

Creagh Castle, Doneraile, Co. Cork.

Borders of many colours: Anemones at Creagh Castle

The following fairy tale was inspired by a visit to Creagh Castle during Anemone time:—

Once upon a time a little girl was walking in a beautiful garden when, out of a large Daffodil, hopped a lovely green goblin, and said: "Little girl, walk with me"; but the sky got darker and darker, and large raindrops splashed down, then a flash of lightning and a terrible clap of thunder. The little girl seized the goblin and ran into the summerhouse, where she popped him into a comfortable seat and sat down beside him. "Little girl," said the goblin, "I will give you two wishes." "Oh, dear goblin," she said, "my first wish is this storm should stop," and immediately out came the sun and a beautiful rainbow right across the sky. The little girl stared at it for some time and said: "Now, good goblin, I see my second wish, please give me the rainbow." So the goblin said: "Shut your eyes and come with me," and off they went through the garden. Then the goblin gave her a kiss on the tip of her nose and flew away. The little girl opened her eyes, and where was she standing but in the middle of the Anemone bed.

The modern Border Chrysanthemum

THE year 1928 will no doubt be remembered by many growers of the Queen of Autumn as one of the most successful of recent years. Despite the severe frost experienced throughout Scotland on October 1st (we had 10 degs. in mid-Fife), which severely crippled all outdoor Chrysanthemums, they made a marvellous recovery, and during the last three weeks of the month the display was much superior to any we have had for several years.

In consequence of the bright show made by these charming plants we have had many inquiries regarding the most suitable varieties to grow by many admirers who are prospective growers. Successful seasons such as we have passed through give a decided fillip to gardening, which causes us to look forward hopefully to the coming year.

Another factor which no doubt has added interest in the culture of the border Chrysanthemum is the great improvement in the varieties sent out in recent years. The Masse family, which for years held a high position as the most floriferous and hardy amongst border varieties, has now been eclipsed and ousted by varieties in every way superior as far as cut-flower producing and garden decoration is concerned.

I do not intend in these notes to enter i
the culture of these favourite flowers,
with the Editor's permission I purpose m
tioning a few varieties which have provec
be suitable for our Scottish climate, and h
the list may be helpful to some who may
a bit at sea looking at the long lists app
ing in nurserymen's catalogues.

WHITE-FLOWERED VARIETIES.—We h
quite a number of good white varieties
will confine my notes to four, viz.: Count
a very fine variety producing excellent blo
of great purity and, when disbudded, of la
size; Mary Colvin, a variety which origina
in Dundee district, is the most prolific var
we have, giving great crops of sn
blooms. Debutante is another sple
variety. It is best disbudded when
blooms attain to a good size. Septen
White is a well-known variety well w
growing, but is rather late in flowering h
and is best lifted and flowered in a
house.

PINK SHADES.—These are numerous
very useful; one of the best is Mrs. Ja
Scalley, sent out this year by Mr.
McAlpine, Glasgow. Deep rose-pink
colour, it is a free grower and pro
flowerer. This, I consider, the finest o
colour to date. Berengaria (1926), and
deep rose-pink, but quite a different typ
best disbudded. Do not take the buds
early as the later ones give a much ri
colour. Silver Queen (silvery-pink) is a
lovely flower either in sprays or disbud
the latter attaining to quite a large
Shirley Pride, something in the way of
Scalley, but not so prolific and a few t
deeper in colour and rather taller-growin

IN YELLOWS Goldfinder is most useful.
colour is bright, flowers plentiful on g
strong stems. A. A. McAlpine is a
orange-yellow, sturdy growth, free-flowe
and very attractive. Harvester, rich ye
with a tinge of bronze, is a univ
favourite and strong, healthy grower; o
the best. Euphie Ritchie, a beau
tangerine shade, although not too
flowering, should find a place owing t
unique colour.

RED SHADES.—Perhaps one of the p
favourites in this class is Dick Barnes, a
burgundy-crimson which shows well in
ficial light. It produces abundance of
sized flowers on long stiff stems. Cri
Circle is a charming colour, bright cri
flowers carried well above the foliage,
healthy and prolific. Minstrel is deeper
duller in colour, almost maroon; a s
grower with medium-sized blooms.
lotte Harley, crimson and gold, a
flower, but just a wee bit late, requiring
tection when flowering. It is best disbu
when it makes a splendid, massive flow

BRONZES.—Here we have a plethor
varieties, and still they come. It wou
well if those in authority were a little
strict in granting Certificates, as man
cent introductions are no improvemen
existing varieties. Bronze Early Butt
easily heads the list here, both as a
budded bloom and as a spray for cut-
It comes early and continues prod
flowers for quite a long time. Mrs.
Pearson and Mrs. Phil Page are indisp
ble for cut-flower purposes, giving fine,
stems. They are both alike except in c
the latter being considerably darker.
tember Glory is one of the most r
flowers we have, but, unfortunately, a
shy-flowering, but on account of its
shade and form it should not be om
Afterglow, a sturdy-growing variety
ducing on stiff stems beautiful spra
lovely terra-cotta blooms.

Among other desirable varieties in va
shades of colour we have R. G. Colli
real incurved flower of large size, maho

Hamamelis mollis, branches wreathed with bright golden yellow flowers deliciously scented

nson in colour; makes a grand flower dis-
ded; Cranford Red, chestnut-crimson
h twisted petals, a very useful variety for
ting in sprays. Border Beauty, a 1927
roduction, will find a high place amongst
ay varieties. It is very free, with fine
g stems, and the colour bright amber
hed with orange. Albyn, a plum or
nia coloured sport from September
ite, possessing all the good qualities of its
ent, is greatly admired, being a new shade
order Chrysanthemums. Salmon Queen
ine either in sprays or disbudded. The
ms are strong, and when disbudded the
wers attain to a large size. The colour, a
nzy-salmon, is very attractive. Many
re might be added, but perhaps the list is
g enough, as too many names are per-
king. ALBYN.

Seed sowing

eeds of many very choice subjects which
en prove difficult to germinate will some-
ies come freely when sown in pans and
nged in hotbeds made up as above, or
en stood upon their surface. Therefore
tinue with the sowing of those which are
own to require a long time to reach the
dling stage, such as Begonias, Gloxinias,
eptocarpus, Snapdragons, and other choice
vers.

Hamamelis mollis in a Wimbledon garden

THE two accompanying illustrations of that glorious flowering shrub, the Chinese Witch Hazel (Hamamelis mollis) are prepared from photographs taken on February 1st in Mr. Kenneth Wilson's garden at Cannizaro, Wimbledon. This Hamamelis, the finest of the genus, which does so remarkably well at Cannizaro, is protected from the north and east by a dense background of Rhododendrons.

The shrubs are about 9 feet high, and every branch is now wreathed in bright golden-yellow flowers, so bright and luminous that the mass of bloom may be seen from afar.

No matter how cold the winter may be, Hamamelis mollis never fails to produce its curious-looking and deliciously scented rich golden-yellow flowers; indeed, the colder the weather the better it seems to like it. This is by far the most beautiful of the Witch Hazels in winter, and is distinct from all others in summer by reason of its much larger broad, oval leaves.

The fragrance of this Hamamelis is most pleasing, and when the sun is out the scent is carried a considerable distance.

All of the Hamamelis do so well in the light soil at Cannizaro that preparations are being made for planting more. Hamamelis virginiana is the first to open, and was in full bloom in the first week in November.

H. C.

The stately Delphinium

While this majestic hardy plant does not reproduce itself anything like true from seed, still, if the seed be procured from a reliable source or is home-saved from good varieties many very fine colours and forms will eventuate. Any light compost will suit for sowing the seeds in. Pans or small boxes are employed, the seeds being scattered thinly and covered to the depth of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch with part of the compost finely sifted. Give a gentle watering with a rosed can, lay a piece of glass over each pan or box, and then a sheet of newspaper. Set in a gentle warmth of 50 degs. to 55 degs. and germination will soon take place. Prick off into boxes of good soil after the seedlings are fit to handle. Grow on slowly and plant out in rich soil when large enough. C. BLAIR.

Hamamelis mollis, the Chinese Witch Hazel

Lilium pyrenaicum, Martagon section

The yellow Turk's Cap. Flowers heavily spotted black and strong scented

HYBRIDISATION OF LILIES

Considering the advantages of hybridising evidenced in other bulbous plants, notably the Narcissus and Montbretia, it appears surprising that more attention has not been paid to the genus Lilium

If one considers the varieties of Lilium in cultivation one is inevitably struck by the small number of hybrids. It must, I think, be admitted that hitherto the hybrids produced have been the result of accidental as opposed to methodical crossing. If any method is to be adopted one must take into consideration the probable effect one is going to produce, and not proceed along lines of indiscriminate fertilisation under the hope that one may produce something worth while.

This point can be illustrated quite readily from the work of the late Luther Burbank. At one time he had several acres under Lilium seedlings—facilities which are not granted to many—and thousands of Lilies were flowered yearly, yet one cannot but feel that the results produced were unworthy of the labour involved. Liliums Burbanki and Parda-boldtii, the only varieties by which he is remembered, are admittedly worthy of cultivation, but embody no striking advance on previous species or on their parents, Liliums Humboldtii, pardalinum, and Parryi. On the other hand, one can cite the production of better varieties with far less trouble than was expended by Burbank. The late Mrs. Backhouse produced by careful selection of suitable species a series of hybrids which were a distinct advance. In this case the undoubted vigour of the Martagon species was allied to the texture and solidity of Lilium Hansoni. The object, then, to be striven for is a union of two species which possess valuable yet different characteristics. In a batch of seedlings from this source one is almost certain to find a few individual flowers which possess a combination of both characteristics.

Lilium regale is a potential source of some really valuable hybrids. Hitherto the Eulirion type of Lilium—that is to say, the type possessed of a trumpet-shaped flower—has been none too thriving in our climate, such varieties as Liliums sulphureum, Philippinense formosanum, and Brownii only being hardy in very favoured localities. Consequently, it was only to be expected that even when crossed with hardy varieties the progeny would be of doubtful hardihood. By utilisation of Lilium regale one can introduce the Eulirion type of flower without affecting the hardiness of the stock.

Turning to the Martagon, or Turn-cap group of Lilies, one is almost bewildered by the choice. Unless care is exercised in crossing these varieties amongst themselves one is likely to get a rather indeterminate lot of seedlings. No perceptible advantage, for instance, can accrue from crossing Lilium Martagon with one of its varietal forms, or with, say, Lilium pyrenaicum. It is to be noticed, too, that modern taste runs to a self-coloured Lily in preference to a spotted type. For this reason in the Lilies of this class the species which will lend themselves best to the production of distinct hybrids are Liliums Martagon, album, chalcedonicum, pomponium, and similar unspotted forms. For solidity of flower one can do no better than Liliums Hansoni and monadelphum.

A very pretty Lily of the Martagon type which has already been used for the production of a hybrid is Lilium tenuifolium, a dainty Siberian species with scarlet flowers. In itself it possesses the disadvantage of not being truly perennial, but this has been eliminated by crossing with Lilium Martagon album. The hybrid produced—a very lovely yellow variety called Golden Gleam—possesses the grace and beauty of tenuifolium, with the vigour and perpetual characteristics of the other parent.

Although Burbank and others have interested themselves with the hybridisation of the North American Lilies of the Martagon group it is probable that their potentialities are not truly estimated. Hitherto they have only been crossed among themselves wi
recourse to the Lilies of the old world.
amazing vigour of, say, Lilium parda
would be a distinct asset in a hybrid
some members of the Martagon group.
my mind the most valuable of the
American Lilies from the point of vie
the hybridist is Lilium Humboldtii. I
pearance it is not unlike L. superbum
the flowers are more massive and num
It also makes large and strong bul
valuable asset where transplantation is
frequent, as it must of necessity be wi
hybridiser.

In the Isolirion, or Cup-shaped gro
Lilies there does not seem to be the
offered by other types. Already ther
large numbers of hybrids of the elegan
umbellatum class in addition to hybri
L. Davuricum.

The Cardiocrinum type of Lily is of
importance to the hybridist. It is onl
presented by two very similar spe
Liliums giganteum and cordifolium—an
very distinct type of the plants seems t
clude the possibility of successful impr
tion with or of other species. If the
wishes to introduce the tall-growing ch
teristic he can do no better than
Farrer's Lilium centifolium, a tru
flowered species which attains a heig
8 feet to 10 feet.

Of the Archelirion type L. Henryi
think, likely to provide the most va
hybrids. The vigour of the plant is ast
ing, and it seems to thrive everywhere.
flowers, too, are striking and num
Liliums speciosum and auratum seem
ficially to be of value, but actually the
found to possess a great disadvantage.
type seems very dominant—hybrids a
invariably follow the type of speciosu
auratum, more particularly when they
pen to be the female parent. Cross-fert
tion of the two species alone generally
to types which are quite definitely
speciosum or auratum. In fact, so m
is the differentiation that they can be p

Hybrid Lily Sutton Court

Raised by the late Mrs. R. O. Backhouse. Parentage, Martagon x Hansoni

Lilium Martagon Catani

The darkest coloured form of the Marta
Lily. Flowers like polished mahogany
deep golden coloured anthers

as seedlings by the typical leaf of aura- . There was, some years ago in erica, a splendid Lily named Parkmannii, ch was generally supposed to be the re- of a cross between Liliums auratum and ciosum, but to all appearance the type is lost.

ext week I propose to deal with the ial practice of hybridisation and rearing he Lilies from seed.

F. MURRAY BARTLETT.

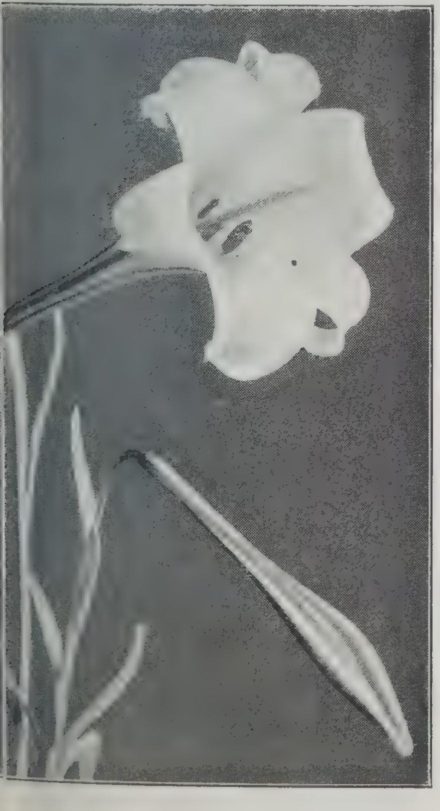
(To be continued.)

ilium longiflorum giganteum

ould you tell me when to plant bulbs of um longiflorum giganteum to have them loom by the second week in November? ought of growing them outside in pots in the autumn bring them in the green- se. What is the best compost to grow n to perfection, also how many bulbs uld be planted in one pot (10-inch)?

HARBORO.

To successfully flower Lilium longiflorum anteum in November it will be necessary procure retarded bulbs, and to be certain lelivery at the right time we suggest that place your order without delay, so that essary arrangements can be made for the bs to be placed in a cold store. Three o-inch bulbs can be placed in a 10-inch . Pot them about the middle of July a compost of equal parts loam, leaf- ıld, well-decayed cow manure, and sand. od drainage is essential, and 2 inches of ks or other drainage material is not too ch. After potting plunge the pots in a of ashes made up in a cold frame, cover- the pots to the extent of about 2 inches. lights should be left off except in stormy ther, which is likely to damage the ler growths. Transfer the pots from the nge-bed to the greenhouse in early Sep- ber, giving them plenty of light and air. ter sparingly until growth begins, freely it develops. When in full growth soot-water and liquid-manure may be applied twice weekly. It is also advisable to give the bulbs a top-dressing of similar compost to that used for potting. It may be necessary to give them gentle heat in October, say, 50 degs. to 55 degs. Buds take six to seven weeks to develop from the time of showing when grown in the above temperature. This will serve as a guide. If at the end of September or early October the buds are too advanced retard growth by keeping them as cool as possible. If the buds are developed insufficiently give them a temperature from 50 degs. to 65 degs.]



Lilium philippinense formosanum
Eulirion type, with trumpet-shaped flower
The long drooping bud gives distinction
possessed by no other Lily

Dahlias from seed

WHEN the enthusiast has a little time to spare, and the necessary space, there is nothing so fascinating or more interesting than the raising of certain types of plants from seed. Types, too, that do not call for years of patient waiting and labour before they flower, but plants that show their good, bad, or indifferent points in the first season of growth.

In this category the Dahlia calls for special consideration on account of its merits in this direction, its simplicity of culture, and the feasible issue of one or more plants showing distinct advances in form, colour, —or, to suggest a decided acquisition, a variety which would come into bloom a few weeks earlier than the ordinary types.

The Dahlia is partial to a medium heavy, but well-drained soil, and although it has been mooted that heavy dressings of manure are essential to the best results, we have found that land prepared in much the same way as for Potatoes, is all that is necessary.

The site, if not already prepared, should be tackled at once, digging or trenching as deeply as the land will allow, and incorporating in the process a medium dressing of half rotted farmyard manure.

Green or fresh manure should not be used at this time, and, of course, the surface should be left as rough as possible, and only levelled and forked over about a week before planting.

The best types to raise from seed are the "Collarette," "Pæony Flowered," and the ordinary single.

Sow the seed now in a seed pan half full of crocks, and using a mixture of loam, leaf soil, and sharp sand in equal parts, all rubbed through a ¼-inch sieve.

A thin layer of the rougher portions of the compost should be spread over the drainage, then about 2 inches of soil, levelling this down and pressing very gently. The seeds, which are like small spines about ¼-inch in length, should be stuck in at 1-inch intervals over the surface, and finally covered over with ¼ inch of fine soil.

Water thoroughly now through a rose, and place the pan in a temperature of about 55 degrees.

Germination will take place in from ten to fourteen days, and immediately the young plants form their first (seed) leaves, remove the pan to a shelf near the glass.

When the next pair of leaves have formed, pot up the plants singly in 3-inch pots using similar soil, and label each pot with a number, so that any plants which subsequently show special promise when in flower, may be identified accordingly.

When the plants are growing away again the temperature may be reduced a little, and on fine days air should be admitted—avoiding draughts—in order to encourage stocky growth. Dryness at the root will set up "fly," and to guard against this, the soil should be kept consistently moist.

When the small pots are full of roots, re-pot into the 5-inch size, using two parts chopped fibry loam to one each of sand and leaf soil, pressing the compost comparatively firm, as loose potting begets weak, flabby growth.

L. monadelphum Szovitzianum, from the Caucasus
Colour rich canary yellow, spotted black
Martagon type. Note the solidity of the flowers

By the first or second week in April the pots may be placed in a cold frame, standing them on a hard ash bottom, and keeping the light closed for the first few days until they get inured to the change. Air may then be admitted by tilting the lights from the back, increasing this from time to time until they can be removed altogether.

Planting out calls for little comment, but the necessary stake should first be fixed, placing each at 4-feet intervals, and planting one plant at the foot of each.

The Dahlia resents dryness at any time, but particularly so during a hot summer and autumn, and so that labour in watering may be curtailed, and additional sustenance provided, we recommend a good mulch of either old manure, half-rotted leaves, or tannin, spreading this over the surface, about 2 inches deep.

Schizostylis coccinea

I first saw this plant about 25 years ago at Messrs. Backhouse's Nursery, York, where they grew it in a bed of rich loam on the north side of a hedge. I am also growing it here on the north side of a high Beech hedge. This seems rather curious treatment for a South African plant which one would expect to demand all the sunshine it could get, but my experience all goes to show that the plant likes a cool position and light, rich, cool soil. Plants lifted about March or April should be re-planted in a prepared bed of good loam into which a fair amount of leaf-mould has been dug. Divide the plants and plant the strongest shoots about 6 inches apart. With regard to watering it should not be necessary, except perhaps in a very dry summer spell. The advantage of planting on the west side would be that it would get protection from morning sun during early frosts.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Melons and Cucumbers

In well-heated and compact houses make up hotbeds in readiness for these important subjects, the moist heat arising from the formation of such beds being more favourable to healthy growth than when overheated pipes alone are relied upon. The bed should consist of stable manure and good Oak and Beech leaves, and should, when thoroughly rammed, have a thickness of from 18 inches to 2 feet for this early crop. Both manure and leaves should be in a moist condition. Over this place a layer of turf, grass downwards, and at each station add a bushel of the following compost:—Three parts of good turf which has been stacked for six months and chopped to the size of hens' eggs and one part well-rotted manure, such as an old Mushroom bed, and a little bone-meal, the whole well mixed and made tolerably firm. If seeds are sown in pots and plunged in the hotbed they will be of a suitable size for planting out by the time the beds have receded to a desirable temperature.

Propagating

Many stove plants will be found to strike freely now if plunged in bottom heat, and no time should be lost in getting a quantity of cuttings inserted to increase the supply or replace worn-out or unsightly specimens: Acalyphas, Crotons, Dracænas, Gardenias, Pandanus, Allamandas, etc., also many greenhouse plants and other subjects of which large quantities will eventually be required for bedding purposes, such as Heliotropes, Iresines, Abutilons, etc., all of which should be inserted as the cuttings become available, for it is often possible to gather the tops of the earliest-struck batches to provide further supplies of strong, clean cuttings. Every inch of space should be made use of in the propagating cases during the next few months.

Bulbs in pots

Do not force these unduly, otherwise it will be at the expense of colour both of flower and foliage, and do not permit the growths to drop, but apply small bushy twigs as supports a little in advance of their actual requirement. These are far more desirable for Narcissus, Tulips, Freesias, and similar subjects than stiff wood or metal stakes and ties.

Tomatoes

Sow seeds of proven varieties without delay, small quantities only, as a later sowing is also advisable for the main crop.

Lobelia Cardinalis and its varieties

This plant may now be shaken out, cleaned, and examined for eelworm (its great enemy), and boxed or potted up into a mixture of well-rotted leaf-mould and seasoned turfy loam in equal proportions, with the addition of a little sharp sand or grit, after which the plants should be stood in a cool greenhouse temperature. Seeds of this handsome plant may be sown at the present time in brisk heat.

Orchard fruit trees

It is not always possible or even desirable to give quite the same attention to the pruning of large orchard trees as one is inclined to give to smaller trees inside the garden proper, but reasonable attention must be afforded them if satisfactory results are to follow. Therefore examine such trees now, and where insufficient light is reaching any part of the tree remove the offending branch altogether. A little experience will soon show the worker which to remove, bearing in mind the even balance of his trees, which may be completed after all crossing and superfluous branches have been removed. All large wounds should be trimmed with a sharp knife and coated over with Stockholm tar.

Spraying

Lose no favourable opportunity in bringing forward this work, which should follow the pruning of the trees, and if birds are attacking the buds of bush fruits spray with strong quassia.

Fruits in store

Examine the layers of fruit at frequent intervals, especially where it is necessary to store several layers deep, and thus prevent the infection from spreading to surrounding fruits. Many kinds of Apples are liable to go wrong from this date, therefore remove suspected specimens without hesitation.

Kitchen garden

It is yet too early to sow seeds of any kind in the open, except Broad Beans, a few short rows of which may now be put in to follow those sown in autumn. Wheel manure upon all plots as such become available, and follow it up by trenching or deep digging in order that frosts may penetrate and pulverise heavy soils.

Spring flowers

Stir the soil between these when in a free working condition, and if slugs are troublesome scatter a little soot among the plants.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Hardy perennials from seed

While many of these give but indifferent results when raised from seed, there are still quite a number that produce fine, robust, and floriferous plants by this method of increase. The bulk of such may be raised in the open or in cold frames, but I have proved that quicker and more satisfactory results are had when the seeds are sown early in a little heat. By this method the plants are much larger, and so, as a rule, bloom well the second year, many, indeed, actually flowering in the autumn of the year in which they are raised. I will now deal briefly with a few that ought to be sown shortly.

Lupinus polyphyllus

These popular early summer perennials do not come anything like true from seed, but as this method gives fine, strong plants and many variations of colour the raising of a batch of seedlings is very interesting, often very good and distinct shades being obtained. Treat similar to Delphiniums (see page 89) and the bulk of the plants will bloom in the first autumn.

Polyanthus Primrose

Some great improvements have been wrought in these fine spring-flowering subjects, many beautiful shades of colour having been evolved, while the size of both truss and individual bloom have been greatly increased. Many fine strains can now be had, so there is no excuse for anyone growing the old, poor sorts. Like all the Primrose family, germination is somewhat erratic, so it is well to sow rather thinly so that the first-comers may be removed without injuring the weaker and slower ones. These latter, as a
rule, are of finer size, form, and colour t
the others, so not one of the seedlings sh
be thrown away until after it has bloon
By raising these now very fine plants wil
obtained, and these will bloom grandly
spring

Other good things to try

Particularly good are Geums, dwarf F
beckias, Coreopsis grandiflora, As
Chrysanthemum maximum, Chelone
bata, Erigeron speciosum, Heuche
Veronicas, Campanulas, Mossy Saxifra
Alyssum saxatile, Aquilegias, Anchu
Aubrietias, Primula pulverulenta,
Auriculas.

The cold frame

Many amateurs are prone to keep this
useful structure far too close shut, and
kill off numberless plants by reason of d
and want of fresh air. It seems to be
gotten that the occupants of cold fra
during the winter and spring are practi
hardy, all that they really require bein
little protection while still in the infant st
Whenever frost is absent, therefore, tilt
sashes at the back, which not only admi
nice circulation of fresh air, but also s
any rain that may fall, and in this way
vent excess of moisture reaching the c
pants. As a rule, no water is required f
end of September till March. Go over
frame frequently and remove dead foli
weeds, or other foreign matter. Stir
soil gently between the young plants
destroy any vermin that may be pro
troublesome.

Sweet Peas

If the weather is not too frosty move
plants raised last month to a cold fra
keeping rather close for a few days
matting well in the evenings. Have the
or boxes raised up quite close to the glas
encourage sturdy growth. Keep a sl
look-out for mice, these little pests b
very partial to the seeds of this plant. S
may yet be sown with every chance
success.

Sprout early Potatoes

If not yet done, all early "seed" Pota
should now be "set up" in shallow b
and placed in slight warmth to spr
Under the stages of the greenhouse, but
near hot-water pipes, is a very good posi
for this purpose. When setting up the tu
place the broad end uppermost, as it is t
that the bulk of the "eyes" are situate

Sow Cabbage, Cauliflower, and Spro

If not yet done, small sowings of t
should be made at once in pans or s
boxes. This sowing will produce, as a
finer plants than will an earlier one,
anyway, especially as regards the Bru
Sprouts, it is hardly possible to over-rate
importance, here in the north, of ha
abundance of early-raised plants, bec
unless the season is a very fine one, outd
raised plants seldom do much good, the pl
not "buttoning" in time, and so the s
and labour expended are lost.

Pot off Chrysanthemums

As the cuttings become nicely rooted h
them potted off singly, using nice fresh,
not unduly rich compost, and clean $3\frac{1}{2}$-
or 4-inch pots. Return to the house
which they have been rooted until they h
taken to the new soil, when a cold fram
the best quarters for them. C. BLAI

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

New Gladioli

Ir. J. W. Crow, Simcoe, Ontario, akes the following observations of ecial interest to exhibitors of Gladioli the "Canadian Horticulturist":—

MONG new varieties which have so far done well in my own garden is Marmora, a wonderful upstanding ibition variety with seven or eight large ers open, well placed and of a striking shade. The colour is decidedly unusual, the spike as a whole is very impressive. variety is early and comes from Errey of tralia. I am told it is a sport of Emile run, which it closely resembles in connation.

rs. Calvin Coolidge (K) is a beautifully led large Primulinus hybrid, only very htly hooded and exquisite in colour. It cream-pink combination, deep shell pink ling to a soft yellow throat. It was wn last year at the American Gladiolus ibition at Hartford, Conn., for the first e, where it made an immediate hit.

arolus Clusius from Velthuys, Holland, is excellent compact spike with five or six ers open in deep shell-pink colour.

Freesia refracta alba, splendid for forcing

illie, from Mair, Scotland, is tall and ight, with a nicely formed compact spike nauve-pink, with clear white throat. It considerably deeper in tone than Bertie w, which latter has with me this year wn a most unfortunate tendency to streaks splashes of colour.

ing George, also from Mair, gave me a tiful symmetrical spike with nine flowers n at one time in a strong red colour, with rply-defined cream throat.

have had several very fine spikes of Fern e (K), and Betty Joy put out by Gladiolus has been a veritable gem. It is early, shows from six to eight flowers open at time in a most attractive shade of light sh pink.

imrod, from Errey, Australia, comes in an n shade of dark maroon, and has been fine. Wilhelm Pfitzer's Memory is a nt white exhibition flower, with six open ne time. Eugene Lefebvre (Lemoine) is rand flower of very large size, showing a king dark blotch on a rose background. unusual colour combination is Mair's ovely." The colour is true rose-pink, trasting beautifully with the large, pure te centre. The spike is of splendid form, with eight flowers open, and the spacing is extremely good, although the flowers are below medium in size.

AMERICAN SHOW NOTES.—The American Gladiolus Show was staged in the Toledo Armoury August 16th and 17th. The Kunderd exhibit was beautifully set up, and occupied one end of the hall. We have no growers in Canada who are equal to such a display as this, but with this one exception I am sure our Canadian exhibitions would compare most favourably indeed with the American show. To my mind the most striking exhibit was an extensive and magnificent display of W. H. Phipps, staged by P. J. Pentecost, of Tipton, Indiana. I have heard it said Phipps is not easy to grow, and while there may be some truth in this assertion, there is no question of the surpassing beauty of the variety when well grown. Mr. Pentecost's spikes averaged 10 to 12 flowers open, and every spike was straight. I do not recall ever having seen a crooked spike of this vareity. The colour is flesh pink, with a slight shade of delicate salmon. The flowers are large in size, well-arranged on the spike and of exceptional lasting quality. Throughout the show the heat was extreme, but this display showed less wilting and better staying power than any other exhibit in the building. The soft appearance of the flowers is due to the delicacy of colour in combination with a fineness of texture, which is, I believe, rare in Gladiolus.

A Gladiolus show of such magnitude brings together such an immense number of flowers in such a wide range of colours, types, and varieties, that even the most enthusiastic Gladiolus lover is likely to experience some bewilderment. One of the most obvious lessons to be learned is that no such thing exists as a "best" variety. Some are entranced by the bizarre beauty of Louis Hemon; others thrill to the delicacy of form and colour found among the prim hybrids, while still others are most impressed by the immense size of such flowers as Pfitzer's Triumph. It would be easy to find fault, and it must be admitted that few varieties are free from defect of some kind. I asked one of the leading judges if he could show me anywhere in the building his idea of a perfect exhibition spike. His reply was, "I don't think I have seen any." The most serious defect of Gladiolus varieties in general when used as cut flowers is failure to open well after being cut and placed in water. I believe there are really very few sorts which can pass this test, and am inclined to think the slender stemmed varieties fail more seriously in this regard than do those of stout, husky build. Another important point can be scored here for Phipps, which is one of the best in this respect.

Space does not permit a detailed description or criticism of the outstanding varieties at Toledo, and I will close by listing those which appealed most strongly to me. Of the older varieties, the following were extremely well shown and were outstanding:—Rose Mist, Marmora, Mrs. Calvin Coolidge, Evelyn Kirtland, Dr. F. E. Bennett, Minuet, Roi Albert, Rose Ash, Pfitzer's Triumph, Mrs. P. W. Sisson, Scarlet Princeps, Bill's Aristocrat. Among the new varieties the following are some of those outstanding:—Rozan, Miss Des Moines, Jane Addams, Angel's Dream, Liebestraum, Janice, Catherine Edwards, Coryphee, Kirchhoff's New Violet, Marion Louise, Ella Day, and Forest Fire.

Commercial production in the United States of Gladiolus bloom for market has reached very large proportions. There are numerous growers who cut a million or more spikes per year. The following are among the most popular varieties, and it is well to be reminded that these sorts are grown because of their proven all-round dependability. These are not placed in order of merit or popularity. Evelyn Kirtland, America, Mrs. Frank Pendleton, 1910 Rose, Halley, Wilbrinck, Elizabeth Tabor, Le Marechal Foch. It will be a long while before some of the much-heralded new varieties find places in this list, and this thought might well serve as ballast to the good ship "Gladiolus" in its search for the new and unknown.

Freesias in flower

FREESIAS belong to a class of plants often described as Cape bulbs on account of their habitat being the Cape of Good Hope. A genus of the Natural Order Irideæ, of which the following are also members:—Crocus, Gladiolus, Iris, and Ixia. Freesia refracta alba is, perhaps, the best white variety, but there are now many coloured forms and varieties of Freesias possessing distinctive merit. Failures often occur through introducing the bulbs to warmth before they are established. If potted in successive batches throughout the autumn, commencing in August, a supply may be kept up until late in spring. The flowers are deliciously fragrant, lasting a long time when cut and placed in water. The illustration shows a batch of Freesia refracta alba. J. L.

FRUIT GARDEN

The decline of Grape-growing

I THINK there is not the slightest doubt there are many gardeners in England at the present day as capable of turning out first-class Grapes as were their forefathers, and that the decline in Grape-growing is due to other causes, the ever-increasing demand for more and more flowers, and the introduction of many different dessert fruits from abroad. Fifty years ago, when one gardener called on another, probably one of the first visits would be to the vineries; to-day it would more likely be to the Carnation or Orchid houses. In these days, with the call for more flowers, and labour apt to be scarce, other departments may not be so well done, and probably the Grapes, especially the choicer kinds which, as every good gardener knows, require a maximum of care and attention, are the first to suffer. Again, with so many foreign fruits now on the market it probably hardly pays either the private or market grower to grow largely and extra well choice kinds like Muscat of Alexandria and Cannon Hall Muscat, or even the popular Grape of more inferior quality, Gros Colman, all of which require plenty of time and heat to bring them to perfection.

Hardwick. E. BURRELL.

Melons

I was interested in a crop of Melons in a two-light frame in a small garden near here during the months of last summer as an illustration of what can be done with this fruit under such conditions, that is, when artificial heat in houses and pits is not available. Of course, the summer of 1928 was an exceptional one, and the grower had paid every attention to his plants, utilising all available sun-heat and keeping the foliage clean and healthy, with careful watering and syringing, and free from one of the Melon's greatest enemies, Red Spider. Fourteen fruits were cut from this two-light frame, not large but fair-sized, well-ripened fruit. The variety was the old Hero of Lockinge, one of the best to use under such conditions. I have often thought it would be interesting to try the Melon that Burnaby found growing so extensively in Khiva and which he found "more delicious than anything he had tasted in England," although the size of the fruit he received as a present (25 lbs.) would seem to savour of the Water Melon type.

Hardwick. E. BURRELL.

VEGETABLES

Garden Peas: The first and last dish

MOST folks who grow garden Peas are interested in securing the earliest crop, and by common consent rely on dwarf approved sorts. There are many varieties today that can be depended upon, and it behoves all who would have first pickings to at once prepare ground in some sheltered position. In this connection it is wise to take advantage of a south wall border, as there one may reasonably look to gather the first baskets. Well-trenched and well-manured ground supplemented with a good dressing of lime, supposing the soil to be deficient in that constituent, should be provided, and one or two sowings made at intervals during February and March. We may have our own particular sorts that have served us well in the past, some of them possibly old ones like William Hurst and American Wonder; but, good as these are, it is well sometimes to deviate from hard-and-fast rules and try other and more modern varieties. Personally, I have had excellent results with Sutton's Pioneer and Little Marvel. They are both very early, dwarf, and splendid croppers, seldom exceeding more than about 2 feet in height, and only needing small sticks by way of support.

EARLY PEAS FOR LATE CROPPING.—It is not always appreciated that, as a general rule, more success follows the sowing of seed of dwarf sorts for a late crop than when tall varieties are grown. We have on many occasions had dishes of Peas the last week in October from dwarf sorts sown the first week in June. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the best results are achieved when thought is given to the best situation for late croppers. An open, sunny situation or a sheltered border, but away from trees or tall-growing things, like Runner Beans, that impede light, ought to be reserved, and seed should be sown not later than the first week in June, or even a little earlier. There is, of course, an element of risk with late Peas, so much depending on the state of the weather, but we are up against this even with early crops of other vegetables, but the risk is worth running, considering the value of Peas on the table.

Several times I have been able to gather my last basket as late as the first week in November when grown on a wall border—to the surprise of the credulous—and in view of the small cost of seed I have no hesitation in saying that "the game is certainly worth the candle." It ought never to be lost sight of that dwarf Peas, obviously, mature sooner than tall-growing sorts, hence their value for late sowing.

W. F.

Report on condition of horticultural crops on January 31st

Beet.—Roots keeping well on the whole; good supplies still available.

Broccoli (Spring Hearting). — Foliage damaged by the severe weather, but prospects are still fairly promising. In Cornwall the main crop, Roscoff Broccoli, has suffered no more damage than other varieties.

Broccoli (Sprouting).—Average genera

Cabbage (autumn-planted).—Some s damage by frost this month.

Kale (Green).—Satisfactory.

Leeks.—Average.

Parsnips.—Roots good and plentiful.

Rhubarb (forced).—Good quality s now being marketed. Yorkshire crop ported to be average, whilst in Cheshire crop is reported to be exceptionally good

Seakale (forced).—Forced well in Mi sex, and good, clean stalks being marke

Anemones.—Severely damaged by weather, but prospects of a fair cro Fulgens in Scilly Isles.

Daffodils and Narcissi (indoor).—G though late, in Scilly Isles; in Corn blooms not so plentiful as last year; ave in Lincs.

Daffodils and Narcissi (outdoor).—B ward; good in Scilly Isles, though Tru varieties will probably be below average.

Hyacinths (forced).—Average.

Tulips (forced).—Average.

Violets.—Damaged by frost in Cornw promising in Home Counties.

Wallflowers.—Plants good and pro well.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plant be named should send fair examples of each— stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of le and points of shoots are useless.) Not more four plants should be sent in any one week by same correspondent. Where more than one is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in diffe stages of colour and size of the same kind gre assist in its determination. Single, unripe, deformed specimens are difficult to name. do not undertake to name more than varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Diseased Strawberry plants

(F. E. F.).—Your Strawberry plants are affected with a foot rot, and the fungus concerned has attacked most of the roots and destroyed them. We are afraid that the plants actually affected are beyond hope of recovery, but it would be a wise precaution if the whole batch of plants were given a thorough soaking with a solution of Cheshunt Compound. This solution will not cure attacked plants, but will prevent healthy plants from being attacked. After using the Cheshunt solution, and the plants are ready for water again give them a soaking with a solution made by adding 1 oz. of sulphate of potash to 3 gallons of water. Repeat this in a week's time. Cheshunt Compound can be bought from many horticultural sundriesmen and is often advertised in our columns. The compound only needs dilution with water to be ready for use. Another year you would be wise to add sulphate of potash to your potting soil prior to putting your Strawberries into their final pots, or it might be applied in the liquid form as indicated above. The plants would winter better if potash was applied during the autumn months.

Apple Scab

(T. E. Bayley).—The specimens sent for examination are badly affected by Apple Scab, which is caused by the fungus Venturia ineaqualis. The control for this disease is to go over the tree at once and remove and burn all dead tissue. Follow this treatment by using a lime sulphur wash at the pink bud stage, *i.e.*, when the flowers are showing colour, but before the petals open. A second spray should be given when all the petals have dropped from the flowers, and a t about three weeks later. It is important the times given for spraying are adhere strictly; a delay of a few days at one of three periods given will mean that the sp of the fungus is considerable. The stre of the first spray should be 1 in 29, the se and third sprays should be 1 in 99.

Strawberry plants

(K. J. Dillon).—It is difficult wit actually examining the plants *in situ* to termine the reason for the failure of Strawberries. We have carefully exam the specimens submitted and can find no of either insect or fungoid trouble, and can only conclude that some cultural d is at fault. Are you certain that the si well drained, because if the soil is w logged at any period of the year the roots killed off and the plants eventually die. failure often occurs in patches, the pl dying in the very badly drained patches, the rest just manage to struggle through winter. We notice that your specimens s signs of having the crowns well out of soil, and as a Strawberry plant throws fresh roots each season, each time fro point higher up than the previous root sometimes happens that the new roots duced fail to reach the soil. If the new r fail to reach the soil the plants gradually The roots of Strawberries should be distu as little as possible. After cropping, the should be cleaned and cultivated at once, every encouragement given to enable the roots which are produced shortly after to a good hold of the soil. In practice this be attained by slightly earthing the plan there is the slightest sign of short roots a soil-level.

ing Pear trees

Anxious Yorkshire Reader).—The time rafting varies a little, according to er the season is a late or early one, and regard to the part of the country in the operation is to be carried out. bly, however, about the middle of will be suitable for your district. As varieties of Pears break into growth early you should secure the scions) at once and heel them in at the north a high wall, it being most important hese be no further advanced in growth he stocks. The latter, too, should be nt, or at least just starting to move.

ats shanking

D. C.).—We are strongly of opinion ou have somewhat spoiled your young by excessive feeding. While old, fruitnes would doubtless have been able to late such an amount of food, it is difwith these youngsters. It also looks you had been rather sparing with the Healthy-growing Vines require a erable quantity, and it is fatal to permit roots getting really dry. A light apon of lime will do no harm, and will likely counteract the overfeeding. We refrain from applying any kind of ser until after the crop is thinned, when ht application of Thomson's Vine re can be given. It is a pity that you ot stick to this old standard material d of the others mentioned. We think he old Hamburghs would benefit by a application of Thomson's at starting and another immediately after the es are thinned. The cow liquid is an unsatisfactory feeding material for es, it being so difficult to know just the r strength at which to use it.

VEGETABLES

sed Potato

Reed).—The Potato specimen sent for nation is affected with Corky Scab, is caused by the organism Spongo- subterranea. This disease is a comone amongst Potatoes and takes two . In mild cases it causes just surface which do little or no harm, except that il becomes infested with the spores of sease and which may set up the trouble more serious form another year. The l form appears when the attack is . Then, instead of producing scabs on rface large canker areas are set up, accompanied by serious malformation ers. As you had only one tuber affected not think you need worry unduly. ce rotation of crops if you can, and planting any tubers showing signs of sease. Flowers of sulphur added to the the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. per square yard s the disease when the intensity of the is sufficient to warrant control.

sip trouble

A. Phillipson).—The specimen sent for nation is affected by the maggot stage rot Fly (Psila rosæ, Fab.). The actual ts were missing, but we are basing our n upon the nature of the damage. This ttacks Carrots, Parsnips, Celery, and y. We do not think that you can do than apply a good soil insecticide, such porite, to the plots that have actually the crops given above. To apply the eal actually to the plots that are going y these crops would not account for sts that are in the pupal stage in the ound the crops that were attacked this . We have found by experience that st time to apply Vaporite for this pur- about the first week in March. The eal should be applied according to the makers' instructions, especially with regard to the amount to be supplied. If you can kill the pupal stage of the Carrot Fly *in situ* it is better than applying control measures during the summer months. As you have had a very serious outbreak you should keep your Parsnips and Carrots dusted with a mixture of creosote and dry soil at intervals through the growing season. This does not kill the maggots, but deters the adult flies from egg-laying. The creosote mixture is made by adding 1 oz. of creosote to 3 lbs. of fine, dry garden soil. This quantity is sufficient for 30 square yards.

Tomato plant failing

(F. E. F.).—Your Tomato plant arrived in such a dried-up condition that it is impossible for us to say what is the cause of the trouble. If you would like to send us another plant packed in a tin box we should be pleased to examine it for you. Soft plants packed in paper and cardboard dry to such an extent in the post that they are useless for examination. All we can say from the material we have is that the root-system of the plant appears sound. When you write again please give us the details of your cultivation, especially the temperature at which the plants are kept by night and day.

GREENHOUSE

Genista fragrans

(G. P.).—Cuttings of this plant will readily root if half-ripened shoots are selected and slipped off with a heel. The cuttings ought to be inserted in a bed of sandy soil in a cold frame and kept close until roots are emitted. Or they may be placed thickly in a pan, which must be covered by a cloche, and struck in the temperature of a cool greenhouse. April or early May is the best time at which to propagate Genista fragrans.

Petunias damping

(G. P.).—As your plants only began to "damp off" when coming into flower, there is more than a likelihood that they were grown in quarters which were too rich. Damping is more customary in the earlier stages; and you might, in future, find it advantageous to omit the manure from your compost. Avoid, too, at all stages, a close, "stuffy" atmosphere. Soft plants like Petunias thrive better if they are freely ventilated. Watering must be carefully done—excess of moisture invariably leading to disaster. If these precautions are observed, it will be unnecessary to use the specifics you mention—unless, of course, you might feel "safer" if you did so. In that event use the remedy exactly according to the directions of the makers.

FLOWER GARDEN

Hyacinths diseased

(R. Parry).—Your specimens have been examined and there are several things present which would account for the failure, but the trouble has proceeded so far that it is almost impossible to say what was the original cause of the trouble. Your best plan would be to write to the firm concerned, sending them a sample of the bulbs as you did to us, and ask them to explain why the bulbs have failed. It appears to us likely that the bulbs were diseased when you received them, and the firm concerned will probably welcome the chance of putting the matter right. We can find no fault with the soil sample, and the bulbs should have grown well in it had they been healthy.

Salvia candelabrum wanted

(L. B. W., Wells).—This South European species is offered by the Primley Botanic Nursery, Paignton, Devon. Plants only are offered.

Helleborus niger

(W. P. P.).—See replies on the same subject in recent issues. It is evident that your Christmas Roses have exhausted the soil in their immediate neighbourhood. After the flowers are over growth will probably make some strides. Lift then, and after having well-enriched the quarter with old, well-rotted manure and leaf-mould, replant the clumps. This ought to renew their vigour, and if the work be well done no further attention ought to be needed for several years. Yes, March would be a suitable time.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Hollies and Rhododendrons

("Newcastle-upon-Tyne").—There can be no doubt but that well-rotted cow manure is the best stimulant for Rhododendrons, and if you can procure it you can get over the unsightliness by covering over with a little loam. (Do not dig it in, the Rhododendron being a surface rooter.) Failing the cow manure, well-rotted horse manure will give very good results used in the same way. We also believe that either of these would be better for the Hollies than any artificial preparation. You can give some to the Hollies without doing any harm, but lime in any form is disliked by Rhododendrons. While a heavy mulch of fallen leaves is good for Rhododendrons, helping to keep the roots cool and moist, there is very little actual nourishment in such, and this would not prove so valuable as the animal manures.

MISCELLANEOUS

Bone-meal

Can I make bone-meal for use in my garden from household bones? If so, how? Will all bones do equally well (flesh, fish, and fowl)? J. N. G.

[We do not think you will be successful in making bone-meal. The process is somewhat as follows:—Bones of all shapes and sizes are collected, clean shank bones are selected for making cutlery handles, hard bones for glue are then sorted out, and the remainder are used for crushed bones. The material selected for crushed bones is steamed at low pressure to remove fat, which, of course, is a valuable by-product. The material is then crushed by machinery and the resulting material sorted out into $\frac{1}{2}$-inch, $\frac{1}{4}$-inch, and bone-meal. Nothing else is added to the materials as sold by the horticultural sundriesmen. Steamed bone flour is the residue from the first and second grade of bone mentioned above. The ends of the bones selected for cutlery are removed, being useless for the purpose. These, together with the bones selected for glue-making, are steamed first to remove fat at low pressure and again at high pressure, this time to remove most of the nitrogenous content, as gelatine or glue. The residue left after the gelatine is removed can be ground into a very fine state of division, and is sold as bone-meal. Enough has been said above to indicate that it is cheaper to buy the manufactured article rather than to make it. The easiest way to make use of home-saved bones would be to burn them, and then the residue is fairly easily crushed with a hammer and the resulting material can then be applied to the soil where phosphate is required. The burning destroys all the nitrogen, but the phosphate is left behind.]

Pearlwort on lawn

I shall be very grateful if you can tell me of anything that will eradicate Pearlwort. Our lawn is full of this weed, and although we have tried all sorts of remedies, such as lawn sand, etc., nothing seems to have any effect.
CATHERINE E. BURD.

[If of the annual variety, the best plan is to prevent the plants seeding by frequent use of the lawn mower, which should be set very low for this purpose. This in time will, naturally, get rid of the pest. If, on the other hand, it is Sagina procumbens, it is very difficult to deal with, as it spreads very rapidly, and we know of nothing to clear it out, short of clearing off the turf where the weed is flourishing and relaying with clean, fresh turf.]

Lime wash

(Kincardin).—A good lime wash for cleaning Lichen and Moss from fruit trees can be made by taking 10 lbs. of good lump quicklime and adding 10 gallons of water. If you are not sure as to the quality of the lime 15 lbs. might, perhaps, be used. The method of mixing should be to add just enough water to cover the lime while it is slaking. When slaked the mixture should be thoroughly stirred and then made up to 10 gallons, again stirring. The resulting lime wash should be carefully strained before placing into the sprayer, and the wash should be applied as thick as can conveniently be sprayed. This lime wash would answer both for Gooseberries and Red Currants, and should be applied just before the buds begin to move.

Lime

(T. E. Bayley).—From your description of the soil it would appear likely that chalk (calcium carbonate) would be the best form of "lime" to apply to your garden. This material should be applied at the rate of 1 lb. per square yard, and the earlier you can make the application the better. If you would like to send us a small sample of the soil concerned we should be in a better position to inform you as to the amount required, but the amount given above should be enough unless the soil is very acid in character.

SHORT REPLY

(A. J. C.).—We have frequently seen Sweet Peas trained on large-mesh wire-netting, and never heard that the plants did anything but well on such supports.

NAME OF FRUIT

C. S.—Pear Catillac. The sample is medium. Much finer fruits are being sent to Covent Garden at the present time. It is the best of stewing Pears, cooking a deep red.

BEES

Candy feeding—warm quilts to assist brood rearing

GIVEN normal conditions, February is the month when activity within the hive commences in real earnest. The queen is now beginning to lay, and it is of vital importance that there be sufficient food for the demands of the rapidly increasing larvæ. Had the colonies enough food (30 lbs. is none too much for an average stock) when the bees were packed down last autumn is the question which the bee-keeper must ask himself. If there is any doubt a cake of soft candy should be at once placed over the centre of the cluster. This operation must be performed with as little disturbance as possible. The candy can be placed over the hole in the bottom quilt without exposing the frames to the cold air for more than a few seconds. Bees should not be fed with syrup before the beginning of March, and then only if the weather is sufficiently warm for them to fly. From now until then candy is the only safe method of supplying food. It must not be thought from the above remarks that I *recommend* candy feeding, but if last autumn the bee-keeper was not far-sighted enough to supply his colonies with sufficient food, candy now may save them from starvation.

On no account should any attempt be made to examine the combs for some weeks to come; only harm can result by disturbing the bees in cold weather. Too early manipulation has caused the death of many a colony.

It is an advantage to give additional warm quilts at this time of year; everything that increases the internal warmth of the hive helps on brood-rearing. The more young bees we have in March the better.

One frequently notices that during the early part of the year a number of bees lose their lives owing to the moisture on the smooth alighting-boards. A bee on its return to the hive often falls over on its back and, owing to the wet, its wings become fixed to the board. The poor insect struggles for a short time, but in nine cases out of ten she fails to right herself and soon dies of cold.

These casualties can be avoided if, when painting the hives, the alighting-boards are sprinkled with coarse sand whilst the paint is still wet. The roughness caused thereby prevents the bees' wings adhering to the wood. Bees are valuable in spring, and we should do everything to prevent untimely deaths.

As a temporary measure a strip of canvas or unbleached calico can be stretched flat along the alighting-board and kept in position by means of drawing-pins. Most hives would be improved if the alighting-boards were made with a greater slope.

Wells. L. BIGG-WITHER.

The work of Sir Jagadis Chunder Bose

CHANGE is the most universal phenomenon of the world. It is the necessary characteristic of the existence of anything—that it must change. And under this inexorable law beliefs and ideas, among other things, are being constantly remodelled; a scientific doctrine of accepted infallibility may in 10 years be relegated to the scrap heap of discarded beliefs. The sciences of chemistry, physics, zoology, and many others, they have all borne witness to such cataclysmic changes, and now we may be witnessing the incipient stages of just such another. Sir Jagadis Chunder Bose, indeed, may be acting the *rôle* of iconoclast in the biological sciences. In a previous review published in this journal I said: "Hitherto the absence of nervous and muscular systems has been held to be a distinguishing characteristic of the plant kingdom. If Dr. Bose is justified in the conclusions he has drawn from his experiments then this distinction becomes non-existent."

Whether the consummation of Sir Jagadis' beliefs will be achieved in general acceptance depends largely, it seems, on the accuracy of his experimental technique, and the central factor in this query must, of course, be his instruments. An independent opinion formed from descriptions is, of course, impossible, the only reliable judgment must be that based upon actual inspection. The layman, however, may find some assurance in the favourable opinion of many eminent men of science, as witness, for example, the Committee of Fellows of the Royal Society, which included Sir William Bragg and the late Sir William Bayliss. Again, lately, Professor Molisch, of Vienna, has obtained completely satisfactory results with the use of some of Bose's instruments. Such confirmations undoubtedly enhance for the general public the importance attached to Bose's suggestions. The significance of the intensification of belief in such a creed—for it amounts to nothing less—is considerable, because it teaches more than a mere re-orientation of outlook on processes such as photosy or the ascent of sap—it teaches the doctrine of the universality of things. however, we must eschew all ethic cussions and confine ourselves to mor dane, but no less important, conside such as the modifications the new ide effect in the practice of horticulture.

The books of Sir Jagadis make, in particular appeal to the horticultur cause there are in the garden unique tunities of observing the phenomen which they deal. We read in "Plan graphs and their Revelations" that Dr. Bose's chief aims is to support tion of knowledge by "the greatest and civic diffusion of it," and it is end we suppose that he has written list of books, to which he has just ad another. The latest volume of the "The Motor Mechanism of Plants," some ways an amplification of vie pressed in a previous smaller volum the reader acquainted with the ele scientific terms this volume should pr fund of unrivalled interest.

"The exhibition of contractilit irritability, obvious in the case of th motory animal, is so much less so sessile plant that, beyond the exc sensitivity and movements of sensitive it has been tacitly assumed that pl general are neither excitable nor cap movement. This is the matter special with in the several chapters of this ("The Motor Mechanism of Plants")

Consider the early stages of the ev ary process. The earliest specimens would not be unlike some of the pres members of the Phylum Protozoa. undifferentiated masses of protoplasm respond to stimulation at one point c bodies by movement in another part, t hibiting both contractility and condu And, the contractile vacuole may b to embody the origins of rhythmicity. such organisms both plants and a arose. In the animals tissues differentiated to perform a single fu The muscle became the organ of co lity and the nerve that of conductivit any such division take place in Possibly. There is in the plant, accor Dr. Bose, "nervous" tissue and cor "muscle" tissue, but "the differenti the tissues has never reached in th series anything like the same degre the animal series."

Nevertheless, both tissues are the they give the same outward manifest their activity as those with which familiar in the animal. Movement animal is the characteristic effect activity of muscle. Is such, also, the the plant, as, for example, in pudica? The older explanation of of the Mimosa leaf seems to have b excitation caused an expulsion of s the cells of the pulvinus with conseq crease of turgor, the leaf falling by its own weight. Bose has shown, h that if the leaf is stimulated while t is upside down the former rises aga force of gravity, thus suggesting t normal fall is due to physiological tion of the protoplasm, accompanie crease of turgor. Other reactions d by Dr. Bose lend weight to the view fall of the leaf of Mimosa is the resu activity of a tissue that may not priately be called muscle, the latt situate in the pulvinus. The an structure of the pulvinus is suggesti vascular strands of the petiole con

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* "The Motor Mechanism of Plants," by Sir
Longmans, Green, and Co., Ltd. 21s.

(Continued on page 98)

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the pulvinus into a central core which is surrounded by a mass of cortex, whose behaviour to double staining is remarkable. With hæmatoxylin and safranine developer the cortex tissue in the lower half of the pulvinus becomes stained an intense red, and only a few scattered cells in the upper half become so deeply stained, the inference being the cells of the lower half of the pulvinus contain an active substance which is readily stainable. Incidentally, the cells of active animal muscle are of an opaque, granular nature. The significance of the paucity of deeply stained cells in the upper half of the pulvinus is that the upper half of the pulvinus is less active than the lower, and thus it is only under certain abnormal conditions that the contraction of these cells is manifested by upward movement. It is interesting to note that the cells in inactive muscle tissue contain no granular sarcoplasm.

R. Brown.

(*To be continued.*)

Salisbury and District Gardeners' Mutual Improvement Society

At the White Hart Hotel, Salisbury, on Wednesday evening, January 23rd, members and friends of the above Society filled the Lecture Room to overflowing to welcome Miss Barbara Gullick, B.Sc., a well-known lecturer in south and south-west England on the British flora, and the Chairman, Mr. S. W. Tucker, in introducing the lecturer, said it was not surprising to see so large an audience, as they had in mind Miss Gullick's lecture on wild flowers last year, from which evolved the scheme taken up by the City Corporation, and which created considerable interest throughout the district.

The title of the lecture was "The Making of the Plant World of To-day." The lecturer considered the progress made by plants from a time previous to the formation of coal, through the age of the giant reptiles, to the earliest flower, which was already evolved before the chalk was laid down. (Attention was called to the present-day survivors of types once dominant over the whole earth, as well as to certain links in the chain of progress, which have now become extinct.) After an outline on the mechanism of evolution the lecturer showed slides suggesting the more recently advanced theories accounting for the rise of new forms in plants, leading to the conclusion that a great future for gardening lies in close observation and intelligent plant-breeding.

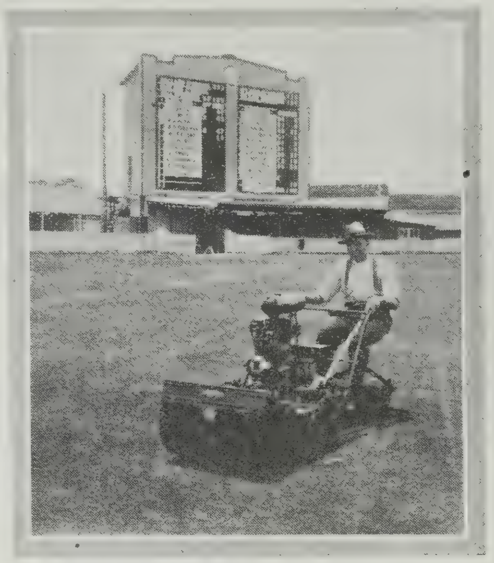
Animated discussion followed, particularly on the remarkable acceleration of the rise of new forms, caused by the help of man in comparison with Nature unassisted, who has Eternity in which to experiment.

Mr. J. Pinder, in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer, mentioned how very much the Society was indebted to her for such an intellectual discourse. He was of the opinion that if the younger generation of gardeners would interest themselves more in the scientific side of horticulture it would, in due time, benefit mankind in general.

The British Delphinium Society

Marchioness of Londonderry elected President

The British Delphinium Society held its first general meeting on Tuesday, January 29th, at the Royal Horticultural Society's old hall, Westminster. The meeting was well attended. Mr. C. F. Langdon was in the chair. In the course of his remarks he expressed great satisfaction in the rapid strides the Society had made in so short a time. The election of a President was next proceeded with. Mr. G. F. Berney in a few well-chosen remarks said that the Society had been most fortunate in securing the consent of the Marchioness of Londonderry to become its first President, and he had very much pleasure in proposing Her Ladyship as head of the Society. Mr. G. A. Phillips seconded this proposition, which was carried with acclamation. The Hon. Secretary next made a statement regarding the affairs of the Society. He reminded those present that only four months ago (on September 27th last) the Delphinium Society was inaugurated, consequently there was no annual report or balance-sheet to be presented, but he proposed to outline briefly what has so far been done and what is proposed to be done this year. He went on to say that in this short period the Society has been got well on to its feet, and has already a membership of over 100, which number is being added to daily. The Society has become affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society, and has fixed its first summer show for July 5th. The Show Sub-Committee have got out a comprehensive schedule which will be posted out to members within the next few weeks. Already a large number of cups and medals have been promised to be competed for at the show. The work of compiling a Register of recognised named varieties of Delphiniums is now under way.



An "Atco" 24-inch motor mower preparing the ground for the First Test Match at the Oval, Brisbane

The excellent condition of the ground was generally commented upon

A statement was next read from the Hon. Treasurer, which showed that the Society is on a sound footing.

The election of officers was proceeded with next. Mr. G. D. Gold was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Halford Roberts and Mr. A. J. Moir, Hon. Secretary and Assistant Hon. Secretary respectively. The Committee was re-elected *en bloc*, with the addition of Mr. J. Kelway.

Mr. G. Sandercombe and Mr. W. Hitch were elected Hon. Auditors to the Society.

The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman, Mr. C. F. Langdon.

Manchester and North of England Orchid Society

At the meeting held at Houldsworth Hall, 90, Deansgate, Manchester, on Friday, February 1st, 1929, the members of Committee present were:—Messrs. Hy. Astley Bell (in the chair), A. Burns, A. Coningsby, J. Evans, D. McLeod, W. J. Morgan, a Arthur (Secretary).

AWARDS OF MERIT

Cypripedium Helsa Var. Ingrid (Hel x Satyr), a fine flower showing good ev of the Bellatulum parent, from Mrs. and Miss Wrigley. Oncidium tig Towneley Grove Var., from J. B. Ada Esq.

CULTURAL CERTIFICATE

Mr. A. Burns for fine example Platycinis uncata.

GROUPS, ETC.

J. B. Adamson, Esq., Blackpool (gar Mr. J. Howes), staged a group to wh large Silver-gilt Medal was aw Cypripediums in variety, including Worsley, Commodore, Forest King, schildianum, Pyramus, Mem. F. M. O Alabaster, Mrs. F. Sander, Roundhea Desdemona Haddon House Var., B Cattleya British Queen Var. Levi Sophro Lælia-Cattleya Vulcan, On Forbesii, and others.

Mrs. Bruce and Miss Wrigley, Bury dener, Mr. A. Burns), were awarded a Silver Medal for a group. Cypripe Carola, Invincible, Archie Neill, Minos Youngii, Armistice II., Mem. Ogilvie, Obleisk, Morning, and others Pleione humilis.

Mr. John Evans, Colwyn Bay, Cymbidiums Coningsbyanum and Sc Cypripedium Perseus Var., and fine drobium seedlings of the Lady Colman

Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons, Bra staged Cypripediums Olympus The man, Fantasiæ, Macie, and Pyramus Charm.

Mr. D. McLeod, Chorlton-cum-H staged Cypripediums in variety.

We regret to record the death of S Gratrix, Esq., one of the founders an long supporters of the Society; a mo thusiastic lover of Orchids.

The next meeting will be held at quarters on Friday, the 15th inst.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Barr and Sons, 11, 12, and 13, King Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.—Bul tubers for winter and spring planting, bretia and Gladiolus hybrids.

Torrance and Hopkins, Meadow Nur Busby, near Glasgow.—Sweet Peas, anthemums, Dahlias, Border Carn and Picotees.

Wm. Power and Co., Waterford, Ir —Garden seeds.

G. Y. Marden, Marston Magna, Yeovil.—"How to grow better berries."

Anthony Roozen, Haarlem, Holl Dutch bulbs and herbaceous plants.

Andrew Ireland and Hitchcock, Tey, Essex.—Garden seeds.

John Scott and Co., The Royal Nur Merriott, Somerset.—Hints on hedges.

W. Atlee Burpee Co., Seed Gr Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.—Annual book.

Charles Lewin Curtis, Chatteris, Ca Seed Potato and general seed catalogu

LATE NOTE

New Carnations

The following varieties have been r registered by the British Carnation Soci Wivelsfield Buttercup, buttercup- Award of Merit; Guy Allwood, pale s Award of Merit; Rapture, silvery These three from Allwood Bros. T Ives, cerise (described and illustrated January 26th, page 60), from Stuart and Co.

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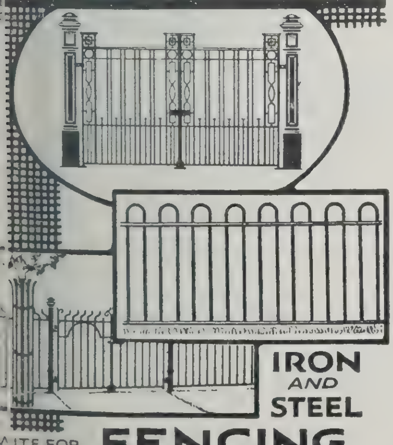

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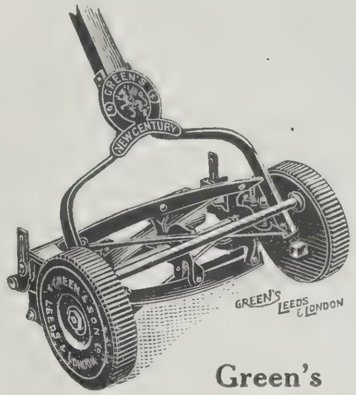

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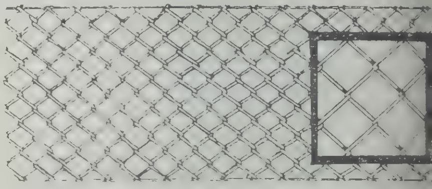

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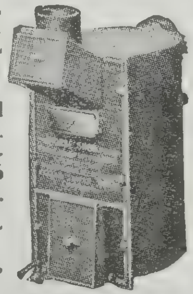

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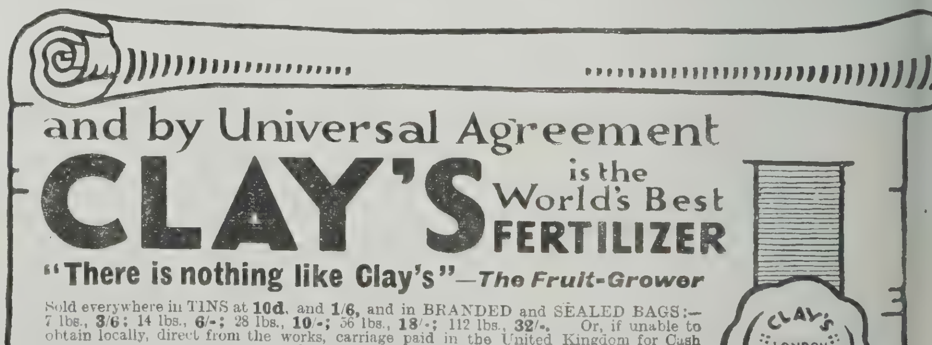

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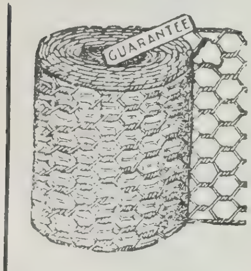

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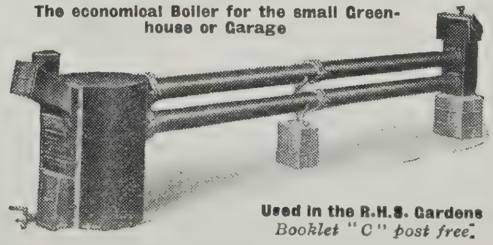

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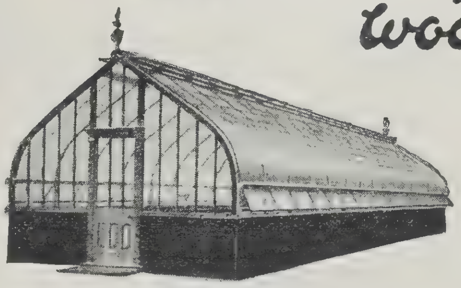

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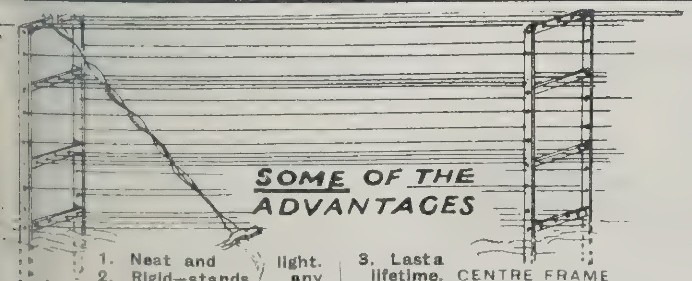

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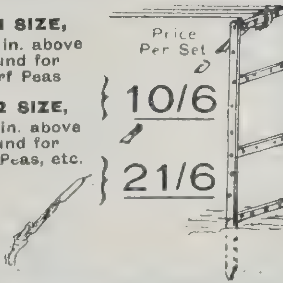

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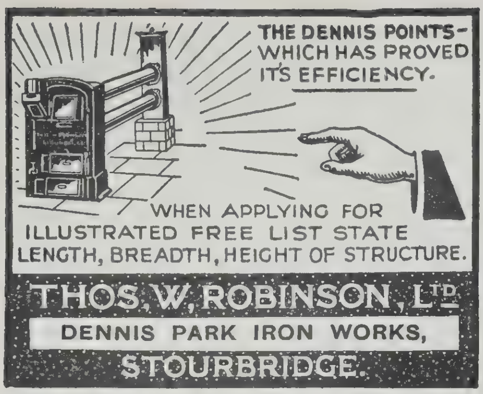

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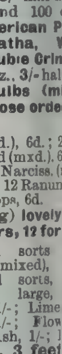

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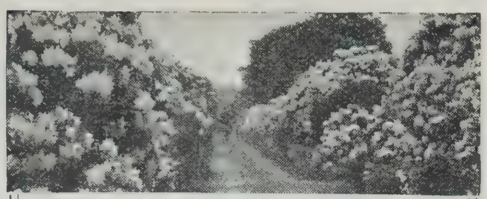

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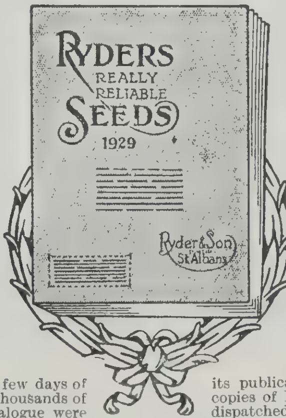

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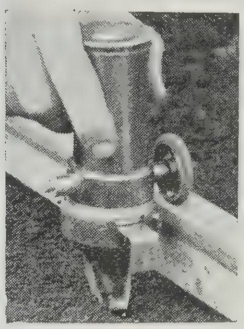

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The Country Garden

WHERE is greater interest taken in e development and beautification of ardens than in this country. The hman is a lover of his home, and his aste is the result of centuries of culture. ally speaking, this has enabled him to what is good, and so develop in a way his demesne.

hese days they are generally of smaller than of old, but there is more beauty ign and care in their making that was lacking in the of olden days.

secret of success both in planan estate and ing the gar is the proper tion and rehip of the parts; harand fitness everywhere Tastes, it is vary greatly, lmost everyone a garden, large all, therefore it be their amto make the ndings as suitnd beautiful as e.

centuries these bits of old d have been about by of our best . Cowley was ly a poet, but d gardener as and Evelyn, ne, Pope, Miller, and all loved to bout gardens. ey's garden at uth, North was an enting place. on had a great dge of garnd their flower occupants, and also ed wild flowers with a peculiar and devotion. He remembered, loved, sited the gardens of the few people he admitted to his inner friendship, house without a garden seemed to him ossible of civilised residence as a d.

e is a host of noted old-time men of who were renowned for gardenor garden-loving, in which each and piced. Many were diverse in their modes of thought, yet they were filled with the love of gardens, making one think how true are the words, a touch of Nature makes the whole world akin.

Those who live in the country can make the attempt to maintain the characteristics of some of the old and charming English gardens. If the garden about to be laid out has a few full-grown trees it is astonishing how soon they will put off its newly planted appearance. A few of the trees that help to make a characteristic country garden are the weeping trees. These are always picturesque and possess an unique charm in the garden scape. The most common variety of this form of tree is the Weeping Ash, which has much to commend it. The Weeping Beech, with its beautiful and dense canopy of foliage, is very striking, but perhaps the most characteristic tree is the Weeping Willow. This, however, should never be planted where it is likely to suffer for want of moisture. If the garden has a stream running through it, then a Weeping Willow on its bank is an ideal spot for it, and will form quite a feature of the garden.

Besides those mentioned there are weeping Birches and Elms, both being delightful subjects, and, even when bare of leaves, are very picturesque. Before leaving the subject of trees, however, some mention must be made of those trees that are so closely associated with our old English country gardens.

The old Cedar of Lebanon in the Rectory Garden, Childrey, Berkshire

The Mulberry was always a great favourite, with its almost always crooked stem, which adds so much to its beauty. It is generally associated with the lawn. In the autumn it is very beautiful, the foliage turning to a pale lemon hue.

Among the smaller trees the Medlar and Quince should find a place in this old English country garden. With all their beauty how seldom do we find these trees planted in these days. It is a matter for much regret, for they are, indeed, beautiful features, wherever planted, at any season of the year.

In this country garden there cannot be too many flowers, as these add greatly to the charm and enjoyment, especially if flower borders surround the vegetable plots as in olden days. Such borders should be planted with many of the well-known perennials, those perhaps that are not quite showy enough for the more prominent borders in the garden, but yet at the same time have a charm quite their own.

To wander down the long paths in summer with borders of flowers on either side, fruit trees between the flowers, Peas, or Cabbages will be a keen delight.

In the gardens of olden times Yew hedges were always a great feature, giving protection to the more tender inhabitants of the garden, but at the same time these hungry hedges extracted much nourishment from the soil, so what the plants gained in one way they lost in another. By this we do not mean to infer by any means they are to be ignored, but they must not be over-done.

Another very charming feature in most of the olden-time gardens was the sunk lawn, some 3 feet below the level, giving the garden a lovely and quaint appearance very charming to behold. Such lawns, however, must be well drained, and should not be made on soils naturally wet and cold.

In the country garden climbing plants must not be forgotten, making a free use of these on the house, outhouses, and sheds. Most of them grow freely, adding considerable beauty to the garden. Some are also very delightful when used in large beds. For instance, the Clematis produces a fine effect when planted in a large bed with an Ivy edging.

If the main portion of the garden consists of perennial borders a few formal Box-edged beds with their quaint, trim air will give just that touch of formality that all old gardens possessed.

No garden is complete without its wild portion, where not only some of our own wildings will find a place, but also those from other lands. Those who are imbued with the true spirit of gardening will choose the right subjects, and it is worth the trouble to study this portion of the garden and to give each subject its most suitable position.

In these days of high taxation and expenses the tendency is for smaller and less extensive grounds. On the whole, there is much to be said in favour of these compact estates. Many are owned by men who are away for a considerable period of their time, and, if properly managed, they are a source of real pleasure and relaxation instead, as is often the case with larger places, an anxiety and tax upon the leisure of their owners.

Saxifraga lingulata lantoscana associates beautifully with Ramondias on rock w
and produces dense sprays of snow white flowers

Native of Maritime Alps

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Idle thoughts on alpines

HAVING probably completed the winter fireside jobs of making out new seed lists, bringing up to date the gardening scrap-book, card indexing the stock of plants, and preparing next season's log book, and having consoled ourselves that the frost and snow are helping along the pans of Alpine seeds, there is time to look round and speculate on one or two questions relative to rock garden plants before we are again busy among them.

In that comprehensive book on Heaths, "The Low Road," the desirability of striking cuttings in soil taken from near the roots of grown plants is insisted on, owing to the presence of certain bacteria in such soil which will assist the cuttings to root.

It is also believed to be an established fact that in Nature Gentians are more or less inclined to associate for mutual benefit with a microscopic root fungus.

These theories, however, are as yet beyond the sphere of the average amateur, and must
be left to the specialist and the scienti
elaborate. Probably there is most val
data already available on the subject, a
would be extraordinarily interesting to
the progress made and the possibiliti
application.

Success in growing many of the most
cult Alpines is still in the lap of the gods
we are often at a loss to explain our succ
and failures. Like the competitor in
who exclaimed: "Quamquam O ——.
superant quibus hoc, Neptune, dedisti,
can only hope to win through.

Is the secret of success in the laborato

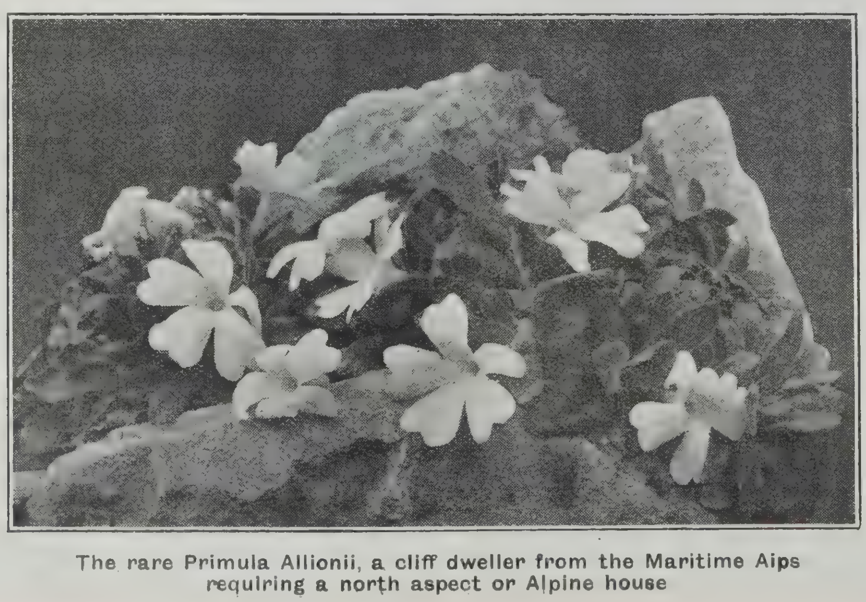
Take for example the case of our g
plant, the Gentianella; unless its failu
flower in certain soils can be accounte
by lack of iron in the soil, as suggest
the R.H.S. Journal, when we fail w
have no remedy but to continue to i
soil from gardens where this Gentian
flower, but may speculate that one da
haps science will discover the cause c
plant's fickleness lies in the absence o
tain microscopic organisms in the soil
that tubes of bacteria will be availabl
supplied by enterprising nurserymen
each order of the plant to assure succ
culture.

Then there is another question of int
the longevity of Alpine plants. It is
bly stated that in the one station
Primula Allioni grows, dead, withere
sules will be found on aged plants far
on the trunk, that may have been co
porary with George III.

With the introduction of Asiatic Pri
perhaps some have come subconsciou
look on the genus as short-lived. In g
where one constantly divides up one's
for friends an individual plant loses its
tity, but possibly many small Alpines i
natural surroundings outlive man's a
span, and other readers may be able t
some interesting examples.

If we plant trees to commemorate e
why not as an alternative let the ga
plant flowers, and lay down, shall we
batch of Saxifraga lingulata lantoscan
Ramondias. They would in future
give more pleasure than laying down a
of port,

F. H. Fis



The rare Primula Allionii, a cliff dweller from the Maritime Alps requiring a north aspect or Alpine house

Iris unguicularis (stylosa)

appening to be in Torquay last week, I
to have a look at the clumps of this
in the cliff gardens. They were
ally covered in blooms, buds, and spent
ers. One of the 56 gardeners employed
e town chanced to come by, and I asked
what treatment was meted to the plants,
he replied that every autumn the foliage
cut right down. I think this should
the question once and for all.

nsford, Exeter. Edward Cahen.

— I was interested in reading the letter
. Burton (Hildenborough) in your issue
ebruary 2nd. I have a great many clumps
is Iris—three clumps on the wall of my
e facing south and also four large
ps on a border in my kitchen garden
g south-west. This year they have
ered continually from the end of October
are still going on. Of course, during
evere frost they ceased for a short time,
ather, the buds did not expand, as they
rost-bitten, but after three or four mild
they started again. I pick two or
dozen a day. They are a perfect sight
e rooms when they open. I tried, two
ree years ago, cutting down the leaves
ne clump in the summer, and they did
ng that year, whereas the other clumps
h were left untouched had no end of
ns, so what is to be said? They do not
r so well two years running. Last year
d not nearly so many, but I put it down
e cold summer we had had previously.
o have one clump of a white one, but it
t nearly so free-flowering, and the clump
seems to increase, although this year
ve picked several blooms.

mouth. J. L. Hawker.

— I have been greatly interested by the
in your pages on Iris unguicularis, and
all provide interesting suggestions.
ng had the care and management of
beautiful Iris for 14 years I venture to
attention to a few practical points of
est to your readers.

acefully poised on what looks like a bare
6 inches or more long, but is really a
nged tube connecting the ovary, which
the ground, with the flower, the delicate
s are worth close examination. It seems
richly powdered with gold, and through
gnifying-glass it may be seen that the
s of "gold" are imprisoned in minute
al globes balanced on the tips of tiny
s. Such flowers are too delicate to be
port of our winter weather, and as soon
e buds show colour they should be cut
brought into the house, where they will
and last for days. Although a stranger
e and snow, the Algerian Iris goes
ely through the trials of an English
er if it is placed and planted with sym-
etic understanding. It is a good ex-
le of the wonderful adaptability of
ts, and though in no sense a decorative
en species, should have a place in every
en where it will be cared for. The
suitable position for this plant is under
ll having a south or west aspect, for it
the very greatest importance that they
catch all the sun from November till
ch, and later on be subjected to the roast-
which seems so essential to the welfare
is Iris family in general.

heavy, cold soil is a cemetery for this
t of Algerian hedgerows and banks, and
ch earth leaves grow rank at the expense
ower. In porous, gritty ground, prefer-
containing lime, the plants flourish
zingly, and, once settled in, usually yield
emingly inexhaustible crop of flowers for
y weeks in the depth of winter. Occa-
ally the harvest is poor, and it seems to
nd more on the heat of the preceding summer than on the actual winter temperature, provided that the latter is not so cold as the present winter.

In normal seasons new plantings may be made in April when the flowers are spent, or in September before growth begins anew after the summer's rest. The rhizomatous roots, which cost but little, should be firmly planted close to the surface of the ground, and when settled in agreeable surroundings plants soon spread into a mat of leaves, by no means at their best in winter, when they are browned and seared, but sheltering the most precious flowers. The plants may be grown fairly close together, and must not be disturbed more often than is absolutely necessary. There is a beautiful white variety, Iris stylosa alba, which will succeed if treated as recommended for the type.

"Copseham," Esher. James A. Paice.

A standard colour chart

I am grateful that your entertaining correspondent, "E. D." (issue February 2nd, page 72), has noticed and sympathetically commented on my letter regarding colour nomenclature, but I must confess to some disappointment, as I hoped that at least she would have welcomed the idea of a standard colour chart.

Narcissus juncifolius, the miniature Rush-leaved Daffodil from the Pyrenees

A sweet-scented little species with rich yellow flowers. Suitable for select spots on rock work
(See page 104)

Her suggestion for introducing ladies into the business of colour description in horticultural catalogues is a good one, but would we get a better conception of colour values? I fear not, and take as my example the catalogue of a famous draper, where all colours are described by a lady. What would we think if we found our catalogues strewn with terms such as mastic, lido, reseda, nil, powder, or some of our favourite flowers described as beige, wine, beaver, flame, mist, nigger, or sand? Some terms would be good if only we know the exact tint meant, such as bois de rose, vieux rose, etc., but, taking them on the whole, the colour terms used by a woman, whilst showing more imagination than those used by men, are even more vague and uncertain than those at present in use.

There is this great difference, however. The draper's lady may call her fabric by any colour term she likes, yet she can still satisfy customers in any part of the country as to the exact colour of the fabric by merely sending them a cutting or sample.

And I think that if a woman did get mixed up with our catalogues and shocked us with extraordinary colour terms she would also sooth us by issuing a colour chart whereby she would make clear exactly what she meant. So, therefore, I now come to agreement with "E. D.," and hope that the lady may soon be introduced into our horticultural colour description business, in the hope that she may be the instrument whereby a standard colour chart will be introduced.

Percy E. Chappell.
Longrock, Cornwall.

The suggested Society of Landscape Architects

I have read with especial interest the correspondence which has appeared in your columns on the above subject, for the formation of a Society of Landscape Architects in this country is a project on which I set my heart many years ago.

On looking carefully into the matter, however, and weighing up my prospects of success, I came to the conclusion that I was proceeding along the wrong lines, and that by far the more feasible project would be the formation of a School of Landscape Architecture and Civic Art, at either Oxford or Cambridge, which would in time and inevitably itself produce both that popular recognition of the profession of landscape architecture and the professional society which we all so much desire.

My reason for this change of policy was shortly that the number of men and women who could claim membership was found, on examination, to be so extremely limited. I venture to doubt whether more than, say, 25 fully qualified and practising landscape architects are working in this country at the present time, though in America the universities are pouring out something like 100 graduates in the art every year, a large proportion of these being young men who seek the support of the A.S.L.A.

What is most extraordinary (I had almost said "pitiable") is that while in America at least seven or eight of the more important universities, including Harvard and Cornell, have strong departments of landscape architecture, and in this country the teaching of the subject is so entirely neglected, *we* have all the best precedent and the finest traditions, and while we neglect this rich and abundant store, America is making the very most of it!

In working out my ideas for a School of Landscape Architecture I received the greatest possible help from the late Viscount Leverhulme and, but for his sudden death, I have little doubt that by now such a school would have been in existence. What is needed is someone with influence and his combination of wealth, common sense, business acumen, and enthusiasm to carry the matter forward from the point at which he dropped it, focussing the interest and activities of all interested.

As I have already indicated, such a school, while eminently worth while for its own sake, would have the further advantage that it would soon render the formation of such a Society as your correspondents envisage both practicable and inevitable. Once founded for the encouragement of the art of landscape architecture, both for its own sake and as a recognised profession, it might exercise great influence on the future development and appreciation of garden design, especially in the provision of those amenities such as public parks, gardens, and open spaces, on the proper provision of which the future progress of our urban populations so largely depends.

Thomas H. Mawson,
Past President, Town Planning Institute.
Lecturer in Landscape Design,
Liverpool University.

—— "Scottish Landscape Gardener" makes a very good point or two and raises questions which need clarifying. First, the term landscape gardener is not completely descriptive of a garden-designer and garden-maker who lays formal gardens, fruit gardens, vegetable and Rose gardens; secondly, it has become generally degraded to describe jobbing gardeners, nurserymen, and contractors who may have no sense of layout, much less of landscape. Garden architect is an international term which is correctly descriptive.

Next, as to qualifications. A man nursery trained and with a good eye for proportion may turn out a splendid garden builder, but he is liable to despise the equally valuable man with culture, architectural knowledge and a faculty for dividing areas into intriguing forms and spaces. These are men like Harold Peto acknowledged to be of the first water who can lay claim to no nursery or garden training; their work speaks for them. The same probably applies to some of our best builders of rock gardens. On the other hand, any amount of training in architecture, draughtsmanship, landscape planting, and nursery work will not make a garden architect out of a mere draughtsman or garden worker.

Chilian Crocus (Tecophilæa cyanocrocus)
Flowers intense pure blue

Ideally, a garden architect should be:—

- From a cultured well-read home.
- Trained as gardener in private service.
- Trained in a nursery.
- Trained in technical horticultural college in botany, chemistry, soils, pathology, etc.
- Trained as draughtsman and architect.
- Have a good knowledge of geology.
- Have actual working landscape experience.
- Have travelled abroad.
- Be natural born gifted.
- Creative and constructive.
- Able to estimate.
- A manager of men.
- Adaptable and diplomatic; and so on.

Who has time to be thoroughly proficient in all these things?

What matters is that the man is able to be the vital force in the construction of a garden. Cut and dried formulas are hopeless in artistic work.

I should suggest that in the early years at least no members should be entitled to use any letters after their names.

There is plenty of good work for a society of enthusiasts to do. Bulldog.

—— I have been reading with interest the various letters on the subject of "Garden Architects," and do feel such a Society would be a great mistake, and, I fear, would do harm for generations to come. I would let the architects attend to their own work and the gardeners their gardens.

It is a great pity to see what might have been a charming garden spoilt by the owner not knowing enough about the making of a garden. In some cases really skilled help is required. It is sad sometimes to see a garden completely spoilt in the laying out. Then, again, do we want too much masonry in the garden? We do not. At times and in some places it is a help. Also steps must be made in some gardens. We need some stones when making a rock garden, but not a portion of a quarry. When a plant-lover visits a rock garden he goes to see the plants and not the stones. It is curious to me that so many people, I am sorry to say, seem to think only of the stones, and not their lovely plants' needs.

With all the wealth of beautiful shrubs and plants we can have for our gardens, why spoil them with too much masonry? If a garden is to give us pleasure we must plant it with care, and try our best to follow Nature as much as possible, so that it gives one a happy, restful feeling. There are, surely, enough bricks and mortar in our houses and towns without filling up our gardens. S. A. M.

Covering bulbs

With reference to the above, from "Inquirer" (issue January 26th, page 54), I very gladly give him my experience with bulbs. I never cover mine with ashes. I pot up about the first week in September, using a good percentage of leaf-mould in compost. A good watering is given each pot and then placed in a cool, dark cellar. I visit them about once a week for the first few weeks, and, when growth is visible, about every other day (in this manner one can very easily pick out any requiring water before coming out I spray both the wa floor with rain-water. "Inquirer" w how much better it is to pick out those have made sufficient growth for rem cold frames grown this way than hav remove a heap of ashes each time pleasant job at the best of times).

I can assure "Inquirer" that I always had good results under these tions, and should he try this method it be interesting to have his opinion.

Near Sunderland. Pip.

Tecophilæa cyanocrocus

THIS somewhat rare plant has, years, occasionally appeared a shows and has never failed to exc miration and interest; a most be spring-flowering bulb from Chili. W wonderful country is this for flow brightest hue! The large Croc flowers are a little variable in the de their blue. Some are dark, some m some light, but all are of real blue, a that ever pleases. A white throat added charm, and a delicate fragra wafted from the blue cups. In the so England and in other mild district lovely little bulb—it is but 6 inches may be grown in the open, exposed sunshine, and planted, in October, in well-drained, sandy loam. In less fa gardens it is, happily, accommodated cold frame, or it may be grown in a embellish the cold greenhouse, and a flowered pan is, indeed, a thing of The Chilian Crocus should be more known. It is one of those little pla rare charm, decided character, and f with deep interest. Ralph E. Arn

The garden in winter

I have been much interested in Sir Lawrence's article, "The Garde Winter," giving a list of shrubs that well and that are actually in season no

How much better these are, surely, few weak, sickly-looking flowers on that should be having their winter sle stead of showing precocity that, I imagine, might weaken the plant for bloom? And I doubt very much if the of very much interest, really, except actual owner of the plants in question.

I should be very grateful if Sir Lawrence would tell me to what Danäe Laurus will grow, and the bes to plant, as I have just the right s which to put it. Betty Sib

Hassocks, Sussex.

This letter has been submitted William Lawrence, who kindly replies

Danäe Laurus is the correct nam Ruscus racemosus of Linnæus. Alexandrian Laurel is a native of Asia and Persia. It will grow up to 4 f height, but is generally much lowe spreads rapidly in heavy soil and shad can be planted either in the autumn March. The leaves, both in Butcher's Broom and Danäe are "cladodes," that is to say, flattened br on which the flowers are borne. In the flowers are terminal and in Ruscus middle of the cladodes. The fact th sprays are not composed of true leaves reason why, when cut, they remain and unaltered for a very long time. has red berries, but does not often fr this country. Seed, however, can be on the Continent or plants can be di This plant ought to be very cheap, doubtless, would be if there were a g demand for it in this country. In two-year-old seedlings are sold, wholes a thousand. It is probably the best iae for mixing with spring flowers, and, ied, with all flowers that are not cut with own foliage.

Anther useful plant similar in appearance d also growing well in deep shade is ccocca. There are a number of varieties a, humilis, ruscifolia, saligna—which t differ very much, the last-named be-, perhaps, the least hardy. Unlike sis, this plant, which is nearly allied to x has true leaves. It produces white, nt flowers in early spring and small it black or crimson according to the iy. It is to be found in many cata-us.

ock gardens at Chelsea Show

his letter in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED of ary 9th Mr. Dillistone refers to a letter nne published in a recent issue, and ap-r to be under the impression that I would h have grey limestone taken from its ay and used anywhere than red sand-. This is not what I meant, as I cer-n consider that the native stone should ilised wherever possible and suitable. e large rock garden to which I have ed limestone appealed to the owners vould not have been obtrusive, as the al rock did not outcrop on or near the hosen. But the cost of the limestone ul have led to the abandonment of the e, and the sandstone has made an ad-le rock garden. Had I to construct a garden in a district in which stone was and unsuitable I would certainly choose one if it could be procured at a reason-ecost. After all, expense is a big con-ition—a crucial one, indeed, with many. difficulty about employing sandstone at ea is the fact that weathered sandstone easily procured, and the unweathered will prevent its employment under circumstances, and, if employed, would ite against its appearance. I think, wer, that one aspect of the question has too much overlooked by writers, ugh, doubtless, in the minds of the ucil of the Royal Horticultural Society. is that these exhibits should be such as of educational value, showing what can ne by the use of various kinds of stone, at those visiting this great show should w best to utilise available material.

"SANDSTONE."

Leptospermums

otice that a contributor speaks of Lep-mum bullatum, L. Scoparium, and L. erum, referring to them all as natives w Zealand; L. lanigerum, however, is ustralian native, but there are other Zealand varieties that make very attrac-shrubs, notably L. Nichollsii and L. manii (shades of pink and crimson), Scoparium (double white, Wilsonii), is, to my mind, both for habit and , the best, and L. Scoparium roseum le). When in England in 1925 at the S. Amateur Show at Vincent Square iced with a very "homey" feeling a iful bunch of "Pink Manuka" (to it our Maori name), so evidently it will all right somewhere in England.

A. E. GRINROD.

kland, New Zealand.

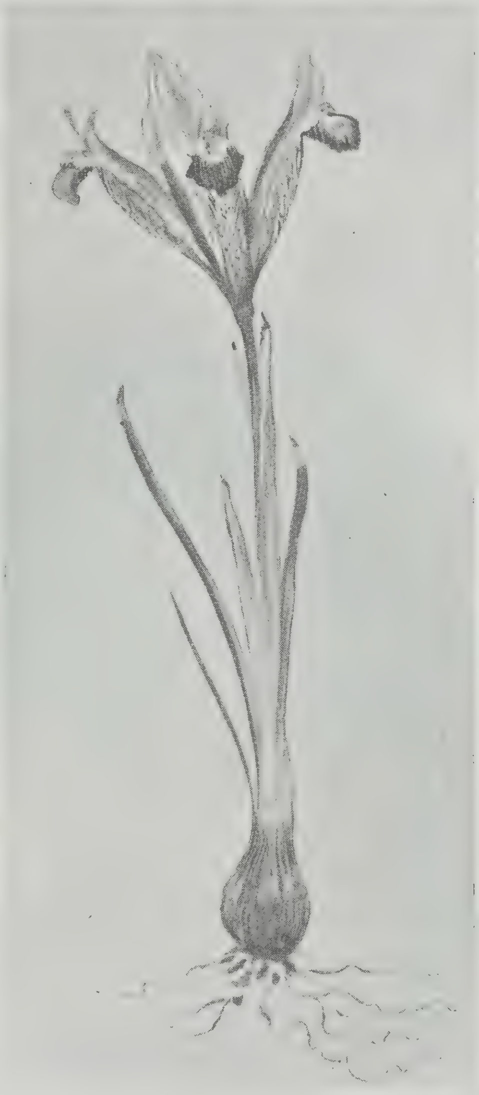
Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles

ave read your note on page 30 of your dated January 12th. It may interest o know that I have successfully grown here for a good many years, in a shrub-bounding a carriage-drive, and it is not protected, and the situation is not high.

ysent House, A. R. VAIZEY.
Boking Braintree, Essex.

Iris Bakeriana

THIS small species is again to be found in the catalogues of firms who specialise in Irises. It hails from Armenia, which for many years has been a closed door, and is evidence that this country is again being visited by collectors. It is one of the first of the spring Irises to bloom with me, resembling the reticulata group, and interesting inasmuch as its leaves are eight-sided in section and not four-sided as are the other members of the reticulata group. It was introduced by Sir Michael Foster 40 years ago from a supply of bulbs sent to him by Dr. Gates (after whom I. Gatesi was named), then stationed in Mardin. Although for gardening purposes it is a reticulata botanically, Foster considered it a distinct species. It was named after Mr. Baker, of Kew.


Iris Bakeriana

There are slight variations in colouring in the arrangement of the falls. My own examples are darker in the falls than the one illustrated in "Genus Iris." Similarly the example in Bot. Mag. table 7084 differs from my own and the Dykes illustration.

It will be observed that the tip of the fall is very dark. This is of an intense violet. The centre space of the fall is white, spotted with deep violet; along the whole length of the haft there is a yellow streak; the sides of the haft bear oblique deep violet veins and dots; the pollen is orange-yellow, very marked in my specimen; standards erect of a soft lavender colour; it is fragrant, which in the warmth resembles scented Violets. The leaves develop as the flowers fade away, when the eight-ribbed leaves may readily be detected.

If we get a change to milder conditions all early flowering Irises will be coming on apace. The next to bloom with me will doubtless be alata, to be followed with the varieties allied to reticulata, histrio, sophenensis, aintabensis, Cantab, and histrioides.

G. P. BAKER.

Truthful catalogues

Col. Wolley-Dod hits the right nail on the head when he suggests (page 38) that "gardeners should see plants growing . . . and not order, haphazard, from a show or catalogue." Just here lies the "danger point" which leads so often to disillusionment and disappointment on the part of the purchaser, and which arises partly from the glowing terms of catalogue descriptions, partly from the impression made by "individual" specimens at shows, and as to the rest from the common habit of the purchaser to take both of these as representative of fact. In truth neither the glowing accounts of catalogues nor the show specimens are representative, in most cases, of the actual general standard of a particular plant as grown in gardens or for commerce. The glowing description aptly describes the selected show specimen, and the latter truly exemplifies the former, but here truth and actuality end. A show specimen may be perfect and the judgment of the purchaser correct in estimating it to be so. Where he fails is in not stopping to consider what culture has been necessary to bring that particular specimen to its perfection, or what degree of trouble to select it from many others. Where the catalogue fails is in hesitating to disclose the secrets of culture necessary to perfection in all those plants which require anything out of the ordinary.

J. R. K.

—— No doubt other nurserymen, like myself, have read the letters of "Clay" and A. H. Wolley Dod (page 38, issue January 19th) with somewhat mixed feelings. Are we to understand nurserymen deliberately deceive by their descriptions, or that they are expected to know what some people would consider to be virtues and others vices, especially in new plants? It may be they make mistakes; but who has not? As an illustration, when Farrer wrote in his book, "The English Rock Garden," that convolvulus althæoides is almost the only trailer of that family to admit to the rock garden, I consider he made quite a mistake. As when established it runs all over the place, and would soon smother every other plant, and as 28 degs. of frost has done it no harm here, it is quite as difficult to exterminate as the wild type, but I do not consider he told a lie, or wrote an untruthful book.

I beg to remind these "Valiants for Truth," that truth is generally symbolised as showing a mirror, and perhaps if they were to look close and deep into her mirror, that even they might not be able to see "truth," but would understand that "what is truth" is still an unanswered question, and also realise that even nurserymen are entitled to a little mercy about their mistakes, and also the importance of the old teaching that mercy and truth should be met together.

Most people quite understand that when a nurseryman spends money to print a catalogue, it is because he is wanting to sell the plants, and not because he is anxious to give away a Botanical Encyclopedia, and moreover, it would not be quite truthful for him to pretend otherwise.

There is no great danger likely to arise because nurserymen employ too much labour, or that people are likely to give them too much of the necessary means to be able to do so. And as a nurseryman, I can assure them, it is not at all difficult to find other people quite willing to worship the money idol, even if it has got feet of clay (I hope they realised this particular idol has also a head of gold), and I consider it is quite possible that some might consider it an inducement, and others an excuse, to do so still more, by the no doubt well meant, but somewhat remarkable feat of "Clay."

Cambridge. A. CASBURN,

Campanula cæspitosa

With reference to Col. A. H. Wolley-Dod's note on Campanula cæspitosa, it is not surprising by any means that such a lot of confusion exists also here, as so many of these gems of Campanulas, like Miranda, have such a cæspitose habit. I have not Campanula cæspitosa myself, but Mr. Reginald Farrer gives a very good, comparative diagnosis of this and other similar species on page 166 of his splendid work, "The English Rock Garden," and which I quote in full, trusting that our Editor can spare the space to publish it.

"The English Rock Garden," by Reginald Farrer, Vol. 1., page 166:—C. cæspitosa (Scop.) has nothing whatever to do with C. Bellardii, C. pusilla (Haenke), C. modesta, C. tyrolensis, C. pumila, or any other of the distinct species which have been shoved under its wing in gardens until all trace of the genuine species has been lost. C. cæspitosa is not a runner, but from one central tap throws up a dense cushion of many serried shoots, thick-set with little narrow-toothed leaves, in no way distinct from those of C. Bellardii, except by their number and density on the far more dense tuft, made up of far more, and more close-packed, barren shoots devoid of runners. But above this mat come shooting wholly different flowers on wholly different stems —tall, very thin, and bare and wiry, attaining as much as a foot, and arching and bending out this way and that, with all the airy grace of Dierama pulcherrimum, beneath the burden of a long, rather one-sided, loose shower of the most lovely hanging bells, delicately strongly ribbed outside, and so pulled-in at the mouth that they look like elongated globules of exquisite clear-blue water, as they waver and sway and tinkle to the slightest wind. It is one of the daintiest of Campanulas, and in the garden answers as perfectly to any ordinary treatment as C. Bellardii itself. In nature it begins far away, so that, perhaps, the long obscurity that has wrapped it may be explained. It can first be seen rather feebly beginning, in the Dolomites, occurring by the roadside between Toblach and Cortina in stony, poor places; but in the Karawanken it is the reigning Bell shaking tall sheaves at the passer-by, from every sandy barren road-cutting, as he crosses the Seeland Pass. In the Dolomites it has to share its home with C. Bellardii, but has not so deep a belt of distribution. In the Karawanken, C. Bellardii is comparatively rarely seen, and then often only at the higher elevations, while C. cæspitosa wholly takes its place and never seems to ascend. It blooms with the other through July to September, and should be best multiplied from seed. It is truly figured, though vilely coloured, and from a specimen of poor stature, in the Ic.Flo.Germ., t. xciv.; and quite lately, in the notice of some correspondent as to some form of the delusive C. "valdensis," the description sounded suspiciously as if it really covered the genuine C. cæspitosa, so long lost in the weltering chaos of C. "pusilla." J. HENRY WATSON, F.E.S.

Withington, Manchester.

Names of Hellebores

In such a charming article as Mr. Cahen's on the Hellebores of our gardens it may seem unnecessary to demand absolute accuracy as to the geographical limits of the species. As the matter is receiving some attention perhaps it may be helpful, for once, to go on a step further.

H. olympicus has not been found in Greece; it was so named by Lindley as it came from the Bithynian Olympus, near Brusa, in Asia Minor. It has not been found on Mount Olympus, in Macedonia.

This may be seen from Lindley's original description of it in the Botanical Register for 1841, Vol. XXVII., Miscellaneous Notices, page 54. He describes it as differing from H. orientalis in having green flowers and no lobes to the segments of the leaves.

The only Helleborus that has been found of late years in Greece is H. cyclophyllus, the finest of all those with green flowers. This was the true black Hellebore of the Greeks, for the Christmas Rose (H. niger), according to Halacsy's "Conspectus Floræ Græcæ," I., page 29, is doubtfully native of Greece.

It has not been collected there during the last century, and the references given by Sibthorp most likely refer to H. cyclophyllus.

This large-flowered species is of a brilliant emerald-green when first the flowers open, and it is a pity it is so seldom seen in English gardens. My plants were collected for me during the war, near Salonica. Sir Arthur Hort writes thus of it in his delightful new book, "The Unconventional Garden":—

"Hellebore, viz., the Greek species, H. cyclophyllus, was esteemed in antiquity as a cure for madness. As it was abundant on the shores of the Gulf of Corinth, especially near Anticyra, it became a common jest to suggest to an eccentric friend that he should 'take a trip to Anticyra,' and Horace calls a hopeless mental case one which 'not three Anticyras could cure.'"

It is good to see "Z.'s" praise of H. fœtidus on page 60. It is so useful to grow where very little else would, and worth looking at all the year round.

The form from the Maritime Alps is even handsomer than our native one. The leaves are more finely cut and have a distinctive red band where they join on to the leaf-stalk. It is also a larger plant.

To make Hellebores last when cut I find it better to pierce the lower portion of stem with a stout pin rather than to crush it, as crushed tissue is more ready to decay.

E. A. BOWLES.

Chincherinchees

A number of letters have appeared in your very interesting journal on the culture of Chincherinchee. I have collected a quantity of seed (white variety) from the veld, and shall be pleased to distribute this to any of your readers who may be interested in the cultivation of these "freakish flowers," as one of your correspondents calls them. Correspondents should enclose an addressed envelope. Only one variety is mentioned by your correspondents. There are quite a number, including a deep orange-coloured one and one of a lighter shade of yellow.

J. T. R. MORRISON.

Pinelands, C.P., South Africa.

Anchusa myosotidiflora

I am obliged to your correspondents (page 2) for their views regarding the cultivation and merits of Anchusa myosotidiflora. One of the most interesting points is the fact that their recommendations respecting cultivation are diametrically opposed to each other. My plants, to which I referred formerly, are not grown in "one of those dry, tidy, weedless English borders," bu
one in a cool, rather wet district, and
border which is never dry, but suits perf
such subjects as Astilbes and other moist
loving subjects. True, the individual flo
of Astilbes are small, as your correspon
says, but the character of the infloresc
is so distinct from that of the Anchusa
there is no common ground for compari
"N. S. C." suggests planting it in
wilder parts of the rock garden, but
might mean that one would have to exc
more desirable plants to make room for
plant, whose leaves are too large, comp
with the flowers. But I shall try it
wet place, and also in my rock garden;
it would give me great pleasure to be
to report favourably upon the results.

AN AMATEUR OF HARDY FLOWE

Daffodils for the rock garden

The article by Mr. Bowles on "Daff
for the Rock Garden" came like a b
of spring, and although there were 4 i
of snow on the ground as I read hi
lightful essay it made one feel that a
spring really is near at hand.

I am trying N. juncifolius nanus in a
garden, and also N. minimus, and hope
by little to find out and be able to proc
few more of the dwarf Daffodils to tr
luck with in sink gardens. F. H.

Hypericum rhodopeum

I once got this species from Suendern
which, I understand, is a sure guarant
accurate naming. It has downy leaves,
trate growth, bright yellow flowers a
as those of Polyphyllum, and is remar
for its early flowering. Last spring, v
in these parts was a season of persi
drought, cold, sunless days and night-f
it grew and flowered without a chec
that its flowers were just going over
Polyphyllum was coming into bud.

Oxford. L. J. ROGE

Griselinia littoralis

A good hedge shrub

AS a subject for hedge making this
has many excellent qualities, alth
they do not seem to be sufficiently r
nised among those who are responsib
laying down new hedges. I have had n
perience with this Griselinia in norther
tricts, but in the south and west I have
across some very flourishing hedges
from it. The shining evergreen foliag
a pleasing shade of olive-green, and pr
a cheerful appearance throughout the
of the year. The branches are well c
right down to the base, and the old woo
not fail to break when it has been p
back. The leaves are tough and lea
and do not appear to suffer in wind-
situations, and, taking all the above-n
qualities into consideration, this shrub
be regarded as a most desirable shrub f
formation of wind-screens or as a bou
hedge to the garden. Even in shady
tions, under the influence of tall tree
littoralis appears to thrive exceedingly
In ordinary circumstances, this shrub
grow as high as any other hedge su
and planting may be done during Ap
well-manured soil. H. GREAV

Clematis Flammula

I AM surprised to see in last week's
of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED Cle
Flammula described as having little
scent. An arch in my cottage gard
Hampshire is covered with it. On Sept
evenings the air all round is perfumed
most delicious manner. People passin
gate pause to enjoy the scent.

M. A. SPEN

1

2

In Mrs. Graham Wood's garden at Highmount, Guildford, Surrey

4

5

1, 2, 3. Clematis Flammula over low stone walls and Yew hedge. The agrance of the small, creamy-white flowers in September is variously mpared with the scent of Almonds, Vanilla, and Hawthorn, and is rceptible some yards from the plant. It is a hardy and easily grown ecies, of which there are many varieties.

4. Stone steps, broad, shallow, and of easy tread, leading to grass walk between herbaceous borders.

5. Griselinia littoralis on the left of paved walk near the house. This large evergreen shrub, native of New Zealand, is of rounded habit, has leathery leaves, and is recommended for forming hedges in mild and maritime localities.

The Agapanthus as a Tub Plant

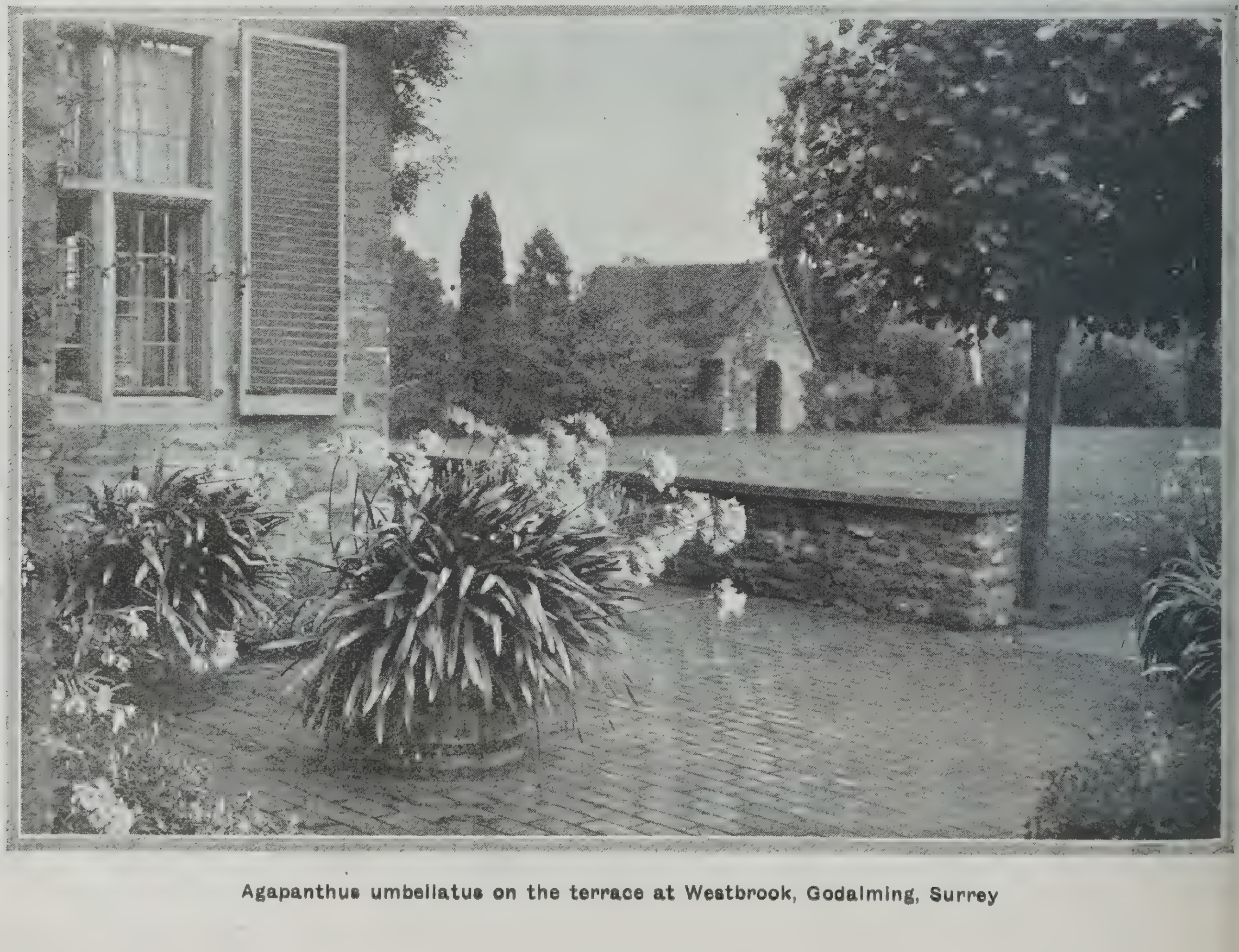
THE accompanying very charming illustrations show the value of the African Lily (Agapanthus umbellatus) as a tub plant for the fronts of houses, terraces, and courtyards during the summer months. It is rarely, however, that such an effective background for these handsome plants is to be found as that here seen in the picturesque house. Though various subjects are often recommended as tub plants, there is no doubt that the Agapanthus is unrivalled for this method of culture. Its requirements are extremely simple, since, when it has gone out of flower and the winter is approaching, it may be gradually dried off and stored during the cold weather under greenhouse stages or in any outhouse from which severe frost is excluded. These plants are sometimes grown in large pots, but this system is not to be recommended, since sooner or later the pressure caused by the great, tightly-compressed roots invariably breaks the pots. It is, therefore, advisable to choose receptacles strong enough to withstand this root pressure, such as tubs or boxes, which, if painted an unobtrusive green, cannot offend the most artistic eye. The lavender-purple of a couple of dozen tall, spreading flower umbels, towering above the drooping, strap-shaped leaves that almost hide the tub has a pleasing effect, greatly enhanced if a number of such finely-grown specimens are arranged in ranks in some conspicuous position. In the southwest the Agapanthus will grow permanently in the open ground without any winter protection. Clumps so grown are often 5 feet across, and carry from 30 to 40 great flower umbels in the late summer and early autumn. In some gardens large colonies are established in the grass, and present delightful pictures when in full flower. There are a white variety of Agapanthus umbellatus and also a deciduous species, quite distinct from the evergreen Agapanthus umbellatus, which bears white flowers, but which is not recognised in gardening dictionaries. The leaves of this species turn yellow in October and wither away, and the new leaves appear in March. It flowers about a month earlier than Agapanthus umbellatus, and bears taller flower stems, holding rather fewer blossoms. This and the white variety of Agapanthus umbellatus are both good tub plants.

Making up paths and borders

Winter time in the garden is supposed by some people to be a quiet or easy period. If so, so much the worse for the garden. Of course, the weather may bring about such a state of things, then nobody can be blamed but Jupiter Pluvius, but to talk about an easy time when the elements permit of work shows there is something wrong in the speaker's conception of gardening. To the man who takes a real pride in his garden winter is just the long-coveted opportunity for effecting those improvements which even the ideal patch is capable of absorbing.

Here is the opportunity for the amateur to abolish those mud puddles in his paths or to reset his beds and borders so that the summer shall yield greater pleasure and better results. To deal first with the making of paths, there is a great diversity of opinion as to which is the best materials for these. There can be no two opinions as to the mode of making, because there is a certain amount of science underlying the principles of producing the best results in these necessary portions of the garden which canno ignored. First, let the writer face the m and own to cherishing a terrible heres preferring paths made of cinders and a Of course, it is very wrong of him, practical considerations have their we In the first place coal-ashes, by reason o sulphur in them, do not encourage gr of weeds. Secondly, nothing else abs rain so quickly and dries so soon after ciently to give a serviceable surface for w ing on immediately. In the third place, do not encourage livestock of any kind, if the bordering material is nothing b than wood. Fourthly, and quite impor they do not dust up loose in dry weathe soon as gravel, and if wetted over be getting to this condition with salt and w they will even defy the driest weather.

However, enough of gnashing of amongst readers to whom even these siderations fail to appeal and to whom a on top at least, are anathema. Let us how clinker and ashes can help us to good gravel paths. Those who cannot the thought of them on top will not burying them. At a depth of 3 inche 4 inches they make one of the best fou tions on most subsoils. If on clay it is be first, to get out this a little deeper and 2 inches or 3 inches of hard core, buil rubbish, stones, or even old pots and p These latter help greatly in binding the w together and prevent sinking in places. there is a supply of them enough and subsoil is a wet clay a further few in more may be removed and filled up in way. Some good, large clinker is an e lent substitute. Do not ram this bottom in. Wait until the builders' rubbish, plaster, ballast, or rough ashes has spread over, then ram or roll over. gives better results. The top 2 inche



Agapanthus umbellatus on the terrace at Westbrook, Godalming, Surrey

ches should be gravel if ashes cannot be
ated.

any amateurs have just such a sneaking
rd for asphalte as the present writer has
ashes, but for practical reasons this is
ys really very undesirable. If such
s could be laid a year or two before the
en is required, well and good, but to lay
in one choicely planted is far too risky
ng to be recommended here. If a hard
is required nothing beats concrete, and
not expensive now. That last word may
ueried, but it is scarcely the province of
eners to know all about such a material,
ce it to say that to-day English Portland
ent is of such extremely high quality, as
le, that only a very small proportion is
ed to form good concrete paths. It is
manner of using it that counts. If the
$\frac{3}{4}$ inch is of fine gravel that will pass a
h sieve and clean sand the former can
our parts to three of the latter with one
ment. This should be laid on $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches
oarse gravel seven parts, finer gravel or
four parts, and cement one part. This,
rn, should be bedded down on a rammed
ace of rough stuff, clinker, etc., and the
ayer must be put on before the other has
oo hard to be impressed by a finger-nail,
harder than to show a thumb-print.

osely akin to paths and their lay-out is
planning of the flower-beds; in fact, the
ngement of the first should determine the
r. Too often in small gardens we find
imless wandering of paths in all direc-
without any specific object resulting
their planning. It is in these very
ens where such waste of effect cannot
fforded. If only a little intensive thought
estowed on the matter beforehand each
may end in some special feature that will
ccentuated and improved by the very fact
the path ends before it. One may
h before a rockery, another end in front
vase or bird bath, a third may come to
lusion in an arch with a seat under it,
so on, so that no walk leads merely into
her. A bed of scarlet Salvias at the end
walk, for instance, means simply a little
king out beforehand, but what a glorious
h for the path!

ne of the pitfalls the amateur easily falls
is the squaring of the ends of his paths.
, a square corner to a border or lawn at
unction of two paths is a veritable clash
leas. Above all things a garden should
atural, and Nature hates square corners.
s should not meet at right angles where
n be avoided, which is not often in the
l garden. Nevertheless, it is possible to
d the corners and sometimes to mask
by a judicious planting of suitable
bs, Roses, or plants—an equally de-
le thing to do. Where a border runs
to the walk the ends can be very easily
ned in this way with excellent effect to
whole arrangement of the garden.

is always a good thing to have at least
or two paths closely planted in this way.
re the garden is small there are several
reasons for planting the outer walks
go all round, and may have to be on a
r square plan, on each side with bedders
ch a way. With moderately tall plants
e outside—that is, towards the centre of
garden, and the ends of the paths
ked as recommended above, the im-
sion conveyed will be that the whole is
larger than it really is. This helps the
l garden, and if the middle is opened out
other walks and beds suitably arranged,
or without a lawn as desired, the effect
nsiderably increased, and added interest
its. There should be nothing square or
al in such a centre plan if the outer
s are so arranged.

AJAX.

Agapanthus umbellatus in tubs on the lawn by the flagged path at Spetchley Park

The work of Sir Jagadis Chunder Bose

(Concluded from page 98)

The amplitude of response from animal muscle can be altered very appreciably by altering the conditions of its environment, and similarly with the plant pulvinus. Certain reagents produce an enhancement of activity, whereas others are depressing. Others, again, may act in either way, according to the quantity administered. "An agent which in large doses proves to be toxic is found to be stimulating when given in minute quantities." Temperature, again, has a parallel effect in the two cases. In the plant there is an increase of excitability with the rise of temperature up to an optimum of about 34 degs. C., and conversely lowering of the temperature has a depressing effect. And lastly, excessive irrigation in both cases leads to undue hydrostatic pressure, with consequent loss of excitability.

An interesting feature of these investigations is the very prominent part that has been taken by the electrical experiment. Stimulation of animal muscle gives rise to an electrical response of galvanometric negativity. In the plant both electrical and torsional stimulation yielded the electrical response that is given by animal muscle.

Mimosa, however, is not unique in having a pulvinus; but those other plants that have pulvini do not show movement as obvious as that of Mimosa. Nevertheless, it appears the movement is there, but beyond the range of human perception. It can be measured, according to Dr. Bose, by his own hypersensitive apparatus. The reduced excitability of the so-called inactive pulvinus is concomitant with an absence of the granular "active substance."

The cortex, however, is not confined to the pulvinus. It stretches into the petiole in one direction and into the stem in the other. May it not be, then, that these tissues are also contractile? Dr. Bose has demonstrated a radial contraction in older stems and a longitudinal contraction in younger members.

In the animal kingdom nerves seem to be the essential complement of muscles. Does the similarity extend to this extent, that in the plant the muscle is stimulated by a tissue not unlike nervous tissue? Such, indeed, seems to be the case. "If physiological changes affect the rate of conduction then the impulse must be of a nervous character; the absence of any such effect, on the other hand, proves the mechanical character of the impulse." The nerve in the animal is absolutely independent of the muscle, and if the conducting tissue in the plant is of a nervous character it must fulfil this characteristic. "In Mimosa conductivity is independent of moto-excitability. The pulvinus may have been rendered immobile, yet the excitatory impulse is transmitted along the enclosed nervous tissue in both centripetal and centrifugal directions, causing the fall of other leaves on the stem and the closure of leaflets on the sub-petioles." The localisation of the "nervous" tissue is effected by the electric probe, and by double staining with safranine and hæmatoxylin. The two methods seem to be confirmatory of one another.

In plants, then, an impulse applied at a distance is carried along a nerve, which excites into activity a "muscle." Such in all essentials is also the process in animals. In the latter, however, the central nervous system comprises a brain which has directive force. In the brain perception is translated into action, the consequent movement being called voluntary. On the other hand, some movements take place without the consciousness of any perception, such being called involuntary movements, an example of which is the pulsation of the heart. The two terms are obviously inapplicable to the plant. It may be said, however, that the two have their counterparts in the plant. Voluntary movements are occasional, and the fall of the leaf of Mimosa is also only occasional. The rhythmic activity of the leaflets of Desmodium show, however, automatism not unlike that of the heart. The automatic movements of Desmodium and heart-beat are affected similarly by changes of environment, drugs, etc. "Chemical reagents induce reactions which are very similar in both animal and plant. Diminution of internal tension causes depression of heart-beat, and a decrease of internal hydrostatic pressure in Desmodium causes an arrest of pulsation." And, again, "variation of temperature induces characteristic modifications of rhythmic activity which are similar in the animal and the plant."

The principle of automatism is embodied by Bose in his explanation of the ascent of sap. According to this theory the sap is propelled upwards by peristaltic waves in a definite layer of cells—"the internal layer of the cortex abutting upon the young vascular tissue." Agents affecting the flow of blood have a precisely similar effect on the ascent of sap. The mechanism of propulsion in the two cases seems to be the same. Peristalsis forms the basis of the two processes. In the heart of the vertibrate the peristaltic action, although there, is perhaps not quite obvious. In some of the lower animals, however, the heart is little more than a tube, in which case there is no doubt about the peristaltic waves. Again, propulsion of the contents of the intestine is effected by peristalsis. In both heart and stomach peristaltic waves are propagated according to the law, that: "The direction of propagation of the peristaltic wave is from the more active to the less active point." The same law applies to plants. Thus, by stimulating either end of a quiescent stomach a peristaltic wave can be induced in either direction, and by suitable arrangement the sap can be made to descend instead of to ascend.

And similarly with other phenomena whose suggested explanations are equally unorthodox. Time, however, may perhaps confer upon Bose's doctrines the distinction of orthodoxy, but not before they have passed through the testing fires of severe criticism—and for such we venture to suggest there is plenty of room.

And the voice of incredulity echoes, "Perhaps"! Yes, perhaps, indeed, but

> "There are more things in heaven and
> earth, Horatio,
> Than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

R. Brown.

Bodiam Castle and moat

Taken over by the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty

The Gardenia-flowered Daffodil

I grow this useful Narcissus in a long, narrow border facing full south, and leave the bulbs undisturbed. The clumps have increased until they almost touch each other, and some of them carried as many as fifteen of their chaste double blossoms apiece. With the value of the flowers for cutting most are acquainted, and I use them extensively. In some seasons this Daff
is very shy-flowering, and the above-n
tioned lot was no exception to the rule,
since giving the bulbs full possession of
border and leaving them undisturbed
have yielded better results each season.
border on the opposite side of the pat
filled with N. Poeticus ornatus, a favo
variety, pure white with eye margined
scarlet, and a glorious show they make,
clump being literally crowded with bloss
This flowers with much greater freedom
me than N. Poeticus, which is so usefu
account of its lateness. V

The Garden of England

Our English hedgerows, with their
lands of Wild Rose, Honeysuckle,
Traveller's Joy, our Bluebell woods, and
commons glowing with Gorse and Heat
have given us the right to speak wit
sentimentality or exaggeration of the "
den of England." But this garden has
gun to melt away rapidly since the war,
every month some piece of the country
gives way to bricks and mortar. Suc
change must take place in some degree,
we still need more houses; but it is
necessary to destroy the beauty of our l
scape blunderingly and irrevocably as
are doing at present.

It is not a question here of pitting a me
æsthetic preference against an econ
necessity; for the effort to preserve the E
lish country side is not activated by a s
mental perversion of values, but by the d
to preserve something that is valuabl
itself. A house with a view is worth n
than a house without one and is taxed
cordingly, and the natural gardens of h
and hedgerow have the same kind of v
for the community as the private garden
for its owner. But although it is to
interest of everyone to preserve the view
the natural garden, it is no one's busi
to do so, and it is usually beyond the p
of the single private individual; so that
usually find ourselves looking on, helpl
and ruefully, while the damage is b
done.

Fortunately there exists a machinery
mobilising our forces and making them e
tive, for, in 1907, the National Trust
incorporated by Act of Parliament for
purpose of "promoting the permanent
servation, for the benefit of the nation
lands and tenements (including buildings
beauty and historic interest, and, as reg
lands, for the preservation (as far as p
ticable) of their natural aspect, features,
animal and plant life." It now hold
trust the Cheddar Cliffs, Wicken
Barras and Bolt Head (with their rare na
plants), Ashbridge Park, Box Hill, H
head, parts of the Lake District, and m
other places whose character and be
were threatened with destruction.

But although the National Trust is re
nised by Parliament it receives no help f
the State, and, in spite of the increas
its importance during the last few year
has less than a thousand annual subscri
so that its work is now seriously hamp
for lack of funds.

Professor Trevelyan, in his pamp
"Must England's Beauty Perish?"*
given us an illuminating account of the
fluences that have created our nati
scenery, that "delicate and fugitive bea
made up of small touches, a combinatio
nature with the older arts of man in a
mony which can be easily destroyed b
few rash strokes of the crude level
machinery of modern life." He make
very strong case, on grounds of pure c

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* "Must England's Beauty Perish?" By George Mac
Trevelyan. Faber and Gwyer. Illustrated.

sense, for the preservation and upkeep ur great English garden, and those who to share in this good work have only to me members of the National Trust by ling 10s. (or as much more as they can e) to 7, Buckingham Palace Gardens, . 1.

F. A. HAMPTON.

ysanthemums for cut flowers

Some grand late varieties

ANY people prefer the double-flowered decorative varieties to the single, and there are many beautiful varieties to se from. Those I am about to name are f easy culture, are free-flowering, and of nct and pleasing shades of colour. All , also, good stems, none of those in- d to hang their heads being included.

DECORATIVES

robably the very best crimson for Christ- and later is :—

ALDOCK'S CRIMSON.—It is of moderate ht. The flowers are of an exquisite red le and retain their colour almost to the A plant will carry from nine to 12 blooms. It succeeds in sprays, but is disbudded.

RIMSON CONQUEST.—Of a beautiful soft lish-crimson. Rather a tall grower, but good-sized flowers. Should be partially udded.

IFI.—A spray variety with neat flowers of easing shade of pink.

. W. THORPE.—This old incurved white ill very useful. Best disbudded, allowing ut nine blooms to a plant.

RS. W. STREATER.—A beautiful yellow t from the last-named and, if anything, more desirable. Requires same treat- t, but is a better grower.

N MEMORIAM.—Certainly the most lovely all crimson Chrysanthemums. Grown from six to nine blooms to a plant; dis- ded, nothing could be finer.

EAN PATERSON.—Must be disbudded, but a plant will carry 15 to 18 nice blooms. The colour, a reddish-orange, is very charming.

MARKET RED.—A good old spray variety. Best partially disbudded.

MRS. R. F. FELTON.—Another rich crimson, but quite distinct. Free-flowering. Good either in sprays or disbudded.

THE FAVOURITE.—One of the best late whites. Will carry a dozen nice flowers. Best disbudded.

YELLOW FAVOURITE.—Identical with the last-named, except in colour. A lovely lemon-yellow with a fine sheen. Treat like the parent.

NIVEUS.—Grown in sprays, on old plants, this is superb.

SINGLES

BRONZE MOLLY.—A very charming shade of bronze-yellow. Tall grower. Good in sprays.

CEDDIE MASON.—This old, bright crimson is still excellent. Best in sprays.

CLARICE.—One of the very best. Bright red with yellow zone. Fine in sprays. Stands long in perfect condition.

EVERLASTING.—Well named, as the beautiful light crimson flowers retain their beauty for a long time. Good in sprays.

EXMOUTH PINK.—An exquisite shade of true pink. A grand spray variety.

GOLDEN SEAL.—One of the best deep yellows, of grand habit and fine in sprays.

LADY ASTOR.—A fine variety in sprays. Rich deep crimson. Good habit. Late.

MARGARET.—One of the most perfect of the singles. Reddish-bronze. Best in sprays. Late.

MARY RICHARDSON.—One of the old indispensables.

MISS JOYCE MOORE.—Another grand deep crimson. Fine long stems. Good in sprays.

MOLLY GODFREY.—Although classed as an exhibition variety, this pretty pink sort is fine not disbudded.

MRS. EDWARDS.—A lovely bronze. Best in sprays.

MRS. W. BUCKINGHAM.—A lovely pink of similar shape and habit to the last-named.

MRS. LOO THOMSON.—A pretty pale yellow.

OFIA.—A beauty, but must not be disbudded. Deep reddish-bronze.

PHYLLIS COOPER.—Still one of the most beautiful of all single-flowered Chrysanthemums. Splendid in sprays.

RALEIGH.—One of the best. Deep crimson. This lovely variety remains long in beauty. Need not be disbudded.

ROBERT COLLINS.—A beautiful rich amber colour. Tall grower, but fine stems. Needs no disbudding.

SUSAN.—Another very beautiful variety with large, handsome flowers of a lovely bronze shade overlaid with pink. One of the very best. Tall grower. Needs no disbudding.

HELOISE.—Has Anemone centre. Very beautiful pink with a sheen of salmon. Unique colour. Beautiful in sprays. Does not last long.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Statice

The perennial forms of Sea Lavender are in these days very popular, as they are useful in those portions of the garden where change is not so much desired. Most of them are dwarf in character, seldom exceeding 2 feet in height. The broad, spreading panicles of flowers are in great request for cutting for the decoration of the house, as they last a long time in the dried state.

A cold, heavy soil they greatly dislike, but one that is sandy suits them to perfection, and they need no shelter in winter.

The best place for the Statice is a sunny spot on the south border, giving them ample roof for the development of their spreading leaves and flowers.

To increase the stock the best way is by division in the late autumn. They may also be raised from seed, but I do not advise the amateur to try it, as he will find it rather a long process. It will be better if he purchases plants.

F. H.

On East Sheen Common (preserved by the National Trust)

Hybridisation of Lilies

Considering the advantages of hybridising evidenced in other bulbous plants, notably the Narcissus and Montbretia, it appears surprising that more attention has not been paid to the genus Lilium

(Continued from page 91)

LAST week I dealt with the principal types of Lilies and with rough indications of the most suitable species. After selection of the species most suitable for the purpose under consideration one should be sure that in each case the type to be used is the best of the species. Almost every species has two or more forms of which one must naturally choose the best. In every case habit of growth, floriferousness, and general hardiness should be considered. To illustrate my point I would point out that Lilium auratum platyphyllum must inevitably be chosen as the best of the auratums, if such were to be used. Lilium Humboldtii magnificum, by reason of its superior vigour and floriferousness, is preferable to the type plant, and Lilium Martagon Dalmaticum will give better hybrids than the common purple Martagon. There is small point in exerting care on the selection of a species and then utilising an inferior type, more especially when one considers that the production and fixation of a Lilium hybrid is a matter of years.

The actual cross-fertilisation does not require very great skill. It is not necessary to mutilate the flower which is destined to produce the seed so as to prevent selfing, since the pollen is not disclosed or active until some time after the flower has opened. The stamens must be removed as soon as possible after opening, and the individual flower enclosed in a fine mesh gauze bag to prevent accidental fertilisation by insects. It is also advisable to remove any flowers higher up on the plant that are not required for the production of seed, since pollen may be shaken off from these and penetrate the gauze. Hybrids generally follow the type of the female plant, so that crosses should be taken in the opposite direction to ensure a well-mixed batch of seedlings.

Although cross-fertilisation can be practised in the open, the results are more or less at the mercy of the weather, so that shelter is preferable for the plants. A warm and sunny day should be chosen for the pollination, and the plants should be kept rather drier than is the custom with the genus after impregnation has occurred. Do not be alarmed if the seed capsule is irregular in shape; sometimes all the segments are not completely fertilised, and consequently do not swell. This is no reason why the remainder should not be quite healthy.

Seed should be allowed to ripen as long as possible on the plant and then sown immediately in a finely-sifted compost containing three parts fibrous loam, two parts leaf-mould, and one part washed sand. It should be sown $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep, and frame or greenhouse protection given to the seed pans. From this fresh seed germination will occur
either very soon or in the following spri
Seed that has been stored takes considera
longer. In any case, one should never
in a hurry to throw the seed pans away,
the seeds are very like those of Primulas
the uncertainty of their germination.

The soil should never be allowed to beco
at all dry. Watering is best done by s
merging the pans almost to the rim in wat
Alternatively overhead watering with a v
fine rose may be practised.

When the seedlings have two or th
leaves they should be carefully transplan
into a somewhat rougher compost of
same ingredients, with the addition of
part of very well rotted manure. I find t
the best accommodation one can give
young plants is a bed in a cold greenho
level with the outside ground, or a c
frame with walls of dead sods. Never all
the seedlings to lack water; on the ot
hand, do not give too much in the dorm
season. In summer protection should
given from very strong sun. The princi
enemy to cope with will be slugs, which
devastate a whole bed in one night. Mo
over, they are not content with the you
leaves, but will follow them down to
young bulb and eat that. Your own effo
are the only way to rid yourself of the
since the application of slug-killer is as lik
to kill the young plants as the slugs.

Hybrids of the trumpet types will
found to give little trouble in rearing, a
will flower in the third year with reasonal
attention. Martagon Lilies both of the C
World and North American types genera
prove more refractory. They are sometim
rather difficult to rear through their first a
second years, but afterwards will thrive qu
well in the open garden.

As far as possible, it is advisable to refra
from using hybrids for parents of a ne
series. As in other forms of life, a first cro
is generally vigorous and quite desirable, b
the intermingling of a third factor usua
tends to retrogression and often to impair
strength. Furthermore, whilst one ca
generally predict in a greater or lesser d
gree the characteristics that two pu
parents will impart to the hybrid produce
a hybrid invariably possesses recessive cha
acteristics which are apt to lead to quite di
concerting results in the second cross.
addition, hybrid Lilies, like other mules, a
sparing in the production of offspring, if th
produce any at all. The only time I thi
when it is at all permissible to employ
hybrid is when it is being crossed with o
of its own parents.

Finally, when the hybrids have flowere
be ruthless in your selection, although the
is, I know, a strong temptation to save qui
a few of the seedling plants. Save a
which mark a distinct advance on the
parents, but dispose of the others to mak
way for further batches.

F. MURRAY BARTLETT.

The Nankeen Lily (Lilium testaceum), usually regarded as a hybrid between L. candidum and L. chalcedonicum; origin uncertain

Godetias

The variety Lady Albemarle, as well
Duchess of Albany (white), Lady Rose (rose
and a few others have much to con
mend them as most desirable annuals f
culture in the garden. They are extreme
showy, and provided the old flowers are n
allowed to remain, give a charming displa
over a long time. When they do not turn o
well it is generally because they have bee
sown too thickly, and not thinned afterward
for they are not at all particular as to soi
and may be counted to bloom well in a tow
garden. On the other hand, few annua
respond more liberally to good culture tha
do these, and given a good loamy soil, int
which some rotted manure has been worke
one is rewarded by a continuance of flowe
for many weeks.

Ornamental plants

The class of plants known as sub-tropical re very popular and are quite distinct from nything else. Their culture is not difficult, nd when well grown and judiciously rranged they afford a very rich and tropical ffect in the flower garden. On the whole, he are of considerable value, as the large ed may be both quickly and effectively urnished with very much less expense and bour than with the usual run of bedding ants.

Under this term may be included Cannas, icinus, Wigandia caracasana with one or wo other species, Solanums of the S. bstrum class, the Cannabis or Giant emp, the variegated Japanese Maize, the ecies of Eucalyptus, the Nicotianas of veral kinds, and others, such as Perilla, maranthus rubra, and Coleus. Also may employed Palms of sorts, India-rubber ants, Dracænas, Grevilleas, and Acacias. hese, however, are of a more permanent racter and must be housed for the winter, hile the others may be treated as annuals, wing the seed in a moderately warm pit in e spring, when the plants become fit for se the same season and attain the height of veral feet, in some instances by the end of e summer.

F. H.

Salvia leucantha

This beautiful and attractive Salvia is a ate of Mexico. Its flowers are white, vered with a violet-coloured wool or down heir base. Salvia leucantha is a most seful subject for greenhouse or conserva- r decoration, coming into flower as it does s before Chrysanthemums.

Cuttings should be taken in the spring and oted in a medium of equal parts of loam d leaf-soil, and coarse silver sand. These ttings, if placed in a propagating case where a temperature of from 65 degs. to 70 degs. can be maintained, will soon strike root. When rooted pot on singly into 60-sized pots, using a similar compost as before, but of a coarser nature. When well established in these pots stop each plant to form a well-shaped and an evenly balanced plant. Pot on as required until the final potting is reached, which should be into 24-sized pots.

When all danger of frost is passed, place outside during the summer, growing on in the same manner as that recommended for Chrysanthemums. All Salvias are gross feeders, and all, as regard feeding, should be attended to, taking great care to house the plants before severe weather sets in.

Herts. E. B.

Lilium Farreri, the Marbled Martagon that

" . . . haunts cool mountain slopes
And river banks amid the coppice."

Lilium tigrinum splendens

The most richly coloured and the finest of all Tiger Lilies

Gypsophilas little known

Those who grow the most popular form of Gypsophila—viz., paniculata, are sometimes so taken up with its beauty as to forget that there are other sorts of different habit possessing pretty flowers, sorts that are at home planted in the rock garden, where they may trail and ramble, like repens, with blossoms of a pinky-white, and cerastiodes, of similar growth, having flowers also white, suffused or streaked with a violet-blue, and, lastly, there is G. elegans, which can hardly be described as a trailing variety, but which is charming for either rockery or border, and is almost indispensable when once it has been tried for mixing with cut flowers. The last is an annual, quickly raised from seed if sown now in a cold-frame or on a sunny border, whilst the two former may be raised from seed or cuttings, or by division.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Peas

A good batch of an approved early variety may now be sown in pots or boxes filled with good friable loam, to which has been added a third of old manure or leaf-mould and a little wood ash. For this purpose I prefer 5-inch pots, into which are placed eight or nine seeds 1 inch deep, and when so grown they are quickly handled, and may be planted out to form a complete row without the slightest disturbance of their roots, whereas if boxes are used it is generally necessary to shake the plants clear of the soil, thus producing a check to their growth at a critical time. Until germination has taken place, stand the pots in a warm house, and when all are through the soil remove to cooler quarters, keeping them close up to the glass.

Onions and Brussels Sprouts

Sown last month these will be ready for pricking off into boxes at about 2 inches apart. Continue to grow on in warmth for the present, keeping the plants near the glass.

Celery and Celeriac

A sowing of these important vegetables should be made and the pots stood in a house where a brisk temperature is maintained. Only a small quantity of seed should be sown—and this of early varieties—at this date, reserving the main sowing until a little later. Of the former, Bibby's Defiance White and White Perfection are excellent, and Delicacy is a delicious Celeriac.

Ground for Onions and Parsnips

Generally one of the first plots to be manured and deeply dug in the autumn is that required for the above, and providing that such ground can be caught in the right condition lose no time in applying a surface dressing of soot and lime and getting it forked over, as it may be possible to sow the seeds before the end of the month.

French Beans

Make a sowing of Earliest of All in 8-inch pots, and place in the forcing house, and from this date a fortnightly sowing should be made to provide a constant supply. Introduce further batches of Chicory, Seakale, Dandelion, and Rhubarb to gentle heat, and discard those replaced. The same remarks apply to Asparagus, forced roots being of no further use.

Hot beds

These are invaluable for bringing forward early crops of Carrots, Lettuces, Turnips, and Radish, and should be utilised to their fullest extent.

Indoor plants

The division, or potting on, of many stove and greenhouse plants is best carried out at the present time, and should be commenced forthwith, as such plants—with the increasing light and power of the sun—commence to develop new growth and quickly become re-established. Old specimens of Ferns, foliage plants, etc., may be freely divided up, and if a little extra care is taken regarding their water supply vigorous young plants will result.

Hippeastrums

A number of these should be introduced to a warm house from store, unless it is desirable to fill a whole house with them, as is occasionally done. Many prefer to shake out the bulbs and repot before placing them in warmth to bloom, but this is scarcely necessary every year. The pots should be placed close together upon a bed of gravel or ashes for preference, and have the syringe freely plied among them twice daily.

Early vineries and Peach houses

These maintain a moist, brisk temperature from this date, avoiding however anything approaching a fiery nature. Floors should be damped twice daily during fine weather, and where Strawberries and other plants occupy the shelves and stages of such houses the syringe should be plied among them occasionally.

Violets in frames

These will benefit from the increasing power of the sun, with the result that flowers will be more plentiful than of late. Air freely, but always on the sheltered side, and close the lights before the sun has lost its power. The surface soil should be stirred at intervals.

Fruit trees

Continue with the spraying of these on all favourable occasions, and any arrears of planting should be brought forward, although trees of all kinds may yet be planted with every prospect of success.

Plums and bush fruits

Watch and endeavour to frustrate the serious depredations of birds. Rarely have I seen so much damage inflicted at this early season upon trees, shrubs, and climbing plants by birds.

Gladioli, Dahlia, Salvia patens

These and other roots stored away must now be examined, and where extra stock of the two latter is desired, a few roots should be placed in boxes and stood in a warm house to provide cuttings. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Sow Antirrhinums

There is really but little advantage in sowing this very popular bedding plant much earlier than this date, for, like so many other kinds, this is very apt to damp off during the dull, short days, whereas now, with more daylight, the seedlings grow more rapidly and sturdily, and run less chance of being thus damaged. Very strong heat is neither necessary nor advisable, a general temperature of 55 degs. to 60 degs. giving best results. Sow the seeds rather thinly.

Lobelia from seed

There are several strains of dwarf Lobelia that come fairly true, both as regards habit and colour, when raised from seeds, and unless absolute uniformity is essential this method of raising large stocks of this plant has numerous advantages over that of doing so by cuttings. If not yet done, the seeds should be sown at once, using well-drained pans or boxes, filled with light, porous compost. Sow thinly to prevent damping, which is sometimes troublesome if the seedlings are at all crowded.

China Asters

While there is no particular hurry with the raising of this popular annual plant, it is really better to start a few days earlier than is usual, and instead of placing in strong heat, as is often done, a moderate warmth only should be given, when the seedlings will be sturdier and less liable to disease than by the former method. For cut-flower purposes, the "Sinensis" type is very valuable, and is easily grown.

Carnation cuttings

Another batch of cuttings should b
serted now, and these will be found to
more readily and rapidly than was the
in winter. The compost must be very sa
and the pots cleaned and well drained
gentle bottom heat is helpful, but strong
must be avoided.

Lettuces for early crops

By sowing a pinch of seed now in a
of light soil and pricking the seedling
when fit, fine plants for setting out
south border in early May will be got,
these will be fit for use a fortnight or
in advance of the earliest outdoor sow
Carter's Holborn Standard is an ideal va
for the purpose.

Brussels Sprouts for earliest use

To be certain of having a supply of
popular autumn and winter vegetable fi
use in October seeds should be sown
in a box and placed in gentle warmth. P
off when ready, grow steadily, but not
rapidly, and plant out early in May.

Cabbage and Cauliflower

By sowing a pinch of seed of each of t
now, fine plants will be available at lea
month earlier than would be possible f
earliest outdoor sowing. Treat as adv
for the Sprouts. A good Cabbage for sow
now is Dickson's First and Best, w
Dean's Early Snowball, Sutton's Purity,
Sutton's Favourite are excellent varietie
Cauliflower for this purpose.

The sowing of Beans and Peas

As the ground this side the Border i
the moment of writing still covered w
snow and ice, there seems small chanc
any outdoor seed-sowing being possible
some time. Still, our climate is so vari
that inside a week or ten days it may
possible to get in Broad Beans and P
In any case, the first favourable chance m
be seized to have these placed in the grou

Propagate Border Chrysanthemums

As the shoots attain a length of 3 inc
they should be removed and used as cuttin
inserting firmly in boxes of sandy comp
These root quite readily in a cool house
even in a frame. Strong heat must not
given, or the resulting plants will be of
ferior quality, even if somewhat larger.

Sweet Peas

As the plants from early sowings attai
height of 2 inches to 3 inches, the pots
boxes should be moved to a cold fra
keeping the sashes closed for a day or t
and well matting at night for fear of fr
There is still time to sow seeds should
be necessary.

Pot up Begonia bulbs

For growing for greenhouse and conser
tory decoration, the bulbs or tubers of
very attractive subject should now be pot
up. Use soil mainly made up of leaf-mo
and a little sand. Small pots are best,
as soon as they get well filled with roots
plants should be moved into their flower
pots, the soil to be composed of best fibr
loam, leaf-mould, and sand.

Pot off late-flowering Chrysanthemu

As these become nicely rooted, they sho
be potted off singly, using good, but
over-rich, soil and $3\frac{1}{2}$-inch or 4-inch po
Return to the house or pit they have be
occupying until the plants recover from
shift, when they should be moved to a c
frame, which suits them better than warm
quarters. C. BLAIR

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Answers to Queries

erles—Queries and answers are inserted in ENNING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre- dents follow these rules: All communications ld be clearly written on one side of the paper , and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING STRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* ISHER. *The name and address of the sender required in addition to any designation he desire to be used in the paper. When more one query is sent, each should be on a rate piece of paper; the name and address g added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *to be sent to press some days in advance of queries cannot always be replied to in the immediately following their receipt. We do reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

TREES AND SHRUBS

lyptus to name

LEASE tell me the name of this wonder-ful Eucalyptus, which I have never seen efore and in which I am much inter- . I suppose there would be no chance of ing it here, even in a greenhouse?
merset. E. A. H. H.

he Eucalyptus is our old friend E. lus. No doubt our correspondent is un- iar with the mature form with sickle- ed leaves. It is quite likely it would for some years in Somersetshire. It well in the open at Thorpe-le-Soken, x, and Torquay. It should be noted that leaves are wide and blunt during its th and only assume the sickle form when s attained a tree status. The leaves much of their blue colouring, and droop tad of spreading out flat, and give the a very distinct appearance.]

FLOWER GARDEN

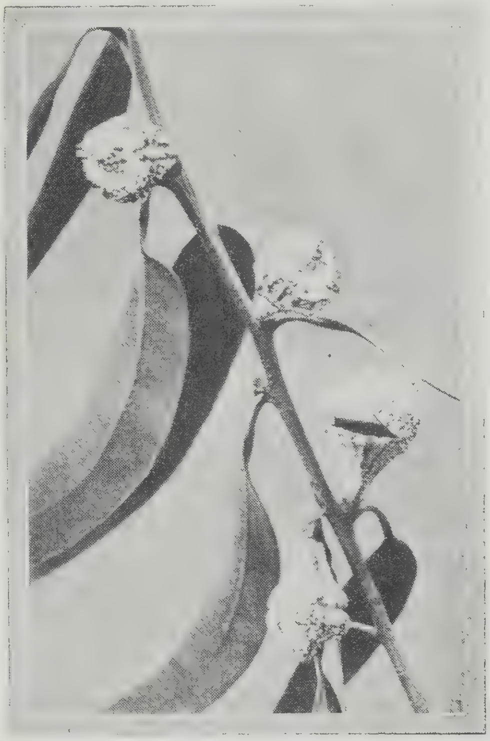
issus flowers withering

. V. R.).—Without being given the sary full particulars as to treatment we d say that your Narcissus bulbs have taken indoors before they had made a fient number of roots to live upon, and, nsequence, the flower-stems have not re- d sufficient nutriment for the develop- r of the flowers. Bulbs grown in pots d be buried in a bed of fibre or old leaf- until the pots are full of roots, and then should not be suddenly brought into a room, but should first come into a dframe, and then, when the flower-buds owing, it is safe to bring them indoors.

ilegia discolor

ll you, please, give me some information e following plants (locality, habits, culti- , colour, etc.), as I am unable to find eference in authorities:—Aquilegia dis- o and Hypsella longifolia? F.

quilegia discolor.—Under this name a ry firm have lately offered a plant we have not seen. On looking up the we find that Aquilegia glandulosa F. nto two forms—A. glandulosa forma (a.) or, described as blue and white by de olle, and A. glandulosa forma (b.) con- o also named by de Candolle. As far as an judge from contemporary writings ue Aquilegia glandulosa from the Altai tains of Siberia is not in cultivation at esent, and that all the plants distributed this name should rightly be called egia jucunda; if they are not, as often h happens, the hybrid known as A. tii. If our correspondent would furnish th leaf and flowers in the spring of his we would endeavour to classify his cnen for him, but without seeing material nnot be of much use to him, as we have far seen the plant offered under this Hypsella longifolia has lately been uced to cultivation by Mr. Comber from ountains of Argentina or Chili. Botanically it is closely allied to Lobelia and Pratia, and is a prostrate-growing herb, spreading rapidly by creeping stolons in any light soil and not too dry positions. It forms a close carpet of ovate-lanceolate leaves individually about an inch long, and from the leaf axils are produced the Lobelia-like flowers on very short stalks. These are white in the main, but variously stained or striped with reddish-purple. We find that in some gardens this plant has been introduced under the name of Selliera radicans. The plant appears perfectly hardy and may be used for positions as given to Pratias, preferably a slightly moist and partially shaded spot, and not too near weaker-growing plants which might be smothered by the insinuating growth of the Hypsella. It is probable that Hypsella would very soon need a whole sink garden for itself, but there is no reason why it should not serve as a very useful carpet for, say, the miniature species of Narcissi.]



Eucalyptus globulus in flower

Note the cap that is being pushed off the flower, also the sickle-shaped leaves

Lilium auratum

Can you tell me where I can get some English-grown bulbs of Lilium auratum?
A. M. MARTINEAU.

[We regret we cannot help you much in the matter of home-grown bulbs of Lilium auratum. Messrs. Bone and Co., 172, Easter Road, Edinburgh, or Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh, may possibly be able to supply. Owing to the particular climatic conditions Lilium auratum is more readily established in Scotland than in England. The majority of Lily specialists do not trouble to propagate this Lily from seed or scales, as the small cost of imported bulbs from Japan makes it hardly worth while.

Imported bulbs have been successfully established in a number of gardens, and, provided the right treatment is given, and not the very large bulbs planted, there is every possibility of success. We suggest, if you cannot procure home-grown bulbs, that you plant a few plump imported 9-inch bulbs. The important point in establishing this Lily is to remove the buds when they appear. This means sacrificing the flowers for one season, but the chances of establishing the Lily are increased certainly 75 per cent.]

Cannas and Pyrethrums

(1) Will you kindly advise me in regard to the cultivation of Cannas for summer flowering under glass? I have some dormant, but they did not flower well inside last summer.

(2) What is the best time to divide Pyrethrums? I have seen it stated after they have finished flowering, but I cut blooms right up to September last summer. C. H.
Surrey.

[(1) The Canna demands rich soil. A good compost would be three parts best turfy loam, two parts leaf-mould, one part well-rotted cow manure (use this dry), and enough sharp sand to ensure porosity. A fairly high temperature and moist atmosphere are necessary while the plants are making their growth, although when in flower they succeed all right in an ordinary greenhouse or conservatory. Start into growth now, but before doing so remove the weaker crowns unless very large plants are desired. Use pots just large enough to comfortably hold the clumps, moving them into those of larger size when roots are moving freely and the tops have made some progress. Keep clean by periodic vaporisings with nicotine. When the flowering pots are well filled with roots abundance of water and an occasional soaking of weak liquid-manure should be given.

(2) The best time for dividing Pyrethrums is in spring, just as growth is starting. Dig up the plants, shake away most of the soil, and then carefully pull to pieces with the hands. Each suitable piece should then be placed in a small pot, some light, sandy compost being worked in among the roots. Set in a cold frame, but do not keep too close or damping may be troublesome. Plant out after the roots are moving freely and a little top growth has been made. This may appear a little troublesome, but as the young growths escape the attacks of slugs and are less likely to be damaged by a spell of cold, damp weather it is worth it.]

Impatiens from cuttings

(Miss Charlotte Passmore).—(1) Although a perennial, Impatiens (Balsam) is always most satisfactory when raised from seeds each spring. They grow so rapidly that fine plants can be had in a few months. Seeds germinate well and quickly in a temperature of about 70 degs. This plant dislikes a dry, arid atmosphere, and it is, probably, because your rooms are warm and dry that the leaves and stems wither. A mixture of about equal parts good, fresh loam and leaf-mould, with enough coarse sand to ensure porosity, is what suits the perennial Balsams. Use very little fertiliser, and do not expose the plants to direct sunshine. (2) As our houses are almost invariably cooler than our glass-houses the reference to the process of hardening off will be quite clear to you, the book, of course, dealing with plants raised under glass, but intended to be grown out of doo during the summer. In your case it would be desirable, when taking plants from a cool temperature into heated rooms, to set them first for a few days in a room not quite so warm as the one which they have eventually to occupy, and so graduate the change for them.

Scabiosa caucasica from seed

Please give directions for growing Scabiosa caucasica from seed, describing proper characters of soil and fertilisers? I see that this plant is not recommended to amateurs, and, indeed, with me it has been poor in germination, weak in growth, and most niggardly in bloom; but I should like to succeed with it.

M. M.

[This is not the easiest plant to grow by any means. It is very resentful of cold, damp soils, so you would require to provide a well-drained site, with soil of a light, porous nature. Lime is also necessary, old mortar from a dismantled building being the best form in which to apply this mineral. Some well-rotted farmyard manure should also be dug into the ground some little time before planting takes place. The seeds should be sown thinly in a box of light sandy soil in spring, pricked off very carefully into other boxes. When fit to handle, shade carefully from the sun until well established, and grow on steadily until large enough to plant out in the garden, giving water when necessary, and again shading from the sun until the roots have got a good hold of the soil. We might say that the fine new hybrids are more hardy and easier to manage than is the type.]

FRUIT

Brown Rot of Apples

(Robinet).—We should like the opportunity of examining some specimens of your diseased tree to make certain that Brown Rot is the cause of all your trouble. Are you sure that Apple Scab is not present as well? If Brown Rot is the sole cause of the trouble you cannot do better than persevere with the collection of diseased foliage and fruit, and burning it. The wood is also attacked, and all dead wood should be also collected and burried. Go carefully over the trees and remove any dead wood; pay special attention to dead spur growth. You should try the effect of spraying the tree with a solution of lime sulphur at winter strength, following this up by spraying again with lime sulphur at summer strength. This second spraying should be done in the pink bud stage, *i.e.*, when the blossoms are showing colour, but the petals are not open. Write again if we can assist you further.

Fruit trees on chalky soil

(A. T. W., Berks).—(1) Apples likely to succeed on your soil are:—Bramley's Seedling, Bismarck, Lady Sudeley, James Grieve, King of the Pippins, Mr. Gladstone, Beauty of Kent, Dumelow's Seedling, Stirling Castle, Allington Pippin, New Hawthornden, and Peasgood's Nonsuch. Pears:—Souvenir de Congrès, Louise Bonne of Jersey, Hessle, Muirfowl Egg, Marie Louise, and Conference. Plums:—Victoria, Transparent Gage, Blue Orleans, Magnum Bonum, Prince of Wales, and Pond's Seedling. (2) Try George Bunyard and Co., Maidstone, or Rivers and Sons, Sawbridgeworth. (3) There is little or no advantage in placing flagstones under fruit trees. It used to be much practised, but nowadays improved methods of culture have taken the place of this and other doubtful devices.

VEGETABLES

Tomato planting

(Regular Reader).—From your letter we take it that the greenhouse you are renting has a 2 feet 6 inch path running down the centre and, therefore, if 11 feet wide, will have a border on each side of the path 4 feet 3 inches wide. If the pipes are on the borders they will further reduce the area. You should be able to plant your rows 2 feet apart throughout the length of the house, which you say is 60 feet, therefore there is room for 30 rows. The distance apart of the plants in the rows is not so easy because you have to consider the pipes and also the fact that you have not much head room at the eaves. Perhaps the best way of using the space available would be to place the first plant 3 inches from the edge of the central path, another 1 foot 6 inches away, and a third at the same distance, leaving you 12 inches clear between the wall and last plant. This last plant then would have head room of at least 3 feet, and should be profitable. In any case you should have three plants in each row on either side of your central path. You must work in the plants as best you can with regard to the position of the pipes. The plants near the path must not be too close to the pipe, but the nearer they are to it the more head room you can get for the others. At these distances you have room for 90 plants in each bed, making a total of 180 for the house. You will appreciate that it is somewhat difficult to give the distance apart without actually seeing the house. You would find that "Commercial Tomato Culture," by the Lea Valley Correspondent of "The Fruit Grower," is a useful guide to the growing of Tomatoes. Much information is given within the covers of this book, and it should be thoroughly studied before you invest money in Tomato-growing. The above book can be obtained from Ernest Benn Ltd., Bouverie House, Fleet Street, E.C. 4, at 2s. 6d. net.

MISCELLANEOUS

Frost records

(A. J. C.).—We are sorry that we cannot answer your query because we do not collect the necessary data from the whole of the south of England. You could probably obtain an answer to your query by writing to the Meteorological Office, Kew, Surrey.

Hard tennis courts

(R.).—Unfortunately, you fail to state what sort of finish is on your tennis court. The more modern require practically nothing but to be well swept, but those with looser surfaces may require to have a dressing of weed-killer and to be well rolled, while others may require to be given a slight dressing of the same material with which they were originally surfaced, which must be applied evenly and well rolled.

SHORT REPLY

Jeno, Sheffield.—Any good seed merchant should be able to procure for you Roman Hyacinths early in August, but if you have any difficulty write Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, and we doubt not but they will be able to supply you. "Prepared" Hyacinth bulbs should also be procurable by the end of August, and these, if properly treated, should be in flower by Christmas.

NAMES OF PLANTS

E. B.—Aloe arborescens (tree-like), fairly common on the Riviera, but a native of the Cape of Good Hope. Flowers red in June.

L. E. Crofton.—Sarcococca sp. Not S. ruscifolia, possibly S. humilis.

A. R., Lanark.—The specimen sent is that of one of the Tydæas, a stove plant that requires the same treatment, soil, and temperature as the Gloxinia and Gesnera. It is easily raised from seeds, which, if sown in January, bloom the same autumn. It also roots readily from cuttings inserted no
in autumn.

Mrs. Ada V. H. Turner, Portland, O
Alstromeria Ligtu Var. angustifolia, rec
introduced from Chili. Is not at prese
commerce. Messrs. Ladham and Sons,
Shirley Nurseries, Shirley, Southam
have plants of an Alstromeria almost i
cal, if not better. We advise you to ap
them.

Mrs. H.—Crassula sp., probably
coccinea. Please send when in flower, v
should be in July. Native of Table M
tain, and is also known as Kalosa
coccinea.

Dartmoor.—The Snowdrop is Gala
Elwesii var. Whittallii.

Devonian.—1, Buddleia sp.; 2, Lardiz
biternata; 3, Buddleia sp.; 4, O
Forsteriana. We hope to give precis
termination of the Buddleias at a later
One of them is, apparently, a form
auriculata, which has an ochraceous y
flower and blooms in autumn.

NAMES OF FRUITS

P. E. H.—Apple Wellington
Dumelow's Seedling.

Afsa, Devon.—1, Egremont Russet
Brownlees Russet.

J. O.—Newton Wonder.

ENQUIRY

Tuberous Artichokes white skinned

Can any GARDENING ILLUSTRATED r
suggest a way of utilising the tuberous
choke other than for ordinary culinary
poses? I planted a row last spring on
new ground to act as a summer scre
purpose for which they answered admir
because, having been stopped, they form
dense mass some 7 feet in height, and
yielded a very heavy crop, far more than
we are likely to require for ordinary cul
purposes, and as it is not a vegetable
appeals to the majority of people, indeed
can hardly give the tubers away, and th
little chance of selling them. E. BURRE

OBITUARY

DEATH OF A SCOTTISH SEE
MERCHANT

Mr. Charles Dalrymple Inglis, s
partner of the firm of Messrs. John G. I
and Sons, seed merchants, Ayr, died on
day, February 3rd, at Ardoch, Ayr, age
He was also joint tenant of the farm of
House, which his family had occupied
century. Mr. Inglis who retired from a
work in November, was well known in
cultural circles in the south-west of Scot
In his younger days he was keenly inter
in greyhound coursing, and once owned a
that figured in the semi-final of the Wat
Cup. He was Hon. Secretary and Trea
of the Ayrshire Otter Hunt Club.
funeral took place on Wednesday, Feb
6th.

Salisbury Gardeners' Societ

A lecture on soil sterilisation an
fertilisers

On Wednesday evening, February 6t
connection with the Salisbury Gard
Society, an important lecture was deli
by Mr. W. H. Turner, B.Sc., Tech
Adviser to Messrs. Geo. Monro, Ltd., o
particular values of certain fertilisers an
sterilising of soil.

The Lecture Room at the White
Hotel was well filled, and included fr
from Andover and other districts.

The lecturer having been introduce
Mr. S. W. Tucker, mentioned that the

(Continued on page 116)

BY APPOINTMENT.

LAWNS Require Attention—NOW

NOW is the time to feed your lawns in preparation for the summer months. A reliable complete fertilizer will quickly create dense turf. Moss, clover, and weeds should be eradicated now by applying Fisons' Lawn Sand.

Fisons' Technical Bureau is maintained for the benefit of enquirers, without obligation.

FISONS'
LAWN GUANO
(A Compound Fertilizer)

ıe safest dressing for turf. It feeds the turf over a long period and will not burn discolour the grass. Lawn Guano quickly strengthens the roots and encourages lense growth of fine grass. As used by important clubs and municipalities. Apply w at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court.

Prices, in Bags :	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**5/-**	**9/-**	**15/-**	**25/-**

FISONS'
BASE FERTILIZER

ould be incorporated with the soil before sowing grass seed. Specially prepared promote strong root growth and give new grass a good start. Use 4 ozs. to the yd. a few days before sowing the seed.

Prices, in Bags :	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**4/6**	**7/6**	**12/6**	**20/-**

FISONS'
LAWN SAND

The most effective preparation for destroying clover, moss, and small weeds, and in so doing stimulating the grass. A thimbleful destroys a large weed, such as a plantain. Should be applied now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court. Measure and full instructions sent.

Prices, in Kegs :	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**5/-**	**9/-**	**16/-**	**27/6**

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GRASS SEEDS

are the finest procurable, being specially tested before selection.
Special Mixture (for Bowling and Golf Greens, finest grasses only).

Prices, in Bags :	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**15/6**	**30/-**	**58/-**	**110/-**	**210/-**

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Cyclamen Growers and Floriculturists
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OE MANURE
ay growth and an a of blooms, per 3 Half cwt., **16/-**.

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POTATO MANURE
unequalled for producing big crops, 7 lbs., **2/6**; 14 lbs., **3/6**; 28 lbs., **6/6**; 56 lbs., **11/-**; 1 cwt., **20/-**.

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esawns like velvet, r cwt., **17/-**.

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ensures rich, fine grass, per cwt., **20/-**.

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r t., **7/-**.

P MANURE"
r t., **6/-**.

L IMICANT"
, **16/-**.

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The World's Record Potato.
A root weighing 24 lbs. 6 ozs. was produced from a single "Sefton Wonder" Seed Potato. The world's record second-early. 7 lbs., **2/6**; 14 lbs., **4/6**; 28 lbs., **8/6**; 56 lbs., **16/-**; 1 cwt., **30/-**. Send cash with order.
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Chemical Co., Ltd.,
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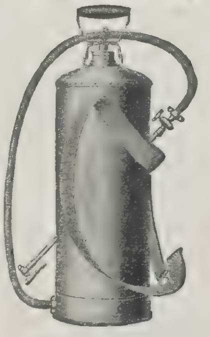

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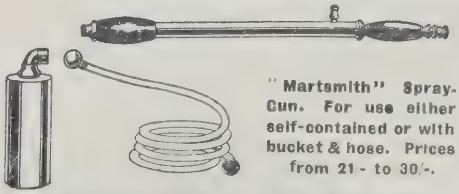

"Martsmith" Spray-Gun. For use either self-contained or with bucket & hose. Prices from 21/- to 30/-.

lisation of soil was nearly as old as cultivation. About the year 1800 large scientific discoveries took place, when it was found that plants needed carbon, sulphur, phosphates, potash, and nitrogen. Nitrogen was a most important plant food for the Cabbage family, while phosphates were particularly useful in the cultivation of root crops, and potash for fruit.

As regards organic manures, he was of the opinion that farmyard manure was far and away the best, particularly on heavy soils.

Proceeding, the lecturer gave some very interesting results from various trials that he had carried out, proving beyond doubt the wonderful strides that had been made through scientific research during the last century. With regard to partial sterilisation by the modern steam process the lecturer stated that the soil contained good and bad bacteria, and partial sterilisation killed to a very great extent bad bacteria, and so naturally purified the soil. It was the only sure method of killing fungus and other diseases. Very useful information was imparted which, if acted upon, will certainly improve the quantity and quality of crops.

Mr. W. F. Gullick, in proposing a vote of thanks, stated that this particular lecture was the 240th of the Society, and he never remembered a lecture of so technical a nature being delivered with such simplicity. They were not only indebted to the lecturer, but also to Messrs. Geo. Monro, Ltd., for having made it possible. Mr. A. J. Hooper, having seconded the vote of thanks, the same was carried with acclamation.

A remarkable collection of Potatoes was exhibited by Mr. W. F. Gullick. The Chairman stated that the Potatoes were grown in Fifeshire, having already been exhibited on three different occasions, and had been awarded a Gold Medal.

Sussex Shows

The dates of the shows to be held under the auspices of the Brighton, Hove, and Sussex Horticultural Society are as follows:—Spring, April 10th and 11th; summer, July 3rd and 4th; Chrysanthemum, November 12th, 13th, and 14th. The Committee is also co-operating in the management of the horticultural section of the Sussex County Agricultural Show at Preston Park, Brighton, on June 12th and 13th.

The Iris Society

The Iris Society is holding its annual show in the new hall of the Royal Horticultural Society on June 6th and 7th. It is expected that the show will comprise the largest collection of Irises that has ever been exhibited at one time, and it is proposed that the exhibition should be international in character. Accordingly, deputations have been invited from Iris Societies and Committees in the U.S.A., Canada, France, Germany, and Holland, and growers in these countries have been asked to exhibit. The show will be opened by H.E. the French Ambassador at 12.30, and will be followed by a lunch at which the Society will entertain its distinguished guests, and for which members of the Society will be able to take tickets. During this week representatives of the Garden Clubs of America—some 125 persons in all—are visiting the country. They will be invited to the show and will be entertained at tea. Besides the annual show the Iris Society holds at least two dinners in the year which are followed by a discussion. They publish two numbers of an illustrated Bulletin, of which Mr. Dillistone is editor. This contains a great deal of matter of great interest and importance to growers of Irises. The Society is also drawing up, under the supervision of Mr. Peter Barr, a check-list of Irises, and, under the editorship of Mr. Dillistone, is preparing for publication the writings of the late Mr. W. R. Dykes. All interested in Irises should join the Society, and, for this purpose, should apply to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. L. Pilkington, Lower Lee, Woolton, Liverpool.

William Lawrence.

Sweet Pea Annual

We have received a copy of the Sweet Pea Annual for 1929.* The first number was published 25 years ago. They have continued to appear annually since then, and have thus been a record of the transactions of the Society and the progress made in the Sweet Pea world. This year's is no exception, and includes among its interesting articles one on "Something New in Sweet Peas," by T. A. Weston, on the historical aspect of the subject, and three prize essays on "What the National Sweet Pea Society could do to further popularise the Sweet Pea." Reports of the various activities of the Society are given, together with lists of prizewinners and members.

TRADE NOTE

Treatment of grass

Should playing-surfaces be limed or should the soil be acidified? These are only two of the many theories which have been advanced upon the proper treatment of playing-surfaces, a subject upon which there are a bewildering number of different opinions, each with its enthusiastic upholders. Even the highly organised scientific bodies of this and other countries have been at variance upon this difficult matter. Each has experimented for a number of years with various types of soil and grass, and the resulting theory of each has been different from that of the others.

Although such organisations, by their experiments with soluble and insoluble material derived from various sources, are performing a perfectly safe and extremely valuable task, it is quite otherwise with the ordinary gardener or green-keeper. However practical he may be, he is running a grave risk by the indiscriminate use of fertilising chemicals, a procedure which, in untrained hands, may often prove extremely costly. The wisest course is to follow the counsels of some reliable manual.

For such a purpose the new catalogue of Messrs. Joseph Fison and Co., Ltd., of Ipswich, a copy of which has been sent us for review, is admirably adapted. It is clearly and carefully written, supported by all the weight of this well-known firm's experience and research, and steering carefully clear of the more extreme theories.

GARDENING APPOINTMENT

Mr. J. A. Paice, formerly gardener at Sunnyfields, Mill Hill, N.W. 7, now gardener at Copseham, Esher, Surrey.

PUBLICATION RECEIVED

"The Fruit, Flower, and Vegetable Trades Year Book and Diary," published by The Lockwood Press, 1, Mitre Court, Fleet Street, E.C. 4, price 2s.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

John Forbes (Hawick), Ltd., Buccleuch Nurseries, Hawick, Scotland. — Florists' flowers, hardy plants, seeds.

R. H. Bath, Ltd., The Floral Farms, Wisbech.—Gold Medal Gladioli.

H. Prins, Wisbech.—Gladioli and general catalogue.

Ozothamnus rosmarinifoliu

To many of us who know and love
charming little shrub, Ozothamnus rosma
folius, it is distressing to come to a rea
tion of the fact that this delightful subje
not absolutely hardy with those of us
dwell away from the warmer districts of
isles. If given some protection, how
and by planting it against a wall, w
such shelter can be more easily supplied,
disadvantage may be neutralised, and we
enjoy its beauty for a number of years
is always a pleasure to give such a pla
trial without sheltering it in winter; bu
may have to pay for our experience, as
writer once had with the Ozothamnus, whe
lost a good plant which against the wa
his house had given great delight for a s
of years. As an experienced writer has s
"In most parts of the country it wil
quire protection, but may be classe
fairly hardy."

As to the plant itself, it may be call
"fairy-like" shrub of dense habit, com
of slender branches and twigs carryi
multitude of delightful, little, Rosemary
leaves, and in June and July so th
covered with small, white Daisy-like flo
as to look almost as if clothed in white
is a near relation of the Eurybias
Olearias, and the flowers resemble thos
that lovely shrub, but are infinitely sma
A light, well-drained, sandy soil, and a s
place against a wall will suit the Ozoth
nus best. A native of Australia, it was i
duced as far back as 1827. S. Arno

Taxodium distichum

The above, commonly known as
deciduous Cypress, and one of the
deciduous Coniferæ, is not often see
English gardens, but is a handsome tree,
whether as a large or small specimen i
attractive feature if rightly placed, alike
its shapely habit and its small feat
almost Fern-like foliage, of a rather un
mon shade of green. It attains a heig
about 100 feet in its native place (Flo
and is remarkable, I believe, there for
knobs or excrescences that come from
roots, but I have not seen this in Englan
any trees more than three parts of the h
above named. The object of this note,
ever, was to draw attention to the valu
its partially decayed foliage as a winter
tection for crowns of flowers left in
ground through the winter months w
although practically hardy, are apt t
nipped in very severe weather. The fol
although small and fine, is of a tough
ture, and takes much longer to com
decay than the majority of leaves; als
does not go into a hard cake with frost
lowing wet as in the case with some mate
used. A couple of inches of this kept i
place by a few twigs keeps out very s
frost. E. Burre

Early Peas

Many, of course, start their earliest
in boxes, but even where this is practise
is essential to seize the first favou
chance to have the earliest out-door so
put in. A sunny southern border will
best results, and here in the north The
is the most reliable variety.

Seed sowing

Seeds should now be sown of Rose spe
Clematises, Vitis Coignettiæ, Celastrus,
other trees, shrubs, and climbing pl
Well-drained pans or boxes of sandy
should be used, and after a good waterir
these may be either placed in a cool fr
or in gentle warmth, where a few seeds
probably germinate in a fortnight.
majority, however, require a year,

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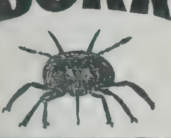
* Sweet Pea Annual, 1929. National Sweet Pea Society, 3s.

ARBOKRIMP Regd



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clear your trees of hibernating pests and eggs during dormant period. Start the new year with clean, healthy plants.

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Any queries gladly answered on application to—

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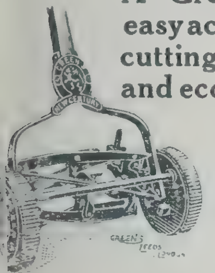

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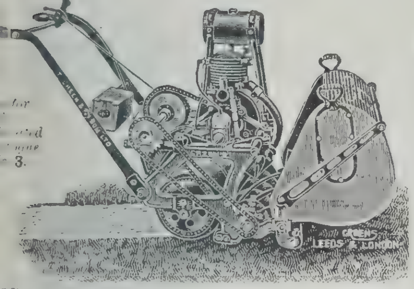
This Machine is well adapted for mowing small lawns, slopes, and banks, and will give excellent service.

in.	11 in.	13 in.	15 in.	18 in.
/-	49/-	53/-	57/-	62/6



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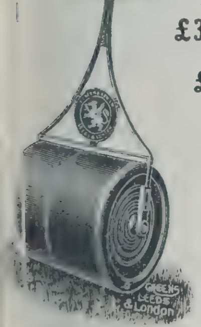
16 in.	20 in.
£37 : 10	£52 : 10
24 in.	**30 in.**
£67 : 10	£85



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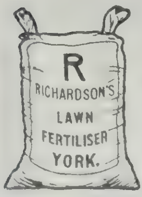
HOS GREEN & SON, LTD., Smithfield Ironworks LEEDS
nd New Surrey Works, Southwark St., LONDON, S.E.1



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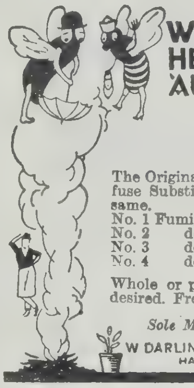

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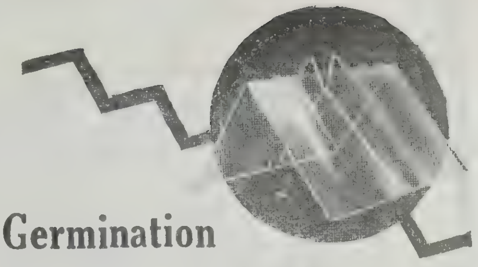

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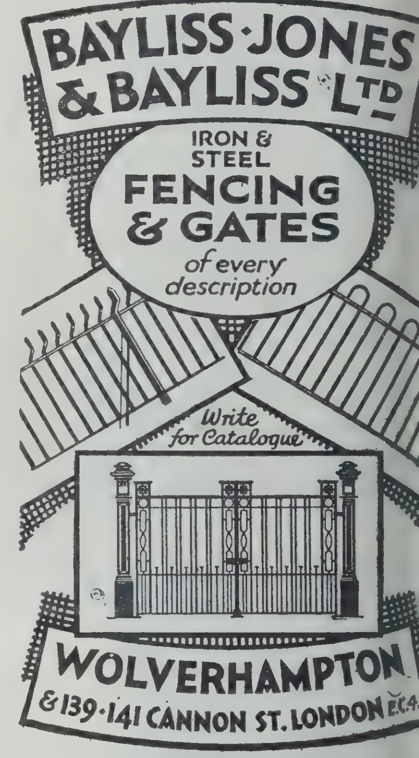

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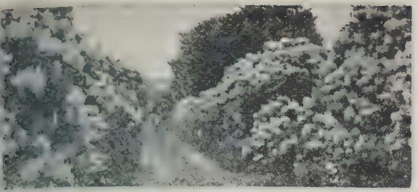

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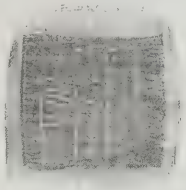

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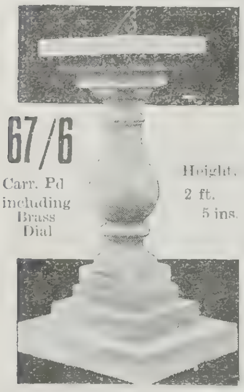

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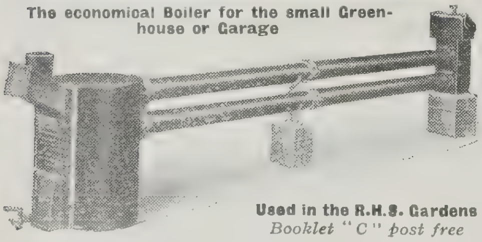

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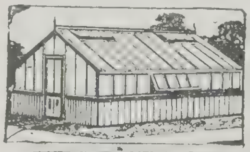

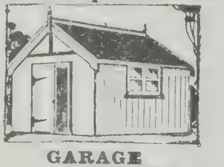

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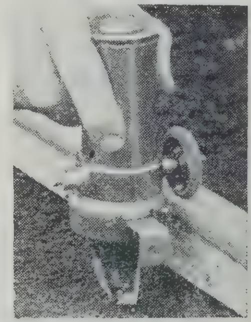

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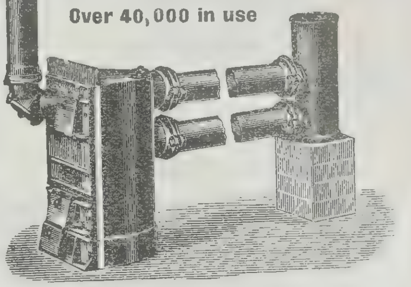

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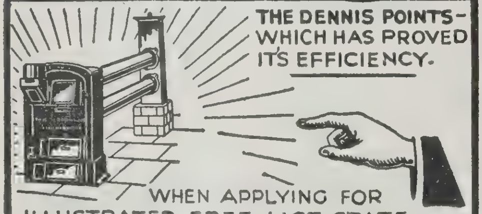

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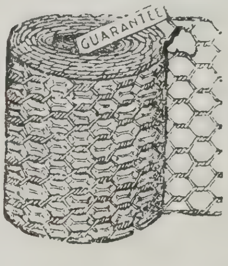

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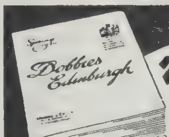

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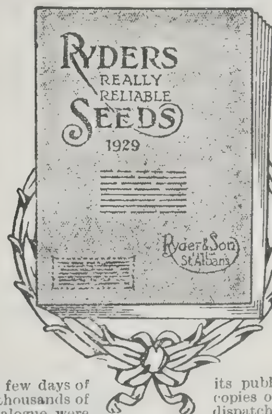

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Winter Gleanings

ERE are people who look upon a gar-
n in winter as a monotonous affair;
leed, I have heard, more than once,
garden in winter is a monopoly of
ion. Needless to say, the individual
ould make such a sweeping assertion
true lover of Nature at any time, and
a garden is adorned with a blaze of
he or she would not so much as glance
direction. The fact that Nature is
a well-earned rest during the winter
does not receive even a small thought
ich a person.

could we, who live so near
ure, call a garden mono-
during the dark months? I
ot. We know that practi-
l plant life in the garden is
but we realise that it is not
time for us. There is so
o be done that can only be
while things are dormant,
te often you will hear a con-
us gardener say that the
winter are much too short;
riods of rain or snow cause
xiety, work will get out of
nd Nature will awaken long
he is ready for her. And is
t likely to be the case this
No, it is not the gardener
ll say unkind things about
s "forty winks."
ave read often—

s nearer God's heart in a
arden
anywhere else on earth."

ter of those words was pro-
n a garden rich with the
ent of either spring or sum-
wers when the inspiration
It was probably a glorious
sunshine, the garden a
of bliss made sweetly
by the blossoms of numer-
nts, and the birds singing
fully flitting from tree to
is a picture easily imagined.
y, as I walked through the garden,
ight suddenly occurred to me, "I
if anyone could be inspired to write
uch as those quoted above on this,
day of February." The garden,
nd, was bathed in beautiful sun-
the time, but there was no blaze of
o strike the eye, no restful green
s a background to tone it down, and
ere silent. One is positive that it
such a day as this that inspired the
o pen those words, although there
to be "The kiss of the sun for
It was probably sorry it had been
rom us so long! But one could quite understand an inspiration occurring to write on a theme of Peace, or even Rest.

Even the most patient of us are, perhaps, inclined to a longing for the brighter days to come, if only for our own comfort, and the middle of February still seems a long way from the sunny days of May, but so far as Nature is concerned she is content, and her sleep is really very short, for although she is not yet awake, there are indications that she is getting restless and may rouse herself at any moment; at least, that is how it seems. Are not the Snowdrops nodding their dainty heads in the bitter breeze? And the perky Winter Aconites, not to be outdone, are glaring at us with heads of brightest yellow. Even an Iris (I. stylosa speciosa), under the shelter of a greenhouse wall it is true, has adorned itself with three magnificent blooms of charming pale mauve. Just round the corner, trained to a wall, is the Japanese Winter Flower (Chimonanthus fragrans), with quite a lot of flowers of a yellowish hue, giving off a scent unequalled by any of the summer flowers. You might easily walk by without noticing the flowers, they are so inconspicuous, but you would wonder where the fragrance was coming from. A little farther on Jasminum nudiflorum is rampant, with its dainty yellow flowers. How we appreciate its gallant hardiness!

February flowers

Erica carnea (the Winter Heath) forming a broad and splendid carpet of rosy red hue

A few minutes' walk brings us to a tuft of Erica carnea (the Winter Heath), and it has been showing its rosy-red flowers for a week or more. In a few more days it will be perfect, and what a picture it would be one morning to find the tiny bells just showing through a coat of snow. But that is an event more than likely to happen yet.

Daphne Laureola and D. Mezereum are scoffing at the inclement weather, and the plucky blossoms are so delicately fragrant.

The pale yellow flowers of Corylopsis spicata are just showing. Could anyone fail to admire it?

Viburnum Tinus (syn. Laurestinus) is, perhaps, so common that we seldom glance in its direction, but if it was rare we should go into rhapsody and call it a gem! It is strange, but it was ever so. When you have got a thing you do not want it. But the fact is, this shrub *is* a gem, all winter-flowering shrubs are, and we should appreciate them more. Viburnum Tinus is a picturesque subject and its flowers are opening to February's harshness.

Quite a lot of Primroses are blooming beneath the shelter of shrubs, banks, and trees, and more will come out by degrees, the forerunners of a vast army to come in March and April, and perhaps this dainty flower, such a favourite of childhood days, when we would go "a Primrosing" in the woods, thrills us more than any other. Its beautiful simplicity in itself, and gorgeous radiance when numerously carpeting the soft glades of the woodland garden, is unequalled even by its gallant forerunner, the Snowdrop. To be walking through a woodland in January or February and suddenly be confronted with a bunch of premature Primrose blossoms is enough to reach the heart of the most casual observer, and one could almost picture the tender blooms repeating the cheery little verse in John Oxenham's "Bees in Amber":—

"Though the times be dark and dreary,
Though the way be long,
Keep your spirits bright and cheery,
Bide a wee, and dinna weary!
Is a heartsome song"

as though to cheer us on towards spring.

In the garden itself the Primrose's more elegant sister, the Polyanthus, has been struggling all through the cold, dark days to keep a few gaily-coloured flowers above ground, and now seems to be making an extra effort to overcome the clutches of winter. Is the effort appreciated as much as it should be?

So one could ramble on. In every garden no doubt there are gems flowering and craving admiration, and they are worth it. Perhaps an Anemone or a Saxifraga, perhaps a tiny Cyclamen or a Scilla sibirica. Whatever it is, it is a gem if it is braving the first months of an English year. In gardens more south than this no doubt there are many things flowering, but wherever a garden is situated it is not without some interesting features, and if man plants judiciously of subjects that claim the winter months as their flowering period, then Nature will do the rest. Nature goes to sleep, but she really only closes one eye. Is it not so? H. W. STENNING.

Our Jubilee Number

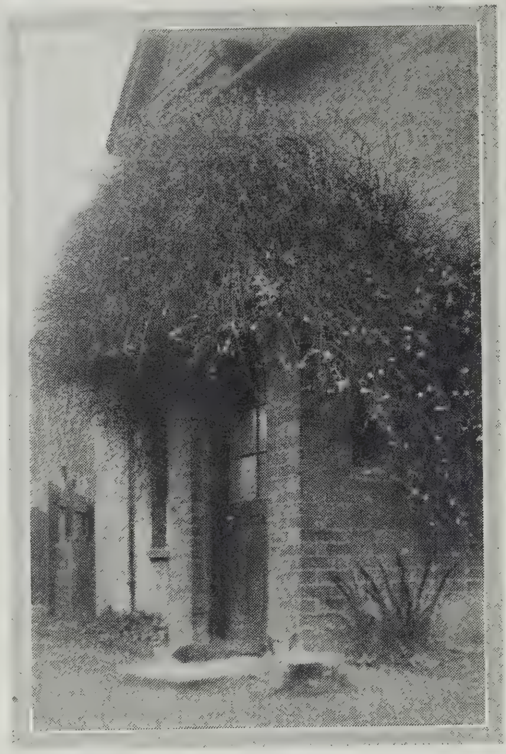
With our issue dated March 16th, "Gardening Illustrated" will celebrate its 50th birthday. This is an interesting event, and it is our intention to celebrate it in a manner worthy of the occasion by publishing a special Jubilee Number. This issue, which will be enlarged to more than twice its usual size, will contain special articles, both retrospective and prospective, summarising the progress made in horticulture in the last 50 years.

Readers can assist in making this number as representative as possible by sending illustrations and short articles of events of outstanding importance in the horticultural world during a half-century.

Every care will be taken of old prints and MSS., and those used will be returned to the senders after publication.

Letters should reach the Editor not later than February 28th.

The Jubilee Number will be published at the usual price, 2d.



"Rampant with its dainty yellow flowers"

Jasminum nudiflorum in Berkshire over a cottage porch facing north

The Garden Club

On Tuesday, February 26th, Mr. Symons Jeune, whose rock gardens at Chelsea have been so much admired, will be the guest of the Garden Club, and after dinner will give a talk on the garden in winter, with special reference to rock gardens.

South Dublin Show

The South County Dublin Gardeners' Association, which works in close co-operation with the local Horticultural Society, is holding a spring show this year on April 3rd at the Town Hall, Dun Laoghaire. Particulars of this show can be obtained from Mr. F. H. Meade, Park Lodge, Castlepark Road, Sandycove.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Proposed Society of Garden Architects

HAVING read with interest and amusement the correspondence about promoting garden architects, I am moved to ask whether there would be enough work for many of them. Is it possible for any but wealthy people to make a garden all in one sweep? Have not the great majority of us to wait and let our gardens grow by degrees, gradually evolving themselves into wider interest year by year? The price of labour is so very high that having in an extra man to make a few new flower-beds and paths once a year is about all most people can afford. I also think gardens are really much more interesting when they are made by degrees. Each season one gets some new or rare plants and sets about making fresh and suitable quarters for them, so that every year provides a novel interest, with something different to look at in addition to one's old loves. Surely gardens like Canon Ellacombe's were made thus?

After all, there is no possibility, apart from possible eccentricities, of any architect or anybody else creating a formal garden that is entirely new and original any more than totally new and original rock gardens can now be produced. (If one were made of coloured marbles and planted with hitherto undiscovered plants, or ones that no one can grow, it might for a few months be a complete novelty, but the idea would not be worth encouraging.) For my part I should like to see a Society for Remaining Old-fashioned inaugurated. The members would have to undertake to spend all their money on plants and nothing at all on fees, or crazy paving, or more rockstone than their plants absolutely needed, or flights of steps and tap waterfalls, or, worst of all, the modern designer's idea of a garden statue. When I look at the lead figures (*tempo circa* Queen Anne, of fragrant if vinous memory) of the seasons and then at certain amorphous creations in modern stone art I could weep for what we have lost and gained.

Another point is that if you can manage to make your garden yourself it is yours entirely and has a soul. If you only buy it son else has bought, or can buy, exactly the thing. I believe lots of people will feel And those who know so little about ga that they cannot make one themselves surely find more interest in learning th owning a reach-me-down.

And how on earth is the Society goi test its members? It will be very intere and not too easy, to invent a suitab amination for them to pass. M. L.

Sedum spathulifolium

It was a pleasure to read Clarence E complimentary remarks about spathulifolium and to know that this d ful succulent is doing so well in E gardens.

In its native haunts S. spathulifoli found surging over huge grey boulder often becoming mixed up in a deli manner with various Mosses and th Delphinium nudicaule. It is the mos mon species of Crassulaceæ in the no part of California, and is usually greg on half-shaded rocks in the foothill mountains up to an altitude of 5,000 fe

As the season of drought advances, th red tints creep up the flowering stem great heads of yellow flowers which out against the soft grey rosettes of f and the gorgeously clothed rock in its of evergreen trees makes a never forgotten sight. LESTER ROWNT

Carmel, California.

Fruit trees and birds

"H. C. G., Devon," complains birds, probably tits, picking out the bl buds on some of his Apple trees. He among the many who thus suffer b demolition during the winter and spring, when food is scarce, so say but it is more than doubtful if that h thing to do with it; no doubt they some benefit from it, as the buds are and tender, but are they hard up fo except during very severe frost or the ground is thickly covered with Food, such as worms, crumbs, and g be found on the roadside should go way to relieve their hunger. Last these pages I complained of the massacre, which was freely discusse by week, but no definite preventati tabulated by any one writer. Your spondent, "H. C. G.," cannot do than follow the advice tendered by the in his reply to Mrs. A., Co. Cork, same issue *re* "Bullfinches and Whether the winter is comparatively exceptionally severe their depredatio about the same. J

Truthful catalogues

"J. R. K." (page 103, issue F 16th) seems to consider nurserymen only show plants, etc., in the same development as he could produce This, of course, might be very easy f to do, but has he thought what would general effect upon the shows? He they do show them as they describe their catalogues, therefore they pro can produce what they describe.

Most nurserymen are quite willing their clients their methods of growing very difficult plants if asked for, and there not the weekly gardening pap books, also, upon every branch of ga to be obtained without expecting men to go to the expense of printi every time they issue a catalogue? quite aware that for those wh "J. R. K.," are only in the va horticultural skill, they do set

t, perhaps, for them to climb, but
they prove it can be done by patience
erseverance, and hard work and atten-
o every detail, but it will certainly not be
by being peevish and disgruntled, as it
nan's job really, or yet by imitating the
nd the grapes. Neither do I believe it
horticultural shows we want the valleys
exalted and the mountains and hills to
ade low. A. Casburn.
nbridge.

We do protest most strongly at the
ation conveyed in some of the corre-
ence in your paper that descriptions of
in nurserymen's catalogues are un-
ul, as that is what the imputations
"J. R. K." has no right to make
weeping statement which appears in
issue of the 16th inst. that "the glow-
erms of catalogue descriptions" are
representative in most cases of the
standard of a particular plant as
in gardens or for commerce," and we
nge him to name a single plant offered
ur own catalogues which has an
erated description. It is our practice,
ve have no doubt is the practice of all
rincipal British nurserymen, to con-
check catalogue descriptions with
tual plants when in flower—not taking
escriptions from show specimens, as
. K." infers, but from the plants grow-
the open field, from which customers
pplied.

complaint that nurserymen hesitate to
se the secret of cultivation is also un-
ed. In common with many other
ymen we give, as far as space permits,
l cultural directions, for the obvious
that it is in the interests of a nursery-
hat his customers get satisfaction and
eased with their purchases.

must admit that we sympathise with
who complain in respect to colour de-
ons, but, as is evidenced from other
pondence in Gardening Illustrated
other papers, it is simply impossible
describe a flower as to give the same
ssion to everyone, for the following
s, which we think most of your readers
ppreciate :—

(1) No two people agree as to the cor-
ct names of colours excepting the
imary colours.

(2) It is open to question whether
rying shades of colour give the same
nsation to all.

(3) The actual colour of a flower
ries according to the quality of the
ght. A flower presents quite a different
ade of colour on a dull day to that on
bright day, and is frequently of a dif-
rent shade in the going down of the
n to what it is in the morning or at
onday.

(4) Flowers will vary in shade con-
quent on the different chemical con-
ituents of the soil in which the plant is
own.

se facts are all well known to those
ve their gardens and their plants, and
erely mention them as reminders to
eaders who may not always agree with
ymen's descriptions.

conclusion we would suggest a little
charity on the part of your corre-
nts, and on behalf of an old and
rable trade to assure your readers that
British nurserymen do their best both
interests of their customers and of
lture as a whole, and deserve better
ur correspondents than thoughtless
Barr and Sons.
Street, Covent Garden,
London, and Taplow, Bucks.

Galanthus byzantinus

The excellent illustration of Galanthus byzantinus on page 86 prompts me to make one or two remarks about it. This Snowdrop was not introduced at the time of the Snowdrop Conference of the Royal Horticultural Society, and no mention was made of it in Mr. Burbidge's exhaustive synopsis of the genus read at that Conference. Since the Conference G. byzantinus was introduced from the European side of the Bosphorus, but does not appear to have been in commerce until sent out last year by Messrs. Barr and Sons. I have the pleasure of having it in flower as I write. Shortly after G. byzantinus was discovered a correspondent in Broussa, Bithynia, sent me a consignment of collected bulbs of a Snowdrop from the Broussa district. These proved a very mixed lot and were, to all appearance, natural hybrids of G. Elwesii and G. plicatus. Some had the Elwesii flowers and many the foliage of G. plicatus. I sent some specimens to Mr. James Allen, who considered that they were the same as G. byzantinus, and sent a specimen or two to a high authority, who indicated their closer resemblance to G. byzantinus. I lost my plants of this Broussa Snowdrop prior to 1903 from the attacks of the Snowdrop disease (Botrytis galanthina), which at various times attacked different species and varieties, but appeared to be more than usually virulent with this Snowdrop.

S. Arnott.

On seedlings

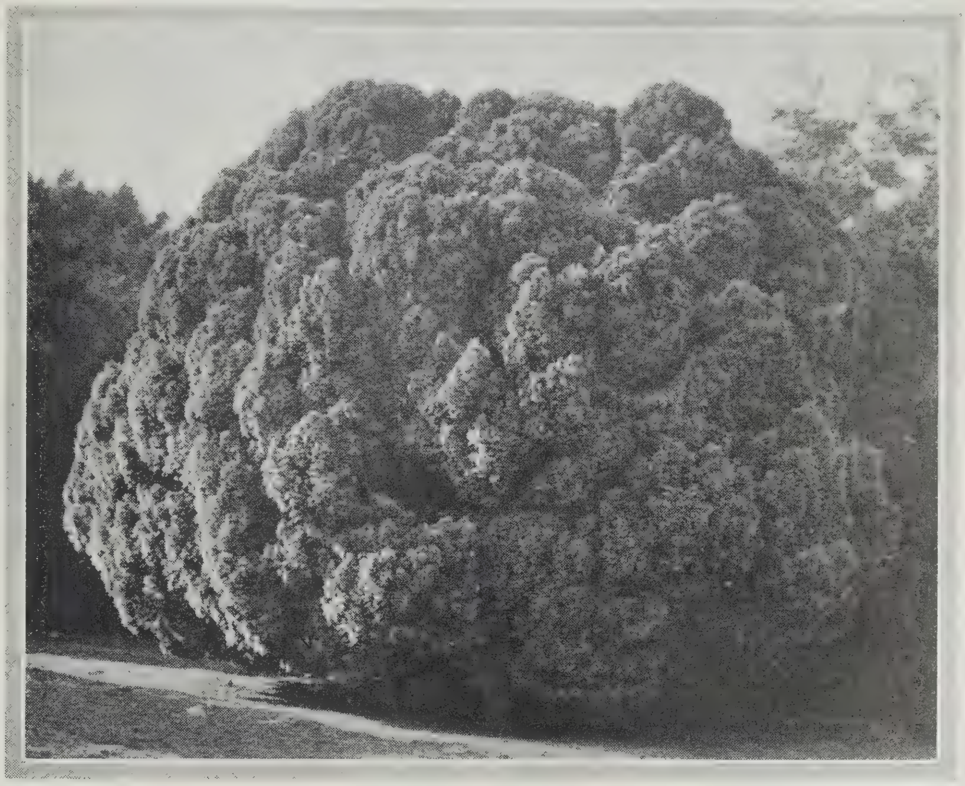
Owing largely to my want of skill, but partly, no doubt, to my cold, wet soil with a northern aspect, and want of suitable appliances, I am a very unsuccessful raiser of seeds. One of three things usually happens, either they fail to germinate altogether, or, after germinating, they all damp off, or else I obtain a large stock of things of which I only want from one to half-a-dozen specimens. It has often occurred to me that nurserymen might supply my deficiencies by offering seedlings for sale, and I have just received a catalogue from Messrs. Storrie and Storrie which does so. The varieties they offer are not very numerous, but there are quite a number of the commoner annuals and perennials which are useful. I think it is an example which might be followed by others.

A. H. Wolley-Dod.

A remarkable form of the common Yew

THIS photograph, which was taken in 1880, is that of a Yew at Cherkley Court, Leatherhead, now the seat of Lord Beaverbrook. At that time Mr. Abraham Dixon was living there. He used to have a large conservatory in which he grew Bananas and the Victoria regia. There are many Yews of this type in the neighbourhood, notably on the top of Boxhill. The varietal name, "Cauliflora," has no botanical authority, neither has the specific name, "magnifica"; it is merely a jest perpetrated by my father, who received a classical education at Winchester.

William Lawrence.
Burford, Dorking.



Yew at Cherkley Court. "Taxus maximus cauliflora!"

Begonias as house plants

I am indebted to your readers, "H. H." and Mr. W. J. Robinson, for expressing in your issue of February 2nd their views under the above heading.

Mr. Greaves suggests that lack of attention is usually the cause of most Begonias proving unsatisfactory as room plants. I can, however, assure him that I have done everything that is humanly possible without success. No, I think the only explanation is that Begonias will not respond to the effects of sudden changes, whether in temperature or treatment. A sudden rise in temperature after a dull, cold period will result in the dropping of many blooms, even when the plants are grown in a greenhouse. Exhibitors know this to their cost. Also a change in the system of watering, *i.e.*, by giving too much water if they have been grown on the dry side, and *vice versâ*, will prove equally disastrous.

I can only confirm my previous advice that readers should go warily before taking their best double Begonias indoors, even for a

An indispensable Alpine: Lithospermum in the Wisley rock garden

couple of days, otherwise they can only expect disappointment. In these matters one exception does not prove the rule. Begonia blooms will, however, last quite a long time if cut and placed in a bowl with a little water.

I have not tried single Begonias as room plants for some time. As I fertilise my own double Begonias I do not now grow singles or semi-doubles in the greenhouse. May I suggest that Begonia growers who are in the habit of growing only named varieties try their hand at fertilising and raising their own Begonias. I can assure them that it is a most fascinating hobby. If suitable parent plants are used 100 per cent. doubles can be expected, but the real joy is the chance of a few tip-toppers equal to named varieties, but different in form and colouring to those usually seen in ordinary collections.

E. R. Blunsden.

The Bungalow,
Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

Rock Gardens at Chelsea

The fun and fury resulting from Col. Durham's letter have not ceased; certainly not since Mr. Elliott has entered the fray. This is another battle of the gauges, and who gauges rightly? Great is Diana of the Mountain Limestone, and the cry is, Don't touch our idols.

In the correspondence much has been said about the ideal stone, but no one has ventured to describe it. What, then, is the ideal stone?

Certainly its first quality should be that which is conducive to the growth of Alpines, in all their beauty, of the majority of plants. As most of the Alpines revel in lime, it should be a limestone—a silicious limestone for preference. The stone should be absorbent, so as to give off moisture in dry weather to plants growing upon it. And it must, at the same time, be frost-resisting. It should be one that quickly weathers a nice colour, and grows its beautiful Lichens and Mosses. It should also be free enough working so that, when necessary, it can be broken to size.

And lastly—with apologies to the pulpit—but by no means least important, it should be at such a price as to bring it within the range of the pocket of all rock garden lovers.

Does the mountain limestone cover all these points? How many centuries of centuries has it taken to get its weathered faces, and what are its absorbent qualities?

As a plant lover I think that it is a great delight to see all the plants happy and thriving, and the mass of rock taking a second position. A few pockets can easily be constructed for the sandstone and magnesium limestone, and these plants must not be neglected.

J. J. Gething.

Chilmark.

—— It is with interest I have read the letters concerning the rock gardens at Chelsea, but, convince a man against his will, and he is of the same opinion still. What a blessing it is that we cannot get permission to transfer Eridge Rocks, Harrison's Rocks, or even the High Rocks from Tunbridge Wells to Chelsea, otherwise I am sure Messrs. Wood and Dillistone would have a cut at it and forget all about the Westmorland, Yorkshire, or Cheddar stones.

When Mr. Wood introduced the goats he gave us a very well-deserved knock, *i.e.,* to put on a rock garden that which belongs to it. When Mr. Elliott says, "as things are now the exhibitor has no idea for what prizes are being awarded," I very much doubt if he is correct. In my opinion, the prizes are awarded for the best window-dressing. Have we not seen at Chelsea, Heather in crazy paving, rich soil loving herbaceous plants on the rocks? Mr. Wood said to me at the last Chelsea Show: "We are all out for business. Each man must do his best for that purpose according to his own conviction. The judges are out for show. Exhibitors should know what to expect. The show comes to this, are
you content to remain a gardener try
help good plants to express themselv
gain business through the approval o
who admire your taste and opinion,
you a prize-hunter hoping to gain bu
through the advertisement from
prizes?"

N. I. Bagge

Pembury.

Lithospermum prostratum

IT is no exaggeration to say that
spermum prostratum is one of the
delightful and pleasure-giving plant
could be imagined. Of a dwarf, tr
evergreen habit of growth, it is an idea
ject for the rock garden or dry wall, wh
can hang downwards over the face
rock or wall at a suitable height, wh
can be seen and admired to the best
tage. It is a neat-looking plant at all s
of the year.

As a member of the Boraginea
whole plant is thickly covered with
which is characteristic of most other
belonging to this family. The rough
green leaves are of good substance and
hard. In winter they assume a bron
pearance, but the plant does not lo
neatness and attractiveness, even at th
period.

The flowers, which are a beautifu
blue, are tinged with red on openin
later on the colour becomes a pure bl
creasing in size to about ½ inch across.
mencing to flower in May, it is stead
continuous over a prolonged period.

Although one often sees it recomm
for growing on dry slopes and in bord
is, undoubtedly, a plant adapted for pos
such as those mentioned above, where
trail or hang down. Once the plants
attained a fair size and become estab
they are impatient of root disturbance
sequently, it is advisable to select po
where they can remain for several
putting out young plants, as these w
the nature of things, establish them
more quickly. Several plants may be p
in a group with a view to obtaining an
tive display in a shorter space of time
would be the case if single plants were
It is the same with this as with most
rock and wall subjects, far superior an
effects are obtained when the plants a
posed in groups in proportion to the a
space available for planting.

The form known as Heavenly Blu
flowers of a sky-blue colour, somewhat
than the type, the plant possessing a
ous habit, and is also a free bloomer.
tainly a decided acquisition.

The plants will grow appreciably in
ture of a rich, sandy loam, to which
peat is added, but the site must b
drained.

Plants may be increased by means
tings of the previous year's growth in
in fine, sandy peat, this being the only
cal method of propagation, as the plan
not be divided on account of the
nature of the short bole, and seeds ar
rarely produced, if at all, in this co
Cuttings root more readily during the
weather, when they should be kept
and cool for a few weeks, care being
cised in the matter of watering, overwa
being a common cause of failure.

Pentstemons dying

Although the ordinary hybrid Pentst
of the border and bedding class never
in this garden most other kinds are
succumb suddenly to that mysterious
which has troubled growers of this ge
a long time. Just as a Clematis
vigour and growth will sometimes dro
die with tragic suddenness, so these

ons often go off in a few hours. The tiful P. heterophyllus lives the most preus life of all, for any moment, usually coming into bloom, it may wilt and e, and thus, one by one, will a whole ation depart. But last season strong s of P. Eatoni went in the same and not even the more shrubby kinds, Six Hills Hybrid, are exempt. Is there, wonders, anything that will prevent sudden deaths? J.

Dodecatheons

HE genus Dodecatheons, a member of he Primula family, comprises several pecies of highly ornamental hardy ceous perennials admirably adapted for moist situations in sheltered parts of the garden or border. They delight in a le loam, rich in humus which retains ture in the growing season, but they ld never be planted in positions fully sed to continuous sunshine. The es resemble each other so closely that authorities treat them all as varieties . Meadia, which is at once the most lar and useful member of the genus and rise to numerous colour forms ranging rich, rosy crimson through intermedihades to pure white. Introduced from Western States some 200 years ago it ong been a popular plant in our gardens, its opulent tufts of oblong spathulate s surmounted by numerous slender es, each carrying as many as twenty ping, Cyclamen-like flowers, make the peculiarly attractive. The flowers ar in April and May, and remain a conable time in beauty, and the foliage cons to be decorative until the autumn, it gradually ripens. Division of the ns, which forms an easy method of gation, is best effected at this time, and ugh the operation may also be carried n the spring better results usually follow mn division. Propagation can also be ted from seeds, but the method is rather

e Dodecatheons make excellent subjects ot plants for use in the Alpine-house, and his purpose the roots should be potted in 4-inch pots so early as practicable in the autumn, plunged in an ash bed in a sheltered position, and left till growth becomes active, when they may be transferred to the Alpine-house, where they make interesting objects during the spring months. W. AUTON.

odecatheon Meadia (Shooting Stars)

reflexed flowers have rose-coloured petals ked chocolate and golden-yellow at the centre

Spring-flowering Sisyrinchium

ON March 8th, last year, a cousin brought me an offering from her garden—a bunch of the early flowering Sisyrinchium grandiflorum, and I was so charmed with its beauty, grace, and daintiness, that I sent the bunch to be photographed, in the hope that I might some time send it to GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, with some desultory remarks on my experience of the plant. I am most anxious to know how and why this little gem of spring flowers is unknown, or, at least, is so little grown in this country, especially in this age of the cult of the rock garden, when plants are sought for far and wide. I believe this graceful darling hails from Virginia, or one of the North-West States of America, and that it made its way over to the west coast of Ireland, near some of the harbours on the coast, probably seeds carried in the cargoes of some ships, or by some of the crew. I have had this plant for many years, given to me by an old friend, in whose garden, in Co. Down, there were regular clumps of it at each side of the centre walk in her old-fashioned garden. This friend originally got her roots from her father's garden, situated near Larne, in Co. Antrim. Except for these plants, I have never seen the Sisyrinchium in any garden, nor have I ever heard any one speak of the plant. I sent some blossoms to the courteous Curator of the Glasnevin Gardens, near Dublin, and he gave me its correct name (we had always called it the "Purple Snowdrop"), and said it seemed to be grown in very few gardens, or that it was not very common in gardens. Last year I made a collection of Sisyrinchiums, getting plants wherever I saw them catalogued by nurserymen, or from friends, but every one of these varieties flowered in June, July, and August. They had pretty little blossoms, blue, blue and white, and pale purple, one larger-flowered yellow one. But I must say they are a plebeian lot when compared with the grandiflorum! I shall now try and describe its charms. The colouring of the blooms, which are in shape like the Snowdrops which bloom a little earlier, as a rule, and are larger than the well-known and well-loved white "first born of the world's delight, pride of the dewy glade," is of a pale purple, tinged with pink, so pure, and almost pellucid, the texture of the petals is almost transparent, reminding one of some rare porcelain, with a peculiar gloss like that of satin. The foliage is rushlike, very scanty; nearly every spike has one, two, or three blooms on it, and the spikes grow about 10 inches or 12 inches high. The roots are like the common Rush roots. I did not know until last year that there is a white variety of the grandiflorum. I learnt this from a photograph in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. Two blooms were shown by Messrs. Tucker, Ltd. When I saw them I set my heart upon getting some plants, and shortly afterwards I saw a short note from "Stormonth, Kirkbride, Carlisle," about this white variety, and when I wrote about it I found Messrs. Stormonth had a large nursery near Carlisle, and had both varieties of this spring-flowering Sisyrinchium in their catalogue. I got some plants, and have since been the means of distributing other plants from them to friends. I believe this white variety is even more beautiful, the lustre on the flower petals resembling the gloss on the inside of an oyster shell. Mine has not yet bloomed this spring.

Sisyrinchium grandiflorum, sometimes known as the Purple Snowdrop

These plants are quite hardy, and do not require any special treatment, just good garden soil, and a slightly shady and fairly moist situation.

I am aware that my experience of gardens in England and Scotland may be somewhat limited, and I may be mistaken in thinking that this dear flower is not better known. I do know that I never yet have met a cultivator of it, or anyone who had ever heard of it. I write this short account of it, hoping that my notes may induce many garden lovers and owners of rock gardens to add this very choice and charming floral treasure to their store. NIN-NIN.

Gardenias

It was very pleasant to me to read in a recent issue of other growers of these lovely flowers. It is the greatest wonder that they have fallen from their once great popularity, for I find that everyone who comes in contact with them for the first time is enchanted with their lovely blooms and perfume.

I commenced growing them seven years ago, and they have done well, with the exception of four seasons ago. At that time our water supply was scrapped in favour of the Council supply, which I soon found was very hard. The plants produced "white leaves," and soon presented a miserable condition.

I soon reverted to our own supply of water and made provision for the storage of all rainwater from the houses. Now they receive nothing but rainwater. They soon came back to their former healthy state, and during the growing period produce leaves like Laurels.

I have been led to describe their wants as heat, peat, and moisture, and their dislikes to lime in any form.

The cutting of the flowers is all the pruning that they receive, and that, I find, gives them a more perpetual flowering habit, for it is rarely that I cannot cut some flowers.

I root a fresh batch annually. These, incidentally, are the growths that are cut with the flowers and have been used for decoration; they root readily. I keep plants up to three or four years, and only discard them when they become exhausted and ungainly. With me their only pest is scale, which I keep in check by occasionally spraying with Volck, which gives the foliage a lovely appearance. I also give weak liquid cow manure water and dustings on the pot of Clay's Fertiliser. G. J. MILLER.

Welwyn, Herts.

Soil mixtures for the scree

THE question of soil mixtures must always be one of interest to growers of the higher Alpines, and I was glad to hear an eminent constructional gardener declare the other day that, in making screes and moraines, he still keeps to the simple mixture of one part of leaf-mould to every six of stone chippings, without the addition of any loam, the latter being too unreliable and apt to contain a proportion of clay in many districts. I have before me several recent articles on moraine construction, and notice that all recommend loam, leaf-mould, sand, and sometimes peat in varying proportions. But in natural scree, beyond the presence of powdered rock the only soil is often supplied by the decayed vegetable matter of preceding generations of plants, and so we work back to Farrer's formula of one sixth of soil (half leaf-mould, half sand) to five sixths of fine chips. This mixture has stood the test of time as, some 20 years after it was constructed by Farrer, plants still flourish in the scree at Ingleborough.

What really seems the one essential is the addition of sufficient humus to the stone chips, and then, always provided free drainage and a dry collar in winter, and adequate moisture during the growing season are assured, a great deal of latitude can be allowed. This is illustrated in Mr. Millard's amazingly beautiful garden described in the R.H.S. Journal, where the scree consists of half stone chips and the other half of leaf-mould, peat, and good garden soil in equal proportions. Here many of the difficult plants may be found flourishing, but probably unless you are sure of your soil simple mixtures are best, and the writer claims quite a modicum of success for the simplest—leaf-mould and stone chips. F. H. FISHER.

Farrer's scree in the Old Garden, Ingleborough, 1929

Hardy Cyclamen

I have been much interested in your articles on hardy Cyclamen. I see that you state in your issue of January 12th that a soil which is retentive of moisture is fatal. The soil here is the heaviest clay, but the pink autumn Cyclamen, which I suppose to be neapolitanum seeds itself like a weed everywhere, choking everything in rockeries or borders if undisturbed, and coming up, even in rough grass. The first corms were planted in 1882. C. Coum, introduced, perhaps, 10 or 15 years ago, begins to do the same.

In autumn there are sheets of the pink and the white neapolitanum at the base of some old Elms.

I have also been interested in reading several articles about the Barberry, so lovely in the autumn with its branches of coral fruit.

There are bushes in this neighbourhood which produce the fruit without pips, and this makes the most excellent preserve. My father took cuttings and suckers from these bushes, but never succeeded in producing a bush whose fruit was without pips.

ALICE CLARK.

Millfield, Street, Somerset.

Growing Alpines in ashes

Anyone who uses an ash plunging-bed for growing Alpines in pots will have noticed the ready way in which the plants push their roots through the drainage holes of the pots into the ashes below, and will also know, to his cost, the aptitude weeds have for seeding themselves in the porous ashes of the bed.

It may be an experiment of interest for readers to try some of the more difficult Campanulas, Saxifrages, and Gentians as the writer has done in such a bed, to which old sifted leaf-mould has been added, say, in the proportion of six parts of ashes to one of leaf-mould.

Here is a cheap and satisfactory alternative to the scree, with perfect drainage and moisture-retaining properties in dry periods. It need hardly be said that the sifted ashes must be exposed to the weather for a period to wash away all traces of sulphur.

The bed may be made 18 inches deep, and, if thought desirable, finished off with a top-dressing of granite or limestone chippings, and thus assist still further the retention of moisture in the summer and prevent damage to the plants during winter rains.

That wild flowers, especially those of the hills, appreciate this root medium can be seen by the traveller as he sits in the train on his way to or from Scotland, for instance. In Yorkshire, Westmorland, and Cumberland, more perhaps than in the south, the railway banks in July are a blaze of colour with Campanula rotundifolia, C. latifolia, Primula farinosa (the haunts of these two latter plants are restricted), wild Thyme, Heaths, Willow Herb, which turns the slag dumps of Wigan into a sea of pink, several varieties of Orchis, and many other flowers.

If we examine the soil in which these plants are flourishing we find that in many cases it is largely composed of fine ashes ejected from the chimneys of engines. In some spots the deposit of these cinders approximates half an inch a year, and at the risk of interesting but few readers it may be added that from calculations made an en of a heavy freight train may make and as much as $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwts., approximating 35 c feet of smoke-box cinders in a 100-mile r

So here we have our wild plants profi from the by-products of a mechanical for will anyone deny that for sheer var and effect, with colours spilt out by Mo Nature with a lavish hand, but always wholly delightful results, our railway ba hold the supreme place among Engla wild gardens. F. H. FISHE

Carnations

For the beginner

The Carnation for winter flowering i much a regular crop in these days as is Chrysanthemum, and in both these the v of good and medium blooms is as distin marked. To leave the cuttings of "Car." in a propagating case for any preciable time after it is rooted is to c promise its whole future. While the cut is rooting it makes no top growth—m time and so comes to no harm; but imm ately there is a root to feed it growth beg and is so rapid that it affects the tissue endangers health. So then, if a healthy s is to be raised the cutting must quickl potted, upon which there is another ch which prevents growth until a new sta made by the root. But though growth is apparent, consolidation takes place and future of the plant, if not determined, i fluenced by those few days.

From the time the root begins to wor the soil all forms of coddling must be ta The Carnation is not a hothouse plant, nei is it even a greenhouse plant, but it is that answers best to purely natural c tions. The nearer we can get to natural ditions for our young plants the stronge they likely to grow and the better will b quality of their blooms.

But while we rule out everything savours of coddling, we do not mean to out sane, healthy nursing, for the "C is not so different from everything else require no nursing when young. Reaso experience amply prove that, and thoug first stage must be one of careful nursing conditions soon relax and the plantlets brought, step by step, to those that are natural.

The fact that nearly all cuttings com of a warm bed suggests that their first should be into warmed soil, for if by oversight or carelessness a cold soil is a chill, more or less, is almost certain. should there be a chill when it might so be avoided?

The compost used should be one ma of loam, leaf-mould, and sand; no strong in the way of food, for the obj is to produce and develop roots rather head growth. For the first fortnigh young stock should be kept in the propag house or one with a similar temper after which, if actually started to grow should be placed in a temperature se degrees lower. HORT

Aubrietias

We owe a good deal to the Aubrieti the bright display they make on gr and in odd corners in the garden, but I m times think we view them in the lig rock plants, and forget how useful the when used as edging plants. When within proper limits they give to a gar very pretty appearance in spring wh employed, but need dividing every two or else they make huge clumps or cush

W. F.

The Pollination of Fruit Trees

Varieties to plant together

he course of a paper on " The Study of rder of Flowering and Pollination of Blossoms Applied to Commercial Fruit- ng," before the Royal Society of Arts, ecil H. Hooper, F.L.S., of Wye, Kent, me interesting information to impart Apples and Pears. He pointed out large number of the varieties would ature fruit when pollinated by pollen e same variety, being self-sterile gh many are self-fruitful) and re- to be pollinated with other varieties. ng of Pears, Mr. Hooper said: " In n experiments I have found the fol- varieties more or less self-fruitful:— ence, Dr. Jules Guyot, Chalk, Beurré nlis, Swan's Egg, Colmar d'Eté, sse d'Angoulême, Marguerite Marillat, Windsor, Jargonelle, Souvenir du ès, Beurré Jean van Geert, Beurré Durondeau, Petite Marguerite, Blick- and Glou Morceau. Only one fruit ach has matured with me out of many with Pitmaston, Williams, and né du Comice. No fruit has been ob- by me with own pollen from Clapp's rite, Fertility, Eile d'Heyst, or Catillac. l observations in successful and un- sful Pear plantations might yield many and suggestions which might be d by pollination trials. Among suc- pollination results were:—Clapp's rite with Conference, Dr. Jules Guyot Clapp's Favourite, Roosevelt, Fertility Conference, Durondeau with Fertility, l Todleben with Conference, Vicar of ield with Winter Cresanne, Williams' Chrêtien with Clapp's Favourite, Win- esanne or Fertility, Pitmaston with ence or Williams' Bon Chrêtien, le's St. Germain with Marie Louise, c with Fertility or Uvedale's St. in."

ning to Apples, Mr. Hooper was even emphatic. " Although a considerable tion of Apples is gradually being to be more or less self-fruitful (under varying from 7 per cent. down to 0·2 nt.), yet all experimenters agree that gle variety can be advantageously d alone and that all varieties yield if interplanted with one or more varie- flower at the same time. Even the self-fruitful variety will yield three or mes the crop with other varieties than ted alone. Among the varieties found self-fruitful are:—Stirling Castle, Rev. Wilks, Golden Spire, Irish Peach, mas Pearmain, Beaumann's Red Win- einette, Ben's Red, Miller's Seedling, Derby, White Transparent, and Tower mis, but with many trials I have never ded Cox's Orange or Lane's Prince to mature fruit with their own s."

here a variety has been planted alone ck it is recommended to re-graft or e one tree in eight with a different flowering about the same time. ey's Seedling is found to be a specially variety with which to re-graft. Each tree in each third row of a different y is considered the minimum propor- or a pollenising variety. In planting a rchard it is advisable to plant not more two or three rows of one variety and alternate with another variety."

xperience and experiment show the ing to be good varieties to plant to- , though other combinations may suc- equally well:—Cox's Orange with ester, Bramley with Lane's, Newton Lord Derby, Blenheim with Newton, Early Victoria with Grenadier, Beauty of Bath with Allington, James Grieve with Cox's Orange, Gladstone with Cox's Orange or Worcester. In many trials I have found Cox's Orange to be a good polleniser; the crosses have almost always taken and matured fruit."

Apple High View Pippin

IN February, 1925, I sent you three fruits of Apple High View Pippin (Sturmer Pippin x Cox's Orange Pippin), of which you then gave a good opinion. In January, 1928, I sent a dish of fruit to the Royal Horticultural Society's Fruit Committee, and received an Award of Merit for it. I am now sending you four fruits, two from the seedling tree and two gathered from a tree on Paradise stock. I think you will agree with me that the size of the fruit has improved. I had fruits last year in good condition till April.

F. FITZWATER.

The Gardens, High View,
Oatlands Drive, Weybridge, Surrey.

[We congratulate our correspondent on his success, and endorse all we have said in praise of this new seedling (see GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, February 28th, 1925, page 138). High View Pippin is a beautiful golden-russet Apple of rich, almost aromatic, flavour. As a February dessert Apple we know of nothing better, or even so good.—ED.]

High View Pippin

Sturmer Pippin x Cox's Orange Pippin. An acquisition among late keeping dessert Apples

Fruit tree planting

A few things, in brief, which all who receive fruit trees from the nursery should always attend to are:—First, soaking the roots in water for an hour or two, as they will almost invariably arrive rather dry. So soon as partially dried go over the roots with a sharp knife and cut off bruised ends, or pare off bruises anywhere about them. Next, have all holes for the reception of the trees ready for immediate planting. These should be made after the soil has been deeply broken up and well pulverised. Each hole should be fully a foot broader than the spread of the tree roots. It should be shallow rather than deep. Roots will naturally go deep, and it is well at the outset to keep them fairly near the surface, as when needing manure it is best applied in the form of mulching. Spread the roots out evenly, fill in about them first with fine soil, then coarser, and gently tread it firm. Put a temporary stake to each tree.

Pear Beurre Diel

This Pear has been grown extensively since its introduction, and is still to be found in many gardens. Opinions are varied as to its merits, some holding that it is not far removed from first-class, others that it is coarse and gritty, and not inclined to ripen satisfactorily, the truth being that it is a Pear that varies considerably under different conditions, and at its best a good paying fruit. There is a tree on the south end of some farm buildings near here that has been planted about 40 years that covers some 200 square feet, from which the owner seldom fails to secure a crop, and this year he will pick close on a bushel of fine fruit which presently will command a good price at the local shops. Our soil suits Pears well, being a friable loam a little on the heavy side, overlying clay at a considerable depth, and the drainage is, naturally, good; the tree is also helped with a good annual top-dressing. In an orchard on the same farm I came across a standard Pear I had not seen for years, the old red Sanquinolle, of little account to eat in a raw state, but a handsome and tasty dish in stewed form.

Hardwick. E. BURRELL.

The Colours of Flowers

THOSE fortunate people who were blessed with a country childhood may remember searching the meadows for the odd white Orchis amidst the host of purple, or the scattered clusters of "pink-bells" or "whitebells" in the blue carpet of the spring woodlands.

Variability in flower colour within the species is common, but it is more especially common in the case of the bluish, purple, and crimson shades, much rarer in the yellow and orange types. The Milkwort and the Buttercup may be taken as extreme examples from the British flora.

This difference coincides very closely with chemical and physical differences in the pigments concerned. The yellow and orange carotin and xanthophylls are present as solid granules, the blue to red anthocyanins are usually, but not invariably, dissolved in the sap.

The variation may be hereditary, as in the white Orchis and Bluebell, or it may be correlated with environmental factors of often unknown nature, and it is this latter class which the gardener curses and Madame Gossip softly slanders.

It is, however, often hard to disentangle the two types, and both may combine together with—very rarely we will say, lest we raise more strife—the nurseryman's excessive eloquence to bring about the poor gardener's disillusionment.

In some few cases we do know a little about the factors concerned. The Hydrangea is a case in point.

Some few years ago a Dublin botanist demonstrated that the pink colour became blue if the sap contained a sufficient quantity of iron compounds, the interesting point being that the plant might be growing in a soil rich in iron, and yet still bear pink flowers. This is owing to the very limited "availability" of iron in a neutral or alkaline soil. In such cases the addition of alum or other aluminium salt, by rendering the soil acid, enables the plant to draw more freely on the iron therein and the fond cultivator to rejoice at his success in "blueing his hydrangeas."

Fired by similar theories, the writer planted batches of Meconopsis rudis in habitats varying from pure damp peat to a dry limestone scree (these in the latter situation should have died, but did not), and in every case the flowers were a beautiful blue. This was in Derbyshire. Yet plants from the same packet of seed removed to East Anglia and planted in an apparently ideal Meconopsis soil, in half-shade as well as full sun, produced more mauves and dull lilacs than blue!

There, at any rate, the carbonate content, or PH (acidity or alkalinity), of the soil was not the deciding factor.

The much-discussed M. betonicifolia (in the last few weeks Mr. Taylor, of the British Museum, has definitely sunk M. Baileyi into this species) may also vary—and to horrid dinges at that, as I know from experience, be it limited—irrespective of soil conditions, and, for that matter, without respect of persons. Recently Madame Gossip was telling of two famous Cambridge botanists sharing a batch. One's plant finally proved all blue-flowered, the other had more plants, but ne'er a single really blue flower!

We *do* like to grow M. betonicifolia whatever its colour, but we like the blue ones best.

Others of the genus, such as M. Wallichii and M. Pratti, vary in the same at present rather incomprehensible manner.

I shall never forget my first sight of the
Columbine as a wild plant on the s
slope of a Derbyshire dale, its pure bl
a revelation and an unexpected delight
accustomed only to the white and s
plum shades of the Aquilegia vulga
cottage gardens. A year later I saw
soil of a similar lime and organic con
an East Anglian fen, and the flower
dull purplish!

A. alpina has caused much vexat
plant lovers (especially if they have ev
it in its native haunts), partly ow
failure to obtain the true plant; but
from this the colour is seldom, or ne
fine as could be wished, and this se
apply more especially to plants floweri
a second or subsequent season.

There is no doubt that altitude, wh
turn includes changes in insolation,
spheric, and other factors, has a pron
effect on the brightness of flower colo
was shown long ago by Gaston Bonnie
divided individual plants and grew hal
Alpine situation and half in the lowla

This may be the reason for P
Winteri having a lilac-mauve face
country instead of reflecting the blue
its finder first saw it.

Again, it seems clear that many
are more nearly their true selves in th
and west of this island, possibly beca
cleverest cultivators abide there, ev
anon reproving lesser mortals for mur
at their dingier lot.

Hence, for a variety of reasons,
tors' field notes in many cases canno
bly apply with cast-iron rigidity to the
that we here at home finally know and
Occasionally we may be agreeably su
Blue Gentians are still Gentian-b
England. Despite some variation G.
is still the entrancing colour that
coverer eulogised, and G. sino-orn
everywhere an unchangingly blue-
conservative.

Still, another thing may, and ofte
happen when a wildling is introduc
cultivation, either immediately, or aft
years it "sports," or mutates, in th
reckless manner, producing true-b
varieties which may or may not be co
superior to the type; being new they
are.

The histories of Primula obconica
sinensis are of such. Only one "
principle" emerges, and that is the
complexity and varying nature of
blems afforded by variation in flowe
Considering the simpler genetic va
(strictly hereditable on Mendelia
alone, probably no plant has been s
sively studied as Primula sinensis;
multiplicity of factors concerned
paucity of the knowledge concerni
were the chief impressions one carri
from a recent demonstration by J
Haldane, of the John Innes Ins
Merton, who is one of the greatest
ties on the subject.

S.

Gentiana sino-ornata

"Everywhere an unchangingly blue-blooded conservative"

Renovating lawns and g
paths

Correct levels and repair worn
when the surface works freely.
heavy land such work is, of nece
layed until March, owing to the w
ing character of the soil, but on we
soils no time should be lost in car
this work. On playing-grounds g
must be exercised in order to secu
curate level. The very best turf on
be used, and before the final beatin
ing is given it is advisable to apply a
of fine soil, working it well into th
with a garden broom.

Primula Winteri

LL lovers of early flowers who do not
yet possess it and who are in a position
to grow it should embark upon the culti-
n of that exquisite plant, Primula
teri, which comes into flower in the late
of the old year and continues for
ths to give us its lovely flowers. It is
rtunate that its price is comparatively
, and that want of knowledge of its re-
ments has tended to engender lack of
dence in its hardiness. This is not sur-
ng, as P. Winteri is so lovely that we
hardly imagine that this gem should be
to withstand the vicissitudes of our win-
Yet it is absolutely hardy, though it
ts to much wet about its crowns at that
n, and in summer desires a place of
e from sun. These provided for, there
reason why anyone need be without its
ming silvery leaves and exquisite
der flowers. The writer had the
ure of seeing it established in his gar-
in time for the winter of 1926-7, and en-
l its beauty to the utmost. After seeing
well it grew in the nursery of Messrs.
r and Hunter, of Moniaive, where a
stock of plants were growing on the
cal face of rockwork shielded from the
by shrubs above, a place in my garden
provided for it where a large stone above
off rain and sun. It flowered ad-
bly, but in summer came the time of
when not only had it to be supplied
water, but some envious rooks appeared
ink that the wad of turfy loam in which
ew would supply them with worms, and
al times pulled out the plant and left it
sed to the weather. Three times was it
ced, and the climax came when, for the
h time, P. Winteri was pulled out by
irds, and was found on a gravel path
having, apparently, been left in the sun
ome hours. It was replanted, and, de-
its trials, is as healthy as ever.

other plant has been planted in what
d appear even a better place, vertically
rock garden facing N.W., and with
boulders on each side and above. The
soil, suggested by Mr. John Adamson,
e firm named above, viz., a wad of turfy
, with the plant in a vertical position,
been employed, and this plant, also, is
ishing and giving plenty of bloom.
loam, shade, protection from overhead
and plenty of moisture in summer are
ecessary if this fascinating Primula is to
e. It is a real gem among a lovely race
wers.

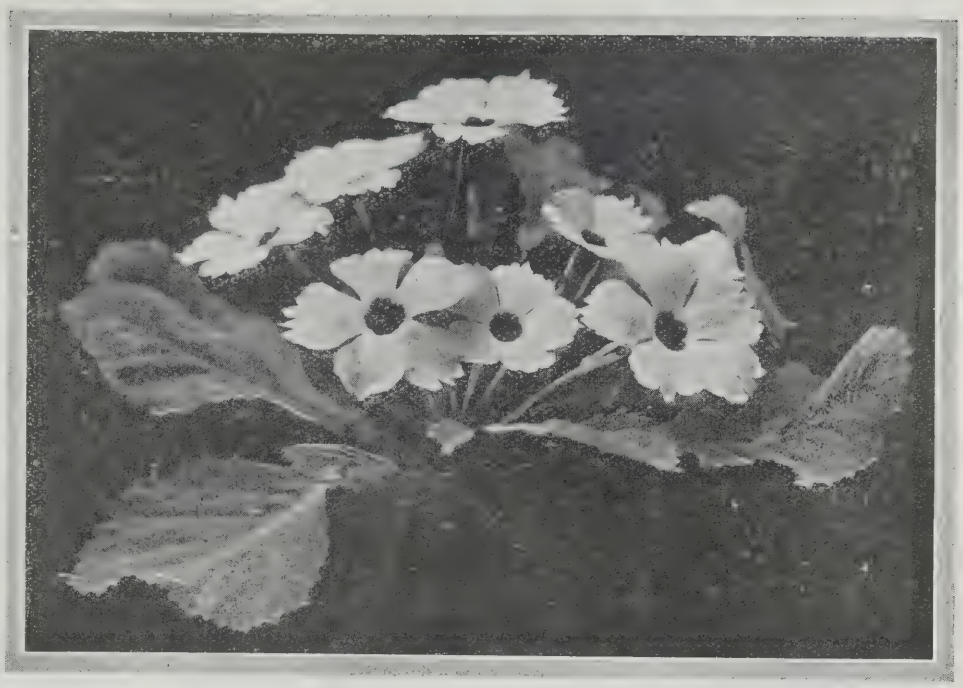
S. ARNOTT.

VEGETABLES

The Jerusalem Artichoke

HIS, a member of the Sunflower family,
s not looked on with favour by many
eople, yet it is productive of whole-
roots which form an acceptable dish
the number of vegetables available is
cted. On the Continent it is more
dy used than in this country, being largely
for thick soups and also baked, when
avour is much richer and better.

roduced from North America somewhat
than the Potato was introduced from
America, it was in earlier years re-
mended as a substitute for the Potato.
well worthy of extended culture, and is
inly one of the most accommodating
grown, for it will thrive in almost any
of soil and is by no means fastidious as
tuation. Nevertheless, like all other
ables, it will yield a much finer crop of
s when it is planted in reasonably good
and enjoys a full share of light and air.
common practice of forming a plantation
and allowing it to remain for an indefinite period is not to be recommended as, by so doing, it is impossible to obtain tubers of serviceable size.



Primula Winteri

The Jerusalem Artichoke possesses an advantage in that it is quite hardy, thus enabling early planting to be practised without fear of check from spring frosts; indeed, early planting is to be recommended, and although the actual time must be determined by the state of the soil, it should not be deferred longer than is really necessary after February. Ground which has been well prepared in the autumn and left rough during the winter breaks down to a fine tilth after this weathering, and enables planting to proceed under ideal conditions.

The most suitable tubers for planting are those about the size of a hen's egg, but if there is not a sufficient supply of these, larger tubers may be cut. As it is necessary to allow a sufficient amount of space for the development of the stems and foliage, plant them in rows at least 30 inches apart and the tubers 12 inches or 15 inches from each other. The tubers may be planted in drills about 5 inches in depth or dibbled in, but, as is the case with the Potato, more satisfactory results may be expected from those planted with the spade, especially if the soil is of a tenacious character.

Little attention will be required during the growing season beyond frequent hoeing of the plantation, and towards the end of the summer the tubers increase in size rapidly, being ready for use from November onwards. As they are not in the least injured by frost the tubers may be left in the ground, where they keep best, till wanted for use. A portion of the crop may be taken up and stored to ensure a supply during frosty weather, but if a few rows are covered with Bracken or dry leaves this usually admits of the tubers being obtained, even in severe weather, without much difficulty.

Although the Artichoke is a very variable plant when grown from seed, much less has been done in its development than is the case with most other kinds of vegetables. This is, probably, largely due to the fact that the plant does not seed freely in northern latitudes, thus making it very difficult to make numerous and repeated sowings.

The old purple variety and the newer improved white variety are usually grown in this country, but Messrs. Vilmorin, Andrieux, et Cie. have raised several varieties, one known as Patate having long, yellow tubers, and another called Spindle, with shapely fusiform tubers. While the yield of the latter is considerably lower than that of our improved white variety, the percentage of sugar in the tubers is much higher. It would appear, therefore, that the raising of varieties of superior food value is possible of attainment, and this has interest also from an industrial point of view as a possible source of alcohol.

W. AUTON.

Protecting vegetables from frost

Care will now have to be taken that Lettuce and Endive which are being preserved in frames are not injured by frost, as where these are of fairly large size decay sets in very rapidly if frost is allowed to reach them. In the case of severe weather the lights should have a thick covering of litter or Bracken placed upon them, and if the frost continues, allow it to remain on until this has passed away. The sides of the frames will also have to have some litter placed around. On the other hand, ventilation will have to be attended to on all fine days. Cauliflowers will also need protecting, but these must not be unduly coddled. Parsley will also require attention. Once let Parsley become injured by a severe frost or beaten down by snow, decay will rapidly set in. It must not upon any account be coddled, a free circulation of air being essential during damp or mild weather. Protection from frost and snow and a free circulation of air at other times are essential.

Broad Beans amongst other crops

Beans are not a very important crop, as many do not care for them more than once or twice in the season, but few gardens should be without them, and in some they appear to be grown largely; but whether in large or small quantities, I would never grow them by themselves, but amongst other things, as an extra crop. In many cottage gardens, where much has always to be made of small space, it is a favourite way of growing Broad

Beans to place the seeds here and there amongst Potatoes, and no better place could be found for them, but amongst Potatoes is not the only place in which they may be grown. Amongst Onions, Carrots, Parsnips, and even amongst Cabbages, Broccoli, and such like they also grow and do well. The seeds may be put in singly, 2 yards or more apart, amongst any or all of these crops, and they will grow up and bear finer pods than ever they would do crowded together in rows by themselves. M.

Sow Parsley for early use

Where this herb is in constant demand there is sometimes considerable difficulty in keeping up the supply, as the old plants soon run to seed when warm weather comes, while those raised by sowing seeds out-of-doors in early spring take a long time to reach the useful stage. By sowing a pinch of seed now, in a little warmth, pricking off the seedlings when fit to handle into boxes of good soil, fine plants will be obtained that may be planted out early in May, and these will in a short time furnish first-rate leaves in abundance, and will continue to do so for a long time.

Plants of Special Interest at Vincent Square

THE illustrations on the page opposite portray some of the plants of interest seen at the R.H.S. fortnightly show on February 12th. It was a very bright show in spite of the severe wintry weather. The large groups of Cinerarias from Mr. Samuel Walbrook, The Manor House, Stanmore, Middlesex, and from Sutton and Sons were the source of admiration. There were also good displays of Carnations and a group of early Tulips, also collections of well-kept Apples. Following are brief descriptions of the plants illustrated :—

(1) The first illustration is of a spike of the Dendrobium delicatum. A plant of this rare species carrying 20 spikes of small, pure white flowers was shown by Mr. S. G. Brown, of Shepperton, for which Mr. F. W. Thurgood, the gardener, gained a Cultural Commendation for an unusually fine specimen.

(2) IRIS SIND-PERS.—This delightful early-flowering hybrid (I. sindjarensis x persica) was shown by Messrs. Cutbush, and it was also noted on other exhibits. It is free-flowering and an easy doer. The flowers are pale mauve with a flash of golden-orange on the fall, and it is one of the most beautiful of all bulbous Irises.

(3) EARLY-FLOWERING DAFFODILS. — Mrs. Bucknall brought from her favoured garden at Creagh Castle, Doneraile, Co. Cork, a large bunch of a welcome little Daffodil that had for weeks been flowering freely in the open without protection—but this, it should be pointed out, is in south-west, a favoured part, of Ireland. This precocious seedling has been shown before, but previously too early in the year for the Daffodil Committee. The seedling in question is earlier than N. pallidus præcox. It is a small yellow self not unlike N. minor, from which it is probably descended, though its parentage is unknown.

(4) GORDONIA LASIANTHUS.—An Award of Merit, subject to revision of name, was granted to this tender shrub, which is seldom seen in flower. Shown by Lt.-Col. Messel (gardener, Mr. J. Comber), Nymans, Handcross, Sussex. It is a North American evergreen shrub requiring greenhouse treatment. The cup-shaped flowers are white, not unlike single Camellias, to which genus it is closely related.

(5) MILTONIA LYCÆNA ORCHIDHURST VARIETY.—First-class Certificate. The most outstanding flower in the show. The blooms of this remarkable Miltonia were 4 inches across and of a rich ruby-red, edged white. Shown by Baron Bruno Schröder, Dell Park, Englefield Green.

(6) DWARF RHODODENDRON K.W. 6273.—Award of Merit. A young seedling plant about 1 foot high was shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild (gardener, Mr. A. Bedford), Exbury, Southampton. The flowers, borne in pairs, are large for the size of the plant, slightly fragrant, and have dark chocolate-coloured anthers. It was raised from seed collected in the Tsangpo Gorge by Capt. Kingdon Ward. H. C.

Sowing seeds under glass

WITH the advent of a new year we are reminded that to make a success with many an annual blooming from early summer onwards an early start is imperative. One must have a mean temperature of about 60 degs.—a little more or less in keeping with outside conditions need not hinder the sowing of many of our choicest greenhouse plants, some of which require rather a long time to reach the flowering stage, notably, Begonias, Gloxinias, and Streptocarpus.

Glass accommodation is only one of the necessities for producing young plants of a healthy nature; we must have a suitable compost, clean pans, and drainage, as well as a convenient shelf within a foot or so of the glass roof, immediately the seedlings are through the soil, as a preventative against elongation or decay by damping.

Shallow pans or even boxes a foot in length are far preferable to the ordinary flower-pot, which is, as a rule, too deep for tiny seeds such as enumerated above, and a compost of about equal parts loam and leaf-soil passed through a fine sieve, with a good percentage of clean, fine sand to ensure efficient drainage when water has to be given, with ample bottom drainage, evenly placed with a little Moss or half-decayed leaves as a preventative of the finer mixture getting among the crocks. Fill the receptacles within ¼ inch of the top, pressing moderately firm and leaving an even surface and stand them in 3 inches or so of water so that the soil becomes moist to the top. This should be continued whenever moisture is required, an old galvanised bath being very suitable for such a purpose. Let them drain for an hour, then sow the tiny seeds thinly, barely covering with a little fine silver sand. Thick sowing leads to "fogging off" during dull or foggy weather. Further, when sown thus the tiny plants make quicker progress and do not need pricking off so soon.

As regards covering the seeds, such as Salvias, Dahlias, Lobelia, Antirrhinums, Clarkias, Godetias, and Sweet Peas, one must be guided by the size of seed and cover accordingly, neither of which must be subjected to too much heat or coddled in any way. All excepting the Antirrhinums make capital pot plants for greenhouse or conservatory.

The pricking off of tiny seedlings requires much care and patience so as not to bruise them with the dibber. A similar soil suits most of them. A little fine peat may be added to Gloxinias and Streptocarpus. Careful watering and a light shade during bright weather and careful ventilation, guarding against the cutting winds of early spring, are necessary.

Turning our attention to the vegetable garden, there are several things that one can forward by several weeks if one has a glass structure where hard frost can be kept out, and by covering the seed pans or boxes with
mats or similar material even an ord
frame may be used to good account
tended to in this respect. Such thin
Peas, Broad Beans, Lettuce, Caulifl
Cabbage, Leeks, and Onions, all of
grow more sturdily without artificial he

The preparation for the seed may b
same as for the warmer subjects menti
Here, again, the advice stands good
gards thin sowing and careful waterin
ventilating immediately the seed has
nated. Even Spinach and Parsley m
included if hard weather cripples the ou
beds, while a few pots or boxes of early
toes may be hastened under these condi
but, as before stated, every precaution
be taken against severe weather.

The frost will penetrate cold frames
well banked all around with litter an
glass is heavily covered. It is also a
ground for mice, who quickly devour
and Beans, so that frequent exami
must be made for them. Should an
row of Celery be required sow in a pa
place in the warmer house mentioned
It takes rather long to germinate, b
end of February will be soon enou
sow. J. MA

Work in the general nurse

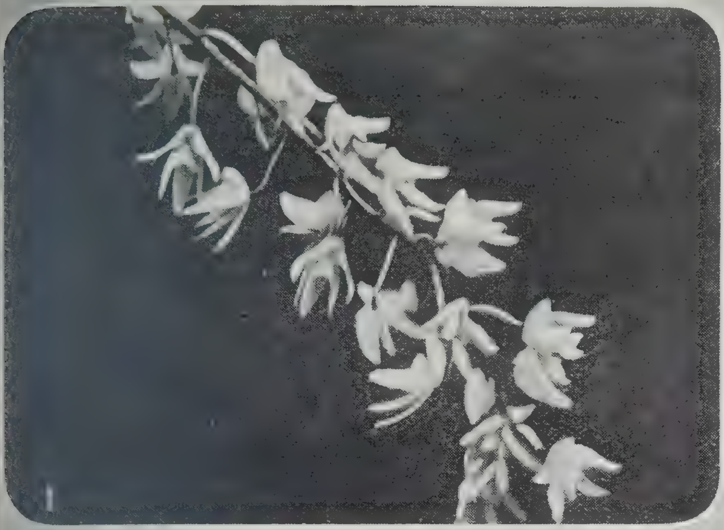
It is now the turn of the knifesman.
knifesmen are born, others can only b
expert by long practice. The most par
work for the knife just now is the
back of budded stocks, whether Rose,
or tree. This has to be done before t
becomes too active, for loss of energy
be avoided so far as the buds are con
Not only so, all failures among th
stocks have to be made good by gr
and the time for doing this is close at
Thus the failures are cut back only
half the length of the stock so that a
cut may be made at grafting time.

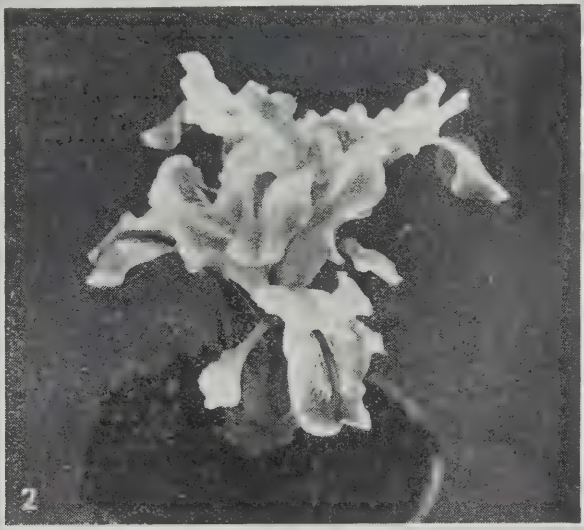
There will now be a big planting
unsold stock, for it is not a good p
drive this off till the latest day of
Roses especially are very active, and c
will transplant better now than aft
middle of March, but Roses are not t
things, there being others of an ev
character, more difficult to shift,
which every day passing tells against

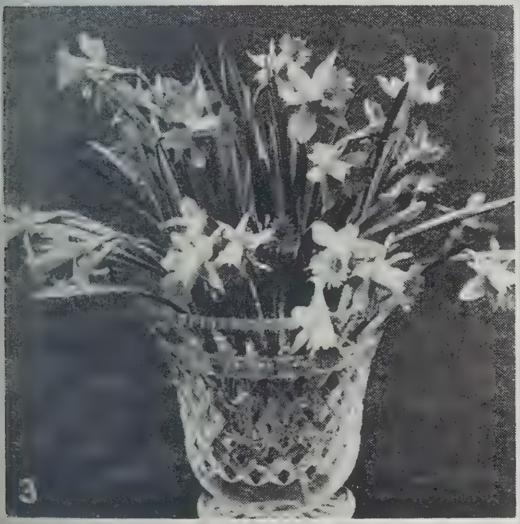
Indoors things begin to hum. Ther
potting off of rooted cuttings, the tra
ing of thousands of seedlings, the so
as many more, and still the propaga
general stock by cuttings. The Dahli
just begun to push up cuttings, and t
taken as soon as ready, for nothing
quicker. The solid young shoots root
but after a day or two they are apt to
hollow (pipey) if left on the root, a
cuttings either refuse to root or make
long job of it. This is one of the mos
the most, congested seasons of the ye
beside the working up of summer stoc
is a vast bulk of special Easter stu
the heated houses. Arums, Spiræas,
bulbs, with other flowering plants,
Cinerarias, Primulas, Hydrangeas,
every nook and corner, and I refer
because of the danger they c
wherever crowded, where they offer
tation to Green Fly and other pests
well to take precautions, and, as I
have before stated, I have found t
fumes of Alvesco sprinkled about
gassy protection which they will not f
Hc

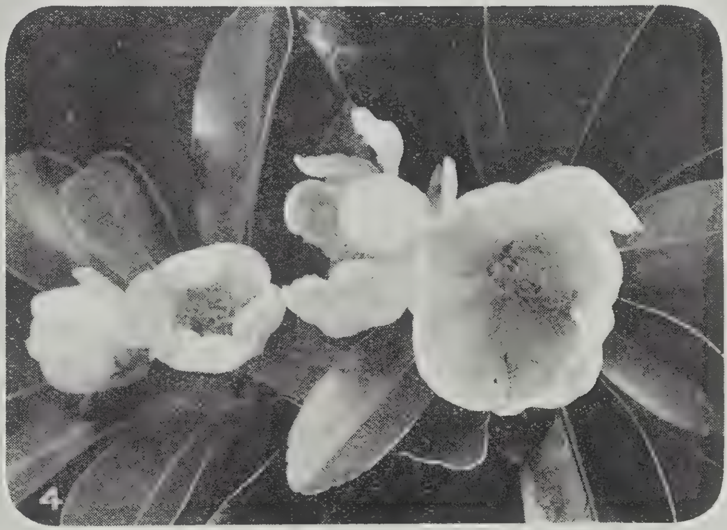
Overheard in an Oxford college

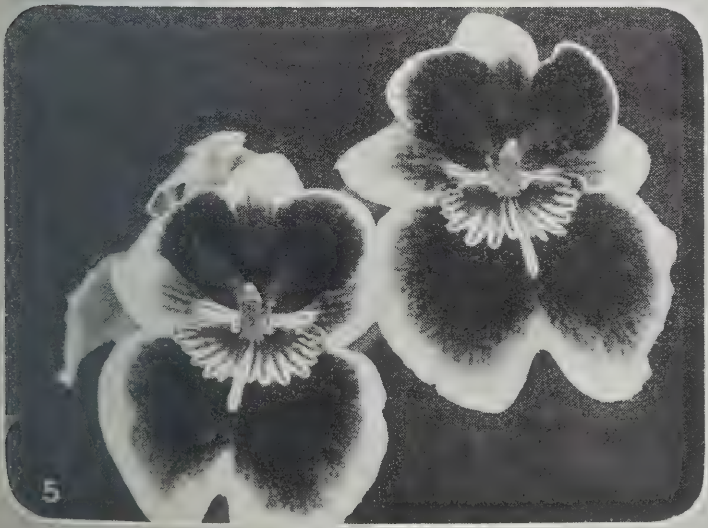
Lady to friend, looking at an Ere
"Ah! I see, this is a different col
when they are red they are called
Pokers. I *adore* Red-hot Pokers."
L.

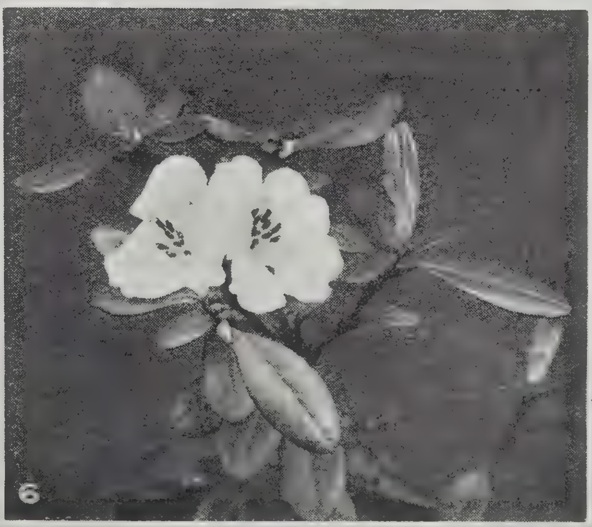












NEW AND INTERESTING PLANTS SEEN AT VINCENT SQUARE ON FEBRUARY 12th

1. Dendrobium delicatum, with numerous small white flowers.
2. Iris Sind-pers, one of the most beautiful of all bulbous Irises.
3. An early self yellow Daffodil from Creagh Castle, Ireland.
4. Gordonia Lasianthus, seldom seen in flower.
5. The splendid Miltonia Lycæna Orchidhurst Variety, rich ruby-red.
6. Rhododendron K.W. 6273, a dwarf Chinese species.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Chrysanthemums

Many of those rooted early in the year will be ready for a shift into larger pots, and this must be attended to before the little plants become potbound. Especially does this apply to those varieties which are intended to produce large flowers. A good, rich, loamy compost should be used, consisting of maiden loam three parts, and one part sweet but well-decayed leaf-mould and sharp sand. A cool, low house or cold frame will be found very suitable for such plants from this date, providing it can be rendered frost-proof, and when growth is seen to be free the amount of air should be increased, otherwise the plants will grow too soft and luxuriant.

Border Chrysanthemums

Insert cuttings of these useful varieties as fast as such become available. These may be struck either in a cool or heated frame, the latter usually being resorted to only when very large numbers have to be propagated. A little shade may be necessary during sunny hours, and a light dewing of the foliage once each day will maintain the cuttings in a fresh condition and assist root-action. Some varieties are shy in producing cuttings, and where doubt exists as to the required number being produced the old plants should be divided up and placed in a warm, moist frame to encourage growth.

Zonal and other Pelargoniums

These will now be throwing quantities of flower-spikes, and will derive much benefit from weak applications of liquid-manure, moisture, and warmth—especially from sun-heat—may with advantage be increased, and where it is advisable to add to any particular variety a few cuttings may be inserted at the present time.

Poinsettia pulcherrima

Place the old stools in heat where they may be sprayed daily to encourage the development of sturdy cuttings, which may be inserted in sandy soil when about 3 inches in length. The roots of the stools should be kept upon the dry side until growth is again active, otherwise there is a tendency for these to decay.

Perpetual and Malmaison Carnations

From this date a little artificial manure may be applied to these plants with advantage either in a liquid state or dusted over the surface of the soil. The temperature may also be permitted to rise considerably during hours of sunshine, but no difference must be permitted with night temperatures. Air may be given more freely on the sheltered sides of the houses, and staking of the plants must no longer be delayed.

Bedding plants

Push forward the propagation of these, also a variety of plants needed for the maintenance of conservatories and greenhouses during summer, such as Coleus, Fuchsias, Lantanas, Cannas, by means of suckers, Salvias, Statice, Acacias, and other ornamental subjects.

Sow seeds

The following should now be freely sown in a temperature of 55 degs. to 65 degs.:—Aquilegias, not omitting some of the beautiful species, such as A. cœrulea, A. glandulosa, and A. Skinneri; also Pentstemons, Antirrhinums, Petunias, Verbena Rose Queen (a very beautiful variety), Chelone barbata and its varieties, Scabiosa caucasica, Evening Primroses, Lobelias, and Lilies, of which a large variety is available and most of which may be relied upon to germinate freely. Well-drained pans of sandy soil should be used.

Peaches and Nectarines

When growing in the open these should now be sprayed with "Medela" to prevent the devastating effects of Leaf Curl, as trees badly affected lose half their vitality at a time when clean growth is most essential.

Strawberry beds

A light forking over of the surface soil, burying whatever is left of the manure put about the plants in the autumn, will not only improve the appearance of the beds, but, by admitting air and warmth, will prove beneficial to the plants.

Kitchen garden

On light land Jerusalem Artichokes may now be planted, but on heavy land defer this for another fortnight; also make a further sowing of Broad Beans on well-prepared land.

Parsnips

A first sowing of these may now be made. The ground should have been deeply dug and enriched early in the winter, and thus work freely now.

Peas

Make generous sowings of Peter Pan, Onward, and Little Marvel in pots, and raise in a cold house or frame. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Pot up Begonias

It is now time to remove the dormant tubers from their winter quarters and get them started into growth. Prepare a light compost, mainly of leaf-mould and sand, and place each tuber in a small pot, barely covering with the soil. Set in a temperature of about 60 degs. Keep moist, but not saturated, and growth will very soon start away. Shallow cutting-boxes may be used instead of pots where preferred, the same compost being suitable.

Potting Chrysanthemums

As cuttings of the late-flowering varieties become nicely rooted they should be potted off singly and returned to the same temperature until well established, when a cold frame will be found to be the best place for them. Cuttings may yet be secured should there be any shortage of stock.

Insert cuttings of greenhouse plants

Such things as Fuchsias, Petunias, Regal Pelargoniums, Zonal Pelargoniums, Statices, Crassulas, and many others may all be rooted readily at this time if fresh young growths are available for cuttings. Keep rather close and shade from the sun.

Pot on autumn-rooted cuttings

Young plants that have been wintered in the cutting-pots should now be shaken out and potted up singly, using fresh compost, returning to the same house or pit and giving them a little shade for a week.

Starting Dahlias

While it is a mistake to start these into growth too early it will be found that good results will follow if the old stools be now planted in shallow boxes, some leaf-mould or light compost being worked in among the roots. The shoots are sturdier if only moderate warmth be given, but the cuttings, when inserted, may, with advantage, be a little bottom heat to encourage the production of roots.

Prick off Tomatoes

As soon as the seedlings are fit to h prick off into 2-inch pots (boxes may be if preferred), using a sweet but not too compost. Shade from all sunshine week, elevating the little plants as clo possible to the roof-glass. A temperatu this stage of 65 degs. is very suitable fo plant.

Cucumbers and Melons

With the fast-lengthening days the now considerably less trouble in raising so seeds may be sown freely in accor with requirements.

The vineries

In the earliest houses the tying dow pinching of the laterals must have pe attention, while others breaking into g should be disbudded in good time. Th constant saturation of the soil is harmfu greatest care is necessary to see that time are the roots permitted to suffer dryness.

Apricots and Peaches

As these two valuable fruits open flowers early it is imperative that some of protection from frost and cold rains b vided. It is wonderful how effective fo purpose is a double ply of fruit ne Arrange in such a way as to prevent its rubbed against the flowers by the wind course, properly made blinds tilted so roll up during fine days are better, though somewhat expensive, will, with last for years.

What may be planted

Should the soil be in working order th still time for the planting of Apples, Cur Gooseberries, Pears, Plums, and berries, but on no account attempt this when the soil is either sodden with sn rain, or hard with frost.

Get pruning and nailing finished

While all fruit trees and bushes may pruned it is advisable to have such finished at the earliest opportunity, fo sap is beginning to rise and buds are so knocked off after they begin to swell.

Other things to plant

Roses, most hardy shrubs, hardy pere (herbaceous), hardy climbing plants, edges, hedge plants, and suchlike may taken in hand during suitable weather. bulk of rock garden plants may also be without damage at this season.

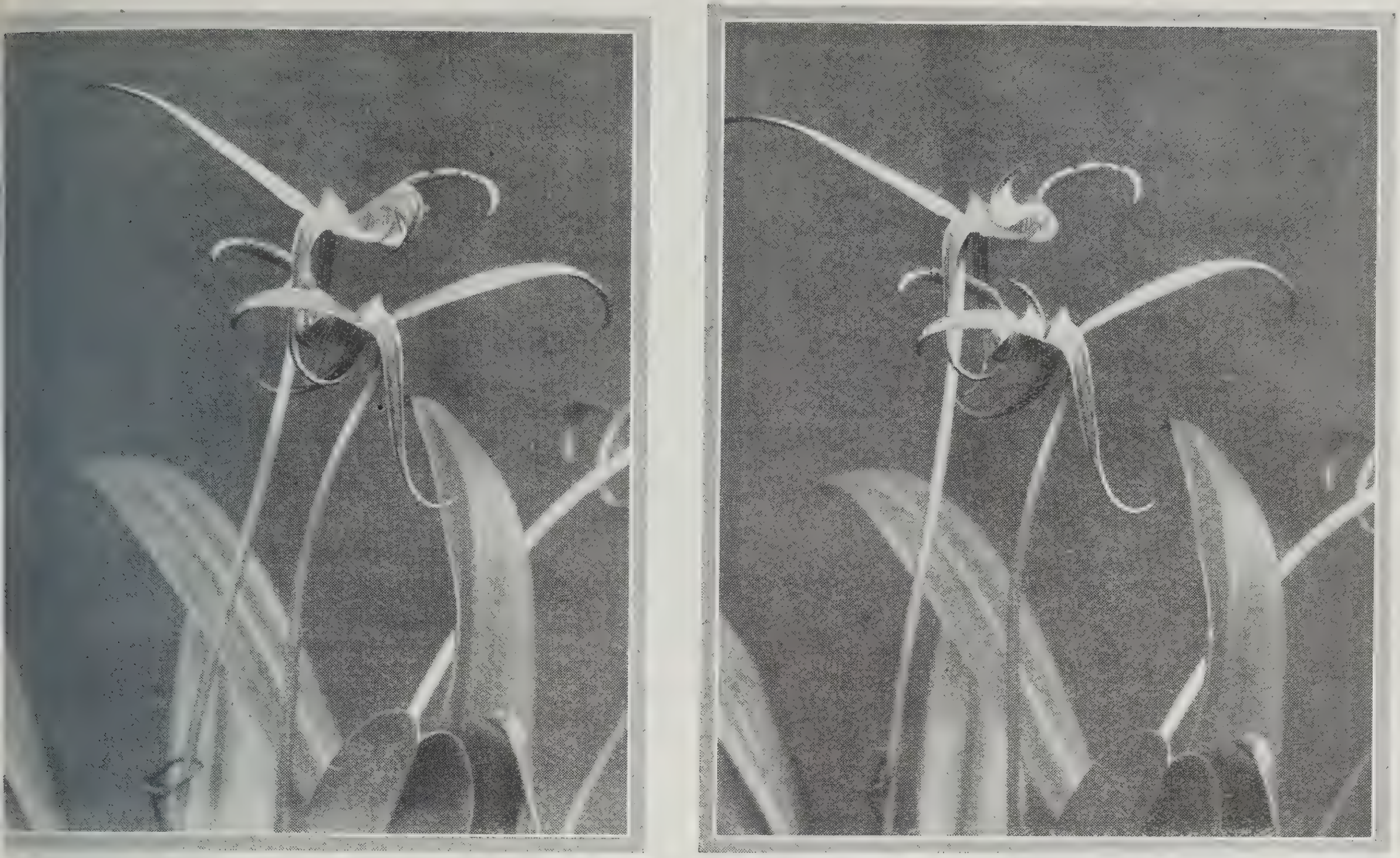
Raising Aquilegias

This delightful hardy plant does no kindly to division of the roots, but tunately, it is easily raised from seeds these should be sown now in pans or bo good, sweet compost and set in a greenh There are numerous high-class strains market. The plant is not, nowadays, a liver, so it is well to raise fresh stock y

The modern Polyanthus

Few hardy plants have been so wond improved of recent years as has this spring-flowering subject. Though it c readily increased by division it is a fact seedlings produce by far the finest flow it is well to raise a number yearly i way, and by sowing now in gentle w very much finer plants are got than wh sowing is made in the open garden. a good strain, it being just as easy to as a poor one. C. BL

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.



BULBOPHYLLUM LOBBII

Upper flower (one sepal removed) showing lip in normal position in
diness for an insect. The pedestal and foot of column also
own. The lip is hinged and a slight touch will set it in oscillation.

Flowers showing the labellums overbalanced as they would be were a fly between them and the column faces. The upper flower shows the pedestal and the point of lip movement.

Bulbophyllums and their Allies

One of the distinguishing features of the Order Orchidacæ is that in all species the third petal, the lip (labellum), is more or less specialised to attract and guide some particular insect species to fertilise the flower, in many cases such specialisation preventing the entrance of less favoured insects, though to them the flower may have attractions.

) a great extent each genus has its own
eculiar modification of the lip, but cer-
ain genera appear to have adopted practi-
the same means, or general formation,
tain the desired end. Thus, under the
ion name Cypripedium, four distinct
id families have evolved a similar lip
cter, that of a slipper or cup, which, by
ape, facilitates the entrance of certain
s, but ensures their departure by other
ges, in passing through which the re-
ment of the pollinia is ensured.

lip structure is even more remarkable
lbophyllum, Cirrhopetalum, and Mega-
m. From the foot of the column—the
ure which carries the stigma and pollen
produced a short, sturdy pedestal, on
the labellum is hinged so delicately
a breath of air or a slight touch to the
r will, in many species, set it in oscilla-

the majority of the three genera the lip
gue-shaped and arched, with the point
ward. On an insect crawling or alight-
n the lip and going beyond the centre
uipoise, overbalance is caused, and the
finds itself precipitated head down-
s, its legs still clasping, or on, the lip,
its back against the column. In
gling to regain a more comfortable posi-
it removes the pollinia, which adheres,
ly, to the back of the thorax. Escaping
the flower and visiting a second, the
goes through the same gyrations, but
s the pollen from the first on the stigma
of the second flower, in turn removing and carrying off a second set of pollen masses.

The insect is the unconscious means by which the flower is fertilised. Hybridity is practically prevented by the fact that no two species are quite alike in size and structure, so that probably only one or a very few kinds of insects are of the right size to enter and escape from the flowers of a particular species. Too large an insect, and the lip overbalances, preventing entrance to the flower and access to the pollen. Too small, and the insect could crawl in and out without disturbing the lip balance.

In Cirrhopetalum, a name derived from cirrhos, a tendril, and petalon, a flower-leaf, not only does the lip oscillate, but the two lateral sepals are greatly enlarged, lengthened, and twisted completely over, so that what were originally the under-surfaces are now uppermost, and the outer edges become the inner.

In the majority of species these two (really the outer) edges are confluent for the greater part of their length. Often they diverge at their tips, but apart from this divergence an opening is usually present basally. This opening allows free movement to the lip. Its origin may be readily seen if the two lower sepals of a Cattleya, or even a Lily, be twisted over. The twisting process produces an orifice basally. Without actually cutting, tearing, or causing the segments to overlap, the two outer margins cannot be made to touch at their bases.

In some instances, however, Nature has an alternative or remedy. Both in this and the allied genera some species have the basal portions enlarged so that coherence is complete and a "chin" is formed in which the third petal can move, but within limits.

Support is thus gained, and undue pressure on the lip avoided.

The dividing line between Bulbophyllum and Cirrhopetalum is not very clearly defined, but, broadly speaking, it may be said that in Bulbophyllum the twist is often not completed, the presence of "chins" is more prevalent, and while the inflorescence of Cirrhopetalum assumes a more or less umbel-like character, usually unfinished, that of Bulbophyllum presents no definite character, some species producing single flowers on short, tall, erect, or lateral scapes, others a multitude of small flowers aggregated into a cone-like formation, which may droop on a short peduncle or surmount a comparatively tall, erect stalk.

In B. saurocephalum and a few allies the rachis (the flower-bearing portion of the peduncle) is swollen and the small flowers are set at intervals on the whole of the surface, sometimes partially embedded.

Though the name Bulbophyllum is taken from bulbos, a bulb, and phyllon, a leaf, in certain species pseudo-bulbs are entirely absent.

In Cirrhopetalum the lip usually assumes the shape of a tongue, and though this is a favourite form in Bulbophyllum, many members of that genus have their labellums strongly haired, so much so as to hide the real outlines.

Usually in all three genera the labellums and petals are greatly reduced, while the upper sepal is often smaller than the lateral.

In Bulbophyllum the sepals and petals are generally clean in outline, but many

Cirrhopetalums have the dorsal sepal and petals ornamented with tufts or tassels of hair.

Megaclinium, from megas, large, and kline, a bed, is distinguished from the preceding genera by the curiously flattened rachis, which is compressed into a leaf-like form and carries the flowers at regular intervals on both of its sides. Some species have the rachis set at right angles to the stems, resembling a single direction signpost, but in others the compression occurs quite low on the peduncle and assumes, or tries to assume, the form of a spiral.

The flowers are small, but the rachis is usually an additional attraction. As in Bulbophyllum the sepals are the larger organs, and in Megaclinium the dorsal sepal is usually hooded and is the larger. The flowers are so turned as to face the rachis.

The distribution of the three genera is very wide. Cirrhopetalums extend from Ceylon through all the warmer parts of the Eastern hemisphere. Bulbophyllums have practically the same range, but, in addition, a number are found in Africa and a few scattered species are met with in tropical America.

Megacliniums are confined to Africa, chiefly to the western portion; at any rate, as far as the cultivated species are known.

None of the three genera contain plants of decided decorative value, but all of them seem to possess some special feature, and are so quaint in structure or bright in colour that often attention is drawn to them before plants of greater horticultural merit are noticed.

Personal taste must decide as to which are the better worth cultivating, but once one or two have found place in an Orchid collection their fascination is such that it becomes more and more difficult to separate the so-called botanical species from those which have, at any rate, superficially greater floral attraction.

In Bulbophyllum the giants of the genus are Fletcherianum and macrobulbon. Both are natives of New Guinea and are similar in habit, with sturdy, wrinkled pseudo-bulbs, carrying a single, large, fleshy, glaucous leaf. A plant of B. Fletcherianum was shown recently by Messrs. Sanders, in which the largest leaf was 20 inches long. The single inflorescence contained 21 flowers set closely together on a short, thick peduncle. The lower sepals, some 3 inches long, are joined together on their inner edges, while their outer edges are brought upwards and inward, and are also connate through the greatest part of their length. The upper sepal is shorter, and only the tips of the petals can be seen. These, with the tongue, are of a bright crimson-red, the remainder of the flower dull red, broken with grey.

Seen in profile a flower is not unlike an eagle's beak partially open, with the upper mandible much shortened.

B. macrobulbon, awarded under the name of B. Balfourii, has smaller flowers similarly coloured, but with a yellowish ground. The segments are broadly triangular and the flowers open more widely. They have been likened to the gaping mouth of a young bird, the resemblance being heightened by the comparatively large blood-red lip.

Two illustrations on page 129 are of B. Lobbii, a species often met with in gardens, and always noticeable not for brilliant colouring, as the whole flower is in shades of fawn-yellow, but the comparatively large tongue-like lip nods at the slightest touch, and as the flowers are carried on erect stalks, are 2 inches to 3 inches across, and the sepals are incompletely twisted the movements of the lip can be seen at a glance.

In the first illustration (No. 1) a lower sepal of the upper flower has been removed, showing the lip in its normal position in readiness for an insect.

The second illustration shows a flower, also with a sepal removed, showing the lip overbalanced, the position in which it would be were an insect between its upper surface and the column face.

Both illustrations show the flowers in profile to a great extent.

Colossus, a much larger-flowered variety than the type, comes from Malaya. A wonderful specimen, was at one time in the possession of the late Mr. Walter Divided into several plants it is now common.

The pseudo-bulbs of the type are what conical, spaced at intervals on a ing rhizome, and carry a single leaf.

Dearei is very near to Lobbii, bu peduncles are shorter and the flower flushed with orange and ornamented purple streaks.

E. Coo

(To be continued.)

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pla be named should send fair examples of eac stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of and points of shoots are useless.) Not more four plants should be sent in any one week same correspondent. Where more than on is sent they should be numbered. Of conife cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in di stages of colour and size of the same kind assist in its determination. Single, unri deformed specimens are difficult to nam do not undertake to name more than varieties at one time.*

ORCHIDS

Treatment of Dendrobiums

(Regular Reader).—Unfortunately, you do not state the variety, or varieties, of your Dendrobiums, and the treatment given to different types varies in details. The following is recommended in the case of D. nobile, which, most likely, may be the particular form referred to in your query. Old plants which are in 8-inch pots or over need not be potted oftener than once in every two or three years, but they ought to be surface-dressed annually. The best time at which to repot is when the flowering period is over and when the plants are beginning to push out growths from the base of the old stems. After repotting, the plants require a moist, warm atmosphere. Pot or surface-dress with turfy peat and live Sphagnum Moss in equal parts, with a little charcoal and plenty of crocks (potsherds) among the mixture. Dead portions ought, of course, to be excised carefully. Small plants growing freely should be potted on every year.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Climbing plant for north-east wall

(W. J. O.).—For a wall with this aspect Lonicera aureo reticula, Jasminum nudiflorum (see illustration, page 118), J. officinale album, Lupinus arboreus, and Euonymus radicans variegatus can be recommended. The Clematis will succeed, but less satisfactorily than in a better position. You might try C. viticella rubra or C. viticella alba, but C. Jackmanni would, frankly, be very speculative. Some of the deciduous Magnolias occasionally do well in rather unpromising places, and one or more of these would certainly justify a trial.

Making a Heath garden

(S. W.).—Although, perhaps, Heaths grow best in peaty or boggy quarters, it is a mistake to assume that they can only be grown in such soil. As your staple includes much clay it is desirable to remove a proportion of the surface soil, say, to the depth of 6 inches or, perhaps, a little more, and to replace it with a mixture of sound loam and leaf-mould well firmed. The effects of summer drought could be minimised by surface mulching with half-decayed leaves or some similar material. Try Erica australis (which does well in rather dry places), E. carnea, E. cinerea (the Grey Heath), E. stricta, E. vagans (the C Heath), which will grow in almost ar and E. ciliaris (the Dorset Heath), w too little appreciated and which is as as any other Heath of native or of Eu origin.

Treatment of a young Beech he

(D. K.).—You would be encoura more stocky growth if you topped a plants at the present time, cutting tho leggy character back more severely th remaining, even down to the lowest branches, and also pruning the latter their present length. Beech hedges be clipped annually in spring just growth commences. They will then their leaves throughout the winter A light mulch applied during summ assist free development and bushy con

Unsatisfactory Retinispora

(W. J. O.).—As your specimen incr size and is, apparently, in good he may be surmised that the partial d some portions is due to a local co For instance, the roots may be wor soil which is rather damp, and, if it ble to do so, this may be tested by lif plant. Lifting will do it no harm, at all too large for the operation. planting, use a barrowload of light which has been mixed some brickb plant very firmly. If the specimen posed to cutting winds the partial branches may be traced to that, an March and April an improvised shelt effect a cure. Generally speaking, sporas are always liable in some d the failing to which you refer, and though annoying, is not necessarily

Boundary hedge beneath trees

(D. K.).—Holly, Yew, Box, Laurel, and the common Laurel a very good hedges, but the former doubtedly, the best for this purpose, mon Ilex Aquifolium for preference. ping once each year, between July tember, is all it requires.

Acacia dealbata in the open

(S. W., Torquay).—As not only th Wattle (Acacia dealbata), but A. lo can be most successfully grown in th bourhood of Dawlish, in your coun appears to be no reason why they sh succeed at Torquay. Both flower ea

alike on a wall and in the form of small
n the open. It may be helpful to name
other good things noted at the same
-they, too, of course, were out of
—The Snowdrop Tree (Halesia tetrap-
the Tulip Tree (Liriodendron tulip-
), all the Magnolias, the Pagoda Tree
ra japonica), the Maidenhair Tree
go biloba), several Abelias, Em-
um coccineum, Bamboos of many
Jacaranda mimosæfolia with blue
s, Schinus molle, Lagerstrœmeria
and Banksia quercifolia. A perfect
se for the finer shrubs.

FLOWER GARDEN

s for north border

M. M.).—There is a wide—a very wide
ce of plants suitable for the borders to
you refer. Spiræas, for example,
include S. venusta, S. palmata, and S.
us. Oriental Poppies would succeed,
meria aurea, Irises of the Flag section,
ay Lily (Hemerocallis), Tritomas, all
elenium family, the majority of the
(Michaelmas Daisies), Lenten Roses,
icums, Montbretias, and Bocconia
a. If you have control of the wall, *i.e.*,
not planted with fruit trees, you might
ome pieces of the Flame Flower
eolum speciosum) against it, placing
" spriggy " stakes against the wall for
ropæolum to climb upon. Hollyhocks
alternative would do well in front of the

lowers

P.).—Much pollen and some honey are
ed from the flowers of the Crocus;
alpina is one of the earliest bee flowers.
arly variety of the yellow Wallflower
outes to the support of bees during the
pring. Limnanthes Douglasi is one of
ost valuable of honey-yielding plants,
very hardy. Borage, which blooms
May to late into the autumn, is con-
visited by the bees, even in damp
er, its drooping flowers yielding nectar
other blossoms are charged with mois-
The following also produce large
ties of bee food. They are easy of
tion, grow luxuriantly in almost any
nd their appearance in masses renders
worthy of consideration for beds and
s apart from their value as bee
s:—Sweet Sultan, Trifolium suaveo-
Pulmonaria mollis, Melilotus, Phacelia
ta, P. alba, Honeyworts, Anchusa
ea, Dwarf Sunflower, Alyssum mari-
, A. saxatile, Candytuft. The flowers
le, Pear, and Plum trees are visited by
es on every opportunity, as also are
berry and Currant trees when in flower.
early spring the various kinds of
afford abundance of pollen. During
onth of July Lime trees yield a great
of stores, and in August and Sep-
the Giant Balsam comes into flower,
ng the bees an opportunity of replenish-
cells with stores for the winter at a
hen many other plants have ceased to
honey. Flowers of the Turnip, Cab-
and of all the Brassica tribe are much
by bees, as are the flowers of the Field
rd. In the spring long flights cannot
en with safety, owing to the variable-
f the temperature, and numbers of bees
ave the hive on early foraging expedi-
never return. It is, therefore, good
to provide plantations of early bee
in the neighbourhood of the apiary.

Snowdrop seed

R. C.).—You must keep a close watch
seed-pods, and as soon as they show
st sign of bursting gather them and
thinly on newspaper in a dry but not
place until dry. It is well to sow
these seeds as soon as they are ripe. A good plan is to sow in pans or boxes filled with light, sandy soil. Cover each with a pane of glass and set in a cold frame which never gets the sun. When the seedlings (they are very fragile) are in a fit state to handle they can be pricked off into other boxes, or else, which is a better plan, sow very thinly, and there will be no need to prick off. They will, naturally, die down and disappear, so the receptacles should be kept carefully out of doors in a shady place until winter, when they can be placed again in the frame, and by the following year may be planted out. They take a little time to reach the flowering state.

Potentilla Farreri

I have a specimen of this which is getting leggy and bare in its lower parts. May I prune it heavily in about six weeks' time, so as to induce it to make some bottom growth? It might be advisable to cut it back hard as one may do with Spiræa Anthony Waterer.

A. H. Wolley-Dod.

[You may safely cut this shrub back to within 1 foot of the ground at the end of March, and if you pinch the tips out of the young shoots which follow when they have attained from 5 inches to 8 inches in length you will hasten the bushy development of your specimen.]

Crinum bulbs

(H. D. R.).—There are numerous varieties of the Crinum, some of them hardy, in your county, if the bulbs are planted about 8 inches deep, while others require greenhouse protection. It is difficult, therefore, for us to give directions suitable for all the sorts. One little detail, however, is applicable to all, and that is the necessity of giving the bulbs a rest. After flowering, every encouragement should be given for the plants to make strong, healthy growth, abundance of water being one of the main aids to this. As soon, however, as full growth has been completed and the foliage begins to change colour, gradually reduce the water supply, but at no time should the soil be left for long in an entirely dry state. In due course growth will again spring, and the amount of water should be gradually increased. The bulbs that fail to bloom should be given same treatment, and will eventually bloom.

St. Brigid Anemones

(Inquirer).—St. Brigid Anemones require a deep, well-cultivated soil rather on the light side. If heavy, steps should be taken to lighten it, and good drainage should be assured. A layer of good, well-rotted cow dung placed a foot below the surface is beneficial, and when the soil preparation is finished the bed should be raised 4 inches to 6 inches above the ground-level. All soil preparation should be carried out well in advance of planting the tubers to allow the soil to settle again. The tubers should generally be planted in September, except in wet, cold districts, where February-planting gives better result. The tubers should be 2 inches deep and 9 inches apart. Early in summer the bed should be mulched with a layer of fine leaf-mould, which helps to keep the plants moist during summer. Water freely during really dry weather. Early in August, or when the plants show signs of ripening by yellow colouration in the foliage, they should be lifted with some earth attached and stored in a dry place until it is time to replant. We will reply to your Celery and Leek question next week.

GREENHOUSE

Primula obconica

(F. A. W.).—From your letter it would appear that the spores of the fungus concerned are not harboured in the tank, woodwork, or glass of your conservatory. On the other hand, you do not keep your plants more than one season, and therefore your new batches must be infected by the spores of Botrytis from some source, either in or near the house. Are there any permanent plants in the house which would be likely to cause the trouble? On the cultural side we should prefer to follow the pricking out of the seedlings by potting them into 3-inch pots and then shifting them on into 5-inch pots. You might try the effect of adding a little sulphate of potash to your potting mixture, and, in addition, a little old lime-rubble. If your turf is not too heavy in character two parts turf and one part leaf-soil would be a better mixture. When the final pots are full of roots a little weak soot-water might be applied once a week with advantage. Primulas like a nice, airy structure, and any damp places in the house should be avoided, because damp conditions favour the spread of the Botrytis fungus. A little flowers of sulphur would help to control the trouble if applied early in the winter when the trouble first appears.

Mystery Lily

(L. D.).—We presume you refer to "The Monarch of the East" (Arum cornutum). After the bloom fades pot up, using good soil and giving plenty of water. Small side bulbs are sometimes produced when so treated, but these would take a considerable time to reach the flowering stage. You can procure large bulbs from Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

Pelargonium Mrs. Pollock

(G. F. T.).—This old and popular variety was raised by Mr. Peter Grieve, a most successful cultivator of Pelargoniums. He started in 1853 by crossing Flower of the Day with the pollen of Tom Thumb, and he raised a fine variety, long since discarded, called Culford Beauty. According to Shirley Hibbard it was in 1857-8 that Peter Grieve made the cross Emperor of the French and Gold Pheasant, and the result was the two most celebrated of all the golden tricolours, viz., Mrs. Pollock and Sunset. Further information on the subject will be found in the little "History of Variegated Zonal Pelargoniums," by Peter Grieve, published by Blackwood.

Cineraria trouble

(W. N., Southampton).—We have carefully examined your specimen plant and we can find nothing present that would account for the trouble. The roots are healthy and the plant is free from disease at the collar. It appears to us likely that some cultural detail is at fault. Many things could cause the scorched foliage, *e.g.*, an overdose of a fumigant might do the damage. Water collecting on the foliage during a very cold night followed by bright sunshine the next morning before the foliage had dried might cause the damage. Allowing the temperature of the house to fall very low during any one night, or if the plants had been allowed to become dry at the roots, each might be followed by the burnt foliage. We are sorry we cannot be more definite; we are certain that the plants are free from insect pest or fungus disease.

Richardia Elliotiana

(W. A.).—Failures with this plant are not uncommon, the principal reason being that it is usually considered to be a yellow counterpart of the common Lily of the Nile, and treated accordingly. To grow the variety satisfactorily the tubers must be dried off and well rested. About the end of the year they begin to show signs of starting into growth, and directly this movement is seen they must be shaken clear of the old soil and repotted. R. Elliotiana is a liberal feeder, and a mixture of two parts good loam and one part each of leaf-mould and well-rotted manure with a little sand will suit it. During the growing period the plants must have a temperature higher than that of the ordinary greenhouse; indeed, failing an intermediate house, they ought to be started in the coolest part of the stove and removed to the greenhouse when the spathes are some way advanced. Particular care must be taken that aphides do not attack the foliage. Toward the end of summer the plant goes to rest, and during the resting period it must be kept absolutely dry.

Pelargonium on greenhouse wall

(J. M.).—Early in April thin out all the sappy growths to which you refer and cut the whole of the shoots back very drastically—almost, in fact, to within 3 feet from the surface of the border. Do not water the plant, after cutting it back, for 10 days, then water as its requirements indicate, avoiding, always, a superfluity of moisture. Secure the young growths to the trellis as they advance, occasionally pinching out the extreme tips of the leading shoots, until the space is furnished. This treatment ought to result in abundance of bloom during summer and autumn, but, with the limited heat at your disposal, it is not to be expected that flowers will be produced during the winter and early spring months. In a border such as that described stimulants ought to be given very sparingly, otherwise bloom will be sacrificed to growth.

Greenhouse flowers discoloured

(" Old Subscriber ").—It is fumes of some kind that has caused the trouble, so doubtless it is the heating apparatus that is responsible. If by boiler and pipes, seeing the house is new, the paint on the latter, when heated, would throw off sufficient fumes to do the damage, as would an oil stove if such is used. In the former case the effects will soon disappear, as in a short time no more fumes will be given off, but in the case of a stove inside the house some means must be adopted whereby any fumes given off may escape to the outer air.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Chrysanthemum cuttings

(G. M., Stourbridge).—It is not uncommon for early shoots of Chrysanthemums to develop flower-buds. As a rule, the embryo flowers are easily distinguishable, and shoots which show these ought not to be used for cuttings. To obtain the correct type of cutting, the old plant should be top-dressed with an inch or two of light soil, and the temperature of the house should be, at least, comfortable. Do not be, in future, in too great a hurry to secure cuttings. These, produced even at this time, are often better than others taken in November and December in the case of many varieties.

ALPINES

Alpines to cover stones

(" Alpine ").—(1) You greatly restrict the selection by stipulating that the plants be from 12 inches to 15 inches high, the bulk of the best Alpines being much dwarfer. However, the following should suit:—Alyssum saxatile, Cheiranthus, Cistus, Dianthus, Genista, Helianthemum, Hypericum, Iberis, Lavender, Linum, Nepeta Mussini, Verbena venosa. (2) Acæna, Arabis, Arenaria montana, Aubrietia, Cerastium, Cytisus Ardoinei, Dryas octopetale, Erinus, Erodium, Linaria, Lithospermum (see illustration, page 120), Phloxes (Alpine), Saxifraga, Silene, Thymus, Veronica. (3) Double Arabis, Helianthemums and Cytisus Kewensis. Some of the less rampant rambler Roses would also flourish well in a situation like this. (4) For planting between stones:—Acæna, Achillea, Arenaria, Asperula, Campanulas, Cerastium, Erinus alpinus, Sedum, Silene, Thymus, and Veronica.

FRUIT

Birds attacking fruit buds

We have a small orchard joining a copse where there are many birds, and they get the buds of the fruit trees in early spring. We have used black cotton on the trees, which has kept them off for a time, but was no good last year. What remedy is suggested? M. M.

[Black cotton is often successful in keeping off attacks of birds from the buds of fruit trees, but it is only successful as long as the birds cannot find their way in and out of it. When the black cotton method fails, two other methods are sometimes used. (1) A good, thick limewash is applied to the trees so that all the buds are thickly coated with the wash. This is applied during the " delayed dormant period," *i.e.*, when the buds are fairly prominent, but are not actually breaking. If the birds commence operations before this period the wash must be applied so soon as the attack is noticed. Details for the making of limewash were given on page 96 of our issue for February 9th. (2) A solution containing a fairly strong extract of quassia chips is sprayed on to the trees with the idea of making the buds distasteful to the birds. A recipe for making this is as follows:—Quassia chips, 1 lb.; soft-soap, 1 lb.; water, 10 gallons. Boil the quassia with half the soap and half the water for one hour, strain off the liquid, and boil the residue for another hour with the remaining soap and water. Mix the whole together and make up to 10 gallons with water. The recipe is meant only for the purpose stated.]

Pruning Pears and Plums

(Inquirer).—From the description given of the trees you wish to prune, it appears to us that the trees are vigorous and have good main branches set out, and we are of the opinion that you need not shorten the growth so much as you suggest. Cut away not more than one-third of the growth and to a bud pointing in the direction you wish the shoot to continue its growth. The spur growth should develop in time, but by pruning hard, as you suggest, you will be likely to delay spur growth.

American Blight on Apple trees

(W. W. B.).—The following treatment can, from personal experience, be thoroughly recommended for cleaning Apple trees infected with American Blight. Go over the infested parts and with a soft paint-brush daub them with paraffin. In a day or two wash the parts over with strong soapy water, afterwards making a paste of a little soap, clay, and paraffin, filling up any cracks or wounds in the bark. Should the insects appear again after this treatment—and summer is the chief season for them—follow up with another dose of the same treatment. Few will survive the second application.

VEGETABLES

Capsicums and Chillies

(J. M.).—Much depends on the subsequent treatment given the plants, but about the middle of March should prove a suitable time. The fruits remain in condition over a fairly long period. The Egg Plant may, of course, be planted in a frame, but if only a small number are required pots are less trouble.

BEES

The merits of different Bees

Could your apiarist give us an art
the ways and merits of the different
bees—native, Italian, Carniolan, etc.?
interested because I think of getting
Carniolan. Are they specially liable
or to be robbed? W. R. JOHN

The question of the best type of
keep in this country is exercising the
of most beekeepers at the present
Owing to the ravages of the Acarine
the old British variety, which has
this country for thousands of years, h
practically wiped out; few, if any, real
stocks remain.

For some years past bees from eve
of Europe, as well as from the U.S.A
been imported, and to-day most
apiaries contain a very mixed lot,
hybrids from Dutch, Italian, Frenc
Carniolan strains.

The difficulty of pure mating has
made it almost impossible to keep a
ticular strain pure for any length
but we have now many expert queen
in different parts of the country
isolating apiaries and careful manage
the production of drones, are fairly
ful in this important work, and I
advise beekeepers to obtain their quee
these sources instead of sending
Quite apart from encouraging Britis
try, nine times out of ten home-reare
are greatly superior to those importe

Each foreign type of bee has its
characteristics, and many coming
warmer clime than ours are not a pe
success here. Probably the most sat
type of bee at the present time is the
bred Italian, which has been rear
selected stocks for several generation

Some of us still hanker after
British bee, and if it could be obtai
I still think it would hold its own,
surplus honey point of view, w
Italian. It may not be quite s
handled, but fewer manipulations
required. Certainly we had less trou
swarms in the old days.

Unfortunately, most so-called '
bees nowadays have been more
crossed with Dutch, and the Dut
such excessive swarmers, are practi
less as honey-producers, and any
Dutch blood in it should be avoided
great pity that they were ever introd
this country.

Carniolans, though good comb bui
very quiet to handle, have also thi
ing propensity, but not to the exte
Dutch. Many beekeepers have b
successful with these bees, but they
kept pure, so it generally means
importation of queens.

French and Cyprian bees are a
ing experiment to those who do
plenty of stings. I have found th
unmanageable. I tried them fo
three seasons, but was very glad
last of them.

Most imported Italians came fro
trict around Bologna, in North Ita
of these do exceedingly well in thi
but they vary considerably, and do
up to the selected types reared here

For those of us who have the
patience queen-rearing is a most
hobby. It is well to remember th
drones are as important as select
Never rear either from stocks
swarmed. We thereby perpetuat
thing we want to avoid.

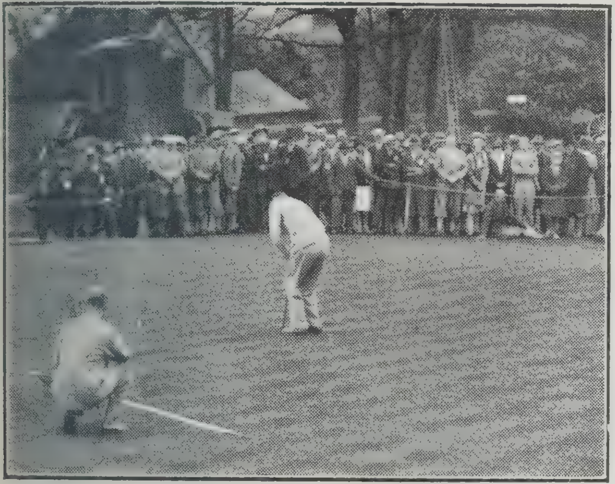
Excessive swarming is the bane
bee-keeping. L. BIGG-

(Continued on page 134)

By Appointment

FISONS' FERTILIZERS

ENSURE BEAUTIFUL LAWNS



COMPSTON v. HAGEN. MOOR PARK GOLF CLUB, 1928.
The greens of the Course were prepared for this International Event by the use of Fisons' Lawn Guano.

AT this period of the year a small outlay on a scientific fertilizer will quickly create dense turf and help to provide an even growth of fine grasses throughout the season.

If weeds are troublesome, these can be eradicated by means of Fisons' Lawn Sand.

Fisons' Technical Bureau
The advice of our Technical Bureau is at the disposal of the Public, who are invited to write, without obligation, for advice regarding treatment of Lawns or concerning any other difficulty experienced in the Garden. Attention is drawn to the fact that we specialise in Lawn maintenance, and arrangements can be made for our representative to inspect playing grounds to advise upon suitable treatment.

FISONS' LAWN GUANO

(A Compound Fertilizer)

the safest dressing for turf. It feeds the turf over a long period, and will not burn or discolour the grass. Lawn Guano quickly strengthens the roots and encourages a dense growth of fine grass. As used by important clubs and municipalities. Apply now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court.

PRICES (in bags): Carriage paid	7 lbs.	14 lbs	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
	3/-	**5/-**	**9/-**	**15/-**	**25/-**

FISONS' LAWN SAND

The most effective preparation for destroying clover, moss, and small weeds, and in so doing stimulating the grass. A thimbleful destroys a large weed such as a plantain. Should be applied now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court. Measure and full instructions sent.

PRICES (in kegs): Carriage paid	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
	5/-	**9/-**	**16/-**	**27/6**

FISONS' BASE FERTILIZER

should be incorporated with the soil before sowing grass seed. Specially prepared to promote strong root growth and give new grass a good start. Use 4 ozs. to the sq. yd. a few days before sowing the seed.

PRICES (in bags): Carriage paid	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
	3/-	**4/6**	**7/6**	**12/6**	**20/-**

FISONS' GRASS SEEDS

are the finest procurable, being specially tested before selection.

Special Mixture (for Bowling and Golf Greens). Finest grasses only.

PRICES (in bags): Carriage paid	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
	15/6	**30/-**	**58/-**	**110/-**	**210/-**

WRITE FOR FISONS' BOOKLET "LAWNS"

JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD., IPSWICH

Specialists in Garden Fertilizers and Lawn Renovation

LAWNS

MISCELLANEOUS

Poultry manure

(A. E. C.).—To spread fresh poultry manure on the surface of dug ground is very wasteful, as much of the value of this material evaporates, and is thus lost. It would be better to scatter it thinly on undug ground, and if it were impossible to have it dug in at once to at least lightly fork it in. Of course, you could do this on the dug ground, providing it is in a fairly dry state, but to work soil in this way while sodden is very harmful. Much the same applies to scattering this manure between growing crops. If it can be lightly forked in it will, in many cases, be beneficial, while if left lying on the surface much of its virtues will be lost. Most root crops are best without this material.

Lawn sand

(A. B.).—Lawn sand, whether "home-made" or bought in "ready-made," is used for the destruction of weeds on lawns. The theory underlying the practice of applying lawn sand is that a quick-acting nitrogenous manure is applied which burns flat weed foliage and does not burn the upright foliage of the grasses to any extent, because the grass foliage fails to hold the manure. This has the effect of reducing the vigour of such weeds as Daisy, Plantain, and Dandelion, while at the same time it encourages the grasses to grow vigorously. The weeds are smothered out by the combined effect of burnt foliage and the increased vigour of the grass.

LEGAL POINT

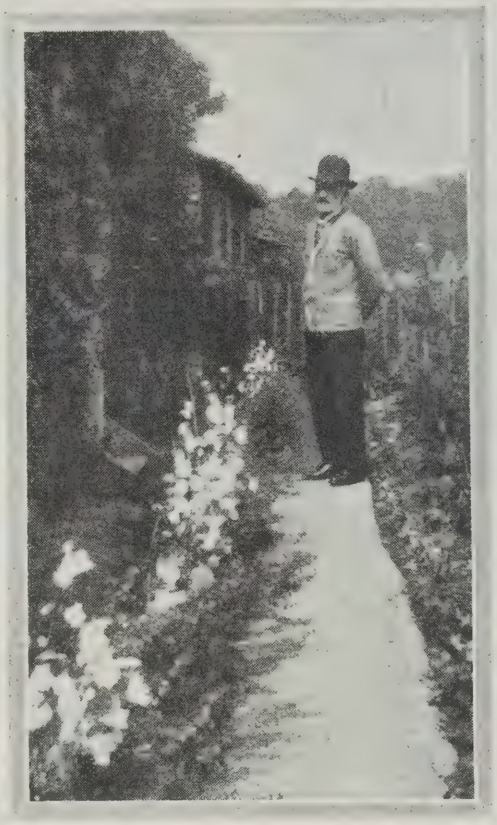
Gardener's notice

(L. J. S.).—Yes, in the absence of any special agreement between your employer and yourself providing for a fortnight's notice you would be entitled, by custom, to a month's notice. Obviously, yours is not a weekly engagement, or your employer would have given you a week's notice.

John Benn Hostel Ballot

The results of the Boys' Ballot in aid of the John Benn Hostel have now been published. The winner of the first prize, the Standard touring saloon motor-car, was Mrs. F. Bromfield, of Huntly, who gave a forecast of the voting in the exact order decided by majority of votes. Among the many prize-winners a number will receive those given by the generosity of firms in the horticultural trade. We give below a list of the prize-winners of this section:—

H. W. Tarratt, 5, Decoy Avenue, Golders Green, N.W. 11; "Pennsylvania" lawn mower, Lloyds and Co. (Letchworth), Ltd. Desmond Owen, "Normandale," Upper Bangor, Carnarvonshire; "Amanco" lawn mower, Associated Manufacturers' Co., Ltd. R. E. B. Willis, "Sherdley," Moss Lane, Timperley, Cheshire; garden furniture, Thonet Bros., Ltd. J. A. Sweetlove, 40, Grove Street, Stockton-on-Tees; Roses to value of £5, Stuart Low, Esq. Mrs. Weir, 81, Leigh Hall Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex; garden seat, Castle's Shipbreaking Co., Ltd. Mrs. L. Baker, 163, Finborough Road, West Brompton, S.W. 10; "Ironcrete" garden roller, Scoffin and Willmott, Ltd. Mrs. Garratt, 356, Romford Road, Forest Gate, E. 7; "Vinculum" garden ornaments, Tarmac, Ltd. J. R. Burn, 12, Tennyson Street, Grimsby, Lincs.; "Eclipse" garden sprayer, Eclipse Spraying Co., Ltd. Charles Bell, Heston, Ben Rhydding, Yorks; case of "Arden Bloom" fruits, Angus Watson and Co., Ltd. Mrs. F. Brookes, Warwick Road, Solihull; "Martsmith" insecticide spray gun, Martineau and Smith. Mrs. E. Coupland, 41, Green Moor Link, Winchmore Hill, N. 21; two dozen Rose trees, Barnham Nurseries, Ltd. W. R. Kettle, Kent and Essex Yard, Aldgate, E. 1; "Killamist" hand sprayer, etc., Cooper McDougall and Robertson, Ltd. A. C. Hoare, 63, Englewood Road, S.W. 12; garden hose, Reliance Rubber Co., Ltd. Miss H. Rodwell, Sun Hotel, Kingston-on-Thames; 1 cwt. "Fisons'" lawn guano, J. Fison and Co., Ltd. R. G. Elms, 58, Queen's Road, Wimbledon, S.W.; "Vermorel" spraying pump, Cooper Pegler and Co. L. C. Jones, "Rosedene," Baysham Street, Hereford; 1 cwt. "Vickers" fertiliser, T. Vickers and Sons, Ltd. R. H. Bartoy, 11, Buckingham Street, Bletchley, Wolverton, Bucks; "Abol" syringe, Abol, Ltd. Mrs. Margaret Fitzpatrick, Cellon Works, Richmond; 1 gallon "Vitrolite," W. Carson and Sons. R. Bleazard, Brumgerley, Bowys Lane, Palmers Green, N. 13; two basket chairs, Orsett Basket Works. J. Finch, Egmont, St. John's Road, Tylers Green, Bucks; Rose trees to value of £1, Spooner and Sons. The following each received a collection of flower seeds from Toogood and Sons, Ltd.:—Mrs. J. S. Gilbert, Solihull; Miss Lavinia Morgan, Balham; Mr. Lawlor, West Hampstead; Mr. W. J. I. Tucker, Limpsfield; Miss Littlejohn, Thornton Heath; Miss M. V. Ramsden, Nottingham; Miss N. Fox, South Chingford; Mrs. Lucie Dufour, Crouch End; Miss Ethel Shepherd, Ribchester; Miss Joy Jarrold, Banstead; Miss Eva C. Asbridge, Plaistow; Mr. Rayner, Palmers Green.



The late Mr. James Mayne in his garden at Eltham

The London and South of England Viola and Pansy Society

At the annual general meeting of the above Society, held recently, the report showed a satisfactory year's working.

Mr. Eric Holroyd was re-elected President and Mr. John H. Little, "Brent Tor," Brentwood Road, Romford, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The third annual show will be held
Royal Horticultural Society's new
Westminster, on July 16th, 1929,
classes will be again provided for Vio
hibition and bedding varieties), Vi
species, and Pansies.

The Society will offer, for the firs
certificates for new varieties of Viol
Pansies.

The Secretary will be pleased to
any interested persons with particular
Society. The subscription is 2s.
annum (minimum).

OBITUARY

JAMES MAYNE

IT is with deep regret that we rec
passing of our esteemed cont
James Mayne, aged 70, which occu
Eltham on the 9th inst. after a week's
of acute bronchitis. Mr. Mayne was
experienced gardener of the old scho
started life in Pince's Nursery, Exeter
there he went to Broadlands, in Ham
then on to Garnstone Castle, in H
shire. Returning to Devon in 1879,
at Membland Hall, Lord Rivelstoke
until he went to Pentilli Castle, C
He was there two years, when he left
up his first head post with Mr.
Weybridge. He left Weybridge af
years' service to take up the most im
post of his life, as head gardener to th
Mark Rolle and late Lord Clinton
famous gardens of Bicton, Devon
position Mr. Mayne retained for just
years.

The last 15 years of his life were
London, just over 13 in Eltham, w
passed away. He was always ready
a helping hand to others and to impar
ledge from his vast store of practical
ence. He was one of the oldest cont
to this journal, and one of his last
to write a short article for our fort
Jubilee number.

MR. W. E. TREVETHICK

Gardening in Ireland has sustained
loss in the death, on February 10th
Trevethick, gardener since 1912
Marquis of Headfort, Kells, Co. Mea
Trevethick had a long and interesting
Born in Helston, Cornwall, he was
in noted gardens, such as Putterid
Luton, Oleley Park, Shropshire,
foreman at Wentworth Woodhouse
Fitzwilliam and at Canford Manor,
of Lord Wimborne. He was head
to the Marquis of Exeter and Col.
Glyn, at Gaunts House, Wimbor
from there went to Headfort Hous
skilled cultivator, both indoors and
he had few equals. He was an
botanist, and loved his plants. Du
time at Headfort many changes we
The new arboretum to which Lord
has directed so much care was
Large numbers of the Chinese colle
seeds were sown, and to-day one of
Rhododendron nurseries in the Unit
dom is at Headfort.

Many experiments have been m
half-hardy plants. Lord Headfort h
collection of New Zealand plants
Dacrydiums, Conifers. The plantir
grounds shows the results of thou
operation, and careful preparatio
Trevethick leaves a widow and
family of two sons and two daug
mourn his loss. With them sinc
pathy is felt. His remains were buri
churchyard of Kells Parish Chu
were followed by his sons and daugh
a large number of friends.

FINEST SURREY
URF LOAM
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NEW PARK, CRANLEIGH

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1, to convert worn-out Lawns into a beautiful velvety condition.
1, to make clean your weedy paths. "Descriptive Literature," with full particulars and prices of separate lots, Post FREE.

more Manure Works (Dept. G.I.) Blairgowrie, N.B.

The Machine you *must* get
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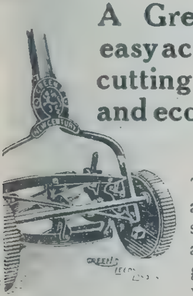
A Green's—for its easy action; decisive cutting; long life; and economy always



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This Machine is well adapted for mowing small lawns, slopes, and banks, and will give excellent service.

11 in.	13 in.	15 in.	18 in.
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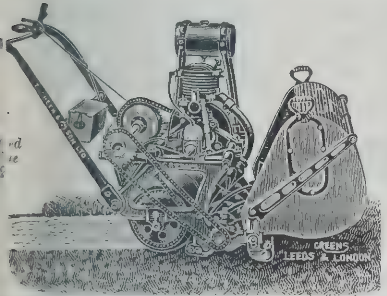
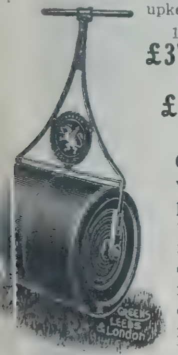


F' MOTOR MOWER fitted with Reversible, rpening Cylinder and Kick-starter, is eminently er use on private gardens, sports grounds, doing fine work and reducing upkeep costs.

16 in.	20 in.
£37 : 10	£52 : 10

24 in.	30 in.
£67 : 10	£85



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GARDEN ROLLERS with balanced handles possess many advantages. They are made in two parts, each cylinder having rounded edges and enclosed ends. Sizes from 14 x 14 ins. Prices from - 42/6

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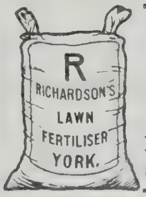
It is a fine powder, easy to handle, and free from smell. The price is cheap, but Fertiliser is good.

1 cwt. Bags, 3/6, delivered within 100 miles.
Quotations given for larger quantities Cash with order to the MANAGER, **Disposal Works, Lower Marsh Lane, Kingston, Surrey**



FERTILISERS
LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT & ROSE, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM-KILLER, 17/6 per cwt., carr. pd.
And all other Fertilisers.
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Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

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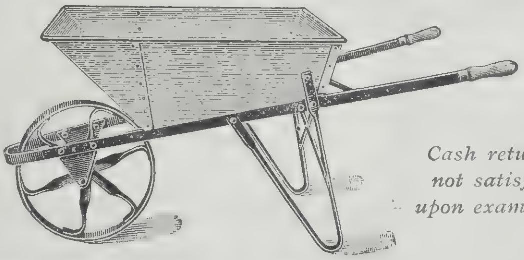

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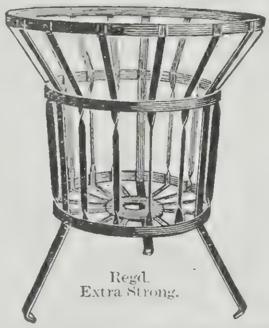
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27/6 carriage paid.
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Carriage paid, 13/-
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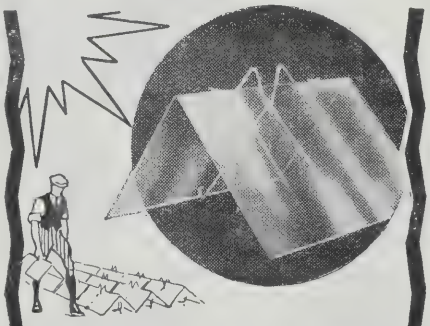

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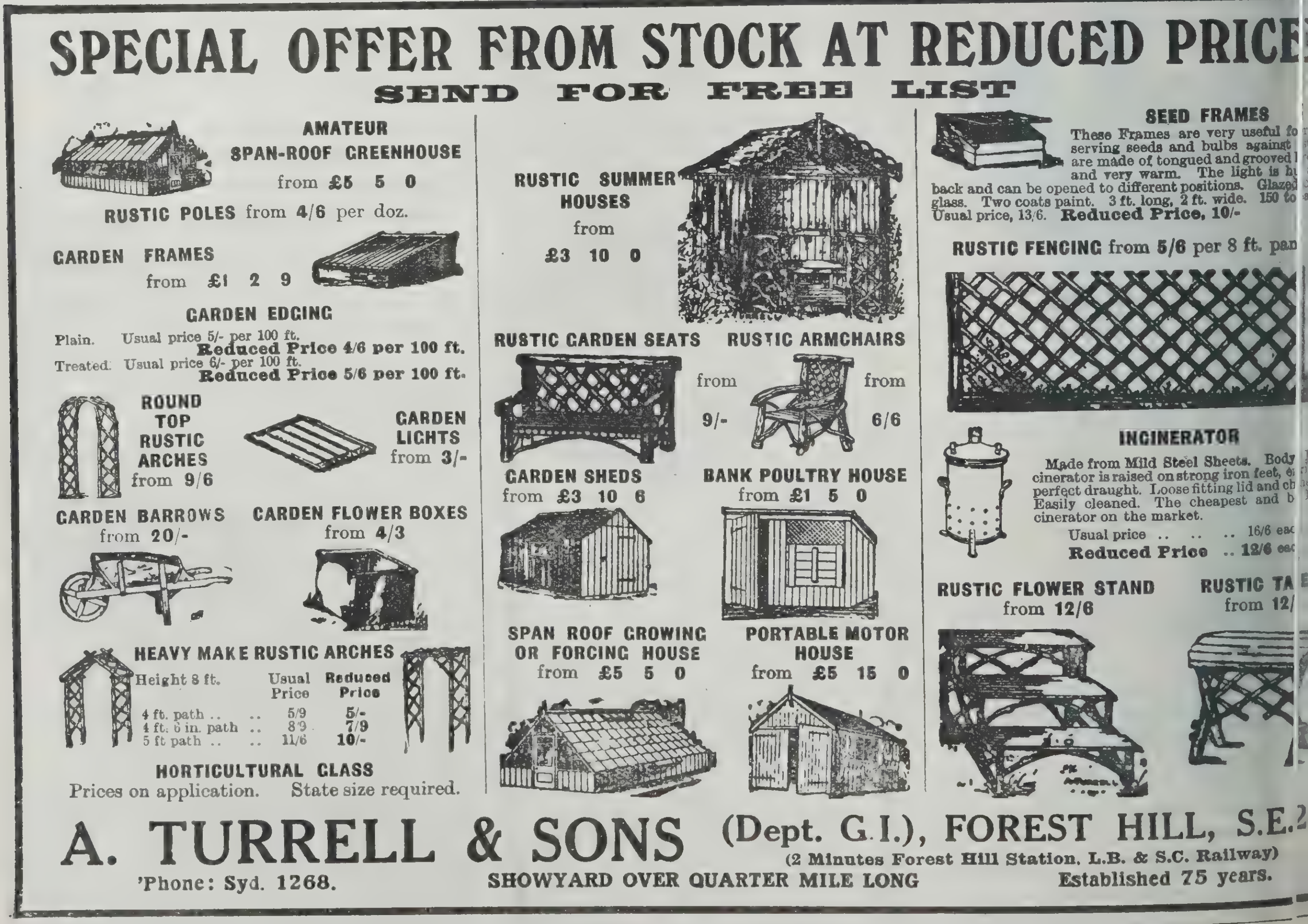

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Saturday, March 2, 1929

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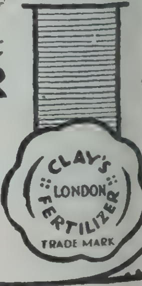

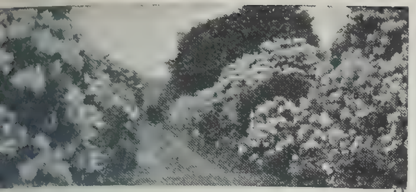

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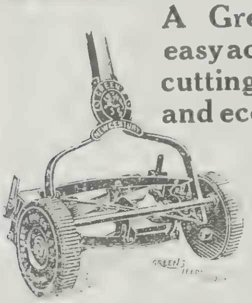

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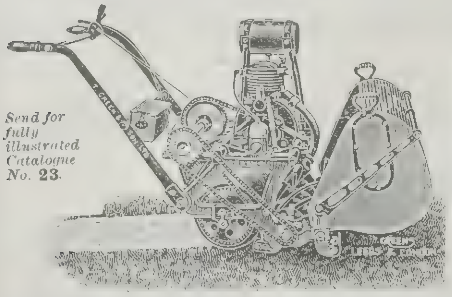

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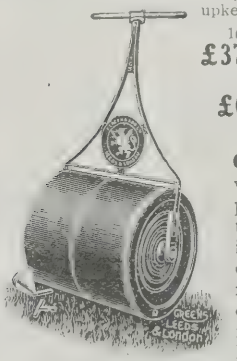

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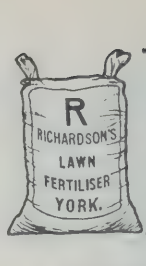

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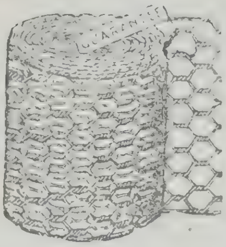

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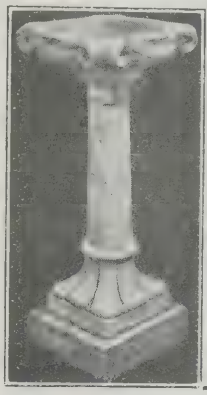

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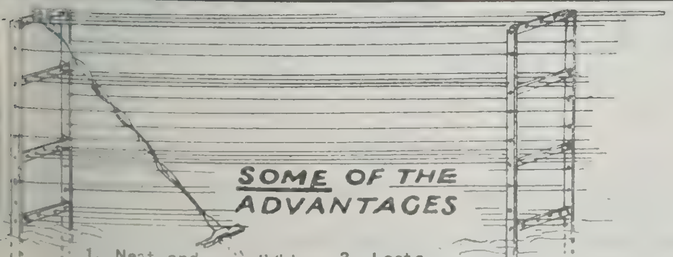

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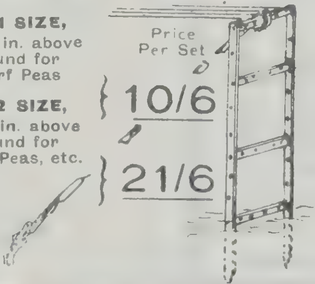

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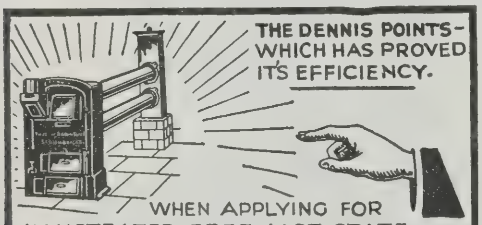
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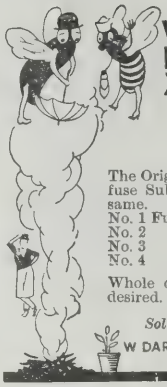

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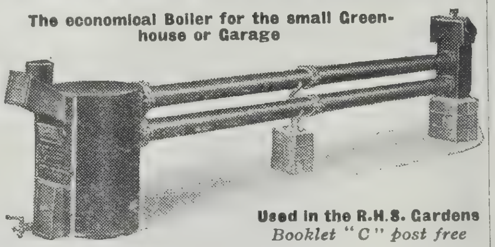

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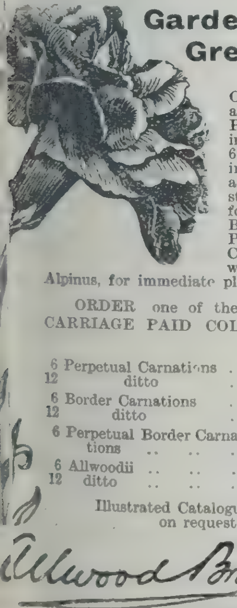

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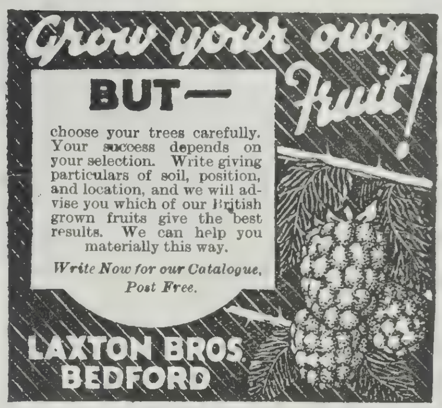
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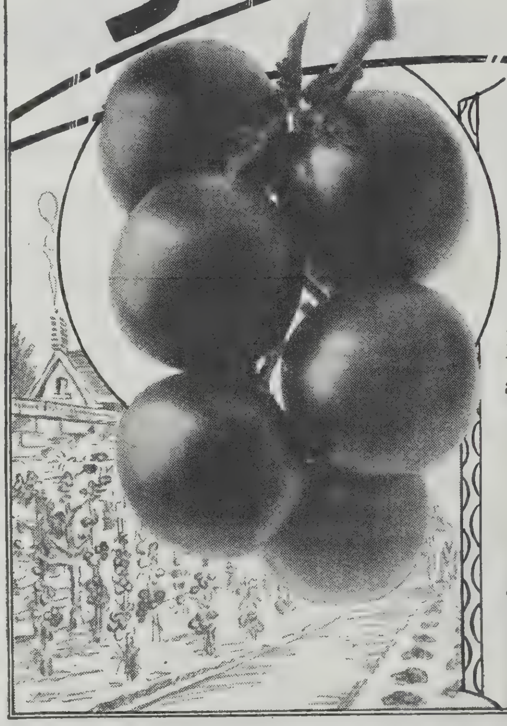

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Sermons in Stones

O GOOD IN EVERYTHING! That am prompted to add my quota to the on on rock gardens, especially as the of the R.H.S. is desirous that rock exhibits at the Chelsea Show next ould be of as varied a selection of other than limestone, as possible. ve none of the protagonists put in a r Cornish granite? Is it that the ransport is against it? But the same e urged against West- or Yorkshire, or stone. It all depends vicinity of the proposed n. Yet the Cornish omes nearest in appear- the Westmorland stone, remember—was it four o? (I think it was that s year when the open- was a deluge, and only rdy souls paddled about hes outside)—when an in Westmorland stone sensation of Chelsea, so was everyone with the l rock picture. Could exhibitor go one better nish granite from the le of England? Per- . Clarence Elliott has nade a note of it, to be in that list of rocks and of supply of which he in GARDENING ILLUS- of February 2nd. To he best results in any gardening one should ke into account the lie nd and the character- the surroundings, so fall into place without effort. In the North ere is the rugged stone ake District, mellowed countless "becks" em, a merry trickle in ner, a roaring spate in There is the cold al grey stone of the Yorkshire d dales, the warm red of the sandstone, the slatey-grey boulders Wales, the yellowish Bargate of ound Guildford and Godalming, the e Cheddar Gorge that inspired the Cheddar sheltering from a thunder- write the immortal hymn, "Rock s' choice enough and to spare, but surpass the rock of Cornwall, its granite. And as an object-lesson of erfect rock garden ought to look, table Duchy offers itself that he r may read. Bodmin Moor, with its far-flung outcrops of ancient granite forming the gateway on the north to the coast road from St. Ives, through Zennor, leading literally to the Land's End on the south of the county, provide countless pictures that leap to the mind of an ideal rock garden if Fate were to domicile one on the spot.

And as if to prove how inviolate is the native stone as a protector to the precious plants in its charge, on the Friday of last week, when the *stürm und drang* of the terrible east wind had given place to warm sun and blue sky, and the Cornish Riviera was itself again, even though the rest of the world still froze, there in the dell, amongst the granite boulders, stained by the weather to every conceivable shade of ochre, burnt sienna, Lichen-green, and purple, were patches of bloom to greet me on every side.

"Sermons in stones"

Daphne odora is scenting the air with its pink and white flowers, Grevillea rosmarinifolia is crimsoning at its tips already, Hamamelis arborea is suffused with a gold and brown glow, Cyclamen ibericum and C. repandum form a rosy carpet slightly raised above the floor of the dell, and the dear little Narcissus (Hoop Petticoat) are lifting their golden heads to the sun. There is joy amongst the silvery encrusted Saxifrages, for snow is their native element. Not so S. oppositifolia and S. cæspitosa, the damp has not been to their liking. S. Irvingii is opening its short pink blossoms, also S. Myra and S. Obristii, Primula Juliæ is full of bloom, with its relative, P. Jewell, not far behind. P. Mrs. Wilson is not as early as usual this year, but several of the coloured Primroses, like Mme. Pompadour, are out, and innumerable seedlings, I expect of Japonica, are appearing all over the dell, even on the floor. I shall watch these with care, as there may be some good crosses among them.

Though it is quite irrelevant to my theme, I cannot "quit talking" without a passing reference to a standard colour chart. I should not like Major Chappell to think I was against such a thing. Far from it. It is a sound proposition, but I do not see how my suggestion that colour descriptions would be better done by women than men militates against it in any way. I can assure him that women keep their colour values very neatly pigeon-holed and labelled in their minds; those that belong to dress and fashion are kept to that department, those that apply to decoration and flowers are definite and concise.

What I was trying to prove was that as gardening in its proper sense was becoming more and more a woman's pastime, as well as her "job," it is high time she had a say in the matter. The ideal home should have its setting in the ideal garden, and in both home and garden colour plays a very important part. But we like those colours to be what they are *said* to be—if cerise, then we expect a rich, glowing rose, almost akin to scarlet, not a wishy-washy dull claret; if blue, then we expect blue, not purple or mauve; if orange, then we expect a colour like unto the rind of that useful fruit that is now being made into marmalade by thousands of British housewives throughout the land. Oh, yes! I am quite sure Coventry Patmore meant his angel in the house to be the angel of the garden too.

E. D.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Eucomis punctata

EUCOMIS PUNCTATA is one of the flowers which are on the border-line between hardy and tender plants, so that it cannot be recommended for the herbaceous border in any but mild localities, although where it stands the winter it is a plant of much beauty. That it is hardy in a good many places may be gathered from its being frequently shown at the autumn exhibition of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society as a hardy border plant, and the writer knows of gardens near the sea coast where it thrives well and has stood severe winters without injury. It is a very distinct-looking plant. It has rather broad, long, green foliage, spotted, and spikes of wax-like white flowers spotted with rose. It grows about 2 feet high and likes a light soil and a sunny place. If so treated it will flower in early autumn. Some who do not succeed with E. punctata as a permanent occupant of the border pot it up in early autumn when it flowers and place it in the conservatory, where it is quite an ornament and flowers longer. Others plant it out in late April or early May, and before frost comes with any severity lift the tuberous roots and keep them in dry sand beyond the reach of frost until spring, when they are replanted.

S. ARNOTT.

Bearded Irises: "Eastern Pallida" forms and their descendants

The letter by Mr. R. W. Wallace (issue February 9th, page 82) is interesting to me, first because about the year 1920 my stock of Iris Cypriana came from him, and I have often wondered how he came by his stock. Was it from Siehe, the German collector at Mersina? Secondly, in 1921 I received some rhizomes from Tarsus. Mersina is the port for Tarsus, and from a note I have in my book it was first thought to be an improved Cypriana.

In my old garden in Bexley they grew alongside one another, and up to 1925 the two varieties bloomed about the same time, and we generally regarded them as one and the same variety.

When I came to Sevenoaks they were again planted alongside one another. Last year's wet weather, however, played all sorts of tricks with my Irises. Some varieties bloomed excessively, whilst others did not bloom at all, and so it was with Cypriana and Tarsus. The former did well, but with the latter not a bloom; so much so that I have now consigned such rhizomes as I could house to what Mr. Pilkington calls the Ricardi shelter, where, in company with Mesopotamica (which Denis gave me), the true Kashmir White, the Californian, and other obstinate varieties and species, I hope they may behave themselves.

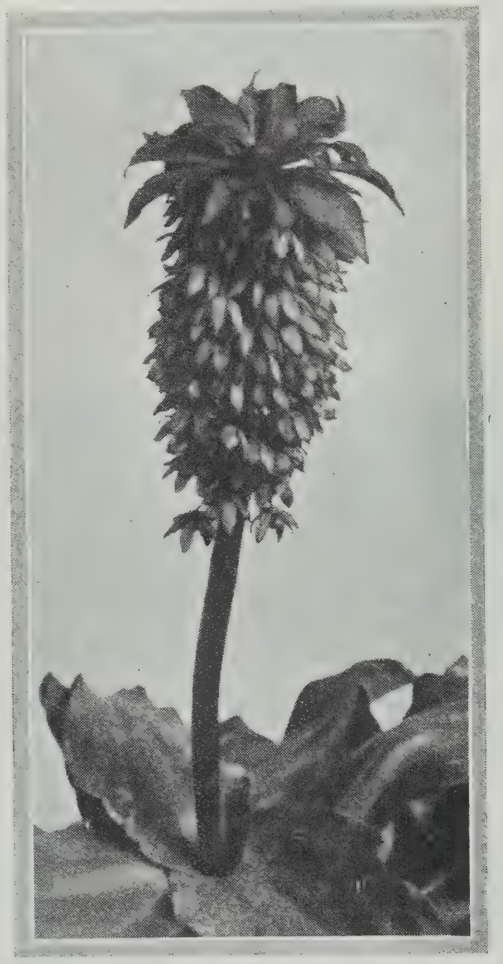
I have said that the so-called Cypriana and my Tarsus we regarded as one and the same thing, and yet from the fact that one bloomed and the other did not they cannot be the same. It will now be for me, when they come to maturity, to try and find out where they differ.

When in Crete I brought away roots of a Cypriana variety which was growing in an orchard. The stems measured 5 feet 5 inches. They were firm and needed no supports. The blossoms were identical in colour to Cypriana and Tarsus.

This Cretan variety has not bloomed with me; in fact, I may say that of all species, whether Cypriana or Germanica, I have collected myself in Majorca, Macedonia, or Crete, I have never yet seen a bloom.

I am now hoping that in the shelter of the glasshouse as devised by Pilkington we may get some good results. Since we planted these odd varieties into the shelter in August and September no water has been given. The glass sides are wide open all the time. In March and April all lights will be removed and the plants allowed to get all the rainwater available.

I have two other species which have done well—one from Kirman, Persia, which is a Kharput, and a white form from Mount Athos. This last is the only Iris in this place at this moment, with its full complement of foliage of a yellowish-green; leaves are narrow and pale, and, according to Dykes in "Genus Iris," p. 165, would be germanica Var. florentina. In the trials at Wisley it got rather high marks, not far off Istria, which came out about first of the whites.



Eucomis punctata

G. P. BAKER.

Hillside, Oakhill Road,
Kippington, Sevenoaks.

—— The articles relating to the so-called "Ricardi seedlings" are very interesting, particularly that one written by Sir Arthur Hort, issue January 26th. I remember that he wrote once before about the Ricardi seedling that was given to him by Sir Michael Foster, and it inspired me to make a list of Irises that are supposed to be "first crosses," using Ricardi as one parent. Perhaps this list might be of some use to your readers, though, when the new check list
American Iris Society comes out al
parentages will be given in full. All
Irises in this first list are first cross
Ricardi, which we consider (as d
Dykes) a form of mesopotamica. H
it seems to be a form that gives wea
scendants than the true mesopotam
what we know here as I. cypriana.

Algol (Vilm.), Andrée Autissier
Arsace (Mil.), Blanc Bleuté (Den.),
(Cay.), Cabanes (Den.), Carthusian (
Chaber (Den.), Clement Desormes
Cornuault (Den.), De Forcrand
Edith Cavell (Den.), Ferrières (Den.),
(Mil.), Flavesard (Den.), Gargantu
Gen. Gallieni (Mil.), Hautefeuille
Henri Glower (Den.), Hestiones
Ib-Ric (Den.), J. B. Dumas (Den.
Weld (Per.), Jeanne (Den.), Jea
(Den.), Jussieu (Den.), Lepinoux
Leverrier (Den.), Marguerite Maron
M. Brun (Den.), Megas (Den.), M
(Den.), Micheline Charraire (Den.
Schwartz (Den.), M. Massé (Den.
Bories (Den.), Mme. Cecile Bouscar
Mme. Chobaut (Den.), Mme.
(Den.), Mme. Lamouche (Mil.), Mm
(Den.), Mme. Vernoux (Mil.),
(Dykes), Peronne (Den.), Professor
(Den.), Ricardi Foncé (Den.), Ric-Il
Ri-Kochi (Dean), Silva (Den.), Suzc
Trinidad' (Den.), 27 Avril (Den.).

Mesopotamica crosses, also "first,
Amador (Mohr), Antonio (Hort)
(Mohr), Canticle (Mor.), Con
(Mohr), Coronado (Mohr), Eglamou
El Capitan (Mohr), Jacinto (Berry
(Hort), Osprey (Berry), San Gabriel

I know that there are a great ma
that are descendants of Caterina,
are nearly all of them quite easy
Even Caterina is not always a diff
ject, and, anyhow, we consider thi
child of cypriana, and not of t
Ricardi. ETHEL ANSON S. Pr

New Rochelle, N.Y.

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will appreciate.

Dwarf Campanulas

oes not always follow that the one who es himself on growing the taller flowers in his garden thinks much the diminutive sorts that serve such a purpose as plants for edgings, ies, and the like, yet the dwarf sorts y attractive and remain in flower for time. If this note should catch the someone who is thinking of making ns to his borders and needs a per- "edger" I would suggest a trial of of the dwarf Campanulas. Any tely good soil suits them, for prefer- at of a sandy nature, and they grow , so that in about a year one may them and make extensions. Here are worthy of attention:—G. F. Wilson, large, violet-blue; Muralis (portensch-), small blue flowers produced in ; Pulla, dark purple; Turbinata, rich ue; Pumila (pusilla), very dwarf, full s of pale blue flowers; Carpatica in ue and white forms; Garganica in blue ite, of a dwarf, creeping habit, good eries and window-boxes; Haylogensis uble blue flowers; loves a dry, sunny . Once established, the dwarf Cam- s are no trouble, except for dividing vals.

W. F.

Rock Gardens at Chelsea

very glad Mr. Elliott (in your issue ry 4th) so tersely and sensibly expres- opinion that it would be a good thing Show and exhibitors and the public Council of the R.H.S. would consent ish the distribution of prizes for rock- s.

putting his three or four reasons, r, he goes on to say that "if cups dals must continue, a system of point- ould be instituted and made known both judges and exhibitors, so that rs may know what to expect from the and the judges may know how to deal xhibitors."

of all there is no reason why cups and *must* continue. I am going to risk a reputation for inconsistency by that any system of pointing is a com-

the first this system has been re- o in connection with the rock gardens most progressive and beautiful of our ial shows—Southport. Below I give tem of pointing suggested by myself dly accepted by the Committee and in the schedule:—

mum points will be awarded as under

	Points.
le design, proportion, and shape …	8
plicity, direction, continuity of the ain lines produced by the ridges of one (the placing of rocks and plants to nvey an illusion of distance is included this, also the design connected with y display of water)	20
setting of the stones (picturesque lay- g consistent with Nature and general iet effect)	14
B.—Great attention should be given to he placing of isolated stones, as this ffects both "design" and setting.	
proportion of each colour used in anting the rock gardens	10
colours chosen in planting and their lative placing in harmony with one other	18
ll in regard to grass laying, careful anting, hiding cement, background, c.	6
lity, suitability, and rarity of plants..	24
Total maximum of points.. ..	100

uld almost seem that, using a system the above, a judge could hardly be of error—on paper everything looks athematical.

And indeed it is quite easy for the judge, and may be done with fair exactness so far as the pointing goes. At Southport there are never the more or less justifiable complaints against slack and incompetent judging, overruling of judging, patching up, etc., one has often heard—I think every time—at Chelsea. As a compromise it is the only practicable one to be thought of. But why compromise at all? The greatest quality of a rock garden is its ability to please its prospective owner.

At the last Southport Show things were very crucial. The rock gardens were really fine, but appeared so near together in quality (up to the requirements of the points) that the judges (Mr. Harrow, of Edinburgh Botanic Gardens, and myself) felt rather nervous to begin with.

But the saddest fact of all to me—*as a "judge"*—was that, of all these almost equally beautiful rock gardens, not one was like another in *style*.

By degrees these exhibitors had arrived at varying styles (not degrees) of excellence. I felt very small—as a "judge" of anything human or artistic ought to feel.

One man had a rock garden with craggy effects, another some beautiful wild features with hummocks of Fescue Grass, innumerable positions for plants, etc., another a very intriguing grass plot surrounded by rockwork, another a very low rock garden splendidly suited to both rock and bog plants in its varying aspects, and so on. One might make a shift to give points for design, etc., but there is always that elusive property one cannot give a name to—never heed points for, because one cannot compare it with its neighbours—or because one person cannot be representative of all tastes. Why not merely cancel "X" then? Because "X" does not occur in the same proportions in every exhibit.

Thus we come back to the blatant fact that one cannot compare the beauty of a beautiful gipsy brunette with that of a beautiful Norwegian blonde—or that of Tosti's "Goodbye" with "Drinking"—or that of a splendid bridecake with a splendid beefsteak.

So, brothers! Whilst Cups and Medals continue we are still confronted with the possibility of a queue at the Secretary's tent of men who should all have been given the first prize or the Gold Medal. There is the "rare plants" man who has last year's Meconopsis doing its best to die by the side of a Funkia, asking whether the judges can have noticed his two new Lewisias; the "plenty of plants" man drawing attention to his opponents' lack of colours and his own badly placed but grand masses of Phlox Vivid, Pink Thrift, etc.; the "well-grown plants" man with his enormous rosettes of Sempervivums backed by Heaths; the Merlin's Cave man, who has gone to tremendous expense and thinks he sees his finish; the "quarry owner," who has laid his stones in such purely "creative" positions, and says his stone is the best for growing plants on—they are all there, or go up one by one for "a word with the Secretary." The artist, too—he who worked so patiently accentuating lights and deepening shadows—he goes, but when he hears the others discussing their intensely plausible and practical objections he waives his own and asks for another luncheon ticket.

Campanula carpatica turbinata
A glorious large blue-flowered variety from Eastern Europe

I repeat, the only really valuable testimonials to the worth of one's work are to be expected from the public as they in turn express their several and very various and very frank delight, indifference, dismay, horror, etc., as their respective tastes give response to whatever they behold.

I remember being very flattered once by a film producer who wanted to know if four of his girls could come and do a bathing scene in my pond at 4 a.m. the next day. He said my "show" was the only one worthy of the ladies. I told the man I should not be in a position to make any objection to the hour, provided the R.H.S. did not mind. It was the first day of the show and everybody was very tired.

If only Show Committees would set to work and help exhibitors over such difficulties as transport, backgrounds, banking up (revetments), and supply of boards for same, decent meals, within reason, for one's labourers all the time, such provision would stand for more than awards.

The system of giving awards will *not* go on. The next generation will abolish it if we do not. We who are now aware of its "fogeyness" should abolish it without delay.

There is no such thing as the "monotony of excellence," and there is no such thing as excellence where we are trying to compare exhibits of unlike properties.

The question of awards influences very greatly the conception of an exhibit. For instance, formal building and rockwork could be so intermingled that such work could not be classed as rockwork nor as a formal garden, but might produce a most beautiful garden, though gaining no "award" because it could not be "classed."

If this exhibit ever happens it will strike a new note, that note will not be sustained, and the R.H.S. Council will be looking for the lost chord, *i.e.*, a name for the above new kind of garden so that they can fit up a new range of awards. These "nameless gardens" will multiply until "awards" become a farce.

"Sandstone's" point regarding the desirability of making one's exhibit at Chelsea more or less of an education in stonework is very appealing, and every rock garden artist worthy of the name has frequently had these thoughts at the back of his mind, I should say, but in all cases the ideas have had to more or less stay there because of the expense one would at present have to go to in the construction of a rock garden of a decent size to be more than incidentally educational. I do not think anyone bar an exhibitor himself has any idea of the cost of a really first-rate rock garden at Chelsea Show.

I think the present rock garden sites at Chelsea Show are quite all right, but there ought to be more of them. If they could only be continued into the other gardens it would relieve the ever-increasing pressure. Those gardens are beautifully "banked" for all shapes and aspects of rock gardens, and the whole thing could be done fairly by lottery drawings for order of choice. Even only four or five sites would relieve pressure tremendously.

I agree with Mr. Dillistone ("Hear, hear") in wishing that the sundries could be put into a better place, even for themselves, but in view of the fact that we are not allowed to show in the Ranelagh Gardens, and that most of the big formal gardens extend from one avenue to another, I do not see how it can be very well managed, unless they are put to the west side of the tents, and I do not think that would be quite fair to them.

I think we of the "no awards" convictions can sense a change coming—a newer and brighter state of things, in which the R.H.S. will appeal to that high creative instinct which impels every man to do his best to make something beautiful, quite irrespective of any extraneous "awards," which latter appeal to his cupidity and put in motion a whole series of very much less worthy thoughts and deeds. How greatly the public would gain! They would see the *individual* best of every man, instead of, in due time as at Chelsea now, a row of men toddling along more or less in the rut made by the one usually getting the first "award."

4, Fitzroy Street, W. 1. J. WOOD.

The Suggested Society of Landscape Architects

Allow me to say how thoroughly I agree with Mr. Mawson's contention, issue February 16th, 1929, that it is useless to form an institute of landscape architects or gardeners without an examination and qualifying degree. One has only to see the "crimes" perpetrated by the so-called landscape gardener, often a jobbing gardener or a nurseryman (better engaged in plant-raising), to realise this. But I would like to make the suggestion that any such degree in design should be combined with one in horticulture, or plant knowledge. In the United States of America, where I have travelled extensively, while lecturing on gardening, garden design is highly appreciated, and I have seen some really exquisite examples. How indeed could it be otherwise when so many facilities are offered to students in the way of travelling scholarships, which gives them the opportunity of studying the fine designs of the old English, Italian and French gardens. But even with these beautifully designed gardens, there was very often an entire absence of intelligent planting, and I saw more than one where the unsuitable plants advised on the plan had died and been replaced by a local man, without much idea of colour or form.

They have more difficulties than we have, possessing many different climates, ranging from dry heat and cold of great intensity to the humid and semi-tropical. But they now have many good schools of gardening, where design is well taught, also an earnest desire to obtain perfection, as shown by their garden libraries in large cities and their numerous garden clubs, whose members work for the benefit of horticulture and the good of rural districts in an incredible manner, and achieve much in the preservation of Nature's beauty spots. Our own best designers, for want of a better word, are not entirely knowledgeable, and have been known to recommend Yew hedges, Ivy, and Holly (which will not live north of Washington) with dire results. Some fine work was done by the late Mr. Mawson, whose admirable gardening work and design for the
Prince's Palace at Athens gave on
pleasure, and I beg to conclude by
my very best wishes to his son, in hi
to set garden design in its right plac

ALICE MART

Californian Pentstemons

RALPH ARNOLD'S article in
ING ILLUSTRATED for September
tioned many of the more desirab
American Pentstemons. This is a fan
taining numerous beautiful member
of which are seldom seen in gard
California alone there are 77 kinds
and varieties included); all are pe
and most of them grow on the warm
in light, loose soil. Pentstemon sp
grows to a height of 6 feet or more an
portions of the mountain slopes and
mesas with a shimmering mass
purple, and lavender. Pentstemon
phyllus also is very common in
California, and is found upon the
along the roadsides.

Some of the choicer Pentstem
shrubs. P. antirrhinoides, the
Beardtongue," is a rather scraggy b
adds colour to the San Diego coun
scape. Pentstemon cordifolius,
Honeysuckle" or "climbing Pents
with beautiful shiny foliage and w
branches terminating in bunches
bloom, climbs over the shrubs
chaparral belt. It is the last Pents
come into flower, waiting for the m
drought to put forth its fiery tubes.

The Sierra mountains are rich
stemons. P. confertus, P. Menz
glaber, P. Newberryi, P. Rothri
floridus, and many others are nota
montane members of the tribe.

The flora of the desert regions h
received recognition abroad, chiefly
cultural conditions are exacting. W

Pentstemon heterophyllus, native of Southern California rements of desert plants are better under- and desert gardens become more com- the Pentstemons peculiar to the arid ns of California and the high interior s of the south-west will prove a valuable sition.

ne of the richest Pentstemon finds come the mountainous districts of Washing- nd Oregon. The Olympia Mountains, ashington, offer an especially rich field e Pentstemon collector. The confusion menclature will no doubt continue for time, but as the different native species troduced to the nurserymen and become iar there will be fewer mistakes, and by me the plants find a place in gardens names should be fairly well straightened

LESTER ROWNTREE.

rmel, California.

/ariation in Crocus ancyrensis

IE Angora Crocus was one of the first ernal species to show its face in the vintry world of last January. It is piti- nat such a brave little pioneer should suffered so severely from Jack Frost, y days, and hungry sparrows. A few buds which I gathered were so de- d with the warmth of my hand that by me I laid them on my study table they pened, just as you see them in the little tte I could not resist the pleasure of ng. C. ancyrensis is always among the st in the new year, which is one point credit; a second virtue is the lively e glow of its open flowers. Perhaps rather a dwarf and small species, and nay account for its absence in so many ns where early-flowering plants are 1.

hough it is plentiful in Central Asia , near Angora, Kaisarieh, Marash, and it has not been collected in any quan- f late years. Fortunately, it is a very grower and a free seeder. To the last ous quality I owe the forms shown in llustration. Maw wrote that it was ariably self-coloured," and it was not 1901 that I ever noticed it contradicting statement. Then among some corms t from Messrs. Van Tubergen I found lant with seven dull brown stripes on ter surface of its three outer segments. ngs raised from this plant started a of forms, most of which are more feathered or suffused with reddish- than the parent. The darker flowers drawing are from one I selected and ariety suffusus. The whole ground is of a richer, deeper orange tint than type, and the brown suffusion is of a brown-madder shade.

light flower is a puzzle, for it is not f a remarkably soft sulphur-yellow and out, but the segments are rather and more starry in effect than one s in this chubby little species. It is, y, very pretty, however inexplicable e its inheritance of a slim figure and colouring.

E. A. BOWLES.

ytonia virginica "The Spring Beauty"

ning its flowers now (February 26th), inty little Claytonia is very welcome garden when outside flowers are It is a delicate-looking flower, pink ur, has five petals, growing about 6 high, but it makes a nice patch of when established. The Claytonias easy culture, appreciating a site which st and half-shady. It is a wild flower nada, where it is called "Spring ," flowering there as the snow melts. pecies is easily propagated from seed sown as soon as ripe, or by root division in early summer, as it dies down then. Being of the Purslane family it is useless to gather it as a cut flower.

R. MOORE.

Thorpe Hall.

Sweet Chestnuts

It has long been a matter of wonder to me that these are not planted for fruit in England, where the Chestnut does so well, even giving us its smaller fruit in profusion (should they be called nuts or fruit?).

There is a variety called dela Valloniere, which is said to fruit three years after grafting. After waiting two years for same to be sent me from France, I was greatly disappointed to find they were grafted quite low down instead of on a half standard, as I anticipated. I shall keep them to one stem and hope for the best.

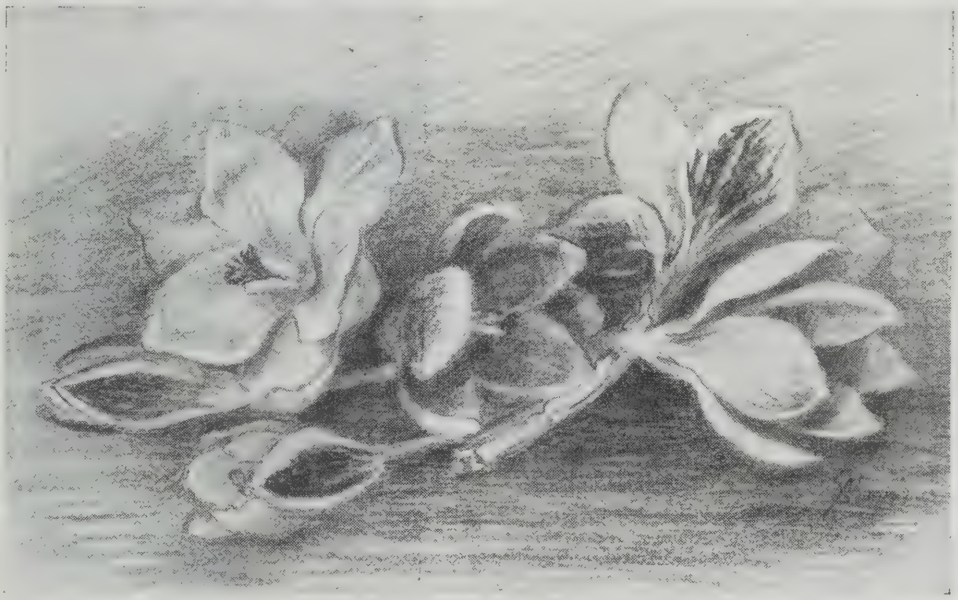
Marron de Lyon, Numbo, and Paragon are generally planted in France.

ALICE MARTINEAU.

Mendel Tulips

This new race, the result of a cross between Duc van Thol Tulips and the Darwins, has a future before it for early forcing, and when it has been better " selected " we shall not get, as at present, a mixture of tall and short Tulips growing in the same pots. Mine are of a charming carmine-red, the flower being of the same shape as the Darwins, or a trifle smaller. They have not been forced, merely brought on in a frost-excluded greenhouse and sent up to me in London before the buds showed colour. Since then they have been in a warm sitting-room with plenty of electric light and such sun as has appeared. As my Darwins will not bloom for at least a month, and my Couronne d'Or are only just showing colour, I am glad to have the Mendels. If they would all bloom at the same time the variation in height is rather pleasing for pot work, ranging from 7 inches to 13 inches.

ALICE MARTINEAU.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Forms of Crocus ancyrensis

Lilium candidum speciosum (the black-stemmed Madonna Lily)

I was much interested in Mr. Clarence Elliott's reference to this Lily in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED of February 2nd.

The common form is not generally any too happy in this district; one rarely sees, even in the oft-quoted cottage gardens, really big healthy clumps.

On the other hand, the variety speciosum, a by no means common plant, is not unusual. Here, in my own garden, we grow it by the hundred, and it certainly seems much more dependable than the type. It thrives in sun or shade, increases readily by division of the clumps, and I have never known it to suffer from the disease.

I hope my experience may be cheering to some of the many gardeners who have hitherto failed with what is assuredly the loveliest of all Lilies.

EDITH WEBB.

Manor House, Newington,
near Sittingbourne.

Coloured Primroses

I read the article in the issue of February 23rd on the colours of flowers with great interest.

The subject of variation in colour in our native plants, mentioned by your contributor, is very interesting, and such variation has to no small extent benefited our gardens, as witness the named varieties of our native Heathers, which are practically all of natural origin, found growing on their native moors.

In the case of some wild plants colour variation is pronounced, a good example being Cardamine pratensis (the Lady's Smock). The flowers of this species vary from an almost pure white to deep mauve, and apparently soil or habitat has not much to do with the different colours.

On the other hand, some native species vary very little in colour. I should be interested to know if any of your correspondents have come across Primroses notably differing in colour from the common yellow. About two years ago I was walking through a Surrey wood when I saw a group of three plants with pink flowers, growing among hundreds of their yellow-flowered fraternity. One clump had bright pink flowers with no trace of yellow in the petals at all. The other two had paler pink flowers slightly tinged with pale yellow. The plants were growing in the heart of the woods, about 2 miles away from the nearest house or garden. This, I think, is the only time I have come across wild " coloured " Primroses.

Esher, Surrey. G. F. COOMBS.

Among the Hardy Flowers

Linaria macedonica

THOSE who know our native Toadflax, Linaria vulgaris, may form some idea of the Macedonian one, which is a far superior garden plant, with a bolder habit and longer and finer spikes of larger flowers. They are of a good yellow and bloom for a long time in summer. It is not at all troublesome regarding soil, as I have cultivated it in both a good, rich border and in a bed with exceedingly poor, sandy soil. The colour is a good yellow in the type, but some varieties have been raised with more cream-coloured flowers. The latter may be found under the name of L. macedonica speciosa Nymph. This plant runs slightly at the roots, but is not so free in this respect as some of its sister flowers. It grows from 1 foot to 1½ feet in height, and may be propagated by division or by seeds. As this Toadflax is perfectly hardy no one need fear to secure it. It likes a sunny place.

The Liatrises.—I hear complaints that the Liatrises, or Gay Feathers, do not live very long, and have found the same myself. That most precious Liatris (L. pycnostachya) is an amazingly fine plant and always pleases with its long, tall spikes 3 feet or so high, and with wonderfully handsome racemes of rose-purple. I do not find it long-lived, even in the light, well-drained, sandy soil, which is the prescription given by the medicos of the floral world. I know three others—L. graminifolia dubia, which seems easier, L. scaviosa, and L. spicata, all more or less with purple in the red of the flowers. I have wandered through many gardens hoping to see these Liatrises, but have seldom seen them. They can be divided or raised from seeds, which should form a good means of raising a stock for those who have glass.

Dianthus Pancicii.—I was given, some time ago, a plant of a Dianthus called D. Pancicii. It has turned out to be one of the "long-legged," cluster-headed kind, with stems which are too long for the size of the flowers or flower-heads. It grows about 2½ feet high. Its cluster of flowers is crimson. It is rather difficult to place D. Pancicii in the garden, and the border is evidently the position for it, though I find that in stormy weather the flowers are blown over, and it is a difficult plant to tie up without spoiling its appearance. Anyone who wants to try this Pink is advised to secure seeds and to sow these under glass.

Saxifraga longifolia.—Like many other flower-lovers, I fell a victim, in my ignorance and youth, to the beauty of the symmetrically formed foliage of Saxifraga longifolia, not knowing that the rosette died after the flowering was over. A season or two elapsed before my plant flowered, and when it did I was delighted with the magnificence of the spire of flowers, which, unfortunately, was the dying song of the plant. I managed to save a little seed, but as the plant had been grown in proximity to other encrusted Saxifrages the seedlings did not come true to S. longifolia. Unless one has plenty of room and can keep the seeding plants well away from other silver Saxifrages one cannot expect to secure the glorious true S. longifolia.

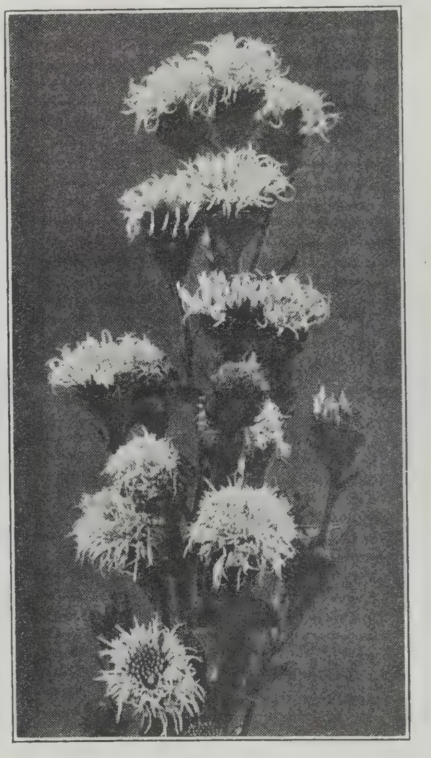
An Amateur of Hardy Flowers.

Transplanting Pyrethrums

There is no more effective dwarf-habited hardy flower than the Pyrethrum, but it must be in full health and vigour if its decorative worth is to be fully recognised. In order to have this useful flower in the best condition it is absolutely necessary that certain cultural rules be observed or the growth will not be sufficiently strong to admit of the production of flowers of the highest quality.

As one sometimes sees Pyrethrums they are hardly worth the ground they occupy, whereas under really good culture they impress by their beauty. Those who wish to make a feature of this fine hardy flower should begin by thoroughly preparing a suitable rooting medium. The soil must be stirred to a depth of 18 inches and well sweetened, adding some partly decomposed manure, or, failing that, any kind of decomposed vegetable matter such as accumulates in gardens generally.

The safe time for transplanting is limited and cannot be done without danger after the beginning of September. Needing a considerable quantity of flowers for cutting, I purchased 100 plants in the latter end of that month. I planted in the beginning of October, thinking that I was doing quite the right thing; but I was wrong. It was courting disaster to move them at that time of year. Unlike herbaceous plants, generally, Pyrethrums do not make fresh roots. All through the autumn months the old leaves decay, no new ones form, and the roots, being in a torpid condition, they are totally unfit to resist the vicissitudes of an English winter. In my case I lost quite 25 per cent. of my plants, excess of moisture in combination with cold causing the crowns to decay. They were strong, well-rooted plants, and good market kinds, and had I planted some six weeks earlier every plant would have produced a good crop of bloom. I now make a practice of planting in August, as early in the month as possible, and young leaves appear by the beginning of September. I know that they have formed new roots and, therefore, quite safe.



Gay Feathers (Liatris pycnostachya)

There is no danger of the plant suffering, no matter how hot and dry the weather may be, if they are "puddled" in, as nurserymen term it, that is, filling up the hole with water and covering with soil, which acts as a mulch and holds the moisture until new roots are made. In this way quite 95 per cent. of the
plants can be relied on to bloom we
following year, and will become thor
established. Transplanting may safe
done in early spring, but more labour
volved, as, if the season is dry and
the plants must be well attended in
watering, and, in any case, they will
thoroughly established by the time they
into bloom.

Pyrethrums are benefited by being
sionally transplanted and divided, bu
sion must be done with judgment.
plants may be made into three with
but in a general way simply cutting
will be advisable. In this way the blo
power of the plants is maintained, w
if cut up into small pieces several year
elapse before good flowers are produce

J. Corn

On selecting outdoor Chrysa mums

Perhaps not one of the least im
tasks at present in connection with
anthemums is the placing of an or
any new plants required if this h
already been done; delay from now o
may result in disappointment. Duri
past few months I have noticed in
ing Illustrated several letters from
seeking information concerning hardy
anthemums which are really deserving
space allotted to them in the gard
arrive at a final satisfactory selec
rendered rather more difficult by th
glowing verbal descriptions, part
when dealing with outdoor kinds very
which are to be seen at any of the
anthemum exhibitions. As one inquir
expressed it, the only apparent co
adopt when dependent upon the desc
contained in a nurseryman's list is t
the lot."

Where one has already grown Chry
mums it is often as well, before deci
new varieties, to review the results
from those previously grown, and, in
ing, to supply the answers to the three
ing questions:—Which kinds have co
to prove their worth and must cert
included in the scheme of operations
present year? Which are the ones to
carded on account of their persist
habits, or because more recent intro
prove similar yet superior? Were th
which, for some reason or other, did
tain the expected or desired standar
cellence, but at the same time evince
qualities which entitle them to furth
The first two questions, of course,
readily answered, but in connection
third it is a matter which must be
principally by individual personal t
judgment. I have already menti
these columns in connection with
variety taken in hand the idea of all
at least two seasons in which to r
true qualities, my reason for such
being the existence of numerous
which can directly affect final results
example, from a number of Chrysant
which, with me, did not prove a dec
cess in the first year of their incl
recall the names of Crimson Circle
tember Glory. Each of these was
however, on account of its colour,
sequent results have more than just
action of extending a trial beyond on

The judgment of a Chrysan
specialist may be regarded as reliabl
the same time it will be readily admi
to select one variety from the many
ones which are now available and la
"the best" is by no means a sim
However, the following well-known
have been good enough to furnish
tion which will no doubt assist many

on with the choice of plants. Mr. A. W.
pe, of Lichfield, selects Crimson Circle
s premier variety; Mr. H. Woolman, of
ey, regards Bronze Early Buttercup as
est one he has raised; Nina Blick is
pride of place at the Ryecroft Nurseries
essrs. H. J. Jones; and Mr. H. Shoe-
, of Mayford, singles out Daffodil as his
meritorious production. For the pre-
I do not intend to enlarge on the fore-
with any detailed descriptions, but,
usly enough, the four varieties selected
itute an excellent quartette, consisting
vo bronze flowers entirely different in

cetias self sown by the side of steps

l and shade of colour, a crimson, and a
w.

ning now to the matter of purely
al choice of a Chrysanthemum,
ective of who was responsible for its
uction, Mr. Thorpe still cites Crimson
e, and this variety is also selected by
eith Luxford and Messrs. H. J. Jones.
. Cole and Son, of Peterborough, give
ence to Bronze Early Buttercup, Mr.
Voolman favours Jack Robbins, Mr.
mith selects Phœnix, and Mr. William
rell, of Maidenhead, names Mrs. Phil
g as his favourite variety. All the varie-
s nentioned are procurable from any re-
Chrysanthemum nursery, and full de-
ions of them may be found in the many
-date catalogues at present in circula-
n

ilst dealing with the question of varie-
may be just as well to draw attention
certain state of affairs which, unfor-
ely, exists not only among Chrysanthe-
s, but in several fields of horticultural
ity. The fact that two dissimilar flowers
he same identical name is a detail which
sitates the clear indication of what is
ed when an order is being made out.
nstance, it is very easy for an error to
e when dealing with "Harvester" and
Harvester." Furthermore, Bright-
Radio, Gloriosa, Sunburst, Tangerine,
aledonia are all names of hardy Chrys-
mums, but they are also to be found
d to plants among the indoor decora-
e singles, etc. There may be other ex-
s in addition to the foregoing, but this
, perhaps, sufficient to justify the sound-
f a warning note.

After the Frost

An urgent week's work (Essex)

ASSUMING that when these notes get into print the great frost will be over, there will be many a

> . . . ." needful job
> That's crying to be done."

And first . . . the flower garden.

This never looks more disheartening than after a long frost, and when it has been as severe as the last one it looks deplorable indeed. Still, spring is almost here, and there is hope everywhere, even in the midst of ruins.

One of the urgent tasks is to look carefully over the rock garden and give a little help to surface-rooting plants that have been almost lifted out of the ground by the buckling of the surface soil through the frost. These will need making firm, and a little good soil should be put round them.

The frames in which plants have been kept through the winter will need overhauling, and it may be a sad task in some ways. All dead or mildewy plants should be removed, and the sashes kept widely open so long as there is little or no frost. Mildew takes a larger toll of plants in frames in damp weather after frost than at any time.

It is quite time to begin sowing hardy annuals and some perennials both inside and out. In the frames Sweet Peas, Antirrhinums (which must have been exterminated in the open), Primroses, Scabious, etc., to name only a few. Outside, as soon as conditions permit, beds should be prepared for sowing such hardy annuals as Shirley Poppies, Eschscholtzias, Cornflowers, and the like.

THE FRUIT GARDEN.—The first thing to be looked to after the frost will be the damage by the birds to the fruit-buds. Pears have been almost denuded of fruit-buds in places, and bush fruit has suffered badly. The final pruning of all these should be taken in hand at once, and where it has been done already some further cutting-out will be found necessary, owing to the loss of the buds on fruiting wood which had been left.

The thinning of the wood on standard Apples and Pears, where necessary, should be done without delay. Where growth is too thick light should be let in by taking out branches right to the point of origin, and not by shortening. If it is necessary to thin Plum trees restraint should be the motto, and any wounds should be covered at once with thick paint, tar, or creosote to avoid the danger of Silver Leaf.

Antirrhinums as bedding plants

Raspberry canes should be shortened to about 4 feet and weak ones to 2 feet, and all tied in. It is assumed all working of the soil among bush fruits has been done, but if any remains the surface only should be turned over or loosened to facilitate hoeing later.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.—It will be a late season for getting some things planted or sown. The first thing to be done is to get up the rest of the Artichokes, select the seed tubers, and replant at once. This is usually done on the same ground, as some tubers are certain to be left in when lifting.

The winter Onion bed should be made up by transplanting superfluous ones from some rows to gaps in others. Extra strong plants should be rejected, as they usually run to seed.

Where Onion sets are going to be planted the ground should be worked to a fine tilth, when the sets can be put in a shallow drill 8 inches apart.

Seed Potatoes should be boxed up if this has not been already done, and set in a light and frost-proof place.

The sowing of Lettuce, Brussels Sprouts, and Cauliflowers should be made in a cold frame. It is difficult to get stocky plants under glass, but thin sowing near the glass, with plenty of air, is a good start.

A. Petts.

Violettas

THE Violettas are a beautiful race of miniature tufted Pansies, and, owing to their vigorous constitution and free-flowering, are valuable plants for the rock garden. To many these are more attractive than the larger kind. Indeed, there are few plants of lowly stature that are capable of giving us such bounteous displays over so long a period as these, and their cultivation is by no means difficult. It is true they demand fairly cool soil, but in most rock gardens this can be provided.

Violettas or Miniature Tufted Pansies

On the rock garden they may be used in a cool nook, either to form a tuft under other plants or for their own sake. They look particularly well placed in a bay in the rock garden, nestling between rocks, with their symmetrical flowers of good self colours, and are equally good for edging informal pathways. These graceful flowers are so hardy and free in many soils that there is, perhaps, no need of rock garden luxuries for them. But in this large group of plants there are rare and beautiful kinds which the variety of surface and of aspect in a well-formed rock garden may be very welcome to, and some European plants of this race are very striking.

The following are a few of the more select for the rock garden:—

V. GRACILIS.—A pretty little Grecian Violet, dwarf in growth, with leaves borne on slender stalks forming a tuft. The flowers, ½ inch across, purple, towering well above the foliage.

V. G. LORD NELSON.—This species has the beauty of colour and grace of habit of V. gracilis, and grows and flowers well, over a long period, in ordinary soil. It is much more vigorous than the old form, and the flowers are larger. There is a white form and a pale lavender form.

V. ROTHOMAGENSIS.—A delicate Sicilian plant with many purple and white flowers, and fading to pink, crowding on thread-like stems to a height of 3 inches from close, low cushions of leaves. It is suitable for association with the choicest mountain plants.

V. CORNUTA.—A Pyrenian plant forming dense tufts of foliage and purple-violet flowers on stems fully 6 inches high, which appear throughout the year. V. c. alba is a white form of the type.

V. BOSNIACA.—Although very slender and liable to be broken by rough winds, is thoroughly hardy. It is 3 inches high, has branching stems, and bears a multitude of rosy-mauve flowers on slender stems for several months in succession.

V. ARENARIA ROSEA.—This is a beautiful dwarf kind. It is very pretty when studded with pinkish flowers among its pale green foliage.

V. TRICOLOR NIGER MINOR.—A small, pretty species 3 inches high, fine deep black with a yellow eye. In some soils it may prove perennial, but is usually a biennial, and should be sown every year in late spring.

V. CALCURATA.—A graceful, vigorous kind, possessing all the pleasing characteristics of V. cornuta, but, instead of forming tufts, spreads slowly by underground roots.

V. LUTEA.—A twin-flowered or yellow species which loses none of its charm through being a native.

V. BIFLORA.—A tiny plant from the Alps, with yellow and white flowers.

V. THURINGIACA.—A robust form with yellow and purple flowers.

In so large a family there are, no doubt, many other choice kinds worth seeking by rock gardeners, and not a few fit to be introduced to gardens.

H. Stevens.

Spring flower beds

It is to be feared that a considerable number of gaps will be showing in these, so as soon as weather conditions permit, it will be desirable to make these up, as far as possible, from the reserve garden, and at the same time remove any winter débris that may be present, while the soil should be lightly stirred on the surface with a hoe or hand-fork.

Flowers for a Shakespeare bo

LOVERS of Shakespeare who are in
ing to make a new flower border s
let it be a Shakespeare border.
can quite easily be managed if planti
certain perennials is arranged for, and t
followed up at the proper season by so
suitable annuals.

To start with, include the well-k
perennial Aconite, Aconitum Napellus.
will represent "King Henry the Fou
Part 2, in your list of Shakespeare's
Several of the recently introduced imp
garden forms are very attractive an
sirable, although the plant is a pois
subject.

The Lily (most likely Lilium cand
must obviously be included, as Shakes
refers to it a great many times. The
important passages containing it wi
found in "Cymbeline," "King Henr
Eighth," "Love's Labours Lost," "
summer Night's Dream," and "T
and Cressida." Make up your mind
this bulb is to grow, and let it stay the
several years, as it hates being lifte
replanted.

The Marigold (Calendula officinalis)
of Shakespeare's annual flowers, an
such, requires to be sown out of do
April. The play it represents is "Peri
which is but seldom staged now.
sown, all the after-culture this lovely o
subject needs is to be thinned out to at
6 inches apart each way.

The Poppy (Papaver somniferum
another of Shakespeare's annual flo
He refers to it in "Othello." This
course, the Opium Poppy, from
opiates are obtained. It is easy to cul
and much more might be done in raisin
and other Shakespeare drug plants i
future than has been done in the past.

The Rose is mentioned over and
again by Shakespeare, and a complete
the plays containing some direct or in
reference to it would be wearisome.
represent "Coriolanus," "Twelfth N
"Midsummer Night's Dream" "
Labours Lost," "Romeo and Juliet,
others as you like it to, while those r
who are quick to note a play on word
realise also that the Rose is also refe
in "As You Like it."

Lastly, the Violet must obviously
cluded, as it is referred to in a n
of Shakespeare's plays, especial
"Cymbeline," "Hamlet," "King
"Richard the Second," and "Pe
Some may like to represent the Vi
their Shakespeare border by an edging
den Violas, others may, perhaps, pr
use Viola cornuta, but the truest repr
tion is found in the Sweet Violet.

E. T. E

Three annuals worth grow

There are three annuals I would
mend. The first, Portulaca, is half
and is by far the prettiest annual I kno
delights in a hot, dry, sunny situatio
more sun the better. The blossoms a
like the wild Rose and almost as
although the plant is seldom more
inches high. The leaves and ste
succulent. The blossoms only open
sun or on a hot day. The colours rang
primrose, orange, cardinal, to crimson
and pure white, including many sha
tween. There are also double va
Grown in a bed by itself it is splendid
very suitable for boxes, etc., the more
slugs being very fond of it. Sow out-d
in April and later, and water whilst
ing if the soil gets very dry. Much
apt to rot the blossoms. Another ver

wn annual is the common Nigella, called ve in a Mist, Devil in a Bush, and Fennel- wer. The blossoms are of a pretty starch- e. It is suitable for the border, railway bankment, etc., *i.e.*, where one would not d its spreading, as it sows itself rather easily. Sow in clumps where it is to re- in in March and April. My third annual, dy, is Matthiola bicornis (the Night- nted Stock), which should be sown early April. The cross-shaped blossoms are not y pretty, and look shrivelled up during day, but expand in the evening, and the nt is then very pleasing. M.

Plants for a town garden

oo often the town gardener, exasperated, ppointed, and almost despairing, says: Vhat is the use of trying to grow things? y only die."

ut there are some plants sufficiently t-hearted to live and flourish, even when ered with smuts, deprived of their proper d by greedy tree-roots, harassed and aged by marauding dogs and cats, and off from the sun for at least part of the r by house, fence, or foliage.

ere are a few which are putting up a d fight in a small town garden in the nty of Durham.

he common dark blue Monkshood has ived when Delphinium, Larkspur, and in have died. Staked early in the year eaches sometimes a height of 7 feet or eet, covers a fence quite cheerfully, or es good clumps. Kept free from seed- s it flowers from June to late September.

oronicums, Primroses, Snowdrops, Ferns, pe Hyacinths, Woodruffe, Lilies of the ley, and German and Spanish Iris all do , so do Campanulas. C. persicifolia in et season has grown 5 feet high. Clumps it flower from June to November. C. illa covers the garden with a carpet of in June and goes on flowering till the weather nips it. It is encouraged with w packets of bird sand, as recommended Mr. E. A. Bowles. The sand has acted magic on the rock plants. With its aid pusilla alba at last looks contented and py.

he Willow-leaved Gentian spreads further d every year.

uchsia macrostemma (grown from slips er a bell-glass) makes a good show, as it not die down in the winter, and can be at the height required. Planted in tall henware pipes (which are covered with le Arabis, etc., secured by wire-netting) oks well at the back of the border or de the entrance. Veronicas fill up ers if raised into the air and sunshine in same way and given good soil and copious lies of water in dry weather.

he true St. John's Wort grows rapidly is covered with golden blossoms in late mer.

ontbretias, Everlasting Pea, Catmint, pdragons, and the old-fashioned pink rian grow well, the last-named bringing added pleasure of crowds of butterflies moths.

ops make the most satisfactory climber windows and doors. The foliage is tiful, especially if trained horizontally, the hanging clusters of fruit are a pic- in themselves. Sarah Robson.

Half-hardy annuals

veral of these may now be sown, in- ing China Asters, Phlox Drummondii, nthus, Golden Feather, Salpiglossis, lla, Mimulus, Ageratum, Ryburgh d Poppy, Gaillardia, and Zinnia. A perature of from 55 degs. to 60 degs. will nicely.

Lime and its uses

Lime is a highly valued mineral, extensively used in modern cultivations, and while some soils, such as the marly and calcareous soils, need no further addition of lime, others, particularly the stiff clays and those containing a large amount of organic matter, are much improved by occasional dressings. Lime acts in several important ways; it supplies plant food in itself, it sets free other plant foods in the soil, and it acts mechanically on the soil, and when these functions are fully understood it is easy to realise what an important part this element plays in plant nutrition.

Most plants require a supply of lime in their food, leguminous crops taking up more than the general run of plants. As a direct food any form of lime is about equally suitable, but its quickness in action depends largely on its fineness of division, and broadly speaking it may be said that the coarser the grade the longer after application will results accrue. Undoubtedly the quickest in action is burnt or quick lime, but the effect of this is to destroy any tender rootlets with which it comes into contact, hence it can only be applied to vacant land. The chemical composition of burnt lime which has been exposed to water and carbon dioxide is the same as that of ground chalk or limestone, but there is, nevertheless, a considerable difference in their action.

The action of slaking reduces the lime to a very fine powder, and after being acted on by carbon dioxide it is usually in the fine, amorphous state in which chemical activity is greatly enhanced. Ground limestone or chalk, on the other hand, may be crystalline, or the lime may be bound up with silica or magnesia in the form of double salts, and no amount of grinding will render it so chemically active.

Monkshood, flowers deep purple (Aconitum Napellus)

Thus, as one effect of quicklime is to destroy organic tissue in the soil, it would not be wise to use it on soils of low organic content, but on stiff clays and peats it has its advantages because it is chemically more active.

Lime acts as a base in many chemical reactions, which take place in the soil in the preparation of plant-food, and when it is lacking these reactions cannot take place, and elements present remain inert and cannot become available for the plant. Further, all chemical changes which result in the soil being made available as plant food take place best in an alkaline medium, and lime being the commonest alkali available, it is in frequent demand as a corrector of acidity. Intensive cultivations whereby large crops are produced by heavy applications of concentrated fertilisers have a tending to engender acidity, and it is of the highest importance to see that the lime content of the soil is kept at a proper balance. Besides the chemical effect of bringing inert substances in the soil into a condition to be taken up by the plant, lime also exercises an important physical effect by opening up the pores of heavy soils, giving free passage to water and assisting penetration of air, thus rendering the soil more easy to work

Finally, lime is an excellent antidote to many diseases in the soil through its powerful purifying quality. The widespread and destructive Anbury diease, so prevalent amongst Brassica crops, is practically unknown on soils naturally containing a high percentage of lime, and it is the most effective preventive agent known. W. Auton

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Mushrooms

Not everyone is in possession of suitable material for the making up of beds these days, but where such is obtainable it should be made use of throughout the season. Elaborate houses are not necessary for this purpose, and a thatched shed at the rear of a north wall which can be kept practically air-tight, or a good cellar, will answer admirably, and if the shed is thatched inside, also, with wheat straw it will be an advantage. After a thorough preparation of the material the beds should be formed on each side of a central path, a brick wall separating the beds from the path. This will not only keep the material together, but prevent undue exhaustion from the sides. The beds should be 2 feet 6 inches in depth. Spawning should take place when the heat of the bed has receded to about 75 degs., the cakes being broken into pieces about the size of a hen's egg. Maintain a temperature of 55 degs. to 60 degs., endeavouring at all times to produce the same humid atmosphere as that of a September night in the fields, when, following rains, Mushrooms are plentiful. Avoid fire-heat if possible, and should the heat rising from the beds prove insufficient, a few heaps of fresh droppings placed along the paths and turned occasionally will assist the temperature.

Early Turnips, Carrots, Express Cabbage

These, also Lettuces, both Cabbage and Cos, Parsley, Moss Curled, should all be sown, the two former in cold frames where they are to mature and the remainder in boxes and raised in gentle heat to supply plants for pricking out on warm south borders later. This sowing may also include Cauliflower and an autumn Broccoli, such as Walcheren.

Land intended for seeds

After receiving a dressing of soot all such land should be forked over in order that sun and wind may penetrate its surface and thus render it fine and workable. This applies especially to plots intended for the main crops of Onions, Carrots, Beet, etc.

Spinach

Make a good sowing of Giant Prickly and Victoria on a warm border and on soil which is in good heart. The rows should be 14 inches apart and the plants thinned, when large enough to handle, to 6 inches apart in rows.

Fruit trees

Complete the pruning and tying in of all trained trees without further delay, and bring forward any arrears of spraying, after which the surface of the borders should be lightly pointed over Planting is still possible, but should be delayed no longer, especially when trees or bushes have to be obtained from a distance, as such trees are liable to suffer seriously from root-dryness in transit.

Early fruit houses

A temperature of 65 degs. will be necessary at night. Frequent dampings of floors and borders will also be necessary, with overhead syringing twice daily when sunshine is plentiful, except during the period of bloom, when a slightly drier atmosphere must be the order. Vines in bloom should be gently tapped about mid-day to disperse the pollen, but Peaches—unless one has abundance of bees near—should be fertilised by hand, using a rabbit's tail.

Arum Lilies, Cinerarias

These and similar plants which are now developing their flowers should be assisted with applications of liquid manures, and the same applies to stove and greenhouse evergreen plants.

Caladiums

These are very ornamental and much appreciated for indoor decoration, and if shaken out and placed in boxes of leaf-mould and sand will quickly respond if stood in the propagating house or stove. They may then be potted up singly in a mixture of loam, peat, and sand.

Polyanthus

A sowing of these charming spring flowers made now will provide fine plants for furnishing the beds in autumn. A sowing may also be made of a good strain of Auriculas.

Carnations and Sweet Peas

Any which have been wintered in cold frames should be given abundance of air whenever possible, as these must shortly be planted out in the open.

Gladiolus and Montbretias

Make plantings of these in the open border. The best effects result from grouping a small number of each variety together rather than dotting a bulb, or corm, here and there. Allowance should be made for a dwarf groundwork.

Alpine flowers

These may now be examined and top-dressings applied where necessary. Additions should also be made from stocks wintered in cold frames, as new life is becoming more apparent each day in this department.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Belated sowings of vegetables

With February being so inclement it is to be feared that the sowing of early crops out of doors is to be very seriously delayed. It is necessary, therefore, to be prepared to seize the first favourable moment to get in Broad Beans, early Peas, and Parsnips. There is no advantage, however, in rushing these in while the soil is sloppy, it being worth waiting until the ground is moderately dry and workable.

The Brassicas

Next week is a favourable time for sowing the main crops of Brussels Sprouts, Cabbages, Cauliflowers, Borecoles, autumn Broccolis, and Savoys, should climatic conditions permit. While it is hardly possible to find room in frames for these (should the weather be bad), it is an excellent plan to sow more Brussels Sprouts and early Cauliflower under glass for fear of accidents should the outdoor sowings be unduly held back. By sowing these now in boxes, placing in gentle warmth, and, when ready, pricking into a cold frame, fine plants will be ready by the middle of May for planting in their permanent quarters, which will ensure that the "Sprouts," in particular, will be able to produce a fine crop.

Leeks and Onions

The main crops of these indispensables should be sown on the first favourable occasion, both requiring a longish season of growth. The Leeks may be given a spot on an early border so as to ensure the plants being fit for transplanting in good time, while the Onions should have an open, sunny
tion, with deeply worked and richly man
soil.

Shallots

Like so many other crops, the plantin
this useful vegetable has, in many cases
to be carried out. Delay in planting
not materially delay the ripening of the
but, as a rule, the bulbs of the late-pla
are smaller.

The planting of Rhubarb

While this can be successfully plant
various times it will be found that ear
March gives as good results as any
season of the year. Being a gross f
and having to occupy the same position
number of years, it is very desirable tha
site of the new plantation be well prep
It ought to be trenched, or at least d
dug, and a very generous dressing of
farmyard manure worked in as the
proceeds. Allow at least 4 feet from pl
plant in the rows and 5 feet betwee
rows.

Pruning and nailing

These necessary but disagreeable jo
cold weather) are, like so much other ou
work, considerably in arrears in many
dens, so a strong effort must now b
forth to have such cleared off. Buds a
swelling now, so are very easily knock
by rough handling.

Sow Primulas now

More failures with these fine w
flowering subjects, Primula obconica a
sinensis, can be traced to late sowing th
almost any other cause. It will be
that by sowing now the plants have ti
attain a good size before winter comes
so are able to bloom profusely, and tha
a long period. P. sinensis may be rai
a temperature approximating 70 degs
P. obconica will germinate much bett
genial warmth of about 55 degs. be allo

Planting Roses

There is still time to make goo
arrears in this connection, but the soo
can be accomplished the better. The
can be pruned before being put in,
mediately afterwards. Avoid wet,
ground, for the Rose demands a ver
root-run, and so it is necessary, when
ing, to tread down the soil very firml
this can only be properly done when
a fairly dry state.

Potting on

Many cuttings rooted in autumn
now be potted off singly and set in a
warmth to encourage a speedy recover
the disturbance. Most of the cutti
late-flowering Chrysanthemums will
rooted, and should be potted off.
earlier batches, should the weath
moderate, will now be better in cold fr

Early-flowering Chrysanthemums

Continue to secure cuttings of these
growths attain a length of 3 inche
inches, inserting in boxes of light,
compost. Earlier batches, as soon as
rooted, should be moved to a cold fra

Dahlias

The old shoots should now be pot
boxed, and introduced to a little war
that they may send up their growths,
when about 4 inches long, should be
off with a "heel," inserted in pots
sandy compost, and set in a warm h
root.

C. B

Preston House, Linlithgow.

An unnamed seedling

Bullfinch

Lachenalias

O apology is needed for a further reference to Lachenalias at this time of the year. In the issue of February 2nd at- ion was called to Lachenalia pendula, the iest of the family to bloom and quite dis- t in its coral-red colouring. This old ourite is usually at its best from about the week in December until the middle of uary, and by that time its successors in to show colour, so that it is possible to ow the red Pendula with a continuous eant of crimson and gold for a further or eight weeks with ever-increasing rest and attraction.

one knows Lachenalias at all it is pro- le that Nelsoni, Luteola, and Tricolor the most familiar, but these are now left behind by developments, which are ely due to the persistent work of the late . Joseph Jacob, who raised a very fine in which have been grouped under the ne of the Whitewell Seedlings (it will be embered that the Rev. Jacob was Vicar Whitewell), and it is by means of selection n this group that most of the finer- ned varieties have come. The cultivation he Whitewells has been further developed h great success by the late William uger, of Guernsey, who probably possessed finest collection of Lachenalias to be nd anywhere, and whose seedlings year by r invariably produced some advanced and inctive specimens; happily, that collec- has not been dispersed, and the work of elopment continues. The strain is repre- ted by some very striking varieties—selfs, olours, tricolours, and quadricolours, with orous spikes 12 inches to 16 inches long carrying 16 to 20 bells, sometimes more. is difficult to imagine more beautiful ouring than in Sunset, which is Indian- ow shaded with red, and the mouth of the e heavily bordered with ox-blood red, the s very campanulate and the foliage well ttled; or Rainbow, gamboge, with dinal suffusion, the lower petals grass- en with plum-coloured lips, a gorgeous iety not yet very plentiful; or Glow, a chrome-yellow, the top of the spike be- tipped with madder-red, and with culated foliage and stem, and one of the st specimens the writer has ever seen was a pan of Siam, a grand yellow self which was in full glory for several weeks; the accompanying illustrations show typical examples of the strength and beauty of these newer varieties.

The bulbs are small, and a 6-inch pot will accommodate half-a-dozen quite well; a dozen in a 9-inch pan makes a fine show and are striking as a house decoration.

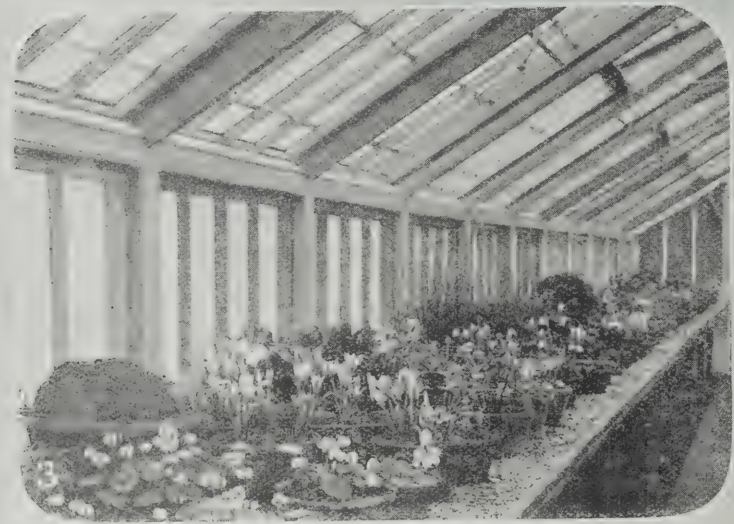
The salient points of culture are:—First, the compost, which should be equal parts of good yellow loam, peat, and leaf-mould, with a generous helping of coarse sand. Second, early potting; the best results are from bulbs potted up not later than the end of July, and so assured of a long period of growth; an important accompaniment to this condition is that the drainage must be perfect, and may, perhaps, occupy more space in the bottom of the pot than would be the case with some other subjects. Third, careful watering; enough, but not too much during the period of growth and flowering; when the bloom is over, the foliage should be retained as long as any life remains, so that the bulbs may store up all possible retreating sap as the leaves gradually die down, and then the pots should be placed on a top shelf in full sun and given a good baking to ripen the bulbs; they may remain in the dust-dry soil till shaken out to be repotted in July.

The Lachenalia is a native of South Africa, and was introduced into England about the middle of the 18th century; it is not quite hardy enough to stand the English climate out of doors, and is, therefore, a plant for the cold house or for a frost-proof frame; anything below about 35 degs. is likely to be troublesome to it. In Guernsey many thousands of bulbs grown from seed to flowering size spend the winter in cold frames under the shelter of a south wall with the added protection of matting on threatening nights.

Lachenalias are delightfully interesting, and deserve to be better known, especially in view of these more recent introductions; they are well worth adding to a collection of bulbous plants, but they should be ordered in early summer and not left for inclusion in the general order for Hyacinths, Narcissus, etc., later on in the year, because of the early potting which they require. Some quite distinctive varieties are now to be found in the lists of several bulb specialists, and besides those already mentioned such outstanding ones as Aurea and Leiden among the orange selfs, or Rutland, Monte Carlo, and Goldfinch among the more variegated, are, perhaps, best grown separately; but a good batch of mixed Whitewell Seedlings is pretty certain to produce attractive surprises and to give some specimens equal to varieties bearing distinctive names.

W. D.

Lachenalia Siam, a grand yellow self



EARLY FLOWERING ALPINES AT KEW

1. The crocus mound.
2. Crocus versicolor picturatus in pan. Flowers white, heavily marked and feathered maroon on the outside.
3. The Alpine house, full of mountain treasures in pans, is well worth a visit at the present time.
4. Bulbocodium vernum in the rock garden, flowers naked purple.
5. Cyclamen Coum album in pan.
6. Galanthus plicatus in a rock garden pocket.

Kew in Winter

LTHOUGH to many it may appear early in the year for a visit to Kew to be really enjoyable, it was with a great deal easure that I spent a short time there e afternoon of February 10th last. In pen were some bold groups of the se Witch Hazel (Hamamelis mollis) its sweetly scented golden-yellow rs, Snowdrops were showing white in rass under the trees, and here and there of the Hellebores. The day was, how- too cold for much time to be spent in pen, so a visit was made to the Alpine- . Pans of Iris reticulata and its paler y, Cantab, were charming. Crocus i and the chocolate and gold Susianas, men repandum, Bulbocodiums, and ila vulgaris var. cœrulea (a good y-blue) made lovely little splashes of . Some good Miltonias were out in rchid-house, but a real feast to the eyes the lovely group of Hippeastrums in g shades of red. Azaleas (yellow, red, orange), some of the smaller-flowered odendrons, and in the same house dils, Hyacinths, Primulas, Camellias, Citron in fruit completed a very charm- icture. A stroll through the Cactus- and a visit to tropical Aroids made one t forget that it was a nasty, cold ary day in London. A. L. WARNER.

lect dozen of the newer Roses for spring planting

advent of longer days, and with them conditions for planting, brings us once to thoughts of Roses. We know the vourites well enough; and there is still for them in our gardens, for many of are indispensable. The newer kinds e more careful selection. There is no ozen varieties, for many kinds that are able in the south are not so reliable in rth, and vice versa. The following selec- nowever, judging from my own experi- with them combined with reports from localities, can be relied upon to give ction.

T SILK.—Although this is not exactly Rose, it is of comparatively recent uction. Year after year it increases in rity, and it seems as if too many trees be budded of it to supply the great d. It is a very sweetly scented variety ly colouring, typified in the appropriate and the blooms are shapely, even they are rather short in the petal at The foliage is handsome and the stems devoid of thorns.

. A. R. BARRACLOUGH.—Here we have r glorious pink Rose of quite another It is a sparkling colour and very ul in sunlight. The blooms are of ex- form, borne erect on long stems, and a good habit. I consider this the best colour and good both for exhibition and tive purposes.

GARET MCGREDY.—A wonderful grower ne foliage and an ideal bedding habit. rilliant in colour—geranium scarlet— seen at its best when massed. It has of the rich colouring of the Queen dra Rose, but a much more erect habit is variety.

MAN LAMBERT.—The best of the bronzy shades. A very strong grower with rge foliage that is perfectly free from ease. It does not die back in winter. lour is best in sunny weather, and the blooms and half-open flowers are very ul. It has a fruity fragrance.

MAY.—A dainty little gem of the Mme. Butterfly colour and form. It is almost like a deeper coloured Mme. Butterfly in miniature. The blooms are very freely produced and very shapely. It has a good bedding habit and makes a fine show when massed.

CHARLES P. KILHAM.—Somewhat variable in colour during summer, but especially good in autumn. The rich shade may be described as deep orange-cerise. It has an excellent habit and is a good bedding and decorative Rose.

MRS. BEATTY.—A finely formed yellow that approaches the Marechal Niel colour. It is rather short growing, but the habit is good and not by any means stunted. Besides being very well shaped the blooms last well and make good specimens for exhibition. It is paler than Mabel Morse.

REV. PAGE ROBERTS.—Another fine yellow that somewhat resembles Marechal Niel in colour. The habit is dwarf and compact and it makes a splendid bedder, while it is also reliable as a standard. It is free from mildew and possesses fragrance.

SIR DAVID DAVIS.—This is a strong growing crimson variety that gives shapely deep glowing crimson blooms. These are carried erect on long stems. As a garden and exhibition Rose this is one of the best of the newer crimsons. It is very free flowering.

DUCHESS OF ATHOLL.—I am very fond of this beautiful orange, which is very shapely in all stages. The buds are long and pointed, and these open into full flowers of good form and possess good lasting qualities. It is a capital grower and the foliage is clean and healthy.

PATIENCE.—This is a very reliable Rose for all purposes. The colour is distinct, a kind of scarlet lake on an orange ground. The blooms are very pretty in the bud stage and the open flowers are full and shapely. It has a neat, compact habit and makes a fine bedder.

DESMOND JOHNSON.—A delightful decorative variety of most pleasing colours. The predominating shade is orange. This is suffused with scarlet and claret. Almost every bloom is shapely and the buds are very pretty for buttonholes. The habit is dwarf and compact, and the flowers are freely produced. In autumn it is most beautiful.

NORMAN LAMBERT.

The Winter Aconite (Eranthis hyemalis)
Flowers bright golden yellow in February and early March

Bulbophyllums and their Allies

(Continued from page 130)

One of the distinguishing features of the Order Orchidaceæ is that in all species the third petal, the lip (labellum), is more or less specialised to attract and guide some particular insect species to fertilise the flower, in many cases such specialisation preventing the entrance of less favoured insects, though to them the flower may have attractions.

B. BARBIGERUM is possibly the better-known of the section with haired lips. The flattened pseudo-bulbs creep close to the compost and give rise to lateral spikes, which often carry a dozen flowers remarkable in that the labellums resemble a soft camel's-hair brush, dusky-brown in colour, and considerably larger than the small, pointed sepals and petals. The least movement in the air sets the "brushes" in motion at different angles, so much so that it is a trial of patience to accurately photograph an inflorescence or to hold the plant in the hand and get all the flowers quiescent.

Saltatorium, "the dancing Orchid," obtains its name from the same peculiar motions. It differs from barbigerum in its erect spikes, which, though only 3 inches or 4 inches high, carry eight or 12 blooms. The bulbs, too, are quite different from those of barbigerum, though both species are natives of the West Coast of Africa.

Tremulum, from North India, more resembles saltatorium, but the spikes are 10 inches or 12 inches high and carry many more flowers, the hairs being much darker in colour.

Penicilium, from Burma and probably North India, also resembles barbigerum in its mobile tufted lip, but there the resemblance ends. The bare portion of the peduncle is erect, but the rachis curves and bends over, becomes swollen, and, as it were, sprinkled with flowers having narrow triangular sepals of pale yellow streaked with dark brown. The lip is highly mobile, but as the flowers are adpressed to the swollen rachis its movements are not as apparent as those of barbigerum. As the hairs are of varying lengths it may be likened to an ill-used brush. In colour the rachis is a dull brownish-grey, and altogether the inflorescence has a sad-looking, depressed appearance.

Grandiflorum, a New Guinea species, produces erect spikes, often nearly a foot high, carrying a single bloom only, but that is remarkable for the size of the dorsal sepal, which is 4 inches or more long, broad in proportion, and snake-like in its coloration of green and white. It completely "hoods" the small lip and petals. The lower sepals are nearly as large as the upper, green suffused with brown, and so twisted as to bring the under-surfaces uppermost.

Micholitzii, also from New Guinea, rivals it in size, but the scapes are shorter and the colouring slightly different.

Lemniscatoides (Javanese) and lemniscatum (Burmese), though differing in structure, superficially resemble each other in that the scapes are first erect, then droop, carrying numerous small flowers with ribbon-like appendages white marked with dull rose. Both are among the small-growing species, but when in flower more than attractive.

In Medusæ each flower is small, creamyellow, with a few red spots, but two of the sepals are lengthened into threads 3 inches or more long, and as the numerous flowers are compacted into a close "head" and the threads naturally twirl in all directions, the allusion in the name to Medusa's tresses is not without reason.

A form is known from Sumatra without spottings and with creamy-white colouring. Mirum, also from Sumatra, excites curiosity, and is highly attractive. Small and close-growing, only two flowers are carried on a scape, but they are extraordinary in structure. The two lower sepals have their edges joined, forming a straight, sharply pointed canoe. The upper sepal, small and shield-shaped, is flattened over the minute petals. These bear on their outer edges a row of red, white tipped, flattened hairs, which project outward and are capable of swift, but erratic movement backwards and forwards. Occasionally the whole number are concealed beneath the dorsal, then, apparently for no reason, few or many are pushed forward and outward, resembling oars used by an absolutely untrained but enthusiastic boat's crew. The motions are most rapid in sunlight and during the warmest part of the day.

Ericssonii, the last of the genus in these notes, though there are many others worthy of mention, is a native of New Guinea. Its near allies are Binnendijkii, from Borneo and virescens, Java. Possibly all are geographical forms, one of the other. Be that as it may, the three species attract attention whenever shown. B. Ericssonii has erect, compressed pseudo-bulbs carrying a broad, dark green leaf totalling a height of 12 inches to 18 inches. The inflorescence often contains 10 or 12 flowers arranged in a wheel shape. The sepals attain a length of 4 inches and taper gradually, the lower being nearly at right angles to the dorsal, and the flowers are so placed that the dorsal sepals form, as it were, the hub of the wheel, and are so curved that their backs touch each other in places, and so afford mutual support, imparting strength and a certain amount of rigidity to the whole inflorescence. Though not brilliant, the flowers are pleasing from the green, yellow-shaded colouring of the sepals and petals, the comparatively large lip being ornamented with a flush of purple-red on a white ground.

Cirrhopetalum is just as varied as its sister genus, and the flowers are even more noticeable, as, apart from the development of the lower sepals, previously mentioned, single-flowered scapes are the exception. The majority carry several flowers, forming a complete or broken circle.

The species vary as much as do those of Bulbophyllum. All are interesting, all are beautiful, so that it is difficult to make a selection of the more attractive. C. picturatum is, perhaps, more frequently seen under cultivation. It is widely distributed through the East, and was introduced as early as 1838, hence it is one of the earliest known. The flowers are carried on a stout, speckled scape 6 inches or more high, and vary in number, but I have never seen sufficient to fill the circle. Each flower is some 2 inches long, yellow shaded with green, the small, hooded, red-spotted upper sepal terminating in a purple hair. The lower sepals have their outside edges slightly volute—a character present in a greater or less degree in many Cirrhopetalums—probably to give greater strength and afford more resistance to the impact of any insect. The lip is bright red, a contrasting shade to that of the sepals.

Roxburghii, an Indian species, is very small, but very pretty. The whole inflorescence can be covered, or nearly so, by a penny, but each flower is daintily hued in yellow and purple, the tiny lip being especially bright.

Fascinator, from Annam, one of the more recently introduced species, bears but a single flower on a scape, but paucity of number is outbalanced by size and beauty. The lateral sepals often exceed 6 inches in length, are comparatively broad at their base, and then gradually taper, dividing at their lips. The general colour is light green marked and suffused with purple. The tongue-like lip is vivid purple and the dorsal sepal and petals fringed with bright purple hairs. Pseudobulbs and leaves are only 3 inches or 4 inches high, so that in comparison the flowers seem almost out of proportion, but in admiring their bright colouring and exquisite shap
could wish they were still larger.

An older species from Bengal, closely
to Fascinator, is C. appendiculatum
the two it is slightly the smaller an
brilliant in colour, but highly attractiv

Both species are so ornate that it
grettable they are not more commo
could be introduced in quantity.

Refractum, a North Indian and Bu
species, is known as the Windmill O
The umbel-like character of the Cir
talum inflorescence is altogether a
The peduncle is at first erect, then
downward, the flowers being spaced at
vals on the bent portion. The dorsal
petals, and lip are very small, but the
sepals are nearly 2 inches long, and as
flower projects at a different angle
points in a different direction from the
the name is not inappropriate. The
colouring is quiet, brownish-yello
general, but varying slightly in indivi
The species is deciduous, or practically
winter.

Ornatissimum, from the Himalayas,
neat habit, with comparatively small
and leaves, but the flower-scapes are
6 inches high, bearing most beautiful fl
the lower sepals of which are 3 incl
4 inches long, of a soft red-brown,
with darker stripes and reticulations.
lip is bright crimson and the dorsal sep
petals are each tufted with hairs.
species it would seem sufficiently remar
but Nature has gone still farther
Collettii, a native of Burma, which h
larger flowers, coloured much as in
tissimum, but with the hair tufts grea
larged.

(To be continued.)

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pla
be named should send fair examples of ea
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of
and points of shoots are useless.) Not mo
four plants should be sent in any one week
same correspondent. Where more than o
is sent they should be numbered. Of coni
cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in d
stages of colour and size of the same kind
assist in its determination. Single, unr
deformed specimens are difficult to nan
do not undertake to name more tha
varieties at one time.*

VEGETABLES

Tomato trouble

(F. E. F.).—We have carefully examined your Tomato plant and cannot find any sign of an organism which would be likely to cause the foliage to shrivel. We can only conclude that some cultural detail is at fault. From the growth of the plant sent it appears that they are rather soft and long-jointed. Are they growing in too warm a temperature or a long way from the glass? A cold draught could easily cause the trouble at this time of the year. If water collected on the foliage from any cause and the sun caught such foliage before it was dry the shrivelling might result.

Celery and Leeks

(Inquirer).—We take it that you do not require the full details of Celery and Leek cultivation, but only the earthing-up or blanching process. Celery is for most purposes grown in trenches, the depth of the trenches varying according to the type of soil. When the plants are from 9 inches to 12 inches in height the earthing-up process is commenced. The first earthing is
light one. Any short leaves at the
and near the ground are removed by
them away from the plant; then take
fork and place a little earth loosely
the collar of the plant, taking care th
gets into the centre of the plants.
or so later a little more earth sh
drawn up; all soil used should be br
fine before being placed around the
Many growers give the plants a loos
about a foot from the base at this peri
maintain that, by so doing, the ear
made easier. The actual earthing pr
done first of all by chopping down
with a spade and placing it in heaps
but away from, each side of the plan
the stick is taken in one hand and t
hand is used to work the soil aro
plant on one side. The hands are
versed and the opposite side complete
soil should never be tightly packed a
plants, and yet it must be done firmly
to hold the stick up together. Ear
generally completed in three or fou
tions, and the object is to draw ear
up to the leaf bases so that the in

develop in darkness and are, there-
blanched. When the earthing is finished
e top of the soil is sloped away from
ants so that any water falling on the
runs off and does not soak into the
. Leeks can be grown in trenches and
n the flat. Show specimens are usually
in shallow trenches and earthed-up
ılly. Drain-pipes, brown paper collars,
oil have all their respective adherents.
gradual blanching is essential, and the
should be commenced so soon as the
are established in their permanent
ers. Write again if we can assist you
r.

sed Tomato plants

G., Norfolk).—Your Tomato plants
fected with one of the so-called "damp-
" fungi, viz., Phytophthora cryp-
The fungus arises from spores which
the plant from the soil, water, or con-
s used to grow the plants. For plants
d there is no control beyond burning
ants. The soil and pots in which the
were growing should not be used
for Tomatoes unless it be previously
sed. All your plants which show no
f the trouble should receive a thorough
g with Cheshunt Compound. This
ial is frequently advertised in our ad-
ement columns, and only requires the
on of water to be ready for use. When
ng Tomatoes under present-day condi-
it is essential that the soil and con-
s used are sterilised by steaming,
g, or chemicals. Perhaps the best
cal for the small grower to use is
lin. A 2 per cent. solution is used
is made by adding 1 gallon of com-
al formalin to 49 gallons of water. The
well soaked with this and then covered
sacks and left for 48 hours; afterwards
cks are removed and the soil thoroughly
before use. Pots and boxes should be
d in the solution for 48 hours and then
before use. You would find "Com-
al Tomato Culture," by The Lea Valley
spondent, a useful guide for this and
cultural details. The book can be ob-
from this office at 2s. 6d.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

ing Chrysanthemums

ve been greatly interested in your notes
rysanthemums, having had several dis-
ns with growers as to the best methods
wing them. I should like to know if
ng decorative varieties is an advantage
. I find the general idea is that you
stop for quantity, but from what I
from your esteemed paper it shortens
ight of plant and reduces quality. Am
ect?
GROWER.

know that considerable diversity of
n exists concerning this matter. A
xperienced exhibitor of border varieties
pinches, while others, equally success-
nch these once. Personally, we find
ttle difference, providing the plants are
ise well treated. Of course, with late
es many of the very best decoratives
e stopped or the plants hardly branch
which, either for market work or for
roduction of cut flowers in private
shments, is great waste of space.
less the exhibitor often finds that he
with little trouble, larger flowers by
pping, but as he only requires a com-
ely small number of blooms, as a rule,
es not count. On the whole, we think
ost of the advantages for the bulk of
s lies in pinching the plants once
varieties may require this to be done
three times), restricting the number
ts where large flowers are aimed at,
arefully disbudding when the buds

TREES AND SHRUBS

Arbor-vitæ hedges

(J. A. L. A.).—The orthodox time at which to trim Arbor-vitæ hedges is during late August or early September. Trimming in March is not recommended, because a late frost might mar the young and tender growths. If it be desirable to trim the hedges in spring delay the operation until the third week of April. Growth at that time will be comparatively rapid, and there will be much less danger of damage from an untoward frost.

Hedge of Cotoneaster

I am going to plant a hedge of Cotoneaster Simonsii. The plants are 4 feet high. How far apart should they be put in, and ought they to be pruned back, and how far, immediately after planting? I want the hedge to be thick and even, and, ultimately, above 5 feet high. Please also inform me about a Privet hedge. Should it be pruned back at once or later, and how far apart to be planted? Will you kindly also tell me the name of any plant that will grow under a Fir tree? I mean a low-growing thing to look as much like grass as possible in the distance.

L. E. B.

[To form a close hedge the plants ought to be set at 2 feet apart in a double row

preparing the site well. If they are at all well furnished it will be unnecessary to cut them back severely, but they may be clipped in closely toward the end of August, the best time at which to operate upon this class of plant. Keep the roots free from weeds, and if it be possible to do so give a mulch of half-decayed leaves or of well-rotted manure after planting, in order to counteract the effects of

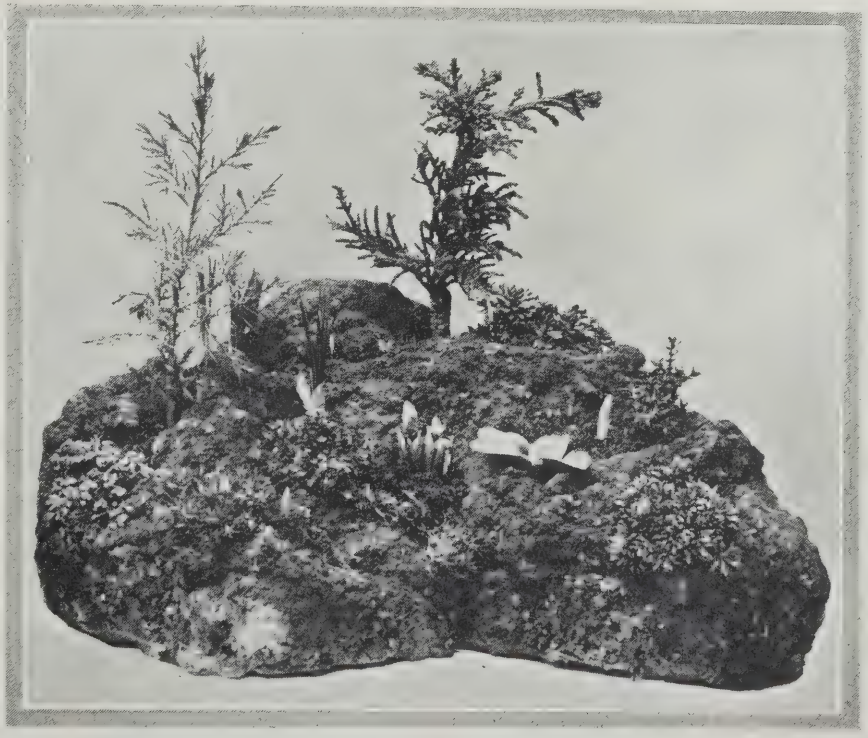
An Alpine garden for the table

THERE is an ever increasing interest in table gardens. These were noted at the great Chelsea Show last May, and have been frequently admired at the R.H.S. Halls during the year. These model gardens are a natural Derbyshire "Tufa," or petrified vegetation caused by the action of the thermal waters. It is porous and no drainage is required as its texture is more like a sponge stone. It is light and the figuring is of such a variety of nooks and crannies suitable for every subject that there are no harsh lines and it has the most pleasing effect. Its colour, too, a beautiful brown, is a change from the cold grey stone usually seen. The interior is quite hollow and allows ample room for planting. The soils required are a mixture of good loam with a liberal quantity of sand, and if a rubber mat is used to stand the garden on it may be used on a polished table. These are an ideal present for an invalid, who can, for example, find much interest in watching an encrusted Saxifrage slowly coming into flower. To water, soak the whole garden in a bowl of water once a week and stand to drain. It is also suggested that when their flowering period is over they may be turned out in the open until another winter. As to suitable subjects, the effect of dwarf spring bulbs is wonderful. Imagine a few Snowdrops, Scillas, Narcissus minima, Triandrus, Angel Tears, also a few dwarf Chionodoxas and the beautiful Grape Hyacinth azureus.

Among the most interesting Alpines for the purpose are the beautiful Rosette Saxifrages, such as Saxifraga Elizabethæ, apiculata, Burseriana, sancta Notata, Aizoon rosea, also a few Saxifraga pyramidalis, cotyledon and Catheramensis; the beautiful Erinus carmineus, Potentilla minima, Linaria aquitriloba, Dianthus alpinus and cæsius, Gypsophila cerastioides and Aubrietia minima; the wonderful variety of Sedums and Sempervivum arachnoideum and montana. Then there are the rock-hugging Thymes, and here I would say that Edelweiss has proved very satisfactory. There are also a good selection of the Mossy Saxifrages and the Arenarias and a few varieties of Veronica such as Bidwelli and rupestrum.

Of course it is advisable to place portable gardens in the open one or two days a week as none of these subjects care for too much tobacco smoke.

ALPINA.



An Alpine garden for the table in natural Derbyshire "Tufa."

possible drying winds during March and April. Privet hedges, in your case, are not to be recommended. Granted, they grow quickly and look neat when newly trimmed, but their roots ramble over a wide area and absolutely impoverish the soil in their neighbourhood. Then, too, they must be clipped, always twice and occasionally three times in a season, if they are expected to have a neat and trim appearance. But if it be decided to plant Privet the procedure above given in the case of Cotoneaster will suffice. Should the Privet plants be lanky cut them back to half their length toward the end of April, and top the resulting growths in September.]

Machine for cutting Box hedges

(J. A. L. A.).—No machine for this purpose has yet been invented so far as is known. In any case it is unlikely that any machine could do the work so neatly or so efficiently as a careful man with a very sharp pair of shears of the ordinary hedging style. Boxwood edges are often quickly cut by means of a scythe in skilled hands, or by the use of the edging shears; but hedging shears make the best job.

FLOWER GARDEN

Lilies in Southern Oregon

(W. A. B.).—The Lily you have seen growing wild in Southern Oregon, U.S.A., is, in all probability, Lilium Pardalinum, which grows in that district, or it may be Lilium Humboldtii, but if you are able to grow the Lily well in this country in your own garden then it is far more likely to be L. Pardalinum. We are afraid that you have been confused by the statement in the article and under the photograph " Lilium testaceum, of unknown origin." This, we should explain, refers to the fact that the hybrid is of unknown origin. This plant does not grow in the wild state in Nature.

Gypsophila Stevenii

(Mrs. F. E. Chapman).—This, a somewhat coarse-growing Caucasian plant, resembling, but inferior to, G. paniculata, is scarcely grown outside botanical gardens. Seed of it is, however, offered by Messrs. Haage and Schmidt, Erfurt, Germany. English nurserymen seem to confine themselves to offering the hybrid between G. Stevenii and G. repens under the name of G. x monstrosa. It is a handsome, strong-growing rock plant, which forms foaming cascades of flowers for many weeks in summer, and about 9 inches high.

FRUIT

Cranberries

(Mrs. F. E. C.).—The only Cranberry worth garden room is Oxycoccus macrocarpus, with fine, large berries where it succeeds. It should be planted in a boggy, peaty spot in full sun, and it requires plenty of room to spread out in the loose, tangled mats it soon forms in congenial situations. Messrs. W. E. Th. Ingwersen, of Birch Farm, East Grinstead, can supply this plant.

MISCELLANEOUS

Soil samples

(Inquirer).—We have examined your three samples of soils and find that each contains quite a good reserve of " lime " in the form of calcium carbonate. We do not think that general liming is necessary, but you would be well advised to use a light dressing of quicklime on soil intended for Peas, Beans, and members of the Cabbage family. If you practice a rotation and gradually move the above crops round your garden, and lime the sites for them each year, you should be able to grow these crops well and at the same time keep the lime content of your garden up to the right point. From the description you give of your soil, and from its appearance, we think that if you applied 1 oz. of sulphate of potash and 3 ozs. of superphosphate per square yard you would get better crops. Next winter all unoccupied ground should be dressed with an equal mixture of basic slag and kainit, the rate of application being 11 lbs. of the mixture per square rod. Your garden soils at present contain plenty of lime, but it would be wise to apply 7 lbs. per rod to certain crops to ensure that the lime content of the soil is kept on the right side. If all your garden received this quantity once every four years it should be sufficient.

Insects for examination

(M. J. P., Morecambe).—The specimens sent in are the larval and pupal stages of one of the so-called Fungus-gnats (Sciara sp.). In your case we do not think you can regard the creatures actually as a plant pest because they are feeding upon plant roots. The adult flies are small, delicate, and slender, and are always more or less present under damp and shady conditions. Eggs are laid in fungi, decaying wood, and almost any decaying organic matter. There are several generations in a year. What has probably happened in your case is that after the manure was placed in the soil a few of these creatures emerged from eggs previously deposited in the dung, and under the favourable sheltered conditions of the greenhouse they have increased very rapidly until now the borders are teeming with them. We think that because you have so many present you would be well-advised to kill them off, because no plant could possibly grow where they were present in such large numbers. Apply crude naphthalene at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard and fork it in as deeply as you can into the borders. Place a few wet sacks over the borders after application to keep in the fumes as long as possible. If the border is dry give a good soaking with water after the naphthalene is applied. We take it that the borders are now empty. Repeat the dressing of naphthalene, if necessary, after an interval of 10 days. Several species of Sciara are injurious to plants.

New lawn unsatisfactory

(H. H. S. Morant).—If you reduce the amount of sulphate of ammonia to one-half (namely, 1 oz. to each square yard) on the renovated sections you will find it quite satisfactory. Much, of course, depends upon the strength of the seedlings, which should be strong enough to take the full dressing, but as a precaution we advise the smaller quantity, which might be repeated at a later date.

Reliable Secateurs

(Amateur).—If you want a reliable sécateur which makes the cuts smoothly and perfectly, especially for Roses, the Guienne sécateurs supplied by Mèdoc and Guienne Patent Sécateurs, Ltd., 25, Spencer Road, Chiswick, London, W. 4, which are recommended, but you must be prepared to pay a high price for them, as they are made from Sheffield steel in France and pay two duties. Also they must be used as directed and kept spotlessly clean, which all edged tools require, when they will last a lifetime. If damaged they can be repaired and made to function as well as when new. The same applies to the Guienne flower-gathering scissors, which are purely Sheffield make. For your purpose the 8¾-inch size is the right one.

Manure for new lawn

(D. K.).—The native guano manure will be quite satisfactory, but owing to the poor quality of your soil we suggest that you mix it with good loam which has been passed through a ½-inch sieve. Using 56 lbs. of the manure to ½ yard (or half a cartload) of the soil, this should be spread evenl generously upon the lawn, which in a short time will show a vast improv Yes, this is a very good manure fo use, but should be substituted aft years by bone-meal or Clay's Fertilis

Entering Kew as a student garde

(G. W. W.).—You should apply di the Curator of the Royal Botanic Ga Kew, and he will send you a form on ap tion. There is no examination, but necessary to have had some years' exp in practical work.

ENQUIRY

Disease affecting Thuja Lobbi

From information kindly given by th perial Forestry Institute at Oxford ascertained that a disease now affe large number of Thuja Lobbii in my g is caused by the fungus, Keithia T I am further informed that most larg will recover. Several, however, hav and, owing to their size (20 feet to it is impossible to treat with a spray. any reader of GARDENING ILLUSTRAT has experienced this disease state wh portion of affected trees recovered, an what proportion escaped infection altog

E. G. B. LETHBRI

N. Cornwall.

NAME OF FRUIT

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NEWS IN ADVERTISEMEN

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LATE NOTES

The Garden Club

On Tuesday, March 26th, Miss W F.L.S., will be the guest of hono after dinner will give a talk, illustr lantern slides, on " Warley in Crocus

British Carnation Society's secreta

At a meeting of the council held ruary 12th, Mr. P. F. Bunyard, w held the office of honorary secretary number of years, resigned. Mr. F. W worth was elected to fill the vacan correspondence relating to the society now be addressed to Mr. F. W. Al 17, Avenue Road, Isleworth, Middle

Wart disease immunity trials, seaso

During the coming season the Min Agriculture will continue its tests o toes and Potato seedlings as to th munity from, or susceptibility to Disease. The tests will be carried ou Potato Testing Station of the Nati stitute of Agricultural Botany at Or Lancs. Particulars of the conditions which Potatoes are accepted for these together with an entry form, may be from the offices of the Ministry or th Potato Testing Station.

(Continued on page 152)

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Daffodil Show — April 9th and 10th. *Fruit & Vegetable Show — October 8th & 9th.*
Culinary Pea Competition—July 16th. *Walnut and Cobnut Competition — Nov. 19th.*

For Schedules apply to the Secretary, R.H.S., Vincent Square, S.W. 1

Organic manure

Lately we have had some inquiries as to manures which could be used as substitutes for farmyard manure. Most of our correspondents are in the position of being unable to obtain sufficient supplies of farmyard manure and are, therefore, looking for materials which can be used in conjunction with inorganic manures. We are constantly pointing out in these pages that the best crops are always obtained when the garden manurial programme includes both organic and inorganic manures. This is because organic manures, although comparatively poor in plant food, exercise great benefits on a soil from a physical standpoint. Inorganic manures are rich in plant food, but have little beneficial effect on soil texture. A few of the organic manures which are useful as substitutes for farmyard manure, together with their modes of application, are given below:—

SHODDY.—The name "shoddy" is given to certain materials thrown out in manufacturing processes from wool factories, and is, in the main, made up of strands of wool which are too short to be made up into cloth by the machinery. Two samples are generally available; the first is composed of the material left from the original wool and consists of wool and dirt, the second is the residue left over after tearing up old cloth and working it up into new fabrics. Such samples usually contain a proportion of cotton. The value of shoddy depends upon the wool content, the dirt and cotton are useless. The wool contains organic nitrogen, which decomposes in the soil and eventually produces nitrates. In addition to the nitrates produced the material is valuable because it supplies organic matter which is valuable for the purpose of holding moisture, keeping soil open and therefore obtaining good tilth.

One drawback which sometimes occurs in the application of shoddy is that certain samples are lumpy in character. Such are extremely difficult to apply evenly, and also lumps of shoddy decay very slowly and are liable to open certain soil too much. The rate of application should be from 10 cwts. to 20 cwts. per acre or 7 lbs. to 14 lbs. per square rod, according to the percentage of ammonia present. Some difficulty has been experienced by some of our correspondents in working the material into the soil. It should be remembered that shoddy is largely useless applied as a top-dressing, but that it should be applied prior to digging and well worked into the soil.

Shoddy is of the greatest value on clay and silt soil, but on light sand the shoddy opens the soil too much, especially if applied late in the season. When using shoddy it is necessary to use some other manure which contains phosphate and potash, because shoddy only contains a supply of nitrogen, and if used alone the subsequent growth of crops would not be satisfactory. To balance up the nitrogenous content of shoddy the grower should make up a mixture containing five parts of superphosphate 35 per cent., one part steamed bone-flour, and two parts sulphate of potash. The mixture should be applied at the rate of 8 cwts. per acre, 5½ lbs. per square yard, and 3 ozs. per square yard respectively.

A low-grade 5 per cent. shoddy, *plus* the mixture of inorganics given above, would add to the soil approximately 100 lbs. of nitrogen, 100 lbs. of potash, and 120 lbs. of phosphate per acre.

CASTOR MEAL.—Another useful organic substance which is now available for garden purposes is castor meal, containing approximately 4·5 per cent. nitrogen. Castor meal should be used at about 40 cwts. per acre or 14 lbs. per square rod, and, like shoddy, the castor meal should be supplemented by using the mixture of artificials given under shoddy.

SURPLUS HOPS.—This is another very attractive material, but we imagine not easy to obtain in small quantities such as are usually required for garden purposes. Applications at the rate of 20 cwts. per acre should be useful in maintaining the organic content of any soil. The analysis of surplus Hops when applied at 20 cwts. per acre works out at approximately 69 lbs. of nitrogen, 28 lbs. of phosphoric acid, and 57 lbs. of potassium oxide. To make up a good, complete manure for most soils 5 cwts. of 35 per cent. superphosphate should be added per acre. On light soils a further addition of 1 cwt. per acre of sulphate of potash would be useful.

Enough has been said above to indicate that, apart from farmyard manure and green manuring, it is possible to make up garden manures from various waste organic substances, which, when used at the quantities indicated and supplemented by certain inorganic manures, will give well-balanced manures. If we can assist our readers further we shall be pleased to do so.

Addresses often wanted

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY (Col. F. R. DURHAM, C.B.E., M.C., *Secretary*), Vincent Square, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

THE NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY (Mr. COURTNEY PAGE, *Secretary*), 28, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

THE NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY (Mr. CHAS. H. CURTIS, *Secretary*), 5, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

THE NATIONAL SWEET PEA SOCIETY (Mr. A. C. BARTLETT, *Secretary*), 19, Bedford Chambers, London, W.C. 2.

THE NATIONAL DAHLIA SOCIETY (Mr. W. E. CHITTENDEN, *Secretary*), 2, Dents Road, Wandsworth Common, London, S.W.

THE BRITISH CARNATION SOCIETY (Mr. F. W. Alesworth, *Secretary*), 17, Avenue Road, Isleworth, Middlesex.

THE IRIS SOCIETY (Mr. G. L. PILKINGTON, *Secretary*), Lower Lee Woolton, near Liverpool.

THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY (Mr. A. E. AMOS, *Secretary*), 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

THE BRITISH FLORISTS' FEDERATION (Mr. CHAS. H. CURTIS, *Secretary*), 5, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

THE NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY (Mr. A. E. Amos, *Secretary*), 10, Bergholt Road, Colchester.

THE GARDENERS' ROYAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION (Mr. GEO. J. INGRAM, *Secretary*), 92, Victoria Street, London, S.W. 1.

THE ROYAL GARDENERS' ORPHAN FUND (Mr. A. C. BARTLETT, *Secretary*), 19, Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

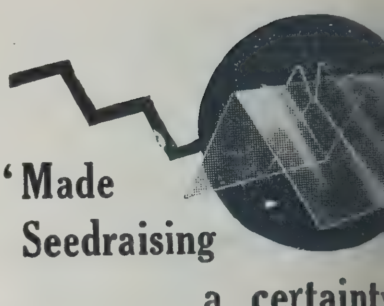
THE UNITED HORTICULTURAL BENEFIT AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY (Mr. A. C. HILL, *Secretary*), 35, Alexandra Road, West Kensington Park, London, W. 14.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Maxwell and Beale, Broadstone, Dorset.—Hardy Primulas with cultural notes.

J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., The Nurseries, Crawley.—Dahlias.

Terry Lee, 12, Morden Road, Stechford, Birmingham.—Alpine and other plants for rockery, wall, and pavement.



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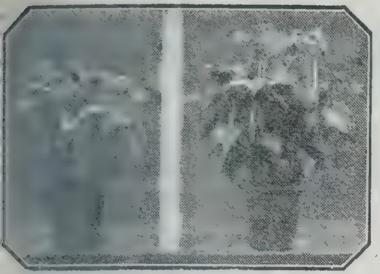

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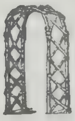

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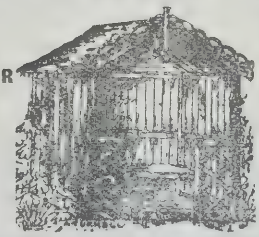

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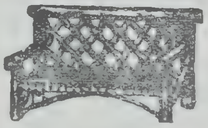

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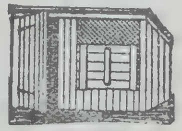

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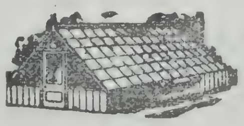

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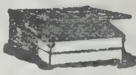

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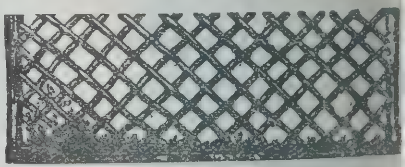

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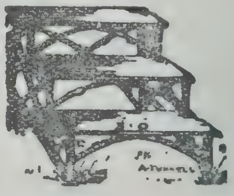

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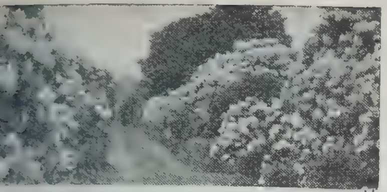

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Collections of Super-Quality *named* Double Begonias. £7/10/-, £5/10/-, £4, and £3 per dozen. *UNEQUALLED QUALITY AND VALUE*

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You can keep them clean and free from weeds by using

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Powder. Dissolves quickly in cold water.

No. X Tin makes 12½ gallons	1/6
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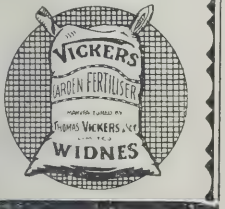

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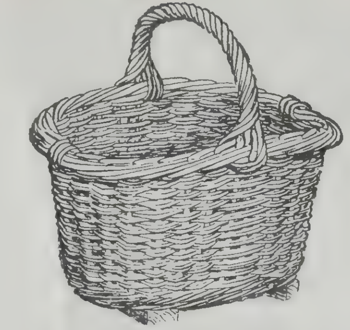

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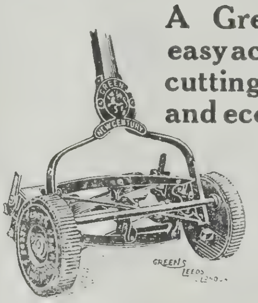

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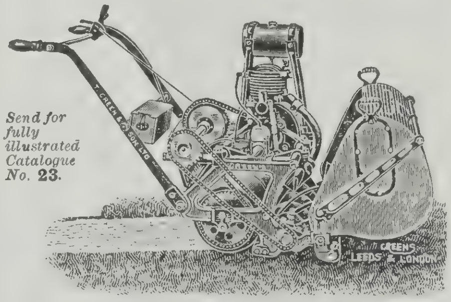

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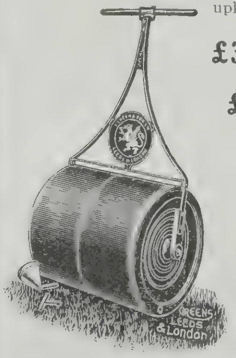
£37 : 10	**£52 : 10**	**£67 : 10**	**£85**



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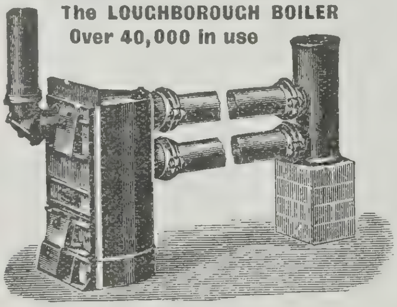

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A root weighing 24 lbs. 6 ozs. produced from a single "Sef Wonder" Seed Potato. The wo record second-early. 7 lbs., 14 lbs., **4/6**; 28 lbs., **8/6**; 56 lbs., **1** 1 cwt., **30**/-. Send cash with or
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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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The Forsythias or Golden Bell

Invaluable March and April flowering shrubs suitable for planting in groups or masses, and in the case of one or two species admirably adapted for growing on banks, covering arbours or trellis work, and for training on walls

HE genus Forsythia is composed of some
of the most beautiful and ornamental of
spring-flowering shrubs. Belonging to the
ural Order Oleaceæ, the Forsythias are
d to the Lilacs and Jasmines, universal
urites, and representatives of the same
r.

ie Forsythias are hardy deciduous shrubs,
ing in height from about 4 feet to 10
in the open, but when trained on a wall
will grow considerably higher. They
also be grown in standard form. All the
ies have yellow flowers, produced in the
ng on short stalks from the joints of the
ious year's wood; the blossoms are fairly
e, drooping, and varying in number,
er solitary, in pairs, or clusters, accord-
to the different species. The general
t of these delightful shrubs is usually of
lender and graceful character, which
ht be likened to a whip-like growth; es-
lly is this the case in the pendulous
ts of the species F. suspensa.

is genus was named in honour of
iam Forsyth, at one time the King's
lener at Kensington (1737-1804), and con-
of three or four species. They are
ves of China and Japan, with the excep-
of one species, which is claimed to be
European.

l the Forsythias are of the easiest cul-
ion, providing a few needful require-
ts are attended to at planting time. Like
other trees and shrubs, it is advisable
ive the plants a good start at the outset
ieir career, as regards the preparation of
soil in which they are intended to be
vn. They are gross feeders, however,
erring a rich
y soil, which
ld be deeply
ced preparatory
anting. As pre-
sly stated they
be grown in
ps, or massed
beds on the
s, or as single
mens in the
bery borders,
or planting on
s and trailing
rocks which-
position they
growing in a
display of bloom
nerally assured.
look well in
groups or
es, or trained
wall plants; grown thus one can appreciate the full beauty of these most desirable shrubs. Moreover, they can be used by themselves, or in conjunction with some other kind of tree or shrub that will act as a foil, and enhance their beauty at flowering time. When planting Forsythias by themselves, in groups, or masses, a position should be selected having a suitable background of evergreen trees or shrubs, *e.g.*, Hollies, Yews, Cupressus, Thuyas, or Evergreen Oak, especially where the latter does well, as for instance, the South of England, near the coast. Rhododendrons also form a pleasing background, especially if they have attained a good size or planted on rising ground. Moreover, a suitable and pleasing combination might also be made by interplanting a large group of Forsythias with Cupressus Lawsoniana or Thuya; the dark foliage of these trees would make a most pleasing contrast when the shrubs are in flower during the spring. The propagation of these shrubs is readily effected by means of cuttings made of half-ripened wood of the current season's growth, which root almost as freely as Willows; consequently, the stock may soon be increased. By raising a few plants occasionally, and growing these on, one may always have a few plants at hand in readiness for future planting.

Forsythia suspensa has been in cultivation in this country since about the middle of the last century. It is a native of China, but was first introduced from Japanese gardens to Holland, thence to this country, several years later. It is one of the finest of the yellow early-flowering shrubs, of a spreading or rambling habit of growth, the branches being pendulous, or hanging down several feet in length. In the open it grows some 8 feet to 10 feet high, but when trained on a wall it will attain 20 feet or more in height. There are two distinct forms of this species in cultivation, viz., Fortunei and Sieboldii. The former is of a more vigorous and erect habit of growth than the type, the latter having slender, pendent shoots with a general tendency towards a trailing habit. They may all be pruned hard back in the spring, immediately the flowers are over. The golden yellow flowers of F. suspensa are produced in varying numbers from one to as many as six in a cluster on last year's wood in March and April. It goes under the common name of Golden Bell.

Another Chinese species, F. viridissima, has more erect and stiffer branches, growing to a height of 5 feet to 8 feet. It was introduced by Fortune in 1844. Perhaps not so good a shrub as F. suspensa, nevertheless, it is a useful one, and a decided acquisition to the garden. It flowers a little later than the latter species, and is also of a more sturdy habit, sufficient to hold its branches erect. The flowers are a bright yellow colour.

There is also a hybrid form called F. intermedia, a supposed garden hybrid between F. suspensa and F. viridissima; it is intermediate between both parents as regards the manner of its growth, and the shape and form of its leaves. It is a beautiful and handsome shrub, and in no way inferior to F. suspensa, a most desirable subject for planting in groups

A spray of Forsythia intermedia denisflora, with masses of deep primrose-yellow flowers or masses. It flowers a little later than F. suspensa.

The following are three varieties or forms of the above-mentioned hybrid: densiflora (see illustration), a distinct form having flowers more densely crowded on the shoots; the variety called spectabilis is a seedling form with larger, deeper yellow flowers, and produced more abundantly. It is a remarkably fine shrub and makes a splendid group, or it may be used as a hedge plant, for which purpose it is equally suitable. The other form, Vitellina, is of a more erect and sturdier habit of growth, with flowers of a rich dark yellow.

All the above mentioned Forsythias are most desirable shrubs for cultivation in large or small gardens. They produce a wealth of bloom during March and April, the flowers lasting a considerable time, which in addition are of great decorative value.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Sisyrinchium grandiflorum

ANYONE reading Nin-Nin's description of this beautiful plant in your issue of February 23rd will be tempted to add it to their collection of rock-plants. I have had a clump of it for 13 months or so, and last March its 6 inches of growth adorned with such beautiful reddish-purple flowers was a picture in itself.

It was greatly admired; and the outcome of this admiration was that in the true gardening spirit I had to part with a piece.

According to "Thompson's Gardener's Assistant," this plant thrives in a peaty soil; and much more freely in Scotland than it does in the South. JOHN W. HALL.

Edinburgh.

The Suggested Society of Landscape Architects

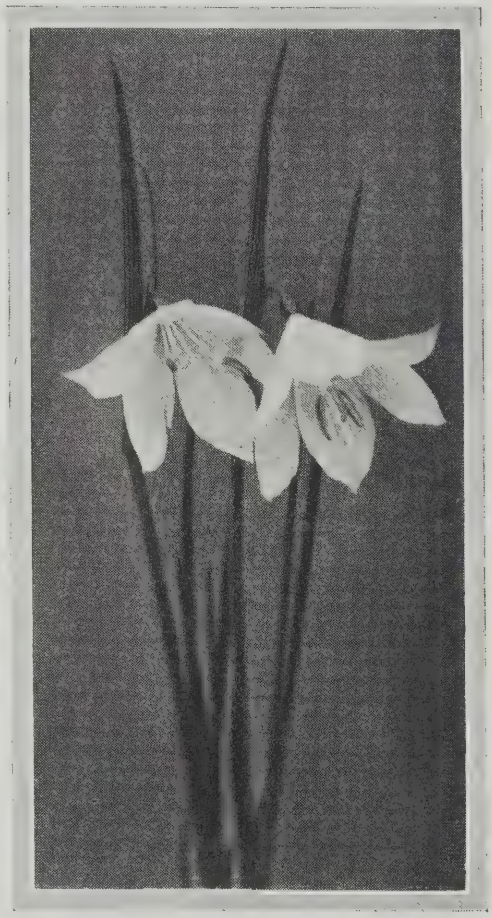
Whatever may be said for or against the formation of such a society as has been discussed in your columns, it is certain Mr. Mawson's objection to it, issue February 16th, p. 101, will not bear investigation. Apparently he would wait until some wealthy patron can be found to endow a chair of "Landscape Architecture and Civic Art," at either Oxford or Cambridge. Surely if his school is desirable it is more likely to be achieved by the collective influence of a society genuinely representative of a profession that has been practising several centuries, than by the chance opportunity of one member of that profession being able to influence a wealthy wellwisher to provide the money.

Some centre of education for those who desire to practise the art of garden making is undoubtedly desirable. At present there does not exist in Britain a satisfactory institution to which a student can be sent to acquire even the necessary technical instruction. It is, however, open to grave doubt if the theory and formula of a university curriculum would serve to produce a good designer of gardens. To one with a natural aptitude for design such a course should certainly prove beneficial, but I think we all agree with Ruskin, when he says, "Design cannot be taught."

What is lacking is a centre in which the student may be educated in the technical and practical methods of applying the art that is in him.

As things are to-day, probably the best method of acquiring the requisite knowledge would be a term of three years with an architect and surveyor, three years in a first-class nursery, and three years in two first-class private gardens. I would add a term in a public park, but the study of these is open to all at any time, and could be concurrent with the others.

You will notice that I suggest it is necessary to spend twice the period in the study of Horticulture that would be allotted to acquiring a knowledge of draughtsmanship, surveying, etc. This is indeed essential. It is possible to acquire a sufficiency of the technical knowledge in the time named to enable the student to survey and plot a site, and if he has the natural ability, to prepare a paper design for its development. On the purely horticultural side, he will at the end of the period allotted find himself only *beginning* to acquire an intimate acquaintance of the vegetation he will have to use; and how to use it.



Sisyrinchium grandiflorum album, with pure satin white bells and Iris-like leaves

Too many people run away with the idea that the capacity to present a pretty drawing constitutes garden design. A man may make good bottles, but know, and care, nothing about the wine they are to contain. Nor is he responsible for the contents. A garden cannot be designed on these lines, nor can the designer shirk the responsibility of its being suitable for the purpose for wh is intended.

For these reasons I do not believe class room education would ever prov tirely satisfactory or sufficient. The al tive is one that I have in my opti moments dreamed might materialise day. It is of a country estate being deve as a school for garden design and land gardening. Here the necessary indoo struction could go on concurrently wit outdoor, and practical demonstration given of all the elements of garden ma together with education in allied and gous subjects. The classroom would ha place, but its utility would be subordina the practical teaching on the ground ou As this presupposes a sort of combinati Kew Gardens, the R.H.S. garden Wisley, and a technical college it is, I likely to remain just a dream. The Ho tural trade could, if it would, and wo it could appreciate its value and signific in its own interests create and sustain s centre.

The reason the proposal to form a S of Garden Architects (or whatever they s be called) has met with a certain am of adverse criticism is, I believe, due fact that it is feared that it may de into a society of plan draughtsmen and else. It is an unfortunate fact that are being turned out into the cold to-day a number of young men and w who have had the experience of two or years in a drawing office as pupils, a other. Having completed their term are—well, what *are* they? They ar architects, and never intended to be i sense of being designers of building which they have had neither the desir education. They are not gardeners be many of them have but the scanties

The

JUBILEE ISSU

of

"Gardening Illustrate

will be published next wee In this will be assembled impo tant contributions from ma authorities upon gardening d velopment and achievement sin 1879, commemorative matter a reminiscences, illustrations of pa ticular interest, and in additi a specially enlarged section co taining features appropriate the pre-Easter season.

Wrapped in a four colour jack and with a delightful gard picture by John McPherson frontispiece, this outstandi number, at twopence as usu will be in great demand.

Readers requiring extra cop are urged to place orders wi their newsagent now to sa disappointment.

This is a souvenir that all garden will appreciate.

intance with even common garden plants, ond a " Catmint, Lavender, and clipped v " knowledge. They are just as liable prepare elaborately a chalk pit for the eption of Heathers that hate lime as not. ey may even, through natural ability and tudy of the elementary principles govern- all design, be good designers, so far as ir knowledge goes. But, successful den design is more than the invention of terns. The argument used by the archi- that he should plan the garden because many gardeners know nothing of design justifiable. The argument the gardener s that the architect should be excluded n the garden because he knows so little the material that is to occupy the area qually authoritative. Neither the architect the gardener who follows his calling ally and thoroughly has any time to give the study of the other profession. The nion of the architect that the gardener uld be called in to plant a garden much a painter is entrusted with the decoration n room is absurd. Paint does not grow. es, shrubs and plants do, and their sent and future welfare constitute ele- nts of garden design just as much as the angement of paths, planting areas and the other component parts of the garden. he designer of gardens does not need to w *all* the architect should know. Nor s he require to possess *all* the experience the good gardener. Sanitary systems, nestic heating crocking pots, propaga- n of plants, trees and shrubs are not ential items in his education. The pre- ation of drawings that will illustrate his gramme of operations to workmen, the urate piecing together of the elements the garden he is designing, the know- ge that the soil will support the vegeta- n he introduces, and that the vegetation lf will prove neither ineffective nor over- elming, *are* necessary.

o few gardeners recognise the point at ich they would be wise to have the istance of the architect. So few architects e ever recognised that there is anything re in gardening than merely furnishing a nework of their conception, by contract otherwise. Rarely do they think of lay- their plans frankly before an expert rticulturist on a consultative basis, and ept his criticisms even of the details of ign freely. Usually they make their mis- es, and trust the gardener will cover them by contract. In consequence they often contractors' planting—and deserve it.

t is a link between the two professions, quately and efficiently trained, that might produced by the school Mr. Mawson de- s, and such a link would ultimately pire confidence in both. I do not think a oolroom training alone would be any ter than a drawing office apprenticeship. ctice and theory, art and science must together to be effective.

society such as proposed may—or may —tend to the furtherance of the course nave outlined. If the society makes an rt in such a direction some good will be ieved. In any case if a number of men women choose to band themselves to- her for their own and the common good, ardly think the criticisms levelled against h a course by contributors like F.R.H.S. ighton) and others outside the profession worthy of notice. No association that ever formed with an earnest desire for improvement of its members either in- idually or collectively has ever proved rely futile. That membership of such a ety is likely to add any lustre to the vidual is more than doubtful, and ought to be considered.

notice one statement in Mr. Mawson's letter that I do not take as advocacy of the pursuance of a similar course here. It is that " in America the universities are pouring out something like 100 graduates in the Art every year," *i.e.*, a thousand in ten years.

Much has been written about the proposed society conferring " dignity," " standing," on its members. The names of Perault, Le Notre, Bridgeman, Kent, Wise, London, Brown, and Repton, would have acquired no added distinction even had they all been living at the same time and formed the council of such a society. What might have happened if they had all been able to meet occasionally in an endeavour to counteract each others' opinions would be interesting to know, but it is probable neither they nor the building they occupied would have survived the first meeting. GEO. DILLISTONE.

——Your correspondent, M. L. W. (p. 118), would have all gardens to be the reflection of the mind of their owners, and therefore to be designed by them, and developed by degrees, and no doubt in many instances this would be very desirable. Those who remember the garden of the late Canon Ellacombe would have an excellent example of this. In these days of expansion of opportunity and ambition, and where the owner desires to create his garden under his direction, and if haply he comes by a garden designer who is not only able to interpret his conception of a garden, but able to guide his knowledge and judgment to his satisfaction, the result will often be desirable. We see most of what your correspondent refers to as " reach-me-down gardens " among the smaller plebeian kind, where scope for talent is absent, and the crazy pavement and the stucco statue is found. And then how often the most satisfying part of the garden has been due to the inspiration of the designer, which came to him on the spot, and the possibilities were revealed little by little and required time to disclose the best which could be obtained, and where a pre-conceived plan was necessary, has had the effect of stilting the wishes of the designer, to the detriment of the whole.

F. A. L.

St. Leonards.

Coloured Primroses

In your issue of March 2nd G. T. Coombs writes that he found a pink Primrose growing amongst the ordinary yellow ones in a Surrey wood, and asks if anyone has come across a similar find. Last year, in a wood bordering on our property, whilst gathering Primroses (of which there is an abundance), one root of lovely pink blossoms was growing in the midst of the yellow variety. This wood is a long way from any garden. I dug up the plant and removed it to my own garden, where it now is, and I am waiting to see if it will again produce pink flowers or revert to yellow. In this same wood, after Primroses come the wild Hyacinths (Bluebells), most of which are blue, but we often find white and pink bells.

L. COURTNEY PAGE.

Earldoms, Lewes Road,
Haywards Heath.

The lawn garden, Legbourne Abbey, Lincs.

The lawn garden at Legbourne Abbey

THE present house, known as Legbourne Abbey, stands on the site of an old Lincolnshire monastic establishment, but no part of the Abbey remains.

The gardens there are not extensive, but there is an undoubted charm about the beds dotted about the lawn, the colours standing out vividly in contrast with the emerald turf, whilst additional beauty is conferred by the judicious placing of pedestal vases well stocked with flowering plants around the edge of the lawn.

The general effect is enhanced by the background provided by the beautiful trees in the parkland beyond. H. W.

Double-flowered Primroses

There are certainly a large number of keen gardeners who take a great interest in these old-fashioned flowers. Unfortunately, great confusion exists in the names of varieties, and as collectors know, one constantly gets the same variety under another name. Sanguinea plena, otherwise Red Paddy, particularly seems to be known by many names. Even so, however, I have come to the conclusion, after much searching and inquiring, that there are still in existence at least 25 or more varieties of the double Primrose, counting those that rise on a Polyanthus stalk, such as Prince Silverwings, Dernclougbi, and Curiosity. There seem to be at least six different kinds of yellow and three different shades of French grey. I have heard of an exquisite new double blue of which one of our great gardeners wrote recently: " Dr. McWatt showed at Chelsea last May a little bunch of a very fluffy sulphur variety of his own raising, and he told me that this spring he hoped to flower other home-raised doubles."

How instructive and delightful it would be if we could get together as many doubles as possible this spring and hold an exhibition of them, say, at one of the R.H.S. fortnightly meetings. Perhaps a few of the Irish ladies would come over, or send some of their rare beauties for us to see. If this suggestion meets with the approval of any of the double Primrose enthusiasts and anything comes of the idea I would be glad to help in every way possible. FLORA HARDY.

Knockholt, Kent.

Early Daffodil Cervantes

THE enclosed photograph is of three bowls of Cervantes Daffodil which I thought might interest other amateur growers. There are 12 bulbs, grown in Moss, which have produced 46 flowers. I planted them on September 16th, and till January they were in an unheated room. When the buds began to show I moved them to a " moderate " greenhouse, and the first flower came out on February 2nd. It shows the superiority of good bulbs when an amateur, with a little care, can get such an excellent result.

I think it is easier to regulate the watering with bulbs grown in Moss than in fibre, and after they came out of the dark I always covered them on cold nights.

WINIFRED L. CORRY.

Enniskillen, Ireland.

Annuals of California

Upon running over the list of annuals in A. L. Warner's article, issue January 19th, on " Flowers from Seed," I note that many of those mentioned are natives of California.

Bartonia aurea usually goes here by the name of Mentzelia Lindleyi. It is found on rocky canyon slopes up to 2000 ft., where large patches of the deep yellow flowers with glistening petals and numerous stamens catch and reflect the hot sun of summer. The biennial M. laevicaulis blooms in the dry summer beds of winter streams as high up as 5000 ft. It has shiny white stems and enormous light silvery-yellow flowers with many long stamens.

Clarkia elegans, in favourably damp locations, grows to the height of 6 feet, and and is one of the most common spring and early summer wild flowers of the valleys and hillsides. The flowers of C. concinna are larger and more striking than those of C. elegans, having feathery petals of bright rose-pink and scarlet sepals.

Eschscholtzia can be found in bloom at almost any time of year, though it is now much less of a " weed " than formerly. Before the real estate man and his devastating tractor became so active in turning under the wild flowers, the foothills of the Southern Californian mountains used to glow for miles when the " Californian Poppy " blooms opened in response to the sun's rays. It is said that by this gleaming mass the mariner at sea, twenty-five miles away, could steer his course.

Godetia Bottæ, " Farewell to Spring," is perhaps the most common of the eighteen native Godetias and their many varieties. This lovely species covers large areas of the hill and chaparral slopes with its graceful cups of white centred Lavender-pink blooms.

The Leptosiphon of the English gardens is similar to Linanthes Parviflorus, an abundant species covering the open ground in the hill country. The Linanthus, Gilia, and like tribes are very numerous and, some of them, very lovely. They should be better known.

Leptosyne Stillmanii (Coreopsis Stillmanii), L. Douglasii and L. Bigelovii are all beautiful yellow Daisies from the hot valleys and desert flats.

The decidedly yellow and white flowered form of Limnanthes Douglasii (Floerkea Douglasii) met with in English gardens, differs in leaf and colour, from the L. Douglasii, native to California, going by that name. The latter has fern-like foliage and white flowers of ten tinged with pink or yellow. It is found in sunny places, in or near shallow water.

Linaria canadensis is a slender plant with delicate Lavender-blue flowers, often covering stretches of sandy soil in masses and giving the effect of waves of rich deep blue.

Most of the annual Linums are yellow and grow on open hill or mountain slopes.

Daffodil Cervantes

Phacelia minor campanularia deserves all the praise given to it by Mr. Warner. It grows on dry high mesas and desert ranges, up to an altitude of 4,000 feet P. viscida is often found in the same intense blue shade, but with a white centre. There are seventy-five Phacelias and a great many varieties, and they form a large part of the spring flower display. Lovely as these native flowers of California are in detail, they are not at their best unless seen growing in masses in their native haunts. " Civilization " is rapidly robbing us of the wild flower gardens that spread themselves over valley and hillside, but there are still places where, if rains have been abundant, miles upon miles of these glorious blooms go to make up a never to be forgotten picture.

LESTER ROWNTREE.

Carmel, California.

Truthful catalogues

On a minor point of this interesting correspondence I would like to join issue with " J. R. K." in his letter printed on February 16th.

It is there stated that " Where the catalogue fails is in hesitating to describe the secrets of culture necessary to perfection in all those plants which require anything
the ordinary."

Apart from the fact that growers d
always know the exact reasons for the
ing successful with an individual plant
that nurserymen grow some of their
difficult plants under the artificial cond
of pot culture, surely Farrer, as a nu
man as well as a writer, hits the nail
head, when on the first page of the intr
tion he says that " The English
Garden " owes its existence, first of
my own craving for guidance across th
charted seas of catalogues. But these
logues, by the very conditions of their
are succinct advertisements rather than
ful guides. Their purpose is not so
to assist as to allure; they cannot, *fo*
sideration of space, be produced on a
which would make them valuable docu
for the cultivator." (The italics are

The catalogues of some of the finest
in the country give practically no c
notes. Why should they? Any gar
with successful culture at heart wou
to the best authority available before
ing a species suspected of having s
requirements, instead of relying on the
sarily desiccated instructions of a catal
for the notes contained therein can be
leading, as is illustrated by some exa
given below, selected from recent pu
tions. Primulas are a family with whi
amateur often needs help, but after re
the following, one may indeed exc
" What is truth? "

Primula minima: " Will not gro
a moraine." " Perfectly easy in culti
in the moraine." " In loose mixtur
peat, leaf-mould, loam and lime and
of sand and chips it will grow and spr
(No risk taken here.)

Primula Clusiana: " Fibrous loam an
in a cool position." " So long as th
does not get too dry it will stand a
unlimited sunshine." " Does best amo
rocks in partial shade in soil conta
lime."

Primula frondosa: " Plenty of moist
essential." " Will succeed in almos
soil and under any conditions so long
is not water-logged in the winter." "
freely in any light soil in any open p
" Fairly dry and sunny position."

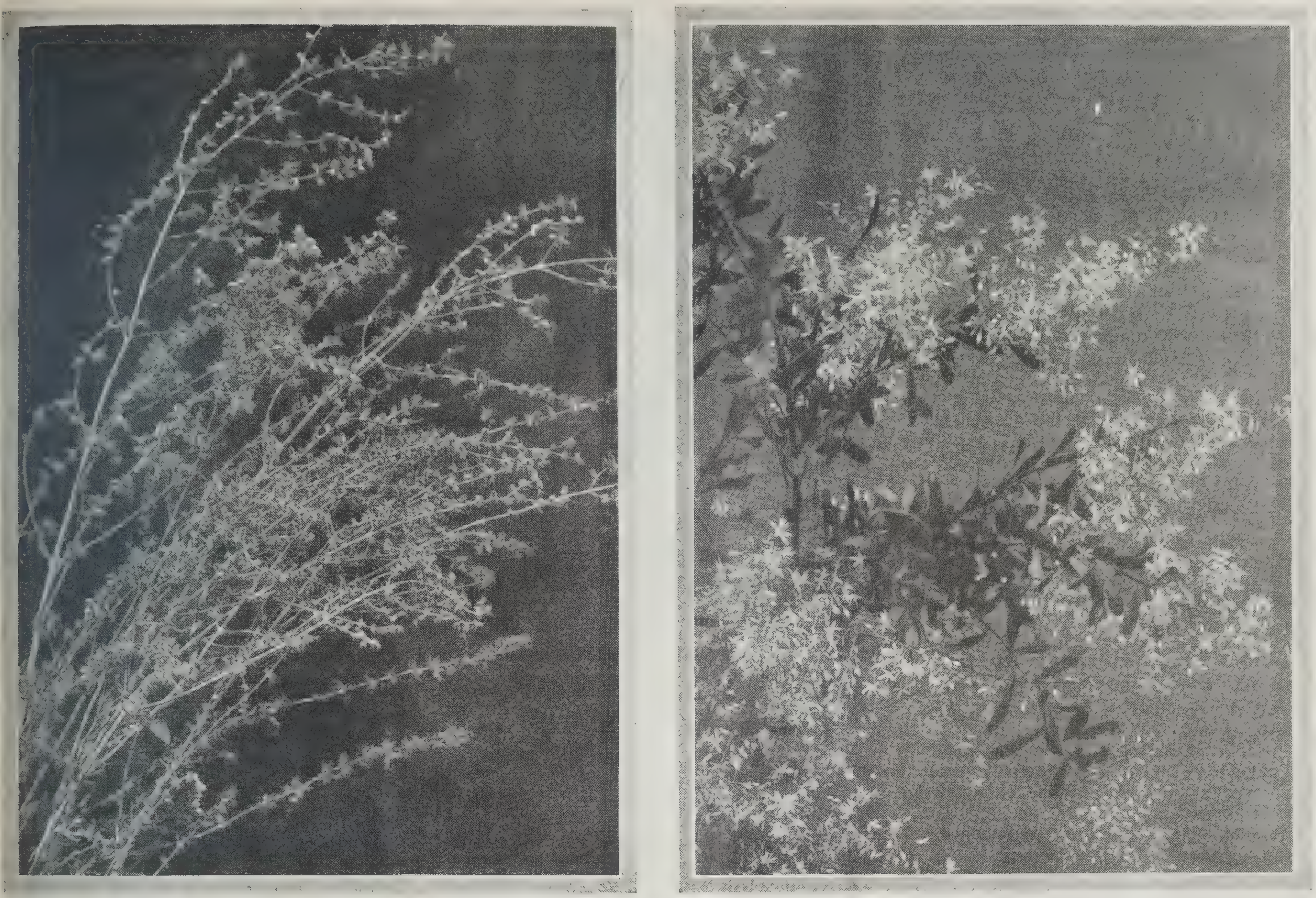
Everything considered, personally I th
is preferable for catalogues to refrain
launching out into cultural directio
individual plants; but where, however,
publications, and more especially tho
voted to Alpine plants, might assi
amateur, without any undue addition
pense in space or printing, is by the
sion of a short prefatory note on cult
Alpines in general, with special reg
the more difficult species.

More and still more should it be
what an important part, for instance
drainage plays, and how easy a scree
construct and to grow the higher A
happily in.

It is to the mutual benefit of the n
man and his public for the latter to re
few great principles in the growi
Alpines, and then, these having
mastered, considerable latitude m
allowed in the hundred and one fac
fancies which we all treasure.

F. H. FIS

—— It is only natural that those
trade should be up in arms against a
paragement of their catalogues or adv
ments. At the same time, without im
any motives of dishonesty to them, I
but agree with " J. R. K." that the st
set by dealers is in many cases diffi
achievement *by the ordinary amate*
must be borne in mind that it is the bu



TWO SEPTEMBER-FLOWERING SHRUBS

Left : The Silver Sage (Perowskia atriplicifolia), with tall grey stems, grey-green leaves, and purple woolly flowers. The plant has a strong Sage-like scent.

Right : Bursaria spinosa, an uncommon shrub with small cream-white flowers in panicles ; very free and effective.

f a nurseryman to make his garden a payng concern, and to that end he must expend noney on skilled labour and on materials uch as the ordinary amateur, in the majority f cases, cannot afford. There are, of course, cores of gardens in Britain where plants can e grown to perfection, and on account of the xcellence of their staff and conditions of soil, tc., they find no difficulty in reproducing or ven excelling the best efforts of nurserymen. ut without these conditions we "in the alleys" must not expect to make more than distant approach to perfection.

I have never found nurserymen averse to elping us amateurs to the best of their ability ith hints on growing the more difficult subects, or of bringing the easier ones to a igher state of perfection, but I cannot help aying that I have too often found them ready o describe plants as being of easy culture, r especially as hardy, when, in my garden t least, the very reverse is the case. In all robability, on account of the conditions obaining in a nursery, which I have already entioned, a nurseryman may find no diffiulty whatever in growing a certain plant, ut it must not be assumed that it will be asy everywhere.

I have also sometimes found, in the abence of the owner, that the representative in harge of an exhibit has little or no knowedge of the plants shown beyond their names, nd not always that, and I have met most mazing ignorance of the properties or ethods of cultivation of their specimens. he colour question referred to by Messrs. arr is far too difficult a one to discuss here, ut I will just mention one instance. I ought some seeds of Aquilegia glandulosa from a well-known firm which produced flowers of a somewhat displeasing shade of purple and white. I protested that I did not believe it was A. glandulosa at all, but was assured that they came from an irreproachable source. I see the same firm advertising these seeds as a "charming study in Wedgwood blue and white." It is also well known that in many species there are good and bad forms or strains which may not have received distinctive names, and that both grow together in a nursery. It is not surprising, therefore, that one receives a poor form instead of the better one. It always surprises me that dealers do not "rogue" these out when they are in flower. I do not wish to imply that an inferior form is purposely sent out. It is doubtless the fault of some labourer, or that the plant is dug up when not in flower, so that its inferiority is not then apparent.

In conclusion, it is only fair to say that there are nurserymen who make a special effort to describe their plants, and how to grow them, in terms which preclude the accusation of exaggeration, but I fear they form a minority. A. H. WOLLEY-DOD.

Perowskia atriplicifolia

IN the issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED for November 3rd, page 703, your correspondent, "G. J.," writing on this halfshrubby Labiate, gives it the generic name of Peroffskya. As a matter of interest, I should be glad to know if this name is correct, as I have been unable to find it in any of the works that I have at hand at the moment. I do not, however, dispute the accuracy of the name, but it is always interesting to know the correct nomenclature of plant names.

Perowskia atriplicifolia is an uncommon shrub with white tomentose branches and fragrant grey-green foliage. It also goes under the common name of "Silver Sage." The photograph reproduced in the abovementioned issue depicts the habit and growth of the plant extremely well. It is very effective planted in groups of several plants together. J. L.

[Perowskia atriplicifolia is fully described in Bean's "Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles," a book that should be at the elbow of everyone who is interested in the subject. This is, without doubt, the correct spelling of the generic name. It is easy to see how the incorrect spelling Peroffskya came about, as it is commonly known that the combination of letters *ow* in a proper name is, in Russian and allied languages, pronounced *off*.]

Alpine flowers at Wisley

Thirty-five years ago I spent two winters in the High Alps, and in the early spring, when the snow began to melt in patches on the south slopes and ravines, I learnt to admire the Crocus, Soldanella, Primula (probably farinosa), Erica carnea, and Gentians.

Years later the memory of these flowers and the ownership of a tiny garden made me lean towards growing smaller plants for economy of space, and as my gardening knowledge grew I began to discriminate a little as to what was worth growing. We seldom get time to visit the gardens at Wisley, but early last spring were much struck with a noticeable Saxifraga oppositifolia and Anemone pulsatilla Mrs. Van der Elst, which were outstanding features that day. We cannot all be Wards or Farrers, but it is a mild excitement at home to try and discover and acquire plants we have seen or heard of.

I shall not forget the striking salmon-pink mass of flowers of the Anemone in the Wisley rock garden, and wish that from time to time we might have a note of exceptional plants that would be worth a visit to the gardens to see. A. S. L.

Dorking.

Rock gardens at Chelsea Show

With reference to the correspondence on this subject, the announcement made by the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society in their "Notices and Arrangements for 1929" is to the point. After stating that the Council has expressed the desire that a freer use of other stones than mountain limestone should be made, it is stated that "It is believed that many who would like to construct a rock garden are deterred from doing so by the high, though perhaps reasonable, quotations for gardens built of Westmorland or Cheddar stone." I think this is surely a justification of the Council's attitude which should carry conviction that the move is in the right direction. SANDSTONE.

Border Chrysanthemum Mrs. Q. MacFadyen

Since the publication of an article on the selecting of outdoor Chrysanthemums (March 2nd issue), in which reference was made to the views of several prominent raisers, I have received an unavoidably delayed letter from Glasgow.

Mr. Alexander McAlpine has forwarded a photograph and full particulars of the above-named variety which he considers is the best hardy seedling that has been raised in the Braidfauld Nurseries at Tollcross.

A. E. W.

A form of the early-flowering Narcissus Tazetta collected in the hills of Portugal

A white double-flowered Cherry (Prunus Cerasus Rhexii fl.-pl.)

Riviera Jottings

Damage by frost

By E. H. WOODALL

THIS severe winter has visited the Riviera in a cruel manner. The old year (1928) went out in a blaze of sunshine. The new year came in with storm and sleet, and roughly speaking there was frost more or less each night during January, and up to February 10th with bright and sunny days. The gardens and tender plants stood this persistent cold very well, and the scarlet flowering Aloes and the Callas were beginning to flower when on Tuesday, February 12th, snow began to fall, and continued to do so more or less for three days. This dust-like snow covered everything to a depth of at least a foot, breaking down shrubs and trees by its weight; during this steady fall the thermometer stood at 24 degrees in the most sheltered places for *several days*. This penetrated coverings and even frames, so that the damage done to the cultivateurs is enormous. Mimosas, so hardy on this coast, have been destroyed either by weight of snow or severity of cold, so that all the battles of flowers have been abandoned or postponed; and it is proposed to raise a sum of money for the relief of the many sufferers who find their Carnations and early vegetables all ruined. One effect of the cold has been to starve the birds, and they have attacked the flowering buds of the Almond trees to such an extent that little or no Almond blossom is to be seen even on March 1st when, in ordinary season, it would be about over, and the pink Peach trees in beauty.

I see Galanthus Byzantinus mentioned as being a very vigorous and desirable bulb in England.

Here I got by great luck half-a-dozen bulbs as long ago as 1908, and they have thriven in a remarkable way, increasing by seed as well as by offset. They suffered badly from the great heat and drought last summer, and instead of the first blooms appearing early in November, scarcely any appeared till about Christmas. I had quite made up my mind that nearly all were dead when after this severe frost and cold, a quantity of late flowering bells appeared—a curious res of heat and cold which has affected Cyclam Coum in the same way and delayed growth of all spring flowering bulbs. Pru Mume, the Japanese Apricot, is only j in flower on March 1st, while Pru Blireana is even later in showing flow both a month or six weeks later than usu It should be remarked that Iris stylosa a Narcissus Italicus, the hybrid between Paper White and the yellow Tazzetta, h bloomed most profusely and have refused be affected by the abnormal weather.

La Selva, Brancolar, Nice.

Transplanting herbaceous plan

At this time of the year, when growth dormant, and work not so pressing as at ot periods of the year, an effort should be m to get herbaceous plants lifted, divided, replanted on fresh ground; or in some ca where they succeed best if divided in spri the ground should be well manured and de ly cultivated. Herbaceous plants are gr feeders, and their flowering season is gre prolonged by having a good depth of lo soil for the roots to revel in. In the mi herbaceous border of the old type strongest rooting subjects soon got mastery of their weaker neighbours, an cut-flowers in quantity are the object which they are grown it will be much better plan to grow each kind in a bed itself, so that each may receive the spe attention it needs.

Herbaceous borders

It will soon be possible to detect vacancies which may have occurred du the winter, and these should be made g with reserve plants from the nursery. done, fork over the surface lightly, care be taken with late-moving plants, such Thalictrum dipterocarpum, Gypsoph Platycodons, and similar subjects, the cro of which may easily be ruined for the wh season if trampled upon.

Bulbophyllums and their Allies

(*Concluded from page 148*)

One of the distinguishing features of the Order Orchidaceæ is that in all species the third petal, the lip (labellum), is more or less specialised to attract and guide some particular insect species to fertilise the flower, in many cases such specialisation preventing the entrance of less favoured insects, though to them the flower may have attractions.

IRRHOPETALUM, a third species in this genus, represents the culminating point. C. Rothschildianum, from Dar- eling, is larger and finer than Colletti. The eudo-bulbs are distanced on a creeping izome and bear a stout, leathery leaf. The ower-scape is 6 to 9 inches high and the owers have their lower sepals, often 6 inches ng, attenuated and diverging at their tips, llow, heavily diffused, and lined with purple- d. The dorsal sepal is pale yellow lined with d, and the similarly coloured petals are argined with red hairs. The lip is bright imson. Several flowers are borne on a ape. Their size and colouring, apart from e specialised shape, places the plant well vay from the so-called botanical species. It ceived a First-class Certificate in October, 395, when exhibited by the present Lord othschild.

Equalling, if not surpassing, Rothschild- num in beauty, though quite different in eneral appearance, is C. longissimum, a ative of Malaya. It may safely be cited as n example of Nature's concentration of nergy in the production of a specialised ower.

The small pseudo-bulbs are but little more an 1 inch in height and carry a single leaf ardly 6 inches in length. The slender scape scarcely longer, but terminates in two, ur, or more large flowers, the lower sepals f which sometimes attain a length of 12 ches, larger than any other part of the ant. Their size and weight prevent a posi- on common to most Cirrhopetalum flowers. hey must droop, but so the full extent of eir beauty is more readily seen. In colour ey are of a soft pink shaded with buff, with eeper pink lines. An indescribable sheen dds lustre to a colour which, known, would e the desire and despair of any Parisian elle. As though not quite contented with e colour effect of the lower sepals, the rsal is marked with purple and haired on e edges, while the lip is soft yellow.

Unfortunately, the plant is rare in cultiva- on—a pity, as few others combine such at- active colouring and floral size.

Makoyanum, also from Malaya, is, though nall, both free-flowering and pretty. The owers radiate, apparently, from a common entre. In reality, the pedicels are so bent at each blossom maintains its position quidistant from its neighbours. The lower epals are not flattened, but have their edges voluted as to give each pair a horn-like ap- earance. They are about an inch long, ear yellow in colour, and as they extend om a raised hub or centre, of reddish- rown, formed by the dorsal sepals, they are ot unlike the spokes of a wheel before the re has been placed in position. About 12 owers are common to an inflorescence.

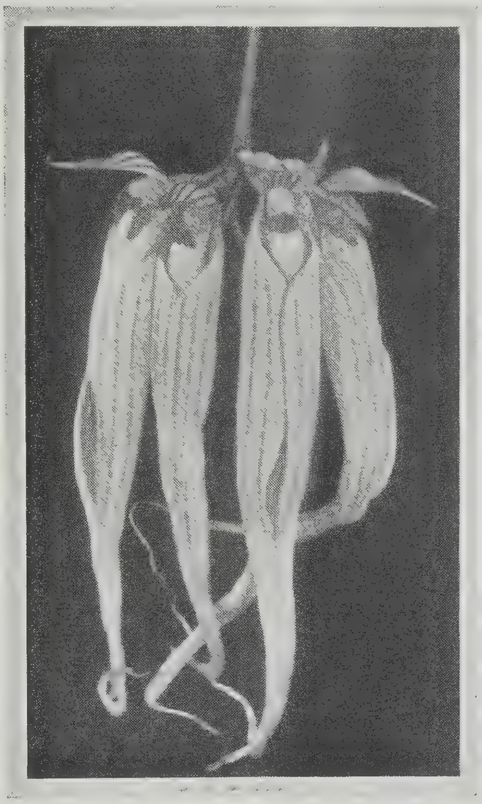
Gracillimum, again from Malaya, is de- erving of its name. The crimson-red colour f the flowers renders them conspicuous, linus colour they would hardly be notice- ble as the sepals, though over an inch long, e threadlike, their points "twirling" in arious directions, as though wishful to be dependent one from the other. The purple, hite-tipped lip has a cup, not an orifice, to scillate in, hence, is slightly restricted in its ownward movement.

Miniatum, from Annam, another small- rowing species, equally depends on its lour—a lovely cinnabar-red—for attraction. The lower sepals are over 2 inches long, uniform in colour, and slightly separated at the tips. The whorl is not complete as in Makoyanum, but more resembles that of a half-opened fan.

O'Brienianum is very similar in habit, but the outer portions of the lower sepals are light yellow, contrasting with the red of the remainder and the upper sepal and petals.

There are many other species worthy of mention, but those enumerated will serve, perhaps, to give some idea of the gem-like beauty and quaint, interesting shapes to be found in flowers of this genus.

In Megaclinium, the outstanding species under cultivation is no doubt M. purpureorachis. So far this is the largest in the genus. The flattened rachis, ascending in a spiral, is 2 inches broad by over 12 inches high, dull purplish-red in colour, with flowers large for the genus, but small compared with the rachis, yellowish in the ground colour, but almost obscured with purple-red. The inflorescence lasts a considerable time, as the basal flowers open first. The extraordinary flower-bed seems out of proportion to the flowers it carries and to the plant, but, I think, the explanation is that size is necessary to attract, and were such a large organ flat, damage by wind might occur. To withstand such stress the plant would have to attain greater size, but the spiral shape obviates this, as wind from any direction would meet an edge, not a flat surface. The slopes of the spiral also allow wind to glance off and at the same time enable insects to crawl to the topmost flowers more easily than would a perpendicular ascent.



Cirrhopetalum longissimum from Malaya

Length of lateral sepals over 10 inches

Grown in the collection of J. J. Joicey, Esq., The Hill, Witley (gardener, Mr. McKay)

M. bufo, from Sierra Leone, is similar in habit, but less. The flowers are rather dull in colour, brown-purple spotting on a lighter ground, and their "squat" shape gives them a fancied resemblance to toads, hence the name. The resemblance is heightened by their contrast with the greenish rachis. Maximum and Clarkei are examples of the genus in which the rachis is not spiral, but turns from the peduncle at an abrupt angle. Though interesting to study, the flowers in this genus are not nearly as ornate as those in Cirrhopetalum. All efforts seem to be toward the flower-bearing portion rather than to the flowers themselves.

As regards culture of these genera, the majority of the species are quite amenable. Just as many Alpines appear to have better constitutions, or are more adaptable than some of their larger-growing relations, so with these smaller-growing Orchids.

In spite of their wide distribution many can be grown in the Cattleya-house throughout the year. Others, particularly those from the warmer parts of the East, may require a slightly higher temperature in winter.

Discrimination must be used when watering, and those species with hard bulbs and thick leaves must be rested after growth is finished; but definite laws cannot be laid down. Success comes with these as with other plants, more from an intelligent study of the plants themselves and the conditions in which they are placed than from any particular rules.

E. COOPER.

Rose pruning after the frost

With the past 10 years of open winters Roses at pruning time, in March and April, have been found in full leaf, and sometimes with even flower-buds. All this foliage has been built up from the sap derived from the previous year's growth. The result has been that when pruned away the remaining buds have not had the maximum of sap or derivatives for purposes of growth and development, though in the end growth may have been satisfactory, due to the work of the new leaves, which have met and made up for any deficiency. The present hard and prolonged winter has had a marked effect, and Rose bushes are without any new foliage, but the fat and healthy buds promise an exceptionally fine Rose season for the coming summer. Pruning too early may result in all the buds being cut down with a sharp late frost. Late pruning would certainly avoid this, but all rosarians want some early blooms. The following is a method which has been practised in previous years and has proved satisfactory:—Prune each bush or tree in three periods—early, mid-season, and late. If possible select basal shoots of last year's growth for the earliest pruning and prune them rather long or on the light side. Now, if all goes well and there is no hard late frost to cause injury, there will be plenty of blooms after the third week in June, and, as these go over, then early July will again find the trees or bushes giving good blooms, to be followed by others on the same bushes after mid-July and to the end of that month. Not only will the same trees give three periods of early summer blooms, but mid-summer and autumn blooms will follow the same sequence. Should the earliest-pruned be caught and destroyed by the frost they can be cut back hard and will flower the latest of all.

It is true that at no time will there be a mass of bloom at the same time, but if a bed of one variety is thus pruned it will be in perpetual bloom the whole season, and is certain to yield some remarkable flowers of excellent quality, possibly, in all three seasons—early, mid-season, and late. It is not possible to name a date correctly, as seasons vary, but the first pruning, when the first third of the bush only is pruned, should not be before, say, March 15th, the second third on March 31st, and the last on either April 10th or 15th. These dates may vary a day or two before or after, according to the season. It is essential with this method of pruning that the giving of active fertilisers should commence the moment the first leaves are about two-thirds their normal size, and be followed up regularly afterwards, but until all the leaves are out and functioning only half the usual quantities will be required.

An application of $\frac{1}{3}$ oz. sulphate of iron to 1 gallon of water, making the gallon solution cover 10 square yards to 12 square yards of soil surface directly after the first pruning will enhance the depth and tone of all Rose blooms and should not be omitted.

C. A. Jardine.

Chionodoxa (Glory of the Snow)

The Chionodoxas are very beautiful early spring-flowering bulbs, extremely hardy, and well adapted for growing in positions where they can be left undisturbed, with a view to forming colonies or masses, or for naturalising in grass, the roughest parts of the rock garden, or in semi-wild situations. Once they become established they will increase themselves freely from seed, the subsequent seedlings flowering in their second or third years. They will grow in any ordinary fertile soil, but thrive best in deep loam, and favour a sunny situation. They may also be grown in pots for indoor decoration, but they should become thoroughly rooted before removal inside. Chionodoxa Luciliæ is, perhaps, the most commonly grown of the several species. It commences to open its starry flowers in February, which are an intense blue, shading to white in the centre, produced on slender spikes usually three to six flowered, but sometimes as many as 20 flowers are produced. The plant grows about 6 inches high. There are several forms of this species, viz., alba, a white form, and rosea with pink flowers, as well as one or two others. Chionodoxa gigantea is a plant with a more robust habit than the former, with taller spikes of flowers and broader leaves. The flowers are large, of a delicate pale blue colour. C. Sardensis has rich, deep blue flowers with a white eye, a little smaller in all its parts than C. Luciliæ. Another dwarf species is called nana, a plant about 4 inches high with dense spikes of white or pale lilac flowers. The species are all natives of Asia Minor and Crete.

J. L.

Camellia speciosa in an Irish garden

This early-flowering species from Western China is a plant of distinction and beauty. The flowers are single and saucer-shaped, with five to six petals about 4 inches across, pale apple blossom-pink inside, rose-pink outside. The filaments are a pale yellow colour, the anthers a golden shade. The buds are pointed, in groups of two; the contrast between the deep pink point shading to pale green at the base is beautiful. The calyx is a deeper green. The leaves are ovate-lanceolate acuminate, somewhat like those of Camellia Sasanqua, and 2 inches long by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in a young plant. They are dark green above, light, polished green beneath, finely serrated over the entire margins. This plant was noted in flower, growing on a wall at Headfort Kells, Co. Meath, during the second week in February, following a night of hard frost. The flowers and buds were uninjured. This most desirable plant does not seem to be in commerce.

Willbrook. Phylis Moore.

Silenes

Varieties for the rcok garden

The value of Silenes or Catchflies in the rock garden is often overlooked, and although a few of them may be classified as difficult plants, their requirements are well worth studying. Among the more easily grown species Silene Schafta is a desirable traili plant with a long flowering period wh commences in summer and continues of into the autumn. The flowers rise w above the foliage and are of a rosy-purpl magenta. It likes a gritty soil with so leaf-mould, and, although a sun-loving pla it is not averse from partial shade. Se sown in the spring will produce plants flower the following year. If Silene Hook can be protected from excessive moist during the winter it is by no means a d cult plant. It prefers a well-drained sa soil containing a liberal amount of le mould and a quantity of lime-rubble, should have a position in full sunshine. flowers are star-shaped, with reflexed pet and the colour is of a pleasing clear pi A few pebbles placed about the plants keep the foliage from sprawling too much the soil. Although some gardeners con this species to the moraine it will do qu well in the rock garden if care is taken. is readily raised from spring-sown seeds.

Some of the varieties of the Moss Camp (Silene acaulis) make very dainty rock pla Mr. Elliott's Six Hills variety is probably best. The introducer brought this plant fr Mont Cenis, and most people admire pretty salmon-rose flowers. S. californic a scarlet-flowered species introduced, I lieve, by Mr. Perry, of Enfield, and it sho become popular when better known. pendula is the well-known spring-flower biennial with rosy-pink or white flow freely disposed over dense-cushioned folia Of this there is a neat form known as c pacta. Seedlings raised in the summer grown on like Wallflowers will pro plants for the following year's display.

H. Greave

Annual climbers for the garde

Although no provision may have b made to cover some unsightly object or fe in the garden with permanent climb there is still ample time to make ame by sowing annual creepers which will as a screen, and contribute beauty in the t of flowering. Ipomæas or Morning Glo

A colony of Chionodoxas (Glory of the Snow) grow rapidly, and give a wealth of blossoms in varying shades of blue and scarlet. Tropæolum canariense yields quantities of soft yellow flowers amid foliage of tenderest green, and soon covers any space required. This is the well-known Canary creeper, and will grow in any sunny place in a garden. Other Tropæolums like fulgens, Lucifer, and Firefly in scarlet and orange are extremely showy. Humulus japonicus (Japanese Hop) is noted for its attractive foliage, and is easily raised from seed sown out of doors in spring. Let the ground these annual creeping plants are to occupy be prepared by digging and incorporating with it a little manure and vegetable refuse, and sow the seed as soon as weather permits and locality warrants. This may be in March or, in cold quarters, in April.

WOODBASTWICK.

Helleborus corsicus

SOME interesting contributions have recently appeared on Hellebores. Mr. Cahen, in his article in your issue of December 15th, 1928, expounds on the merits and delights of Christmas Roses. Mr. Bowles follows later with H. cyclophyllus, proclaiming it "the finest of all those with green flowers," and now my purpose is to sing the praises of another species with green flowers.

H. corsicus (syn. H. argutifolius and trifoliatus) is an upstanding plant with foliage to make it a variety of great merit during the winter months. In my garden I have a plant originally collected in Corsica. Transplanted from one garden to another, it now forms a bush just on 3 feet high and perhaps 2½ feet across. It has 16 stems, each growing from the original root. Each stem has its cluster of 10 to 20 flowering buds arranged in deltoid corymbs. When these open and bloom they are of a pale yellowish-green. The sharp, leathery, prickly leaves and yellow-green flowers characterise the plant a typical H. corsicus.

The beauty of this plant as compared with other varieties is that it retains its foliage during the winter, unimpaired by frost and bad weather, and at the present moment is of a dark bottle-green colour. The new growth of leaves are of a blue or silver-green colour. Although my shrubby bush is, in itself, a good specimen, I have seen a much larger one in Mr. Mark Fenwick's garden at Stow-in-the-Wold. All other varieties of the genus at this time are bedraggled, in many cases lifeless and on the ground.

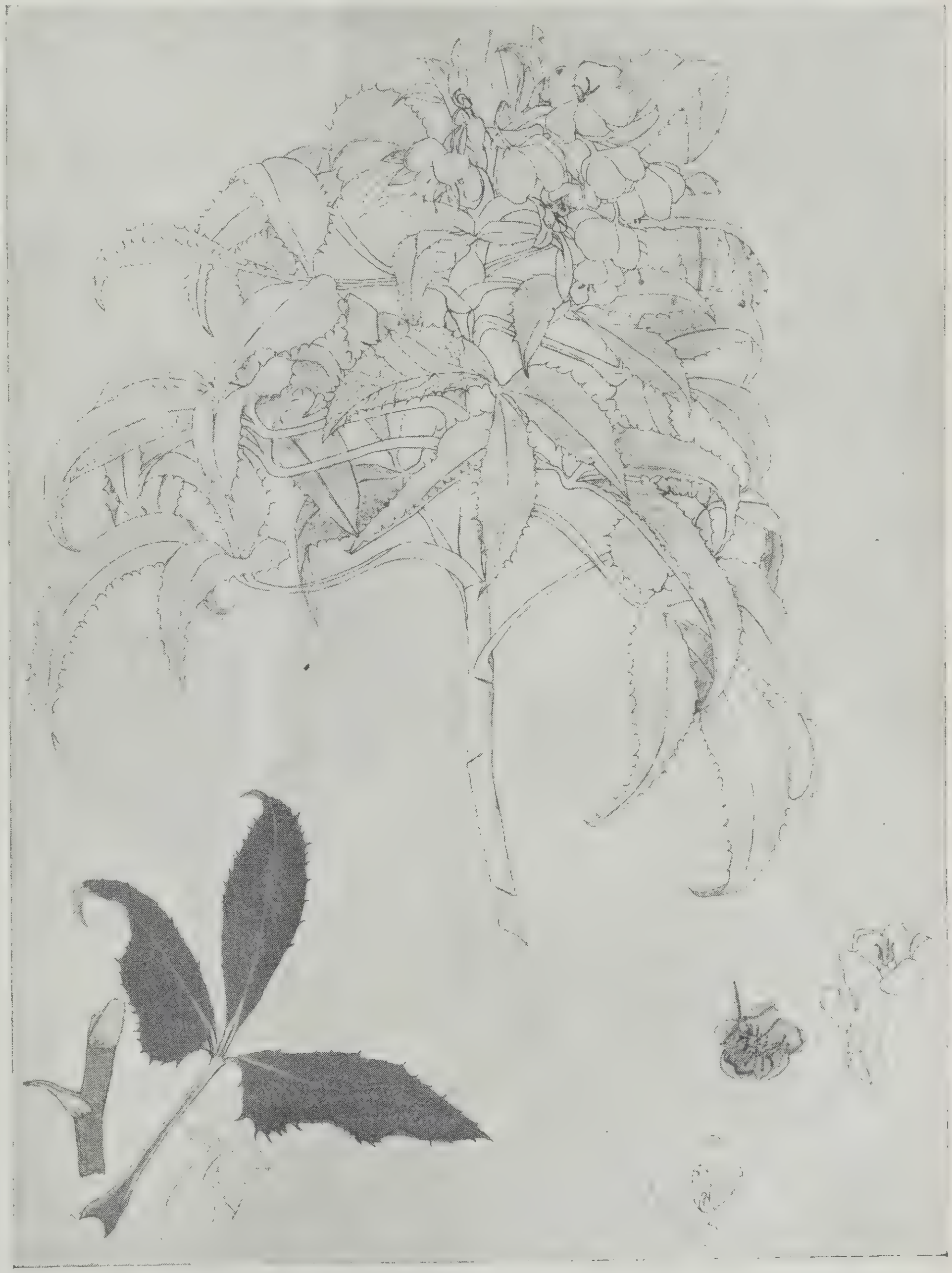
The illustration accompanying these notes represents a cup stem of 24 inches. A very good illustration of the flowers is in Bot. Reg., tab. 54, 1839, and if my memory serves me aright this species was introduced into this country in the 18th century.

G. P. BAKER.

Ramondia pyrenaica

This plant is deserving of cultivation wherever Alpine plants are grown. It is worthy of an important position in a cool and shady situation. Ramondia pyrenaica is a native of the Pyrenees, liking cool positions in clefts and fissures in the mountain gorges, where it is constantly subjected to the spray of the torrent and mountain mist.

Although perfectly hardy, the climate of this country is somewhat trying to the plant, owing to the wet and alternating changes during the winter months. This is chiefly on account of its habit, flat in form, and the general hairy character of its leaves, which tend towards keeping it wet, thus causing it to rot at the collar, the most frequent trouble one has to contend with. This, however, may be overcome very largely by imitating natural conditions, planting in fissures of rockwork or in crevices on the face of a wall. It is not advisable to plant on the flat, but plants will grow very well on the lower part of a wall, where the rooting medium is cool and moist. A situation facing east will generally be found to be the most suitable aspect for this plant, as the shade essential for maintaining cool and moist conditions for its roots will then be ensured. A good medium for growing the plants in is good sandy loam and peat.



Helleborus corsicus
This stem represents a length of 24 inches

The flowers are purple-violet in colour with an orange-yellow centre, about 1 inch across, produced on stems 2 inches to 6 inches high, in spring and early summer. They vary in number from one to several on a stem. The rough leaves are in the form of rosettes close to the ground, hairy on both surfaces, ovate and deeply toothed, the rosettes being from 4 inches to 8 inches across. There is also a white-flowered form of this species. The plants may be increased by means of seed, or division of strong, healthy plants, during the early spring. The plant is, naturally, slow-growing, and seedlings develop very slowly, the latter taking at least two years before they attain to flowering size.

J. L.

Lobelia: Propagating from cuttings

Those who last autumn made a point of keeping a few old plants of Lobelias in pots in the greenhouse will now be in a position to take cuttings from shoots which are now making headway. If taken at a joint and dibbled in pots or pans of coarse silver sand and a little loam, and plunged in the warm bed of a propagator, or kept near the warmth of pipes, in the absence of a propagating pit, they will soon take hold. An effort should be made to prevent the cuttings from flagging by keeping them as near the glass as possible. After two or three weeks the tiny plants can be boxed, or potted off, and from them another lot of cuttings will be forthcoming in a short time. A warm, moist atmosphere and a compost largely made up of sand are all that one needs to work up a nice stock that by May will be ready for planting out of doors.

TOWNSMAN.

Uncommon plants in Greycoat Street

PINUS THUNBERGI

MRS. ANNAN BRYCE, Ilnaculin, Glengariff, Co. Cork, sends to this office a fine cluster of cones of the Japanese Pinus Thunbergi, which was afterwards exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society's meeting on February 26th in the new hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster.

Pinus Thunbergi occasionally produces an abnormally large number of cones on a single inflorescence.

In 1909 a branch of one of the trees at Kew bore no fewer than 65 cones, but this was exceeded in 1926 by a tree at Hergest Croft, Kington, Herefordshire, which produced 74 cones. The cluster sent had no less than 116 cones. The cluster of cones was later brought before the Scientific Committee.

This Pine is very common in Japan, and is largely planted there for forestry purposes. It is the Pine which appears in the "Willow plate pattern."

LEUCOCORYNE IXIOIDES ODORATA

This beautiful plant, shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, created great interest. It is a bulbous plant requiring greenhouse treatment, and was collected by Mr. Clarence Elliott in his recent expedition in Chile, although first introduced in 1826. The plant resembles a Brodiæa, to which it is closely allied. The flowers, pale mauve, are borne in heads on long, wire-like stems. A most pleasing feature of the flowers is their pleasant Heliotrope scent. The flowers have good, lasting qualities and should prove of great service as cut flowers.

POMADERRIS ELLIPTICA

This tender New Zealand shrub was shown in flower by Messrs. Hillier and Sons, Winchester. It belongs to the Natural Order Rhamnaceæ and has clusters of small cream-yellow flowers, each flower a bunch of yellow anthers.

FRITILLARIA KARADAGHENSIS

A rare species from Northern Persia, shown by Messrs. Wallace and Co., Tunbridge Wells. The flowers are bronze-coloured with similar scent to that of the better-known species, F. pyrenaica.

Many Alpines were shown on this occasion, including fine pans of Saxifragas Faldonside, Burseriana, and Brookside; also Soldanella montana and the little bulbous plants, Muscari azureus, Chionodoxa Luciliæ, and the pale blue squill-like Puschkinia scilloides, illustrated on the page opposite. H. C.

FRUIT GARDEN

Strawberries for forcing

IN forcing Strawberries it is essential that young plants be obtained from strong, healthy parents. To get these it is advisable to plant up a fresh batch of runners each August. The parent plants should be allowed to flower so that barren ones can be picked out and destroyed. Remove these flowers as soon as "roguing" has been attended to. Plants for throwing runners should be given a good position on a border facing south. Plant 1 foot apart in the rows and 2 feet between rows. Each plant will, if well cared for, produce five or six plantlets before the following June. In June layer the runners into 3-inch pots filled with a fairly rich compost, or even little squares of loam will do, but in each case sink them to the brim in the ground. Layer into alternate rows so that a gangway is left for walking. The soil for the final potting into 6-inch pots should be mixed early, say, in July.

A good compost to use is as follows:—Four parts of good loam broken up into pieces the size of a Walnut, one part of old Mushroom-bed, half a part of lime-rubble (where the loam is sandy use chalk). To each barrowful of soil put a 5-inch potful of bone-meal and half that amount of Thomson's Vine Manure. The pots should be well washed and crocked and a little sprinkling of soot put over the drainage to keep out worms.

The rooted runners are severed from the parent plants in July and placed on the north side of a hedge or wall to remain till the final potting. This is done in August, and should be finished by at least the end of the first week. When potting, it is essential that the ball of soil round the root should be moist. Therefore it is advisable to go over the young ones in 3-inch pots and water all that are dry.

Pinus Thunbergi
116 cones in one cluster!
Sent by Mrs. Annan Bryce, Glengariff, Co. Cork

Make sure, also, that the potting soil is in the right degree of moistness. Pot the young plants firmly. When all are potted stand them out, pot-thick, on a level ash yard which has been previously sprinkled with lime and soot mixed so as to ward off slugs. Turn the pots round occasionally to prevent the roots from congregating at one side, as they will often do.

Spray over the plants twice a day on bright days and water them four or five days after potting. If a period of heavy rains sets in, the pots should be placed on their sides. At the end of August space out to the width of a hand between pots and remove all runners and side crowns.

In October begin getting the plants under cover. Cold frames will be found best if free from drip. Avoid such houses as Peach-houses and vineries on account of Red Spider and Thrip in such uncleaned houses at this time of the year.

If early forcing is contemplated it will be wise to give the plants a little start. A very good idea is to fill brick pits with a mixture of leaves and a little stable manure. Tread
firmly and plunge the pots in it up to
brim. Leave the top open to full air.
there will be a gentle heat given off by
hotbed we will have the roots in action be
the leaves.

During December clean and top-dress th
already-started Strawberries, and remove
Peach-house shelf, where a night temp
ture of 45 degs. can be obtained. Be sur
select a shelf well up to the light. Sp
regularly to keep Red Spider down. Kee
little ventilation on the house at night
ensure perfect flowers. When the flov
have set the temperature can rise to 55 d
Then in January remove to house wit
temperature of 60 degs.

Thin down the fruit to five or six o
plant. Remove the usually ugly "
fruit" at the end. Support them off the
by means of little forked sticks.

Stimulants, such as liquid-manure, car
given from now on till the fruit shows si
of colour, then discontinue and venti
freely, but keep up the temperature. A hi
humid atmosphere will rot the ripening fr
Plants that are started in early Novem
should be bearing fruit by March, bu
lot depends on the amount of sun, as
good day of sun is worth four or five of
heat.

Autumn fruiting Raspberries

I think it is a pity the autumn-bear
kinds are not more largely grown, especi
when Raspberries are in demand as long
they can be had. They are alike useful
dessert and for using with late Red Curra
in the making of tarts, helping to tone do
as they do the acidity which is so markec
all late-hanging Currants. October Red
Belle de Fontenay I find to be two good,
liable varieties, and these continue to b
very late in the autumn and until cut off
frost. Superlative furnishes a good quan
of fruit during September and the beginn
of October, but the season would end th
were it not for the varieties mentioned tak
up the supply and lengthening the season,
to speak, until the commencement of win
Should the autumn prove fine and open
frequently have fruit in good condition in
middle of November. October Red is m
the sweeter of the two kinds named, Belle
Fontenay being more acid, and therefore m
adapted for cooking than for table use. Gi
a deep, rather heavy soil, with plenty
manure incorporated with it, the stools sho
grow some fair-sized canes the first sea
and bear a respectable crop of fruit. I g
them in single rows, with wires strainec
iron standards to tie the young canes to.
supports run east and west, so that the ca
have the advantage of full sun all day.
canes should be well thinned and neatly
as growth advances, cutting away all su
fluous growths. Like the summer-fruit
varieties, they like generous treatment in
way of solid and liquid manures, and
higher the feeding within reason the finer
fruit. After fruiting, the canes should be
down level with the ground, as it is on
young canes made in the current year that
fruit is borne. In this particular only
the treatment differ from that accorded to
summer fruiters. W

Border Chrysanthemums

Continue to secure cuttings of these as
shoots become ready until sufficient stock
been obtained. These will root quite rea
now in a cool greenhouse, pit, or even i
cold frame. Earlier batches as they bec
well rooted should be moved to a cold fr
and kept close for a day or two; air sh
then be gradually admitted so as to keep
young plants sturdy and hardy.

FLOWERS SEEN AT THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S MEETING ON FEB. 26th

1. Leucocoryne ixioides odorata, a greenhouse bulb with pale mauve flowers and the fragrance of Heliotrope.
2. Soldanella montana, the daintiest of high Alpines.
3. The double flowered Almond Clara Meyer, flowers deep rosy pink.
4. The pale blue Squill-like Puschkinia scilloides.
5. Pomaderris elliptica, a tender New Zealand shrub.
6. A fine pan of Saxifraga Faldonside.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Apricots and Peaches

Material should be placed in readiness for the protection of the flowers. Nets suspended from the glass lights or wall coping will need to be three deep, or canvas and tiffany may be used, providing such can be rolled up during favourable weather. Short branches of Yew, Cypress, or a similar evergreen are sometimes used effectively by placing these among the flowering growths. Light blinds which can be rolled up during the day are undoubtedly the most satisfactory, but it often happens that more humble methods, such as the use of evergreen twigs, have to answer, and, when such is adopted, allowance must be made for light and air to reach the flowers.

Fruit in store

Apples are keeping very well, but it is important that specimens showing the least sign of decay be removed immediately. Sufficient air to keep the rooms fresh and sweet should be permitted. This must not, however, be overdone, otherwise conditions will become too dry and the fruit shrivel. A little moisture assists in the keeping of Apples by maintaining them in a fresh, plump condition.

Shrubs to prune now

These include Buddleias, Ceanothus, and Chimonanthus fragrans where its flowering is over, winter-blooming Honeysuckles, Jasminum nudiflorum, Cornus alba, Salix britzensis, and Berberis japonica, and B. jap. var. Bealei. The last-named kinds do remarkably well when planted beneath a canopy of light foliage trees, and when in a healthy condition these may be kept dwarf and vigorous by what many would term severe pruning. These fine evergreens have produced a beautiful display of bloom with me this year.

Pruning climbing plants

This should by now have been completed, as the buds are moving fast, and those growths which were reserved for layering purposes must now be dealt with. I find the most convenient method to be that of sinking pots filled with sandy soil into the borders up to their rims, and bringing the long growths down, and securing them to the pots with a stout wire pin, this being run down through the hole in the bottom of each pot. When these pots are filled with roots—usually in October—the layers may be severed and the plant transferred complete to any desirable site.

Open ground among newly planted shrubs

Such spots may be utilised for Michaelmas Daisies, and one might, with advantage, secure a few of the more recent introductions when such positions are available. Failing this, it is advisable to divide up existing varieties frequently and transfer them to fresh soil, where, planted at a distance of from 4 feet to 5 feet apart, they form handsome specimens.

Potato sets

It is advisable to stand these edgewise in boxes in order that the eyes may become green and strong—all possible seed should be treated in this way—but not everyone possesses sufficient room in frost-proof structures to enable them to carry this out, and to such I would advise the use of a cold frame which can be safely protected from frost by generous covering.

Early Potatoes

A few rows of May Queen, Webb's Express, or Witch Hill Early may be planted on a warm and well-drained border, but avoid large plantings for the present. The rows should be 2 feet apart and 1 foot between the sets.

Asparagus beds

These should now be lightly forked over and the alleys shaped and cleaned, after which a light dressing of agricultural salt may be given. Further batches of roots should be introduced to the forcing-house, as the earlier-forced roots show signs of exhaustion. Roots for this purpose are usually grown on the flat and are liberally fed.

Winter-flowering Begonias

A few cuttings are now available, and no time should be lost in getting them inserted in sandy soil in the propagating frame. Where extra large specimens are desirable a few of the cleanest and healthiest of the old plants may be shaken out and potted into fresh soil.

Gloxinias

After potting into fresh soil place further batches in gentle heat. This also applies to Hippeastrums. E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Brussels Sprouts in late districts

In many of our later districts no reliance can be placed on outdoor-raised plants of this popular winter vegetable, because, unless the season is an exceptionally fine one, they have no time to mature, and it is only waste of time and ground to attempt to grow them. Even by sowing in autumn there is always the risk that these either get damaged in a hard winter or else "bolt" during summer. To avoid disappointment the best plan is to sow now in boxes and set in a gentle warmth, the seedlings, when fit to handle, being pricked into a bed of sweet compost under a cold frame. In this way fine plants are fit for their permanent quarters during May.

Maincrop Brassicas

If not yet sown, the very first opportunity must be seized to get in full sowings of Cabbage, Cauliflower, Savoy, Curled Greens, Russian Kale, and autumn Broccoli. Select a sunny border where the soil is not unduly rich. Shallow drills 12 inches apart are best, and the seeds should be scattered evenly and rather thinly, first coating with red lead to prevent the birds devouring them.

Maincrop Leeks

These, too, should be sown at the very first chance. The soil need not be very rich, as this crop has to be transplanted later, and then a very rich site can be provided.

Onions

Unless these can be got in now there is really little use in attempting to cultivate this crop by sowing out of doors in spring. While "Onion sets" seldom produce a really good crop, they are, at the same time, very suitable for early use, being large enough for flavouring purposes long before even the autumn-sown batch is ready.

Sprouting Potatoes

Even Maincrop and late varieties are better for being "sprouted" before being planted, so it is now time to have these boxed and set in a light place so that they may undergo this process. Under the stages of a c greenhouse is an excellent spot for the p pose, but the boxes must not be near h water pipes. Any light position, however, not too warm and safe from frost, will equally well.

Beans and Peas

At time of writing, the whole country lying under snow and ice, so it is more th likely that in many gardens even the fi sowing of these has yet to be got in. Unc present conditions this is just as well, even the best seeds cannot be too comfo able lying under this cold carpet. Clima conditions, however, change so suddenly th by the time this is printed a favourable sp may have set in, so, if it has, get these t important crops sown without delay.

Rose planting

Although I have planted Roses quite su cessfully as late as March 15th it is very u desirable to defer such important work un that date, so if at all possible get any arrea wiped off at once. Prune the bushes befo planting or immediately afterwards.

New herbaceous borders

Even on heavy soils, should the weather fine and the ground in working order, a necessary planting of perennials should nc be carried out. Where at all possible sel a fresh site for such borders, and apply a f dressing of well-rotted manure or we decayed garden refuse, double-digging trenching some little time in advance, so th it may be nicely settled down. If it has be necessary to delay preparation of the bord until now it will be advisable to tread t whole down before starting to plant. Do n plant while the soil is wet, or much har will result.

Increasing Dahlias

This is done in three ways—by seed, division, and by cuttings. If sown at on in a fairly brisk heat seeds may be employe while, by dividing the old stools shortly aft they start into growth, good plants a secured, every shoot having a tuber attache being suitable for the purpose. Place pots just large enough to comfortably ho the roots. Where a large number of vari ties true to colour are required cuttings a the only satisfactory method by which th can be accomplished. Secure sturdy (not u duly stout) shoots from 3 inches to 4 inch long, endeavouring to get a "heel" wi each cutting. Insert firmly in pots filled wi sandy compost, and plunge in a gentle h bed or propagating case. Though, naturall they take longer, the cuttings will eventua root standing on a moist bottom in a war house or pit.

Streptocarpus

The modern types of this plant are, trul among the very best of our greenhou plants, few others blooming over such a lo period. If seeds were sown in January t seedlings should now be fit for pricking o In their earlier stages they are almost delicate as are Begonias, and similar tre ment will suit both until ready for potti off.

Late-flowering Chrysanthemums

As the later cuttings become well root have them potted off singly into $3\frac{1}{2}$-inch 4-inch pots of good, fresh compost. Retu to same temperature for a week or two b fore moving to a cold frame. Earlier batch should now be in the frames, this pla thriving best under cool treatment.

C. Blair.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

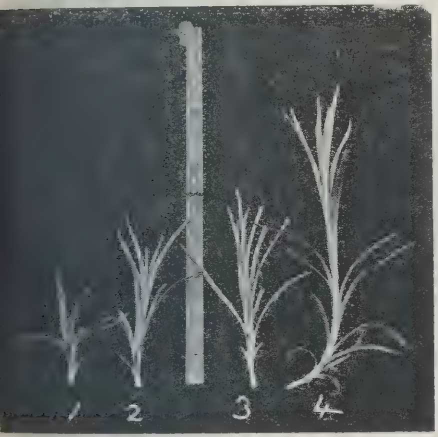
Perpetual Carnations

THERE was comment recently in Covent Garden Market on the scarcity of good Carnations, but this is a normal state of fairs during such weather; yet, like the eather itself when seasonable, it is not ways taken as a matter of course.

The past winter—or at least, happily, arly past—has not been abnormally sunss, but what sun we have had has been insfficient for most winter-blooming plants. ne Carnation being a sun-loving plant turally opens slowly under such conditions, d if the trade growers who cultivate wers for their living find them short there little wonder that the amateur grower is fected in the same way.

It is not good policy to try and force Carntions, and far better to let Nature have r way by allowing the plants to grow at eir own pace in a temperature not much ceeding 50 degs., with ventilators open a tle in normal weather. During exceptional eriods, such as continued through the exssive cold of February 10th to 17th, temerature must, of course, drop, and it is likely at the majority of Carnation-houses stood low as 40 degs. at this time.

Despite outward appearances, however, we re on the threshold of the most busy season f the year. The immediate work to be aken in hand, if not already completed, is he mixing of compost to pot off young plants nd rooted cuttings. This should be mixed vell in advance of the time required, for it is bviously not good policy to take cold soil rom outside, as the tender young roots will ot take kindly to such. The best method s to bring the compost under glass and allow he sun to warm it at this time of year. The ompost should never be wet when used, or, ndeed, moist enough to adhere to the fingers.



Good and bad types of cuttings

2 and 3 are good; 1 and 4 are unsuitable and bad

To pot rooted cuttings a good compost is oam chopped fine two-thirds proportion of he whole, equal proportions of leaf-soil and and one-third, with a 7-inch or 8-inch potful f wood-ash or burnt bonfire refuse added to he barrowload of soil. This gives a light nd open compost suitable for the rooted cuttings. This first potting behoves one to take are to see that the cuttings are not potted leeply, rather less than ½ inch being suffiient. As I have mentioned before, deep otting is fruitful of stem-rot, and is often he origin of it.

Whether one uses a 2-inch or a 3-inch pot or the rooted cuttings is of little importance, xcept that until the middle of March they ecome established more quickly in the 2-inch ot, and after the end of March the 3-inch pot is a little more permanent and satisfactory than the smaller size.

Care should be taken to see that sun does not shine directly on recently potted cuttings. Sheets of paper spread over them are useful for this purpose.

CUTTINGS. — Succeeding generations of Carnation growers are always puzzled as to the best time of year to take their cuttings. Many old gardeners prefer the autumn-struck one, but the resulting young plant needs such care and so light and airy a position in the house that I always think the March-rooted cutting is the amateur's best friend. He can usually select better cuttings at this date which root more quickly and may be grown without a check with greater facility. It is the quickly grown plant which scores in the end and is less likely to go hard. Now, then, is therefore the time to get busy to put cuttings in, and the pure, clean sand is the best medium in which to root them.

Side shoots show freely on healthy plants in March—unhealthy plants should not be propagated from—and these, after being put into the sand, should be watered in. A good method for the amateur is to half-fill a pot with crocks, then complete with sand. The cuttings are dibbed in ½ inch apart and made firm. Placed in a clean propagating frame with a bottom warmth of about 60 degs. they root in about three weeks. If shaded (as is necessary) they require little water during this period. When rooted they should be removed from the propagating frame for a few days to harden off ere they are potted as above.

The March duties of the Carnation grower are among his keenest pleasures, for he realises that winter has at last gone, and it is a pleasure reserved for the practical worker in a practical way. LAURENCE J. COOK.

Bush Hill Park.

VEGETABLES

Celeriac

THE amateur seldom gives this serviceable vegetable consideration when selecting his seeds for spring sowing.

It is somewhat strange that this should be so, because it involves less trouble in its culture than Celery itself, and forms an acceptable dish when cooked, or even used in salad. It seems to be left to gardeners on the Continent to grow it in anything like quantity. Known also as the Turnip-rooted Celery, it is in prime condition from October until about April, and should be left in the soil and lifted as required, as—like Parsnips—the flavour improves more thus, than when it is stored. In cold heavy soils, however, it is sometimes necessary to get the roots up in autumn, otherwise they rot away. To have the best from Celeriac, a long season of growth is necessary, and in its early stages it should be treated precisely like Celery by sowing seed in pans or boxes of light soil in gentle heat, pricking off the plants when ready, and after hardening off, planting out of doors in May or at the latest, in June.

While it is acknowledged that to grow good Celery one ought to be prepared with trenches well manured, and the subsequent earthing up of the plants, Celeriac needs no such preparation, as although the soil needs to be light and rich, there is no occasion to go to the trouble of digging out a trench.

To plant on the level is the rule, and if ground is dug over and in it is incorporated light sandy compost, *e.g.*, old potting material to lighten it if heavy, and a little old manure dug in, this will go a long way towards ensuring a good crop. Work of this character is best performed in the late autumn or winter. Before planting Celeriac out in their final quarters, the bed must be raked and levelled and made quite firm, and in choosing the aspect for the bed, preference ought to be given to one in a south position.

In one respect the after culture of Celeriac is similar to that of Celery, in that it requires an abundance of water in a dry season, and to the uninitiated it may be observed that the edible portions are the "chumps," or axis of the plants, which are used for cooking. These are delicious when stewed and served with white sauce.

London or Rosette Colewort

Although by no means a novelty, this valuable Cabbage is far from being as well known as it deserves to be. The market gardeners around London plant great quantities. Plenty of private gardeners at the present time would be glad of a breadth of Coleworts to cut from, and it is quite certain there is nothing to surpass them in the way of greens. The seed should be sown not later than the end of May, and the plants put out whenever there are any vacant plots ready for them. They may be disposed about 12 inches apart each way, and, provided the ground is good, all will form neat and serviceable heads. Hill's Dwarf Incomparable Cabbage requires but little more room than a Colewort, and this, too, may well be given a trial.

Yellow Tomatoes

It is said that "demand creates supply" and in the case of yellow Tomatoes there is little demand. Why this should be has always been a puzzle, as they are quite as easy to grow as red, and, in my judgment, more acceptable in salads, being of a more "fruity" nature. Last year I sent from my own raising samples to friends who grow the red varieties exclusively, and who expressed their satisfaction after having them with other salads. Possibly my action secured converts, for several intend to grow them another year. One of the best of the yellows is Golden Queen, an old sort that is worthy of being largely grown by those who are open for a change. Sunbeam too is an ideal yellow variety. If seed is sown in the warmth of a greenhouse in February, other things satisfactory, plants will crop by July—as mine did last season. W. F.

Export of Cornish Broccoli

Until about three years ago the Broccoli produced in Cornwall was grown from local seed, and a large proportion did not produce the firm white curds which distinguish the best types. During the last few years, however, a considerable amount of seed of superior strains of Broccoli has been obtained on the suggestion and through the agency of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Cornish Broccoli of these superior strains is now equal to the best, and is, therefore, likely to find a satisfactory market in Germany and Belgium. The Cornwall County Education Authority, the Cornwall Branch of the National Farmers' Union and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, acting in collaboration, have drawn up a scheme for applying the National Mark (the same mark as is being used for home-produced eggs) to export consignments and for ensuring that only the best shall carry it. Regulations in regard to grading have been issued under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1928, and National Mark labels in French and German have been designed and issued. It is not known to what extent the growers will find it remunerative to export, but they will certainly test the possibilities. This interesting and enterprising experiment in marketing will be watched with interest throughout the country.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

GREENHOUSE

Potting Azaleas and Cyclamens

When is the best time for potting into fresh soil Azaleas and corms of Cyclamen to carry on through the summer in a cold house and induce growth for flowering indoors next season? Should Cyclamen ever be allowed to dry off, and is bone-meal suitable for mixing with rather poor earth when repotting?

(Miss) F. Mordaunt.

[Azaleas, when they require repotting, should have this attention, after blooming, while corms of Cyclamen should be potted in July. It is best to gradually dry these off, a good plan being to place the pots on an ash bottom, at the north side of a wall, and as soon as the leaves begin to turn yellow, to turn them on their sides, which prevents rain wetting the soil. As soon as the leaves are thoroughly ripened the repotting may be carried out.]

Primula stellata

(L. S. O.).—We have made a microscopic examination of your specimen and have ascertained that the spotting is due to an attack of a piercing mouthed insect, probably Aphis or White Fly. We can get no further than this because we failed to find any of the culprits. If they were on the leaf when it left you they must have escaped in the post. Have a look over your plants and try and discover the pest. If you fail send us several leaves packed in an air-tight tin or small glass tube. If we can find out the pest we should be in a position to advise you as to control measures.

Primula obconica

(F. A. W.).—The Heliotrope sent for examination is affected with Botrytis, and it seems to us more than likely that the trouble with your Primula obconica arises from the Heliotrope. Go over the Heliotrope carefully and remove all dead growth and keep the foliage dusted with Flowers of Sulphur for a time. If this or similar treatment was carried out it should clear the Heliotrope of the Botrytis. It appears from your remark about the slime on the pots that perhaps the ventilation of the house is not too good. The air should circulate through the house so that the damper portions are dried out better. We maintain that under good conditions Botrytis should not be really troublesome, but there seems to be no reasonable doubt that the fungus lives on the Heliotrope all the year round and attacks the Primulas in season.

Cyclamen diseased

(W. G. P.).—Your Cyclamen are too badly affected with disease to be worth keeping for another year. You should either raise from seed or purchase a batch of seedlings for next year and grow them under cooler conditions.

Lachenalias for examination

(F. W., Kent).—The bulbs have been carefully examined. In every instance the roots are poorly developed. In one of the largest bulbs various fungi have found a way in and set up decay, and in some of the others the basal plate appears to be attacked by a fungus, but there is no clear evidence that the fungus was the first cause of the trouble. Everything points to some fault in the cultivation rather than to the attack of any particular disease.

FLOWER GARDEN

Plants required

I am very desirous of obtaining a plant of each of the following. They do not appear to be in commerce, but I think it possible some of your readers may possess them and be willing to exchange or sell:—Dracocephalum grandiflorum, Arenaria Gothica, A. parnassica, Felicia rotundifolia, Dianthus striatiflorus, Ruscus hermaphroditus, Veronica Coxii.

T. L.

12, Morden Road,
Stechford, Birmingham.

[Dracocephalum grandiflorum is offered by Mons. H. Correvon, Floraire, Chenebourg, Geneva, Switzerland, at 2 franc 50. Ruscus hermaphroditus, we believe, is not in the trade, and the only owner of it we know is Mr. E. A. Bowles, of Myddelton House, Enfield. We do not know if he would entertain an exchange. Veronica Coxii does not appear in any reference book on the genus, not even in the New Zealand ones; the nearest we find are V. Cookiana and V. Cockayniana. Messrs. Ingwersen, of Birch Farm, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead, can supply both Arenaria gothica and A. parnassica, and list the latter under the synonym of Alsine parnassica. Dianthus striatiflorus is a hybrid of D. barbatus, near D. Atkinsonii, but with plain pink flowers and the same bad constitution, and is not, we think, obtainable at present. The right name for Felicia rotundifolia is Agathea rotundifolia, and under that name you can easily procure seeds of it from any of the big seed firms, though it is possible that they list it as Agathea cœlestis.]

Types of Dahlias

("Ban Na Pol").—A Cactus Dahlia is quite double, the petals being long and narrow, sometimes incurved, but as often quite straight, while a Decorative has broad petals of no particular form, the fact being that "decorative" has no defined meaning when applied to the Dahlia. In this class are many huge flowers and also many rather small and dainty. A Pæony Dahlia differs from a decorative, chiefly because it is semi-double only, but the petals are also nearly flat and somewhat uneven in length and form.

Border flowers

I have an old Yew hedge about 7 feet high and 30 yards long by the side of a tennis lawn facing S.E. Between it and the grass there is a border about 1 yard wide. The soil is good, but it is difficult to grow anything satisfactorily there. There is a ro
Grape Hyacinths that does well, but I
some flower that would grow alongside
Yew and would give a good colour in
summer after the Grape Hyacinths
finished.

E. A. O. Traver

[It is not every plant that will thriv
such a position, but if the soil be well
and a little well-rotted manure worked
it some of the dwarf Dahlias—Coltness
and its hybrids—should bloom all r
Then the intermediate Antirrhinums o
to do quite well. Early-flowering Ch
anthemums are not at all fastidious, ar
few of these would brighten things from
summer right through the autumn mont

Hyacinths tall and thin

("Winton").—No doubt the fact
the Hyacinths having been gr
in such large pots has a good
to do with the unusual length they h
attained. It is a mistake to use such h
receptacles. Three bulbs will do well i
6-inch pot. It looks, also, as if undue for
has been carried out. Especially at first,
very moderate warmth should be given
plant.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Plants arriving in frosty weather

What is the proper method to follow
one has a large lot of hedging plants ar
in very frosty weather? A large quantity
Privet Oval, Laurels, and Thorn arr
here on February 11th in about 12 degs
frost and a very cold wind. In my abse
the gardener employed planted them all
quickly as possible in trenches and holes
had dug a month before. Do you think
plants will live, and can anything be d
now to assist them to recover? Soil is li
and sandy. I am told the plants ought
have been put in a good shed, without
doing the mats and wrappings, and allo
to remain until the weather was suitable
planting, even if for several weeks.

"Frost.

[It was certainly risky planting these
jects during frosty weather, more especi
as the trenches and holes had been prepa
some time in advance. Had the holes,
been opened and the plants put in at o
but small risk would have been run,
even as it is, all three subjects being q
hardy it is possible that the bulk of th
will survive. There is really nothing
can be done, as we gather the planting
somewhat extensive. Had it been a case
but a few plants a good plan would h
been to give a little protection with Spr
or Pine branches so as to prevent a too r
thaw. As it is, when the frost is quite
of the ground go over all the plants and tr
down the soil firmly all round them. W
hardy shrubs or plants of any kind ar
during frost it is certainly best not to
pack, but set in a quite cool shed or c
until the frost disappears.]

The Warratah

Can you give me some cultural infor
tion about the Warratah plant (Telo
speciosissima)? Can it be raised from s
and, if so, where can I obtain same? S
time ago I met a man who assured me he
seen it growing upon the uplands of Austr
which were affected by frost, so it occur
to me that it might be possible to succ
with it in the open here in a sheltered p
tion; on the other hand I am equally
assured it can only be grown in a gr
house in this country.

Canterbury. Percy Underwoo

[Telopea speciosissima comes from N
South Wales. It grows well at Ludgvan F
tory, near Penzance, Marazion, and Tres

cilly Isles, but Kent has too cold a winter, ow and then, for it. Treseder, The urseries, Truro, may have young plants.]

VEGETABLES

omato growing

(R. Gibbs).—Your best plan will be to purhase the book "Commercial Tomato Culure," by the Lea Valley Correspondent at s. 6d., from this office, postage 2d. extra. he synopsis of the contents is as follows. hoice of site, Structure of Houses, Venilating and Heating, Preparation of Borders, Ianual Treatment, Soil Sterilisation, Proagating, Planting and Stoking, General ulture, Control of Common Diseases, rimming and Tying, Clearing and Cleaning of Houses, Picking, Packing and Gradng, Organisation of Labour. It is impossible o give any answer as to how many pounds er plant you could produce, so much deends upon variety, soil, and the grower. As o the best type of house, you should conult our advert. columns and write to several irms asking for details of their Tomato ouses. Any good firm can be relied upon to ive you value for money.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

topping Chrysanthemums

Please tell me in which months to stop pecimen Japanese Chrysanthemums: R. C. ulling, Peace, F. J. Flemming, Miss D. L. thron, Dr. A. M. Inglis, Majestic, Francis olliffe, Captain Fox, Edith Cavell, Louise ockett, and Mona Davis.

Boxmoor. REGULAR READER.

[R. C. Pulling (natural break), Peace natural break), Mrs. F. J. Flemming (first veek in May), Miss D. L. Athron (natural reak), Dr. A. M. Inglis (mid April), Majesic (first week in May), Francis Jolliffe natural break), Captain Fox (third week in Iay), Edith Cavell (natural break), Louise ockett (natural break), Mona Davis (end of pril).]

MISCELLANEOUS

Vild birds

I shall be glad to know of the best food o give wild birds? The small ones like at and cocoanut, but what do blackbirds ike best? M. I. Y.

[During hard frosty weather birds re not so particular as to their food abits. Their own natural supply being or the time non-existent, they have to be ontent with what they can find. Blackbirds eed to a very great extent on wild and culivated fruits as well as slugs, snails, inects and worms. We have always found hat blackbirds and thrushes feed well on craps of bread and meat during a period of ard frost. They appreciate bacon rind cut nto small pieces. In certain districts bird ife suffers very much from thirst during ard weather and a shallow pan of drinking ater is very much appreciated. As you say, he small birds are fond of fat and cocoanut, lump of suet is especially relished.]

Ioist Potpourri

Can you through your paper tell me a ood recipe for making moist pot-pourri? shall be grateful. J. T.

[This enquiry has been submitted to Miss ekyll, who kindly replies:—

Potpourri.—The ingredients are princially Rose petals, Lavender, and the leaves f Sweet Geranium, Sweet Verbena and Bay. nything of a lasting sweet scent can be dded, such as shavings or sawdust of pencil edar. Then a mixture of bay salt and common salt, and Spices, both whole and in powder. The Roses are gathered when it is quite dry and had not rained the day before; the petals are pulled off and laid out to get half dry, so that they are leathery and have shrunk to half their bulk. They are put into a glazed jar about two handfuls at a time, pressed down tightly and covered with a good sprinkling of the salt mixture, and left till the next picking, covered with a piece of wood or anything convenient with a weight on the top. The Sweet Geranium leaves are torn up and partly dried in the same way before being pressed and salted. Bay leaves, Sweet Verbena and Lavender flowers are all of a drier nature and can be put straight into the jar without drying, but all alike are salted and pressed. The Spice mixture.—Violet powder, Cloves, Allspice, Mace, all ground, some whole Cloves and Mace, Gum Benzoin and Gum Styrax ground; the Violet powder predominating. This is all mixed together and the quantity should be enough to give a thin powdery coating to the whole of the material when this is mixed. At the final mixing the mass in the jar is broken up and poured through the hands, the Spice mixture being thrown on by degrees. The whole is then thoroughly mixed; when done it should feel just damp. It is then ready to be put into any jars or bowls in which it is to remain.]

Families of cultivated plants

(Swanley Student).—The most useful work for your purpose is the recently published book, "The Families of Flowering Plants," by J. Hutchinson, of the Herbarium, Kew; Macmillan and Co., 20s. In this work the families of Dicotyledons are traced step by step from one family or group to another. The work, which is on somewhat original lines, is provided with an analytical key, a good index, and is freely illustrated by clear line drawings.

SHORT REPLY

Halcombe, North Ireland.—We cannot find a single offer of seeds of the Acanthus species you want, but plants are offered as under:—Messrs. Wells, Junr., Merstham, Surrey, offer Acanthus spinosus at 9d. each, *plus* packing and carriage charges. Mons. Henri Correvon, Floraire, Chenebourg, Geneva, Switzerland, is the only firm we know offering Acanthus spinosissimus at 75 centimes, Swiss, *plus* packing and postage.

NAMES OF PLANTS

W. G. P.—2, Probably Cotoneaster horizontalis; 3, Pyracantha Lelandii (not a Cotoneaster); 4, Eccremocarpus scaber, an annual climber which will winter in the open in the most favoured position only, such as the foot of a south wall, but quite a success for summer use in the open.

J. N. B.—The large-leaved kind is undoubtedly Escallonia macrantha, and the small leaf may be E. exoniensis, but, to determine this, flowers are necessary.

ENQUIRY

Primula Marchioness of Exeter and its pink sport

I shall be glad to hear if any readers know of the above Primula and to know if it still exists to-day. It used to be wellgrown in the Guildford and Godalming districts in the early nineties. The Marchioness was a most glorious double white, but the pink sport to my mind was not quite such a good doer. Six of the grandest plants I ever saw were shown at the Guildford show by a Mr. Powell. The judges were so impressed by their culture that they gave a National Award. It was propagated in the same way as the old Primula alba plena, which also seems to be lost sight of. I was told that the Marchioness was raised by a Mr. Gilbert in the Midlands. This I cannot verify anyway. Any information as to its existence will be welcome, as it is many years since I last saw it. The habit is all one could wish for. B. NASH.

The Grange, Sutton, Surrey.

Report of condition of horticultural crops on February 28th, 1929

Broccoli (spring hearting).—Much damaged by frost, especially with the earlier maturing varieties. Some damage reported on Cornish crop.

Broccoli (sprouting).—Some damage by frost in most counties. No damage reported from Cornwall where crops are up to average.

Cabbage (autumn planted). — Badly damaged by frost.

Cabbage (autumn planted for greens).—Badly damaged by frost and drying winds.

Cucumbers (under glass).—Good generally but plants drawn in some cases by hard firing and lack of sun.

French Beans (forced). — Satisfactory. Early crop prospects reported below average in Sussex.

Lettuce (frame).—Somewhat below average.

Mint (forced).—Satisfactory generally.

Radishes (forced).—Good.

Rhubarb (forced).—Satisfactory supplies.

Rhubarb (natural).—Very backward, in fact crowns have hardly started, and crop will probably be late.

Sea Kale (forced).—Supplies up to average.

Spinach.—Winter crop damaged by weather.

Tomatoes (under glass).—Plants retarded by weather conditions.

Anemones.—Some damage by weather. Flower bud production slow in Cornwall. Fair prospects in the Scilly Isles.

Arum Lilies.—Badly cut by frost in Cornwall. Satisfactory in heated houses in Sussex and Hertfordshire.

Carnations, perpetual (under glass).—Flowering up to average.

Daffodils and Narcissi (indoor).—Cornwall. Average though not as free flowering as last year; in Scillies late varieties promise a full crop, others finished.

Daffodils and Narcissi (outdoor).—Backward; prospects for a late crop are good. Poeticus varieties promise a full crop in the Scilly Isles.

Hyacinths (forced).—Average crop.

Tulips (forced).—Satisfactory flowers.

Violets.—Satisfactory in Hertfordshire and Middlesex. Badly cut by weather in Cornwall and Sussex.

Wallflowers. — Severely damaged by weather.

Mimuluses

These have been so much improved of late years that they are deserving of extended cultivation, being exceedingly showy and very enduring. With plenty of water and partial shade they will continue blooming for months. For the embellishment of slightly shaded windows we know of few things more telling and useful than these; they are at home either in pots or baskets in a good, rather light, loamy soil. Some of the kinds are very curious, having hose-in-hose flowers, and the majority of the different varieties are rich in colour and very varied in the character of their quaint markings.

OBITUARY

THE LATE MR. S. M. SEGAR

An Appreciation

Mr. S. M. Segar, of Messrs. Wills and Segar, South Kensington, London, passed away recently at a ripe old age. Mr. R. F. Felton writes:—"The horticultural and floral world has lost an example which all who are interested in either branch may well try to emulate. Forty years ago he laid the foundations of the great plant and floral decorative industry of which he was undoubtedly the pioneer. Personally, I have known him intimately for just upon 40 years, and any small attainments of mine are directly due to his early influence and friendly counsel. His love of plants and the cultivation of them in his young days fitted him for the great decorative work in which he was destined to become a master-hand. The present generation of florists are reaping the reward of the seeds which were sown by this great man. It is a comfort to know that he has left two worthy sons to carry on the work."

Ley Hunter's Manual

To all who feel any interest in how the inhabitants of this island lived in prehistoric times, to those interested in word meanings, and to all out-of-doors people who like to have an object in their tramps, "The Ley Hunter's Manual"* will appeal. The word "ley" is used to describe the old straight tracks of. the men of the Stone Age. Mr. Watkins makes out a very good case for his theory that such things were necessary and did exist, and although he advances quite new theories, he proves his case.

Briefly, his idea is that some things, such as salt and flints, had to be fetched in some districts from long distances by prehistoric men, and so they marked the most direct routes (*i.e.*, the straight ones, or leys) to the places where the necessities were obtainable by mounds, mark-stones, beacons, notches in hills, trees, and ponds in alignment, and that some of these alignment marks, or traces of them, still exist.

This book suggests what the novice in search of leys should look for, how to discover the position of the tracks by place names, map work, field work, and a suggestion for aeroplane work. It contains a list of proved leys and a good index, and the illustrations, although awkwardly arranged, are excellent. A good, handy text-book on a fascinating out-of-doors subject.

---

* "The Ley Hunter's Manual," by Alfred Watkins. Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.; 2s.

LATE REPLY

Gladioli corms to flower in October

(A. C.).—Not knowing the varieties, it is hardly possible to advise as to treatment, in general, for inducing these plants to bloom at a stated time. Some are naturally early bloomers, others, if planted out-of-doors about the end of April would bloom in October. If you have named varieties, any good catalogue would tell you whether any particular variety were early, medium or late. The only thing to retard the flowering period is to keep the corms in a cool dry place, until, say, the end of April, and after planting in the boxes, set these on the north side of the wall. Under these artificial conditions, no one can really say when any particular sort would bloom. Under ordinary cultivation the Gladioli requires fom five to six months from time of planting until the flowers open.

Wisley Trials

The Royal Horticultural Society will c
out trials of early-flowering Chrysanthem
and of perennial Gaillardias in their gard
at Wisley during the coming season. T
plants of each variety for trial should re
the Director (addressed to him at R.
Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey; Rail
Station, Horsley, Southern Railway) on
before April 6th, 1929. The necessary e
forms will be sent on application to
Director.

Transplanting large trees and shrubs

Owing to unforeseen changes it often
comes necessary to shift large and es
lished specimens, and many are the lo
unless special precautions are taken, esp
ally among evergreens; but if the head
such trees, shrubs, and also the
branches are reduced to nearly half t
original length a large percentage will
vive. Many regret this sacrifice of foli
but it pays in the end and it is surprising
quickly most things recover. May is the
and accepted time for planting Hollies, B
boos, etc., but if treated as above we w
not hesitate to move such things at any t
during the winter, as the month of Ma
too precious for such work in private gard

Prick-off Begonias

The earlier, in reason, the tiny seedl
are pricked off the earlier will they blo
and one is always anxious to have t
plants flower the first season, so that the
may be marked for growing under gl
while the poorer forms are retained
bedding purposes. It is rather a ted
business, but as the smallest and latest s
lings are frequently the very best, it is es
tial that every one be grown on unti
blooms, and so proves its value, or otherw

SEEDS of Hardy Plants, Trees and Shrubs

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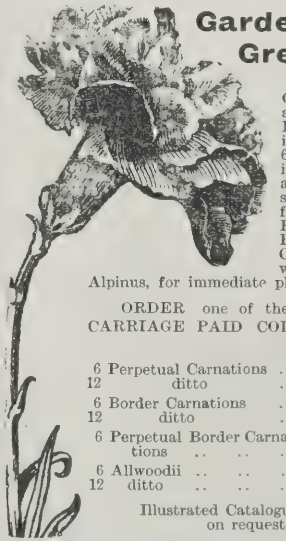

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12 ditto	12 6	

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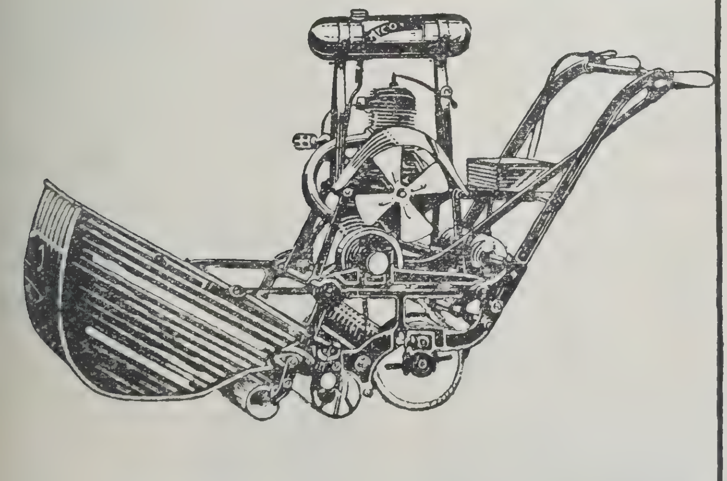

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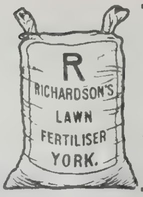

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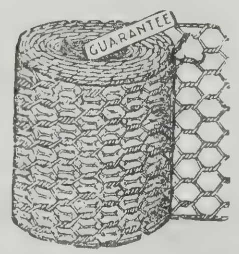

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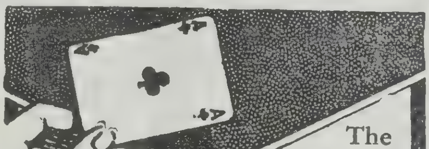

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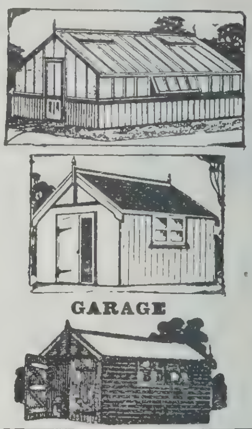

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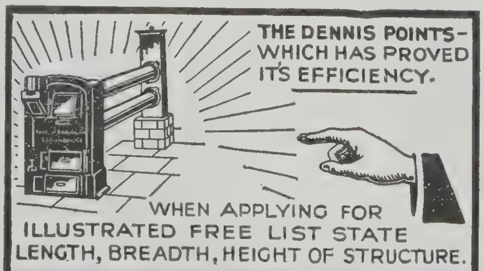

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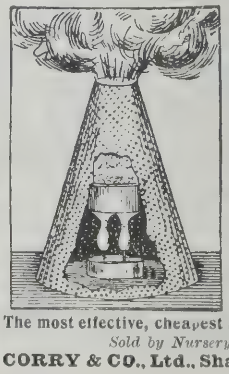

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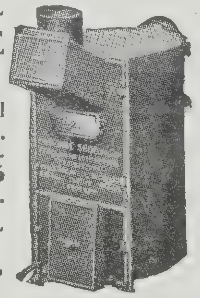

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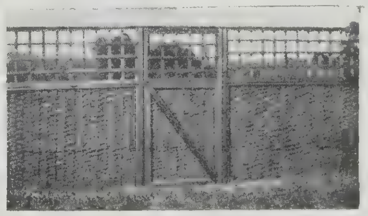

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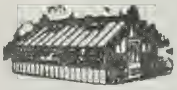

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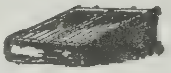

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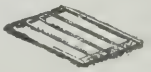

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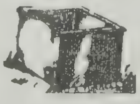

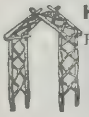

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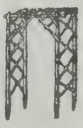

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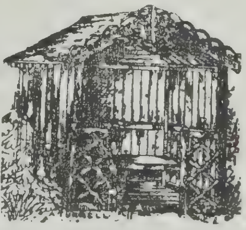

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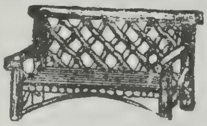

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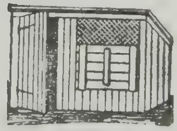

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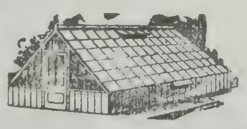

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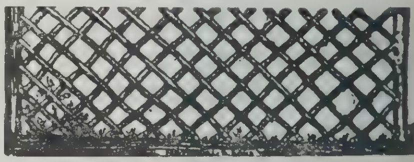

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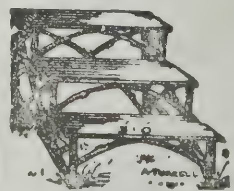

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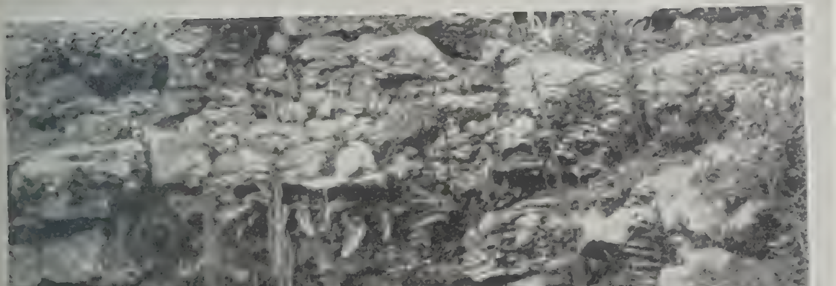

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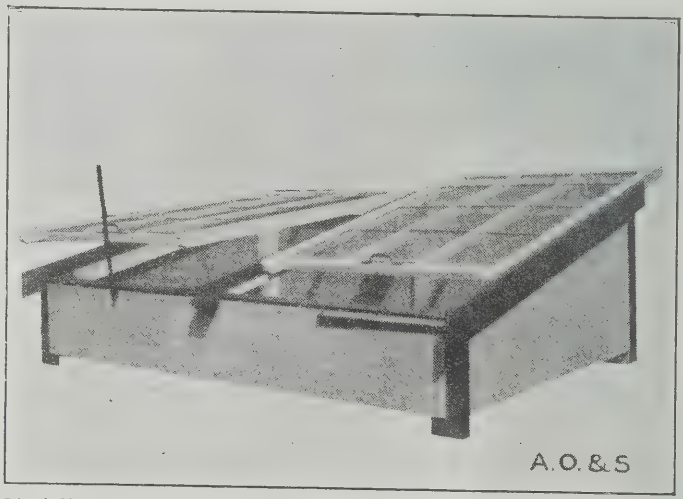

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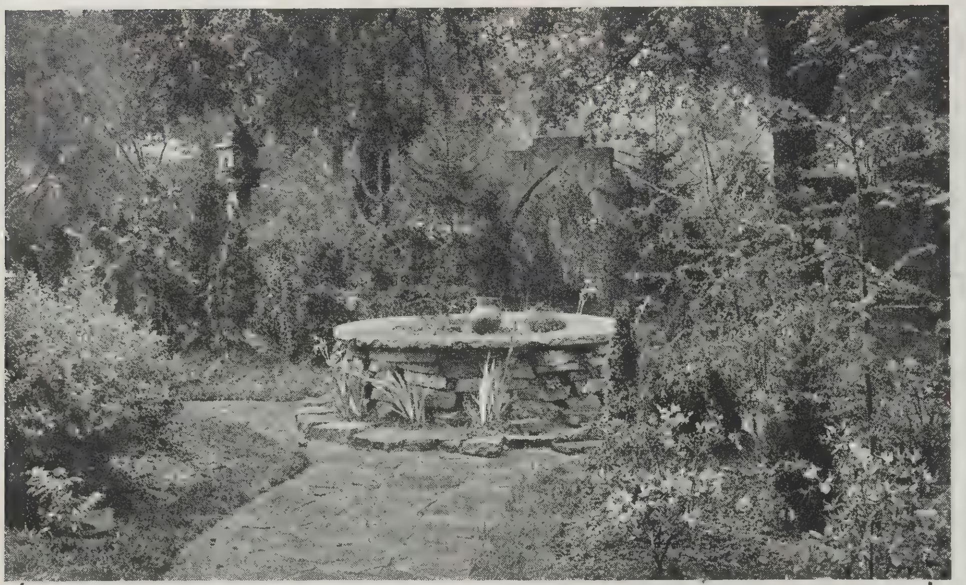

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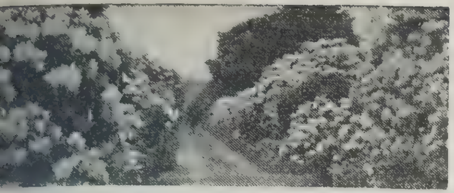

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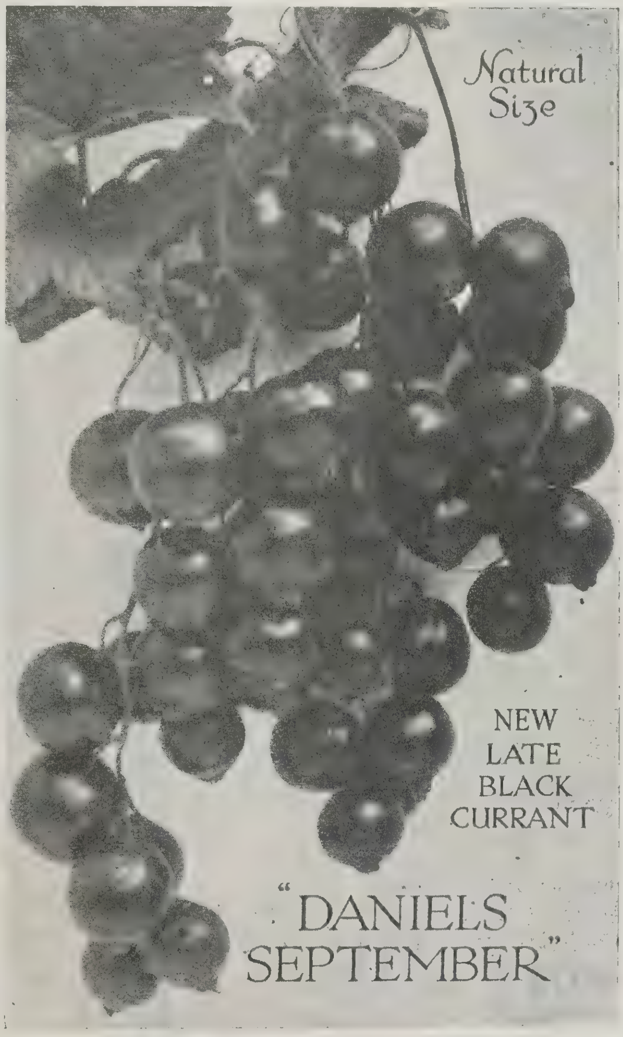

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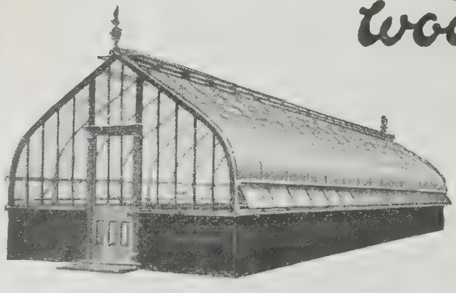

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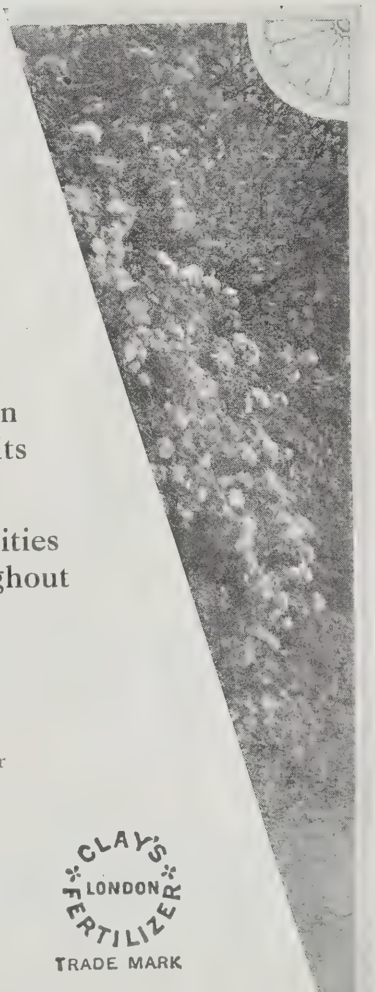

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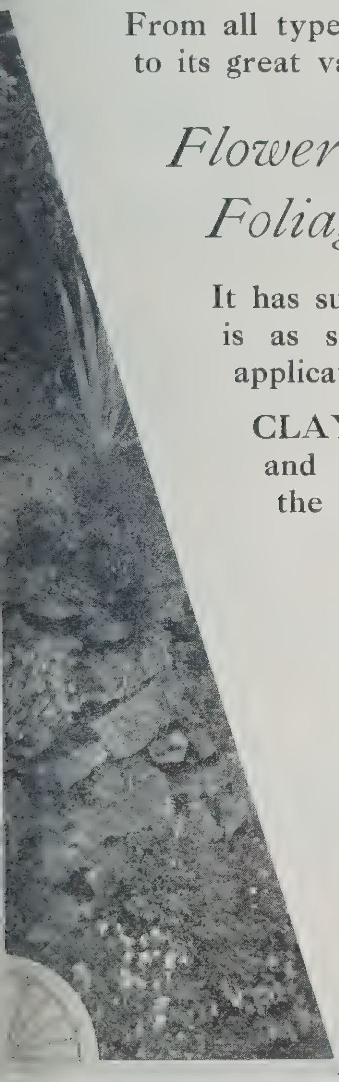

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WORLD'S GREATEST BARGAINS

PRINS

TRUDEL GROTZ—The finest Show Flower.

CALYSTEGIA PUBESCENS

very rare, but most beautiful, trailing plant, producing an undance of magnificent very full double rose-pink flowers. he best and finest thing to cover old walls, decayed fences, nd bare back-grounds. The green creeping foliage covers e entire wall. It may also be planted in the centre of the arden, where it will creep up against a pole and the mass blooms will give a most glorious sight all through the summer. **1/-** per dozen, **6/-** per 100.

rders up to 10/- include 9d. for carriage; from 0/- to 20/-, 1/-; orders over 20/- carriage paid.

ur FREE BOOK "GLADIOLILAND" sent on request.

OUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee every Bulb or Plant that leaves our Farms to be just as represented. All Bulbs will be of the same high standard we have supplied during the many years we have been in business. All our Bulbs are grown on our *own* Holland Farms, and are selected with the most scrupulous care, and better cannot be obtained.

OUR FAMOUS GLADIOLI COLLECTIONS

Awarded Silver Cup and numerous Gold and Silver Medals.

500 GLADIOLI in 10 varieties **16/-** carriage paid | **250** GLADIOLI in 5 varieties **8/6** carriage paid

Each year we sell thousands of these Collections, and have received numerous testimonials

OUR SPECIAL EXHIBITION MIXTURE OF GOLD MEDAL GLADIOLUS

This mixture has been specially grown and prepared by our expert, who makes those perfect blendings of colours in our famous groups. These bulbs have been known in many cases to produce spikes 20 inches and over, and are of real exhibiting value. **1/-** per dozen; **5/-** per 100; **45/-** per 1,000.

NEW INTRODUCTIONS OF GLADIOLI:—

LADY BOREEL, very distinct rose pink with a dark centre, 2/6 per doz.

SALMON BEAUTY, very large flower. Prim. deep salmon, **1/-** each, **10/-** per dozen.

TRUDEL GROTZ, extra large, salmon pink, **9d.** each, **8/-** per doz.

FRAU DR. HAUFF, brightest scarlet, **5d.** each, **4/-** per doz.

LARGE FLOWERING GLADIOLI

	Per dozen.	Per 100.
America, fine pink	1/6	8/-
Baron Jos. Hulot, blue	1/3	7/-
Corry, light blue	2/-	13/-
Empress of India, red	1/3	8/-
Dawn, salmon pink	2/-	10/-
Flaming Sword, scarlet	1/-	7/-
Halley, salmon pink	1/-	6/-
Prince of Wales, salmon	1/-	6/-
Rose Precose, pale pink	2/-	12/-
Schwaben, the largest and finest pure yellow ...	1/6	10/-
Sympathie, white	1/6	8/-
Venus, white	1/6	8/-

1 of each of above, 12 in all, for 1/-
5 „ „ „ 60 „ „ „ 4/-
10 „ „ „ 120 „ „ „ 8/-

PRIMULINUS GLADIOLUS

	Per dozen.	Per 100.
Athalia, the most magnificent brilliant scarlet red	1/6	10/-
Euridice, clear, soft pink	1/-	7/-
Hermione, orange	1/-	6/-
L'Innocence, white	2/-	14/-
Maiden's Blush, soft pink	1/6	9/-
Salmonea, salmon pink	1/-	6/-
Scarletta, brilliant scarlet	1/-	6/-
Souvenir, canary yellow	1/-	6/-
Venessa, salmon	1/-	6/-
Orange Queen, finest orange	1/-	8/-

1 of each of above, 10 in all, for 1/-
5 „ „ „ „ 50 „ „ „ 3/-
10 „ „ „ „ 100 „ „ „ 5/-

GLADIOLUS PRINSIANUS

	Per dozen.	Per 100.
Perfection, extra fine, rose...	10d.	4/-
Sulpherina, sulphur, rose reflection	10d.	4/-
Hybrids, all colours, mixed...	10d.	3/-

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Tritomas (Red Hot Poker).—We are the stockholders in England of a new race of superfine Tritomas, all new seedlings of the finest shades. This mixture includes several new colours, **6d.** each, **3/6** per dozen.

Lilium Auratum, the Golden Rayed Lily from Japan, **1/-** each, **10/-** per dozen.

Lilium Kikak, delightful yellow orange, **2d.** each, **1/6** per dozen.

Lilium Umbellatum Erectum, brilliant red petals, flushed intense orange, **3d.** each, **2/6** per dozen.

Lilium Splendens, very fine attractive flowers, **3/6** per dozen.

Lilium Tigrinum, Tiger Lilies, orange, fine, **3/-** per dozen.

Lilium Spec. Lanc. Rubrum floribundus, very free flowering, **1/-** each, **10/-** per dozen. Most magnificent red colour.

Lily of the Valley, Dutch Crowns, **1/-** per dozen, **6/-** per 100.

Lily of the Valley, Berlin Crowns, **1/6** per dozen, **9/-** per 100.

Hyacinthus Candicans, pure white flowers, **1/6** per dozen, **10/-** per 100. The Summer Flowering Cape Hyacinth. Grows 3 feet high.

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This collection consists of the finest of Liliums, including 1 NEW Lily Rubrum Floribunda, priced **1/-** each; 1 Golden-rayed Lily Auratum, priced **1/-** each; 1 Auratum Platyphyllum, the finest Lily of all, **1/6** each; 2 magnificent Tiger Lily; 2 rare DOUBLE FLOWERED TIGER LILY; 1 LILIUM TIGRINUM FORTUNEI; 2 Lilium Umbellatum; 2 Lilium Umbellatum Erectum. **The above 12 of the finest Liliums, all of the easiest growing culture, for 6/- Double this collection, 10/6.** *CARRIAGE PAID.*

Agapanthus Umbellatus, bright blue flowers, **1/-** each, **10/-** per dozen.

Agapanthus Alba, magnificent, pure white, **1/-** each, **10/-** per dozen.

Ranunculus, Turban, mixed, **10d.** per dozen, **5/-** per 100.

Ranunculus, French, mixed, **10d.** per dozen, **5/-** per 100.

Ranunculus, Persian, mixed, **10d.** per dozen, **5/-** per 100.

Prins's Wonderful **Loganberries, 1/-** each, **10/-** per dozen.

Seakale, Extra Strong, for Forcing, **4/-** per dozen.

Climbing Roses in 4 varieties, **8d.** each, **6/-** per dozen.

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will flower all through the summer, producing an abundance of flowers. Succeed in any soil and like a sunny position. 100 LARGE CORMS FOR ONLY **5/-**, consisting of 20 blue, 20 white, 20 New Scarlet, 20 giant doudle ST. BRIGID MIXED, 20 GIANT SINGLE FRENCH DE CAEN MIXED. 100 in all, 5 varieties, **5/-**; 200 for **8/-**; 500 for **16/-**; 1,000 for **25/-**, All post free. Most suitable for wild gardening or in the grass.

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The most marvellous mixture of all colours of magnificent waved Sweet Peas, specially compiled to make our already famous Peas more widely known. One customer who tried this cheap packet last year writes saying: "Your special packet of Sweet Peas has been so much admired when in bloom during the summer that my friends have asked me to get them also a packet—hence my order for 25 packets."

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The Prins' Collection, consisting of 10 magnificent sorts, 25 seeds each, **250 seeds in all for 2/6.**

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1 cwt., 30/-; 56 lbs., 16/-; 28 lbs., 9/-; 14 lbs., 5/-; 7 lbs., 3/-; Tins, 1/3 and 9d.

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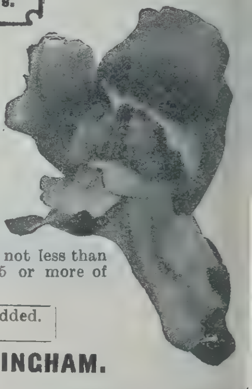

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TALL.—C. H. Herbert, old gold self; **Princess Elizabeth,** soft pink; **Rose King** deep rose; **The King**, orange-scarlet, white tube; **Yellow King,** yellow.

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EARLY SOWN.—Delivery usually made (in a normal season) from the middle of April and onwards, **2/3** per doz. (if less than 12 of one variety at **3/-** per doz., not less than **6** of any one variety named), 25 or more of any one variety at **15/-** per 100.

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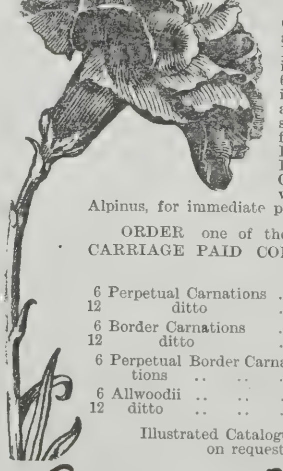

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6 Perpetual Carnations ..	9/-	24/-
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P.S.—Send 2/- for a delightful Coffret of Allwoods' Carnation Perfume. Value 4/-.

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Roses for Pillars, Decoration, Bedding, Show Pots, etc.

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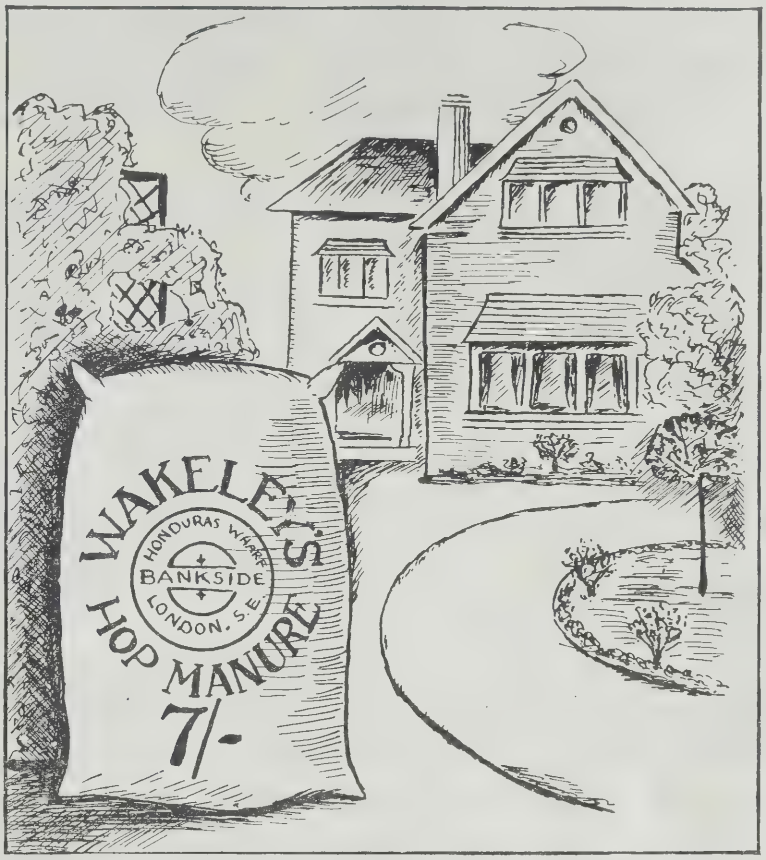
Small bag (about 1 bushel), 3/-; large (about 4 bushels), 7/-; 5 large, 33/9; 10 large, 65/-; 20 large, 120/-. Carriage paid 75 MILES, 1/- per bag extra beyond. Scottish orders 2/6 per bag extra; special quotations for Ireland.



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Guaranteed original formula containing NITRATE OF POTASH. This is necessary for feeding Roses, as they are gross feeders, and in order to produce strong, healthy growth and a profusion of flowers throughout the summer they require a stimulant such as this. It should be used at the rate of 4 ozs. per square yard; the time for application being March/July.

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"*Stonor's M.P.*"
Mostly Pinks (*i.e.*, Top Grade).

THIS Novelty is the result of many years' work, hybridizing and selecting. The best strains in commerce were used; and the result is a Tomato which is perfect in shape, size, and colour, and which is unique in that it is never affected by the hard greenback, now so prevalent. Being very short-jointed and wonderfully prolific, it is an ideal subject for small houses. The letter below is proof of its quality, and the hundreds of orders received from professional growers in all parts of the world since its introduction show that it is likely to prove an advance on any variety yet raised.

Strong Twice Transplanted Plants, for final planting,
6/- per doz, **16/-** 50, **25/-** 100.
Once Transplanted, **3/-** per doz., **8/-** 50, **14/-** 100.
Seeds, **2/-** 45, **4/-** 100, c.w.o. carriage paid.

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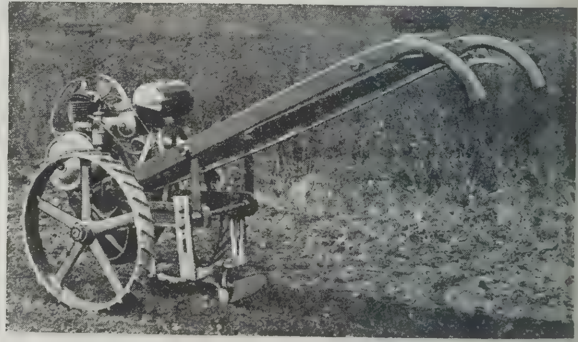

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Large-flowering varieties. Every variety included well tried and reliable.

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Early Sunrise, salmon-pink.
Jacoba Van Beiren, light purple.
L'Immaculee, pure white.
Odin, salmon, dark blotch.
Pink Perfection, fine soft pink.
Prince of Wales, soft salmon.
Red Emperor, large blood red.
Rose Precose, salmon-pink, feathered pink.
Schwaben, yellow, dark blotch.
Venus, soft silvery rose.

3 corms each of above **12** varieties, separate and named, **5/9**; **6** each, **11/-**; **12** each, **21/-**. Add **6d.** extra to orders under **7/6,** to partly defray postage.

"Flowers Brimful of Gladness."

Over 100 of the very best varieties of Gladioli are offered in our Catalogue.

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These charming small-flowered Gladioli embrace the most wonderful art shades imaginable. Light and graceful, they rival Sweet Peas in daintiness, and are excellent for all decorative purposes. If you have never seen them, you have a treat in store.

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For quality and value this is the finest Primulinus Collection ever offered.

Athalia, bright orange-scarlet.
Maiden's Blush, lovely pink.
Salmon Beauty, salmon on yellow.
Scarlet Cardinal, intense scarlet.
Orange Queen, coppery orange.
Xanthia, pure golden orange.
Souvenir, clear rich yellow.
Salmonea, salmon, flushed orange.
L'Yser, orange-scarlet, yellow throat.
Myra, yellow, flushed salmon.

3 corms each of above **10** varieties, named and packed separately, **4/9**; **6** each, **9/-**; **12** each, **17/-**. Add **6d.** extra to orders under **7/6** to partly defray postage.

Unwin's for the Best Quality Sweet Peas, Garden Seeds, Gladioli, Dahlias, Roses, etc., at "Buyable" Prices

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Capacity 2 quarts. Working Capacity 3 pints.

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A SLIGHT PRESSING DOWN OF THE THUMB LEVER STARTS THE SPRAY WHICH CEASES INSTANTLY UPON RELEASE

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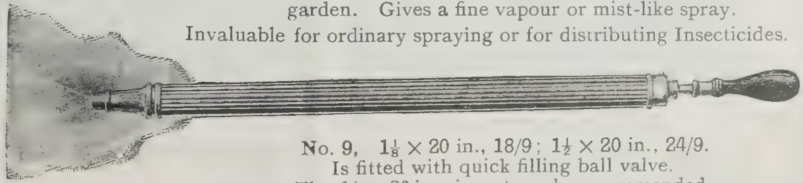

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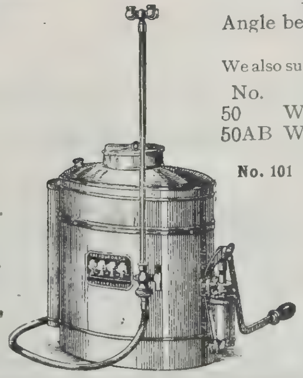
Is fitted with quick filling ball valve.
The $1\frac{1}{8} \times 20$ in. size, strongly recommended.
Angle bends for spraying undersides of leaves and branches. $1\frac{1}{8}$ in., 2/3; $1\frac{1}{2}$ in., 2/9 extra.

We also supply **plain** barrel spraying syringes as above, but not undentable.

No.		14 × 1 in.	20 × 1 in.	20 × 1¼ in.	20 × 1½ in.
50	Without bend -	12/9	15/9	21/9	26/3
50AB	With angle bend	15/-	18/-	24/-	29/-



No. 101

"Four Oaks" Gold Medal Knapsack Sprayer, External Type.

Brass Ball Valves, Brass Pump, all working parts outside Container.

Price **£4 10 0**. If Tinned Copper, for use with Lime, Sulphur or Liver of Sulphur, 7/6 extra.

5/3

CARR. PAID.

for 5 lots of high-grade Manures, etc., each lot for a special purpose.

1, of "Gro-al" the premier substitute for Stable Manure.

1, to produce and maintain brightest colours in Flowers, and that for a maximum period.

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OF THE

NEW APPLE "B.G."

Owing to the great demand for the "B.G." (Bushy Grove) Apple trees, we have decided to offer

SCIONS at 1/- EACH

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Grafting wood will be sent out in lengths according to the number of scions ordered. Estimated length of scions average three inches, containing two good healthy buds with sufficient space left for cut to be made.

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There is not another English Apple on the market that has all the good points of the "Bushy Grove."

The "B.G." received the Award of Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society in 1922. Since then it has been awarded Two First-class Certificates, Three Silver Medals, and one Bronze Medal. First prizes have been secured almost every time the "Bushy Grove" has been exhibited. Orders (with remittance) will be despatched in rotation, as this offer of Scions is subject to a limited stock.

FLAMSTEADBURY ESTATES Ltd.
Growers,
REDBOURN, near ST. ALBANS, HERTS

Dawkins' Gladioli

SPECIAL LOW OFFER OF CHOICE MIXTURES

	Per 100. s. d.	Per doz. s. d.
Excelsior Mixture.—This mixture is composed of unnamed seedlings from a very fine collection, to which we have added existing standard varieties. It is bound to give satisfaction, embracing as it does all the colours and shades known amongst Gladioli...	15 0	2 3
Splendid Mixed. — All colours	10 6	1 6
Primulinus. — Choice mixed	8 6	1 3

GLADIOLI AND LILIUM LIST post free on application.
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FOR RECORD CROPS.—Don't envy the professional gardener - follow his example and use the right fertilizers at the right time. **PURITY FERTILIZERS BRING RESULTS — JUST TRY THEM.**

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Particular care has been given to this branch of our business, and these seeds have been carefully graded into four different sections that cover all requirements.

MIXTURE "A" FOR HEAVY SOILS
Per lb. **3/-**, 7 lbs. **20/-**, 14 lbs. **38/6**, 28 lbs. **70/-**

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Per lb. **1/6**, 7 lbs. **9/6**, 14 lbs. **17/6**, 28 lbs. **32/-**

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One "Sefton Wonder" Seed-Potato produced a root weighing 24 lbs. 6 ozs., which is still a world's record. The "Sefton Wonder" is a second-early, and one potato can be cut into several sets. ORDERS SHOULD BE PLACED AT ONCE. 7 lbs., 2/6; 14 lbs., 4/6; 28 lbs., 8/6; 56 lbs., 16/-; and 1 cwt., 30/. CARRIAGE FORWARD.

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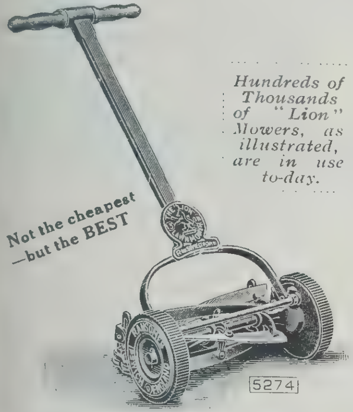

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All Seeds, etc., sent Carriage Free

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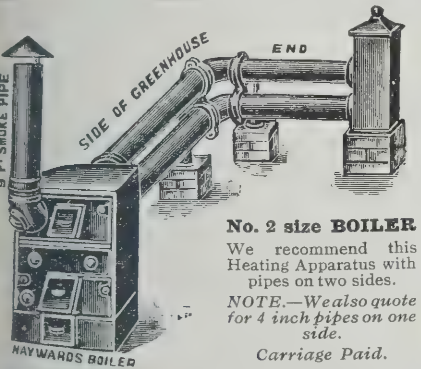
Any firm who can give better value for money than can be got elsewhere should exhibit their Greenhouses. Thousands of readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED from every part of the Kingdom have now seen **HAYWARD'S** No. 20A, No. 22A, and No. 23, and their Heating Apparatuses at the above Shows last year and proclaimed them better value than ever. We guarantee to supply them exactly as those that were exhibited, therefore you now have a splendid opportunity of getting a good Greenhouse at the cheapest possible price that a good one can be supplied at. We supply everything of the best quality and finish, fixed up here in sections into its proper place and carefully numbered ready for bolting and screwing together again on delivery, 21 oz. glass cut to the exact sizes and angles for every opening, carefully packed in boxes with all bolts, screws, brads, zinc, and putty. YOU have nothing extra to pay for, we supply everything. Carriage Paid to your address in England and Wales, also 500 miles from London into Scotland and Ireland, 10 per cent. extra, all at our risk.



No. 2 size BOILER

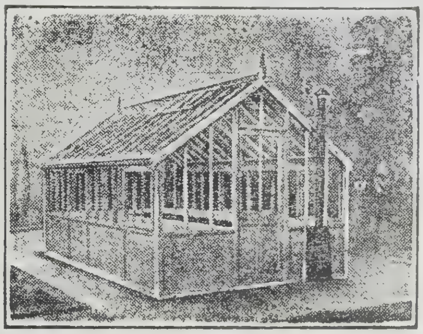
We recommend this Heating Apparatus with pipes on two sides.

NOTE.—We also quote for 4 inch pipes on one side.

Carriage Paid.

No. 22A. Span Roof Greenhouse to fix on your Brickwork

No. 22 A ☛



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We are the Only Firm who cut GLASS to fit and supply Putty, Bolts, &c., **FREE.**

To suit Greenhouse Long.	Heating Apparatus as above, pipes on 2 sides. Boiler.	£	s.	d.	Supply Heating Apparatus with pipes on 1 side. Boiler.	£	s.	d.
7 ft.	No. 2	6	10	0	No. 1	5	0	0
8 ft.	No. 2	6	15	0	No. 1	5	5	0
9 ft.	No. 2	7	0	0	No. 1	5	7	0
10 ft.	No. 2	7	7	6	No. 1	5	10	0
10 ft.	No. 2	7	10	0	No. 2	6	0	0
12 ft.	No. 2	7	15	0	No. 2	6	10	0
15 ft.	No. 2	8	10	0	No. 2	7	5	0
15 ft.	No. 2	8	15	0	No. 2	7	5	0
20 ft	No. 2	9	10	0	No. 2	8	0	0

Prices of No. 22A. Carriage paid. Ready for fixing on your brickwork.

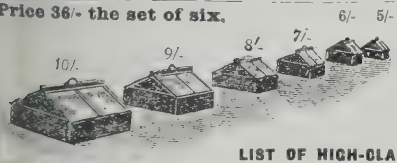
Long.	Wide.		£	s.	d.
10 ft.	7 ft.	...	15	10	0
12 ft.	8 ft.	...	19	10	0
15 ft.	10 ft.	...	30	0	0
20 ft.	10 ft.	...	41	0	0
25 ft.	10 ft.	...	49	0	0
30 ft.	10 ft.	...	60	0	0

Prices of No. 20A Greenhouse. Carriage paid.

Long.	Wide.		£	s.	d.	If with 4 in. by 3 in. sleepers. £	s.	d.	If with rain-water gutters and down pipes. £	s.	d.
7 ft.	5 ft.	...	8	8	0	0	12	0	0	17	6
8 ft.	5 ft.	...	9	9	0	0	13	0	1	0	0
9 ft.	6 ft.	...	11	11	0	0	15	0	1	2	6
10 ft.	7 ft.	...	15	10	0	0	17	0	1	5	0
10 ft.	8 ft.	...	16	10	0	0	18	0	1	5	0
12 ft.	8 ft.	...	17	10	0	1	0	0	1	10	0
15 ft.	9 ft.	...	23	19	0	1	4	0	1	17	6
15 ft.	10 ft.	...	26	10	0	1	5	0	1	17	6
20 ft.	10 ft.	...	38	10	0	1	10	0	2	10	0

Send for cheapest price for fixing in your garden up to 40 miles from our works.

Price 36/- the set of six.



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Telegrams: Soleplate Smith, London
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RENARDINE protects
Trees and Shrubs from Rabbits
Keeps Rabbits off Flower Beds, Lawns, and Golf Greens. Keeps Cats from Seed Beds. Cures Club in Cabbages.
4/- per quart tin.
Carriage Paid
Write for pamphlet giving full particulars.
Gilbertson & Page, Ltd.
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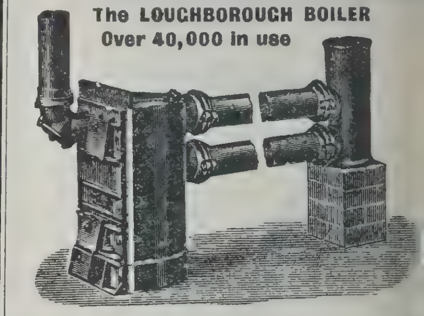
The LOUGHBOROUGH BOILER
Over 40,000 in use



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PRICES of Boiler and Complete Apparatus o application. Illustrated List Free.
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Largest Manufacturers of Flower Pots in the World
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SPECIAL POTS
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Fancy Fern Pans
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from 4d. each.
No waiting!
All orders executed the same day as received.
State quantity of each size required, and have Carriage Paid quotation, or write for Illustrated Price List.
Richard Sankey & Son, Ltd.
The Potteries
BULWELL, NOTTINGHAM

A Tool all Gardeners
Have been waiting for
DAVIDSON'S SPUD
(PATENT APPLIED FOR)
For the eradication of SUCKERS from Rose or other Trees, Plantains or Daisies from lawns EFFECTIVELY, EASILY, and WITHOUT THE FATIGUE INCIDENTAL TO SUCH OPERATIONS
Price 5/- post free in U.K.

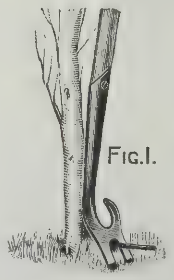
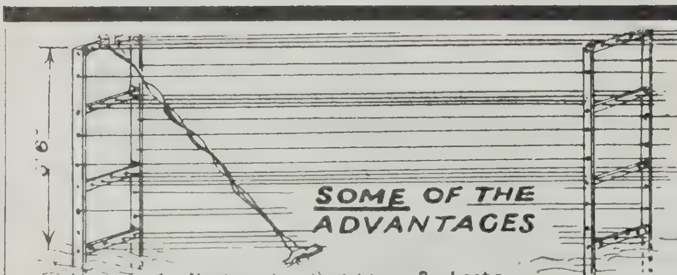


FIG. I.
Fig. 1 shows how it is applied to a sucker. The "U" opening has a sharp chamfered edg and a little downward and backward pressure against the stem of the tree ensures it removal. It is assumed, of course, that a handle of suitable length has been placed the socket.
Another troublesome job is the REMOVAL of PLANTAINS, DAISIES, etc., FROM LAWNS, and her again will Davidson's Spud prove effective from the same point of view. It is used at firs for LIFTING, and then by placing the wide opening behind the plantain, it can be dragged o to the grass. All work is done WITHOUT BENDING THE BACK.
Without the long handle it can be used for lifting seedling plants
BROCHURE "E" (perhaps even more interesting than Brochure "D") post free.
Don't forget the "Sproughton" Hoe, the Rockgarden Hoe, and Davidson's Old Dutch Weather Glass—all described in Brochure "D"—post free.
F. DAVIDSON & CO., 143-149, Great Portland Street, London, W.



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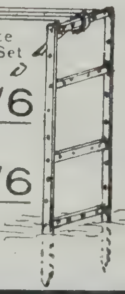
1. Neat and light.
2. Rigid—stands any strain.
3. Last a lifetime.
4. Insures a full crop.
5. Easily erected and dismantled.
6. No tiresome pea sticks.
7. Saves endless labour.
Adaptable to string or wire of any thickness.
Orders despatched in strict rotation.
ADDITIONAL CENTRE FRAMES
No. 1 SIZE, 2/6 each. No. 2 SIZE, 5/6 each.
CASH WITH ORDER. CARRIAGE PAID TO NEAREST STATION,

PAINTED
STEEL SUPPORTS
for Garden Peas, Sweet Peas, Raspberry Canes and Other Plants
No. 1 SIZE, 3 ft. 6 in. above Ground for Dwarf Peas
No. 2 SIZE, 6 ft. 0 in. above Ground for Sweet Peas, etc.
Price Per Set
10/6
21/6



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Engineers
WELL LANE
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Special Jubilee Message to "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED"

By SAMUEL RYDER Esq. J.P.

(Chairman of 'Ryders of St. Albans')

As one of its oldest readers and advertisers I take keen pleasure in writing these few lines of personal congratulation to GARDENING ILLUSTRATED upon the occasion of its Jubilee.

To all who have followed, as I have, the yeoman service to horticulture, and, even more, the progressive spirit which has for fifty years dominated its editorial policy, the significance of the event will not be gainsaid.

Fifty years ago I well remember the interest with which I purchased and read a copy of its first issue and became one of the original contributors to its advertising columns.

At that time my business interests served, almost exclusively, the large and professional grower.

Some twenty-five years later I embarked upon the bold plan of bringing the finest quality seeds within the reach of the hitherto somewhat neglected amateur. This, as everyone now knows, was accomplished by the introduction of Ryders Quality Seeds in Popular Packets.

The immediate result of this democratic decision was to attract hundreds of thousands of people to the delightful possibilities of home gardening. Hitherto the possession of a garden full of beautiful flowers and fresh home-grown vegetables had been regarded as an expensive hobby for the rich or for those who made it their business to grow for profit.

To-day one of my greatest joys is the knowledge that Ryders Seeds are being sown in countless numbers of small gardens tended and cultivated in most instances by their individual owners.

This Ryder policy very naturally led to a keen desire for knowledge concerning the best means of cultivation and horticultural matters generally. Many sought this information in the pages of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, and it is the splendid way in which those responsible for this paper responded to this demand of its new readers which attracted my admiration and prompts this personal tribute to their success.

There is indeed a striking parallel between the whole-hearted manner in which GARDENING ILLUSTRATED supplied the information required by the new army of amateur gardeners and the policy responsible for supplying them with "Ryders Quality Seeds in Popular Packets." For in both instances the high quality of both garden seeds and garden literature is strictly maintained.

As far as Ryders Seeds are concerned I venture to say that no finer quality seeds are obtainable anywhere at any price. From the moment that my popular plan of distribution was put into operation the keynote of Ryders success has been RELIABILITY. As a result, each year has witnessed the consistent growth of this huge business and with this growth has come an ever increasing capacity for securing for Ryders Customers more and more Novelties and offering them in most instances far in advance of their appearance elsewhere.

In conclusion I would say that a straightforward and intelligent appreciation of modern gardening requirements is the mutual bond which links one of the foremost gardening papers of the day

with

Ryders of St. Albans

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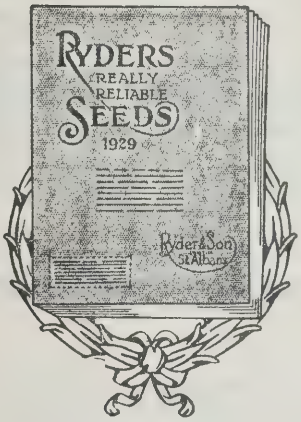

Ryders 1929 Catalogue

is free to every gardener who will ask for it. It contains several very beautiful Coloured Plates including Miss Winifred Walker's 1928 Academy Picture entitled, "A Bouquet from an Old World Garden." There are also many black and white illustrations, and a full list of Flower and Vegetable Seeds obtainable in Ryders 2d. Packets. Send a postcard for your copy to-day. Kindly mention this paper.

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ST. ALBANS

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What are the best six Plums, Iris, Delphiniums?

The best six Phlox, Lilacs, Clematis?

The best six Pæonies?

Write for our new list which gives our answer to these questions.

"The Cream of our Catalogues."

Planting can still be safely done owing to the late season.

George Bunyard & Co., Ltd.,
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offer this week a selection of the best

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Alexandra, reddish violet 3/-
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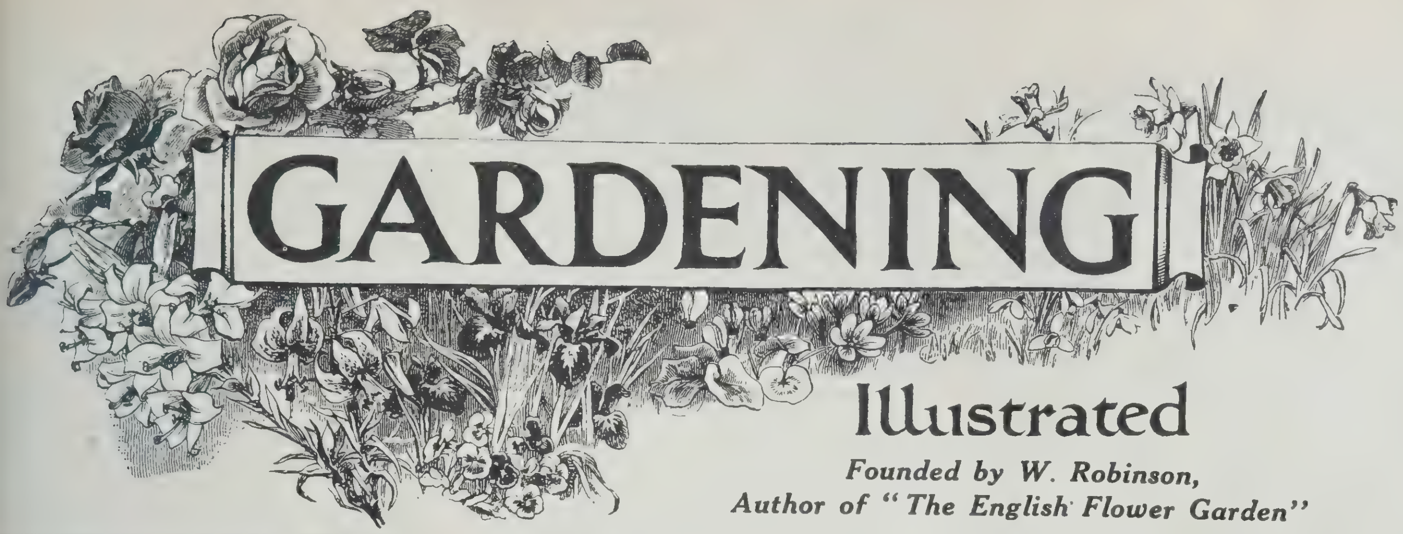


GARDENING Illustrated

Founded by W. Robinson,
Author of "The English Flower Garden"

o. 2610—Vol. LI. MARCH 16, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

A Red Letter Day

IFTY years ago William Robinson founded Gardening Illustrated; and it is with the spirit of pride in the past and th in its future that we present this bilee Number to our readers. It has been ring the lifetime of Gardening Illus- ated that the great change for the better s been wrought in the ways and aims of rticulture. Until about the year 1879 pet bedding and ribbon borders were all fashion in gardening. There was one d level of general treatment of designed ls in lawns and terraces. There were centric rings of Geraniums, Calceolarias, Lobelias—there were ribbon borders, cles, stars, and crescents bedded with the ne plants and monotonous rings of heveria. It was only in out-of-the-way ces in good cottage gardens, country tories, or in other gardens where the ners had not the glass necessary for wing tender plants for the summer dis- v that the value of hardy plants was ap- ciated. In such gardens were seen old rambling Roses, Clematis, Jasmine, Honeysuckle, Primroses, Polyanthuses, Lilies—Martagon, orange, and Madonna—and other old-world delights.

The whole horticultural world was being encouraged and stimulated by the constant exhortations of William Robinson, to whose vigorous championship of hardy plants and the better ways of using them the delights of our present-day gardens are mainly due. In Gardening Illustrated were pursued those ideals of natural gardening development which found his full expression. To him, also—and this is a point we are apt to forget—we owe the beginning of our knowledge in the use of rock and Alpine plants.

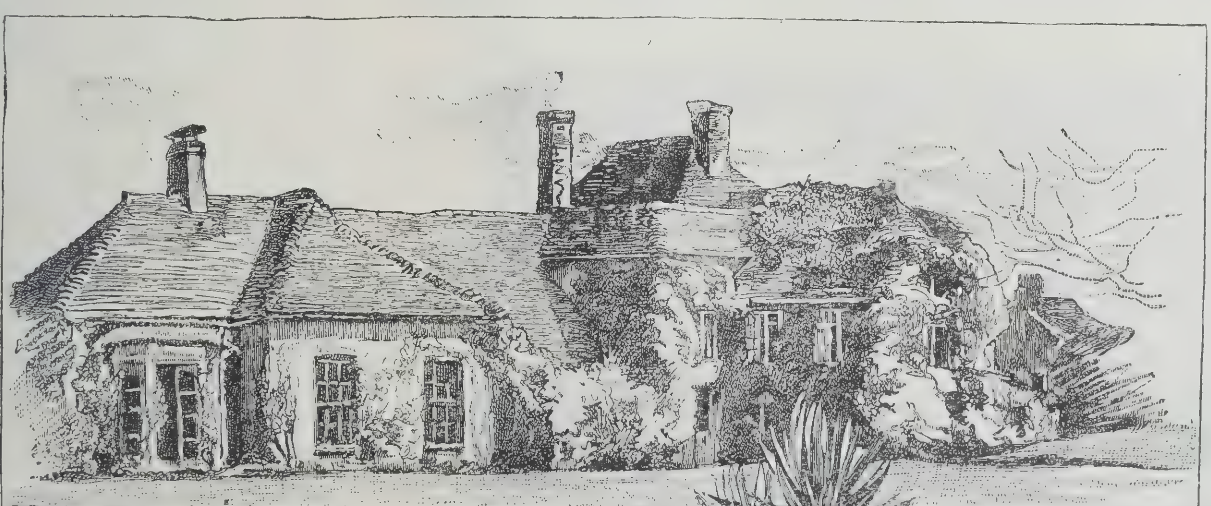
Other workers among flowers were alive to the possibilities of better gardening. Foremost among them was Dean Hole, whose name will for ever be associated with the Rose.

The travels of Peter Barr in the hills of Spain and Portugal enriched our gardens with species of the Daffodil, and G. H. Engleheart, happily still with us, was among the first to manifest the possibilities of the hybridisation of Daffodils. Among other eminent horticulturists of the period whose names are familiar to all were G. F. Wilson, the owner of Wisley, Lord Penzance, who was at work on Sweet Briars, the Rev. C. Wolley-Dod, and Canon Ellacombe.

It remained for Miss Jekyll, still our guide and counsellor, who in her earlier years was trained as an art student, to point out that gardening was not—as it might well be—treated pictorially. Her writings are instructive and inspiring guides to all interested in beautiful colour effect in the garden.

Fifty years is, after all, a very brief period when compared to the age of the art and practice of gardening, which is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, occupation of man. If gardening progresses at the same rate what will the next 50 years bring?

One of the greatest changes in English gardens in recent times is due to plant introductions mainly, though not entirely, from



Gilbert White's garden at Selbourne

From a sketch by Alfred Parsons, April, 1879. Reproduced from the first volume of "Gardening Illustrated"

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the uplands and mountain ranges of Western China and Tibet.

Thanks to intrepid plant-hunters, Fortune, Douglas, Henry, Wilson, Farrer, Forrest, Kingdon Ward, Purdom, and others, our gardens have been enriched in Roses, Rhododendrons, Buddleias, Berberis, Viburnums, Lilies, Primulas, Meconopsis, and other hardy flowers. Some of the species have a marked effect not only on our gardens, but also on the countryside.

The field for the collector is vast, but we are tempted to ask, will it not be worked out within the next 50 years? This has been the fate of the Orchid hunter. He has worked himself out of his job, and the amazing new Orchids now produced are practically all hybrids raised in nurseries.

Another great change now taking place in gardening is the increased interest in public parks and gardens. Then there is the tremendous advance of the Royal Horticultural Society, with two magnificent halls in Westminster, its well-equipped garden at Wisley, and a membership of over 26,000 Fellows. It seems incredible that at the close of 1887 the Royal Horticultural Society was in debt £1,152 and the total number of Fellows was 1,329, of which over 200 resigned the following year. If the amazing progress made by the Royal Horticultural Society in the past 50 years is any criterion, then the future of horticulture should, indeed, be one of great prosperity.

As we turn over the pages of the first volume of Gardening Illustrated we realise something of the great changes that have taken place not only in gardening, but also in printing during the period under review.

In the method of illustrations there is a very marked change, for the old woodcuts, some of them exceedingly beautiful, have been replaced by illustrations from half-tone blocks. If the printing of illustrations co tinues at the same rate of progress what wi the Centenary Number be like? Is it poss ble that the cost of good colour printing wi be so far reduced that it may replace the hal tone illustrations?

Gardening Illustrated has grown u with its readers. It caters for the mar amateurs advanced in horticultural know ledge as well as for the professionals in nee of a journal that could interest them in th conduct of large gardens or in the care rare plants in their charge.

Since Gardening Illustrated came unde the control, nine years ago, of Ben Brothers, Ltd. (now probably the large publishers of technical newspapers and bool in the kingdom), it has steadily consolidate its position. Only a journal of sterlin merit laid on sure foundations and holdin fast to the high purposes of its founder ca attain this happy distinction, and we loo forward with every confidence to the future.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Primula microdonta

Although the type was collected many years ago, it was scarcely known outside botanical gardens

THIS is a wonderful species and a welcome addition to the Sikkimensis section. It was re-introduced from S.E. Tibet in 1924 by Capt. Kingdon Ward, who found it at high elevations in shady bogs, sub-Alpine meadows, and also along the margin or open belts of the forests.

The leaves are oval and usually from 4 inches to 6 inches long and from 2 inches to 3 inches wide, but these vary in size according to the various forms. As the specific name indicates, the margins of the leaves are minutely toothed, glabrous on the upper side, and rugose underneath. The scapes of the smaller forms are from 15 inches to 18 inches in height, with a terminal umbel; others may reach 3 feet in height and produce from two to four whorls of flowers (an unusual feature of the Sikkimensis section). Th flowers of P. microdonta and its mar varieties are extremely fragrant, of a noddir habit and with a distinct thick band of whi meal in the throat. It is one of the mo variable coloured species in the whole genu producing white, pale yellow, violet, ar many tones of wine shades. In cultivati all these forms have done remarkably w and it has been proved that by careful sele tion and isolation these will come fairly tr to colour from seed.

The most distinctive are:—P. microdon (white form), 2 feet to 3 feet, with two to fo whorls of flowers; P. microdonta Alpico 15 inches to 18 inches, pale yellow; and m. Violacea, with violet flowers, from inches to 24 inches in height. All thrive well-drained northern borders among shru on the side of woodland walks, or a cool, ha shady position in the rock garden; in ve warm districts they may be planted in a b or on the banks of a stream. All enjoy fairly rich soil made up of good loam, le soil, and sand. Primula microdonta and its varieties are most desirable garden pla and when better known will become ve popular.

J. A.

Moniaive

Primula microdonta var. Alpicola

Flowers pale yellow. Height 15 inches to 18 inches

Truthful catalogues

Messrs. Barr and Sons' protest in yo issue of February 23rd, page 119, seems have effectually silenced those critics w imputed deliberate misrepresentation nurserymen's catalogues.

Any reasonable and fairly experienced g dener will readily admit that, taking th on the whole, catalogue descriptions of pla are not unduly exaggerated, and that unl an amateur possesses the same experie and skill as the professional gardener, l ample time at his disposal, and p meticulous attention to details he can hope to produce the same effects as the tr grower; and that is no reason why a pl should be described according to the l average amateur standard rather than high standard attained by experts.

Furthermore, catalogues are not the pl for full and detailed cultural instruction. required, this can always be obtained in b form at very reasonable prices.

I must, however, return to the question colour description. Messrs. Barr and S state: "It is simply impossible to so scribe a flower as to give the same impress to everybody." I agree, and it is this fact that called forth my first plea for a standard colour chart.

Further, "No two people agree as to the correct names of colours, excepting the primary colours." Again I agree, and here I wonder how many could name offhand the primary colours?

Still further: "It is open to question whether varying shades of colour give the same sensation to all." Exactly!

These three statements, coming from so reputable and so well-known a firm as Messrs. Barr and Sons, carry considerable weight and may be almost said to represent a general trade statement to cover the shortcomings of colour description.

I take a different view, and look upon the statements as a striking recommendation for the introduction of a standard colour chart. Looking at it from any point of view, all the lifficulties enumerated would disappear into thin air if such a chart existed. It would then be possible to describe a flower so as to give the same impression to the vast majority of people, everybody would agree as to the correct names of colours, and the varying shades of colour would give the same sensation to practically all.

It reminds me of my visit to Messrs, Barr's stand at the Penzance Spring Show almost xactly a year ago. I was attracted by a lelightful little Jonquil that had, until then, scaped me, named Odorous Orange Queen.

I had some doubts as to its supposed range colour, and I, with others, tried it gainst a variety of oranges, but failed to natch it. The colour was nearer to guineaold (which was proved by a plutocrat prolucing a spade guinea!), yet just missed hat. However, the point is that, having rdered some bulbs myself, I endeavoured to nterest a number of friends who had, unuckily, missed the show. But because I ould not make them visualise the actual olour there was nothing doing. They, like nyself, had been bitten too often by vague olour description to be had again, so both hey and Messrs. Barr suffered a loss.

Next week I hope to visit again Messrs. Barr's stand at another show, but this time shall go armed for the fray with the colour hart issued by Ernst Benary, of Germany. (How much nicer if it were Barr's own olour chart.)

PERCY E. CHAPPELL, MAJOR (retired).
Cornwall.

Feeding birds

I notice in "Answers to Queries" for arch 9th, one of your correspondents, M. I. Y.," inquires what food blackbirds ke best, and in the reply it states: "They ppreciate bacon rind cut into small pieces." hat, surely, is an error, as bacon rind is tal to all bird life. I have known turkeys, wls, and ducks killed in considerable numers until it was discovered by post mortem ey had been given bacon rind cut up in eir soft food. I have never known it given small birds, but if it is deadly to large it ust, surely, be very much more so to small rds, such as blackbirds and thrushes. If M. I. Y." will make a mash of bread and ushed Hemp seed he will find his pets come ain and again to his table.

Only this last week some fowls of one of r gardeners were found to be very ill. was discovered that bacon rind was the use, and they were only saved with diffilty.

COURTNEY PAGE.
Haywards Heath.

Fruit trees and birds

I have read the letters on fruit trees and ds with the interest and sympathy due to fellow gardener's trials, and I venture to ggest, from practical experience, that lack of suitable food is generally at the bottom of the trouble. Worms and grain are of little or no use to the tit family, who, when deprived of their natural insect diet, require oily food, such as Monkey Nuts, Cocoanuts, and fat or suet. A temporary larder stocked with this nourishing fare, *plus* the ever-necessary dish of water, will do much to prevent their depredations, which, as a correspondent remarks, are about the same, whether the winter is comparatively mild or exceptionally severe. Exactly, for whatever the weather, natural food for all kinds of birds is relatively scarce, and the aphis tribes, so specially dear to the tits, are entirely absent.

Tunbridge Wells. M. B. GASKOIN.

Calceolarias for greenhouse decoration

THE Calceolarias have so many different and diversified colours that certain people favour them for creating a beautiful display in the greenhouse or conservatory. Another important factor is they can be grown to perfection with very little or, practically, no artificial heat.

Calceolarias for the greenhouse

The very tall plants in the centre are those of Calceolaria Clibranii, grown from seed. The tallest plant measures: Height, 4 feet 8 inches; circumference, 13 feet. Grown by G. Booth

Having secured seed from a good reliable source, it is much easier and quicker to raise a good batch of plants than by propagation of cuttings. In preparing the seed pan, see that it is well drained. Fill up with good loam, leaf soil, and plenty of coarse sand, well mixed together to ensure porosity. Water the pan, and let it stand a few hours before finally sowing the seed. Then remove the pan to a cold frame and cover with a sheet of glass, keeping the frame closed until germination has taken place; the light must be increased gradually, as the little seedlings are rather delicate in their early stages.

In a short time the seedlings will have made sufficient progress to be handled, and should be pricked off a little distance apart, making certain that the centre of each plant is free, and not covered by any particles of soil. It is important that the young plants should be kept growing without a check, and they must be shaded when it is bright. A slight dewing over with a syringe about twice a day will be of great benefit and encourage them to grow more freely.

For the first potting I use small "60's," or 2-inch pots. Be careful to lift them with as much soil attached at the roots as possible, and pot moderately firm, after which they may be stood on a cool ash bottom, in a frame, close to the glass. This will suit them admirably till late in the autumn, when frosts appear, after which they would be better where a little heat can be afforded when necessary. Keep them as cool as possible, at a temperature of 45 degs. to 50 degs., for if warmer they soon develop Green Fly, and unless this is detected in time they become yellow and sickly. This can also be prevented by a slight fumigation at intervals.

Examine the plants at different times to see if they require a shift, as some will probably need potting before the others. Pot them on into 5-inch or 6-inch pots, using fibrous loam, leaf soil, a little wood ash, silver sand, and a dusting of soot. For large specimens I use 9-inch and 10-inch pots. When the receptacles are full of roots it is time to feed with liquid manure, soot water, and a good fertiliser.

I have grown Calceolaria Clibranii with the large-flowered variety (as seen in the centre of the illustration), the two together making a delightful contrast. To get a specimen plant of Clibranii, I grow on a second year, and resort to pinching several times to make them bushy.

An effort should be made to keep the flower stems erect, as some of them will attain as much as 4 feet in length, and the pots should be practically invisible with the foliage. When they have reached the flowering stage, I have arranged them with other subjects such as Trachelium cœruleum and Lilium lancifolium rubrum, the whole making a gorgeous display for some weeks.

G. BOOTH.

Organic manures

The article on "Organic manures," issue March 2nd, page 152, is certainly most interesting, and doubtless the advice will be readily sought by your readers.

We notice the article mentions a drawback in regard to shoddy manure, in that some qualities are lumpy. There should be no difficulty if the buyer insists on a quality that is free from such lumpy nature.

Again, if your correspondents who find a difficulty in working the wool manure well into the soil experimented with a grade of wool manure, say, of medium fibre character this difficulty would be very much reduced.

Though wool manure is largely used for its great physical and bacteriological value, as apart from its undoubted fertilising effect, and in that sense is not required to top-dress, yet grades of wool manure are available, and we are assured from numerous practical users of this grade that an application on growing garden crops applied reasonably early during the time of growth has had a marked effect. Naturally, this grade is in a finely divided state of physical division.

Regarding the use of wool manure on light, sandy soil, the use of a medium "fibred" grade might prevent "opening" the soil.

Farm and Garden Universal
Fertiliser Company (Liverpool).
L. J. Donnelly,
Manager (London Office).

The beautiful Pæonia Cambessedesii in its native habitat on the sea cliffs of Majorca

Pæonia Cambessedesii in Ireland

By Lady Moore

IN Vol. L., No. 2595, of Gardening Illustrated dated December 1st, 1928, under the title of "A Vagabond in Majorca," there is a description of Mr. Cowley's search for "a rare plant, Pæonia Cambessedesii." It may interest readers of Gardening Illustrated to hear of a search for, and capture of, this Pæonia some years ago.

During the winter of 1896 Miss Frances A. Geoghegan, an Irishwoman well known to the gardening fraternity as a lover of plants and a successful collector and grower of them, spent some weeks with her brother on the island of Majorca. They were driving one day with a Spanish landowner, Señor de Cipre, and his wife, and he, knowing Miss Geoghegan's interest in plants, told her of a beautiful Pæony. He described it as having "a red flower," which he said grew in a place high up on some cliffs near—difficult to reach. He sent a man to help Miss Geoghegan and some roots were procured. She sent them to her sister, who lived at Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, where, in a very different climate to that of Majorca, they flourish. A piece was sent to Miss Geoghegan's garden on the Malahide estuary, Donabate, Co. Dublin. When it flowered she sent the flower to the Royal Botanic Garden, Glasnevin, and as it differed from any of the species of Pæonia at Glasnevin, of which there was, and is, a very complete collection, Sir Frederick Moore sent it to the Editor of the "Botanical Magazine." The figure can be seen in a volume which appeared in 1907, Bot. Mag. 8161, from plant collected by Miss Geoghegan in 1896.

Many "bits" of this beautiful Pæony were distributed by Miss Geoghegan, whose generosity with her plants makes her visitors wonder how she has anything left in her garden.

She also found some plants of Helleborus lividus in Majorca. The late Mr. Burbage thought them distinct, but unfortunately they died.

In May, 1926, during the great strike, the writer was at Euston station anxiously inquiring for news of a train bound for Holyhead, when a voice with a plaintive Cork accent, soft as the atmosphere of that county, called out, "Look here, what am I to do? Here I've got a large basketful of Pæonia Cambessedesii I've brought all the way from Majorca, d'ye see, and they're being destroyed on me in this place. You'll get home before me, that is if any of us ever get out of this place, d'ye see. You'd better take the Pæonies and mind them for me, d'ye see, and I'll give you the half of them." Two days later, at 7 a.m., encumbered with much luggage (without benefit of porters), considerably handicapped by a large beautifully-woven reed basket (the shape that formerly was used by carpenters to carry their tools) full of very shrivelled, dry roots of Pæonia Cambessedesii, the writer was struggling for a place in the first train which had started for Holyhead for some days, when a gentle voice from a carriage window said sympathetically, "I am sure there are plants in that great basket." It was Miss Geoghegan who spoke—the reply surprised her. "It is full of roots of your Pæony, collected three weeks ago in Majorca."

During a journey which began at 8 a.m. and lasted until 11 p.m., for 12 hours the basketful of Pæonies reposed comfortably on the luggage rack, simply because not even the youngest passenger in that packed train could be accommodated there.

Although very much dried up, every piece of Pæony grew, and one plant flowered in this garden on February 21st. It has been protected by a cap-glass from two falls of snow, and 10, 9, 7, and 9 degs. of frost. It is still fresh and fair on March 2nd.

The grey metallic sheen of the upper side of the leaves contrasts beautifully with the clear Rose-pink flowers, and when the wind stirs the leaves the rich red of the underside is very attractive.

It has been stated that Pæonia Cambessedesii does not produce fertile seed.

In Miss Geoghegan's garden, in the Royal Botanic Garden, Glasnevin, and in this garden seeds of it have germinated freely, and the offspring have come true to type.

At the request of "The Vagabond" the names of the district where the Pæony was found on both occasions are not given.

Phylis Moore.

Willbrook, Co. Dublin.

Rock gardens at Chelsea Show

The letters on mountain limestone for rock gardens have been interesting, though no very illuminating.

If by rock garden is meant the old fashioned rockery in which the principa item was the stone and the existence of a few Ferns, Arabis and Aubrietia only o second consideration, weathered mountai limestone from Westmoreland, Yorkshire Cheddar, Wales, or Ireland is eminentl suitable.

If, however, an Alpine garden is meant this limestone is probably the least suitabl of any stone, for the following reasons:—

(1) It is a rock that does not lend itsel to small Alpine gardens, *i.e.,* under a least ¼ acre, as its massiveness is out c proportion.

(2) It requires the very greatest skil an artistic eye and a greater knowledg of physical geology than is possessed b the average landscape gardener to la so as not to produce an atrocity quit contrary to Nature.

(3) It does not possess one of the chi objects of stone in Alpine gardens, viz to absorb surplus moisture during w periods and give this moisture back t the plant rootlets in dry seasons. Mou tain limestone will only absorb abo 2 per cent. of its volume of water, a that not readily, whereas most oth limestones, as well as sandstones, a sorb from 8 to 30 per cent. of the volume, 12 per cent. being a comm figure. These figures are based c actual tests on over 50 specimens rocks, chiefly limestone. (A porosity 8 per cent. gives an absorption of gallon per cubic foot.)

(3a) The lack of porosity retards, if does not actually prevent, the growth vegetation on the stone itself, and t stone therefore retains its stark nake ness for years.

Mr. Dillistone seems to suggest that t only beautiful stone in North Wales is mou tain limestone. If he will refer to a ge logical map he will find that this rock cove only a very small area of North Wales.

When there is hardly a district in Engla or Wales in which natural stone more su able both from a horticultural and æsthe point of view is practically on one's doorste the craze for getting mountain limesto from the furthest distance is remarkable.

I recently saw a case in which mountain mestone had been brought something like oo miles from Yorkshire when it could have een obtained about 90 miles away, and that a district from which 20 to 30 different uitable rocks could have been obtained rithin 50 miles. In this rockwork (or lpine garden), constructed by a professional, nost of the rocks had been laid in a position uite contrary to Nature.

Where natural stone is not readily availble large furnace clinkers can often be obained, and though in themselves not beautiul, can rapidly be covered by plants clinkers are not out of place, as being very imilar to the natural " clinkers " in volcanic istricts and of the fact that plants thrive mong or on them I have definite proof), and ven concrete made on the spot of gravel is ot to be despised if used intelligently.

Surely, except on big estates where, by the ormation of gorges, waterfalls, etc., the eneral " landscape " of the garden is improved, the object of rockwork is primarily render possible, or at least facilitate, the rowth of that most beautiful and interestng group of plants generally classed as lpines. M. ODLING.

Marton-in-Cleveland, Yorks.

Cyclamen libanoticum

THIS beautiful species is unfortunately another instance of the almost general rule that those species with largest owers are the least hardy of the genus. C. ersicum heads the list for size and colour ombined with the craving for sun worship at its specific name suggests for, consider-g that it is not found in Persia, we must y to find some ground for Miller's name.

C. libanoticum with the next largest owers has not fulfilled the reputation for ardiness with which its introducer credited when he wrote in 1899, " possessg the vigour and hardiness of such species europeum, Coum and neapolitanum."

It was found in the Lebanon near Beyout, growing among C. ibericum and percum, at an altitude of from 2,400 feet to ooo feet. The tubers were deeply embedded nong rocks and the roots of trees and rubs. Evidently in well sheltered positions, fficult to imitate in a garden. The only ant I have succeeded in keeping alive for y length of time in the open, has grown r some twenty years in the driest spot in e rock garden, on a steep slope facing uth, and overhung by the outermost boughs an ancient Thorn. Every season when the st really warm spell arrives towards the d of May, the leaves of this Cyclamen are on frizzled up; and the thick foliage of e Thorn keeps off the rain till the fall of e leaf allows it to patter through the twigs. 1921 seed was ripened and a few self-sown ungsters appeared that autumn. This ecious harvest of that devastating, fiery mmer was carefully nursed on in pots, and o of the tubers now planted out in the ost-free house provided the blossoms for the companying drawing. Their size and gour compared with that of their long sufring parent, show that this species is tter suited for the alpine house than the en ground in ordinary gardens.

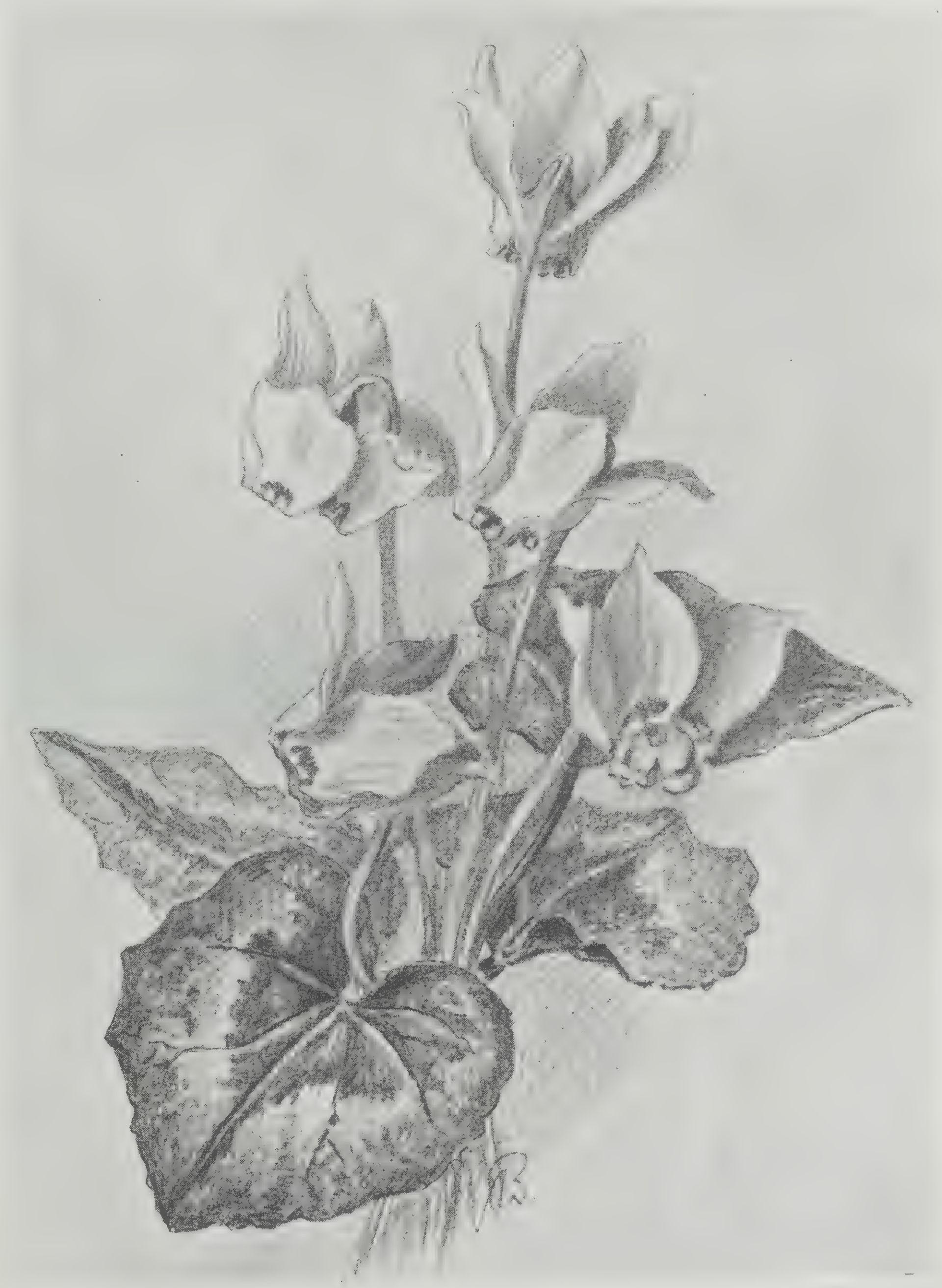
I saw self-sown plants at La Selva, Mr. oodall's garden near Nice, last March. ey were very strong and happy on a bank der trees. Doubtless in that land of sunine, as on their native Lebanon, they do st in half shade, but here they need full nshine, just as Iris unguicularis, a denizen hedge banks and groves in Algiers and ar Athens, cannot be over roasted here in gland.

. libanoticum has a great deal of charter and beauty in both form and colour. The breadth of the open throat catches the eye at a glance. It is due to the width of the base of each petal and reminds one a little of the form of C. europeum. The brilliant crimson markings are shaped somewhat like a capital M, or the joined couple of half circles with which a child ornaments the sky above the square house of his earliest efforts and calls pigeons.

These markings are set in a patch of white which shades upwards into a peculiarly charming shell pink, with less of blue in it than in any other Cyclamen I have seen.

I noticed one plant at La Selva with flowers of the persicum size and shape, but with the exquisite colouring of libanoticum which, I feel sure, is a hybrid, and a hint from Dame Nature for the raising of a beautiful and refined race.

It is quite likely that in more sheltered gardens where C. africanum is a success in the open, C. libanoticum might colonise and reproduce the autumnal charms of C. neapolitanum in the early spring. I much hope that any who grow it well will tell of their success. E. A. BOWLES.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Cyclamen libanoticum

Wisley trials

The Director of Wisley begs to remind raisers of Roses that six plants of each variety for the Rose trials at the R.H.S. Gardens should reach him at the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey (railway station, Horsley, Southern Railway), by the end of March. Each variety requires an entry form, copies of which will be sent on application to the Director.

The British Gladiolus Society

The dates of this Society's 1929 exhibitions are:—August 13th—London Show at R.H.S. Hall. August 28th, 29th, and 30th—Main exhibition at Southport in conjunction with the Southport Flower Show.

The Gardens at Norsebury, Sutton Scotney, Hants

By Geo. Dillistone

If one could choose the site for a house according to its desirability for making a garden what a pleasant world it would be—for gardeners. As this is rarely possible, it remains for the gardener to make the best job he can of what is left to him by the builder. The problem that usually confronts him is to conceive the sort of garden that suits the house, and sometimes of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion as to how to fit the particular arrangement of garden that seems most desirable into the situation.

Norsebury, Sutton Scotney, Hants, the home of Mr. J. Sutcliffe-Pyman, is one of those country houses that has been designed, and the site of which has been chosen, with a fine regard for its potentialities for the development of a certain type of garden.

The herbaceous borders at Norsebury, Sutton Scotney, Hants.

The house is rather severe in feeling, of the style described as Queen Anne. It is one of those houses that should always look towards a landscape, but be set in formal and geometrical lines in its immediate surroundings. To achieve this on sloping ground one has to terrace outwards and create a series of ever-broadening level garden areas. Sometimes a tree, such as the Cedar that appears in the second illustration, comes in the way of such levelling, and if, as in this case, it is important enough and attractive enough to deserve it, then it is better to raise or lower the general level of the terrace on which it stands rather than risk injury to an incident in the general composition that can make, and its absence mar, the picture.

Where trees are scarce those that do exist become important, and it is worth while going to considerable expense and trouble to preserve even one. It is, however, possible to make a fetish of this respect for trees. I am constantly coming across people who are appalled at the idea of removing any tree, even a dead one. Not because it possesses any particular attraction in itself, nor because it strikes a pleasing note in the composition of the picture, but because—well, just because it is a tree and has taken a long time to grow.

Make the most of your trees, respect them, worship them if you will, but remember as you pray to them, if you are praying for real beauty in your surroundings, they may on occasion be false gods, and can obstruct the development of the very beauty you so ardently desire. If they can give you more (or even as much) æsthetic enjoyment than their removal permits you to develop keep them by all means. Often, however, it is merely a matter of them being in the wrong place. No one objects more strongly than I do to the wholesale slaughtering of fine trees, but the preservation of even worn-out and dying specimens is often carried to extreme lengths. I have known people who would ruthlessly insist on the removal of anything human or animal that offended their sense of the fitness of things tolerate a dying tree and endow it with a regard that a moment's thought should convince them was entirely misplaced. Such people shudder at the sight of a war tragedy, but regard the pathetic remnants of an almost limbless tree as something that is beautiful and picturesque when, and because, it is really decrepit.

At Norsebury the Cedar was so emphatic a note that it was worthy of all the care bestowed upon it.

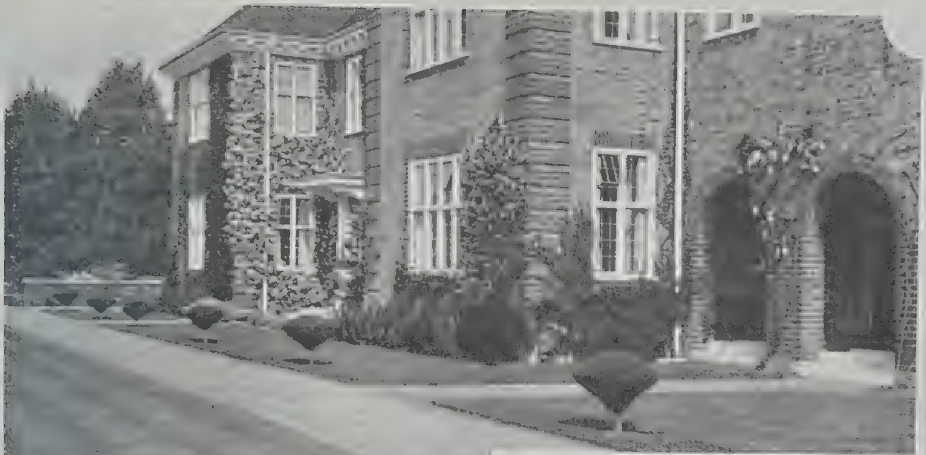
The gardens are, as a whole, an example of development on straight lines. It could have been otherwise, but there is a sense of congruity in the association of house and garden that justifies even this extremely rigid development. In the early days such gardens are ugly, and give the impression of long-legged puppies whose bodies are out of all proportion with their supports.

Time remedies this, and as the vegetation matures the very simplicity of the lines at
a dignity and importance that a more
formal treatment of such a site and aro
such a house would never achieve. In
early days, too, there is a feeling of gar
ing in compartments. It is so obvious
each portion has been fenced off from
others and the series of rectangles bec
positively monotonous. Later, when
fences have matured and thickened t
steals into such gardens that sense
seclusion that is so desirable an attribut
the English garden which the transition f
one enclosure to another serves but to
phasise. After all, as the founder of Gar
ing Illustrated has pointed out, althoug
may sometimes be necessary to *plan* the
den on formal lines, formality in *plantin*
never necessary. Norsebury is young yet.
will grow, and will ultimately spread i
out on freer and less rigid lines, and m
itself pleasingly into the beautiful lands
in which it stands. It is long past the
puppy stage, and with the care and atten
that is being bestowed upon it, is well on
way to becoming that delightful combin
of Art and Nature that makes the En
garden the best in the world.

Campanula persicifolia Moerhe

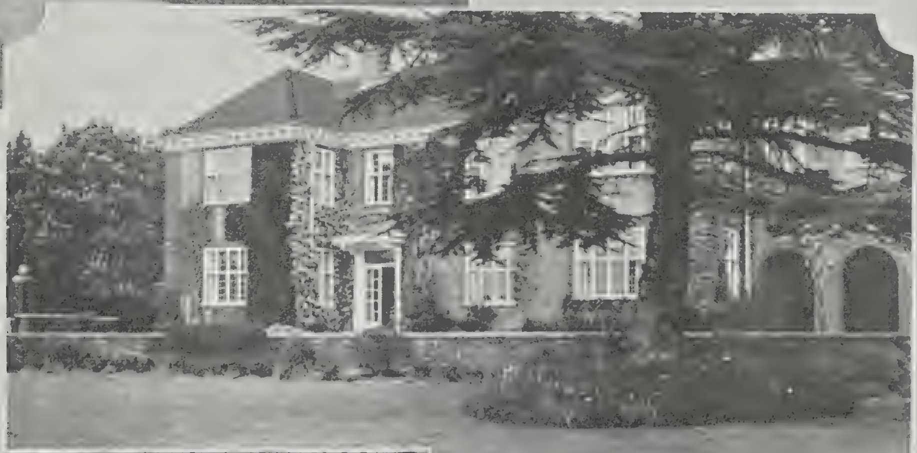
This is a beautiful plant, the flowers
pended on straight, stiff stems, each
18 inches to 2 feet in height. The flov
which are pure white and semi-double,
produced in great abundance. It succee
rich, warm soils in any position, and l
well when associated with Delphiniums.
of the prettiest sights I have ever seen
an avenue some 100 yards long forme
clumps of Delphiniums at intervals of a
2 yards. In the spaces thus formed
Campanula was planted. The plant g
quickly, and soon forms large tufts w
require dividing every second year at l
in fact, every year in some districts shou
the rule. Cuttings may be rooted in the
ground. There should be plenty of su
basal growth for this purpose without i
ing the general appearance of the plant.

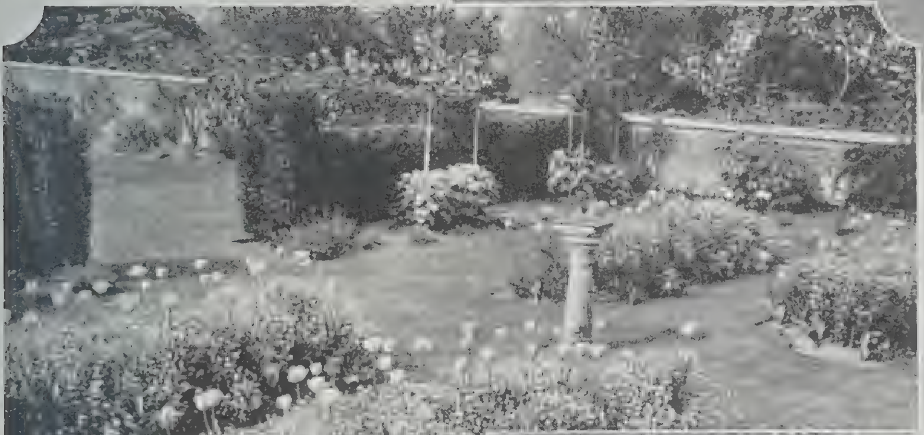
H. Steve



The Terrace
Clematis montana rubens
in the eastern angle

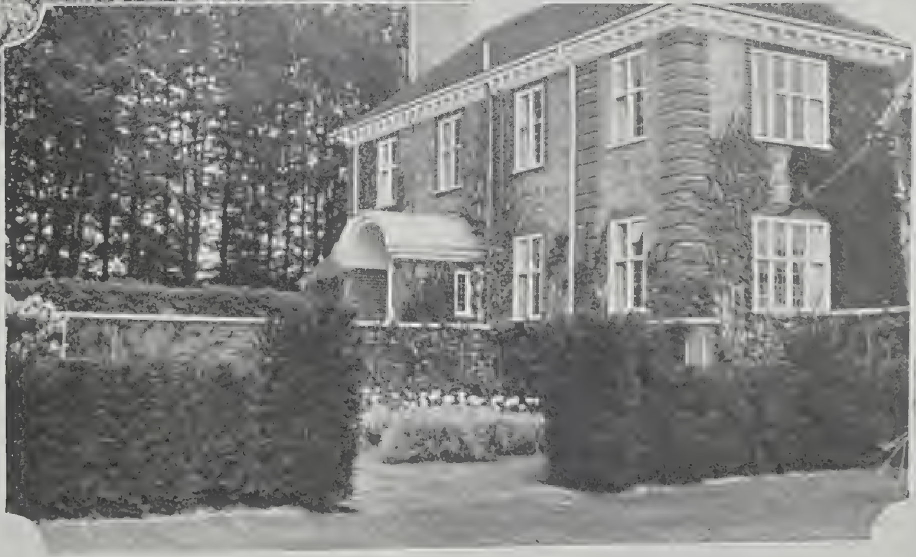
The Lawn and a
Cedar that was
saved





The Sunk Garden
in
Tulip time

Entrance to
Sunk
Garden



IN THE GARDENS AT "NORSEBURY," SUTTON SCOTNEY, HANTS.
The Home of Mr. J. Sutcliffe-Pyman

1879

JUBILEE CELE

Contributio

From the Viscountess Byng of Vimy.

All good wishes to Gardening Illustrated on its birthday. May it long continue to interest and instruct amateurs like myself, who enjoy and appreciate its worth to the fullest extent. Evelyn Byng of Vimy.

Iris sibirica hæmatophylla

Many years ago I had in the garden at Clifton Cottage, York, a plant which really deserved the above name. The flower—not conspicuous for size or colour—was much like that of an ordinary Sibirica, but the leaves were of a darkish red; that is to say, blood-coloured. I flowered it, but eventually lost it. I have never seen it since, nor have I been able to hear of it. My plant, I think, like so many other garden treasures, was due to the generosity of Sir Michael Foster. I should be very glad to possess it again. I am aware that there is a variety of the same name in trade lists, but its foliage is not blood-coloured. G. Yeld.

Orleton, Gerrards Cross.

Fruit of super excellence

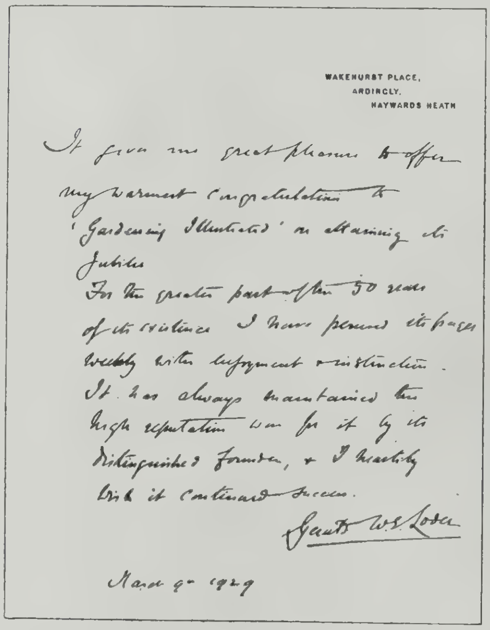
As everybody knows, there are exceptional seasons when fruit is of extra good quality all round. This phenomenon occurs in every climate. Though all fruit may be included in such a season there are always one, two, or more varieties which are exceptionally good. To find, however, all varieties of superexcellence is exceptionally rare. At the Norwich Chrysanthemum Show held November 22nd to 24th, 1928, when all East Anglian fruit was represented in exceptionally fine condition, the Norfolk-grown fruit broke all records in size, shape, weight, beauty of form, and colouring, both trade and amateur.

Take, for example, Pears Doyenné du Comice, Emile d'Heyst, and Louise Bonne of Jersey. These were gigantic in size, yet typically perfect in shape, with a fullness and super-added beauty impossible to believe without being actually seen. The weight, the condition of maturity, and the colour so mellow and typical of perfection. While all the fruit from the whole of East Anglia showed these qualities, it was the fruit grown in Norfolk that completely eclipsed everything else. Norfolk does, and always has, grown the finest fruit in the kingdom, but never anything like this.

Lord Suffield's head gardener had among his exhibit the two best bunches each of Muscat of Alexandria and Gros Colmar Grapes exhibited in 1928. These were superb samples of culture, without a single point at fault. England can grow Grapes. It is a pity they were not shown at the R.H.S. Hall.

For fruit from a farm run purely on commercial lines this was the finest exhibit put up that I can remember, which shows that the older hands of the Victorian era were, and still are, the best exponents of fruit culture. It is appropriate that such a very rare occurrence should not go unrecorded, especially in the Jubilee number of Gardening Illustrated. C. A. Jardine.

From Mr. Gerald W. E. Loder, President of the Royal Horticultural Society :—



WAKEHURST PLACE,
ARDINGLY,
HAYWARDS HEATH

It gives me great pleasure to offer my warmest congratulations to 'Gardening Illustrated' on attaining its Jubilee.
For the greater part of the 50 years of its existence I have perused its pages weekly with enjoyment & instruction. It has always maintained the high reputation won for it by its distinguished Founder, & I heartily wish it continued success.

Gerald W. E. Loder

March 9th 1929

A great achievement

One Friday in March, 1879, I was standing before a railway bookstall when my eyes caught an advertisement which had been written roughly with blue pencil by an enterprising manager: "*See the new gardening weekly, out to-day—'Gardening Illustrated,' One penny.*" Some of the papers had been displayed rather prominently, and there was also a large pile of copies on the stall. By 6 o'clock that night they had all gone. That was how the first penny gardening paper was received in one of our busy midland towns, and it was a criterion of the way this paper was acclaimed all over the country!

I showed my copy to some friends, who saw to it that they were supplied the following week, and they became regular readers. Gardening Illustrated was the pioneer of the cheap weekly journals devoted to horticulture, and its inception was hailed with delight by hosts of amateur gardeners. Up to that time advice on gardening matters had to be sought from papers costing sixpence per week, and was directed mainly to professional gardeners, or those owning large establishments. This information had little or no interest for the small gardener, as many of the articles were too advanced and too long.
What the one with a small or moderate-
garden wanted was a paper that woul
him, without ambiguity, what and ho
sow and plant, and when to do it.
William Robinson, then the Editor of "
Garden," saw that the time was ripe fo
introduction of such a paper for garden l
at a popular price, and so he brought
being Gardening Illustrated. In those
off days there were those who looked
this piece of enterprise as a great adve
attended by no little risk. "Just fancy
remember someone remarking to me,
gardening paper for a penny a week."
Mr. Robinson had courage and faith en
to believe that he was justified in his
mistic outlook, and results proved that he
right in his farsightedness.

For some little time, if my memory doe
deceive me, Mr. Robinson personally
ducted the new paper. Later on it
under the Editorship of the late Mr. W
Thomson, who worthily filled the offic
24 years, and who combined dual qualiti
good gardener and capable editor. At a
like this one cannot help thinking of
many writers who contributed to its colu
during the half-century of its existence
have passed away, men like S. W.
herbert, E. H. Jenkins, W. Iggulden, E
Molyneux (of early-day Chrysanthe
fame), Rev. J. Jacob, and quite rec
James Mayne, whose death I was sor
see announced.

Gardening Illustrated has had its
and downs, and has changed hands on se
occasions since its first year. I ventu
submit that I am expressing the wish
old readers and contributors alike when
that we were pleased when the present
of Benn Bros. purchased it some years s
To them, as well as to its Editor,
Herbert Cowley, who worthily keeps the
flying of the old paper, I would tende
congratulations on the attainment o
Jubilee, and express my best wishes f
future prosperity. Leahur

The advent of "Gardening Illustra

Fifty years ago only well-to-do am
and professional gardeners and th
traders indulged in the luxury of a ga
ing paper. The advent of Gardening I
trated effected a great change. It was
lished at one penny, and thousands of g
lovers of very moderate means rejoiced i
fact that they could obtain a good gard
paper so cheaply, and they were more
pleased when they saw that they coul
advice free of charge. Gardening I
trated reached the masses in a way th
other paper had done. Answers to c
spondents have always been an impo
feature of this paper, and garden owners
may be in any difficulty should apply.
traders were not slow in recognising th

TION NUMBER

1929

n Readers

ARDENING ILLUSTRATED was circulating
all classes, which gave them the op-
ty of doing business with the owners
ll and very moderate-sized gardens.
offered small plants of popular flowers
prices, delivered free by post. There
big response to this offer, and
ds of young plants were sent by letter-
all parts of the kingdom. As an in-
when St. Brigid Anemones were
into notice I raised 10,000 plants, and
ere distributed by post within a month.
the same with some other things, such
nations, Aquilegias, and Delphiniums,
are easily raised from seeds. Then
he parcel post, which enabled traders
r fair-sized plants at very moderate

J. CORNHILL.

et.

Laurus nobilis

only fitting, now that we are cele-
ng the 50th year of the publication
is journal, that it should be offered the
of honour, the wreath of Bay, the
urel of ancient days. We read in
"Trees and Shrubs, etc.":—"This
rue Laurel of the ancients, the one
eaves were used to make crowns for
ant heroes and whose fruiting sprays
wreaths for distinguished poets"—
oets *laureate*. It is much to be re-
that we have lost the name Laurel
t we know as Bay, and that we give
e Laurel to quite another small tree,
lauro cerasus. The name Bay no
rept in from the French, for the
popular name is *laurier-baie*, *baie*
berry. When a wreath of honour
such decoration is wanted, as on the
of the ceremonial "crowning the
" the wreath should be of Bay,
nobilis, not of our commonly called
It is well enough to use our com-
urel where decorations are of large
n, as for triumphal arches and for
ense wreaths that are twined round
t of the Nelson Column on Trafalgar
in such a case it is in better propor-
The confusion between Bay and
has also crept into cookery, for a
f is used with herbs for flavouring
dishes. It is not uncommon to find
es that have evidently been derived
e French that *feuille de laurier* is
d as Laurel leaf. The conscientious
aithfully following the recipe, is
ealing with a leaf that is mildly
is instead of one that is harmless
l flavoured. Of all growing things
nothing much more beautiful in de-
a little branch of Bay; the leaves
ell set on the stems, and their waved
ve a satisfying impression of graceful

G. J.

Fifty years a gardener

There could be no greater testimony to the changes in gardening during the last half-century than the fact that it is possible to have a well stocked flower garden without including any species or variety of plant, bulb, or shrub that was generally known 50 years ago. A century ago or thereabouts there were only three varieties of Sweet Peas—the bicolour purple, the pink and white, and another—and at the time of which I write there were probably not many times this number in commerce.

As to Roses, La France was just becoming common, having been introduced in 1867 as the first Hybrid Tea. The Rose growers used to have a fine show at Midsummer, and for two or three weeks after, but few autumn Roses as we know them. What they had were scented, except Baroness Rothschild. They had to rely upon Hybrid Perpetuals and Teas for bushes and standards. Looking through a catalogue, I see only four non-climbers that were grown then—General Jacqueminot, A. K. Williams, Prince Camille de Rohan, and Charles Lefebvre. But Gloire de Dijon was grown as a standard, and that and Marèchal Niel were the most popular climbers. Ramblers of the Polyantha and Wichuraiana type were unknown, but there were many climbing varieties.

Of our most common flowers to-day, Violas had not come into vogue, if known at all, though Pansies were almost a cult with many real florists. Dahlias were seldom seen, and then, of course, only the incurved varieties, and Chrysanthemums out-doors were still dependent upon an exceptionally genial autumn. And so one might go on with Narcissus, Delphiniums, Chinese Pæonies, etc.

Laurel of ancient days: Laurus nobilis

But I miss the fine majestic Antirrhinums, 3 feet to 4 feet high, with spikes and flowers in proportion.

It is not only the things we did without, and did well, as we thought. An even greater difference was that of taste and fashion. Perennials were mainly grown in cottage gardens and in the less prominent parts of the larger gardens. (I speak of my own locality, for we did not go far outside it.) It was the time of bedding out, rainbow borders, and carpet bedding, most of the garden being planted out in late May and early June, and garden functions in consequence did not generally begin until the middle of July. Geraniums (Pelargonium zonale), with variously-coloured foliage, yellow Calceolarias, Ageratum, blue Lobelias, Heliotrope, Cannas, and Fuchsias, with tender and half hardy annuals like Petunias, French and African Marigolds, Verbenas, Balsams, Stocks, and Asters, were the most usual subjects for bedding out, carpet bedding having its own special dwarf kinds of plants, mainly foliage, not greatly different from those to be seen in public gardens to-day. Annuals sown where they were to bloom were used with good effect by the majority who had no glass for bringing on the multitude of tender and half hardy plants required by the bedding-out system, and though there were no Shirley Poppies, I can remember blazing masses of Nasturtiums, Eschscholtzias, Godetias, red Flax, and Malopes, with no less beautiful displays of the quieter annual Chrysanthemums, Collinsia, and Clarkia.

Daffodils by the path

Few knew the names of any Apples or Pears except Ribstons, Codlings, Blenheims, Russets, Warwickshire Pippins, and Nonpareils, with Williams, Bergamots, Jargonelles, and Catillacs, or Iron Pears, as they called them. Cox's Orange was raised nearly a century ago, but was apparently unknown, while Bramleys, Newtons, Bismarcks, and many others of our most popular varieties did not exist, or were not in commerce.

In conclusion, I think the greatest change of all is in the life of the people. When I first went to an office in London I believe I was almost the only gardener amongst some 200 men. Now the majority of men of mature years have a garden and work in it. Not only is it a healthier recreation than many, but it gives pleasure to others, and increases the wealth of the country. SENEX.

Progress of British horticulture

Looking backward is sometimes profitable and always interesting, and the many changes in gardening which have taken place, the best of which GARDENING ILLUSTRATED has advocated, reveal the great progress of British horticulture. Show and fancy Dahlias were in vogue, and very fine in their own way they were. The writer grew a good number of these. Then, the single Dahlia began to make its appearance. The singles, White Queen and Paragon, were cultivated alternatively with a double scarlet decorative one called Glare of the Garden. Then the first of the Cactus varieties, Juarezii, was introduced, but had to make room in course of time for new Cactus varieties, which were not so tall and did not hide their flowers so much as Juarezii. In the same garden tuberous Begonias were bedded out, but they were poor indeed compared with the superb flowers we have at the present day. Show and fancy Pansies were greatly appreciated, and the Antirrhinum, now such a favourite, was mainly represented by the varieties with striped flowers, which were most popular for exhibition. Pentstemons and Phloxes were much cultivated. The old Scotch Rockets received much care, and a source of great discussion at shows was the quality of the French and, in a lesser degree, the African Marigold. Where hardy plants were cultivated, the number of varieties was but limited. Delphiniums had not reached the stage of perfection they have now attained, and the now popular Lupin was represented by the old blue L. polyphyllus, the bicolour, and the white variety. Aconitums were very limited in their variety. The Pyrethrum was making its way rapidly, and the double Potentillas, now rather neglected, were much cultivated in good gardens. The double forms of Anemone coronaria were the pride of the florist, but the informal St. Brigid varieties had not yet come into their own.

Anemone japonica had for its representatives the type, Honorine Joubert and rosea, but was not generally grown. Few varieties of the border Carnation were to be had; and the old Malmaison nearly monopolised the space for these under glass. The queenly Rose had many lovers, but the choice was but small compared with what we have now. H.P.'s and some Tea Roses, and some of the old favourites and climbers of the Ayrshire type, had to satisfy the lovers of this sovereign flower. Its so-called rival, the Lily, was largely represented by L. candidum, and many made great efforts in vain to succeed permanently with L. auratum, L. chalcedonicum, and L. testaceum seemed more plentiful than now; but, of course, a number of other beauties had not come into cultivation.

Looking backward, too, we appreciate the wealth of shrubs which have been introduced in recent years. One might wander on speaking of the changes in flowers of the open garden. Under glass, the principal changes have been in the neglect of specimen plants, which used to be the pride of the gardener. Much has been written also in disparagement of the Grapes of the present day, but I am not prepared to assert that the general standard of fruit growing under glass has depreciated. In the small garden the scope of the work of the gardener has been immensely increased, but, given time and facilities, I believe that he of the present day can, and does, grow Grapes, Peaches, and other fruits equal, if not superior, to the practician of fifty years ago. The same may be said of outdoor fruit and vegetables. There are reminiscent visits to Kew, Edinburgh, Glasnevin, and other botanic gardens; shows, such as the old Temple ones, Chelsea, Edinburgh, Dublin, and many other places. There are memories of such departed gardeners as Professor Bayley Balfour, W. B. Boyd (of Faldonside), James Allen, James Grieve, Mr. F. W. Burbidge (than whom one had not finer friend), Robert Lindsay (of the Edinburgh Botanic Gardens), Bruce Findlay, James Whitton, the late Rev. C. Wolley-Dod (a giant among hardy plantsmen of his time), that ardent flower lover, W. E. Gumbleton, who hid behind a caustic exterior the kindest of hearts and the greatest courtesy, besides many who are still with us, and whose friendship it is a happiness to have. S. ARNOTT.

Dumfries.

A DAY WITH THE FOUNDER

UR host is seated by a spacious Tudor fireplace where giant Pine logs are blazing cheerfully in the afternoon of a y January day. He occupies an invalid's r—has done these 20 years—but there is ing of the invalid in his faculties of mind, t, voice, and hearing. With surprise we that he is in his 91st year, and he must ly be one of the most wonderful old men g. We have noticed on our way in the ing portrait of him by Duran, showing a dark, upright, and arresting figure of a ant personality in the prime of manhood, a moment later, passing sprays of Garrya tica in the hall and a table bowl contain- Hamamelis, Iris stylosa, and Snowdrops, are in the presence of the original Wm. inson, now mellowed by the years into a -haired, benign gentleman, who receives with the charm and courtesy of an age to most of us is not even a memory.

e has been perusing a budget of the early logues, and expresses his regret at the ine of many fine old nurseries—the ls', Ley's, Frasers', Williams', and rs, and especially of those in London ch the builders have ejected. We remind of the many readers and others of his old ciates who so frequently inquire of him, he is obviously touched by the fact that personality and work are so gratefully embered. He then pays his own tribute he industry and loyalty of W. P. Thom- , who succeeded him as Editor of GARDEN- ILLUSTRATED. We are delighted to hear he pleasure the founder still derives from paper, and he smiles at the recollection ts beginnings, also of the mild sensation it sed. He volunteers to write the story for lication in these pages. Of writing he s but little now, but we were very inter- d to hear that a new edition of "The d Garden" is to appear shortly with new still more beautiful illustrations. Fine d-made paper and good printing are first ciples with him, and he criticises the ghty clay papers of the day which impart ndage to a book without necessarily add- to its quality.

eading is, perhaps, his chief indoor re- tion, and he gets through a good deal of on. Discussing this, he has a dig at the bidity of Hardy and the copiousness of nett. Ruskin has many detractors adays, but he certainly has a devotee in host. He is a great lover and collector ictures, and there is much on his walls would grace a national collection. Of canvases of Mark Fisher, originally a rait painter, who became a great land- e artist, he speaks with particular affec- . Fantin-Latour, of whose work he has y examples, he regards as the greatest of floral painters. Moon, whose art he sed considerably in his publishing days, praises for his faithful delineation of er-form and colour. He speaks glow- y, too, of that great artist and illustrator f is books, Alfred Parsons. The exhibition f Dutch Art at the Royal Academy inter- d him very much, and he had made the aintance of many of the subjects on his ts to Holland.

f the "pictures—that is, the movies—he no experience and little interest in them, the wireless gives him entertainment, fly by its talks, and its music of the pre- period.

e argued that we have all the material fine picture dramas in this country, and n we spoke of California's advantage in inosity for the purposes of film photo- hy he was reminded of his own visit as ery young man to that country, and the book he wrote upon it. There is nothing in the world like our home landscapes, he said, proudly, and, we might add, few Englishmen know that truth more profoundly.

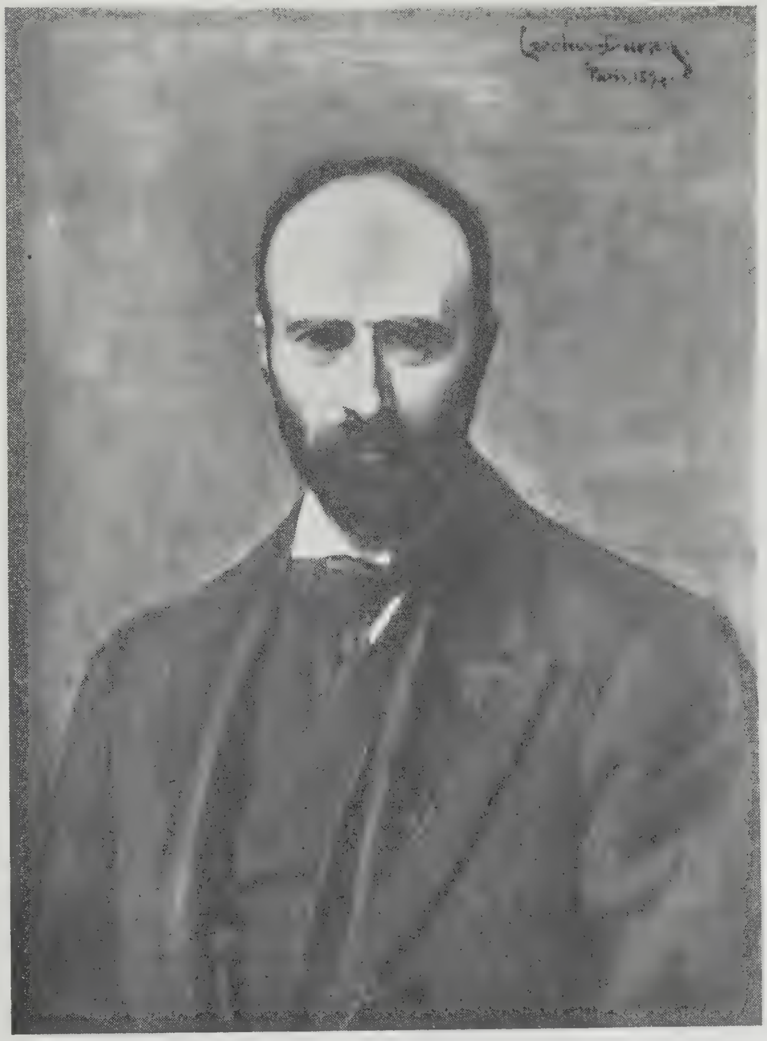
Certainly there is nothing to resemble the gardens and estate of Gravetye. Here can be seen in perfect consummation the ideals so consistently upheld in his many books and in this journal. We had the merest glimpses of his genius in an all too brief tour with his gardener, Mr. Markham, and was there ever a better understanding between a man and his gardener-interpreter as between this pair?

The gardens in January but faintly foreshadow the glory of succeeding foliage, flowers, and fruit. Numerous berried shrubs, especially Berberis in variety, were noted, and several of the Witch Hazels were flowering. The Heath garden, however, held one thing for us in its fullest beauty, that of Erica lusitanica in spires, shoulder high, of limpid green foliage and trusses of delicious white blossom. This fine Portuguese Heath had been in flower since October, and is a shining light of purity and cheer for the dullest days. Erica australis, probably the finest Heath of all, is nearby and will be flowering at its best in May. Walking over the grassy slopes we are reminded that soon these will be a stream of naturalised Snowdrops, Daffodils, and other spring bulbs.

The fruit garden is a thing of wonder—a huge circular enclosure within lofty stone walls—and the effect of these when adorned with the blossom of countless trained and double-cropping trees must be magnificent. Many fine old bushes planted here give promise of the riot of russet, ruby, and golden fruit to come. A robust Wistaria entwines a seat and shelter, and flowers twice a year. Standard fruit trees are so prolific that many trees are sacrificed as supports for these lovely climbers, whose coiling strands have become practically one flesh with their hosts, and Clematises entwine many others. In Wm. Robinson's early days comparatively few varieties of Pear were cultivated to any extent in England. Obtaining from France and elsewhere Pears with larger fruits, he has proved that some of the finest fruit we should otherwise have missed can be successfully grown in this country. On the outer side of the enclosure are a series of lateral walls forming sun traps for the cultivation of Peaches, Apricots, Figs, and other fruit.

Until clothed in the beauty of Roses and various climbers the pergolas stand in monastic grandeur and simplicity, and their shady Lichen-covered pillars and walls, and paving-stones of Old Newgate will call to us in the hot days of summer, when we tramp the sun-baked pavements of London.

A smuggler's lane that formerly led from Lewes ended in the grounds in a deep pit which, now filled with tons of loam, is a corner for Magnolias.



Reproduced from a painting by Carolus Duran, 1874

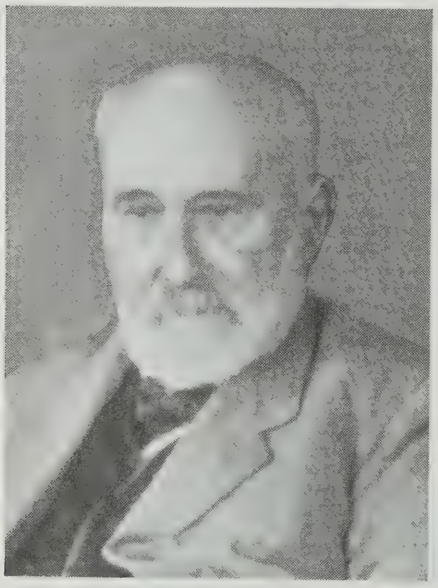
William Robinson, the founder of "Gardening Illustrated"

A wood of Corsican Pines which Wm. Robinson planted as young plants, no bigger than Groundsel, when he first came to the wilderness and sixteenth century derelict manor house that was Gravetye, now stand out like giant protectors of it, and in the midst of these are 70-foot specimens of Abies grandis, which form a landmark for many miles around.

These Pines were thinned out in war time for use as pit props, and are still growing so thickly as to need thinning once more.

A fine stretch of lawn bordered with profusely vegetated walls on either side and a trellis of climbing plants is known as the playground. It is little used for games now, but one day last summer, when a number of children arrayed as flowers were dancing there, Wm. Robinson, innocent of what was going on, was wheeled up, and his delight in these festivities, of which he at once became the hub, was unmistakable, and gave pleasure to everyone.

He is still inexorable on the subjects of topiary and garden "ornaments," and he expresses himself vehemently on these, to him, alien attributes of the English garden. We admired the natural ornament to which he has subjected a porch with its roof hidden beneath and beautified by a drapery of warm-tinted Sedums.



William Robinson
From a recent photograph

The gardener's fine old timbered and moated house, older than the manor itself, is in a delightfully picturesque setting. Colour this bleak day was provided by yellow Jasmine on the walls, a cheerful hedge of Pernettyas, and a prize lot of chickens. The grassy banks of the disused moat will be a mass of Daffodils by this time, and alongside is the now empty bed of a large lake soon to be filled with flowering shrubs in great variety—a treat in store for our next visit. The stream which feeds Gravetye's large lake teeming with fish and with countless Nymphæas on its bosom flows through this garden.

We share tea and further reminiscence with our host, and then his car is in attendance for our journey to the station. We feel that we may have tired him a little by this long discourse, but there is no trace of this as farewells are said; he only expresses eagerness that we should come again to see the full glory of Gravetye in the spring and summer time. The logs blaze and crackle as we go, leaving him to his dreams of the past. He is not living in the past, however, and every fine day "W. R." is about the garden in his chair, or over the estate in his "caterpillar" car, still taking the keenest interest in the work of his large staff. The fires of his genius burn steadily as he plans
schemes of the next 10 years' reconstru
and perfection of this paradisal fastne
the Sussex hills.

RUSLIN LIEV

Progress in the Cultivation of Orchids

THE first half of the last century might be termed the childhood of the Orchid cult. A few species had been introduced and grown previously, but their needs were so little understood that the plants known were regarded as quite outside the scope of the average garden and gardener. The latter half of the century saw a gradual but steady progression, and the last 50 years, particularly from 1870, has seen a wonderful increase, not only in the number of species grown, but, as their cultural requirements became better understood, by their inclusion into the greater number of gardens having greenhouse accommodation, and, particularly of late years, in their cultivation by amateurs who, possessing but one or two glasshouses, act as their own gardener and find in the Orchid an attractive and pleasurable hobby.

It must be nearly, or quite, 50 years ago when, as a schoolboy, I saw, to remember, an Orchid for the first time, a single bloom of the Dove Orchid (Peristeria elata). Its curious structure even then made an impression on me.

My next recollection—a decade later—is as a young gardener getting into hot water for allowing cold water from a syringe to fall on some plants of Cattleya Mossiæ, which were in full bloom. As a youngster the foreman should have warned me, but the head gardener synchronised at the moment and at once defined my crime to me—in full, with, to me, many quite unnecessary digressions and details.

Since then many Orchids have passed through my hands, but Peristeria elata and Cattleya Mossiæ still bring recollections.

From 1870 the rapid increase in Orchids was not only due to the enormous numbers imported, but to the attention given them by the hybridist. Previously only a few Cypripediums, Dendrobiums, Cattleyas and Lælio-Cattleyas, a hybrid between a Phaius and a Calanthe, and a few Calanthes, notably C. Veitchii, had been in commerce, but attention was given to practically all the showy species and genera, and to-day there are probably more hybrids than species grown.

A visit to one of the R.H.S. exhibitions will give some idea of the number of Cypripedium, Cattleya, Lælio-Cattleya, Odontoglossum, and Miltonia hybrids grown to-day and of their value for decoration.

In 1904 a great stride was made with Odontoglossums, a hybrid being evolved between O. Pescatorei (nobile) and Cochlioda Noezliana, with bright red flowers, a colour previously unknown in Odontoglossums. To-day Odontiodas are quite common, and as Orchid hybrids readily intercross with allied hybrids, forms are now obtained with nearly the size of the Odontoglossum flowers, and an intensity of colour quite outside the natural limits of that genus.

Possibly no other family of plants has received such attention from the hybridist, nor has given such varied, diverse, and useful results. Fortunately, some of the older species and hybrids are still in cultivation, and comparison can be made between, say, Cypripediums insigne, barbatum, villosum, and Spicerianum, and the broadly dorsalled, richly coloured forms which are continually being exhibited.

A further illustration may be given in Cymbidiums. The last 10 years has seen a complete revolution in this genus. The species Lowianum, Tracyanum, eburneum, Hookerianum, etc., are still occasionally seen, but the introduction of insigne wit
tall, erect spikes, has, through the hybr
given rise to a new race with tall, arc
spikes and flowers of varying tints
white to red.

Still the work goes on. The last 50
has seen decided progress, but finality is
yet reached. Just as years ago the
known species were the forerunners of
present-day hybrids, so in years to come
to be hoped they, in turn, will form the
of yet more decorative forms.

Thirty years ago no one could have
seen the height to which Cymbidiums
now reached. True, it needed the intro
tion of distinct species, such as insigne
erythrostylum, but it is very doubtful i
the showy Orchids have yet been discove
There are still localities in the world w
such plants may exist, and if not
hybridiser has still an enormous fiel
which to work.

A reference to Williams' Orchid Man
published in 1877, gives some 115 genera
about 1,000 species, varieties, and hybrid
being in cultivation, *i.e.*, in Orchid co
tions. Sander's Orchid hybrid list to
contains about 2,000 hybrids in Cypriped
alone.

E. COOPE

Monsieur Aubriet: His flow

A note on a beloved flower first introd
into this country 220 years ago, and na
after a once well-known French bota
draughtsman, may not be out of place on
occasion, for if we except the Kabschia
frages it is hard to think of any occupa
the rock garden which has been so impr
and gone from glory to glory during the
time of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED as
Aubrietia. Of the ten or so original vari
from Southern Europe and the Levant
only, Leichtlini, perhaps itself a hybrid,
hold its own with the new large-flow
Aubrietias from which we may make
choice.

But to-day this paper may look bac
years to the so-called grotto, resplendent
white marble, broken statues, foun
(how well one can remember the decli
days of these pretentious abomination
otherwise blameless gardens), Ferns, F
without end, and Aubrietia; not
Aubrietias we delight in now, but the
Deltoidea and Tauricola, those plants w
are still offered on market stalls as "P
Rock Cress," a name which strikes
the more ambitious plant lover who kn
the glories of the new race.

As discerning ladies choose their col
from a thousand shades of the dyer's
only in a northern light, so Aubrietias, es
ally the mauves and purples, must be
in certain lights to be enjoyed to their
Go to your garden at sunset, when there
glow in the sky, such as delights sheph
and then will your banks of Aubrietias
sume those indescribable colours ran
from blue to fiery purple, which may we
the most wonderful mass colour effect ob
able in our gardens.

The last 25 years have brought m
hybrids, among the first and most notab
which were Moerheimii and Fire King,
now eclipsed by newer introductions, suc
Gloriosa and Rosea splendens. Among
older mauves and violets Prichard's A1,
Lloyd Edwards, and Dr. Mules still
their own, the first being Commended in

7 R.H.S. trials, where Carnival, of a rich ple-violet, received the Award of Merit, ether with Vindictive, described as "rich, ght, rosy-red, fading somewhat," a colour ich, to the wary, narrowly escapes genta. Both these varieties were raised Mr. Clarence Elliott, so we may be sure t the shade of M. Aubriet looks down on garden and smiles, while we, for our part, happy to live in that comparatively small t of the globe where one may enjoy the tivation of these glories.

tudland, the newest and best of the pale ender flowers, brings to mind another ilar plant with a history. In an out-of--way corner of Northamptonshire acres of orietia are planted. The grower owned a which, as faithful dogs are to lonely n, was his master's inseparable companion. Fate deprived the man of his comion, which was buried in a corner of the l of Aubrietias with a mound to mark the t. As the months passed, the master iced on the grave a seedling Aubrietia, ich in due time bore beautiful large ender flowers, distinctive from any that l ever grown there before, an In moriam to a faithful friend. . . .

o if any should happen upon Aubrietia elity he will treasure it for its history, l will, perhaps, remember the lines of the e old Omar of Naishapur:—

sometimes think that never blows so red
he Rose as where some buried Cæsar
bled;
hat every Hyacinth the garden wears
ropt in her lap from some once lovely
head."

F. H. F.

Memories of Chiswick

As an old friend and a contributor of some long standing to the pages of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED may I be permitted to offer both the Proprietors and its Editor my sincere congratulations on this auspicious occasion, when the journal, having reached its fiftieth year of publication, is now celebrating its Jubilee.

Having for so many years been somewhat closely connected with the paper as a result of writing for, and enjoying the friendship of its Editors, I have had ample opportunity for witnessing its growth and development, or, in other words, have seen it attain first its majority and now its Jubilee.

Such a result cannot be otherwise than intensely gratifying both to its founder, Mr. W. Robinson, and the present owners of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. Founded in 1879, it has enjoyed a long and successful career, widely circulating among amateurs and others, for whose particular needs it has always catered, and being, moreover, as its pages evince, so frequently and freely adorned with illustrations depicting garden scenes, portraits of plants, and so forth, it has not only attained a high standard of efficiency, but fully justifies its title.

Many important changes have taken place with regard to the Royal Horticultural Society since or during the period under review. For instance, Mr. Barron, the Superintendent at Chiswick, retired, and was succeeded by my esteemed friend the late S. T. Wright, who held the post first at Chiswick and afterwards at Wisley with great success. The National Pear and Apple Conferences were held in Mr. Barron's time, but the Vegetable Conference took place under Mr. Wright's superintendence. Then began the holding of those wonderful shows in the Temple Gardens, Holland House, and after the abandonment of the Temple shows those held in the Hospital grounds at Chelsea with such remarkable success every spring. The great autumn fruit shows were held at Crystal Palace and afterwards in the Hall, Vincent Square.

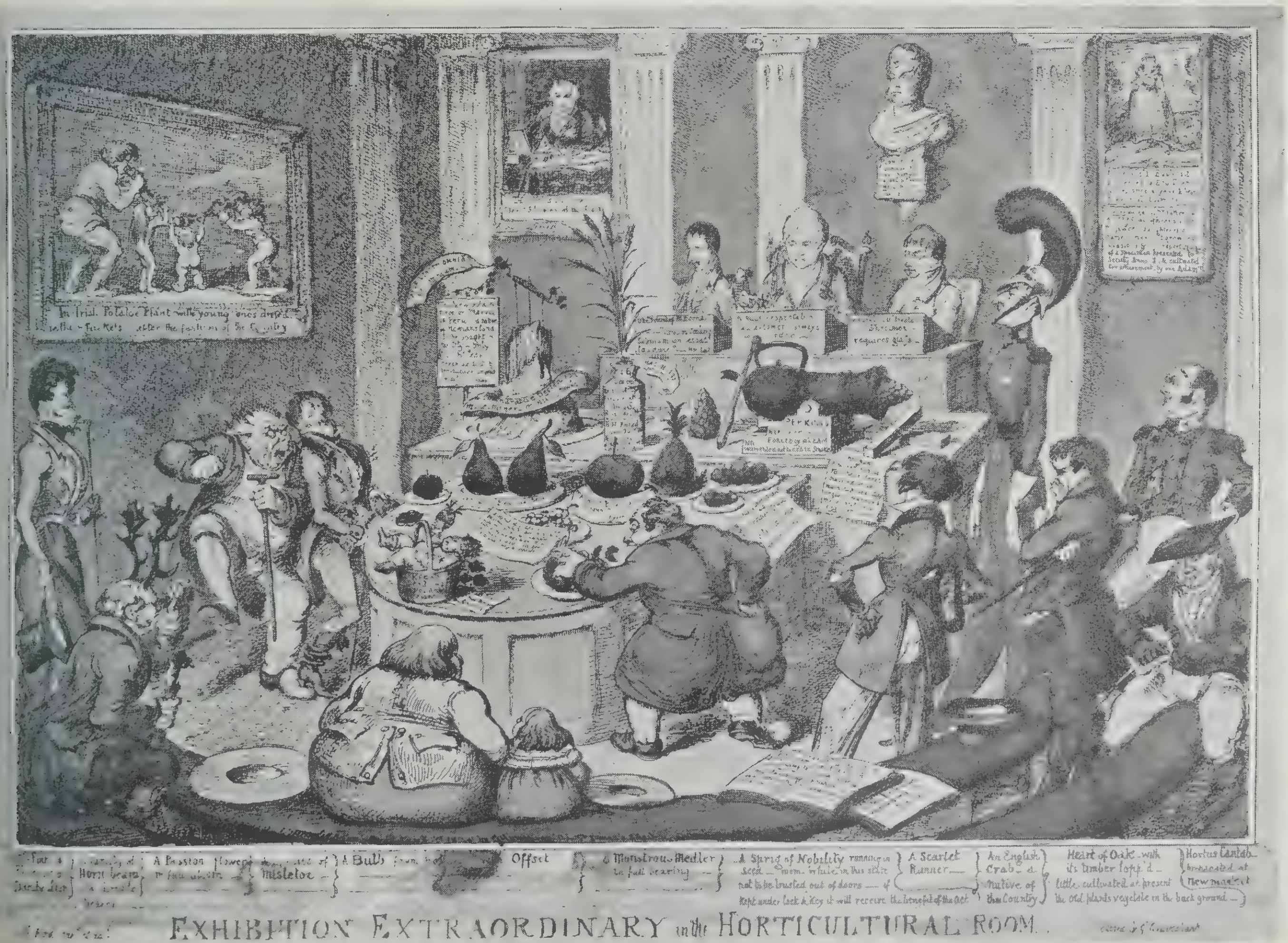
With the presentation of Wisley to the Society, Chiswick was finally vacated. Personally, I was sorry to leave it and its old associations.

A. WARD.

Shading greenhouses in spring

Few people appreciate how helpful it is to shade some portion of the house, at least in spring, especially where young plants and seedlings are being pushed on for outdoor growing. Those who have greenhouses know full well that in March and April a few hours' sun will cause the thermometer to soar, and young seedlings, especially those on shelves near the glass which may have only germinated a short time, are liable to become dried and scorched. It is not suggested that a "wash" should be applied to the glass so early, but one can at all events manage to give them temporary relief from heat, even if it is only by sheets of paper fixed over pans and boxes. I have found strips of muslin to answer very well, and if hooks and eyes are used one can soon fix up and take them down without much trouble.

W. F.



Horn beam
A Passion flower
misletoe
A Bulb
Offset
Monstrous Medler in full bearing
A Sprig of Nobility running to seed — while in this state not to be trusted out of doors — if kept under lock & key it will receive the benefit of the Act
A Scarlet Runner
An English Crab a Native of the Country
Heart of Oak with its timber lopp'd — little cultivated at present the Old plants vegetate in the back ground
Hortus Cantab
EXHIBITION EXTRAORDINARY in the HORTICULTURAL ROOM.

Caricature of one of the Royal Horticultural Society's early meetings by Cruikshank, 1826

MY GRANDMOTHER

By Sir William Lawrence, Bart.

Volume 68 (1842) of "Curtis' Botanical Magazine" is dedicated

To

MRS. LAWRENCE,

of Ealing Park, Middlesex,
the beauty of whose gardens and pleasure grounds,
and whose
most successfully cultivated vegetable
treasures are only equalled by
the liberality with which they are shown to
all who are interested in
Botany and Horticulture,
the present volume is dedicated,
with sentiments of great regard and esteem,
By her faithful and
obedient humble servant,
W. J. Hooker.

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew,
August 1, 1842.

EALING PARK is situated in the centre of what was called until recently Little Ealing, between Brentford and South Ealing Station. The house remains, and from the time it was sold by my father and his sisters in 1869 it has been in the hands of various Roman Catholic communities. At present it is occupied by the community of St. Vincent de Paule. The Mother Superior, a charming person, who is interested in gardening, showed me round the house and what remains of the garden nowadays. Some of the colonnade of the Italian Garden is still standing with a melancholy Magnolia; the garden of about 2 acres to 3 acres is given up entirely to vegetables; the dairy, an elegant octagonal structure, is still there, but the charming pond has long since been drained. The famous avenue of Deodars, to which reference is made below, has long disappeared, but there are still in the vicinity one or two fine Cedars and Ilexes which must have been in the Park.

During the decade 1840-1850 Mrs. Lawrence was the most famous gardener of her age. At Ealing Park she gave great afternoon parties, when the carriages stretched for a mile and a half along the London road. To these parties came from Windsor or Buckingham Palace Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort, and it was in the early 'forties, when the Night-flowering Cactus was about to flower for the first time in this country, that my Grandmother arranged to send a groom to Buckingham Palace as soon as the great event was imminent; the Queen and the Prince Consort arrived at Ealing Park at 9 in the evening, and were duly rewarded. From Kew Palace, half a mile away, came the Duchess of Gloucester and
the Duchess of Cambridge, and the crov
heads who were wont to lunch with
Duchesses at Kew would go thence to
House to see the Duke of Northumberla
collection, and take tea afterwards at E
Park. The King and Queen of Belg
the King of Saxony (a great botanist),
King of Hanover, Princess Sophia,
Grand Duchess of Mecklenbourg, the D
of Cambridge, Gloucester, Buckingham
Chandos, Devonshire, Northumberland,
ford, the Duchesses of Montrose and
Inverness, and the Marchioness of Lon
derry—all keen gardeners—were freq
visitors.

As the extracts given below show, my gr
mother's correspondence on plants was
interesting, and it is a matter of great re
that so few of the letters written to her
been preserved.

Mrs. Lawrence of Ealing Park

AMHERSTIA NOBILIS

There was great rivalry between E
Park, on the one hand, and the Duk
Devonshire at Chiswick and Chatsw
My Grandmother scored the first point in
game by flowering Amherstia nobilis in
and the Duke of Devonshire writes on M
19th, 1849:—"I cannot refrain from wr
to congratulate you on your success in flo
ing Amherstia nobilis. Although it has
for many years a severe disappointmen
me that my tree has not flowered, I ca
but rejoice that you have proved that
to be accomplished—though perhaps
only your skill and management that
succeed.

"I am going to call at Ealing Park
morning, but not in expectation of seeing
plant—which, however, when in its pe
tion, you will allow me to look at, with
rest of the admiring world.

"Dr. Lindley informed me that he u
stood it was by excessive moisture and
that you accomplished the *great event.*"

Two years later the plant seems to
flowered again, and on January 15th,
the Duke writes:—"I am enchanted b
magnificent branches of Amherstia, an
is Mr. Paxton, who arrived last night in
to see the flower in perfection. I hope
I am not doing wrong in taking them
me to Brighton, where I think for se
days they will retain their beauty."

And again in an undated letter:—
thousand thanks, my dear Madam. I a
astonished at the beauty of the flower
that it has opened. It is very kind of y
send it to me, though I should have r
any degree of cold for the pleasure of s
it."

Lord Hardinge, who was then Gove
General of India, was naturally interest
this plant, which he introduced to this
try from Calcutta in 1847, and of whic
writes in 1849:—"I was delighted to re
your beautiful specimen of the Amh
which I took this morning to Bucking
Palace, but Her Majesty had gone to W
sor, and, as it was useless to forward
delighted Lady James with the sight of

"In the Calcutta Garden the flowers a
greater length, but certainly not larger
I congratulate you on your triumphant
cess in being the only person who has
it flower in Europe." And:—"I am
lighted that your scientific treatment o
Amherstia should have been crowned
success for the first time in Europe.
Duke of Devonshire, and the greate
horticulturists, Mr. Paxton, may be jea
but comparing the state of your plant

at of H.M. at Kew at the time each arrived the country there can be no doubt as to e cause of your victory.”

Amherstia nobilis now flowers regularly in o. 1 House at Kew, and I believe the plant a descendant of the original plant intro-uced into this country in the ’forties. Of its eauty I can but quote Nicholson, who says : “ A stove evergreen tree of almost unsur-assed magnificence and brilliancy . . . no bject in the whole range of the vegetable ingdom presents a more striking aspect an this tree.” It was 11 feet high when first flowered at Ealing Park.

THE VICTORIA REGIA

The second point was scored by Chats-orth, where in 1849 Victoria regia flowered, nd the Duke writes :—“ Mr. Paxton has told e of the kind interest you have taken in e successful treatment of Victoria regia. It very beautiful, and has such varied interest at I hope you will come and look at it. ext Thursday another bud will open, and if ou) would come on that day and stay over riday you would be able to see all its hanges. I shall be delighted to show you lso some other plants worth your attention. . . . The express train to Amber Gate, aving London at 9, will have orders to op at that place; you then rail to Rowsley, here a carriage will meet you—this is in-erring that you can do without your own arriage—and in my empty house you will ot need une grande toilette.”

My Grandmother, however, did not make e journey, as ten days later the Duke rites :—“ I regret extremely to find that ill-ess was the cause of your not coming. Sir illiam Hooker, on his arrival, told me he ared it was impossible you should come, d your most kind letter arrived this orning.

“ You expressed so cordially your readiness take the trouble of so long a journey that shall look forward with great pleasure to u doing so at a future time and in more vourable season.

“ The sixth flower was to have opened last night, but did not, being evidently disappointed in not seeing you—and this very dark morning makes me almost fear that Sir William may not see its glories.”

On January 28th, 1850, Paxton writes :—“ The Victoria regia is in a very flourishing state with us at Chatsworth, and continues to flower finely; the leaves are also again increasing in size. It is, however, very difficult to judge yet of its habits, whether annual, biennial, or perennial, but I should judge the latter. We have a quantity of fine seeds sown, so that should it prove annual I trust it will not be lost to the country.

“ I regret to learn that nearly all the plants around London are gone or going, but hope you are more successful at Ealing.”

Mr. Paxton was the famous gardener and architect who constructed the Great Conservatory at Chatsworth, now demolished, and subsequently planned the Crystal Palace.

Deodars at Ealing Park

THE LOTUS

Nor was the Duke of Northumberland at Syon House backward. His triumph was the Lotus (Nelumbium speciosum), and on October 4th, 1841, the Duchess writes from Alnwick Castle :—“ We have just heard from Syon that the Nelumbium is again going to blossom, and the Duke will direct the gardener to inform you when it has expanded, as it is so short a time in a state of perfection.” Whether my Grandmother saw this plant in flower on that occasion is doubtful, for on September 21st, 1844, the Duchess writes again :—“ I received your letter in Wales, when I was unable to find a moment to tell you the Nelumbium had been some time out of blossom at Syon. I hope you will excuse the delay, and I shall not forget your wish to see it the next time any flowers appear. Our gardener is very sanguine on the subject, and thinks we shall have many more next year.” At that time both Syon House and Northumberland House were being shown, as there are several references by the Duchess to cards of admission and season tickets. An undated letter from Syon thanks Mrs. Lawrence for a plant of “ Clitonia,” probably “ Clintonia ” was meant. The Duke and Duchess were wont to return to Alnwick in the early autumn, as the Duchess expresses her surprise at finding “ The Roses and Strawberries still in high beauty ! ”

(*To be continued.*)

The Dairy Pond, Ealing Park

CONTRIBUTORS IN THE EARLY DAYS

By Robert W. Wallace, V.M.H.

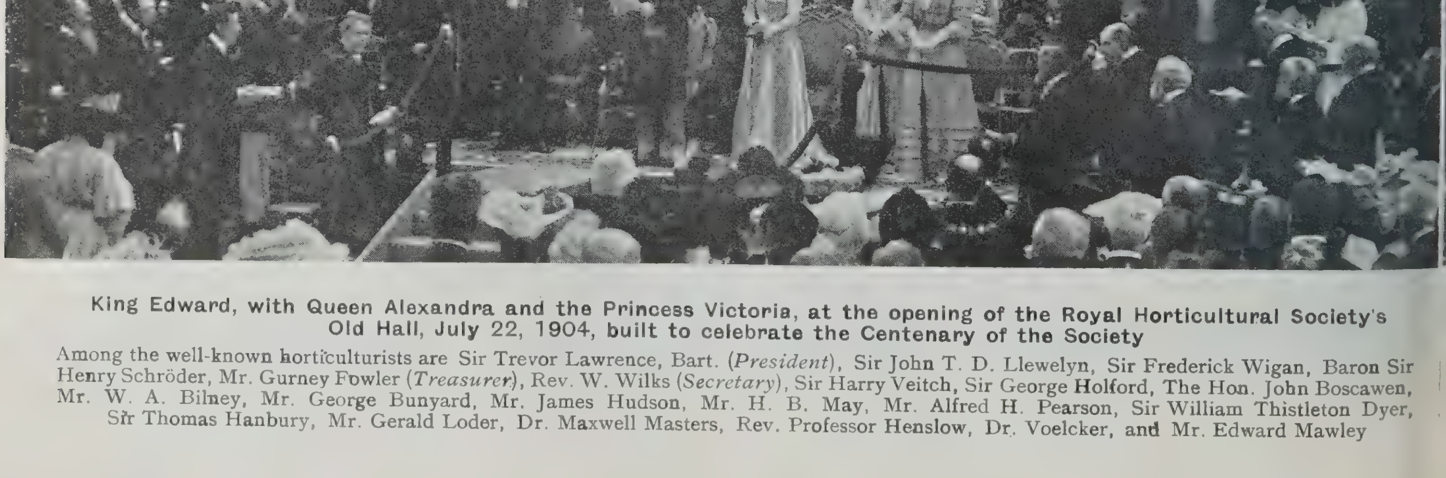
FIFTY years is a long period, especially nowadays, when matters move so fast and change succeeds change in almost unbelievable sequence. Horticulture has, however, moved with the times so much so, that the names of those who contributed in the early days to the pages of Gardening Illustrated and thus helped to lay the foundation of its success are, I suppose, almost unknown to the present-day readers.

To me there is no greater pleasure than to dip into the pages of the past in the paper under consideration and recall the many gardening personalities I knew of and in some cases met. Therefore at the risk, Mr. Editor, of incurring in some measure a feeling of "what is the old duffer writing about," I would like to mention some of the many eminent horticulturists connected with the early days of Gardening Illustrated. In the following remarks I shall refer to much that often appeared in the early pages of "The Garden" as well as Gardening Illustrated, which papers were, to all intents and purposes, both speaking with the same voice—the voice of "W. R." I well remember 37, Southampton Street, Strand, the early home of the paper, and every week the display of the current issues in the windows—"The Garden" with its coloured plates, Gardening Illustrated, and "Farm and Garden." I never went to Stevens's Auction Rooms or Covent Garden except by way of Southampton Street to have a look at the windows. Sometimes I found myself going up the small dark stairs to the little rooms above where, on certain occasions, was to be found "W. R." himself and some of his able henchmen, William Golding, W. P. Thomson, and later E. T. Cook, and in the 'nineties A. Herrington, one of the best writers in those latter days.

It is not necessary here to say much as to the aims and objects of these papers, but they seem to have gathered around them in the early days the support of all the professional horticultural writers as well as the leisured and cultured class who made hardy plant gardening their pastime and pursuit, and it is astonishing how free they were in contributing to "W. R.'s" pages the knowledge they possessed and notes about new and rare plants. Amongst the early writers was the late Max Leichtlin, of Baden-Baden, an enthusiastic cultivator and producer of hardy plants from all over the world. Everything he wrote was practical and to the point. I met him once in his garden at Baden, when, alas, he was in failing health. We have his name attached to many fine plants.

A great rosarian, Dean Hole wrote many scholarly and witty articles. I suppose there was no one at that date who did more for the Rose industry than his personal interest and writings. Amongst your present-day contributors is Mr. E. H. Woodall, of Nice, who knows more about Riviera gardens than most. I find him writing as long ago as 1879 and onwards—a fine record. Also it was a great pleasure to see him in London in good health at the last Iris Show, and your readers will doubtless remember a note from him on the show itself. Some of your many readers will remember the Rev. H. Ewbank, of St. John's, Isle of Wight. His contributions, especially on Irises and other semi-hardy bulbs, are to be found scattered throughout the 'eighties and early 'nineties. He was greatly interested in the cultivation of Oncocyclus Iris, and once, when visiting him at St. John's, he showed me, with great pride, a new frame he had had constructed for their culture, with a paved bottom, and, after flowering, the lights were to be put on so as to ensure a thorough baking-up of the rhizomes. I remember he showed me, with great pride, how he had wintered Vallota purpurea in the open by enclosing the neck of the bulb in a glass bottle. A grand Yorkshire gardener was John Wood, of Kirkdale, near Leeds, a great hardy plantsman. For many years he contributed excellent notes on hardy plants and their culture, and he started a very famous hardy plant club. I wonder what he would have said as to the recent correspondence on rock gardens in which his son has taken so prominent a part? I fancy he would have thought more of the plants in the rock garden than the stone which comprised the rock garden or its placing. I note frequent contributions signed "G. J.," wrote then, as now, on the necessity harmonious arrangement of the flo border and the beauty of simple p combinations for house decoration. G. F. Wilson, of Wisley, was a g plantsman. His development of Wisley always been a great inspiration and incen to natural gardening. From 1875 onwa hardly a season passed without mention his garden and the rare plants he grew, ticularly Lilies. How much do the pres day Fellows of the R.H.S. owe to his orig developments of the Wisley wood and opportunity afforded by "W. R." of rec ing from time to time progress of the w In "The Wild Garden," written over years ago, can be read one of the finest pictures of Wisley it is possible to imag The mention of the foregoing brings to m the Rev. C. Wolley-Dod, whose garden Edge Hall, Cheshire, was of great beaut masses of flowering plants and shrubs in set plan, but grouped, nevertheless, in a h monious setting in sloping lawns. His upright, grey-haired figure was always to seen at the Temple Show in the late 'nine with W. E. Gumbelton, F. W. Burbi and other keen plantsmen. He also w with great learning and charm. In your cent columns frequently appear interest notes from Col. A. H. Wolley-Dod, son the above. A few weeks ago he adv readers of Gardening Illustrated not take too much notice of what catalogues s but to go to the nurseries and see the pl for themselves. Read what his father w in July, 1892 :—

"In conclusion, I may advise those are forming collections of hardy herbace plants to do their best to visit the nurse at the time when what they intend to bu in flower, and if they are offended with appearance of any of the plants they h seen recommended not to buy those pla but at the same time not to condemn judgment of those who have recommen them unless they are sure that what has praised is the same as what they see be them.—C. Wolley-Dod."



King Edward, with Queen Alexandra and the Princess Victoria, at the opening of the Royal Horticultural Society's Old Hall, July 22, 1904, built to celebrate the Centenary of the Society

Among the well-known horticulturists are Sir Trevor Lawrence, Bart. (*President*), Sir John T. D. Llewelyn, Sir Frederick Wigan, Baron Sir Henry Schröder, Mr. Gurney Fowler (*Treasurer*), Rev. W. Wilks (*Secretary*), Sir Harry Veitch, Sir George Holford, The Hon. John Boscawen, Mr. W. A. Bilney, Mr. George Bunyard, Mr. James Hudson, Mr. H. B. May, Mr. Alfred H. Pearson, Sir William Thistleton Dyer, Sir Thomas Hanbury, Mr. Gerald Loder, Dr. Maxwell Masters, Rev. Professor Henslow, Dr. Voelcker, and Mr. Edward Mawley

A curious coincidence of the same train of hought expressing itself from father to son fter an interval of nearly 50 years.

One notices the initials of " F. W. B." ccurring continuously. The late F. W. Burbidge, of Trinity College Botanic Gardens,)ublin, was a fine, concise speaker, as well s a scientific writer on all garden subjects. n the early days he was one of those who ook great interest in the development of the)affodil, and was a very fine judge of the ame, frequently judging at the Bath Show n the late " R. S.'s " time. In 1884 the)affodil Conference took place, which led to nuch correspondence from W. B. Hartland, f Cork, Peter Barr, G. H. Engleheart, J. T. 3ennett Poë, and many others. This was at he time when Mme. de Graaf was first hown by Simon de Graaf, of Leyden, and reated such a sensation, especially when he sked five guineas a bulb, a price unheard of n those days.

" W. E. G.," or W. E. Gumbelton, of)ueenstown, was a frequent correspondent. Ie had a fine plant collection and was deoted to the trying out of all novelties. His vell-known expression, " a tish plant," was requently applied to new plants of little nerit. His correspondence was conducted n odd sheets of paper, but, for all that, he vas a most extraordinarily well-informed nan, from whom one could learn much. In the arly days we find occasional contributions rom G. Maw, the Crocus enthusiast. He reated once his impressions on seeing Chionooxa Luciliæ for the first time. Climbing he mountains one early spring in Asia Minor or Crocus he suddenly came across a snowovered plateau from which sprung myriads f Chionodoxa Luciliæ, forming a blue carpet, ne sight of which so overwhelmed him as render him speechless for some time. Ience the name " The Glory of the Snow."

On looking back one is struck with the umber of contributors " W. R." ranged round him in the early days of his publicaons. Learned men of culture, enthusiastic ardeners, all poured out their experiences eek by week. It seemed as if the hardy lant world of those days was asleep before W. R." awoke it with his voice crying out gainst the old Victorian bedding-out system nd the need of more extended recognition of ne value of the hardy plant, and his publicaons seemed to tune in with what so many hers were thinking at the same time that ney met with such instantaneous success.

I have mentioned but a mere handful of ose early contributors, but too many more ould be wearisome. The professional garn writer was, of course, fully in evidence— mention only a few, R. and A. Dean, G. ythes, R. P. Brotherston, of Scotland, . T. Fish, of Bury St. Edmunds, a prolific riter on Roses, E. H. Jenkins, of rather ter days, a clever writer, and W. Watson, Kew. It is no exaggeration to say that l the expert knowledge and practical exrience of those times was at the disposal of W. R." at the period I write of, testifying no uncertain manner to the popularity of publications. To those who have the oprtunity of reading from time to time the rly volumes of " The Garden " and GARENING ILLUSTRATED they can find no more joyable task than turning the pages over d reading of the times I have just menned.

In conclusion, may I join with others in e fact that " W. R." is still with us and le to enjoy the beauties of Gravetye.

otect wall fruits

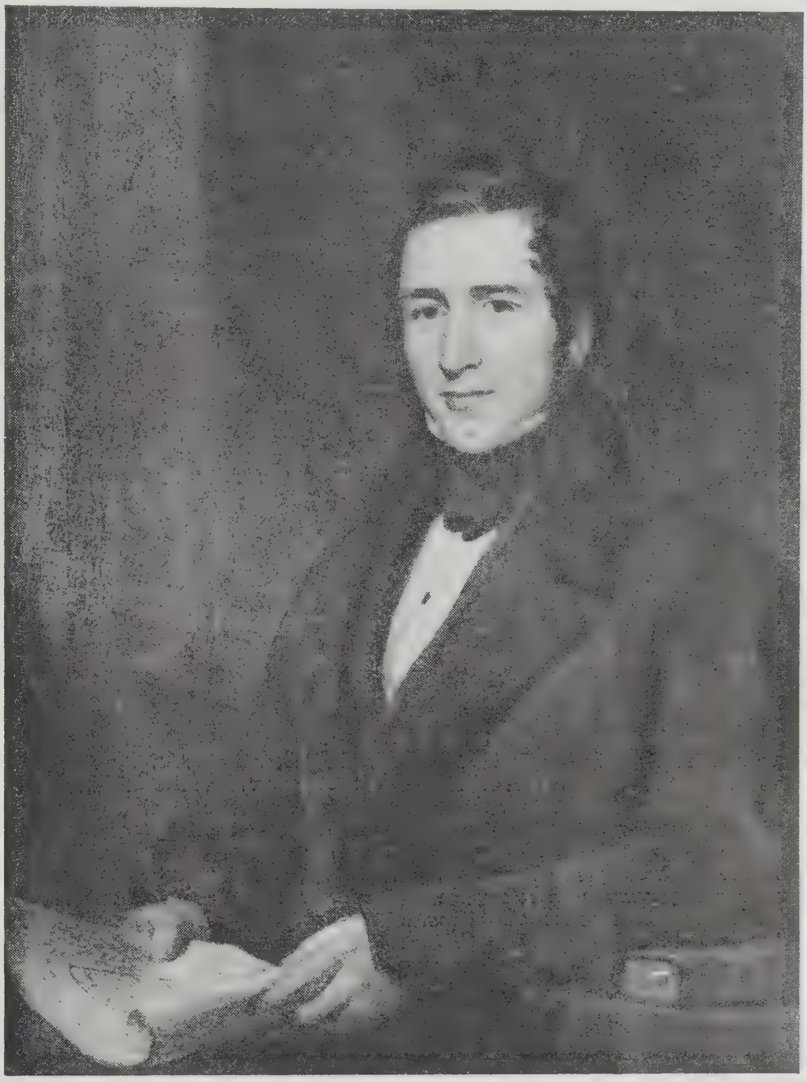
As soon as fruit blossoms begin to show lour some means should be adopted for otecting them from frost. Movable blinds e best, but a double ply of fruit netting ry often achieves the purpose.

Rose memories

By HENRY MERRYWEATHER.

When I was a boy, about 80 years ago, from memory the first Rose which caught my eye was a bloom of the old Moss Rose, lovely then, and it has not lost its charm today. In very early life I commenced to bud Roses, and the first was W. Jesse and Mme. Laffay H.P., Coupe d'Hébé, Charles Lawson, Chemdolle La Marylle Solfaterre, and what a charm had I when I first saw Souvenir de la Malmaison, Bourbon Queen, and others of that type.

Passing over many Roses we used to admire we come to the days of General Jacqueminot and Gloire de Dijon. About this time I heard a great admirer of Roses declare if he had committed any great offence and was only allowed to have one Rose it would be Gloire de Dijon. Fine Roses now began to make their appearance. I remember going to Caunton, and in the garden of the great Rose King I first saw Charles Lefebvre. Can you understand my feeling to see one of the finest Roses that ever saw light? And about this time came a great many beautiful varieties, and in their company came the finest Rose that ever was raised, and I venture to say will never be surpassed, and that is Maréchal Niel in its best form as I saw it here in the year 1863, for March 10th we cut 1,500 beautiful blooms to decorate a banquet in honour of the Prince of Wales' wedding. About this time a man came forward who started " G.I.," and, in his rambles, called to see me, in company with the Rev. S. R. Hole. That was Mr. W. Robinson. People wondered who is this Mr. W. Robinson? They quickly got to know a man of strong and splendid ideas of gardens and how to plant them, whose name will be heard for many years to come as the great garden reformer.



Sir Joseph Paxton

Employed in the gardens of the R.H.S. at Chiswick at 18s. a week in 1826, Paxton, afterwards to become Sir Joseph Paxton, attracted the attention of the Duke of Devonshire, who took him to Chatsworth. Here, between 1836 and 1840, he supervised the building of the Great Conservatory. In 1850 he submitted the successful design in the competition for the Great Exhibition of 1851, and two years later moved the building from Hyde Park to the Crystal Palace. He was made a Vice-Presideet of the R.H.S. in 1846. He died in 1865, aged 64. *(See page 182)*

Carnations from seed

If sown at once, in pans of light, sweet compost and set in a genial warmth, the resulting plants will, in most cases, bloom in autumn. Procure a reliable strain and then the percentage of good double flowers will be high.

The Evolution of the Daffodil Over Half a Century

By Albert F. Calvert, F.C.S., Author of "Daffodil-growing for Pleasure and Profit"

We have become so accustomed to the Daffodil as a flower with which we expect to renew acquaintance every spring that the younger generation, and, maybe, some of the older among us, may not fully realise the extent of the remarkable development that has characterised this flower during the last 50 years. This development, this great progress, forms a record of courage, sustained effort, patience, of disappointment and rewards, and culminating in the great industry of the present day.

It is unquestionably the effort of the raisers that has placed this country in the front rank of the industry in the matter of new creations, but, hand in hand with the raisers, distributors have well represented the commercial interests of this flower, for they not only have insisted upon a very high standard of excellence, but also have succeeded in popularising the cult of the Daffodil in the gardens of flower lovers. It is no mean achievement, for the duration of the time in which it has occurred has been very short compared with production, which must necessarily be slower, and, 50 years ago, there was hardly such a thing as production as we understand the term.

Up to approximately 1880 efforts seem to have been spasmodic and individual, and, too, were mainly concerned with the culture and understanding of existing species and varieties, but it was fully realised how chaotic things were. And so it remained until Baker classified the genus, a work which resulted in a revolutionary upheaval.

The classification completed and accepted as authoritative by the governing body of the Royal Horticultural Society, progress commenced upon well-organised lines. From now onwards the different divisions were "exploited" and explored, many experimental crosses were made, existing hybrids studied, and the foibles of all known species and varieties went under a searching scrutiny of men who devoted many years to the "task" which, to them, was a pure labour of love. When it is realised that from the inception of a new hybrid to its retail distribution, a period of at least 10 years is involved, it will be seen how patient must be the raiser, and this is not all, for the hybrid, though it may be passed, certificated, shown, and grown from seeds to bulbs in bulk, may not stand up to the strain of commercial cultivation, and it may be superseded by another that might take the public fancy more readily. There are, in fact, very few "best sellers" with new Daffodils. Even now, when possibilities are quickly sifted by the keenest brains of the industry, I think many of the raisers would admit that their pleasure is mainly æsthetic and is derived from sheer love of the subject. Albeit, during the past half-century many hundreds of new hybrids have graced the genus, and many are as yet just numbers awaiting the verdict of judges as to their fitness and worthiness to bear a name.

In 1875—54 years ago—Messrs. Burbidge and Baker created the nucleus of a movement with Daffodils, which has expanded so rapidly as to become world-wide in interest and authority. Under the auspices of the Royal Horticultural Society, at a conference held in London in 1884, the work of the two enthusiasts referred to was officially recognised, and the matter of uniformity of nomenclature finally settled. Interest never waned, but grew apace. From 1886 to 1890 and onwards the Narcissus and Tulip Committee of the R.H.S. met during the opening months of each year, and the men who formed the Committee tabulated, added, and erased until complete order reigned.

As a climax to all this continuous effort, in July, 1890, a great Daffodil Conference was held in London under the chairmanship of Professor Michael Foster, who said, in opening his address to the delegates, "that the prime duty of this conference is to take care of the beauty of the Daffodil." Hybrids in great numbers from all parts of the United Kingdom turned up, garden varieties, hybrids, seedlings, and selected wild forms were submitted for adjudication. This 1890 conference was held primarily with a view to reporting progress, as well as to deal adequately with a process of sifting out, which was regarded as necessary in view of the multiplicity in naming and in dealing with the small variations in character of similar varieties and hybrids likely to cause confusion in nomenclature. Even in 1890, at the Chiswick Show of that year, over 300 named hybrids were exhibited, so it will be seen how necessary was some check upon indiscriminate christening of new varieties.

Hand in hand with this great work of classification, which, because of its meticulous exactness, gains many tributes from the trade, practical trials were conducted at Kew. Thus a check was placed upon the possibility of the same form being brought out and distributed by different people under different names. Sometimes variations in character occurred with the same variety growing under different climatic and geological conditions, so, on the matter being referred to the R.H.S. tribunal, trials of the two or more types at Kew would settle the matter for all time, and, too, further facts were learned as to the behaviour of certain varieties under certain conditions. In this way was our knowledge built up.

From 1890 to the present day progress has been consistent and steady. Resting upon a sound basis, each division of the flower known, and each floral characteristic recognised, development now became stabilised and commercial interests became involved. The public demanded the flower both in and out of season, and a host of other problems arose, mainly commercial, with which the grower himself had to deal with the help and guidance of the distributors, without whom, of course, the cut-flower industry could hardly exist as such.

Even in 1885 there was talk of "gluts" and "over-production," for Mr. James Walker, a noted Daffodil grower, of Middlesex, deplored a slump of 50 per cent. in prices in one season, and quotes English Daffodils as low as ninepence per dozen bunches. But Mr. Walker also says that 12s. had been obtained for the same variety and quantity, and at the same time. Such disparity of prices would hardly be possible in these days of swift transit and market intelligence. Though the standard demanded now is much higher than that of 30 years ago, still the older raisers were seriously hampered by their lack of material, tradition, and research knowledge. They, of course, *were* the researchers, they *were* the originators, and, as such, their results stand out the more clearly. Their difficulties were the greater, for it was not yet clear, nor definitely established, how some of the so-called species, hybrids, and varieties arose. The Rev. G. H. Engleheart in 1894, in a paper read before the R.H.S., discussed some of the difficulties he encountered in hybridising. Very few records were available, naturally, and as Mr. Eng heart then said, Messrs. Leeds and Ba house, from whom, with a few notable ceptions, we inherit this wealth of Daffodi "Have left a very imperfect record of th methods in detail."

But here is the point of my observations regard to Mr. Engleheart's work. Not bei content with this state of affairs, which the keen analytical mind was intolerable, keen and enthusiastic amateur forthw tackled the huge task of reconstructing the types with which he wished to exp ment, to quote his own words: "Theref I proposed to myself the task of attempt to 'make' all these flowers over again order to determine with certainty th origin."

There can be no gainsaying that some these old flowers—old they were even the have proved their merit as "stayers," can it be said that those who, in those d selected the flowers as "possibles," w wide of the mark in their judgment. As back as 1889, nearly 40 years ago, in a cussion upon the best varieties, the Rev. Wilks, who was a remarkably shrewd ju of all flowers, gave a list of 13 varieties w which he would re-commence should existing stock be destroyed. He was, said, governed in his selection by variety colour, season, form, constitution, and f dom of increase. This was the list:—

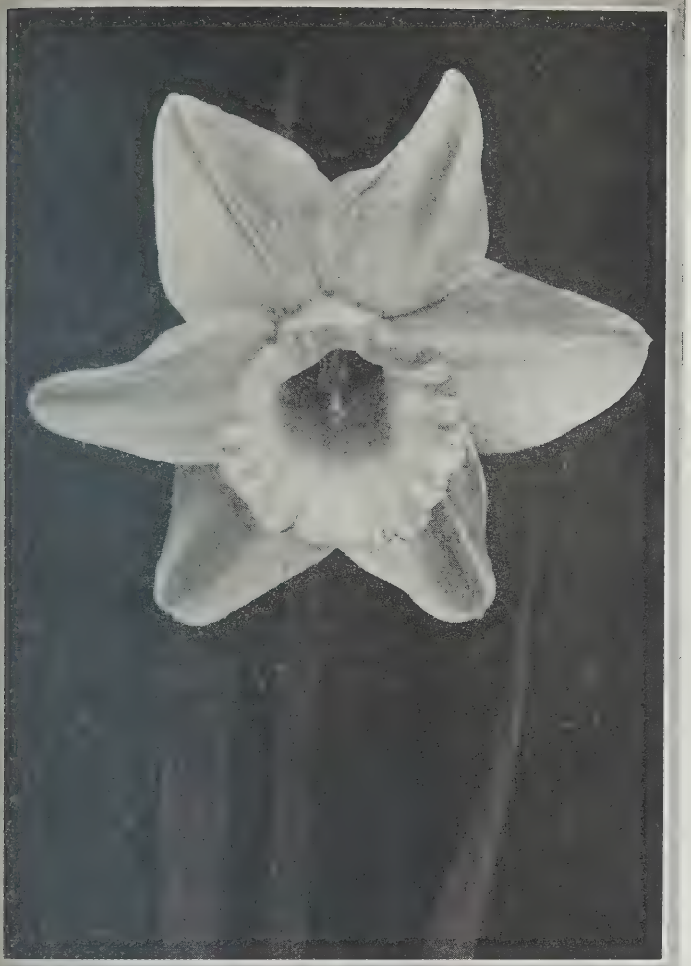
Double Telemonius
Recurvus
Horsfieldii
Cernuus
Barrii Conspicuus
Ornatus
Empress
Ardrigh
Sir Watkin
Emperor
Double Poeticus
C. J. Backhouse
Troilus

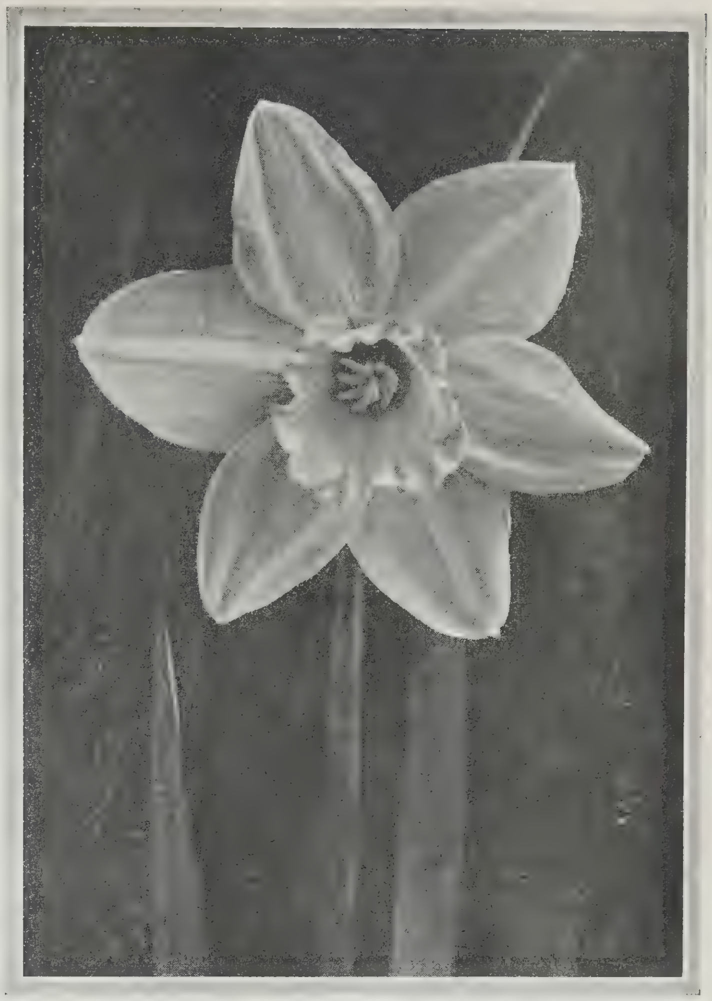
In these days, bearing in mind the grea number of types from which to select, e should probably extend the list and y greater attention to the breeding capabilit for, as Mr. P. D. Williams rightly says this list, though about half of Mr. Wilks varieties are to-day still good market flow s, it contains very little that is, or was, m h good to the raiser. Four of these variet still well known and liked on the mark were known and cultivated before 1884, Barrii, Emperor, Empress, and Horsfie and the first three were seedlings of B house, whilst, as is well known, Horsfi was raised by a Lancashire weaver na Horsfield.

(*To be continued.*)

A good plant for the rock gar n

Incarvillea Delavayi is well known, I. grandiflora is a great improvement o It is a smaller growing plant, and there very suitable for nooks in the rock gar as well as a good plant for the border. bright rose Gloxinia-like flowers are produ in June and July and the plant attains height of about a foot. A very hands variety is brevipes, having large purp crimson flowers with markings of wh In both these plants the intensity of co is more marked than in I. Delavayi, their habit more compact. A good t to plant is in the winter as then the fl roots are dormant. A sunny spot suits th best and the soil should be deep, drained and not too heavy. Several g nooks may be found for the plant in the garden; a nice patch may be obtained planting half-a-dozen roots together. S are very fond of the crowns, and do g damage during the dormant season, therefore, a good layer of sharp sand should be put over them to keep them safe. F. I

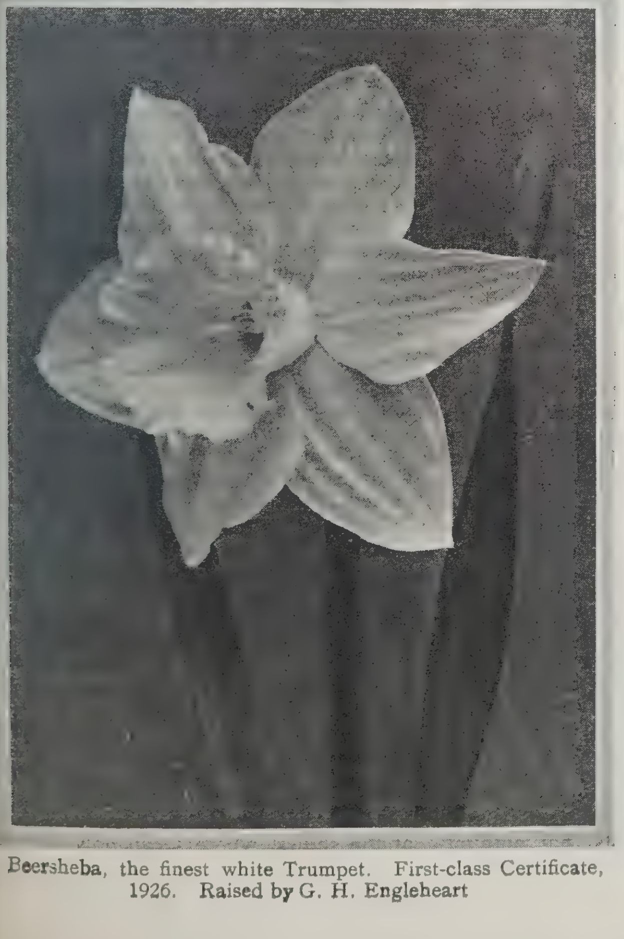




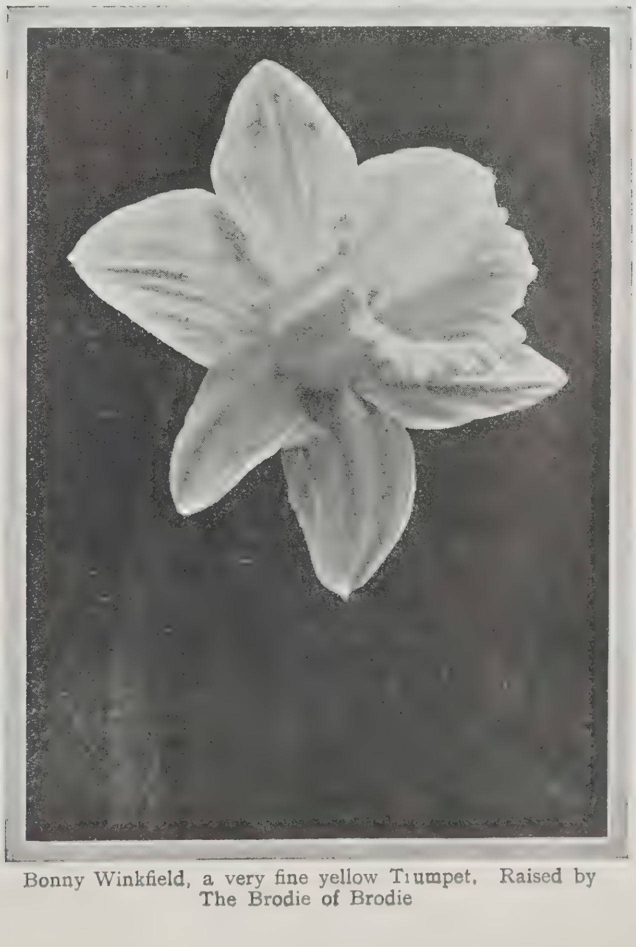
TWO NEW DAFFODILS RAISED BY THE BRODIE OF BRODIE

Brawardine, Award of Merit, 1928, a beautiful Leedsii of immense size and perfect form

Whiteley Gem, awarded Gold Medal by the National Gardens Guild, 1928. Similar to Fortune, but opening 10 days earlier



Beersheba, the finest white Trumpet. First-class Certificate, 1926. Raised by G. H. Engleheart



Bonny Winkfield, a very fine yellow Trumpet. Raised by The Brodie of Brodie

The Gladioli

Past, Present, and Future

By " East Anglian."

THIS is not intended to be by any means a complete historical record of the development which has taken place in Gladioli, but more or less notes at random which may be of interest to lovers of this beautiful flower. It is confined to the two most popular classes or types, the large-flowering group and the Primulinus hybrids. Gladioli have been grown for a great many years; indeed, they were known to the Greeks and Romans. Some trace the origin of their name to the word " Gladius " (or a sword), evidently derived from the shape of the leaves. In a book which I have just been reading it is stated that Gladioli may have been the " Lilies of the field " referred to in the Bible. Be this as it may, there are somewhere round about 150 distinct species, most of them natives of South Africa, but a few of Asiatic and European origin. Of course, all the popular varieties of Gladioli in existence have a very mixed ancestry, and probably a good many wild species have helped to " make " them. Beyond saying that our modern varieties have descended from the South African group, it is hardly necessary to give further details.

Hybridists have interested themselves in the flower for many years, and the credit of devoloping our present beautiful specimens is not confined to one country. Individual raisers in the past have not all worked on the same lines, and have used different material for their crosses. As a consequence, a few years ago the large-flowered varieties could be classified into various groups such as the Gandavensis, Nanceanus, Childsi, Lemoinei, etc. The distinctions which separated these classes and which gave them their individual character have now largely disappeared; they have been crossed and intercrossed, and although some of the old-time Gladiolus enthusiasts could no doubt say of a variety that " it followed the Nanceanus type," for instance, yet for convenience we have now come to look upon them all as large flowering. This is a good thing, for too many names of types which are not really pronounced only tends to confuse the grower. France, Holland, Germany, Belgium, America, Canada, and our own country have all contributed to the advancement of the Gladiolus, and more recently Australia has been taking a hand. Probably no other one wild species has had more far-reaching results on the flower than the finding and exploiting of Gladiolus Primulinus. In many ways the hybrids which have been obtained have made the Gladiolus as a flower more adaptable and more valuable. Gladiolus primulinus is a South African species which was discovered about a century ago growing very close to the Victoria Falls on the Zambesi River. It has one very distinctive feature, a hooded upper petal, which, no doubt, in course of time, was evolved to protect its essential organs from the heavy mist and spray thrown up by the Falls. The pollen, or fertilising agent, to be effective, must of course be dry, so Nature gave the bloom an " umbrella." This curious hood imparted a charming and rather graceful appearance, and to add to this daintiness the individual blooms were spaced rather widely on the flower stem, which was comparatively thin and wiry. The colour was a beautiful rich, clear yellow. By crossing Gladiolus primulinus with the larger-flowering varieties a new race was developed, which combined its best points with some of the colours found in the large-flowering kinds. The first hybrids, as might perhaps be expected, were mainly yellow, primrose, orange-yellow, orange-salmon, orange-scarlet, salmon-pink, scarlet, and buff. In the main they were bright and rich, rivalling the warm tones one finds in Begonias. The colour range is being gradually extended, and as the hybrids get farther away from the original Primulinus " blood," as it were, there has been a t dency for the size of the bloom to increa the placement to become closer, while in few instances the characteristic hood almost disappeared. This, then, is th brief outline of past development.

(*To be continued.*)

Sic Transeunt

I NOTE that in your Jubilee number you are to have articles " both prospective and retrospective." The prospective articles will be furnished, presumably, by young hands who have 50 years in front of them and are dreaming of future achievement, and the retrospective by oldsters with a solid half-century behind them, of which veteran band am I, who am writing you these lines of congratulation on your 50 years of good work achieved. I shall read the Jubilee number with interest, but with a special interest those articles that glimpse into the future and forecast the appearance of British gardens in 1979. Granted a succession of Februaries with frosts like those we experienced in February of the present year I could tell you what my own plot would look like long after I have myself become part of my native soil, usefully encouraging, perhaps, the tubers of some newly invented Potato. Plants which I have hitherto regarded as frost-proof, such as Thymes, Aubrietias, Wallflowers, Daisies, and Lavenders, will have vanished from cultivation as too tender for our climate, and a flora such as I conceive may flourish in the herbaceous border of an Iceland garden. P. nudicaule, Rubus arcturus, Arctic Primulas, and Mosses of sorts, including the Reindeer Moss, will take their place, with a background in the utility plot of Gooseberry bushes and Curly Kale. This, however, is too pessimistic a line of forecast. We are not going for ever so long, let us hope, to have spring frosts such as we have had this year. If we strike a moderate average there is little reason to doubt that the flowers, fruits, and vegetables of 1979 will be as great an improvement on those of to-day, as are those of to-day on those of the year in which Gardening Illustrated came into being.

I say this, hoping it will be so, though, to be quite honest, I cannot see how some of the flowers of the present time are to be improved upon, being already as beautiful as mortal and sinful man has any right to expect. That, however, is what I have been thinking and saying each year for the last 50 years, and each year has seen things which we thought the *ne plus ultra* of excellence left far in the rear. When I look back, for instance, on the Daffodils we had in 1879 (coloured illustrations of which may be found in Burbidge's monograph), and when I remember the ecstatic admiration each flower, as it unfolded, drew from those who saw it, I come to the conclusion that all delight is relative, the less good delighting us as long as there is no better in evidence, for it is not possible either to feel or to express a greater delight in the flowers of to-day, though they include, to mention only a few that grow in my own borders, Beersheba, White Nile, White Emperor, Moira O'Neil, Yukon, and others of similar quality, than we found in Emperor, Empress, Horsfieldii, Princeps, Lobularis, Mrs. Langtry, Minnie Hume, and Ornatus in the day of small things 50 years ago. If the half-century has taught me nothing else it has taught me this, to be cautious in concluding that the utmost limit has been reached in flower, fruit, or vegetable. But a fig for caution! It is possible to be over-cautious. We all have beliefs that nothing can shake. I believe, for instance, that Apple can be raised in the next 50 years, for that matter, in the next millennium, beat in flavour the old Ribston Pip though it would be easily possible to beat t venerable variety in vigour of constitution

Of the flowers which I grow on a not m than modest scale, but which I occasion see elsewhere in the prime of their bea there are few, I should think, that have m a greater advance in recent years than Delphinium—such glorious spires do we of exquisitely shaped flowers, single double, and of a blue that out-blues sea sky at their bluest, with combinations, a of colour that would have staggered mid-Victorian milliner—Cambridge-blue mauve, Oxford-blue on lilac, all shades blue on lavender—combinations that mi have looked questionable on a Victor bonnet, but which justify themselves so how in the living flower beyond the reach cavil. Though not myself a Delphinian am lost in wonder at the beauty of the flow that come my way from time to time, ask myself what could be more superb in the shades of blue than such flowers. shades of blue and related shades no flo could, but there is still room for fut hybridists to work new wonders, for we h not, so far, a handsome scarlet or yell spike, though we have scarlet species in cardinale and D. nudicaule, and a yell species which I have never seen and wh scientific name I forget. Its Persian na is Zalil.

The transformation in Chrysanthemu and Sweet Peas, to instance two widely similar families of cultivated flowers, dur your Jubilee period, or part of it, has been a kind to be realised only by those who h lived through it. From the old incurved Chr anthemum, prettily represented by the sno and spherical Mrs. Rundle and its yell sport, George Glenny, to the now fashiona Japanese periwig flowers, is a long str even for 50 years. As for the numerous a various single flowers of the Mensa type, n so deservedly valued for their grace a beauty, they would, not improbably, in 70's of the last century have been rejected raisers as failing to reach the florist's ide though they would very certainly have be cherished by any professors or pupils of Art schools who chanced upon them. Aga not many years ago the only available ea summer-flowering varieties were two, white Mme. Desgrange and its yellow spo George Wermig, and now look at the infin variety listed in every trade catalogue bloom in August and September.

As for Sweet Peas, which I have grow off and on, from the year in which you pu lished your first number, I look back with the pleasure of memory to the four or fi varieties I grew in that remote age, so ve pretty as I thought, so sweet-scented as know they were, so light and airy, yet small and so limited in their range of colou I have less pleasure now in growing Swe Peas, and, indeed, have ceased to grow the because I cannot grow any that will sta comparison with those of the specialist. Pe haps the pleasure is the greater to see the at the shows, where I can only wonder a dmire. And as I wonder I ask myself hether those great foot-long stems topped ith four, and sometimes five, gaily-coloured lossoms, all on tip-toe for flight, apparently, ke tropic butterflies—whether these can be f the same species with the flowers so much maller, yet, I think, not less sweet, that I sed to grow when GARDENING ILLUSTRATED as still young. But so, indeed, it is. They re of the same species, as the Shetland pony s of the same species with the Derby racer, r the Skye terrier with the mastiff.

Then there is the Rose. I have been a ose grower on a modest scale all my life, nd for me there is no flower that so emhatically marks the march of time as the ose. When I think of the old Hybrid Peretuals, celebrated by Dean Hole in his witty nd dithyrambic prose, and then look at a odern Rose garden ablaze with flamboyant ernettians and rampant Wichuraianas, it lmost feels like having lived in two ages—efore the Flood and after. The old Gloire de ijon is, no doubt, still grown in many laces, but for old sake's sake, I fancy, as uch as for its intrinsic worth. Even in the ardens of those who grow this Tea it is outlassed at every point by a host of climbing orms of all colours—Ramblers, climbing eas, and climbing Hybrid Teas—Lady Ashown, Mme. A. Chatenay, Lady Hillingdon, V. A. Richardson, Marquise de Sinety, Mme. lfred Carrière (this year, like GARDENING LLUSTRATED, celebrating its Jubilee), and thers. The Gloire has its virtues—it is easy manage, fragrant, and a continuous loomer—but its blooms are invariably uartered and are generally lumpy and illhaped. To speak of the Gloire is to think f its frequent companion and rival, Devonensis, that sweetest of sweet-smelling Teas. f only for its fragrance it is to be hoped that his Rose will not be allowed to become obsote; yet I miss it from the Rose lists. I canot think that there has been a Rose more weetly perfumed than Devoniensis since oses were first created. It is not a handome Rose, perhaps, when full-blown, but hat Rose is? We must take Roses as we ke other things that have stages of growth, st at the right stage, and the psychological oment for Devoniensis is at half-tide, when has left the bud, but not yet reached exansion. Its claims to distinction are its perme and its delicate colour—a milky-white uffused with that touch of green which, hen it is there, seems somehow to accenate the purity of white in flowers.

I suppose that not many grow Hybrid Peretuals nowadays, and growers who still lant them grow only a few outstanding arieties, and of these only one where they sed to plant a score. This decadence of the .P. cannot be put down to lack of beauty, ut is due, rather, to the fact that they have ot proved so perpetual as by their name they rported to be—a defect made patent by the lvent of the Hybrid Teas, which were found be not only better autumn bloomers, but ore varied and brilliant in their colouring. nd yet, when one thinks of it, within their heme of colour what lovely tints some of ose now obsolete H.P.'s possessed. Their imsons, for instance! It is, perhaps, rash suggest that the crimsons of the H.P.'s ave not so far been excelled—if they have en equalled—by the crimson shades of .T.'s. What dozen H.T.'s, to put it to the uch, can be paired off for the rich depth of eir colour with Alfred Colomb, Charles efebvre, Duc de Rohan, Fisher Holmes, ord Macaulay, Duke of Edinburgh, General cqueminot, Duke of Wellington, Pierre otting, Annie Wood, Prince Camille de ohan, and Louis van Houtte. Having flung e challenge I will pick up my own gauntlet d bring a dozen H.T.'s into the arena to ake their crimsons against the colours of the H.P.'s. These, then, are 12 red H.T.'s which I happen to know, more or less, at first hand:—Etoile de Hollande, Hadley, Covent Garden, Château de Clos Vougeot, General McArthur, Richmond, Hoosier Beauty, Liberty, Avoca, Edward Mawley, H. E. Richardson, and George Dickson. Which list has it? I have not the moral courage to decide.

It is curious that pure whites should be so scarce in H.T.'s, as, for that matter, they are also in the H.P.'s, though not so scarce as among the H.T.'s, among which latter I cannot recall any indubitable white except Mrs. H. Stevens. Among the Perpetuals there is the Druschki, a very lovely Rose at its best, but scentless. Also there was, and I hope is, Mme. Lacharme. Speaking of whites, I cannot help recalling, with affectionate regret, a white Rose I used to grow when your journal was in its first youth. Though usually classed and treated as a Hybrid Perpetual, it was, technically, a Hybrid Noisette. This Rose was called Boule de Neige, and fitly so called, for it was raised in France and was of a white as near to snow as Roses ever reach. Of exceptionally vigorous growth, with luxuriant, leathery, dark green foliage, apparently mildew-proof, this was a trim, neat Rose, full-petalled, but small—too small for the flower show. In its best form it might have passed for a sweet-scented Camellia. Further, it was not what is called a "summer Rose," but gave several crops of bloom in the season, flowering well into the autumn—the model of a robust bush Rose. My only cause of quarrel with Boule de Neige was its obstinate refusal to root from cuttings.

Pink, pale or deep, is, I suppose, the predominant colour among the Hybrid Perpetuals, for one flower of which colour I have still a tenderness, because it was my first love in Roses, though I am afraid that Baroness Rothschild, who must be 60 if she is a day, is now very much a "back number." Still, and for all that, I have a tender regard for the Baroness, and would still, with every confidence, pit the satin of her complexion against the rouge of the fairest of Hybrid Teas. I believe that the Baroness could still have held her ground but for the one defect, lack of the perfume which is now a *sine quâ non* in a Rose of the first water, such slaves have we become to one of our senses. Still, perfume of the right kind and in the right place is a great thing, and, though the Roman adage that "the best smell is no smell" may be true of many things, it is not true of flowers, least of all of Roses.

In wandering or maundering through a half-century of flowers I am afraid they are but few who can escape being tedious, for which quality in these lines I apologise. But to recall past Roses is to see visions and dream dreams. I now grow only a few of the newest Roses, but when you tell me that this is your Jubilee my dreams are of the Old Brigade, the bulk of them gone, though, happily, a few still linger, not superfluous, on the stage. No Rose can lead the Old Brigade so fitly as the venerable Maréchal Niel, followed across the stage, without standing on the order of their going, by others that have "done their bit"—Niphetos and Souvenir d'un Ami, Paul Neron and Mme. Berard, Celine Forestier, Coquette des Blanches, Senateur Vaisse, Giant of Battles, John Hopper, Elie Morel, Horace Vernet, Victor Verdier, the Wood family, the Jamin family, Queens, Princes, and Sultans, Dukes and Duchesses, Counts and Countesses, Madames and Missuses galore. Poor Old Brigade! Brave Old Brigade!

A. W.

The composing room

Probably few readers of a paper realise how much depends on the printers. It is interesting to record that "Gardening Illustrated" has been in the hands of the same printers during the greater part of its history. The above picture is of the composing room. In the foreground is Mr. R. S. Warrington, foreman printer of the Chancery Lane Printing Works, Ltd. He has been in charge of the putting to press of "Gardening Illustrated" for 25 years, and as an apprentice was connected with the printing of this journal since its early days

EASTER WEEK IN THE GARDEN

Southern and Midland

Annual flowers

Where quantities of these are required to replace spring flowers, sowings should now be made freely; well-drained boxes and pans are most suitable for the purpose. Quite a large variety of beautiful and easily-handled kinds are available, but a few of these resent disturbance at the root, and in such instances excellent results may be obtained from sowing direct in the open ground. Those best raised inside include Salpiglossis, Nicotiana, Stocks, Double Asters, Cynoglossum amabile (best treated as an annual), Carnations, Pansies, Cleome, and Verbenas. A start may also be made with the sowing of hardy and half hardy annuals on well-prepared soil in the open; the majority, however, should be sown early in April.

Rose pruning

A start may now be made with the pruning of Hybrid Teas and H.P.'s, the delicate Teas being left until a little later. A fairly safe guide for the beginner is to prune those of weak growth severely, and strong growers with a lighter hand, because a very strong plant is capable of developing a larger number of blooms than its weaker neighbour. First cut away all old weak growth, especially from the centre of the bush, and follow this by reducing the remaining growths to within a few buds of their base, an eye being given to the even balance of the bush when completed. With pruning completed, apply a surface dressing of bone-meal and fork the latter lightly in. The bed will then be ready for a carpet of Tufted Pansies, or dwarf annual flowers.

Border Carnations

If the plants have been thoroughly hardened, as advised in a former Calendar, they should now be ready for planting out in their permanent positions, which should have been previously prepared. Carnations are lime lovers, and land deficient in this should be given a dressing a little in advance of planting time; a distance of at least 1 foot should be allowed between the plants, otherwise layering in August becomes a difficult problem.

Old walls and ruins

These may be furnished at the present time with plants and seeds, but if plants are used care should be taken to prevent the air getting at the rear of the plants before the latter have established themselves. Harebells, Aubrietias, Erigerons, Flax, Lewisias, dwarf Pentstemons, Sedums, Encrusted Saxifrages, Oxalis floribunda, Lithospermums, Linarias, Helichryssum, Onosmas, and Alpine Phloxes love such positions, and Ionopsidium acaule, Platystemon californica, and Erinus alpinus (in its various shades) may be established by merely scattering a pinch of seed in the crevices.

Kitchen garden

Make a sowing of Peas every fortnight from this date, using round-seeded varieties until March is out. Those growing in pots and boxes in frames should be given abundance of air whenever climatic conditions will admit. The ground they are intended to occupy should also be freely worked.

Growing crops

Growing crops of Spring Cabbage, Broad Beans, Lettuce, Spinach, and Winter Onions should be hoed frequently when the soil is in a free working condition. A further planting of Early Potatoes may also be made on a sheltered border. A little air should be admitted to vegetables and salads growing in cool houses and frames as a preventative of damping, which sometimes proves destructive to young Lettuces.

Broad Beans

These may now be sown in quantity for the main crop, the rows being 3 feet apart, and the seeds sown in double lines 6 inches apart.

Roses in pots

These usually occupy cool houses until required for forcing into bloom, and having been pruned and potted into fresh soil, or top-dressed, as the case may be, should now be brought into gentle heat, a temperature of 55 degs. to 60 degs. being very suitable. Newly-started Peach houses or vineries are ideal for them at this stage.

Vineries

The early Hamburgh will now be ready for thinning, and unlike the densely-clustered and short-stalked berries of Alicantes and others are easily dealt with. It is a delicate business, nevertheless, at all times, and care must be taken not to bruise the tender berries even by brushing one's head against them. A small, forked stick will be of great assistance in holding out the shoulders whilst the inside berries are removed, and all berries with a tendency to point inwards should be cut away before completing. Give attention to the future shape of the bunches, and do not leave the berries too thick.

Peaches in bloom

These must be fertilised daily, and a warm but slightly drier atmosphere maintained, with a little air admitted during favourable hours. Watering at this period must be curtailed, although the trees should not be permitted to become unduly dry at the roots at any time.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Planting Gladioli

By the time this appears in print the ground will probably have become favourable for this and many other outdoor operations. The Gladioli demand deeply worked and liberally enriched soil if they are to give of their best. In planting the corms, a good handful of clean, coarse sand should be placed under each to ensure a dry bed and an encouragement to root easily and quickly.

Rose planting

I have successfully planted Roses as late as March 15th, so if any are still requiring to be got in, it is still possible to plant, though it is not desirable to leave this so late, if it can be avoided. Prune the bushes well back, just before planting, or immediately afterwards. Should April and May, by any chance, be dry, it will be necessary to give an occasional soaking of water, so that the roots may be encouraged to take a good hold of the soil, before summer sets in.

The herbaceous borders

The bulk of the occupants should now be showing through the soil, so a general tidy up should be given. First remove all winter debris and reduce to reasonable dimensions any of the clumps that may be taking up more than their fair share of space. Any gaps should also be made good. If some well-rotted manure can be spared, spread it between the plants and then lightly point the whole surface, making all tidy and workman-like, but avoid using a rake.

Making new perennial borders

On heavy, retentive soils, the present
very suitable time for laying down new
or borders of these popular flowering pla
As this is work that only requires to be d
at considerable intervals, it is desirable
do it thoroughly. Apply a liberal dress
of farmyard manure or well-decompo
garden refuse and double-dig the whole.
planting has to be carried out immedia
digging is finished, it will be necessary
tread down the bed before beginning to pl

Herbaceous Calceolarias

Plants wintered in 5-inch pots should
be moved into the flowering size, usin
good substantial compost. Good plants
be grown in 6-inch pots, but the 7-inch
is better, providing the plants are str
and healthy. The less fire heat this plan
subjected to, the better it will thrive. Me
exclude frost.

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine

This useful winter-flowering plant sho
now have attention. A moist warm atm
phere is essential, and as soon as the yo
growths get long enough, they should
taken off and inserted in small pots fi
with a light peaty compost. Plunge i
little bottom heat and keep shaded from
sunshine. For filling hanging baskets, so
of the healthiest of the old plants should
retained and carefully repotted.

Onions

There is still just time to sow seeds of th
in the open, but if delayed much longer
season will be too brief to enable it to
much good. Autumn-sown plants should
transplanted to rich ground, taking care
to put in too deep. Onion sets should
planted now, and as they are bad for thro
ing themselves out of the ground, a wa
should be kept and any showing signs
rising out of the soil should be pushed b
and made firm.

Broccoli and Cabbages

These have had a trying time since
year came in, and I fear the mortality
be considerable. As soon as the ground
a little dry on the surface go carefully o
both kinds, removing all dead foliage
then well hoeing or lightly forking the wh
surface between the plants.

Peas and Broad Beans

Any fortunate enough to have got in
early sowing last month should now m
another so as to maintain an unbroken s
cession, while those growers who have
to make a first sowing should seize the fi
favourable chance.

Border Chrysanthemums

Should stocks be short, a further ba
of cuttings should be secured, but the earl
such work is now finished the better. Earl
batches, if nicely rooted, should be moved
a cold frame, where they must be kept pre
close for a few days, but afterwa
abundance of air should be admitted on ev
favourable occasion.

Plants wintered in frames

These having had to be matted agai
frost over considerable periods will requ
a good deal of attention as spring advanc
Go over them frequently, removing any t
are dead, also decaying foliage and wee
An occasional stirring of the surface betw
the plants with a pointed label or such
is very beneficial. Give water only wh
actually required.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

BY APPOINTMENT

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AFTER THE FROST

the long-delayed work in the Garden can now go forward, and to ensure success sow only the best Seed.

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A copy of Sutton's Garden Seed Catalogue forwarded on request.

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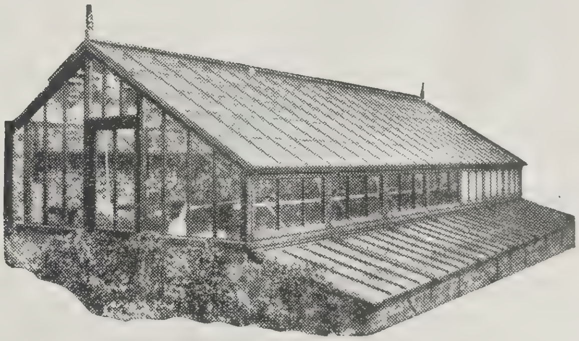

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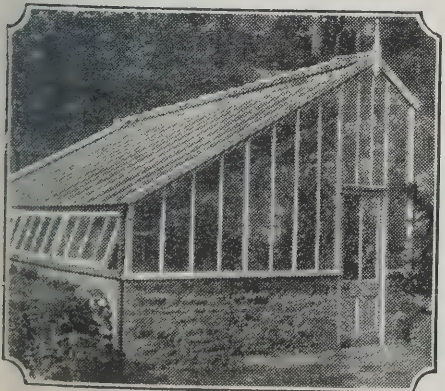
Let us know your requirements. Our reputation of nearly a century is a guarantee of satisfaction.



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Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

TREES AND SHRUBS

Erica damaged by frost

(Mrs. J. Humphreys).—The Heath of which you send a spray is Erica mediterranea, and, like a great many others, this year it has been severely damaged by frost. Groups of both this and other species have been split about in a sad way, just as if someone had deliberately slashed them with a stick, both old and young shoots splitting in all directions, and even falling to the ground. The best treatment of such plants is to cut them back to within 12 inches of the ground and thus encourage new growth from the base. Nothing so serious has affected these plants for over 20 years, although large masses were seriously damaged by snow last year. These were treated as above, and are now nice, bushy plants. We therefore confidently recommend you to do the same.

Bays in tubs

(Regular Reader).—If the balls of earth have been frozen right through it is just possible that your plants have been killed. For filling in the cracks we suggest you mix up a little clay to the form of a paste and apply with a brush, working it well into the cracks of the trunk, afterwards binding hessian firmly around the trunk to keep the clay in place. It will help matters if this is moistened from time to time. They may be stood in the open about the second week in April.

Spineless Hollies and best month for planting same

(Oxonian).—Green-leaved: Ilex Shepherdii and I. Hendersoni. Golden-leaved: Ilex Aquifolium laurifolia aurea, I. A. Watereriana, and I. aureo-pumilo. Silver-leaved: We know of none of this class which are spineless, but the following are among the most beautiful:—Ilex argentea regina, I. a. angustifolia, and I. Silver Broad Leaf. The first week in May is the best time for planting.

GREENHOUSE

Leggy Camellias

(A. N. P., Scotland).—You may, with safety, prune your Camellias back hard, and this should be carried out without delay. The plants should then be stood in a warm house where the temperature at night is 55 degs. to 60 degs., and shaded during the day. Water should be applied only with great care until the plants are seen to be breaking freely, but a syringing should be given twice on fine, sunny days. When the new growths are about an inch or two long shake out the plants, removing as much of the old soil as possible, and then proceed to repot firmly with a mixture of soil made up as follows:—Three parts good turfy loam and one part made up of well-seasoned leaf-mould, peat, and sharp sand, to which may be added a little bone-meal. Yes, it is advisable to plunge the pots in ashes in the open during the summer in partial shade, syringing the plants daily in order to keep down Thrips and Red Spider. Treat those with yellow leaves the same as those which have grown leggy. The drainage of these has probably been at fault.

FLOWER GARDEN

The Gladwin Iris (I. fœtidissima) not flowering

(Mrs. D. C. Morris).—This Iris, called fœtidissima from the smell of the bruised leaves, flourishes in the shade of woods and copses in well-drained soil of a sandy nature. Its flowers are inconspicuous, being of a dull purplish-grey, so that they often come out and fade unnoticed. Your plants will probably bloom in time, but we would advise planting a few at least in partial shade and allow them to form large tufts, following which you should be rewarded not only with flowers, but also its handsome scarlet seeds.

MISCELLANEOUS

Lawn grasses

I am sending you two bunches of grass and some earth as I am anxious to know why so much of this coarse, flat grass has appeared on a new lawn sown with best lawn seed.

F. M. G.

[We have examined your specimen turves and can find nothing wrong with them; in fact, for seedling grasses we consider that they are exceptionally good. The samples contained all the recognised good grasses for the purpose of lawn-making. It seems to us that your difficulty is that you have proceeded so far with your lawn-making with very satisfactory results, and all that is required now is to "fine down" the grasses, which are always vigorous from seed. The fining down process is as follows:—So soon as the grasses begin to make new growth the lawn should be mown with a scythe and then thoroughly rolled. Follow this treatment by going over the lawn with a lawn grass cutter, setting the knives very high at first. The mowing should be repeated at intervals of a few days, each time the knives of the machine being set a little lower. At about the third or fourth mowing you should have the grasses down to the necessary level. After each mowing the lawn should be rolled. When you have the grasses down to their correct level you should obtain some sand and sulphate of ammonia and dress the surface. Take seven parts by weight of sifted sand and one part of sulphate of ammonia and thoroughly well mix the two ingredients together, then apply at the rate of 4 ozs. per square yard. Repeat this dressing after an interval of three weeks. The top-dressing should be fine enough not to interfere with the knives of the machine, and, after application, should be lightly brushed into the turf with a besom, and if rain does not follow before you have again to cut the grass the mowing machine should be used with the collecting-box off. If you follow the treatment outlined above you should have a very satisfactory turf at the end of the season.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

J. J. H.—1, Cuphea Roezlii; 2, Pani
variegatum; 3, not recognised.

H. H., S. Devon.—The plant is n
Campanula. It is Mandragora hispanic
close ally of the common Mandrake,
officinalis.

A. G. P., Colchester.—1, The Douglas
(Pseudotsuga Douglasii); 2, a variety o
Corsican Pine with slender leaves, P
Larcio var. Celennensis; 3, Cupre
sempervirens (Mediterranean Cypress)
Norway Spruce (Pinus excelsa).

OBITUARY

P. C. M. VEITCH, V.M.H.

It is with great regret that we learn o
death of Mr. P. C. M. Veitch, hea
Messrs. Robert Veitch and Sons, Exeter
Saturday, at the age of 79. He was kn
throughout the country as a horticultu
and in his earlier days travelled extens
abroad collecting Orchids and other pl
On one of these journeys he was
wrecked. He was a member of the F
Committee of the Royal Horticult
Society, and on occasions he has
tributed useful information on the cultiva
of trees and shrubs to these pages. His
hibits of Camellias, Berberises, Magno
and other flowering shrubs were alway
special interest. He introduced a numbe
new flowers and types of fruits, and s
years ago was awarded the Victoria M
of Honour for his services to horticultur

LATE NOTES

Delphiniums to plant now

The long and severe frost has cost
many losses in the garden. Efforts sh
now be made to replenish the flower bor
for summer effect. In this connection
draw attention to the effective Delphini
offered by Blackmore and Langdon, B
Among the varieties that should find a
in all gardens are Blue Boy, Millicent Bl
more, Mrs. Townley Parker, Mrs. Shi
Norah Ferguson, Mrs. H. Kaye, and
E. Lascelles. Planting may proceed at
now that the frost is out of the ground.

Seeds for distressed miners

The distressed Miners' Fund is recei
very practical assistance from various f
connected with the seed industry. For
stance, Ryders, the seedsmen of St. Alb
have already sent for dispatch to the
tressed areas no less than one thousand b
containing a splendid collection of Ryc
vegetable seeds. This is a very happy
spiration, which provides the means of
taining a goodly supply of health-giving v
tables during the coming summer.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENT

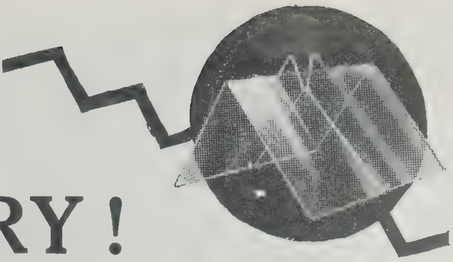
Spraying machines

The Four Oaks Spraying Machine
have just issued a new catalogue (No.
illustrating their spraying machines
syringes. The list includes a special s
showing their new "Weeford" spra
This is a knapsack sprayer of an ent
new type, the special feature being tha
only requires charging with air once per
thus doing away with all fatiguing,
work. Full particulars can be secured f
the works of the Company at Four O
Sutton Coldfield, near Birmingham.

Garden ornaments

A very attractive catalogue of garden o
ments has been issued by the Leeds Fire
Co., Dept. C.S.4, Wortley, Leeds. T
ornaments are extremely attractive,
range in prices to suit all pockets.

he GARDENING INVENTION OF THE CENTURY!



Enthusiastic Letters from Delighted Users.

feel that you may like to hear of the wonderful
ts I have obtained from the patent Cloches. I have
weeks ahead with my flowers and vegetables, and
several prizes for quality. Enclosed find cheque
nother full set of Seedraisers and set 'A' Cloches."

GLASGOW.

feel I cannot speak too highly of your wonderful
es. Our flower beds have been a flame of colour
hole summer. In previous years flower seeds
ed in open beds have been a source of great dis-
intment to me, but your Continuous Cloches have
ubtedly made seedraising a certainty."

BROMLEY, KENT.

indly send me another full set of 'A' Cloches.
Christmas I actually raised new Potatoes for the
tmas dinner, and it is now my ambition to grow a
ariety of out-of-season vegetables. Your Cloches
certainly added a new interest in gardening."

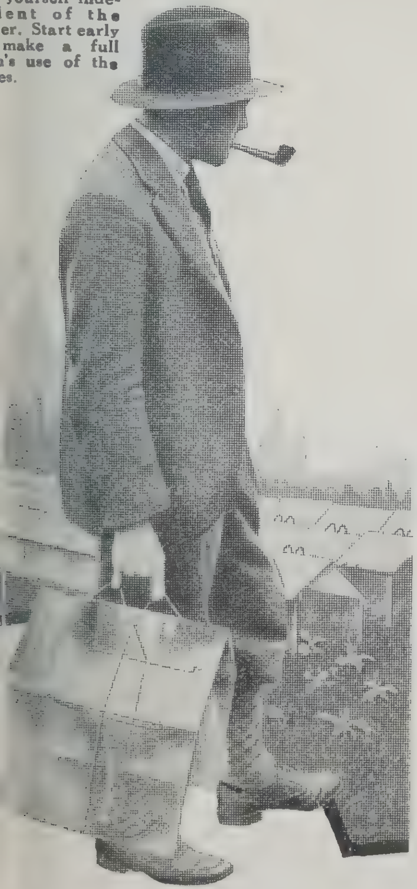
BROCKLEY, S.E.

indly send me prices of your Alpine Plant protec-
You may be interested to hear that your Cloches
been amazingly successful again this year. They
orth their weight in gold, and many visitors to
rden have asked me your address."

LIVERPOOL.

e list gives all sizes and prices ith many more appreciations

**is the time to
yourself inde-
ent of the
er. Start early
make a full
's use of the
es.**



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EARLIER, BIGGER, BETTER CROPS OF FLOWERS, VEGETABLES, SALADS

WOULD it interest you to save from 50% to 90% of the seed sown and get far earlier, bigger, and better crops? That is what thousands of Amateurs are now doing with the CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE.

Germination wonderfully improved

THIS year why not make your own climate and sow safely six or eight weeks earlier *in whatever part of the garden is most convenient*? Thus you get wonderfully improved germination and rapid, unchecked growth. Earlier flowers, vegetables, and salads mean a longer productive season—increased pleasure in gardening, and increased profit, too.

Miles of CLOCHES in use throughout the country

PROTECT 1929 sowings with the CHASE CONTINUOUS CLOCHE. All are taking up this great aid to successful culture. Last year alone customers called for miles of CLOCHES, and we are already working hard to meet the rush of REPEAT ORDERS coming in by every post.

Weeks EXTRA SUMMER *in 1929!*

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The effect of Fisons' Champion Fertilizer on Beans. Untreated pot on left ; treated pot on right.

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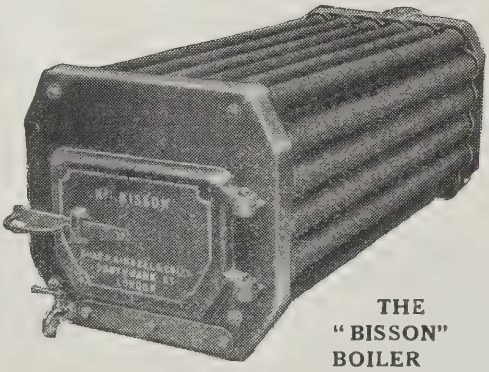

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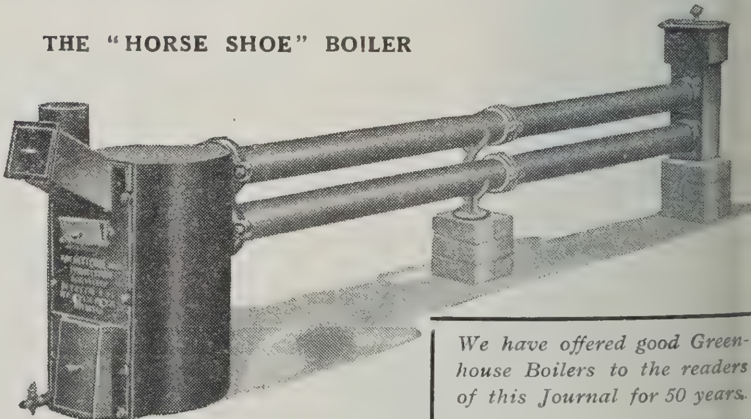

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The apiary of to-day and a skep apiary as seen in every village 50 years ago

Fifty Years of Bee-Keeping

O rural industry in this country has
progressed more in the last 50 years than
that of bee-keeping. Down to the latter
of the last century the methods of keep-
bees had not materially altered, except
and there in the hands of a few
ntists, for the past thousands of years.
es similar to those in use at the time of
g Alfred were still to be seen in cottage
lens throughout the country.

he inside of these hives was a sealed
. The bees built their combs as and how
liked, and the inner working of the
ny was quite beyond the control of the
eeper.

he killing of the bees to obtain their honey
an almost universal custom. This bee-
ing, as it was called, used to take place
ng the months of August or September,
as soon as the honeyflow was over, and
a great event in the life of the cottager.
nall circular pit some 6 inches to 8 inches
was dug in a secluded part of the gar-
in this were placed a few rags dipped in
ted brimstone. At sunset, or as soon as
bees had ceased flying for the day, the
eeper commenced operations. A knife
gently run round under the edge of the
(the ancient name for a bee-hive) to free
om the stand on which it stood. It was
carefully lifted and carried, mouth
nwards, to the sulphur pit. The rags
ignited and the skep placed over the
. In a couple of minutes every bee had
shed, and the pit was ready for the next

he heaviest and the lightest skeps were
en for destruction; the heavy ones be-
e they contained most honey, and the
ones because there would be insufficient
in them to carry the bees through the
er. The medium weight skeps were
to restart the apiary in the following
g. Increase was entirely dependent
natural swarming.

his wasteful and cruel method of obtain-
honey meant not only the annual loss of
ast 50 per cent. of the beekeeper's stocks,
also the destruction of the valuable comb.
every pound of comb built by the bees
t 12 lbs. of honey has been consumed.

ter the bees had been destroyed the
s were cut from the skep and the honey
sed and strained out of them. As a large
ortion of this honey had probably been
d in cells in which several generations of
g bees had been reared it was very in-
r in quality to that produced under the
ern system.

ith the hive of to-day very different
iods are practised. In the first place,
g to the arrangement of movable combs
have almost complete control over a colony. We increase or decrease the size of the hive according to the needs of the bees and the state of the honeyflow. Natural swarming is largely eliminated, with the result that, whereas in the old days of the skep the beekeeper was well satisfied with 30 lbs. of honey per colony, to-day 100 lbs. is commonly obtained, and occasionally in a good season double this amount is taken, and this honey is obtained without the killing of a single bee and without destroying the comb.

With modern appliances in an up-to-date apiary the honeycombs are removed from the hive with practically no disturbance to the bees. They are uncapped, placed in an extractor (the honey is thrown out by centrifugal force), then returned to the hive for the bees to clean up, and later removed again and stored away for use the following season. Many beekeepers have combs that have been used annually for more than 20 years. In my own apiary I have some that were built in 1904 and are still in perfect condition. The high-water mark of British bee-keeping reached its climax last year, when at the National Show of Bees and Honey held at the Crystal Palace more than two tons of the finest honies in the world were staged, together with the best types of hives and appliances from all the principal dealers in the country. No old-time beekeeper who visited that show could have failed to realise the immense strides that had taken place during the last 50 years in this, the most ancient of all our rural pursuits.

The accompanying illustrations will give some idea of the contrast between an apiary of the last century and a modern one of to-day. L. Bigg-Wither.

FRUIT GARDEN

Ringing fruit trees

An interesting and useful research paper, "Some Observations on Ringing Fruit Trees to Increase Production," was contributed by Thomas Swarbrick to the Report of the Agricultural and Horticultural Research Station, Long Ashton, Bristol. This method has been practised for centuries in the Vine lands of Europe, and consists in the removal of a complete band of bark tissue from around a branch. The ring so formed may be of any width, but is no deeper than the depth of the bark, as no wood must be removed.

The ringing of fruit trees may easily damage them, and here the paper is very helpful. Stone fruit trees, it is recommended, should not be ringed, it almost invariably proving fatal for them. Apple trees, it was found, suffered from the death of the part above the ring if ringed in February or March, or any time before the bark slips. At Long Ashton from the middle to the end of May was found to be the best time. It is necessary, if the trees are to survive this treatment, for the rings to heal over, and a useful tip when they show a disinclination to do so is to cover the wound with adhesive tape.

The effect of the ring is that it interferes with the normal transference of the starches from the leaves into the root system, resulting in an accumulation of starch above the ring. This slows up the tree growth and leads to excessive flower production, and, usually, fruit crops. It does not take long for the new callus growths to heal over the wound and for starch transference to become normal again. Thus it will be seen that the main reason for adopting this practice, which is temporary, is to bring a reluctant tree into bearing. It is useful in the case of strongly growing trees that refuse to start cropping, but must never be used for weak-growing trees.

A strand of wire bound tightly round a branch will produce a similar effect, and in this connection it is pointed out that very often the cords used for tying young trees to the stakes have by the end of the season become too tight and are producing the effects of ringing. While this may do no harm to strong trees it will be seriously detrimental to the weaker trees. For this reason it is best at the end of the season to remove all the old ties and replace them with new ones.

Fruit in cottage gardens

I have urged for some years in my district the advisability of increasing the cultivation of fruit in cottage gardens on the ground that a nice succession of fruit in variety is quite as useful to the household as vegetables. I also do my best in my small way to advance the same by advice as to propagation, improved cultivation, prevention and destruction of enemies, selection of varieties, and the like. I was pleased to see largely increased exhibits of fruit at our local show, both in a natural and preserved state, the jam classes being particularly well filled. The Loganberry has advanced very considerably in favour of late years, its free and consistent bearing having been realised, and its value for jam-making appreciated. An improvised fence of upright stakes and horizontal bars keeps the shoots within bounds and facilitates the picking. The size and quality of Gooseberries have been much improved since growers realised the necessity of keeping their bushes well thinned out, encouraging the growth of young wood, and helping the bushes occasionally by a top-dressing of some good manure. By planting a few early and late varieties a long season is secured alike for Gooseberries and Red and White Currants. There is nothing better than the cordon system of culture where a fence of some kind is available, and it should be more generally adopted. Something in the way of rough posts is generally available in the country, and if tarred at the base before insertion in the ground, these will last for years. Fairly stout wood is cheap, and about four strands of this will suffice to keep trees in position and allow a good height of growth. Whether intended for growing as bushes or cordons, a small stock of young trees of all these small fruits should be kept on hand; if not required for new plantations they are very useful in replacing old, worn-out trees. Strawberries are seldom grown, for they are a precarious crop unless protected, the early spring frosts upsetting much prospect of fruit.

E. Burrell.

Hardwick.

VEGETABLES

Planting Potatoes

Many regard the planting of Potatoes as one of the most important of spring operations in the garden, more especially when it is more or less compulsory that a good winter supply has to be ensured. Are we not, the majority of us, in rather too great a hurry to begin planting? We do not take a warning from past experiences and go on, year after year, putting out our early varieties at a certain fixed date in March. Early planting in the case of Potatoes is as much to be deprecated as too late planting. Admittedly, in some seasons, both very early and very late planting may be a success; but, normally, early plantings suffer from late spring frosts and late plantings have not time to mature their growths before bad weather sets in. There are only a very few favoured districts in this country where it is safe for the growths to be well through the soil before the end of May—indeed I have seen much damage done by frosts at quite the middle of June. I would prefer to delay planting until the very middle of April at the earliest and continue to plant from that time until the second week in May. The drawbacks of too early planting are manifold. Heavy soil becomes so beaten down by rain and, possibly, by snow, that the growths can with difficulty make their way through the hard surface. Even when they do, the yield is likely to be small. The finer and looser that the soil can be kept the more bountiful the crop will be and the tubers will be more even. I am no advocate for the use of large quantities of farmyard manure for Potatoes, providing the soil is in good heart. In such a case I firmly believe manure does more harm than good. Even in poor soil I would limit the dressing, and I would apply it in autumn.

A Scottish Gardener.

Tomatoes in the open

When we have such a summer as that of 1928 there is no difficulty in growing heavy crops of well-ripened Tomatoes. Not only did the plants growing against sunny walls and fences produce grand crops, but those quite in the open succeeded nearly as well. Even self-sown plants left to take their chance gave a considerable weight of fruit, much of which ripened. We neither expect nor desire many such hot dry summers, but if we only get a good average season, then there is every likelihood of Tomatoes more than repaying for what little trouble is expended on them. If it should happen that more ripe fruit is forthcoming than is wanted for immediate use, any good housekeeper or cook ought to know how to store or otherwise utilise these, while the unripe fruit can be made into fairly good preserve and is excellent in a pickled state.

Rhubarb from seed

A large stock of plants may be quickly raised from seed, the only drawback being the uncertainty of the varieties sown coming true to name. It is quite possible to raise a batch of seedlings this year and force them next winter, but the seed must be sown at once in pans or boxes of fine soil, and set on a gentle hot-bed. When the seedlings are of good size they may be either pricked out thinly in shallow boxes filled with good soil, or, better still, be potted off singly into 5-inch pots. Having been kept in gentle heat till strong and well rooted, they may be hardened off and finally planted out some time in May. If the aim is to grow the plants large enough for forcing at once, give them a sheltered position and freely manured well-worked soil, putting them 2 feet apart each way. In dry weather they will need an occasional good soaking of water, also a surface mulching of strawy manure, this serving to enclose the much needed moisture at the roots. Seed may also be sown in the open ground, an east or west border being a suitable site; the drills to be drawn 18 inches apart and 2 inches deep, and the seed sown thinly; or, if preferred, broadcast sowing may be resorted to, the seed being covered with sifted soil. In this manner a number of strong plants will be obtained, these being suitable for transplanting the following spring. The first week in April is soon enough for open-air sowing.

Kale to be depended upon

To bridge over the time after the last of the Brussels have been gathered, until spring Cabbage is ready, a good plan is to sow, or plant at the right time, Kale. It is a most serviceable vegetable, and one which should receive more attention in the matter of variety, more especially those which yield from January to April. At a time, therefore, when seed can be sown, the attention of readers is called to some, that are proving their value: Scotch Kale, A1, and Hardy Sprouting. A few score of these planted out in summer in well manured ground cannot fail to be of good use in the early year, especially after a time of hard frost, which affects them but little. It is also worth mentioning that the old sort, Thousand-headed, like the others will provide very many sprouts for gathering over a long time, tender and of much acceptance when cooked. It matters little where the garden is situated, it is seldom that Kale disappoints. When planting out, it should be in well dug and well manured ground, and plants ought not to be stinted for space.

W. F.

Sowing Spinach

Although Spinach has never been popular like some other vegetables in provincial markets, more attention is now paid to it by private growers than formerly. Properly cooked, it makes a desirable acquisition to the table, and there is scarcely any garden where its culture cannot be undertaken. To grow it well, it should be given rich ground, in an open sunny situation, and seed ought to be sown at stated intervals so as to ensure cropping over a long period. To this end, ground needs to be well dug, and provided with sufficient humus, so that in the event of a dry summer it will not run to seed so quickly. For this purpose, good farmyard or stable manure is best; failing this manure or vegetable refuse that has stacked for a time should be worked as to provide the necessary humus. I there is an advantage in sowing bot Summer or Round and the Prickly or ter varieties. The first seed should be in March on a sunny border, partic where it is backed by a wall, and i sown very thinly in drills, or at any to get the thinnings transplanted early. trary to opinion of some, Spinach will transplanting. One often meets amateur gardeners who do not grow i give as their reason that "it takes a make a boiling," but that is only par truth, as it is in many instances thick ing and failure to thin that yields such results. If sown in rows a couple o or so apart it will admit of succes crops. Victoria and Longstanding R and the Prickly for late autumn and use, will ensure gatherings over the lo period. Spinach may be helped consid by being hoed, and in applications of manure administered. It is a quick gr crop, and one which the small grower not to lose sight of.

W

Celery and Celeriac

Seeds must now be sown in brisk h both Red and White Celery and Celeri the main crop, the resultant seedlings kept close up to the glass at all times pricked off when the third leaf has deve A warm, moist atmosphere is essential growth is advanced.

Addresses often wanted

The Royal Horticultural Society F. R. Durham, C.B.E., M.C., *tary*), Vincent Square, Westmi London, S.W. 1.

The National Rose Society (Mr. Cou Page, *Secretary*), 28, Victoria S London, S.W. 1.

The National Chrysanthemum Sc (Mr. Chas. H. Curtis, *Secretar* Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, don, W.C. 2.

The National Sweet Pea Society A. C. Bartlett, *Secretary*), 19, Be Chambers, London, W.C. 2.

The National Dahlia Society (Mr. Chittenden, *Secretary*), "Mer Colborne Way, Worcester Park, S

The British Carnation Society (Mr. Alesworth, *Secretary*), 17, Avenue Isleworth, Middlesex.

The Iris Society (Mr. G. L. Pilkin *Secretary*), Lower Lee Woolton, Liverpool.

The British Gladiolus Society (Mr. Amos, *Secretary*), 10, Bergholt Colchester.

The British Florists' Federation Chas. H. Curtis, *Secretary*) Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, don, W.C. 2.

The National Carnation and Pi Society (Mr. A. E. Amos, *Secretary* Bergholt Road, Colchester.

The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent stitution (Mr. Geo. J. Ingram, *tary*), 92, Victoria Street, Lo S.W. 1.

The Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund A. C. Bartlett, *Secretary*), 19, Be Chambers, Covent Garden, Lo W.C. 2.

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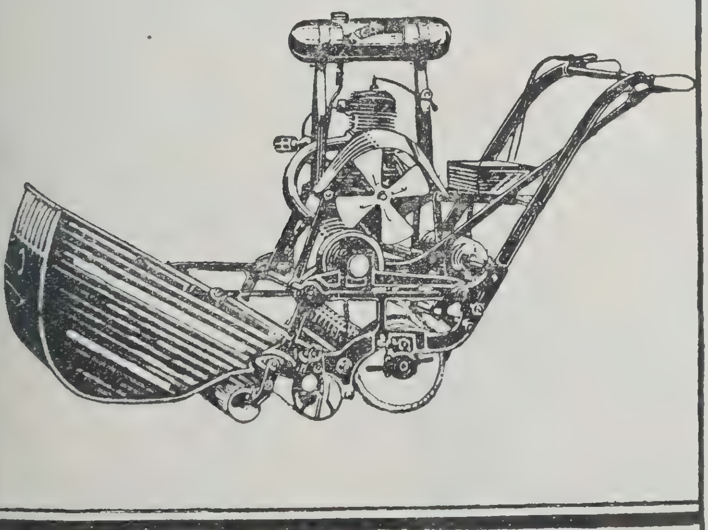

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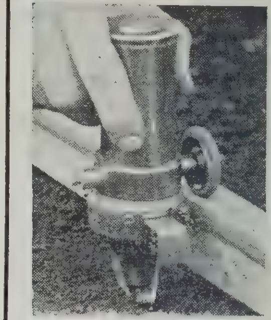

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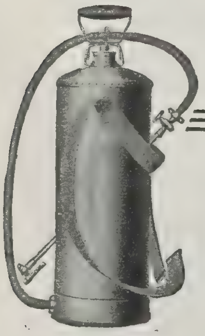

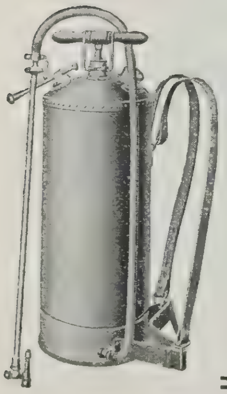

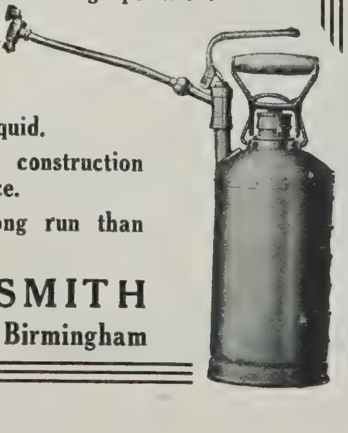

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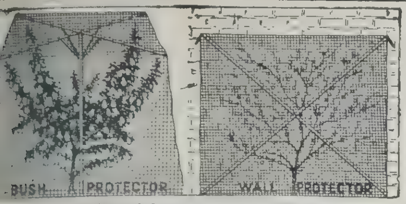

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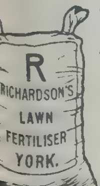

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Vorm Killer	**17/6**	**10/6**	**6/-**

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In Imperishable Reinforced Cement
BIRD BATH and PEDESTAL with STATUETTE
Height, 4 ft. Base 12 ins. square. Diameter of bath, 14½ ins.
Complete **50/-**. Pedestal and Bird Bath **37/-**.
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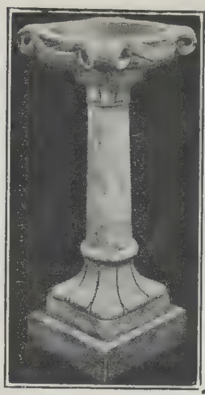

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are a continual source of beauty to the eye, and will always gain the admiration of your friends.

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HERTFORD.
(Photograph by courtesy of Lady Pearson.)

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Two miles of drive were treated with COLAS at Brickendonbury last summer with most satisfactory results. The usual constant attention has been entirely eliminated, and the surface given a new lease of life *without spoiling its appearance.*
COLAS arrives *ready to apply*, and can be put down by anyone at any time of the year.

One drum, containing 30 gallons and costing 40/-, delivered direct to destination within the Railway Company's free delivery area, will cover approximately 100 sq. yds. of gravel drive or path. A considerable reduction is offered if two or more drums are ordered.
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COLAS PRODUCTS LIMITED
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Indelible & Waterproof
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Use Wolff's Garden Pencils and know the name of your plants at the end of the Season. Make sure and ask for WOLFF'S Garden Pencil—indelible and waterproof.
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DO you continually have to fill up the ruts caused by heavy rain? If so, we can mend them permanently with "COLD CHON." All you require to do is to pour "COLD CHON" on the paths, about one gallon to three square yards, cover it over with gravel, ash, or chips, and there you have your path as you would like it to look and remain; and it *will* remain because the "COLD CHON" is holding the surface tightly in its place.

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WHEN APPLYING FOR
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Contain:
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A complete manure of GUARANTEED ANALYS ALL-ROUND USE in Spring. Contains firs Plant Foods scientifically compounded, and has excellent results for many years.

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PRICES:—
2 cwts., **36/-.** 1 cwt., **19/-.**
56 lbs., **11/-.** 28 lbs., **6/3.**
14 lbs., **4/3.** 7 lbs., **3/-.**

Carriage paid. *Cash with ord*

Place your order NOW, and ensure an improven the yield and quality of your Vegetable Crops equally good in the Flower Garden and on the

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The Originator of Lawn Sands

Destroys all obnoxious weeds and moss, and discolo grass least of any. Produces a rich velvety green. 6 experience in lawn culture.

THE OLDEST AND STILL BY FAR THE BEST THE MARKET

If required for destroying weeds only, a pinch in the of each weed will entirely clear your lawn.

In tins, **1/6**, **3/-** and **5/6**; ¼ cwt **8/-**; ½ cwt. **14/6**; 1 c in strong airtight kegs.

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Of all Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

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NOW is the TIME

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Only the best are good enough.

YOU GET THE BEST IN OUR NEW GRANULATED FERTILISERS

LANDON'S GARDEN GRANULES
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hese granules supply perfectly balanced proportions r all garden purposes, of Nitrate, Phosphate, Potash d "Limax." They do not WASH THROUGH THE OIL, but gradually yield food to the plants throughout eir growth. They are highly alkaline and neutralise il acidity. They contain no waste products and are ee from objectionable smell—they are clean to handle, sily distributed and harmless to vegetable and animal life.

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— Prices, in sealed bags:
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RE YOU WORRIED WITH SLUGS ND YOUR PLANTS POOR AND STUNTED?

Then your garden is crying for:

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"The Gardener's Constant Companion"

is Insecticidal, fungicidal, and cures soil sourness. It rifies, tones, sweetens and brings out latent strength of the soil.

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Sold in linen bags

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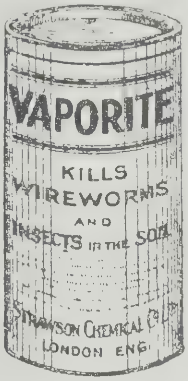
Carriage paid on cash orders

ANDON'S GRANULATED FERTILISER CO., LTD.

JUBILEE ROAD, WATFORD, HERTS.

All Insects in the Soil Killed

Even the best of seeds and the greatest of care will be wasted if insects in the soil attack your plants.



Now, when digging and preparing your garden, scatter some Vaporite upon the soil and work it in at the rate of about 1½ lbs. to every 10 square yards. In three days you will see the insects lying dead. The Vaporite is non-poisonous and pleasant to use. It is the standard Insecticide with the largest sale in the World.

Vaporite

Prices:

1 *cwt. bags,*	**17/6**	14 *lb. bags,*	**5/6**
½ *cwt.* ,,	**11/3**	7 *lb. tins,*	**3/9**
¼ *cwt.* ,,	**8/-**	1½ *lb.* ,,	**1/6**

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LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID

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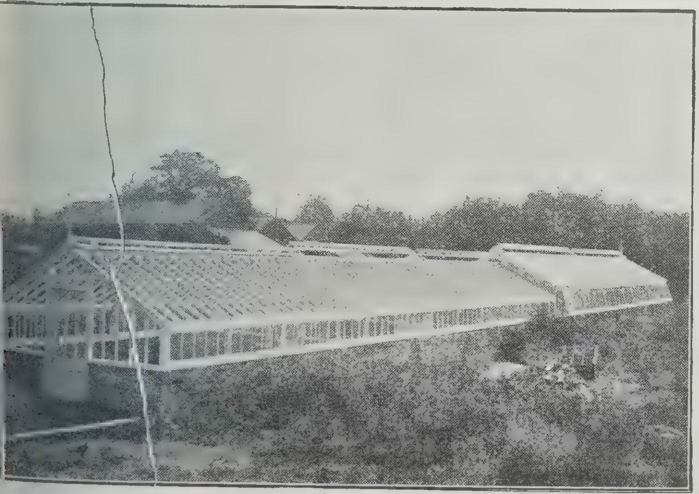

GOOD GREENHOUSES LAST
OTHERS DO NOT.

We have recently received a letter from a gentleman quite unknown to us as follows:—

> "The houses erected by you many years ago have been re-erected at Hayes, and I can assure you they are in a wonderfully good condition; in fact worth photographing for publicity purposes."

We accepted his suggestion and this view is the rebuilt range of glass originally erected by us

FORTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

FRAMES FOR THE GARDEN

A customer sends us this photograph. The two Frames were purchased by him

TWENTY YEARS AGO;

that on the right, from FOSTER & PEARSON, LTD., has stood the test of time, and is as sound to-day as when it was supplied; the condition of the other speaks for itself.

PROFIT by the EXPERIENCE of OTHERS AND ORDER FROM

FOSTER & PEARSON, Ltd.,

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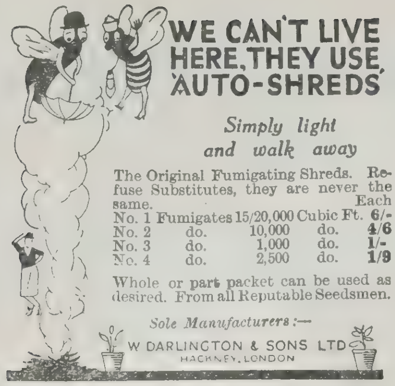
WE CAN'T LIVE HERE, THEY USE 'AUTO-SHREDS'

Simply light and walk away

The Original Fumigating Shreds. Refuse Substitutes, they are never the same.

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No. 1	Fumigates	15/20,000	Cubic Ft.	6/-
No. 2	do.	10,000	do.	4/6
No. 3	do.	1,000	do.	1/-
No. 4	do.	2,500	do.	1/9

Whole or part packet can be used as desired. From all Reputable Seedsmen.

Sole Manufacturers:—

W DARLINGTON & SONS LTD
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GREAT SEVEN DAYS
SPRING SALE
30 ACRES OF FINEST QUALITY
Fruit Trees, Roses, Bushes, etc.
Must be Cleared
Best Quality—Lowest Prices
WE PAY CARRIAGE ON ALL ORDERS

STANDARD **Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, Damsons, any names you wish, 2/- each, to fruit this year. Bush Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, Damsons, any names you wish, 1/3 each, to fruit this year.**

ROSES—LOVELY ROSES

BUSH ROSES. Crimson Emblem, Druschki, Golden Ophelia, H. Dickson, Testout, Shot Silk, Chatenay, America, Madame Herriot, Old Gold, Sensation, Sunburst, or any names you wish, **5/6** dozen, **3/-** half dozen. **STANDARD ROSES** of all above sorts and 100 other names, **1/6** each. **CLIMBING ROSES, American Pillar, Crimson Rambler, Goldfinch, Hiawatha, White Dorothy, Pink Pearl, Shower of Gold, Double Crimson, Paul's Scarlet,** and many other sorts, **5/6** doz., **3/-** half doz.

GIVEN FREE. 12 Giant Gladioli Bulbs (mixed) (plant now) with all Rose orders of 5/6 and over.

BULBS. 2 Hyacinths, 6d.; 18 Tulips (mxd.), 6d.; 24 Iris (mxd.), 6d.; 12 Anemones, St. Brigid (mxd.), 6d.; 12 Gladiolus (mxd.), 1/-; 12 Begonias (mxd.), 1/-; 25 Narciss. (mxd), 6d.; 25 Daffs. (mxd.), 6d.; 25 Ixias (mxd.), 6d.; 12 Ranunculus (mxd.), 6d.; 25 Crocus (mxd.), 6d.; 25 Snowdrops, 6d.

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GIANT HYACINTHS **(For Bedding) lovely mixed colours, 12 for** **2/6**
FLOWERING SHRUBS, 6 Grand sorts (mixed), **2/6**
EVERGREEN SHRUBS, 6 mixed sorts, large, **3/-**

Lilacs, 9d. each; Laburnums, 1/-; Poplars, 1/-; Limes, 1/-; Beech Trees, 1/-; Flowering Currants, 1/-; Flowering Almonds, 1/-; Spruce Firs, 1/-; Mountain Ash, 1/-; Peach Trees, 2/6; Apricots, 2/6; **Green Privet, 3 feet, 1/9 doz.**; Raspberries, 1/6 doz.; Red or Black Currants, 3/- doz.; Gooseberries, 3/- doz.; Loganberries, 1/- each.

CLEMATIS any colour 2/- each; 6 Phlox (mixed), 1/6; 6 Delphiniums (mixed), 1/6; Golden Privet, 6/- per dozen; Rhubarb 6d. each; Honeysuckles 1/- each; Rhododendrons, 6d. each; 50 Cabbage Plants, 1/-; 25 Pansies (mixed), 1/-.

10/- FRUIT TREE COLLECTION 10/-

1 APPLE, Cooking; 1 APPLE, Dessert; 1 PLUM, Victoria; 1 PLUM, Monarch; 1 PEAR, William; 1 PEAR, Comice; 1 CHERRY, Blackheart; 1 CHERRY, Whiteheart; 6 GOOSEBERRIES; 12 RASPBERRIES.
GIVEN FREE—6 Giant Black Currants.
The whole lot of strong trees to fruit this year Well packed. Carriage Paid. **10/-.**

ALL WELL PACKED AND ALL ORDERS CARRIAGE PAID
LION NURSERIES, BEXLEY HEATH, KENT

The Mystery Lily of the East

The wonder bulb which does not require soil or water. Place it anywhere, and it will thrive and give forth abundant bloom of gorgeous colourings. Extra large bulbs.

2 FOR 1/6 Postage 3d. extra

Place the bulb on the mantelpiece and watch it bloom. Makes a beautiful indoor decoration.

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BUXTON WHITE LUMP LIME for Horticulture or Agriculture.
WATER-WORN LIMESTONE ROCKERY in its natural shapes and colour.
DERBYSHIRE WHITE SPAR for Paths and Rockeries.
BUXTON LIMESTONE GRAVEL in all sizes.

Write for prices
SPECIALITY
GARDEN LIME in Fine Powder, **5/6** per cwt. bag, Carr. paid, Cash with order less 15 % for 1 ton and upwards.

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Green-fly on Cineraria
Keating's Powder dusted on these plants will remove all trace of green-fly and will not hurt the plant—use dry—keep dry.
Prices **2d., 6d., 1/-.**
Use Keating's in your Greenhouse

Kill Slugs & Snails the NEW way!

Slug-Mort is an easy and cheap way of completely exterminating slugs, snails, and similar pests. Harmless to plants and animals and unaffected by wet. Now is the best time to use it. Send for directions and material to treat ¼ acre of garden for **1/6** post free from

The SLUG-MORT Co., Penzance, Cornwall

FRUIT TREES
require
Nourishment

Fruit trees obey the same laws of growth as all other vegetations, and it is necessary that their food supply should be correct and regular.

Read the special pamphlets, "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees," "Successful Gardens for every Amateur," supplied gratis and post free by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

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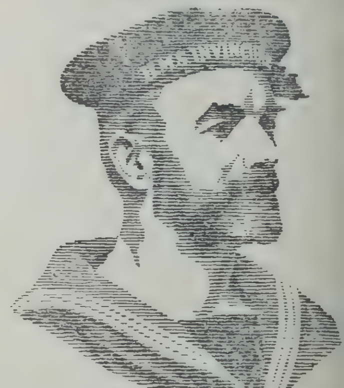
ROSES. Standards, **30/-**; Climbers, **12/-**; Dwarfs, **10/6** doz.
APPLES and PLUMS. Standards, **5/-** each, **60/-** doz. Bushes, **36/-** doz. All varieties, splendid trees. Cox's Orange extra good.
RASPBERRIES. Best sorts, **3/6** doz., **25/-** 100.
CLIMBING PLANTS. Ampelopsis, **1/6**; Clematis, **2/-**; Honeysuckle, **2/6**; Ceanothus, **2/6**; Pyracantha, **2/6** each; etc.
RHODODENDRONS. Pink Pearls, etc., well-budded, **5/-** each.
CONIFERS in all varieties. 1 to 3 ft., **12/-** to **36/-** doz.
FLOWERING STANDARD TREES. Prunus, Peaches, etc., **5/-** each.
DECIDUOUS & EVERGREEN SHRUBS. 1/- each.
PRIVET. 2 ft., 3 ft., **12/-** and **20/-** per 100.
LAURELS. 2½ ft., 3 ft., 4 ft., **12/-, 24/-, 36/-** doz.
QUICK. 2½ ft., **10/-**; 4 ft. (Gappers), **50/-** per 100.
BOX EDGING. 1/6 yard.

Lavender, Aster Acris, Michaelmas Daisies, Geums, Catmint, etc. **5/-** per doz.

CATALOGUES FREE

HENRY STREET
SURREY ROSE NURSERIES
WEST CHOBHAM



PLAYER'S "Medium" Navy Cut Tobacco (Rubbed Ready fo Smoking) is identical in quality with the origina PLAYER'S Medium Navy Cut, but it is put up in a form which saves the smoker trouble

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"MEDIUM"
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2 oz. Pocket Tin **2/1**

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SALE! GREATLY REDUCED PRICES SALE!

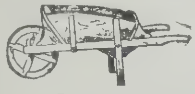
Select from the following Exceptionally Low-Priced Offers for Immediate Despatch

ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.

		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path..	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,, ...	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft 6 in. ,, ...	17/6	16 -
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. ,, ...	22/6	20/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,, ...	26/6	24/-
8 ft. ,,	6 ft. ,, ...	33/6	30/-

CARDEN BARROWS

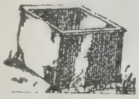


ng Oak or Ash Frame, planed body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reli- 18 in. wood wheel, ¼ in. iron

	Usual	Sale
nly to clear	23 6	20/-
nly to clear	28/6	25/-
for either of the above	7/6	6/6

CARDEN FLOWER BOXES

useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated e and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.

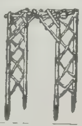


	Usual	Sale
square..	4/9	4/3 each
,, ...	5/6	5/- ,,
,, ...	6/6	5/9 ,,
,, ...	8/6	7/- ,,
,, ...	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 ft.

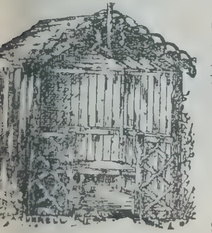
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path ..	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,



GARDEN LIGHTS

	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
5 ft. x 2 ft.	3 9	3 - each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

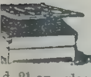
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

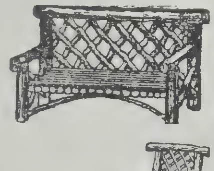
	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. d 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. l price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS



made from selected material.
tural wood Bark on.

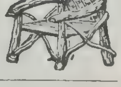
	Usual	Sale
ong	9 6	9/-
.. .. ..	14 6	13/6
.. .. ..	18/6	17 6

off, stained and varnished.

	Usual	Sale
ong	14/6	13/6
,, ...	18/6	17/6
,, ...	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.

	Usual	Sale
ion	8/6	6/6
ff. stained and varnished ..	10/6	9/6



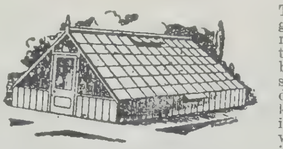
INCINERATOR

Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price .. .. 16/6 each
Sale price .. .. .. 12/6 ,,

BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE

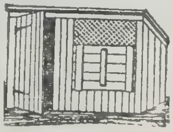
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

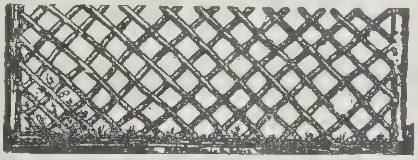


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	Reduced Prices. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9/6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	21/6	25/-

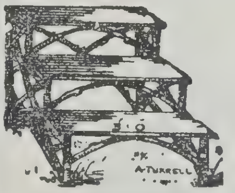
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12 9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

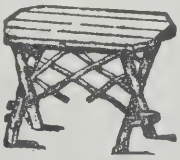
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long ..	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long ..	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

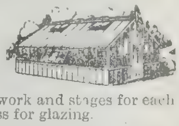
GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ⅝ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated..	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

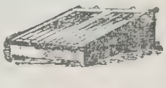
AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF CREENHOUSE



These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at nominal figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who require a strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved matchboarding, painted one coat of good oil colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. Complete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0	14 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0	19 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6	25 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0	36 0 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6			

GARDEN FRAMES



Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

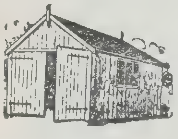
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0	4 10 0
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0	5 13 6
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0	6 15 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6	8 3 6

Do not pay high prices for your frames made from 1¼-in. boards. We can supply at the following low prices. Frames made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boards, complete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0	4 9 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0	6 10 6
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0	7 11 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6	9 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABLE MOTOR HOUSE

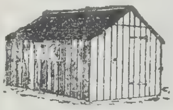


Constructed of strong framing covered with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved boards, roof boarded and felted, 1-in. boards for floor and strong joists. Windows fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doors hung on strong butts and fitted Tower bolts and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.	Sale.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0	£5 15 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6	7 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0	10 0 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0	12 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0	14 0 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0	15 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6	18 10 0
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0	20 10 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0	24 0 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0	28 0 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0	32 0 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No. 27

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and single door. Fitted lock and key.



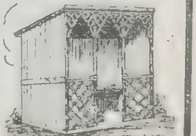
ft.	ft. in.	Usual.	Sale
5	x 3 6	£3 18 0	£3 10 6
6	x 4 0	£4 5 0	£3 16 6
7	x 5 0	£5 10 0	£4 18 6
8	x 6 0	£6 2 6	£5 10 0
10	x 7 0	£9 5 0	£8 7 6
12	x 8 0	£12 5 0	£11 1 6

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from planed, tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing. Roof covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite waterproof. All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable seat at back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out. Made in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.
6 ft. x 4 ft. £4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in. £6 10 0

Sale prices.
6 ft. x 4 ft. £3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in. £5 0 0



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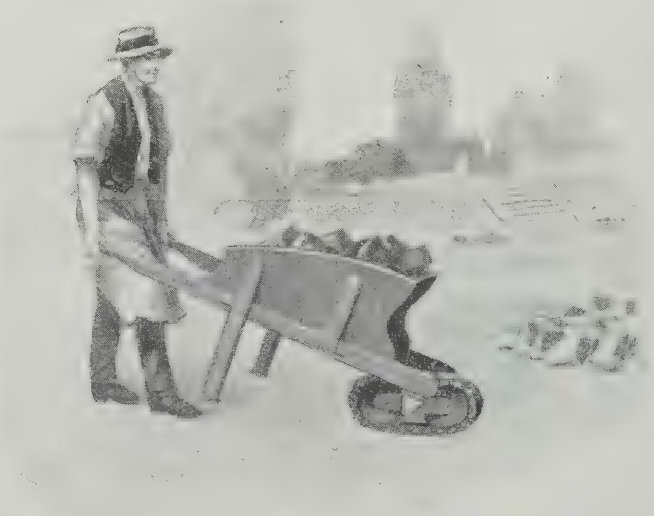

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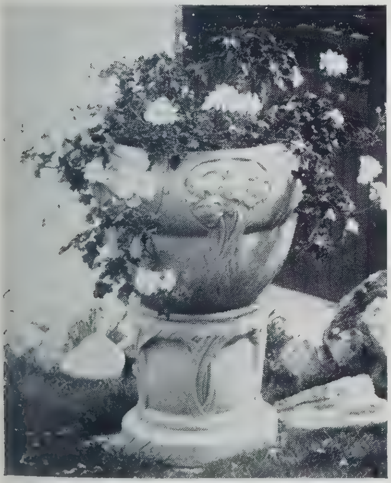
VASE No. 2
Height, 36 ins. Width of Bowl, 18 ins.
Width at Base, 12½ ins.
Price complete, 65/-. Vase only, 30/-.

BIRD BATH No. 25
Height, 30 ins. Dia. Top, 16 ins.
Width at Base, 10 ins.
Price, 105/-. Shell only, 12/6.



VASE No. 15
Height, 30 ins. Width of Bowl, 19 ins.
Width at Base, 14 ins.
Price complete, 80/-. Vase only, 52/-.

"Lefco" Garden Ornaments

turn once neglected corners into centres of attraction.

No garden is altogether perfect. Somewhere there's a corner—a little patch of ground—that never seems to be right. Maybe too much shade prevents rich blossoming. Perhaps the site of some old rubbish heap betrays its dead past in over-luxuriant weeds—whatever the cause it is there—the blank spot—the bit that never satisfies.

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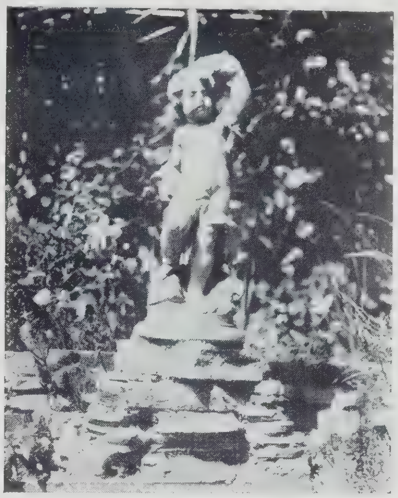
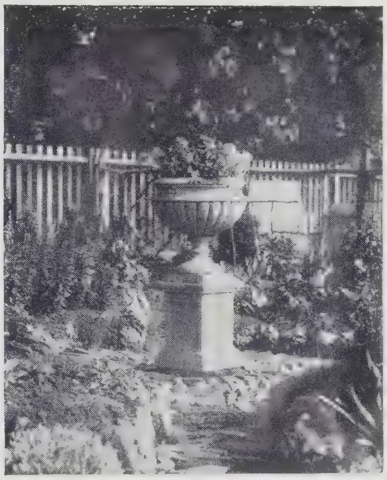


FIGURE No. 30
Height, 19 ins. Width at Base, 7 ins.
Price, 30/- (Box included).



VASE No. 2
Height, 36 ins. Width of Bowl, 18 ins.
Width at Base, 12½ ins.
Price complete, 65/-. Vase only, 30/-.

BIRD BATH No. 27
Height, 30 ins. Dia. Top, 14 ins.
Width at Base, 11 ins.
Price, 59/-.

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,,	mixed	5/- ,,	35/- ,,
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,,	in mixed colours	3/6 ,,	24/- ,,
,,	Frilled or Crested, in six colours	5/- ,,	35/- ,,
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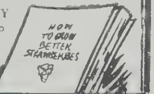

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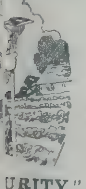

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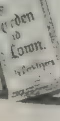

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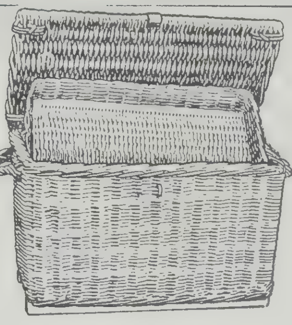

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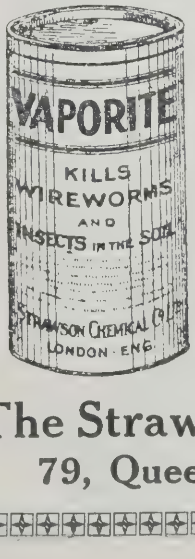

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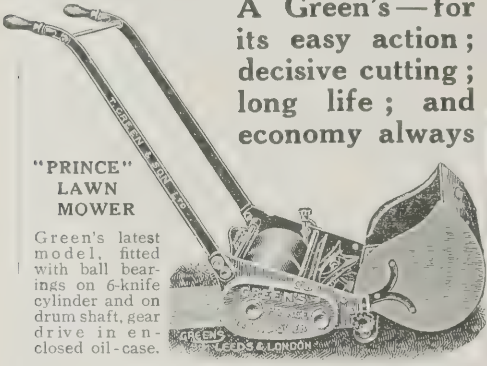

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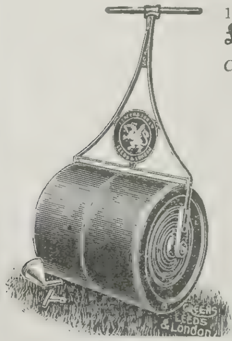

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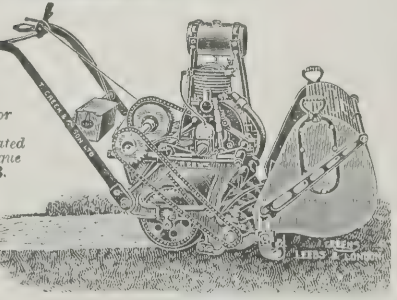

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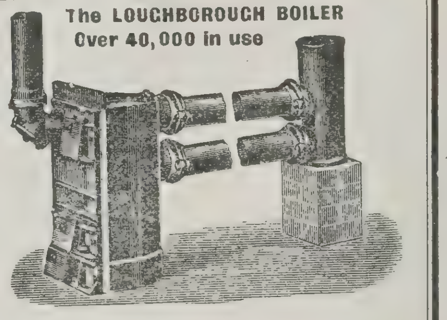

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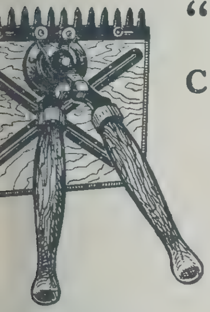

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No Entrance Fees.

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GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Progress in the Cultivation of Rhododendrons

HE first edition of Nicholson's "Dic- onary of Gardening," published about 886, states that the number of known s of Rhododendron was then about 100, is doubtful whether all were in culti- h. Mr. E. H. Wilson's first expedition ina in 1899 resulted in the introduction number of fine new species, and com- ed a new era in Rhododendron cultiva-

son was quickly followed by other id collectors, notably, G. Forrest, ald Farrer, and lon Ward, who each discovered new species until umber of recog- species is now be- 700 and 800, g in stature from rostrate R. repens e growths cling y to the ground) giganteum, which uted to reach 80 height.

foliage of the s species also a wide range in on, from R. sino- e, whose leaves gigantic propor- to the minute- d R. orthocla-

ing as they do higher altitudes, of these new s are hardier than older Sikkim- ayan species, con- tly, they are suited for general tion.

ble species intro- by Wilson include auriculatum, R. chenense, R. calo- n, R. Fargesii, R. Moupinense, R. iclare, R. intricatum, R. Vernicosum, isonii, R. Sargentianum, R. Ririei, R. gosum, and R. Williamsianum.

are indebted to Forrest for the intro- n of more species than probably any r single collector. These include R. enianum, R. repens, R. sino-grande, eotrephes, R. ledoides, R. sphæran- R. callimorphum, R. diatrepes, R. taile, R. croceum, R. didymum, R. ein, R. hippophœoides, and R. dichro- hn.

ngst Kingdon Ward's contributions . calostrotum, R. aperantum, R. ysm, R. myrtilloides, and R. euchroum.

To the late Mr. Reginald Farrer we are especially indebted for the fine R. sperabile. There are a large number of species, the proceeds of Mr. G. Forrest's and Capt. Kingdon Ward's more recent expeditions, which have not yet flowered in cultivation. Many of these species are of such dwarf habit and compact growth that they are especially suitable for gardens of moderate dimensions. Moreover, they should be perfectly hardy, for they come from the Alpine regions of China and Thibet.

Rhododendron Loderi King George

A magnificent hybrid, white or palest flesh, the large flowers over 6 inches across, opening with great splendour. (Parentage, R. Fortunei x R. Aucklandii.) Must be grown in shelter and partial shade. Reproduced from a truss grown in the Bodnant Gardens

The constant stream of new species has spurred growers to keep pace by improved cultural methods, but the problem of growing Rhododendrons on calcareous soils has not yet been solved, and this debars many would-be enthusiasts from cultivating them. Recent experiments, however, have proved that certain species do not show that strict abhorrence of lime which is so characteristic of the older species. One notable example, R. rubiginosum, has successfully withstood very severe tests, and probably some enterprising nurseryman will try the experiment of using these as stocks for grafting or as a basis for breeding a race of Rhododendrons which can be successfully grown in gardens which are moderately calcareous.

As the new species flower, Rhododendron enthusiasts are using them for systematic hybridisation, and with the guiding hand of man applied to the forces which Nature has supplied so bounteously the future progress of Rhododendrons is assured. New forms and colours introduced by hybridising and the flowering season is prolonged.

F. C. Puddle.

Bodnant Gardens,
Tal-y-Cafn, Denbighshire.

Holly hedges

The theory is generally advanced that the Holly is a slow-growing plant, but there appears to be room for inquiry as to what is its actual rate of growth, for in all probability, when well situated, it grows considerably faster than the hypothetical rate assigned to it by public opinion, and, although its growth may be relatively slow in the first year or two, remarkably fine hedges may be obtained in from 12 to 15 years from planting if attention is paid to the needs of the plant.

The Holly is not a fastidious plant as regards soil, and grows freely in almost any position where shrubs generally succeed, but it has a preference for the lighter types of soil, rich in organic matter, and frequently makes growth of 15 inches or 18 inches in the year in such soils. When planting on soils of such nature the preparation will be, naturally, of the simplest, consisting only in thoroughly working the ground to a depth of 2 feet, but where the ground is poor liberal additions of decayed manure should be incorporated with it during the process of preparation.

In planting to form a hedge plants up to 5 feet or 6 feet in height may be used if desired, the distance of planting depending on the size of the plant, but better results are generally obtained from smaller plants, as they are usually well furnished at the base. Whatever the size of the plant, firm planting should be practised.

The season of planting may be a debatable point. Generally speaking, Hollies are not the easiest subjects to transplant, and in all cases precaution should be taken to prevent undue exposure of the roots to adverse climatic conditions. There is no doubt that early autumn planting while the soil retains its summer warmth is a favourable time, but excellent results are also obtained from spring planting, and particularly during showery weather in April. When late planting is practised it is always wise to give a good watering and mulch the surface with rotten manure. After-treatment consists in clipping the hedges as required, and where broad hedges are desired it is necessary to slightly taper them towards the top, as if cut perfectly square there is danger of the top spreading, particularly under weight of snow.

Hedges carefully planted and trimmed back annually make impenetrable fences in a few years, and if they are cut back fairly hard for the first year or two to induce good furnishing at the base it is an easy matter to extend the height afterwards to whatever degree may be desired.

W. AUTON.

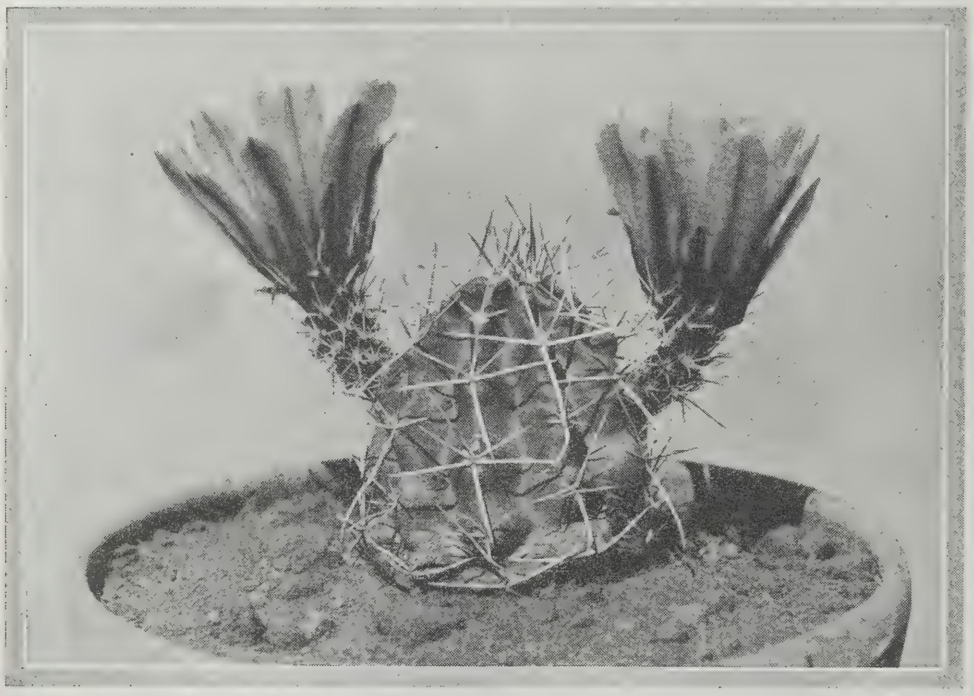
Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Echinocereus Fendleri

THIS is one of the semi-hardy Cacti of N. America. It will stand a temperature of 15 degs. above zero if kept dry. Some idea of the size may be had by comparing with the pot, which is 8 inches in diameter. The plant is about six years old and has not as yet developed the brown-tipped central spines. The flower is rose-purple with darker midrib. The body is dark green, spines white, brown-tipped. JAMES ALLAN.

Mountain Park, New Mexico.



Echinocereus Fendleri, flowers rose-purple

Sisyrinchium grandiflorum

I have been interested in the correspondence about Sisyrinchium grandiflorum. I have known the plant for 35 years. It grew and flourished at Bogend and Coldstream, Berwickshire. I took a large clump to Edinburgh, but there it did not do; gradually pined and died. Four years ago, on leaving Edinburgh, I was given another clump, and here (over 500 feet) it is at home again. My experience as to other varieties of Sisyrinchium coincides with that of Nin-Nin (your issue of 23rd ult., page 121), from S. striatum to the small-growing Blue-eyed Grass (S. angustifolium bellum), which is so pretty in sunshine.

In 1913 I bought S. striatum and was surprised to find the leaves like a German Iris, but put it away as the flowers were sparse, with no show, and it seeded all over the place. Not till three years ago did I try others, when I raised from seed S. filifolium, S. convolutum Bowles' Variety, and S. convolutum. S. filifolium has Rush-like leaves similar to grandiflorum, but the bells, which are whitish, are more open and about half the size. Last year it flowered for the first time, so may improve. S. convolutum is somewhat similar to the "Blue-eyed Grass," but does not flower so freely, and is seeding like S. striatum. S. convolutum Bowles' Variety did not stand our winter.

A plant that is flowering now and I have never seen in amateur gardens is Adonis amurensis. It was in bud when we had the recent intense frosts and is none the worse, and for the past week has been in full bloom. In Berwickshire Adonis vernalis never did much, while in Edinburgh it was always a mass of bloom, and again here it is not doing so well.

Your paper is not only a thing of weekly interest, but has proved a great help in many ways. A thing that is interesting me just now is the varying hardiness of herbaceous plants, some proving hardy on the east and not on the west, and *vice versâ*.

FALADAM.

Growing alpines in ashes

I was much interested in the article by F. H. Fisher in your issue of February 23rd
on "Growing Alpines in Ashes." May
that I find ashes invaluable on our
heavy soil? Our seed beds are made,
by putting a 2 feet layer of ashes well s
with a strong solution of permangana
potash and water to keep away insects.
this is placed the usual light soil suitab
seed-sowing, about a foot of it. I fin
very successful indeed, and seedlings d
damp off as they sometimes do on
ground. (MRS.) EMILY M. BU

Llanelly.

Violettas

I have read the interesting notes b
Stevens on page 142, issue March 2n
which he discourses on the beauty o
Violettas or miniature-flowered T
Pansies, and appreciate to the full all th
says with regard to the various speci
Violas enumerated therein. He is in
however, in referring to them as Viol
To describe these various species of
as Violettas simply because they are s
flowered is quite a misnomer.

The Violettas originated in the gard
the late Dr. Charles Stuart, M.D., of C
side, Berwickshire. In 1874 Dr. Stuart
successful in crossing the Pansy Blue
with the well-known Viola cornuta, o
Pyrenees, and the progeny of this intere
cross was seen in some most pleasing
tions. For some years subsequently
Stuart persisted in his praiseworthy ef
and in 1887, in a batch of seedlings, he
a plant with lovely white flowers of m
ture proportions and beautifully al
scented. The beauty of the flower wa
hanced by a suffusion of yellow colouri
the lower petal. This seedling was
named Violetta, and this name was us
the descriptive name of all mini
flowered Violas of this type.

At a Viola Conference held in the Bot
Gardens, Edgbaston, Birmingham,
August 3rd, 1894, a paper was read d
with these miniature-flowered Violas,
their properties were defined as follows

(1) *Form.*—The flowers may not be
lar, as in the florists' Pansy,
narrow and more oval in form
the petals smooth and of good
stance.

(2) *Colour.*—The colour should be b
clear, and striking, whatever the s
The eye should be bright go
orange, and may run into the
the under petal, but *no central*
marking is admissible, and wh
shaded, edged, or self-coloured
colour should be well contrasted.

(3) *Fragrance.*—The flower shoul
highly perfumed, which property
of the invaluable charms of the t

(4) *Size,* as a point of excellence i
type, deserves consideration, as
part from the broad lines gen
laid down for florists' flowers, an
sider the flowers should not be
than 1½ inches across as a maxi
and 1 inch across as a mini
Flowers ranging between these
will afford ample ground for a
tion, and will be more suitab
small glasses or the exhibition s

(5) *Habit.*—The habit of the plant
be dwarf and procumbent, the f
small and bright, the leaves clo
gether, the joints short, and the
bushy, with flower-stalks of
length as will bring all the fl
well together.

The foregoing properties were duly a
by the Conference, and have been reco
by reputable authorities since that date

The true Violettas flower in the gr

ısion, and invariably carry their flowers above the foliage. The habit of the ts is ideal for the rock garden and as an ng for beds and borders. The plants ess a strong constitution quite perennial aracter, and I question whether there is other hardy plant that flowers so long so continuously as does the true Violetta. ve plants that have been in the same ion for many years, and in the spring of year are represented by beautiful tufts with the first approach of genial her, come into blossom and continue to r until the autumn.

ıce the decease of Dr. Stuart it has been ood fortune to raise quite a large number of beautiful Violettas which, unfor-ely, I have not yet passed on to the alist to distribute. I hope soon, however, something in this connection so that who are interested in these plants may in the joy that has been mine for some past.

ere are many catalogues issued to-day ich there is included under the head of lettas " quite a number of species and ies of species that are in no respect so iful or as interesting as are those true pe, and it is a great pity that the flower- public should be misled into purchasing s that are not what they are represented

D. B. Crane.

Iris stylosa (unguicularis) var. angustifolia

ITH the flowering of Iris stylosa there annually appears a good deal of correspondence concerning the advisability itting back the masses of evergreen e which this species produces. Whether reatment always has the desired effect mulating flower-production is, perhaps, ionable, but there is no doubt that re-l of some of the leaves allows sun and ore easily to reach and " ripen " the nes. With the small variety, angusti- such drastic pruning is unnecessary, as eaves are less numerous and much wer. Of this variety Dykes writes in Handbook of Garden Irises " that it in flowers freely until March or April. therefore, rather surprising that after es of severe frost this plant opened per-lowers under a south wall at Wisley on n 6th, when the photograph was taken, ıgh on the previous morning 20 degs. st were recorded on the grass. Many ned buds seemed at the time to be un-d. The Wisley plant is of a good form, rich violet falls clearly striped at the twith golden-yellow.

N. K. G.

— I have seen the interesting corre-rence which has appeared in your ns lately on the Iris unguicularis. One which I transplanted three years ago lanted in a raised position in a small garden facing south-west has been ring for the last two months, and more rs are to come. There is lime in the nd it gets baked in the summer (if a al one). In a dry position such as this, the soil not too rich and free from re, the foliage does not grow very iantly or require cutting down. For s to blossom well a poor and dry soil r to suit them best, and when once they become established and have acquired owering habit the roots should remain turbed.

H. H. Warner.

sex.

— I have a low wall in my garden 75 long and have had for 20 years the length planted with Iris stylosa, so ps I may claim to have some experience wing them. My soil is very hot, stony l and sand, and it is lime-free. My experience is that they never bloom the winter after being divided, and they should only be disturbed when absolutely necessary. When replanting I have some leaf-soil and lime-rubble dug in.

I find they bloom very freely after a hot, sunny summer, and not well after a cold, wet summer. I do not think the Torquay treatment proves anything, as there they are growing in an ideal situation and climate in a sub-tropical garden.

I never have the leaves cut and flower them after a hot summer quite as well as the Torquay plants. The thick foliage will shelter the buds from 4 degs. or 5 degs. of frost, which they would not stand if it were cut off in autumn.

I have no experience of growing Iris stylosa in heavy soil, but I think, provided one has a S. or W. position under a wall, anything may be added to the way to grow them as recommended by Mr. Percy Chappell, who is evidently, like myself, an enthusiast over this beautiful flower. If the weather is mild I have blooms from November to April; even when the buds are destroyed by frost four or five mild days bring up a new supply. I have always found this Iris bloom well after a hot summer and poorly after a wet and sunless one. The white variety does not increase much with me, as other correspondents find. I wonder if it would respond to a rather more generous treatment.

Churt, near Farnham. C. G. O. Bond.

Iris stylosa var. angustifolia

Flowering in March under a south wall at Wisley

Feeding birds

May I add to Mr. Courtney Page's note that we found the blackbirds and thrushes preferred Apples to anything else. There are, generally, abundance of small and shrivelled Apples in the fruit-room after Christmas which are of little use for anything else.

C. G. O. B.

Churt.

Primula farinosa

AS a dweller in the heart of one of the chief haunts of this delightful native, within a stone's throw of half-a-dozen spots where it is one of the glories of spring, I am particularly interested in Mr. F. H. Fisher's notes on p. 36. The more so, I may say, because for years I have grown it in at least five quite distinct positions in the rock garden, with so great a measure of success, that of the 250 or so plants originally collected, I do not think, in a period of eight years, I have lost half-a-dozen, and, what is still more to the point, the tiny plants I have collected and planted during this time have steadily increased, and by now have formed, in many cases, clumps of such extent that, in one instance alone, last year, I had 32 blooms open at the same time! Further, they seed themselves quite nicely every year, so that in a short time a single collected plant has, with me, become a little colony on its own hook.

Contrary to the experiences of so many, besides Mr. Fisher, who, I have noticed, find this plant difficult, I myself have been particularly struck, and so have others who have seen them, by the great increase in vigour, in height of stalk, and in size of bloom exhibited by most of the plants collected from their local haunts and planted in the various positions in the garden. Stalks of 8 inches, with as many as 20 florets or " pips " to a " head," are by no means uncommon on plants which have been under cultivation no more than three years. And this, though the less fortunate may hardly believe it, occurs with me irrespective of aspect, soil, or other conditions. A single crown plant, for example, with, perhaps, two heads of bloom on 3-inch stalks, collected eight years ago, is by now a clump of 20 or more crowns (but, be it said, with little deviation as regards normality of foliage), in a solid mass, bearing heads of bloom in number and size such as I have mentioned above.

This experience leads me to wonder more and more every time I read of difficulties such as Mr. Fisher mentions.

In view of this frequent disappointment, perhaps, a few more details of culture and so on may be helpful and suggestive, for Primula farinosa is, undoubtedly, so well worth having in good form in our gardens. To many, besides myself, here it has been a sheer delight, and the centre of much admiration and discussion.

All my plants have been collected from haunts round about, in spring when the flower stalks were just showing amongst the foliage—some had a head fully developed—and transplanted in the garden not later than the following day. The first batch were put in either seven or eight years ago, the next five years since, and the remainder—just a handful—two years ago. Of the whole lot, 99 per cent. still flourish, so that the apparently " normal " life as a garden plant, of three years or so, does not seem to apply with me.

And at once I must say, with emphasis, that I have given none of them any special care, nor made the least attempt, by means of special soil, or prepared beds, to make them at home from home. Indeed, there are hosts of plants upon which I have expended twenty times the trouble, and which have rewarded me with general satisfaction as regards permanency and everything else to a much lesser degree than P. farinosa.

Some idea of the variety of situations and soils in which I have them will be gathered from the following brief account of their respective quarters.

At one end of a Rose garden (a totally incongruous position, be it said, thanks to the garden "architects"!), I have two rock beds, at the foot of a "dry" wall about 3 feet high. The aspect of the beds is due north, and the soil is on the moist side, though by no means wet, the beds themselves being devoted chiefly to Alpines preferring cooler and moister conditions, most of them with the additional interest of personal collection. The front edge of the beds is formed by fairly bold, but altogether pleasing and natural, limestone boulders, with here and there a miniature Alpine slope or ravine. Not from any reasons of soil, which, in this case, is slightly peaty, but not "peat," and very stony, but merely because I had the notion that P. farinosa would be effective there, I planted many of my first batch in irregular drifts at the foot of these boulders the whole length of both beds. The gravel of the path merges, I should say, into the soil at the foot of the boulders, without any attempt to keep them distinct. The result is seen in what is, in May, one of the most beautiful sights in the garden—a kind of natural drift of P. farinosa to perfection, save for the fact that where one plant was put in there are now a dozen, and the original roots and flowers have taken upon themselves the abnormal vigour and floriferousness noted above.

Those left over at the time I put in, singly, here and there, where there happened to be a vacant spot, in the crazy paving of the raised terrace round the house, which faces south and south-west, and is one of the sunniest spots in the whole garden. The soil is merely the gritty loam one would find in such a place. Result, the tiny roots have spread until they overcrowd the space they originally had, and a number of seedlings have appeared, as seems to be their wont, in just the right spots—one even in a corner of the paving facing due east. This latter led me, at my second collection, to plant a few in a place where I had very little hope indeed of their existing, let alone progressing. I live in a house which virtually stands on the main road and faces due north-north-east, with no "front" garden at all. But between the wall and the gutter I contrived to make two narrow beds, with soil no more than 18 inches deep and rubble below, using long, narrow blocks of local limestone to form a kind of rockery edge, to retain the soil. Against the house I grow two Roses, a Cotoneaster, and a variegated Ivy; in the beds, bulbs, Wallflowers, Pentstemons, a Campanula or two, and such like, in their seasons. Though everything blooms late, it lasts long, and I am surprised at the success I have had in so small a space and such an aspect. So, as I say, with the self-sown seedlings' suggestion, I planted P. farinosa five years ago, all along the top edge of the stones which retain the beds. They are, without exception, the finest clumps of Primula farinosa that I have ever seen. Passers-by innumerable remark upon them, and ask what they are. The soil here is fairly good, and, from the aspect, consistently moist—though quite distinct from the gritty, peaty mixtures of the rock beds mentioned above. Of the 30 odd plants put in in this case, not one has died, and last year I had, in late June, one clump with as many as 15 flower heads, one of which was on a stalk about a foot long and proportionately sturdy, with a head containing some 30 "pips."

So far, then, in three distinct soils, in aspects so varied as north, north-north-east, west, south-west, P. farinosa has exceeded all expectations without five minutes' trouble, and is permanent.

The remainder in this batch I planted here and there in small colonies on a bold, rocky prominence facing north-west and north, in the ordinary gritty loam, and in the chinks of rough stone steps leading through the rockery, facing south-west. One or two in the steps died forthwith, otherwise the results have been practically identical to those above, though those in the steps seem to have retained more of their normal size and appearance.

The last collection I made, just a few, two years back, I planted in short grass at the foot of a low wall by the steps leading to a sunk garden. Suffice to say they bid fair, so far, to follow in the footsteps of the others.

As I write I wonder whether the Editor will think that P. farinosa merits the lengthy attention I am giving it! Were it not that I believe many will be genuinely interested in this rough account, I should desist. As it is, I feel I must refer to just one or two points Mr. Fisher raises, and to some conclusions I have come to as a result of my experiences with the plant. Rightly does Mr. Fisher note that it is not confined, in its natural distribution, to the marsh. Far too often is it described as a bog and wet loving subject. My first collection was made from the sides of hillocks on a wind-swept moor, with no cover or shade whatever, and from amongst the short, close grass common to such places. There the soil did not exceed six inches in depth, over practically solid limestone, and consisted of nothing but sand and the fibrous roots of the grass. The moor is at an elevation of at least 1,000 feet. The second lot I obtained from the bog formed by the "delta," as it were, of a hillside spring, as it spread over the flat ground at the foot, ere entering the Wharfe, at an elevation of about 600 feet. Here it was a case of water over the boot tops to get it, and the nature of the squashy mass in which it grew will be understood from the fact that, while collecting the Primula, I discovered for the first time, here, Pinguicula vulgaris! A few roots (if it has any) of the latter, which I brought away, bloomed last year, and are, to my surprise, still alive. My other collections were made from the sides of mounds in meadows bordering the river, in the ordinary gravelly soil which is the staple here. So why it should be considered a bog plant alone, or why Farrer should suggest "sticky, very heavy loam" as the best medium for P farinosa I cannot understand. Everything, as I have found it, is altogether against

Cantab, the Cambridge blue form of Iris reticulata

It was in evidence at the last meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society

either suggestion. In this connection I
fairly sure that elevation has somethi
do with success, as also with many
Alpines, and that those in districts su
this may, therefore, do better than
whose local elevation is less. It is s
instance, with Silene alpestris. It g
spreads, and blooms like a dangerous
here, and such a beauty too!

I must say that Mr. Fisher's sugge
that older plants survive better than
lings hardly agrees with my experience.
the plants I collected were probably no
than yearlings, so small that it was
means easy to handle them—some
tiny—but this seems to have been n
to their progress, or detriment to
hardiness. Neither did I plant
particularly close together, nor give
any companion to take the place of
grass of their natural haunts. Bu
course, the intervening spaces between
original plants are now fairly filled,
by self-sown seedlings or increase of cr
So that I am not convinced that isol
is quite the detriment Mr. Fisher sug
And if autumn and winter wet c
crown rot, it should do so in this eve
ingly damp climate here, but so far I
noticed no ill-effects. With regard t
colour of P. farinosa alba (of which I
no plants in cultivation), I have seen s
specimens of the form, both at shows
in gardens, but I have never yet see
absolutely pure example, all being t
more or less, with a pinky shade.
remember rightly, P. f. alba Saundersæ
the truest albino I ever saw. On one
sion, by the way, I made a couple of m
ture rock gardens with bits of limeston
ordinary sandy loam in 12-inch seed
and planted them with P. farinosa just
ing into bloom. They were a sheer d
for many weeks in my sitting-room wi
Such, roughly, but by no means brief
my experience of this plant. In view
I may be forgiven a certain degr
wonderment at the frequent disap
ments of which I read, and an equa
gree of regret. For of the thousan
Alpines I grow, and the hundreds w
with care, give me a deal of satisfa
none gives me more than P. farinosa
with no trouble at all! J. R.

Skipton, Yorks.

Iris reticulata seedlings

FLOWERING in a cold frame are a
ber of little seedling Iris of the reti
set in varying shades of colour. No
before he died Max Leichtlin sent me t
mainder of his collection, and I have
tinued to sow seed and raise a few see
ever since. In some years I get no se
hardly any, but to-day I see the bees are
at work on them, so this should be a goo
son for seed. Some that are in flower are
or nearly white, and I have just spotted
gem, striking deep sky-blue in colou
very broad and substantial. Alas, in
of a good deal of pains taken, many of
die out, but a few persist and make
stock. Cantab (Cambridge-blue in co
which my friend, Mr. E. A. Bowles,
as a chance seedling in his garden, is
these latter, and Little Bride, a nearly
white of my raising, which gained an
of Merit from the R.H.S., appears to
with him, though it did not do so with

I used to try cross-pollinating these
gems by hand, but I now leave it enti
the bees, who, I am sure, do it much
It is Nature's way.

Rye. F. HERBERT CHAPM

—— Iris reticulata is one of the
charming and deliciously perfumed of a
smaller bulbous plants, and belongs t

ion section of Irises. It is a native of
Caucasus and Palestine, attaining a
t of about 1 foot, the flowers being a
violet-purple colour with a narrow
w line down the centre, and possessed of
olet scent. In favourable weather the
s begin to make their appearance early
nuary, to be followed shortly by the
r-buds pushing up and opening gradu-
until fully expanded, usually in
uary. Iris reticulata is a true com-
n to the Crocus, flowering at a time
many of the latter species and varie-
re in bloom, being members of the same
al order. As the flowering period is
winter or very early spring it is advisable
ant the corms in a position exposed to
sunshine and sheltered from cold
rly winds. They appreciate a fairly
well-drained, sandy soil. They may
be grown in pots or pans in cold frames
cool house, but if grown in this manner
must be allowed to come along natur-
nd not be subjected to artificial warmth
a view to forcing. Planted in colonies
present a very beautiful picture when in
bloom. There are now many varieties
is reticulata in various shades of blue,
e, mauve, etc., a number of which have
ved varietal names. Iris r. Krelagi
s from the type in the colour of its
rs, which are of a slaty-purple, less
ant, and dwarf in stature. Where
small bulbous Irises thrive they are a
ing acquisition to the garden during the
part of the year. J. L.

Roses of fifty years ago

reading the Jubilee Number of GARDEN-
LLUSTRATED I notice that your Dumfries
spondent seems to have underestimated
Roses of 50 years ago when he limits the
limbers to General Jacqueminot, A. K.
ams, La France, Prince Camille de
n, Charles Lefebvre, and Baroness
schild, and says that autumn Roses, as
now them, were few.

the sixth edition of Dean Hole's "Book
t Roses," published in 1877, I find that
first National Rose Show was held in
and continued yearly in varying places
in 1877, it was again held under the
ices of the National Rose Society in St.
s's Hall. Dean Hole's list of Roses for
ition in that year gives 66 named as
pensable for exhibitors, La France,
les Lefebvre, and Baroness Rothschild
g them, and 51 other good Roses, in-
ng General Jacqueminot, Prince Camille
ohan, and Gloire de Dijon, while A. K.
ams is not mentioned.

st even of the then indispensables have
by now, but, like your correspondent,
W.," one recalls the names of "the Old
iade" with regret. No doubt the H.T.'s
etter autumn bloomers, and their colours
right and varied, but size, shape, and
ur were for some years made the chief
s, while now, after 50 years, the desire
ragrance seems to be coming back.

A LOVER OF ROSES FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS.

Warratah (Telopea speciosissima)

. Underwood inquires (issue March 9th,
166) about the Warratah. He will pro-
get a packet of seed from Arthur Yates
Co., Ltd., 184-186, Sussex Street,
ey, Australia, if he sends them 1s. 3d.
have supplied me with seed of it. I
d this in January, 1927, and the seed-
began to appear in the following Sep-
er (I have no greenhouse, only a loft),
I did not succeed in keeping them
gh the winter. Messrs. Yates wrote to
hat the seed was not difficult to raise,

Iris reticulata seedlings

but the trouble is with the young plants. The Australian nurserymen lose large numbers of them without any apparent cause. They add: "The seedlings should be raised in sandy soil and not pampered." I fear that your correspondent will not get plants anywhere, though he might try, in addition to the firm you mention, Messrs. Gill, of Falmouth, Messrs. Robert Veitch and Son, of Exeter, and Mr. G. Reuthe, of Keston, Kent.

Cornwall. W. R. J.

Primula Bulleyana

I wonder whether this Primula, discovered by Forrest in Yunnan and heralded as marking an epoch in horticultural history, is still admired and grown extensively as a "glorious" plant? At the Chelsea Show last year there were few exhibits of P. Bulleyana, and it seemed generally to be included only to complete the larger groups, and then was out of keeping with the general effect.

But to give the plant a fair trial let me hasten to state its good points before condemning it as an impostor.

It is the parent of some really lovely hybrids, the colours of which, one's only regret is, have not been fixed. The pale salmon tints, reminiscent of Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain, are fairly common, and I have seen a glorious pink, deep and bright, missing the aniline dye effect of P. rosea, a colour which would be most welcome during June in the rock garden.

The second point in its favour is that it is *par excellence* the strongest argument for a standard colour chart of any single flower commonly catalogued. True, the flower varies somewhat according to whether grown in sun or shade, and that unless carefully selected the plants are prone to deteriorate in cultivation, but in 16 catalogues to which reference has been made 14 different colour descriptions are given, and these are worth noting:—"Rich yellow," "apricot-yellow," "rich golden-yellow shaded orange-buff," "orange-yellow," "rich orange," "deep orange," "orange-scarlet," "orange-apricot," "rich apricot," "rich apricot-yellow," "rich golden-apricot," "warm orange-red," "fierce red-gold, developing into clear, pure yellow," "buff, orange, apricot, and scarlet all combined."

May we not consider P. Bulleyana in cold blood and then accurately describe its colours as those of a box of imported cooking Apricots, unripe, ripe, bruised, and going bad. I suppose the trouble is that when first introduced the colour of the flower was a great novelty, everyone was enthusiastic. It was found to be extremely easy, as Primulas go, to raise from seed, and in nearly every case, when included in catalogues, the description was undertaken by men.

To the writer the colour clashes with other Primulas in the small garden, and it is found that women gardeners, to whose most excellent judgment in colour values a tribute was paid in these columns recently, often object to the effect of P. Bulleyana in the rock garden. In this connection it is worth recollecting that its tint has not been copied by the dyer, who now goes more and more to Nature for new shades, whereas Primula

Beesiana, of which Farrer writes it bears "blossoms suggesting a virulently-magenta form of P. japonica" and that "no difficulty, *unfortunately*, attends the cultivation of this plant," registers no suggestion of magenta in its best forms to my possibly depraved ideas of values, and as a colour under the name of "Pavloca" is a beautiful addition to our homes.

P. Bulleyana is not generally long-lived in our gardens. It requires moisture and good drainage to be perennial, and these conditions having been found, probably in the woodland garden, it cannot hold a corner satisfactorily on the merits of its colour, and is not worth growing in these days of so many alternatives. Surely the plant has little more than botanical and hybridising importance to-day.

If we want yellows let us rely on P. Florindæ, P. microdonta, and perhaps P. Sikkimensis for the smaller garden, and darker shades on the diminutive P. Cockburniana, the many hybrids of the Candelabra section, and experiment with P. Chungensis, which bloomed to such great effect last year at the R.H.S. Show. We were then told that this new species would shortly supersede P. Cockburniana, and it will be of interest to note whether the new catalogues will list it, and then test it to see whether it is likely to rank among the reliable and the great. However successful the newer species may prove, there will always be room in an odd corner for P. Cockburniana, even though it be a biennial with most of us, as its brilliance, combined with small stature and neatness, have endeared itself to many.

F. H. Fisher.

The West Terrace at Cannizaro, Wimbledon

The shrub on the brick piers in the foreground is Cotoneaster salicifolia floccosa, an evergreen with gracefully arching branches

Nemesias as pot plants

I had a fine show of Nemesias in the garden last summer, and the warm autumn rains brought up a number of seedlings in the beds where these plants had been growing. I potted up a number of the seedlings and grew them on in the greenhouse.

The experiment has been a splendid success, for I am now rewarded with a brilliant display of many colours—cream, orange, scarlets, rosy-cerise, many shades of crimson, blue, and mauve. As plants for the greenhouse or for indoors they are a welcome addition to the usual Cinerarias, Primulas, and early bulbs, for they give a range of colours unusual at this time of year. They are greatly admired by my friends, and I shall certainly repeat the experiment, even if I have to sow seed specially for it.

Started in quite small pots the plants, as they fill them with roots, should be potted on into larger sizes till the flowering stage is reached in 7-inch pots. Those left in 48 pots require frequent and careful watering, and flag very quickly. The plants should be kept near the glass and given plenty of light or they are apt to become "leggy."

Great heat is not required. My greenhouse has, I regret to say, not always been kept free from frost this winter.

My best plants are about 18 inches high and 12 inches through, and covered with blooms of large size compared with those of their outdoor parents, and of colours quite as brilliant. One great feature is the length of time that the individual plants will remain in bloom.

A. H. Williams.

Horsham.

Clivia miniata

The Clivias (Imantophyllums), of which several remarkably fine forms exist, constitute a group of plants which are amongst the most useful of all exotics for the decoration of greenhouse and conservatory during the early months of the year. With a fairly large stock and a well-devised scheme of culture their attractively coloured flowers may be enjoyed from the latter part of the winter till the beginning of summer by simply accelerating the flowering of some and retarding others. C. miniata is the commonest species and is a strong-growing plant with deep green leaves and orange-red flowers produced in umbels on stout scapes. There are several varieties, in some of which the trusses are larger and the individual flower finer in form and more intense in colour. Amongst beautiful named varieties may be
noted Baroness Schrœder, Scarlet Gem,
F. E. Arnold. Some beautiful varieties
also obtained by Messrs. James Veitch
Sons by crossing C. miniata with the n
Cape species, C. citrina. These bear
trusses of flower varying in colour
bright orange-scarlet to light yellow.

Clivias are of easy culture and succee
a temperature of 45 degs. to 55 degs.
enjoy a rather moist atmosphere and re
liberal supplies of water during the seas
active growth. The best time to repot
requiring more root-space is immedi
after flowering, and propagation by divi
of the crowns can also be effected at
time. After repotting or division of
crowns they should be given rather
warmth and atmospheric moisture than
greenhouse affords, but when well e
lished the temperature of the greenhou
sufficient to meet their needs. The com
should be open and moderately rich,
established plants may be further assiste
watering with dilute liquid-manure at
quent intervals. When growth is compl
at the end of the season, water shoul
gradually withheld, and during the w
they should be kept somewhat dry, but
sufficiently so to cause shrivelling of
foliage. About mid-winter the flower-s
will begin to show signs of activity, and
growth of them can be accelerated by pla
the plants in gentle heat as required.

W. Auto

Pruning and cultivation of Ro now

The recent spell of warm weather
many to prune their Roses, with prob
disastrous results to follow later on.
old Rosarians who were more familiar
hard, late winters considered the first
in April early enough. The Guildford
District Rose Society, who are demonstr
the pruning of Rose trees in six garder
their members, have spread the demon
tions over the period March 13th to
This is quite early enough and nearer
safety line.

The soil is at last free of the frost, w
persisted 6 inches or 7 inches below the
face, and the warm, sunny weather is cau
what water there is in the soil to rise t
surface and be dissipated by the air.
must be stopped at once by deeply hoeing
surface and then raking over. Ther
little water in the soil, so every drop mu
conserved in order to develop the new
at the moment breaking into foliage. E
morning the rake should be used over
beds until an inch or two of the soil su
is quite dry, for likelihood of rain seems
off still, while the sun's heat gets hotter
hotter. The prospects of an excellent se
of grand blooms will be dashed to the gr
unless this cultural operation is perfor
If there are any Roses still to plant
should be watered thoroughly after plan
by making a saucer round the tree-stem,
when this has drained away completely,
gardless of how long a time the water t
to drain, the dry soil should be raked
and made level again.

C. A. Jardin

The flower garden

Young growth is now in evidence,
many early bulbs are actually in bl
therefore endeavour to bring all forking
tidying up of the beds to a conclusion. T
intended for the sowing of hardy ann
may be prepared and sown without d
Plants of Scabiosa caucasica and its v
ties, Chelone barbata, Œnotheras, and s
lar plants which it is not advisable to
and transplant in autumn may now be sa
dealt with.

Sassafras Tree at Cannizaro

is very seldom that one meets with a ssafras tree of any size in England wadays, so rare has it become, and the specimen in the garden of Mr. E. K. on, at Cannizaro, Wimbledon, is almost nly large Sassafras known to exist in ountry at the present time, in spite of act that it was introduced into cultivahere at least 300 years ago. The tree annizaro was discovered by its owner he late Sir George Holford in 1922, who it hidden away in a neglected shrub- the trunk being entirely covered by odendrons, which have since been d away.

had no doubt been planted by some r owner, possibly by the Italian Count whom the garden is named and who here about a century ago. Judging its dimensions—the tree is now nearly et high and 8 feet 6 inches in girth at t from the ground—it is at least 100 old, but during recent times has been d of a good deal of its beauty by the one after another, of two or three large which have been torn off during gales. spring and summer root suckers come ely all round the tree, and one of these, g remained undisturbed for many years, ecome a tree 40 feet high.

ne years ago we tried to transplant two larger suckers to Woburn and Weston- but they proved too big to move, and ly died. This was not surprising as, removed from the light, sandy soil in they were growing, almost every tle of soil fell off the thick, fleshy roots, had little or no fibres.

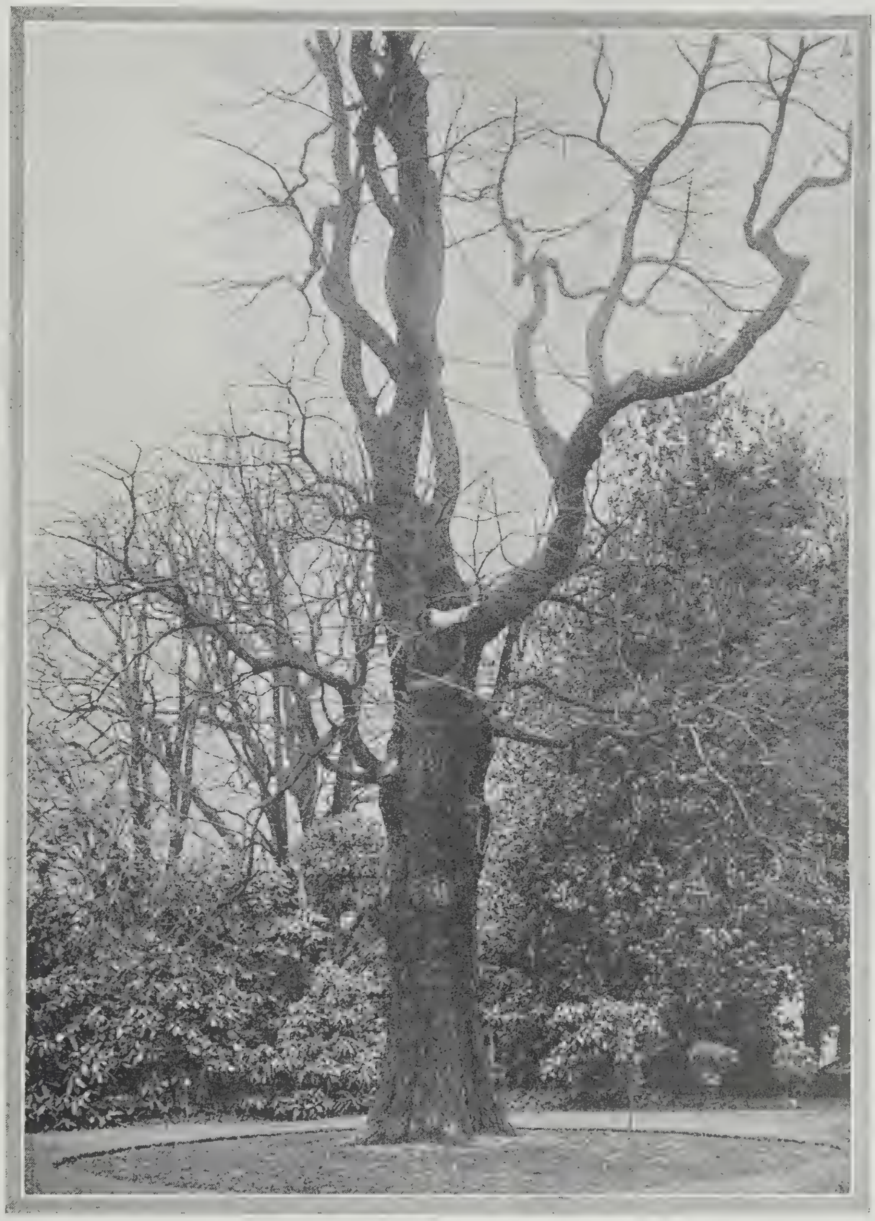
is, however, possible to move suckers ssfully by taking them up when small rowing them on in a cool greenhouse a little bottom heat to encourage root-

Sassafras, which is a native of the rn States of North America, is a ating tree at all seasons of the year. nter its deeply fissured cinnamon-grey reddish within, and pale green branch- re very striking. The yellow flowers r in spring before the leaves unfold. lowers are unisexual, or rarely perfect. rees in cultivation here seem to produce emale flowers, which occasionally, how- have fertile stamens. The leaves are a te glaucous green on opening, being imes entire, but often two or three On native trees, however, they are four, five, or six lobed. In autumn the ecomes very attractive, as the leaves e delicate shades of orange, yellow, d.

foliage is pleasantly aromatic, the and twigs strongly so, and this charac- not uncommon in the large tropical of Lauraceæ, to which Sassafras s.

brilliantly coloured fruit of the Sassa- which, so far as I know, has never been ced in England, is a bright blue berry the enlarged, scarlet, cup-like calyx of wer, and supported on a slender stalk. gh produced in abundance in some s, the fruits are soon devoured by and their beauty is thus short-lived. rlier times the roots of the Sassafras ossessed a reputation for the cure of maladies, and were, consequently, ey sought after, but these supposed ve properties have since proved to be imaginary than real.

A. Bruce Jackson.



The Sassafras Tree at Cannizaro, Wimbledon

60 feet high, 8 feet 6 inches in girth, and at least 100 years old

Blue flowering plants

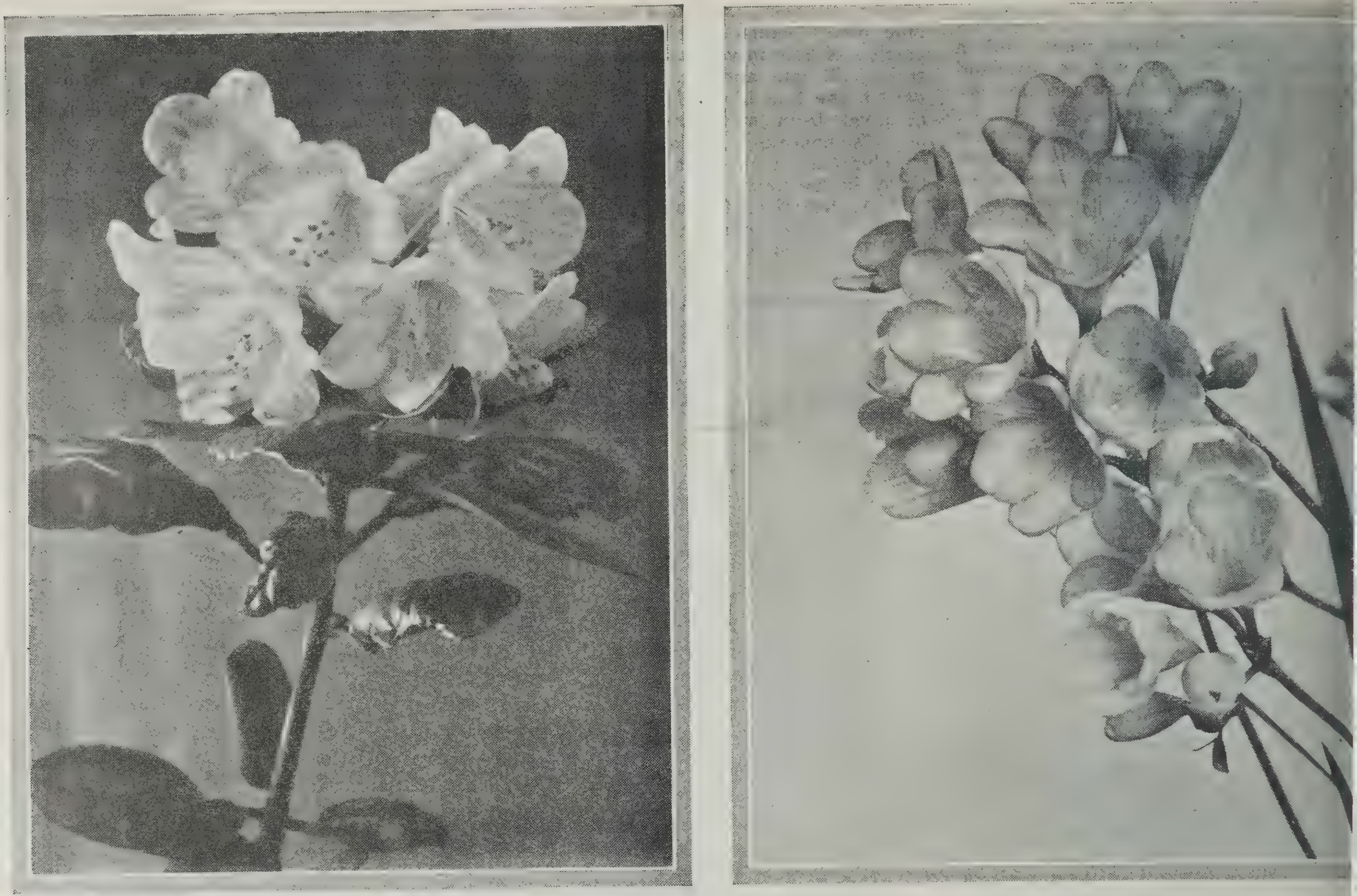
re is a fascination about blue flowers mmon to all colours. The true blue Carnation, and Sweet Pea have yet to appear, but there is quite a long list of good blue plants which enable us to have bold patches of blue in various settings from early spring till late autumn. In the semi-wild garden the first blue effects of the year are obtained from such small bulbous plants as Chionodoxas, Scillas, Muscaris, and Puschkinias, and some of the Crocuses. Early in the year, also, Anemone apennina and A. hepatica, followed by Omphalodes verna, brighten our rock gardens, and the blue Primroses in a goodly assortment of shades, from pale blue to deep violet, fringe our shrubberies. In spring-bedding schemes, also, some good effects are produced by using blue Forget-me-nots, blue Violas, and blue Aubrietias as a groundwork to taller-growing plants.

Turning to the larger herbaceous borders, blue predominates in the June border when the Lupins in various shades of blue and purple are at their best, and the many shades of blue of the Iris show to advantage. In the blue garden proper the stately Delphinium holds pride of place, accompanied by the intensely blue Anchusas, forming an effective background for the dwarf Veronicas, Lithospermum, and Linum perenne. The Scabiosas, many of the Campanulas and Michaelmas Daisies, if not quite so blue as the Delphiniums, contribute their share of blue to the borders, and the Indian Poppies, Meconopsis, and some of the Geraniums are conspicuous in the woodland.

For specimen tubs to stand on the terrace nothing is more suitable than the blue African Lily (Agapanthus umbellatus) and the blue Hydrangea, while amongst climbing plants blue is a predominant colour of the larger Clematises, and the beautiful cup-like flowers of Ipomæa cœrulea may be mentioned.

Amongst annuals are a few wonderfully good blue-flowering plants, notably Nemophila insignis, a plant of straggling, untidy habit, but bearing attractive, pure blue, cup-shaped flowers. A fitting companion is Phacelia campanularia, with dark blue, cup-like flowers which stand erect to the sun, showing the white stamens in the interior of the cup. The quaint Love-in-a-Mist, with its rich blue flowers emerging from a network of fine, green foliage, is a graceful border plant, and even when the flowers have passed, the curious horned seed-pods are very ornamental.

W. Auton.



TWO NOVELTIES AT THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW ON MARCH 12th—13th

Rhododendron telopœum, flowers pale sulphur-yellow

Freesia Mrs. R. F. Felton (Award of Merit), flowers primrose-yellow

March flowers in Greycoat Street

THERE was room to see the fortnightly show in comfort at the new hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, on March 12th and 13th. Among the flowers most in evidence were forced shrubs, forced bulbs, Carnations, Orchids, Freesias, and spring flowers brought on under glass.

Orchids were shown extensively, and three Gold Medals were awarded, viz., to Mr. R. Patterson, Ardingly, Sussex, for a well-arranged group comprising Cymbidium and Cypripedium hybrids; to H. G. Alexander, Ltd., for a superb collection of new Cymbidium hybrids; and to Sanders for a collection in which Cymbidiums, Miltonias, and Odontiodas predominated.

COLOURED FREESIAS.—Dalrymple's new Freesias were the best we have seen. Particularly good were Mrs. R. F. Felton, very large, rounded, pale yellow flowers, robust, free-flowering, and deliciously fragrant; Beauty, rosy-mauve with yellow throat; and Maryon, lilac-mauve with white throat—an improved "Wistaria." All three received the Society's Award of Merit.

RHODODENDRON TELOPŒUM. — A lovely species from Tibet, with pale sulphur-yellow flowers. It is not unlike R. campylocarpum, and it was shown by Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. D. McLaren, Bodnant, N. Wales. An "Alpine form of Yellow Peril," K.W. 5,853.

A number of early flowering Tulips were shown, including the brilliant species Tulipa Eichleri Kaufmanniana and T. præstans.

In many of the groups of Alpines we observed a little Daffodil about 10 inches high with sulphur-yellow perianth and deeper trumpet, shown as Narcissus nanus, which is, we believe, N. lobularis. The true N. nanus is now very scarce; it is less than 6 inches high and of a rich, full yellow.

H. C.

Work in the amateurs' Orchid houses

Commence repotting Cypripediums that have passed out of flower and that are starting to make new root. Almost all growers use a rich fibrous loam to repot these plants, taking care to provide good drainage, half filling the pots with crocks. No manure, unless free from ammonia, must be used, but finely-powdered crocks keep the loam porous. Plants should receive a good watering after repotting, and then should be allowed to nearly dry out before watering again. The mottled leaf section prefer equal quantities of Osmunda fibre and Sphagnum Moss instead of loam, particularly the section including C. Maudiæ and similar hybrids. The Dendrobiums that are showing flower buds should receive slightly more water and the plants should be allowed to become dry before rewatering. The plants of the Odontoglossum family are in various stages of growth, and those that have a flower spike should be protected from the attacks of slugs. A little cotton wool placed round the base of each flower spike will prevent damage, but unfortunately will not get rid of these pests. The only effective method of eradicating these tiresome insects is that known to so many as "slugging." This is a more or less exciting game played at about 10 p.m. of looking for and killing these enemies by any means one prefers. At this season, when fire heat is essential to maintain the temperatures of all Orchid houses, fumigating must be done to prevent the attacks of thrip and other insect pests, as the majority of them thrive in a dry
sphere.

Zygopetalum Mackayi and Z. cri
and other plants of this species that p
flowers from partially-made pseudo b
they require it should be potted at th
son. Some growers prefer to repo
half Osmunda fibre and half Sph
Moss, but I obtain the best results
good fibrous loam containing a libera
ture of finely-broken crocks. All grow
careful to give plenty of drainage and
half fill the pot with crocks. This is
tial, for when in full growth liberal s
of water must be given.

Those of the Odontoglossum famil
require repotting and have their new
about 2 inches high should now receive
tion. The most suitable compost is
num Moss and A1 fibre in equal part
a few heads of Sphagnum Moss prick
the surface. A start may be made w
repotting of Cymbidium seedlings an
plants that require it and have pass
of flower. The most suitable potting
rial is good fibrous yellow loam
through a half-inch sieve; to this add
broken crocks to make the compost
and insert a few live heads of Sph
Moss in the surface. It is not essent
some prefer to add a little bone-meal
compost—about two handfuls to a
load of loam. Always remember that
of flowering size should remain tw
before repotting (this applies to ne
Orchids), and that they flower better
bound. The size of the pot to be
therefore, a matter of careful selection
all Orchids good drainage is essenti
pots nearly half full of crocks are p
when repotting Cymbidiums.

EX-AMA

MY GRANDMOTHER

By Sir William Lawrence, Bart.

(Continued from page 183)

DY PEEL AND THE DISRAELIS

1843 Lady Peel, writing from Whitehall rdens, thanks my Grandmother for cuttgs of Geraniums and Sweet Briar, and a later on sends to Ealing a packet of of Cedrus Deodara. The Deodar was luced to England about 1831, and for a many years was expensive and rare. : 1840 the seed was 5s. an ounce, and ngs 10 inches high cost 25s. At Ealing there was a famous avenue of Deodars, he two Deodars in front of the picture ge 183 were planted by Queen Victoria the King of the Belgians respectively. correspondence there is another refer- :o Cedars, when in 1851 Isaac Disraeli from Hughenden :—“ If you will be so ng as to direct your gardener to leave ttle Cedars, wh : you were so kind as ar for us, at the Green Man in your e, Tuckers' Wycomb Van calls there times a week, Tuesdays, Thursdays, aturdays, and will bring them to these wh : I hope will suit them as well as on.”

usements were provided at Ealing Park sitors who might have wearied of the 's. In a letter written by Benjamin eli from Bradenham in 1844 we read : rs. Disraeli has given me your kind and were we not here it would have ted us to meet your Indians in the ing prairies of Ealing. I am glad they oing to meet our Princes, as they will favourable specimen of the nation for iformation of the tribes on the other f the Alleghany Mountains. . . . After campaign we escaped from London to eeches of Bucks.” While Mrs. Disupplements her husband's letter by ad- my Grandmother to “ ask the Indians ie scarf dance, by the women, and ing the ball, a very pretty game, and ake you laugh, dear Mrs. Lawrence.”

STOWE

Duke of Buckingham and Chandos at was interested in everything apperig to the vegetable kingdom. An unletter, probably about 1846, starts the pondence, and then follows a very inng letter written on January 28th, —“ I am glad the Gesners reached you d order; you will not, I hope, forget promise to visit us here, where I am to say I have lost one of the finest kry trees in the garden, entirely decayed, out 150 years of age; it was near the e of ancient virtue.”

do not know if you will be inclined to ise a work about to be published by a Hussey[1] and her sister, a Miss Reed, s a neighbour of mine—probably, as re the daughters of a Buckinghamshire gman, it has been already mentioned to There is, I believe, an interesting work rns lately produced, but *their* subject ns a less inviting branch of botanical wedge. Surrounded as you are by the st and most interesting daughters of how shall I recommend to your notice es of drawings devoted to the often rid and misshapen *funguses*. In the and marshes, nevertheless, they l, and some are curious and beautifully ed. I was surprised to find there was ly so much variety, but also real in some of the specimens, and as illustrating the forest scenery and the decay of the roots and timber, there may be a degree of scientific value in the study of these otherwise proscribed offsets of vegetation. I have, at all events, ventured to enclose the prospectus.

“ Now I must thank you very much for the easy manner in which I was admitted a *fellow* of the Botanical Gardens Society some time ago. . . . On Chandos' return from the Mediterranean he gave us an account of a most superb and delicious Grape or Vine with which the Garden of the Moorish Governor of Tetuan was decorated and his dessert embellished. In Moorish language it was called ‘ The *Lady's Finger*,’[2] but, for love or money, he could not obtain it. The finger was guarded as jealously as the hand. Now I mention it to you in case you might obtain it from *Ibrahim Pacha*.”

Deodar Avenue, Ealing Park

HEAD GARDENERS IN THE 'FORTIES

My Grandmother was frequently consulted as to gardeners, and thus the Duchess of Buckingham, writing from Woburn about the end of the 'forties, says :—“ However, I ought to be thankful for many enjoyments still left to me, and that I have already had so large a share of prosperity, and continue to progress perhaps much more than many around me. I must not therefore allow myself to lament too much the interference which has arisen with the beautiful gardens of Stowe, and led to the resignation of Tillyard as gardener, in which office he gave both the Duke and myself so much satisfaction, that we very much wished some arrangement might have induced him to remain. Chandos also considered him an excellent gardener, and had no wish to dismiss him; but circumstances rendered it necessary to provide for the maintenance of the required labourers, by passing the garden, and *this not suiting* Tillyard and a natural jealousy arising between him and the nursery gardener, we are obliged to let him leave; and I am only anxious he should obtain your valuable recommendation to another advantageous position, as he has married the daughter of a person who has been for a great number of years in the family, as well as on account of his own skill and merit. Now, pray excuse my troubling you, but I know he feels anxious that I should write to you to explain he is not parted with for any fault whatever, but, on the contrary, has given full satisfaction, and has produced two beautiful Vines, and well managed the Orange trees.”

Nor were things altogether satisfactory at Rosebank, a little cottage on the Thames, belonging to Anne, Marchioness of Londonderry. Rosebank is referred to in Maurois' “ La Vie de Disraeli,” in which he writes as follows of a visit to the cottage by the Disraelis in 1850 on the day that Sir Robert Peel died :—“ That afternoon the Londonderrys gave a Rustic Fête at a cottage covered with Roses, on the banks of the Thames. Lady Londonderry poured out tea to all the guests in cups of solid gold. The head of the house pressed Disraeli's hand with an anxious expression in his eyes, and then excused himself. When he returned, after a long interval, he murmured, ‘ There is no hope.’ He had galloped to Peel's house while the violins were playing at the party, and the guests were eating ices.” Lady Londonderry, writing from Mount Stewart in 1844 about the gardener, is perhaps unduly sanguine :—“ I have many

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[1] M. Hussey produced “ Illustrations of British Mygy published by Reeves, 1847-1855.

(2) Mr. E. A. Bunyard tells me that the reference is probably to a fingered Grape Cornichon Blanc. This is a Grape of great antiquity mentioned by the Arab botanist who walked from Morocco to Egypt in the 12th Century. It is pictured on the Bronzino ceiling at the Uffizi at Florence, and named by Cupani at the end of the XVII. Century in his Hortus Catholicus. There is, or was, a vine of Cornichon Blanc at Wisley.

thanks to return you for taking so much trouble with Rosebank and interesting yourself with it, and at any time shall be much obliged by any directions you may give the gardener, who will attend strictly without any reference to me, who am sadly ignorant, and am always grateful for any trouble taken.” For the following year, writing from Wynard Park, we learn from the Marquess that things were not going well:—“ I venture to trouble you with a few lines, dear Mrs. Lawrence, on account of your great kindness about poor Rosebank. I ran up to Town for a day to attend the Queen, and got down to Rosebank, and I grieve to say I thought the garden going to the bad; the gardener's wife was decked out with flowers in her hair, very gay looking, and, generally, all appeared in neglect in the garden; nothing done in improvement or begun. Quantities of vegetables unsold, Potatoes said to have the disease, all the houses seemingly to me neglected, and no arrangements made for putting them in order. In short, I confess, though not a judge, and looking only as I see our kitchen garden here, I thought everything very discreditable. The gardener said he was waiting for your orders and designs. This seemed, however, all fudge, as he might have got on in widening the approach, as he projected, and other jobs. All the plants seemed choked up in one house,
and all the pits and forcing houses u
If you are so very kind any day do
drive out, to give the fellow a lecture, it r
buck him up.”

(*To be continued.*)

Colour in the Flower Border

By Gertrude Jekyll, V.M.H.

ONE of the delights of careful gardening is to invent and contrive combinations of colour harmonies. One that has proved a success is suggested in the illustration on this page. The tallest plant is Eupatorium purpureum, whose dark stems set off the soft, almost fluffy heads of low-toned pink bloom, with a general effect of pale reddish-purple. The Dahlia next to it is an old one named Oban, of a subdued coppery colour. Just in front of this, and pervading the whole group, though only a little of it shows in the picture in front of the Dahlia, but rising to their full height at the back, is the annual Atriplex hortensis, whose whole colouring is a dusky red-purple, showing at its best when, after flowering, the broad, flat seed-pods are formed. It makes a com
and harmonious setting to the whole gr

A good colour effect

At the foot of the group is the handsome striped grass Glyceria aquatica, with variegated Mint at the edge of the path

This Atriplex is a fast and tall-gr
annual of the Beet family. If let alo
would rush up to a height of 6 feet a
over before it is wanted, but if it is ke
check by being cut back twice in the su
it is not only made to take its place a
height required, but the blooming is
back to the time when it is wanted. A
foot of the group is a patch of the hand
striped Grass, Glyceria aquatica, a
better garden plant than the older one
went by the name of Gardeners' Ga
With this, at the edge of the path, i
variegated Mint, a garden variety o
native Mentha rotundifolia, a plan
pleasant scent. Both this and the
have the variegation of a warm, yell
tone. The colouring of this combi
does much to enhance the value of the
ruddy group beyond.

The Grey Garden.—The double f
border that is known as the Grey Gar
at its best in August and September.
a setting of grey or silvery foliage,
flowers of purple, pink, and white c
ings. The shorter grey plants are a
edges, Santolina, Stachys, and Arte
stelleriana, with Artemisia ludoviciana
ing tall towards the middle and back.
is a most useful plant, as it bears c
back to any height, so that, no matter
it is in the border, it can be trimmed t
height required. By the middle of Se
ber, when our beautiful pink Hollyh
nearly over, the Dahlias are about at
best. They are white and pink, of th
class, the fine pale pink Queen Mary,
most useful Dahlia of the decorative
named Porthos, of a good purple colo
Other flowers in the borders are Phlo
low-toned pinks and the fine light purpl
Willmott, one of the very best for the
borders; then China Asters, white and p
of the Victoria class. Groups of Echin
the back are now past their best
Clematis Jackmanni, planted behin
trained over it to take its place, fo
sheets of the most perfect purple. Fo
use the old, clear purple is to be prefer
the darker shades of the “ improved.”
bushes of Lavender at the end come i
rightly. Gladioli do not show in thi
ture (page 205), but are effective in othe
tions—the clear pink America, the
pink Panama, a grand flower, and th
Giant White.

The Gladioli

Past, Present, and Future

By “ East Anglian.”

(*Continued from page* 188.)

At the present time, raisers in the
tries mentioned above are still doing
utmost to secure improvements in v
directions. The Gladiolus is one of
flowers which seem to inevitably attra
hybridist, and certainly, in its case th
ample scope. With such a mixed ances
cannot be wondered that modern variet
hibit a wide divergence in form, in bo
Primulinus and the large-flowering c
Very probably the many different raiser
different ideals; of a certainty, they c
all be working on the same lines an

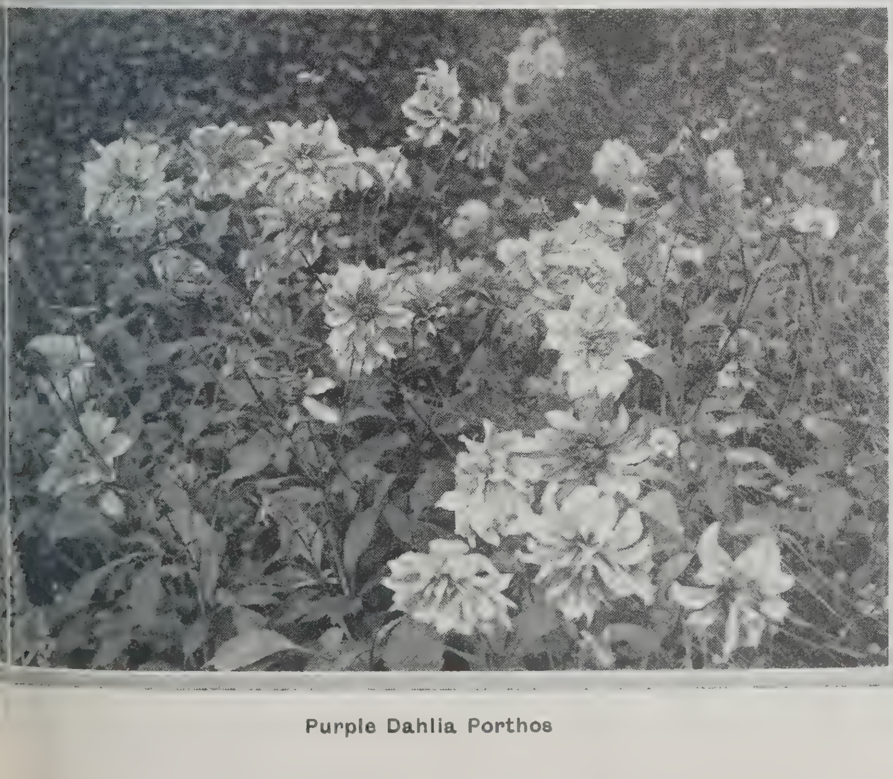
ame objectives. Probably in no other r are there more new varieties introannually, and although it may be said the majority of these do not show any vement on existing kinds, yet a glance ards shows that progress on the whole een by no means slow. The amateur r likes to see size in most of the flowers mires, and to the distributor it is an adge to be able to state that a particular y is exceedingly large. Yet size is not hing; poor placement, for instance, will n otherwise ideal kind. The exhibitor, rse, looks for a large flower, but he more; combined with this must be placement, good shape, and the ten to open out a fair number of blooms time. This is all apart from colour. ps in the large-flowering varieties we t hope for drastic improvement in this ions, the present range is so wide. In linus hybrids there is a greater field, obably through the new "blood" given em we may get better yellows in the flowering kinds, a tone which is rather at present. Good blues and whites, re none too numerous. The ruffled the origination of the American raiser, Kunderd, is an undoubted acquisition. y not have such far-reaching results, as e introduction of the wavy type of petal case of Sweet Peas, but, personally, I ler a frilled edge of the petals gives a of large-flowering Gladioli a less formal more attractive appearance. This g of the petals is only just appearing Primulinus hybrids, but here its effect re marked, and I consider that when l Primulinus come on to the market ntity, they will eventually supersede the ry plain-petalled kinds.

is unnecessary for me to state that oli have rapidly become more popular s country of late, and without shadow ubt they are likely to become greater rites. Their claims to public favour are, , ease of culture, extraordinary beauty liversity of form and colouring, and adaptability and general usefulness both garden and for interior decorative work. own mind I consider the future of the olus—the extent to which it may become r—depends very largely on the capacity of the Primulinus hybrids for further development and improvement. What good qualities could be combined with the Gladiolus which it does not now possess, and which would tend to make it a still more valuable plant? In the first place, it is not hardy except under very favourable circumstances in the south, corms have to be lifted each season and protected from frost. It would be an advantage if we could leave them in their flowering positions for a period of 2 or 3 years in the same way that we leave our spring-flowering bulbs. There is at least one fairly hardy (perhaps quite hardy) species grown here which I know can be left in the soil throughout the winter. I do not know its name or whether it is a variety or a distinct species. It is fairly early flowering, purple in colour, and often met with in cottage gardens. Perhaps some hybridist may think it worth while to try to combine this hardy constitution with a larger, better flower. Then, again, the possibility of scented Gladioli is not too remote; some of the wild South African species are sweetly scented, the fragrance being usually most pronounced towards evening. I do not think it is too much to hope that one day raisers will give us varieties which possess this additional attraction.

In giving these possible and fairly obvious lines on which future development may conceivably take place, I have not overlooked the possibility that the daintiest of all the Primulinus hybrids may be superseded by a totally distinct type still more light and graceful. I am confident hybridists have not explored all the ground which can be covered as regards the wild South African species. Some of them have extremely thin, wiry stems, and for lightness are fully equal to Montbretias. In some cases their stems are not upright, and although many may disagree, I think that, given a thinner stem, a smaller flower and a fairly wide placement, a nice graceful bend in the upper part of the flower spike would not be inconsistent with greater value for light interior decorations; for instance, table decorations.

Hybridising Gladioli is work which can be undertaken by any amateur grower. The actual procedure by which crosses can be effected in Gladioli is extremely simple. Of course, the raising of the hybrids from seed is essential, but this presents few difficulties even to the veriest amateur. Results, without always being successful, are invariably interesting; indeed, fascinating. Space will not permit a full explanation of the procedure, but perhaps I may be allowed to give details in a future note.

The grey garden


Purple Dahlia Porthos

Potting Chrysanthemums

These are now making headway and must be shifted on into larger pots as this becomes necessary. A cool frame well protected from frost at night is an ideal structure for them at this period, and young plants taken straight from their rooting quarters will be found to do better in such frames than when placed on high-and-dry, airy shelves in greenhouses.

EASTER WEEK IN THE GARDEN

Southern and Midland

Indoor plants

From this date it will be found advisable to examine plants for water twice each day, as with the greater heat of the sun and increase in the amount of ventilation plants of a free-growing character which are developing flower-spikes dry out rapidly. If permitted to flag seriously they will be found lacking in quality when in bloom. All such plants not actually in flower will derive considerable benefit from applications of weak liquid-manure at this date, or an approved fertiliser, such as Peruvian guano, but on no account should feeding be overdone.

Perpetual Carnations

As these are developing successional flower-spikes it is evident that assistance in the matter of feeding is of the greatest importance. Whilst on this subject I would point out that any of the plants required for late summer flowering under glass should be potted on now. Young stock must not be permitted to become pot-bound at any time, but immediately the roots are found to be circling the soil they should be transferred to larger-sized pots.

Melons and Cucumbers

A brisk temperature must be maintained if these are to be successfully grown. Sixty-five degs. at night, with a rise of 20 degs. by day—with sun-heat—will prove satisfactory, abundant moisture being maintained by two daily syringings and damping of the floors. Carefully tie in the shoots, and Melons approaching the flowering stage should have such shoots pinched at the first joint beyond the fruit. Cucumbers must be stopped frequently in order that the Vines may be evenly furnished, but overcrowding of the shoots will lead to disaster.

Strawberries in pots

Immediately the flowering is over, these may be liberally fed until they show distinct signs of colouring, when clear water only should be given. Even at this date it will be advisable to hand-fertilise the flowers of successional batches, which must be introduced regularly from cooler houses in order to maintain an unbroken supply of ripe fruit. Ply the syringe freely amongst the plants when not in bloom, otherwise they are liable to disfigurement by Red Spider.

Pricking-off and potting-up seedlings

For both indoor and outdoor plants this now calls for daily attention and should always be taken in hand before the plants have become too drawn up and large. A very good guide is that of dealing with the plants when the third leaf is developed. Dealt with at this stage the little seedlings quickly take hold of the new soil. A very important point is that of the new soil, which should be brought to the same temperature as that which the seedlings were lifted from.

Propagating

Where large numbers of bedding plants are grown, propagating is a very heavy task at this season, and cuttings must be handled before they have exceeded 3 inches in length, and plunged in bottom heat. Almost any plant can be rooted at this season.

Potatoes

Everything should now be placed in readiness for the planting of the main crop of Potatoes. All old manure, Mushroom-bed, ashes, and partially decayed leaves should be mixed with a small quantity of superphosphate and carted to the plots the Potatoes are intended to occupy and then used at the bottom of each drill before the sets are placed thereon. Planting may commence without delay.

The kitchen garden seed bed

This must now be prepared with care. It must be made moderately firm, following which it should be raked and re-raked in order that the surface 1½ inches is of a clean and sand-like nature, as this is really the garden nursery, where Cauliflower, Cabbage, red and green Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Leeks, Savoys, Borecoles, Lettuce, etc., must now be sown and grown for supplying next winter's food. After sowing the seed in shallow drills protection by means of nets or other material from birds must be afforded.

Turnips

Early Snowball and other such may now be sown freely in the open, and plenty of air afforded to those growing on hotbeds during favourable occasions.

Winter Onions

These have suffered badly from the severe winter, but must now be planted out on well-prepared ground in rows 1 foot apart, the plants being 6 inches apart. The soil should work freely and be pressed firmly around their roots. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Rose pruning

Providing the weather is favourable a start may well be made next week with this important work. The hardier kinds should be taken first, leaving the pure T's till about the middle of April. Remove and burn all prunings at once, apply a fair dressing of some approved artificial fertiliser (I find Thomson's excellent), and then lightly fork over the surface of the beds.

The Perennial Borders

With the long spell of wintry weather, extending as it did into March, work of all kinds is sadly in arrears, so it is hardly likely that many growers have yet got the length of overhauling the herbaceous borders. It will now be well, however, to try and get this necessary work seen to, not only for the sake of tidiness, but also for the benefit of the plants. New borders may yet be planted, especially in the later districts and where the soil is of a heavy nature.

Sow Sweet Peas in the open

Those having no facilities for raising this popular annual in pots or boxes can grow as many as they want by sowing, within the next 10 days, on well-prepared ground where the plants are to bloom. Sow thinly in drills about 2 inches deep, and when the seedlings are well up remove any that may be overcrowding their fellows. These will be a week or two later in blooming than the early-raised plants, and will not grow to such a height, but they will furnish an abundance of fine flowers for cutting, and at the same time make a fine display in the garden.

Planting Gladioli

These, of course, may be planted at various times, but for general purposes the bulk of the varieties may now be got in if the soil is in good working condition. Deeply worked and liberally enriched ground is necessary if best results are to be looked for. Place a handful of clean, coarse sand under each corm. This will prevent excessive moisture lodging at the base, and a
same time will encourage the early p
tion of roots.

Attend to the lawns

Very soon, now, the mower mu
brought into use, so it is advisab
thoroughly sweep every inch of the
and then to roll them two or three
taking care not to do this when they ar
wet. Should there be any worn pa
now is a good time to repair them.
can also be pared, where such is nece
this being easier when the turf is wet.

Peas for succession

If a sowing was got in early in the
another should now be made in the
quarters so as to provide a succession
other. King Marrowfat and Webb's S
are ideal varieties for present sowing.

Broad Beans

Another sowing of these should also
in, for, like the Pea, this Bean is best
numerous sowings are made at interv
two or three weeks, thus ensuring
green pods over a long season.

Maincrop Celery

During the next 10 days or so is a
suitable time for the sowing of the
batch of this valuable vegetable. It
important that Celery never receives a
to growth from the moment it germ
until fit for the table, so every preca
should be taken to ensure that this is av
A genial, rather than a high, temper
gives excellent results.

Cucumbers

From now onwards a little shade will
fit these, while a warm and moist
sphere must always be maintained i
house or pit occupied by the plant
further sowing can now be made acc
to requirements.

Melon culture

Now that the days are of some lengt
the power of the sun considerably incr
it is much easier to maintain the nec
warmth in the Melon-house. Keep a
yet buoyant atmosphere, and see tha
plants never suffer from dryness at the
Tie and pinch as the necessity arises
prevent overcrowding.

Tomatoes

The earlier plants are now fit for
fruiting quarters, be that in pots, box
beds of prepared soil. In any case, se
the soil into which the plants are put
too cold, or a check may result. It is
to have it in the house for two or three
before consigning the plants thereto.
the plants must not be allowed to suffer
dryness it is necessary to see that the
not soured by over-watering.

Pricking-off seedlings

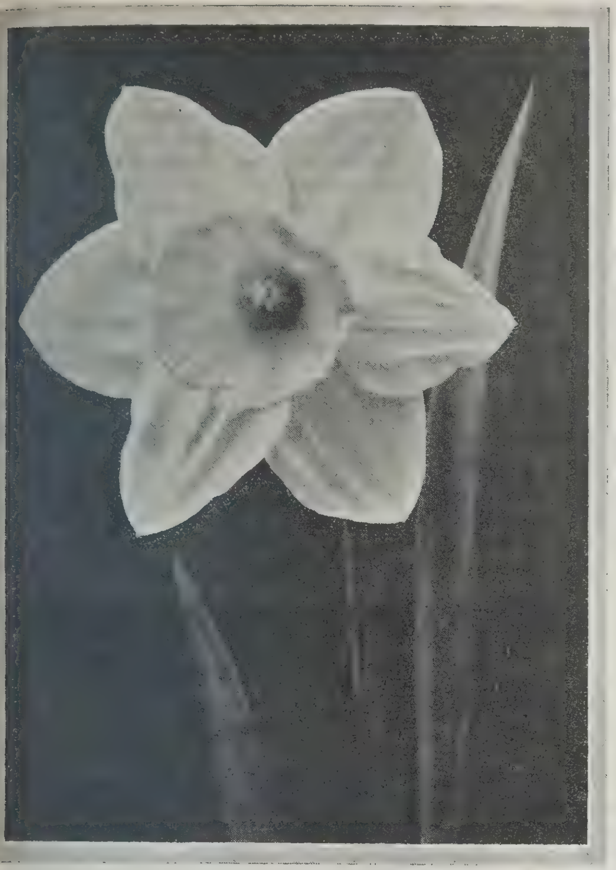
This is work that demands a good d
attention during the next few weeks.
all possible have it attended to as soon
various kinds become fit to handle, for
lings that are permitted to get drawn
lanky seldom do much good afterwards.

Half-hardy annuals to sow now

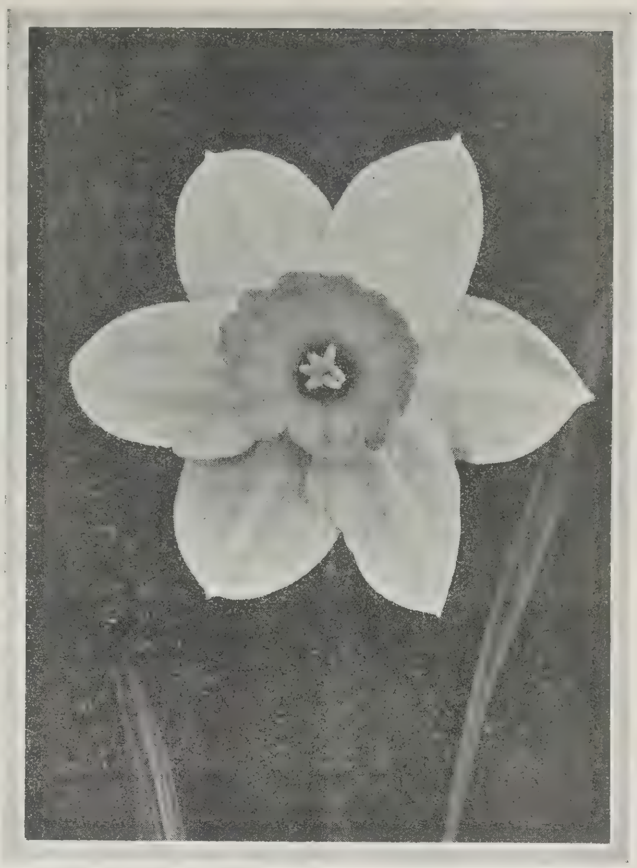
Not infrequently 10-week Stocks,
golds, Dimorphotheca, and Nasturtium
spoiled by being sown too early, the
getting starved in the boxes. All the
sown next week, should be in good ord
planting out early in June. The Nem
also, is still in time if sown now.

C. BL

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.



rtune, the most wonderful Daffodil of recent introduction
First Class Certificate, 1924. Raised by W. T. Ware



Basra
A fine smooth flower raised from Fortune

The Evolution of the Daffodil Over Half a Century—II.

By ALBERT F. CALVERT, F.C.S., Author of "Daffodil-growing for Pleasure and Profit"

(Continued from page 186)

MPING to 1929, let us observe how ings have developed, and examine the t kindly given me by Mr. George Monro ng, in his opinion, the best varieties for market, and garden purposes. The ies mentioned are, of course, in culti- in bulk in this country, and represent opinion upon available material, but hybridists are never idle many good are existing in embryo, among which rtune and Godolphin, "two of the best istence in course of time," *vide* Mr. o, whose list is as follows :—

Spur

Maximus
ns
White
s
Smith
Lisse

Princeps
Firetail
Barrii Conspicuus
Brilliancy
Horace
King Alfred
Ornatus
Sir Watkin

Snow King
Sunrise
Emperor
Obvallaris
Pheasant Eye
Sarchedon
Flame

vill be seen that all the above are typical lass market varieties of known quan- n the markets of Great Britain as befits lection of one with Mr. Monro's great ractical interests. Of the list, Firetail, us, Ornatus, Maximus, Flame, Sun- and Horace are comparatively new; have only within recent years been de- d in sufficient numbers for the bloom to arketed in bulk. One can the better ciate the improvement of the modern ls when boxes of the flowers are seen by side in the market in bulk—*e.g.*, us and Ornatus Maximus, King Alfred mperor, or King Alfred and Maximus. urse, Flame, Sunrise, Firetail, Horace, rœsus are distinctive and eminently t flowers, due to almost startling con- s between petal and "eye."

haps, after all, "The Poet's Narciss" is the most unchanged of all the types; it is, as Mr. Wilson says, "As old-fashioned as Homer, but as unstaled and fresh." The fine forms which have been evolved during the last three decades, adequately represented by Horace and Raeburn, are not so far removed from their prototypes as are many recent Narcissi in other sections. They are still flowers of pure race.

No one need retain, nor would wish to, the varieties of Poeticus favoured 50 years ago. In this respect the "painting of the Lily" has been successful. The hybridist has left the essentials of the flower unchanged, but has certainly accentuated its outstanding points—he has succeeded in making the already beautiful more beautiful still. In modern hybrids the disc is larger, the substance of the petal firmer, the Iris more vivid and varied, and the *tout ensemble* is bolder, stronger, has more colour, and yet retains its native dignity. In many, if not all of Mr. P. D. Williams' hybrids, we find these natural features sharply enhanced; it is as though one took a flower grown as in Nature, unsheltered and uncared for, and, by skilled attention and manipulation under a master hand, caused all its gaucheries, its crudenesses, its immaturity to drop away, revealing its vast potentialities, its highly-bred daintiness, and warmth of colour.

It was in the nineties that many new things came out, and Mr. Engleheart brought out the first batch of his remarkable Poets. The finest of these was undoubtedly Horace, which has become one of the most widely-spread marketable flowers. Mr. P. D. Williams, who saw the flower in its nursery status in 1895, says: "When I look back on the very short row of plants I saw growing with Mr. Engleheart, near Appleshaw, about 1895, and compare them with the millions now scattered over the world, I realise something of the potential value of a first-class Narcissus," and in a letter I received from Mr. Engleheart himself referring to Horace he says: "I am always beset with a sense of astonishment in remembering so clearly the morning when I saw its first bud opening on its first bulb. There must be now many millions of it in cultivation, and in the trade its bulbs are sold by the ton." Other now well-known sorts that came out about this time were Chaucer, Herrick, Homer, and Cassandra, and of these, Cassandra has become, probably, the best known from a commercial and wholesale grower's point of view, but from Chaucer Mr. Williams bred Macebearer, which is now coming along in fair numbers. In 1897 and 1898 still other varieties now in general commerce were launched, among them White Lady and Lady Margaret Boscawen, raised by Mr. Engleheart. White Lady particularly has done very well, and many millions of this bulb must now be in general cultivation. It is a very good "doer"; given good cultural treatment and somewhat shallow planting it will multiply at a remarkable rate.

I suppose that the greatest surprise of the epoch was the introduction of King Alfred by the little-known Mr. Kendall. Undoubtedly King Alfred is one of the best all-round commercial trumpets of the day, even now, and though it is notoriously prone to rapid and prolific increase, the variety still holds its own in the matter of price. For some years round about 1920 it cost 500s. per thousand bulbs, and in 1901, when the flower was first introduced, 100 bulbs were sold at 5 guineas each. Weardale Perfection, which was raised by Backhouse and was certificated in 1894, proved a grand parent both as seed and pollen bearer. The best results obtained from Weardale Perfection were a batch of seedlings raised by the late Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, which were known as the Lord Kitchener group. The cross was a flower of the Minnie Hume type with Weardale Perfection, and the result was, among others, this Lord Kitchener group, Moonbeam, Ethelbert, Sunrise, and many large coloured Incomparabilis, including Galopin.

(To be continued.)

New book on Daffodils

MESSRS. DULAU AND CO., LTD., are about to publish a book at one guinea entitled "Daffodil Growing for Pleasure and Profit," by Albert F. Calvert, F.C.S., with over 400 pages and 236 full-page illustrations, an Introduction by the Rev. G. H. Engleheart, M.A., V.M.H., and many special articles by Daffodil experts and enthusiasts.

The title of this work is an indication of the author's desire to be of practical service to the grower of the Daffodil who is ambitious to obtain the best possible results and feels, at the same time, that he is entitled to some material reward for his labours.

The work involved in the cultivation of flowers exercises a fascination which is its own requital, but it is only just that those who devote themselves to the improvement and multiplication of the species should be put in the way of gaining a profit for their pains.

Mr. Calvert, therefore, has endeavoured to combine particular instruction as to the stocking of the garden and the grading, planting, and rearing of bulbs with equally pertinent information pertaining to the picking, packing, and marketing of the crop.

He regards the chapters which treat of the money-making side of the subject as equal in importance with those that deal with the raising of the blooms, and if the grower thereby finds the surplus of gain is in excess of his immediate requirements the author bids him give thanks for the increase.

Mr. Calvert has had the invaluable cooperation of many of the most eminent authorities on the Daffodil who have supplied him with articles on various phases of the subject and have amplified his efforts with illustrations from their collections.

Special articles included in this book have been written by the Rev. G. H. Engleheart, M.A., V.M.H., P. D. Williams, V.M.H., The Brodie of Brodie, Guy L. Wilson, F. Herbert Chapman, W. E. H. Hodson, A. Beaumont, Alex. M. Wilson, A. Wilson, M.A., F. A. Secrett, F.L.S., H. W. Abbiss, E. B. Champernowne, Peter R. Barr, H. C. Longford, George Monro, and S. P. Wells.

In his Preface the author says that the responsibility for the compilation of this book was assumed at the request of a number of his Daffodil friends who, it is no breach of confidence to add, had failed to persuade the Rev. G. H. Engleheart, the greatest living authority on the subject, to undertake the work, and only then after he had tried, without success, to get him to alter his decision. Mr. Engleheart's refusal, he says, is much to be regretted, but as a concession to his persistence he consented to write an Introduction to his book and to contribute an article on the species, for both of which he acknowledges his deep indebtedness.

Mr. Calvert specially refers to the great assistance he has received from Mr. P. D. Williams and The Brodie of Brodie, two of the most successful raisers in the world, and he says he will always remember with gratitude the extreme generosity with which they placed at his disposal the benefit of their expert knowledge and wide experience, but he says kindly interest and desire to help has been, in his experience, characteristic of everyone connected with Daffodil-growing. He concludes his Preface by saying: "It is not too much to say that, although
experimental work has multiplied and b
fied the varieties of the Daffodil beyon
wildest imaginings of the ancient cultiv
it is to their patience and persistence we
the seeds of knowledge from which we
raise the flower, that we are reaping t
the harvest they sowed with an infinitu
loving care."

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plan
be named should send fair examples of each
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of l
and points of shoots are useless.) Not more
four plants should be sent in any one week b
same correspondent. Where more than one
is sent they should be numbered. Of conifer
cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in diff
stages of colour and size of the same kind gr
assist in its determination. Single, unripe
deformed specimens are difficult to name.
do not undertake to name more than
varieties at one time.*

TREES AND SHRUBS

Shrubs for small garden

(Amateur).—There does not appear to be any reason why trees and shrubs should not succeed in your rather clayey soil, provided that, at the time of planting, some light, rich soil be worked in among the roots of the plants. In order that you may make your own selection a list is given of 20 good shrubs with the approximate height of each:—Berberis Darwini (6 feet), May; B. stenophylla (6 feet), May; Weigela rosea (5 feet), May-June; Cytisus Andreanus (6 feet), April-May; Deutzia crenata fl.-pl. (6 feet), June; Hamamelis arborea (8 feet), January-February; Hydrangea paniculata grandiflora (4 feet to 5 feet), August; Magnolia stellata (3 feet), April; Philadelphus Lemoinei (4 feet), June; Rhus Cotinus (5 feet), July; Rubus deliciosus (4 feet), May; Spiræa arguta (4 feet), April; S. Anthony Waterer (2 feet), May-June; Kalmia latifolia (2 feet to 3 feet), May; Pæony Moutan (4 feet to 6 feet), April-May; Viburnum plicatum (5 feet), May; Ribes sanguineum (3 feet to 6 feet), April; Mahonia Aquifolium (3 feet), April-May; the Flowering Cherries and the Flowering Almonds, both spring-blooming. For trees there is an equally wide choice. If deciduous varieties be preferred, Maples and Copper Beeches, as well as the Scarlet Oak, are suggested, while among evergreens Hollies, Lawson's Cypress, Cryptomeria elegans, C. japonica, the Golden Yew, or any of the more moderate-growing Pines would be found alike suitable and ornamental in a small garden. Immediate planting is advised. If this cannot be done the work ought to stand over until September. As to the distance at which planting should be done, a safe rule in the case of shrubs is to follow the height of the specimens, *i.e.*, if a variety be 6 feet in height put out the plants 6 feet apart, and so on. In the case of trees, 12 feet to 15 feet is the accepted distance, but if a present effect be desired they must, of course, be planted more thickly and thinned out as they increase in stature.

Evergreen flowering hedge

(Amateur, Bridgnorth).—Nothing fulfils the needful requirements better than Berberis Darwini, which is, at all seasons, attractive. Plant now, preparing the site of the hedge in a thorough manner by incorporating a good dressing of rough leaf-mould, or, failing that, of well-decayed manure with the existing soil. Plant at a distance of 2½ feet and, preferably, in a single line. After planting, it would be well to mulch the plants with
to conserve moisture, and if, after pla
the weather is dry, watering occasi
until the plants are established is r
mended.

Plant for name and treatment

(Miss A. Donovan).—This appears
the Portuguese Crowberry (Corema
which much resembles our native Crow
(Empetrum nigrum). It should be
hardy with you, as it flourishes in
sandy peat around London, and is val
as being a neat, if not showy, little everg
It may be increased by cuttings taken d
July and August, after the manner of He
dibbled into pots filled with sandy peat
placed in slight bottom heat with a bell-
over them.

Shrubs for greenhouse

(Greenhouse).—Six good shrubs fo
purpose indicated might be selected fro
following:—Deutzias of sorts, C
racemosus, Hydrangea paniculata, Li
floribunda, Lilacs in variety, Azaleas of
kinds, Rhododendron Pink Pearl, Spiræ
sorts, and certainly S. confusa, an
Guelder Roses.

GREENHOUSE

Span-roofed greenhouse

(M. L. M. Vaudin). — (1) Came
Oranges, half-hardy Rhododend
Coprosma Baueri variegata, and som
the half-hardy Euonymuses would be
to succeed. (2) Lapageria, Ivy-leaved
goniums, and Passiflora cærulea. (3)
green Rose (Rosa sempervirens Var. Fel
et-Perpetue).

A small stove house

("Hopeful").—It is practically impo
to successfully grow all the plants you
in one house. Melons, in particular, c
possibly do any good under the condi
mentioned. As Cucumbers benefit by a
shade they would, to a certain extent,
ceed, along with the Ferns and Begonia
house with an eastern exposure is not
suitable for Melon culture, even if devot
that alone. The only thing we can su
as likely to help a little is to arrang
Ferns and Begonias on the staging o
west side and then arrange a light bli
hang from the roof—inside, of course
this would afford the requisite shade
at the same time admitting all the avai
sun to the Melons. A blind made of ti
and constructed so as to be easily rolle

do nicely, and could be pulled up in ernoon when the sun got round. This, rse, is merely a makeshift and cannot re than slightly modify the bad condi- nentioned.

ea Ecklonis (Baker)

M. H.).—This is an Iridaceous plant Cape Colony, South Africa, and has ished itself in parts of California from wn seeds. In general appearance it e likened to some of the Sisyrinchiums, it is not hardy in England you would ut few buyers for it, especially as it is owy enough for greenhouse cultivation. best way to find buyers for it would be ertise the seedlings you have to spare ARDENING ILLUSTRATED, among whose circle of readers you would be most to meet with buyers. The value would at of an unusual but not outstanding say, 1s. each. If you had seedlings to of Aristea fruticosa, which grows like a shrub with the branches ending in tiny Iris-like leaves with pretty panicles e flowers, you would have a more pro- proposition than with the species you on hand.

althy Palm

H.).—Your Palm is suffering from a ggravated attack of White Scale, and t, therefore, be healthy. The Scale be easily removed by syringing the first with tepid water and after- by sponging the leaves and stems with y strong solution of soft-soap dissolved ter at a temperature of 65 degs. to 70 After sponging, again syringe with soft water. The case is a bad one, and be necessary to repeat the treatment n interval of 10 days. Afterwards the ought to be kept under observation so cipient outbreaks may be dealt with in ly stage.

s for moraine on greenhouse stage

inist).—The conditions would appear to re than ordinarily artificial, and only which are naturally of rather an ac- odating nature would be likely to give ction. A selection made from the fol- would, under average conditions, be st fairly satisfactory. Arenaria pur- ens, Cotyledon oppositifolia, Erinus rs, Gentiana lagodechiana, a selection ine Phloxes, including P. G. F. Wilson, P. subulata x amœna, Phyteuma ri, Saxifraga decipiens superba, and S. don, as well as any favourites of the , Synthyris reniformis, many of the s, Armeria Laucheana, Æthionema stum, Hypericum fragile, and alodes cappadocica. Raoulia australis, a alpina, and Linaria pallida, too, be worth a place.

FLOWER GARDEN

sed Hyacinth

W. W.).—Your specimen bulb is d with a soft rot disease, which in this as been caused by bacteria. It is some- difficult, from the evidence we have, to how the attack commenced, but it more than likely that the disease was t when the bulb was purchased. If as the case the bulb became affected last season, and when it was planted me in the fibre the bacteria increased and killed the bulb before it could flowering stage. The bacteria may got into the bulb since it has been in are, but we hardly think this likely. hould burn any others that are affected, r with the fibre in which the diseased re growing.

Bateman).—Your Hyacinth has been d with the same trouble as given above, but death did not occur until later. We are afraid that there is no remedy.

Yellow Nemophila

(O. M. Pudor).—We think there can be very little doubt that your plant is Limnanthes Douglasii (Floerkea Douglasii), and not a Nemophila at all. There certainly is not a yellow-flowered Nemophila known to science, and as the Limnanthes is rather similar to the Nemophila insignis in leaf and in habit your mistake is not very surprising, although the two plants belong to two entirely different Natural Orders. The Limnanthes is well known as a hardy annual and cultivated as an edging plant or in quantity for bees. It is a native of California and Oregon.

VEGETABLES

Surplus produce from kitchen garden

(E. D.).—Inquirer should make arrangements to send his produce to Covent Garden and/or other markets, so that he may clear all he has to offer. This will entail two or three necessary provisions. First, he must decide what marketable crops he can grow, first taking advice on this point. Then he must get into touch with one reliable commission agent in each market he wants to supply; and thirdly, must ascertain and abide by market methods of grading and packing. He gives us no idea as to what part of the country his estate is, nor its capacity—its position as to railway or other easily reached depôt for dispatch. Without knowing something of these our advice can only be on general lines, whereas we could be of more help to him if we knew more. We would, however, impress upon him the importance of starting on right lines, as it is so easy to get wrong and expensive to get back.

Cultivation of Mercury

(L. S.).—Mercury (" Good King Henry ") is an admirable substitute for Spinach, and its leaves are used in the same way as those of the latter. Perennial in habit, Mercury must be planted on deep, cool soil which has been well enriched by the addition of manure. A bed well treated will remain in profit over a series of years. " Good King Henry " was, and may still be, grown largely in certain parts of Lincolnshire for market purposes, and the produce finds a ready sale in spring.

FRUIT

Loganberries and Raspberries

(B. N. Hurtmore).—Trench your light soil to a depth of at least 2 feet and enrich with good farmyard manure, cow manure for preference. This should be thoroughly incorporated with the soil, not placed in layers as is too often done. Chicken manure is very useful, but should be seasoned in a dry shed before using. It may then be dug into the ground during its preparation or applied as a top-dressing during the growing season. Wakeley's manure is a very useful substitute when farmyard manure is not available, and is now used extensively on all crops. Bone-meal is excellent, too. Mulching should be applied at the end of April, as Raspberries resent dryness at the root. We would point out that in making new plantations of either of the above the canes should be cut down to within 1 foot of the ground to induce the plants to form suckers for the following year's crop. This should be carried out before mid-April. The following are among the best varieties for your class of soil:—Summer varieties: Perfection, Superlative, Profusion, The Devon, Hornet, and Herbert. Perpetual or autumn-fruiting varieties of excellent quality are: Perpetuelle d'Billard, Yellow Superlative, Surprise of Autumne, Ameloire d'Congy, and November Abundance. Plenty of feeding will be essential for the production of good Loganberries and heavy mulching.

Apple twigs

(Orchard).—The twig sent in has present eggs of two kinds. The round red eggs are those of Red Spider, while the long white eggs are those of Apple Sucker. You do not state what spray fluid you have used. If it was a tar oil wash it should kill the majority of the Apple Sucker, but would have no control over the eggs of Red Spider, and you will find that these will hatch out in due course. If the trees received a good, thick limewash just as the buds begin to burst you would be able to seal in most of the eggs. After Red Spider eggs have hatched, the best control is sulphur in some form. A convenient form is potassium sulphide. If the Apple Sucker becomes troublesome spray with a good nicotine wash shortly before the blossoms open.

Apple bark splitting

I notice that even quite large branches are showing fresh, straight splits as though cut with a knife. The soil is chalky and the trees, which have borne very good crops for the last two seasons, I believe, have been planted for about 15 years. B. E. W.

[We do not think that the bark of your Apple trees splitting and healing up like it has done in the specimen sent for examination need cause you any worry. Apple bark often splits like this, and the actual cause is, in many cases, obscure. A very common cause is that caustic washes have been applied several years in succession and the bark becomes hard. When thickening of the stem takes place the bark, instead of expanding naturally, suddenly gives way under the pressure set up, and the long cracks appear. Gardeners of the older schools, if they found trees in this " hidebound " condition, frequently took a pruning-knife and made a longitudinal cut down the main stem. The work was done during summer, and those that carried out the operation maintained that the trees so treated fruited better during the next few years. We are of the opinion that if Apple bark splits during the actual growing season no harm results, because the open wounds soon heal up. If, however, the splits occur in the dormant period from the effect of hard frost such wounds would remain open wounds until the following early summer and fungus spores are liable to enter the tree. This could be largely prevented by filling up the cracks with grafting-wax.]

Mildew in Vines

(Caradoc).—Mildew is caused either by a close, stagnant atmosphere or by draughts. You will be able to decide which is responsible. If the fungus persists heat the pipes of the vinery until they are fairly hot—not merely warm—mix some flowers of sulphur to a paste with water, and paint the pipes with the mixture. Or the affected leaves may be dusted with flowers of sulphur in a dry state, repeating the dusting until the fungus disappears. As to your second query, the Plum trees ought to be very thoroughly sprayed with cold water applied by means of a hose or of a garden engine—failing either, by a syringe. Cold water forcibly applied in the early stages of an attack is effective.

LEGAL POINT

Wages during illness

(Gardener in Doubt).—You are entitled to claim the whole of your wages whilst you are absent through illness, and your employer has no right to deduct any portion of the wages because you are a member of a sick club.

NAMES OF PLANTS

E. F. C.—Impatiens Sultani (Sultan of Zanzibar's).

A. D. C.—Buddleias to name. Further reply. 1, B. Fallowiana, silver foliage serrated, branched terminal inflorescence; 3, B. auriculata, sweet-scented flowers, green leaf with silver underside. The Sarcococca is S. ruscifolia.

LATE NOTES

Portsmouth Flower Show

Portsmouth Horticultural Society have arranged an exceptionally fine summer show to be held on Southsea Common on July 24th, 25th, and 26th. First-class prizes are offered both in the open classes and in the amateur's section. The show should attract a great deal of interest, and secure big entries.

Shrewsbury Floral Fete

The great Shrewsbury Show will be held in the beautiful grounds of the Quarry on August 21st and 22nd. No less than £1,550 are being offered in cash prizes, and the schedule includes some extremely valuable trophies and medals.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENTS

Green's mowers

The lawn mowers shown this year by Thomas Green and Son, Ltd., of Leeds, include the well-known "Supreme," which is ideal for all-round handwork. This model now re-appears with an enclosed gear-case, besides self-aligning and dust-proof ball bearings and a simple device for adjusting the cut without the need of a spanner. Other models are the De Luxe "Silens Messor" for finest cutting and the "New Century" (side wheel machine), whilst in the heavy class, Green's motor mowers and triple and quintuple horse or tractor drawn mowers, have special merits. Green's also specialise in rollers, lawn markers, verge cutters, all of which are illustrated and described in their catalogue No. 23.

Slug destructor

The Slug Mort Company, as their name implies, manufacture a preparation which ensures certain death to slugs and snails. A leaflet has been issued by the Company giving full particulars of the preparation.

"Acme" aids

"Acme" requisites for garden and orchard are included in a new catalogue just issued. Fertilisers and insecticides are the chief lines, but the Company manufacture a large number of first-class garden aids for which they have secured an excellent reputation during the last 40 years.

LATE REPLY

Propagating Feijoa Sellowiana

(Italia).—This handsome shrub is a native of South Brazil and Uruguay, and created a good deal of interest when introduced by Edouard Andre in 1898. It may be increased by cuttings made of the young shoots during early summer and placed in a close, warm frame, where they root freely. The fruits of the above are more or less egg-shaped and of a delicious aromatic, spicy flavour. The second tree to which you refer is, probably, that of Psidium pomiferum (Guava), which produces Apple-shaped fruits. Cuttings of young shoots getting a little firm at their base placed in sand under a bell-glass and in bottom heat will be found to root readily. You should watch your trees and secure the cuttings when they have reached the conditions given above, as growth in Italy would be in advance of that of this country and would have to be judged there.

The Jubilee Celebration Number

We take this opportunity of thanking readers from far and wide who by letter and telegram have sent congratulations to "Gardening Illustrated" on attaining its Jubilee. Our thanks are also due to willing contributors who helped to make the Jubilee Number a conspicuous success.

"Gardening Illustrated" Jubilee Dinner

To celebrate the Jubilee of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED Sir Ernest Benn gave a commemorative dinner on March 15th at the Hotel Cecil. The guests, numbering about 70, included the Editors and Managers of Benn Bros.' journals, representatives of Ernest Benn, Ltd., and the Trade Promotion Trust, and Directors of the firm. There were six toasts and no fewer than 11 speeches, without a single musical note between, yet the speaking was of so humorous and clever a character that there was not a dull moment in a 3½-hour programme. Sir Ernest at the close remarked that on that occasion they had deliberately omitted their "great orators" and limited the speakers to the younger end, only to find, to their surprise and delight, that Bouverie House was becoming "a perfect nest of orators."

In proposing the toast of "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED," Sir Ernest Benn said that the statistical department informed him that the combined ages of all the Benn journals was 533 years, and that figure also, curiously enough, represented the combined ages of their Editors and Editresses. (Laughter.) Five hundred and thirty-three years took them back to the year 1396, which might, therefore, be considered their birth year, and which he was authentically told marked the end of the Dark Ages, the beginning of the Renaissance, and the start of "such civilisation as we have amongst us." (Laughter.)

Referring to GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, he said that the founder and first Editor, Mr. William Robinson, was in his 92nd year, and so far he had only had two successors in the Editorial chair, their fine old Scottish friend, Thomson, who died a few years ago, and the present Editor, Mr. H. Cowley. Robinson founded the journal with the idea of raising the standard of gardening, just as his father, the late Sir John Benn, risked his all in starting the "Cabinet Maker" in 1880 to lead a revolt against the atrocities of Victorian furnishing. Sir Ernest concluded by congratulating those in charge of the paper on the maintenance of its traditions and wishing it equal success in the next half-century.

The toast was responded to by Mr. Herbert Cowley (Editor) and Mr. H. W. Duck (Manager), and then followed a series of toasts proposed and acknowledged by members of the staffs:—"Literature," proposed by Mr. H. B. Crole-Rees (Managing-Director), response by Capt. E. W. Gregory ("Cabinet Maker"); "The Art of Advertising," proposed by Mr. N. French ("Hardware Trade Journal"), response by Mr. E. H. Hallows ("The Gas World"); "The Firm," proposed by Mr. L. J. Moolenaar ("The Chemical Age"), response by Mr. John Benn ("Discovery").

In proposing the final toast of "The Chairman," Mr. Gordon Robbins remarked that as the health of Sir Ernest Benn was of the greatest importance to the firm it was appropriate to couple the toast with the name of the lady who did most to look after it. Lady Benn, who was very cordially received, acknowledged the toast in one of her happiest little speeches.

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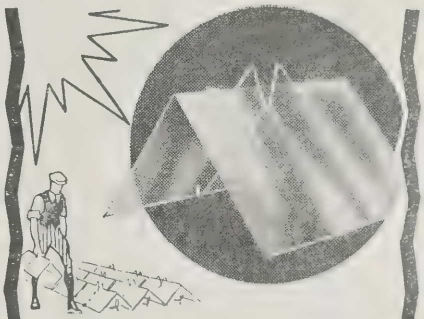

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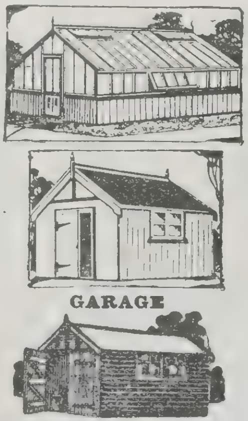

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Stakes and supports for all plants and trees (everlasting, yet cheaper than wood sticks). Raffiatape (better than raffia). Westcelu labels (everlasting). Westmalene (better than manure). Insecticides. Slug Guards. Weeders (saves weary weeding). Weed Killer. "Lawn Sand." Shadings. Mats. Nettings. Aprons. Peats, Loam, etc.

Samples and Catalogue free

C. E. WEST, HIGHAM HILL WORKS LONDON, E. 17.

Gold Medallist for Horticultural Sundries.

The WIZARD Plant Label

Primula Minima
PATENT No 212974

RED POTTERY LABELS, 2½ x 1½ in. with rustless wires, 12 in., 2/3 doz.; 7 in., 2/- doz.; 1½ x 1 in., 6 in. wires, 1/6 doz. WATERPROOF INK, 9d. and 7½d. bott. CROW QUILLS, 2d. VARNISH AND BRUSH, 6½d. and 10½d., postage extra.

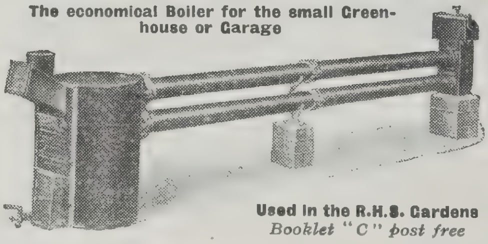
Highly commended by R.H.S. at Wisley.

E. TORKINGTON, D. 2. MAIDENHEAD

The Silver Medal

HORSE SHOE BOILER

The economical Boiler for the small Greenhouse or Garage



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THE BEST AND CHEAPEST

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SPECIAL POTS
for Roses, Vines, Clematis, Orchids, and Chrysanthemums.

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Kill Slugs & Snai the NEW way

Slug-Mort is an easy and cheap way of completely exterminating slugs, snails, and similar pests. Harmless to plants and animals and unaffected by wet. Now is the best time to use it. Send for directions and material to treat ¼ acre of garden for **1/6** post free from

The SLUG-MORT Co., Penzance, Cor

THE 5 CHIEF

FOR EVERY GARDEN AND ALLOTMENT

STRATHMORE

"Gro-Al," the Premier Stable Manure Subs Tins, 9d.; 28 lbs., 3/2; 56 lbs., 5/6; 1 cwt., 9/3; 17/6; 5 cwt., 39/6.

Complete Garden Fertilizer, the M to produce Fruit and Vegetables of qualit quantity. Tins, 1/-; 5½ lbs. (for 30 sq. yds.), 2/6; 3/6; 14 lbs., 5/9; 1 cwt., 25/-.

Complete Flower Food will produc maintain purest colours in Flowers, and tha maximum period. Tins, 1s.; 7 lbs., 3/11; 14 lb 56 lbs., 17/6; 1 cwt., 30/-.

Lawn Sand converts worn-out Lawns beautifully velvety condition. Tins, 1/-; 14 l 28 lbs., 7/6; cwts., 25/-.

Weed Killer (non-poisonous to animals) wi clean your weedy paths. Tins, 1/6; bags, 6/6.

5/- Lots carriage Paid. CASH WITH ORD

Descriptive Literature Free.

STRATHMORE MANURE WO
(Dept. G.I.) **Blairgowrie, Perth**

LION

The British Felt that never cracks
for roofs of every kind

from **9D.** per sq. yd.

from all Ironmongers or

F. McNeill & Co. Ltd.
Bunhill Row, London

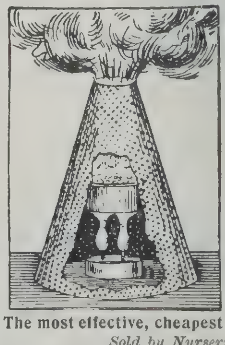
SAFETY FIRST—
FOR ANIMALS & PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smell; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds.

TINS,	1/-	2/-	3/6	6/6	12/-	27/6
for	4,	12½	25	50	100	250 gls.

HIGHLY COMMENDED BY THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

CORRY WEED-D NON POISONOUS WEED KI SHAD THAMES



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NICOTINE C FUMIGAT

Certain destructio pests in glassho Only a match re for starting i

No.	Cubic feet.
1, for	1,000
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3, „	2,500

The most effective, cheapest and safest Fumigant ob

Sold by Nurserymen and Seedsmen.

CORRY & CO., Ltd., Shad Thames, Londo

TER THAN HORSE MANURE
SURBITON FERTILISER
prepared with a view to supplying Gardeners with
'lant Food, and is suitable for all kinds of crops,
Grass, Tennis Courts, Bowling Greens, etc.
fine powder, easy to handle, and free from smell.
is cheap, but Fertiliser is good.
:wt. **Bags, 3/6,** delivered within 100 miles.
ns given for larger quantities Cash with order to the
ER, **Disposal Works, Lower Marsh Lane, Kingston, Surrey**

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r every garden purpose

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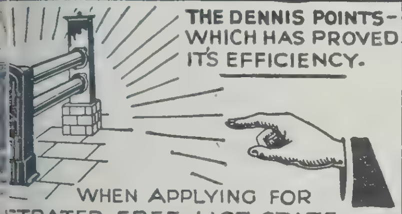
THE DENNIS POINTS–
WHICH HAS PROVED
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WHEN APPLYING FOR
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IOS. W. ROBINSON, LTD.
ENNIS PARK IRON WORKS,
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W is the TIME
to order your fertilisers!
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OU GET THE BEST IN OUR EW GRANULATED FERTILISERS
LANDON'S
ARDEN GRANULES
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TOP DRESSING

anules supply perfectly balanced proportions rden purposes, of Nitrate, Phosphate, Potash max." They do not WASH THROUGH THE t gradually yield food to the plants throughout owth. They are highly alkaline and neutralise ty. They contain no waste products and are objectionable smell—they are clean to handle, istributed and harmless to vegetable and animal life.

nly Complete Balanced Fertiliser
Prices, in sealed bags:
'6; 14 lbs., **6/-**; 28 lbs., **10/-**; 56 lbs., **15/-**; 1 cwt., **25/-**

YOU WORRIED WITH SLUGS OUR PLANTS POOR AND STUNTED?
Then your garden is crying for:
rdon's Garden Limax
T Cardener's Constant Companion"

cticidal, fungicidal, and cures soil sourness. It etones, sweetens and brings out latent strength of the soil.
ugs and their eggs. Lightens heavy soil, con- t light soil, but is non-poisonous and perfectly to human beings and domestic animals. Can be used on all edible plants.

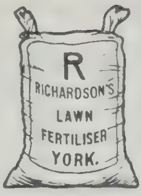
Sold in linen bags
ES: 7 lbs., **2/6**; 14 lbs., **4/-**; 28 lbs., **6/6**; 56 lbs., **10/6**; 1 cwt., **18/-**.
Carriage paid on cash orders
NON'S GRANULATED FERTILISER CO., LTD.
BILEE ROAD, WATFORD, HERTS.

For Orchards and Fruit Trees.

Chilean Nitrate of Soda puts back into the soil what the trees take out—Nitrogen. Helps young trees to grow thrifty and strong; keeps old trees from losing their productiveness.

Read the special pamphlets entitled, "The Manuring of Orchards and Fruit Trees, "Successful Gardens for every Amateur," supplied gratis and post free, by THE CHILEAN NITRATE COMMITTEE, Friars House, New Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

CHILEAN NITRATE OF SODA



FERTILISERS
LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT & ROSE, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM-KILLER, 17/6 per cwt., carr. pd.
And all other Fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO.
Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

REDUCED PRICES
in the best quality
WATTLE HAZEL HURDLES
All 6 ft. in Length.
3 ft. high now **2/6** each
4 ft. ,, ,, **3/6** ,,
5 ft. ,, ,, **5/-** ,,
6 ft. ,, ,, **7/-** ,,
IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
Write for LIST 22 *to-day*
T. & C. ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES, Ltd.,
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LIME—LIME—LIME
BUXTON WHITE LUMP LIME for Horticulture or Agriculture.
WATER-WORN LIMESTONE ROCKERY in its natural shapes and colour.
DERBYSHIRE WHITE SPAR for Paths and Rockeries.
BUXTON LIMESTONE GRAVEL in all sizes.
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SPECIALITY
GARDEN LIME in Fine Powder, **5/6** per cwt. bag, Carr. paid, Cash with order less 15 % for 1 ton and upwards.
J. T. FERGUSON, LIME MERCHANT, BUXTON

WILKINSON
PRUNING SHEARS
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Blades made from the finest Wilkinson Sword Steel

SEE YOUR PRUNING SHEARS BEAR THIS MARK

WILKINSON SWORD Co. LIMITED. MADE IN ENGLAND

Sold by all Cutlers, Ironmongers, Seedsmen, and all Stores.

Factory:
ACTON, LONDON, W.

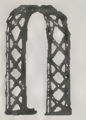
SALE! GREATLY REDUCED PRICES SALE

Select from the following Exceptionally Low-Priced Offers for Immediate Despatch

BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE

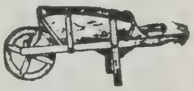
ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

No. 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.



		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. „	4 ft. „	13/6	12/-
8 ft. „	4 ft. 6 in. „	17/6	16/-
8 ft. „	5 ft. „	22/6	20/-
8 ft. „	5 ft. 6 in. „	26/6	24/-
8 ft. „	6 ft. „	33/6	30/-

GARDEN BARROWS



Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ½ in. iron tyre.

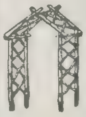
	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23 6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

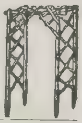
GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc. Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.

	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. „	5/6	5/- „
18 in. „	6/6	5/9 „
21 in. „	8/6	7/- „
24 in. „	10/6	9/- „

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

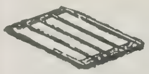




Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 „
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- „

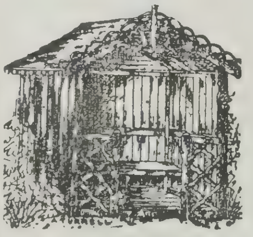
GARDEN LIGHTS



	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
5 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4/9	4/- „	9/6	8/- „
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- „	13/6	12/- „
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 „	15/6	14/- „

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE

No. 18



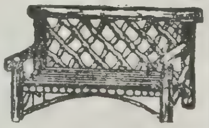
This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES

These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS



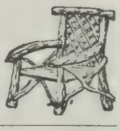
Well made from selected material. In natural wood. Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. „	14/6	13/6
6 ft. „	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

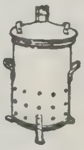
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. „	18/6	17/6
6 ft. „	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

INCINERATOR

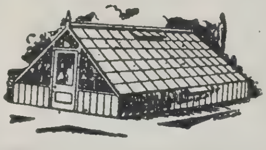


Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price .. .. 16/6 each

Sale price .. .. .. 12/6 „

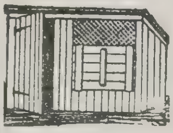
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

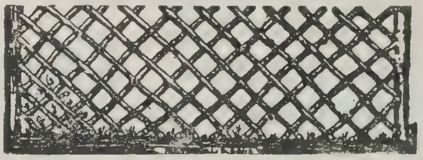


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	REDUCED PRICES. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9/6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12/6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20/-
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	24/6	25/-

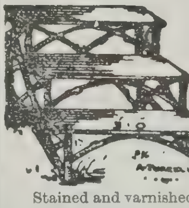
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2¼ in.	6/-	5/3 „	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 „
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 „	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 „
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 „	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 „	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- „
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 „	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 „
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9 6 „	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 „
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- „	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- „
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 „	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 „

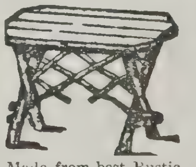
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

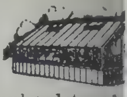
GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- „	5/6 „

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

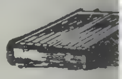
AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE



These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at no figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who req strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved matchboarding, painted one coat of good oil colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages fo side of house. Complete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0	14
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0	19
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6	25
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0	36
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6			

GARDEN FRAMES



Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

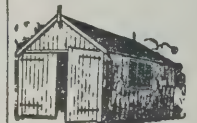
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0	4
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 „	6 6 0	5
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 „	7 10 0	6
8 x 6 2 „	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 „	9 2 6	8

Do not pay high prices for your frames made from boards. We can supply at the following low prices. F made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boards plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0	4
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 „	7 5 0	6
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 „	8 8 0	7
8 x 6 2 „	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 „	10 2 6	9

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABL MOTOR HOUSE

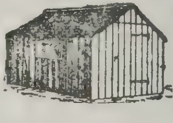


Constructed of strong framing c with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved b roof boarded and felted, 1-in. for floor and strong joists. Wi fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doors on strong butts and fitted Towe and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.	
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0	£5
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6	7
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0	10
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0	12
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0	14
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0	15
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6	18
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0	20
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0	24
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0	28
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0	32

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No.

Specification as No. 7, but with ⅝-in. floor and single Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.	
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0	£
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0	£
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0	£4
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6	£
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0	£
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0	£11

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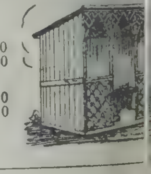

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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G to the long continued frost, Hardy
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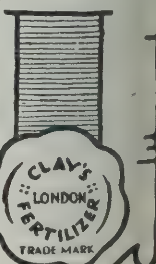

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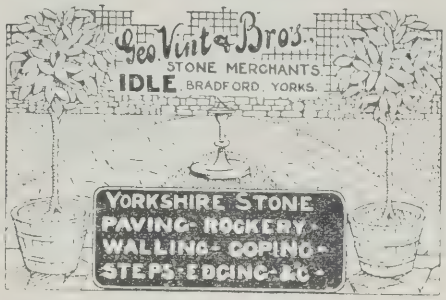

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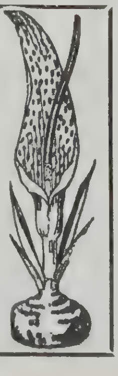

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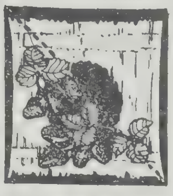

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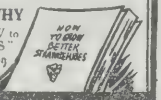
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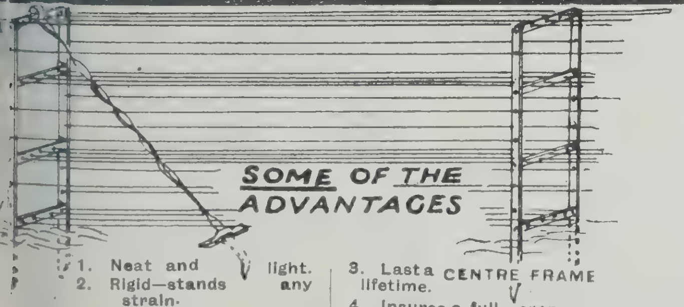

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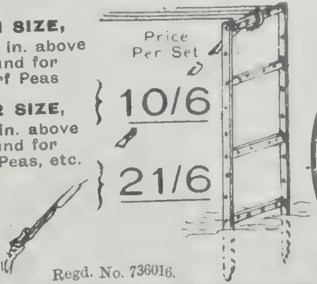

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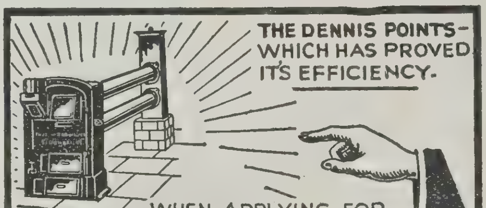
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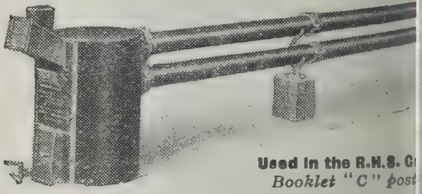

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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An Easter Alleluia

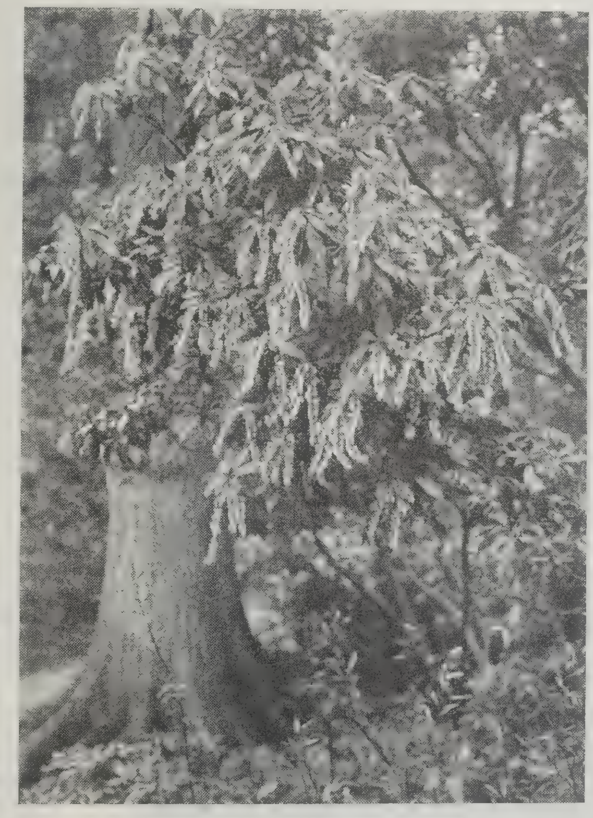
the time the Easter moon is at the ll we may fairly hope that the worst of wicked winter is behind us and that uel east wind, so long an unwelcome , will have given place to a soft ester, and healing showers come as to a wind-scarred and burnt earth. aster weather is seldom unkind, and if lays the game properly there will be und backward in following old Omar ám's advice, and

> "the Fire of Spring the winter
> garment of Repentance fling."

es not the delightful Jubilee num- f GARDENING ILLUSTRATED bring to us, with a real sense of rejoicing should be so, that we are a nation leners, amateurs and professionals, py band of brothers, and every ble hour of the holidays will be by man and woman in the garden work-a-day world claims us again lesday morning, refreshed both in and soul. The North countryman work planting Potatoes as early sible on Good Friday, and he will ll you that Peas and Broad Beans on that day will, without doubt, -eminent among the crops, and the part is that it usually is so!

pite of cutting winds and lengthy of cold the "green fire," as the y people call it, is slowly but surely ing over the land. Lilac buds are bursting, Weigelas are unfurling eaves, Viburnum Carlesii reveals sters of tight-packed buds in a set- new green leaves, and Forsythias urrying up both with leaf and as if to apologise for a late ap- ce. Everything is, indeed, quite eks behind the times, which is a blessing, for this very backward- has saved things from great r. And when we read of 26 degs. degs. of frost in parts, and think here must be many sore hearts ing the loss of countless garden es, we, in the far west, offer up heartfelt Alleluia that we have pared so much.

lodendrons, though the early kinds very late, show no signs of suffering. ecox is showing its delicate mauve in the dell. Andromedas, or Pieris, nda, Formosa, and Japonica are in purity of bloom, not in the least d by cold, as too often befalls these shrubs. Spiræa media is starred with Nuttallia has at last opened its -scented sprays. So long has it re- in bud that I was afraid it was going a miss this year. Erica arborea is fragrant masses of flower in the breeze, grown now into great bushes 5 feet high and as much across, dearly beloved of the bees. Hyacinths have come up remarkably free from slugs' unwelcome attentions, and, in all the panoply of Oxford-blue, are perfuming the terrace under my windows. Why is it that pink and mauve Hyacinths are always later to colour than the blues? I have noticed it is nearly always the fact. The dear old Polyanthus, Hose-in-hose, is winking a cheerful eye at the sun, and the double mauve, white, and yellow Primroses are luxuriating amongst their commoner brethren of the woods. Stems are noticeably short this year, due, I suppose, to the dry period that has prevailed during growing time. Primula Kewensis, I *think*, has survived, though I feared greatly for it a month ago. Pittosporums have suffered badly, especially nigrescens, and will have to be judiciously trimmed, and the leaves of several Eucalyptus are shrivelled and burnt. Once a Eucalyptus can be got past its childhood stage it can take care of itself very well, but it is a troublesome infant to rear.



Pieris japonica in the woodland
Note the pendulous white racemes of this beautiful shrub

But the glory of the garden in another week will be the Daffodils. Each day sees an increase in the golden light that is spreading over the grass where thousands of spearheads are bursting their coverings. Sir Watkin, Butter and Eggs, Eggs and Bacon, Silver Argent, Emperor, and others will be in full beauty to greet the Easter morn, but only just in time to act up to their reputation as "Daffodils that come before the swallow dares, and take the winds of March with beauty." Already numerous prophets have notified the papers of the inevitable slogan, the voice of the cuckoo has been heard in the land! So now we know that spring is at hand. There is no disputing, however, the fact that the volume of bird-song is a daily crescendo, one and all eager to proclaim that the winter of their discontent is past; all their ritual must be said. Are they not rendering to perfection the song from "Pippa Passes":—

> "The year's at the spring and day's at the morn,
> Morning's at seven,
> God's in His heaven—
> All's right with the world."

E. D.

Botanising in the Himalayas

Mr. R. A. Cooper gave an interesting address on "Botanising in the Himalayas" before the members of the Horticultural Club on March 12th, when Mr. P. R. Barr presided over a representative gathering. The lecturer dealt chiefly with Bhutan, a native State to the east of Sikkim, the home of Rhododendrons that Hooker introduced to this country. The country is made up of a series of valleys running south from the main range of the Himalayas. Mr. Cooper is the only man who has botanised this particular region since the time of Griffiths and Booth. He followed Griffiths' way in from Buxa Duars in Bengal. The lecture was illustrated by a series of splendid lantern slides, and in some of the views the presence of Pinus excelsa and P. longifolia was noticeable. Among the plants recorded was one of the Plumbago family, Ceratosigma Griffithii.

Pictures were shown of Rhododendrons at home in secluded recesses. The species included R. campylocarpum, R. Hodgsonii, R. campanulatum, and R. cinnabarinum. One picture showed a hill-top at 13,000 feet, where Primulas of the Capitate type and bushes of Rhododendron lepidotum and R. anthopogon were growing. The latter is ground up and used in incense sticks.

Perhaps the most interesting slide of all was one showing natives carrying huge bundles of Eremurus stems. These stems were brought in for fuel in a district where woody plants are scarce. The species used for fuel is the tall and exquisite Eremurus himalaicus, so highly cherished in our gardens.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Birds in the garden

As a confirmed bird-feeder on a somewhat lavish scale may I add my contribution to the correspondence that has appeared on this subject in your columns, and describe how I minister to the wild birds' winter and spring needs, much (as I firmly believe) to the benefit of the garden?

We have two roofed bird-tables, the shafts of which are fixed into large tubs that stand in front of the loggia and are kept filled with spring or summer bedding plants in succession.

On these tables, according to the severity of the weather, or, later on, the number of young broods requiring food, is spread a liberal provision of biscuit-meal or hound-meal, either of which provides the meat so necessary for the lives of the song thrushes, blackbirds, etc. No cooking is required, boiling water being merely poured over a large pan of the meal, in sufficient quantity to swell and soften it to the proper (not sloppy) consistency. After a few minutes' standing it is cool enough for consumption. This forms the staple of the birds' diet, but the following additions make it more sustaining and attractive:—Chopped fat, obtainable for a few pence from the butcher's; scalded Currants, which are also cheap and are greatly appreciated by the soft-billed birds; and lastly, if obtainable, some "damaged" cheese from the grocer, and the bird-provider can rest assured that his or her song-birds are being properly catered for. This feeding is prolonged over the breeding season, v
especially in dry weather, the birds are
sore put to it to provide for their broods.

Forsythia under a sunny window

"Hurrying up with both leaf and flower as if to apologise for a late appearance"
—An Easter Alleluia

Then for the hard-billed birds, the
hatches and the tits, five kinds of v
latter tribe avail themselves of our h
tality (the great tit, the blue, cole, m
and long-tailed), there are Cocoanuts,
six halves at a time; Mapleton's nutter-
which appears to attract the long-tailed
Monkey-nuts, and last, but not least,
of the indispensable bottles and hoppers
with Hemp-seed, to and from which an
less stream of tits, nuthatches, greenfin
chaffinches, hedge warblers, and, alas!
sparrows pass from daylight until dusk

Besides food, three bathing and dri
places are provided, and these furnish a
stant source of entertainment to the
lover. Also, both natural and artificial
ing places are abundant, while a deep
hedge, much old Ivy carefully fostere
walls, old stumps and the bases of tree
gether with a number of pyramidal
round-headed Bay trees, some still cli
others reverting to their natural state,
several Irish Yews provide safe shelte
winter roosting.

I have often watched with pleasur
settling in for the night of a surpris
large, mixed company of birds that
refuge in four of these Irish Yews sta
in the walled garden behind the house.

As may be concluded, the garden
orchard are full of birds. More tits tha
be counted on the fingers of both hand
be seen by anyone looking out of the
ing-room windows at any hour of the
But we suffer no loss from their depreda
Not a yellow Crocus amongst the hun
now in flower has been stripped, and
orchard's fruit-buds are undamaged.
last week the gardener, hearing of the w
sale destructions of fruit-buds by bullfi
in two neighbouring gardens, made a c
examination of our young trees, and
them, so he told me, all untouched.

In the summer some troublesome
slaughts are made on garden Peas, bu
this crime the gardener, after close watc
lays the blame, not on the tits, but o
house sparrows.

Bush fruits here are protected by a
enclosure, but this is left open until the
begin to colour, and no damage to Goose
or Currant buds has ever been suffered
fact, in one case alone we have to a
defeat in our friendly trial of wits wit
birds. To the blackbirds Figs seem to
irresistible attraction. They tear their
through protecting curtains of fish-nets
even contrive to eat the desired fruit th
the muslin bags into which they have
sewn. So we have to accept the situati
a cheerful spirit and feel that the frui
been generously paid for in song.

Here, in this garden, the charming
most destructive field vole is our chief e
Primroses and Polyanthus flowers
much from their attacks, the trails of ni
off flower-pips strewn through their
leaving no doubt as to the identity c
spoiler.

In the same way they nip throug
young growths of Columbines, garden F
and the central shoots of newly bedd
Snapdragons or Wallflowers, while S
spectabile, that delightful attractor of b
flies and bees, is destroyed year after ye
the same agency.

Seen at close quarters, however, the
is a lovely little creature, and since o
them became so far domesticated as to
the winter in a hole that he made for hi
in a sofa cushion in our glass-enclosed
balcony, looking out confidingly like a

from a kennel, killing them has become creasingly distasteful business, which is or the most part to the owls.

LEONORA L. YORKE SMITH.
ughfield Cottage, Sidmouth.

White Star Dahlia with white and yellow Snapdragons

Star Dahlias

was a good day for gardens when the utiful Star Dahlias were sent out from ssrs. Cheal's famous nursery. The , half-double flowers, so well thrown ove the foliage, are specially good when re combined with some other plants of rowth. We have those with white and flowers intergrouped with the white- Japanese Maize, and those with pink s planted with tall white Snapdragons nk and white Gladioli. They bloom so that a good proportion may well be for use as cut flowers, their long stalks ell-carried heads making them easy to ge in rather bold compositions. G. J.

Anchusa myosotidiflora

ve several clumps of this on the top of wall facing due S.W. It is a sunny, means wet, yet not excessively dry, n, and the soil is the staple existing gritty, gravelly loam. It is six or years since the plants were put in, and ave been left undisturbed, so that they pread to considerable size, even running e chinks of the upper part of the wall- . At no time have they exceeded 18 in height, with beautiful but by no coarse foliage, and profusion of bright lumes for quite three months, and f dead blooms are kept removed. Be- removing any wayward shoots from ity to other plants I have never inter- with it, and so satisfactory and beauti- been the effect that I am quite certain plant well worth retaining, that it is suitable for the position in which I , and that, grown under the conditions it represents very truly what might ly be expected of it. J. R. K.

Rock gardens at Chelsea

oks as if the rock bank at Chelsea this year will prove more conclusively ver the pathetic unoriginality of our "artists." The recent clamour for a new stone is sending the minions of Mercury scuttling about the country seeking an offering to appease the wrath of Apollo. Everybody is trying to be original because it is the fashion just now. Could better proof of uniform lack of inspiration be forthcoming?

The whole business is a rather amusing and wholly lamentable confession of artistic barrenness. Or is it gigantic egotism? Do these besotted "artists" really imagine that they have exhausted the possibilities of their material? Imagine a painter throwing aside his paints for crayon, pencil, or other medium because he had got the ultimate of expression out of paint.

Yet that is what they virtually claim. They have taken the finest stone obtainable for their purpose—what can possibly match the multi-shaped limestone? Compared with it sandstone, grit-stone, granite, are as crayon or carbon to paint. The same fluidity of expression is impossible of attainment. They have taken the best stone possible, and when they fail to get first-class effects with it they set up a grumble at the stone.

The truth is that there is a terrible amount of mediocrity in rock-building as in all art. There are to-day only two—at the most three—rock builders of the first rank. The others toil along in their wake, imitating, emulating. The sheep-like qualities of some of them are amazing. One artist builds a bold Alpine cliff at Chelsea. The following year cliffs are the order of the day. Another introduces stones of enormous size. Next year every builder has to use sheer-legs to lift his stones.

The artist of outstanding merit will achieve outstanding effects without changing his medium. The time spent in combing the mountains for a new stone would be more profitably occupied in studying effective rock formations and groupings. C. PENROSE.
Taplow.

Anemone Pulsatilla Mme. Van der Elst

I WONDER whether any readers would tell their experiences of Anemone Pulsatilla Mme. Van der Elst? Is it a real success anywhere? The type grows vigorously and seeds itself here, and is so beautiful that it is hard to believe it can be a British wild flower and not someone's find of honour in a far country. But the acid Van der Elst absolutely refuses, so far, to have anything at all to do with us. I have tried it over and over again, planted in spring in the open among the type, planted in autumn likewise, planted in pots in the cold house in autumn and again in spring. Still it dies on me, everywhere and at all times. The longest I have kept it is two months. Is this because it has been over-propagated? M. L. W.
Bath.

[Anemone Pulsatilla Mme. Van der Elst, unlike the stock from which it is a sport, is capricious in its tastes. This is not due to over-propagation, the plant is difficult by nature, and we know of other localities where it refuses to live. Although the parent is a native of chalk downs the offspring, A. P. Mme. Van der Elst, was raised and is propagated freely in the sandy peat of a Dutch nursery, and this may give us a hint as to its tastes. It should be planted in spring and, once established, should be left alone.]

Anemone Pulsatilla Mme. Van der Elst (the pink Pasque Flower)

The flower buds and young leaves are clothed in soft silky down

In praise of Primula Jewel

There are several patches in the rock garden that are now perfectly resplendent. After keeping up a brave effort of bloom all through the severe winter weather these patches now make a splash of rich violet, which, on closer investigation, proves to be Primula Jewel, the large, almost stemless blossoms starring the ground.

Jewel asks little and gives a great deal. These glorious patches are the result of a few plants being divided up in autumn and carelessly enough replanted. There are beautiful carmine shades, now obtainable in others also of the Juliæ type. Primula Crispi soon follows Jewel, but the colour, though good, does not harmonise with the various reds and blues now bursting into bloom. It requires to be judiciously placed. Jewel does not clash with these. With the golden Anemones and early Saxifrages, which mostly run through shades of yellow, the combination is perfect.

Personally, I feel very grateful for the advent of Jewel, and consider it indispensable to the rock garden. Everywhere it seems to give a good account of itself. The other day I was greeted joyfully by another garden lover with the words, "I have Jewel in full bloom in my rock garden." E. A.

Co. Tyrone.

Rare old garden plants

I have thought, lately, how wise the old growers were in their choice of good forms of perennials. For instance, 50 years ago most farm and cottage gardens in N.W. Cumberland at least contained Primula Arctotis alba, P. nivalis, not pubescens alba, a quite distinct and different plant, Erythronium dens canis major, with lovely rose-salmon flowers and brown and green leaves, a vastly better and larger form than any Dutch kind I have tried, a form of Monarda better than even the vaunted Cambridge Scarlet (this, though, seems quite lost), Amygdalus nanus, a much better form of the dwarf Russian Almond than the forms sent out from Petrograd just before the war, Saxifraga oppositifolia major, now sold as the type, and, as grandiflora, Saxifraga oppositifolia splendens, sometimes sent out as coccinea. This last, though of brilliant colour, was so delicate and spindly that I think it is quite lost again. The first two kinds I mention are by far the best of this family as garden plants. There are others I could mention, but these may be enough—at once. J. S.

Carlisle.

Tropæolum polyphyllum

I was somewhat amazed at the directions given by a correspondent in your paper as to the depth this plant ought to be put. Some 40 years ago I planted a dozen of the tubers on a half-shady rock bank in heavy clay soil thrown up against a wall from a trench cut for the foundations of some buildings. The stock are there now and are standing about a foot high, a condition they will be in for some time yet before the word is given to ramp away in preparation for the sumptuous flowering. I know the tubers of this lot will now be 2 feet and probably 3 feet down. On another bank we have Tropæolum polyphyllum Max Leichtlin's Variety, really a hybrid between Polyphyllum and Edule. This has smaller and deeper-coloured flowers, but is otherwise very similar. In endeavouring to find a tuber or two for Kew I pulled down a portion of a rock bank here and found several small tubers at the bottom some 3 feet down. The bank was then rebuilt, and I find the young shoots all through the ground again, proving that the main tubers had been still lower down.

I used to get the type in quantity from a Dutch grower at a moderate figure. When last I called I was shown a tiny patch of it, and was told that these were all the firm had left. In discussing the culture I was told that the firm cut up the tubers into pieces, planted them about 1 foot deep, and then placed flags over them, leaving narrow passages for the shoots to emerge. I only know of another stock of the smaller dark form, and that in the hands of one of the largest amateur growers in the country. He took me specially to show me this, saying that it was the only lot in existence. I was able to boast that I not only had it, but that my stock was larger than his. This form is not available anywhere. The type ought to be planted in early autumn before growth starts, and at least 18 inches deep, though probably it would be safer even deeper. If planted later the shoots are apt to get broken off, and this generally means death. I feel sure most failures in planting are due to this.

Kirkbridge, by Carlisle. J. STORMONTH.

Building a rock garden

Rock gardens are now very popular. Built now one might be one of the striking features in the garden from spring to autumn. It is the later built rock gardens that frequently disappoint. The soil has a chance to settle if the stones are placed in position at once and hollows and cavities as they appear can be filled in and everything packed firm before planting is commenced. This settling of the soil is an important part, for it is not merely a question of pushing stones a little way into the soil, but rather a matter of taking soil to the stones and packing it around them. No vacuum should exist beneath the surface of the soil or surface stones. The most usual fault in setting rock is that of so placing the stones that they seem to have no connection with the soil, instead of as the base of the rock garden, barely showing their upper ridges above the earth. The rocks should be placed neither bold upright nor dead level; let them slope in such a way that the soil cannot be washed over them, and each rock must slightly recede from the one below it. The surface of every part should be so arranged that all rain will be absorbed by it. Hence the objection of overhanging faces. Use rock of moderate size rather than a lot of small stones. The latter quickly become hidden, and if stones are not seen here and there the rock garden loses its most striking feature.

The rock garden should be made in full sunshine away from the drip of trees. It is best to avoid a general level. Therefore a hollow with its shallow banks sloping up easily to the natural floor of grass provides the most suitable location and, dying away to a natural level, will give a quite natural and informal look to the arrangement.

Many are deterred from this, thinking that Alpine plants are difficult to grow and require special soil. For all ordinary purposes any good garden soil will suffice if mingled with leaf soil and sand. This should constitute the upper 9 inches of soil; lower down, anything will do with plenty of stones to assure perfect drainage. Thorough drainage is essential, for although the majority of Alpine plants delight in plenty of water during the growing season they object to water hanging about them for any length of time.

I do not intend to give a list of plants, but I would like to warn would-be cultivators to avoid such plants as Aubrietia, Alyssum, etc., for they spread so quickly and their common qualities militate against them; rather try plants that only thrive under special conditions as regards exposure, drainage, and position. H. S.

A "landscape" garden
Hall Place, Lyghe, Kent

THE gardening example chosen fo
issue is at Hall Place, Lyghe, Ken
beautiful residence of Lord Holl
One could have selected other parts
gardens where the treatment is on
geometrical lines and are, in season,
beautiful indeed. But the appeal of b
ful things beautifully used and grown
me away from mere "patterns" to
painted by Mother Nature in rich colo
a canvas of sunshine. Of course, man
is discernible to the discerning, but i
freer style of gardening man's hand
soon loses its emphasis. There is ju
much of design in one as in another,
this the design is less obvious, althou
results are not less beautiful.

It is hard to determine which of the n
ous pictures this garden offers is the
thrilling to the garden lover. There
glorious expanse of lake of true "Cap
Brown" proportions, with its m
growth of bordering vegetation, and spl
here and there with Water Lilies. Th
amongst other fine specimens, a lofty c
of Libocedrus decurrens, shown in ill
tion No. 3, that looks as if it were car
brushed and combed from base to tip
morning. There is a giant specim
Arbutus Menziesii (No. 5) with its wond
coloured bark. This is one of the largest
if not the largest, of the species in the co
There are what may be described as
purely gardening effects of Rhododen
and Azaleas, and other flowering shrub
lighten up recesses here and there throu
the grounds. I think, however, that to
people the picture of the sunlit glade (N
where a sombre tree throws flic
shadows on the lawn beneath and th
roundings are lavishly flooded with the
of Azaleas, will appeal most strongly.

And this is not all, for here one ca
preciate what a noble tree Pinus insign
become, how wonderful some of the Cra
can be, and a hundred other attractiv
dents that, as one rejoices in the though
such things exist for enjoyment, ting
thought with regret that we who pl
plan for beauty can never live to see t
fruition of our efforts.

It is interesting to compare the illustr
of this garden with those reproduced i
issue of March 16th in the garde
"Norsebury." Here are two gardens
ing in every single essential so far as
goes. The aims in one are not the a
the other. Each constitutes a phase
dening that can be truthfully describe
type. I have said the aims in one are
same as in the other. This is not quit
Both are efforts of the gardener's art
duce that elusive and badly understood
bute we call garden beauty. Both, i
way, succeed, but—and this is the m
my story—each is imperfect in itself.
good and complete garden presents
these aspects of the art in their due p
tion. A little of man and man's art,
of Nature and Nature's beauty, and a
given faculty of appreciation of all mak
really happy gardener. GEO. DILLIST

Pruning Roses

From now onward until the wo
finished, should the weather be favo
the pruning of the various kinds of
should receive careful attention. Gro
very late in starting this year, which
way, is all to the good in the case
Rose. Clear off all prunings as so
possible and burn these at once to d
eggs of vermin and spores of mildew

HALL PLACE, LYGHE, KENT

The
residence
of
Lord
Hollenden

2

3

4

5

1. Entrance to the Rhododendron Glade.
2. The richly coloured bark of Arbutus Menziesii.
3. A fine specimen of Libocedrus decurrens.
4. The Lake, Poplars, Water Lilies, and reflection.
5. A grand Arbutus Menziesii.
6. Contrast: Shadowed lawn and the glow of Azaleas.

EASTER PLANTING AND SO

At this season the thoughts of the gardener turn to the flowers of summer in which the glory of the garden finds its highest expression. If herbaceous plants are not already in their places no time should be lost in attending to their planting. There is time, but only just time, to plant herbaceous Phloxes, Michaelmas Daisies, Delphiniums, Pyrethrums, and Lupins. The planting of the popular flowers, Antirrhinums, Gladioli, and Dahlias, has been dealt with in recent issues. The late spring is favourable to April planting. At the same time it should be clear to all readers that no time must be lost in planting if we are to be rewarded in full with the flowers of summer and autumn.

Blank spaces in the rock garden

Planting Ramondias and Haberleas

With the approach of milder weather many enthusiasts will be filling up blank spaces in the rock garden, and amongst other plants some will be thinking of trying Haberleas and Ramondias. These are not difficult plants to grow, though failures sometimes occur because the subjects are wrongly placed. The ideal position is an almost vertical piece of rockwork facing practically due north. If there is a higher slope of the rock garden a little distance from the site selected, then so much the better, for it will serve to protect the Haberleas and Ramondias from the full force of the northerly winds. Thus, with their backs to the south, the plants will only be subjected to direct sunshine early in the morning and again at the latter part of the day. When inserting them in the crevices make sure that the roots are in contact with soil all the way round, and a label will be found to be an extremely useful article with which to ram in the soil. The most important point to remember is that rain should never be able to settle in the crowns, and even with young pot plants, which may be plunged in a frame during winter, it is advantageous to fix the pots on a slight tilt so that water dripping from the lights cannot fall into the centre of the plants.

Borders near the house well stocked with Fuchsias, Pelargoniums, Salvias, dwarf Lavender, and other delights of summer days

Ideas for summer bedding

Gone are the days when we of the old school of gardening had to rely principally upon Zonal Geraniums (Pelargonium), Calceolarias, Lobelia, and Ageratum for a floral display, backed up by coloured foliage, such as Iresine, Coleus, Mesembryanthemum, Pyrethrum, and a few others, all except the latter requiring more or less artificial heat and a deal of propagation from January onwards to get the requisite number necessary and duly hardened off by the end of May, causing much anxiety to those responsible for the supply, which used to run into thousands when carpet bedding was at its height.

Happily, things are now, and have been for some years, changed for the better, trusting to seedlings, also cuttings of plants of a much hardier nature by autumn or early spring propagation, Pentstemons and Antirrhinums in particular, while the ever useful Viola, in a wide range of colour, has almost changed beyond recognition within the last half-century. Consequently, we have a much more varied class of plants at our command, and bedding out, as we term it, has considerably altered for the better, the flat appearance of the majority of the beds giving place to elegance and lightness, which our forefathers never dreamt of, much less carried out. The bedding Geranium (Pelargonium) still has its merits, holding its own in many positions, but it is a monotonous outlook when one finds many beds in a design completely filled with these, with just an edging as a set-off. If such has to be used, say, in a fairly large bed, a few "dot" plants blending in colour should be introduced. That glowing crimson Paul Crampel as an undergrowth with the double Marguerite Mrs. Sanders form a good contrast, and the same may be claimed if a pink Geranium is used with a good yellow Antirrhinum towering above the groundwork. Antirrhinums are capital plants for filling either large or small beds, intermixing the taller-growing varieties with those of a dwarf habit. There is an endless choice of colour, easily raised from seed, and come as true to character as it is well nigh possible to get them, if from a reputed seedsman. They bloom early when sown in the autumn, flowering throughout the summer if prompt measures are taken in removing exhausted shoots and all seed-pods. Beds for these should not be too heavily manured. We learn this lesson when seeing how they flourish on quite stony soil, frequently growing, as well as flowering, on old stone walls or even on a bed of ashes. Another bedding plant that has come to the front of late years is the Pentstemon, producing large flowers of many colours, making a good display from July onwards, it may be treated similarly to the Antirrhinum, neither requiring much artificial heat; the cooler they are grown the better, an unheated frame or pit and the frost kept out suiting both admirably, whether cuttings or seedlings. Tuberous Begonias are showy, good wet weather plants, and look happy in small beds to themselves, or, if large beds are to be chosen, a few relief plants of the green, grassy-like foliage of Aralia or Fatsia japonica, while the fibrous-rooted varieties are useful for edgings, both requiring heat in the spring to bring them forward or their season is short. Calceolaria amplexicaulis and the ever favourite Heliotrope go well together, the latter as a base, the former trained neatly to stakes, and the flowering shoots allowed to depend. The former plant as a base and kept pegged with good-size plants of Heliotrope or Plumbago capensis always appealed to those responsible for the filling of good-sized beds.

Reverting to the Geranium, few beds are more effective than one or two of the Ivyleafs, Mme. Crousse and Galilee or Chas. Turner, each of which quickly fills their allotted space if pegged out once or twice and then allowed to run riot among a few branched twigs of Birch 18 inches in height, or the Calceolaria as dots placed 2 feet apart. Annuals that look well in a mass are Salpiglossis and Zinnias. The rich velvety colours of the former always attract attention, while the latter, especially the doubles, give us a variety of colouring which is somewhat difficult to define; both should be given a warm and sheltered position and be very neatly supported; both should be raised from seed in early spring, afforded a little heat if possible, and grown on without any check. The improved types of China Aster form attractive beds during late summer, especially Comet and Ostrich Feather, while the double Clarkias and newer Godetias, when given good quarters, find a host of admirers, and very charming are the many and varied colours.

Sowing annuals and biennials

Spring-time in the garden is essentially a time of preparation, and probably more sowing and planting will take place during the next few weeks than in the whole of the remaining year. Experienced readers have made their garden plans, deciding well in advance the various problems likely to present themselves.

It is not generally realised what a large number of flowers there are which are not only exquisitely beautiful, but also quite easy to grow. We name some which present no difficulties even to the beginner once their simple needs are grasped. We also give, briefly, the conditions of soil and situation most suitable for their successful cultivation.

When purchasing either flower-seeds or plants one should make a point of finding

IN THE FLOWER GARDEN

t, before planting them, when they will wer, their colour and height, the length of e they will be in bloom, and how long y may be expected to live in the normal y.

Hardy annuals

Ve hear the expression " hardy annual " lied to all sorts of things remote from ticulture, but most readers will know that ndicates the large group of plants which ture and completely die out within the npass of 12 months. This group repre ts the " short and gay " life in the floral rld. They need no greenhouse or garden me, and may be sown right out in the n from March till June for summer and umn flowering, and many of them again August and September for early spring oming. As a general rule they revel in an n, sunny situation unshaded by trees and ldings, and appreciate a well-cultivated . They should be sown very thinly in the itions where they are to flower, from ch to 2 inches deep, according to the size their seeds. Make the sowing when the und is in a nice friable condition; not too , but not wet and sticky. The main son why hardy annuals are not even more ular is due to the common tendency to rcrowd them. It takes a little bit of ral courage in the beginner, but it is essen to thin the plants out when they are quite , allowing each individual plant plenty of m. Very few annuals need less than ches " elbow room," yet, more often than , we see them left to grow just as they e come up, almost as thick as Mustard Cress.

ersonal taste has a very decided bearing the uses to which hardy annuals may be . Small beds in the lawn or elsewhere rely given up to a single variety or colour very charming. Most effective results obtained by sowing an entire bed with rich salmon or bright and glowing nge-scarlet Clarkias, the pale soft pink or ht rosy Larkspurs, and the many-hued dainty Shirley Poppies (both double and le). Again, the beds or borders may be le up of several kinds of annuals, nged according to their respective heights ny manner to conform to personal taste with due regard to colour-blending. It advisable to obtain separate varieties er than mixtures, then one knows exactly t colour to expect from each. Avoid nal arrangements, such as symmetrical s of each kind of flower running all along ll round a border. When in full bloom e are apt to look too much like steps on aircase. A more natural, artistic, and sing effect is gained by allowing the vari heights to slightly intermingle, at the e time preserving the general scheme of rf plants to the front and taller ones at back. Foliage plants, too, tend to lessen nality, and we like to see a plant or two and there of Kochia trichophila or Zea nica. The latter is, of course, simply a egated form of the common Maize, but it quite a Palm-like appearance. For ngs one may use the dwarf-growing sums (Carpet of Snow is excellent), Tom mb Nasturtiums, Virginia Stocks, or ophila, while clumps or little colonies of cetia, Candytuft, Lavatera, Linaria, ual Scabious, and Viscaria will fill in the tres. If one's soil is too hot and sandy most flowers, provided it is in a sunny tion the dwarf Nasturtiums and scholtzias will probably do really well. Nasturtiums, Convolvulus, and the yellow Canary Creeper (or Tropæolum canariense to give it its full title) may be depended upon to effectively cover an old tree-stump, unsightly fence, or trellis-work. Mignonette and Night-scented Stock—especially the latter—have a delightful fragrance; they are nothing to look at, but sow them in a bed near a window against which you sit in the warm summer evenings and their scent will be found most enjoyable. Tall Sunflowers and Sweet Peas provide us with an excellent means of screening ugly walls, fences, or outhouses. Sweet Peas may be sown in autumn or spring and strong, sturdy plants can be purchased reasonably from some of the noted specialists. We add a special word of praise for the "Queen of Annuals," for there is no other flower capable of affording greater results in proportion to the care and attention bestowed on it. It stands alone amongst annual flowers on account of its real usefulness and beauty in garden and home.

Circular bed of annuals and sundial

In the centre of the bed are tall plants of Tobacco (Nicotiana sylvestris), with long, pure white, sweetly scented flowers that expand by day as well as at evening

Phlox Drummondii

Of the comparatively large number of annuals suitable for cultivation in quantities for the decoration of the flower garden during the summer season, few can equal in brilliancy of colour the numerous varieties of Drummond's Phlox. Free in growth and profuse in flowering, they form most effective groups in the mixed border and in beds occupying favourable positions. They produce a display of surpassing richness. Probably the large-flowered section P. D. grandiflora is one of the most generally grown of the annuals and it is a splendid bedding plant. Its flowers are perfect in form, have a wide range of colours and remain a long period in beauty, thus enabling one to use them with great advantage in colour-scheme planting. To have the annual Phloxes in flower early in the summer, seed should be sown in March or early April in a genial temperature. Immediately the seedlings are large enough to handle they should be either potted into small pots or pricked off into boxes. Considerable advantages accrue from the use of large 60 pots, if space can be afforded, as not only is overcrowding effectively avoided, but the final transference of the plants to their flowering quarters is facilitated without check. Phloxes resent coddling, and the best results are always obtained from sturdy short-jointed plants, hence they should be grown under light, well-ventilated conditions from their earliest stages. The position of the beds or borders in which Phlox Drummondii are planted should be open and away from the influence of trees. They are very impatient of shade and give indifferent results in enclosed positions. The beds should also be well prepared to enable the plants to make free growth, when they will not fail to produce a display of flower throughout the summer. Apart from their value as summer bedders, the annual Phloxes are excellent as pot plants for greenhouse and conservatory decoration, and when grown in 5-inch pots in a rich compost they are conspicuous for the richness of their display. W. AUTON.

Tufted Pansies

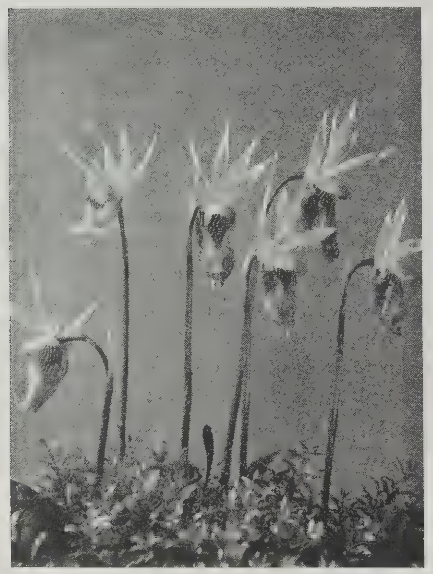
Large quantities of these beautiful flowers are used to carpet beds of Roses to form broad edgings and other purposes. Those plants which have been growing in cold frames and are now healthy and strong may, when thoroughly hardened, be planted in their flowering quarters. These love a friable soil which has received an addition of well-decayed manure into which they will root rapidly. The removal of these to the beds will also make way for the hosts of other subjects which, although not ready for the open air, are sorely in need of more room in which to strengthen and expand.

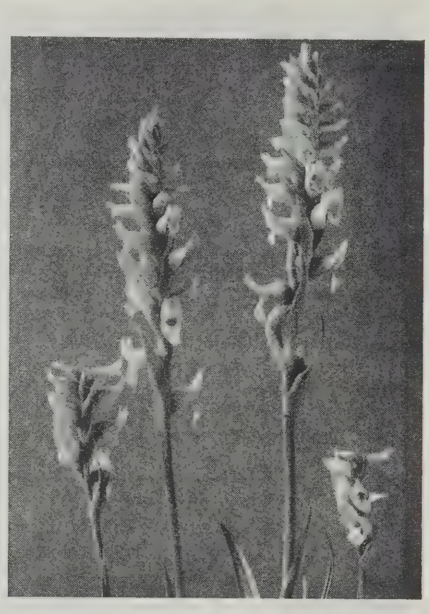
Little-Known Orchids of Europe

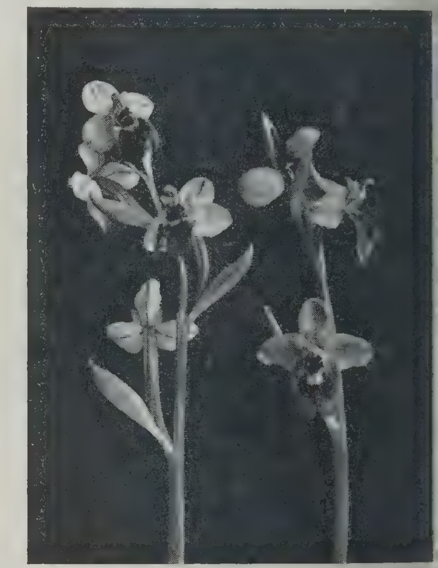
By T A STEPHENSON, D.Sc., Department of Zoology, University College, London

The wild Orchids of Europe present a field for exploration which offers opportunities to the holiday-maker on the Continent, and the following article, which appeared in "Discovery," is reprinted by permission. There is much scope for the experimental hybridisation of these curious plants.

TROPICAL Orchids of the more showy kinds are familiar objects to many, with their curious and reptilian as well as elaborate and beautiful forms. Their culture, moreover, is a well-studied art, and a considerable amount of experimentally-gained knowledge exists of their potentialities and behaviour when hybridised with one another. The wild Orchids of Europe, on the other hand, present a field which has been less fully explored, at least on the cultural and experimental side; nor are these plants well known to the public as are their tropical counterparts. The number of species of Orchids which occur wild in Europe is, however, considerable, and although their flowers are usually built upon a smaller scale than those of the ordinary hot-house species, they exhibit a variety of curious form which parallels that of the larger and more imposing species. There exist, of course, many tropical species with small flowers; but since these are less often exhibited in public places than the showy varieties, their existence is not obvious to the uninitiated.







Figs. 1—3

Interesting types of European Orchids

1 (*left*). Calypso borealis, one of the most interesting of European Orchids. 2 (*centre*). Spiranthes Romanzoffiana, the Irish "Ladies Tresses." 3 (*right*). Ophrys tenthredinifera, one of the insect-like Orchids

A few of the more interesting European Orchids are illustrated in this article. Of these none is more beautiful than the species illustrated in Fig. 1, the rare Calypso borealis, in which each flowering stem bears a single pink flower with markings in other colours upon the hollow slipper-like lower petal (the lip). Another beautiful but extremely rare species is that shown in Fig. 2, Spiranthes stricta, more usually known as S. Romanzoffiana. This plant has small cream-coloured flowers, but they are borne in a graceful spiral formation upon the stalk. It is interesting particularly because of its distribution, being a plant which occurs in Ireland alone on the European side of the Atlantic, but which is not uncommon in North America.

It is a marked characteristic of the European Orchids that many of them hybridise more or less freely in the wild, and that the hybridisation is by no means limited to an interchange between related species; hybrids between species belonging to different genera are of frequent occurrence, and there are also on record cases which are probably due to secondary crosses between a hybrid and one of its parents or between a hybrid and another species. Some of the hybrids produced are plants of unusual appearance, and the manner in which the various characteristics of the diverse parents are combined in them also makes an interesting study. Most of our knowledge of these hybrids, however, has been gained by field work and descriptive analysis, and there is much room for experimental hybridisation and for the following of the development of the hybrids through several generations. It has been claimed that among these Orchids, as elsewhere, a new species may arise from the stabilisation of a stock of hybrid origin, and an experimental proof of this would be a valuable contribution to the study of evolution. The difficulties in the way are, among others, that these terrestrial Orchids cannot, any more than the kinds more usually cultivated, be successfully reared without an adequate nursery and much expenditure of time, and that a young plant produced from seed does not flower for a number of years—sometimes as many as 16—after germination.

The occurrence and peculiarities of hybrids may now be further considered. Wherever two species of Orchid grow together, hybrids may occur (unless the species concerned should be such as to render hybridisation impossible), but it does not follow that they will do so; in one locality hybrids between two given species will be more or less frequent, in another spot the same two species may grow together, but no hybrids will be found. All species do not, moreover, hybridise with equal readiness. The hybrids produced are generally of the kind which present an appearance intermediate between that of two parents, but sometimes (and especially complex hybrids) the characteristics of parent predominate; new features apparent in either parent may also appe In hybrids between the genera Orchis Serapias, the flowers have no spur on lip; in this case the spur is present in Orc and absent in Serapias, and has been s pressed in the hybrids. In crosses betw Orchis and the spurless genus Aceras, the other hand, the spur is present, but shorter than in Orchis. In some cases th is considerable variation between differ examples of the same hybrid. A more tailed account of the hybrids of Europ Orchids, which also takes into account experimentally produced exotic hybrids, be found in an interesting paper by Colo M. J. Godfery, entitled "Natural Orc Hybrids," in "Genetica," IX., 1927, p. This paper is well illustrated.

Among the interesting facts which the a ficial crossing of Orchids has elicited are following (quoted from the article by Godf above mentioned). In some crosses the fluence of the male or female parent is strong that the other is swamped almost quite completely. If Sophronitis grandifl be crossed with Epidendrum radicans, hybrid (which can only be obtained with Epidendrum as male parent) is almost exa like a dwarf Epidendrum. An even m striking case is that in which Zygopetal Mackayi was used as female parent in a cr with pollen from Odontoglossum, Lyca etc. The hybrids appeared to be pure Zy petalum, and four hundred seedlings rai exactly resembled the mother plant. A pl of the fourth generation of Zygopetalu fertilised in each case with Odontogloss crispum, still reproduced the Zygopetal unchanged.

A number of European Orchids (belong to the genus Ophrys) have the lip so modi that it resembles some insect very strong the other petals also lending themselves the general effect. The sepals, on the ot hand, remain petal-like, and are of brightly coloured, so that the total effect that of an insect which has alighted upo flower. The lip possesses smooth areas hairy or velvety ones, and is so shaped

ed that it may resemble either a bee,
or a spider. That it is really intended
mble an insect is evident from some of
tails of its structure—it may possess
resembling eyes, situated in the right
and in two of the examples shown in
companying illustrations (Fig. 5), the
ssesses lobes which resemble folded
(held at different angles in the two
as well as hummocks at the bases of
ter which suggest the elbows of flexed
legs. In other cases a bluish shiny
n the middle of the lip gives the illu-
the bluish sheen on the folded wings
y. There are too many resemblances
d for explanation on the ground of
nt. The matter is clinched by recent
ations, which show that in certain of
species the lip is mistaken by certain
nsects for a female of the same kind;
ale alights upon the supposed female
tempts to fertilise her; carrying away
len of the Orchid incidentally and with
cting the fertilisation of another
-flower. This adaptation is one of the
nteresting instances of the type to be
and it is one which calls for careful
on from those who would explain the
nena of evolution by natural selection
this alone.

y of the European Orchids are rela-
constant in type, the species being
arked and easily recognisable. This does not apply universally, however, and the contrary condition is best exemplified among those species of the genus Orchis which possess palmately-divided root-tubers (the Dactylorchids). These are the marsh Orchids and spotted Orchids so common in Great Britain and in Europe generally. Among these forms the species are sometimes rather similar to one another, and in certain localities several of them occur together and hybridise so freely that a casual collector entering a field populated by one of these colonies might well be excused for mistaking the species and hybrids involved for a single kind of Orchid exhibiting a wide range of variation. A considerable amount of work has recently been done on these difficult species, from which it has emerged that there are indeed a number of different kinds involved, with hybrids linking them up. The distribution of these forms is interesting. In North Africa there is found, to begin with, the showy purple species illustrated in Fig. 4 (Orchis Munbyana), a plant which may attain a height of 3 feet or more. In Spain, Corsica, and the southern part of France, this form is replaced by multitudes of a similar tall plant, with sword-like leaves and long purple spikes (O. sesquepedalis); this form is also found with O. Munbyana in North Africa. In the northern part of France, however, there appears a third species (O. prætermissa), which is rather like a shorter and more compact edition of O. sesquepedalis. This form extends into the Netherlands and all over the southern parts of the British Isles, but as one goes north and west in the latter area there become more and more frequent two forms (O. purpurella and O. pulchella) which resemble it but possess flowers of a rich, deep purple unknown in the other kinds; one of these is distinctly a dwarf plant, and both of them are characteristic of the north and west of Scotland and of northern England. Other marsh or spotted Orchids do not belong to the series just described, but range over the whole area involved from the Shetlands to Spain or further; and in the eastern part of Europe other factors become involved. A detailed study of the marsh Orchids, on modern lines, taking into consideration not only their morphology and cytology, but also their ecology, is being made by Dr. H. Ziegenspeck of the University of Königsberg; some of the results of this work, done in collaboration with the late Prof. A. Fuchs, have already been published in the "Botanisches Archiv" (II.-XX.), edited by Dr. Carl Mez, of Königsberg, and in "Naturwiss, Vereins für Schwaben," Augsburg, 1919 and 1924.

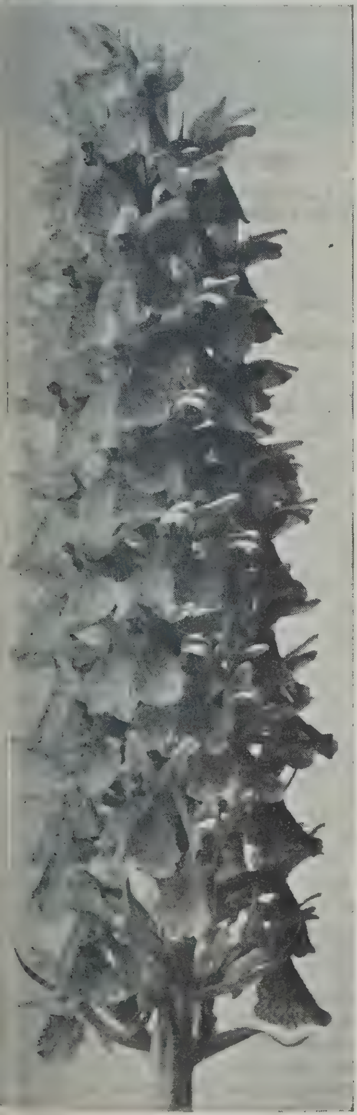


Fig. 4

Typical Marsh Orchid

(Orchis Munbyana)

It has been mentioned above that the hybrid Sophronitis grandiflora x Epidendrum radicans can only be obtained by using the Sophronitis as the female parent. Some of the reasons for results of this kind are as follows. The Sophronitis only develops short pollen-tubes; and the ripe seed-capsule of a Cattleya fertilised by its pollen produced mature seeds at the top only, the rest of the capsule being full of chaff. Similarly, Cochlioda nœtzliana is a good plant to use as female parent, but its pollen usually fails to fertilise Odontoglossum, whose pollen-tubes have a much longer distance to traverse. Again, in some cases the pollen-tubes of one species may be too large to enter the micropyle in the ovules of another. In yet other instances, the time which is required for the ovules of one parent to become ready for fertilisation does not fit in with the time required for the pollen-tubes of the other parent to reach the ovules; the times involved varying from seven to ten days to as much as three months. If plants are crossed whose germ-cells require very different periods of these processes, the development of the ovules may be fatally checked by the failure of the pollen-tubes to reach them in time; as conversely the pollen-tubes may have lost their fertilising power before the ovules are sufficiently mature to receive their contents. These facts are mentioned here, because although derived from the study of cultivated species, they are no doubt applicable to some of the wild forms also.

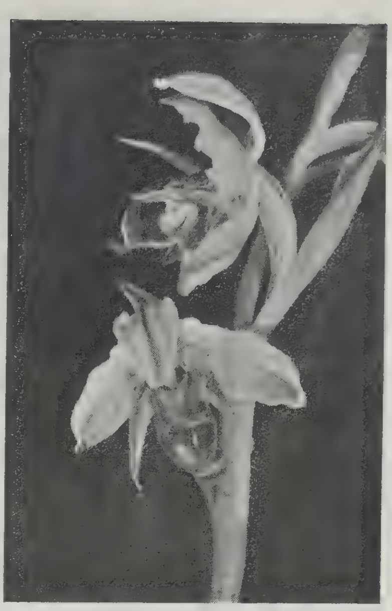


Fig. 5

Another insect-like Orchid

(Ophrys cornuta)

For the photographs which illustrate this article I am very much indebted to Mr. W. H. St. Quintin (Figs. 1, 2, and 5), Dr. F. Pfeiffer-Wellheim (Fig. 4), and Dr. T. Stephenson (Fig. 3). Dr. Pfeiffer-Wellheim, of Vienna, (Wien IV, Mommsengasse 21), has produced a series of beautiful stereoscopic photographs of European Orchids, copies of which may be purchased from him.

Verbenas

Verbenas are not only very showy flowering plants for the garden in summer, but they can be brought into use for window boxes, baskets, and for pot culture in a cool house. One's mind travels a long way back, when they were raised from cuttings, procured from old plants kept in the greenhouse all winter, often under great difficulty. All that is now changed, as from a packet of seed sown in the warmth of the greenhouse during March a compost made up of loam and leaf mould and sharp silver sand, one may have plants ready for outside by the end of May. Verbenas are very effective when grown in beds to themselves, and pegged down, the centre shoot of each plant when 3 inches or 4 inches long being pinched to induce lateral growths. There is another, V. venosa, which is described as "a handsome hardy perennial," but I think this needs qualification, as my experience of it is something akin to certain perennial forms of Lobelia, that one can only rely on keeping from year to year by lifting and wintering the roots in a cold frame. There is this much to be said in favour of V. venosa, however, that if seed is sown in heat in March, resultant plants will bloom in July. The colour of this species is a vivid purple, most prolific with its flowers, and excites admiration wherever grown. It grows about a foot in height, and remains in bloom for several months.

W. F.

TWO HANDSOME NEW DAFFODILS RAISED BY THE BRODIE OF BRODIE

Fortune's Glory, a good yellow Incomparabilis with red crown. Raised from Fortune

Clwyd, a large and bold bicolor Barrii Award of Merit, 1928

The Evolution of the Daffodil Over Half a Century—III.

By ALBERT F. CALVERT, F.C.S., Author of "Daffodil-growing for Pleasure and Profit"

(Concluded from page 208)

ABOUT 1910 the late Mr. E. M. Crosfield, one of our most skilled breeders, placed some fine things on the market, among the most notable being Firetail, Empire, and Gyrfalcon.

Then, what shall one say about Will Scarlett, with its debatable points? The Brodie of Brodie says that: "We often find ourselves wishing that this astonishing flower had never been invented." And that this "is a strain which is so glaring that it almost requires to be viewed through smoked glasses." No doubt the flower is coarse and the colour may be crude, especially of the petals, which are often somewhat muddy in colour, but the type has made its name on the markets; it is successful, and makes a good pollen-bearer, too, for further work of hybridising, which may eliminate some of the coarseness of which complaint is made.

In the divisions of Incomparabilis and Poeticus the greatest progress has been made, but there is a large field in the Trumpet class, as it may be termed—the Magni-coronati. We have very few first-class Daffodils of the Fortune class, for a great many of the Trumpets are inclined to be coarse and rough, though I had thought that forcing might eliminate some of the coarseness. I say "had thought" because I see in one of the horticultural trade journals that Mr. Herbert Chapman, a noted raiser of Rye, says he has seen Fortune forced, and, to quote his remarks: "It was quite unrecognisable, for it was quite lacking in that beautiful rich coppery-orange colour which is the usual striking feature of its large cup." But Mr. Chapman has seen it forced once only, and the bulb may not have been acclimatised when producing its flowers—an important point for all forcers to consider—so we must wait for corroborative evidence before condemning Fortune as a forcer.

Fortune has proved to be invaluable for breeding, as several first-class flowers have already been raised from it. As soon as the beauty and value of this flower was realised a bulb was sent to The Brodie of Brodie, and he was the first to use it in his crosses. He has succeeded in raising a number of fine flowers from it, among which are the following:—Whiteley Gem, Fortune's Pride, Fortune's Glory, Fortune's Crown, Fortune's Beauty, Fortune's Star, Fortune's Gleam, Tashkend, Basra, Bokhara, and Copper Bowl.

In the white Trumpet section the advent of Mme. de Graaff marked a new era, but for some reason white Trumpets have never really "taken on," though we have some very fine specimens, thanks to the indefatigable work of Mr. Engleheart, whose work with this type and the Leedsii is well known. White Emperor (Engleheart) created a sensation in 1913 when first it was shown; not a large bloom, yet its exquisite proportions and smoothness of quality are proving of the utmost value to breeders. Then
Mr. Engleheart's Beersheba, whi
course, eclipses any of its predecessors

The Brodie of Brodie, too, has spe
upon white Daffodils, as witness hi
bury, China Clay, Cokefield, Eskimo,
Manacles, Marmora, Moray, Nevis,
zance, Quartz, Riva, Riviera, Sa
Silver Salver, Trappist, Valetta, White
White Nile. Then, again, we have
wardine, also raised by The Brodie of
from Nevis x Tenedos, which is one
most perfect white flowers. It co
perfect form and quality with grea
This flower was much admired by
judges when it was exhibited for th
time last year, and received an Aw
Merit.

It may also be of interest to refer to
of the beautiful bicolor Trumpets rai
The Brodie of Brodie, such as
Coverack Beauty, Halfa, Highland
Jersey Cream, and Snow Crown.

Perhaps enough has been said here
dicate how the Daffodil has advan
favour and how consistently breede
experimenting to improve the old v
and to "make" new. I venture to
that in the not far distant future alm
entirely new race of hybrid flowers wil
our markets and that most of the old
ties will be noted only in private garde
in woodland glades.

Before concluding, it might be of i
to see to what extent popularity and

nand have affected prices during the
under consideration.

is no standard of prices for new
hat finds commendation with the
If the flower is new, of striking
habit, and stamina, the bulb may
ny price.

ave seen that King Alfred made five
per bulb when it was first intro-
and that though it is so prolific and
n by almost every grower in this
it is still somewhat expensive, at
50s. per thousand wholesale.

us and Firetail, two of the newest of
ings in the Incomparabilis and Barrii
s, have rapidly come down from
per bulb to a few shillings, with, I
Firetail holding the lead at about 5s.

on, one of The Brodie of Brodie's
ieces, is now listed at £25 per bulb,
Beersheba is about £3 per bulb and
is on a par with Askelon at £25 per

ng the last few years many striking
have been shown, and although it is
easy task to select the best, I have
uch impressed with the beauty and
ties of the following:—

Rev. G. H. Engleheart

heba, 1 b; Dactyl, 9; Helios, 2 a;
Ramsbottom, 3 b; Kantara, 1 b;
, 4 a; Naxos, 4 a; Red Rim, 9;
1 c; Solleret, 7; Syra, 4 a; Tenedos,
de Wing, 9; Yukon, 1 a.

Mrs. R. O. Backhouse

g Sword, 2 b; Fortune's Queen, 2 a;
, 2 b; Hades, 2 a; Merkara, 2 a;
, 3 b; Torrid, 2 a; White Conqueror,

P. D. Williams

n, 2 a; Damson, 2 a; Duncan, 4 a;
3 a; Folly, 2 b; Godolphin, 1 a;
, 4 a; Havelock, 2 a; Jubilant, 2 a;
, 2 b; Killigrew, 2 a; Milkmaid,
edore, 3 a; Trewirgie, 6; Warlock,

The Brodie of Brodie

on, 1 b; Bokhara, 2 a; Bonny Wink-
a; Bradwardine, 4 a; Bridegroom,
pper Bowl, 2 a; Carmel, 1 c; Clwyd,
verack Crown, 4 a; Coverack Gem,
erack Gold, 2 a; Coverack Lad, 2 b;
r's Beauty, 2 a; Fortune's Crown,
rtune's Glory, 2 a; Fortune's Pride,
lata, 3 b; Hebron, 1 a; Kandahar,
ray, 1 b; Nissa, 2 b; Pilgrimage, 2 a;
1 b; Riva, 4 a; Samaria, 4 b;
, 3 a; Snow Crown, 2 a; Suda, 4 a;
b; Tashkend, 2 a; Therapia, 2 a;
Gem, 2 a; White Glory, 1 b; White

Guy L. Wilson

ness of Antrim, 1 c; Faithful, 2 a;
a; Kenbane, 1 b; Mystic, 4 b; Queen
r, 1 c.

is is of the newest bulbs; let us hark
lf a century and note some of the
evailing for the varieties with which
o familiar at this time.

nteresting to note the rise and fall of
r Daffodil bulbs, though it should be
rice, as such, does not necessarily
the degree of demand, for it mainly
e rarity of the bulb and its novelty,
ainly its beauty and utility. For in-
who would now care to pay 1s. per
lbs for Scilly White? That was the
ked by Hartland in 1894. Most
nsider 1s. per 100 too dear now.
Iorsfieldii at 5s. per dozen when we
ow give 18s. to £1 per cwt. Em-
1s. each in 1894 is now about 30s.
for selected bulbs. Soleil d'Or at
l.per dozen and Grand Monarque at
3s. represent a drop of about 300 per cent. now.

Golden Spur was listed at 4d. each, and now about £30 per ton. And what shall we say to M. J. Berkeley at 2s. 6d. each? A now well-nigh unsaleable bulb. In 1895 Mme. de Graaff was listed by Hartland at £3 per bulb, and this, surely, was a modest price for such a gem, but it holds its own among a small coterie of growers and raisers. Sir Watkin at 6d. per bulb; but, of course, this fine old variety was in general use, even then, and still is in good demand. During 1923-4 this variety was changing hands at from £50 to £70 per ton, and was scarce at this high price.

In 1899, only four years later than Hartland's prices quoted above (in 1895), we may note how prices had fallen. They were not mere fluctuations with which the bulb business is badly afflicted, but a definite drop in current values. Messrs. Barr and Sugden were offering collections for amateurs at 75 bulbs for 21s. and 45 bulbs for 12s. 6d., all named sorts, including Golden Spur, Maximus, Irving, Sir Watkin, Barrii conspicuus, C. J. Backhouse, Emperor, and so on.

Grand Monarque was, in 1899, quoted at 3d. per bulb and Scilly White at 2d., whilst Soleil d'Or came to 3d., and so, right through the whole gamut, prices dropped. It seems, when looking through the very oldest of catalogues, that the most expensive varieties then are now the least costly. Looking through Messrs. Barr's list for 1876 we find Tazetta Compressor listed at 10s. 6d. per dozen; now the variety would be almost unsaleable. Recurvus was 1s. 6d. each then, but about £15 per ton now. In 1878 Obvallaris was 4s. 6d. per dozen and Maximus 2s. 6d., and in 1881 the former had dropped to 1s. 6d., whilst the latter remained stationary. Imagine prices at 1s. 6d. per dozen! Barrii conspicuus was listed as a new variety in Barr's catalogue of 1881 at 1s. per bulb, and I suppose one could buy good Barrii to-day at about £20 per ton, though as late as 1902 Barrii was quoted by Hartland at 1s. per dozen or £2 10s. per thousand. Barrii has steadily maintained its price, however. It is a very popular market sort, and during 1920-3 it was freely sold at £50 to £60 per ton wholesale and at £2 10s. to £3 per thousand.

Of course, the price of flowers to some extent governs the price of bulbs; that is, those bulbs that are grown for commercial flower culture, and this causes great fluctuations. New hybrids, however, will hold their own in any season until they become well mixed up in commerce up and down the country.

Interest in the Daffodil was never keener, and there is still great scope for those with ability and patience.

Success with Lapagerias

There are few more beautiful climbing plants than Lapagerias when seen in full flower, with their long, tubular blossoms of white or rosy-pink descending from amid foliage of deepest green, but it has to be said of them that their employment as plants in a stove house has given many the idea that it is no use attempting their culture in a greenhouse where only a moderate temperature is maintained. This creeper, however, which used to be met with almost exclusively in stove houses, is to be found at home in the greenhouse when given right treatment.

Whilst, for the sake of convenience, Lapagerias are sometimes planted out in a border within a house, it should be pointed out that experience has proved that it is better to avoid a deep root-run. Soil for them should be made up of good fibrous loam, peat, and leaf-mould, coarse sand, or sandstone chippings, with broken charcoal to ensure sweetness. The drainage is an important point, and if it is decided to plant in a large pot or tub sufficient must be provided. If the pot cannot stand on the ground it is advisable to place it where it can readily be seen and attended to, as Lapagerias will take an immense amount of water, especially near the blooming season. Some growers stand the receptacle in which the plant is grown on fine ashes, which conserves moisture. If planting out within the house in a bed is preferred care ought to be taken to restrict the ramification of the roots by placing brickbats about 3 feet below the surface and to ensure drainage. For although the plants love moisture, there is such a thing as over-moistening the soil before the roots have had time to permeate it, and nothing is more fatal to Lapagerias than stagnation of the roots. These precautions may seem rather formidable to those who have never attempted the culture of so beautiful a climber as this one, but they should not prevent anyone with a greenhouse which is heated in winter for other things, and I mean by this, that the maximum heat in winter should not be more than 50 degs. and in summer more than 65 degs. Spring is a suitable time to procure Lapagerias for planting, and it is well to observe that for the first year, if they do not appear to grow very rapidly, no attempt should be made to force growth. The liquid-manure tub must be banished. In the case of this plant nothing beyond what is contained in the compost suggested for them is needed, but in a greenhouse endeavour to give them a position where they will not be directly under the sun's rays. If this is not possible, then during summer the roof will have to be shaded. The foliage ought not to touch the glass, and to avoid this it is best to fix up wires a foot below the roof to which the growths can be tied out. Lapagerias delight in shade and moisture in their growing season, and therefore they should be syringed daily in the evenings, which will do much to keep them in vigour. What they do not like is a dry, close atmosphere, hence the advisability during the summer months of giving abundance of air. It is when plants are grown in a close, stuffy atmosphere and allowed to become dry and neglected that trouble begins in the shape of Green Fly and Red Spider, and, in the case of neglecting to syringe them, Mealy Bug, which makes its lodging on old leaves. No creeper is more charming in its time of blooming than the Lapageria, but success can only be achieved by carrying out rational treatment and keeping plants clean. While it is as a roof climber, with the tubular blossoms hanging, that the Lapageria can be most appreciated, it should be observed that a back lean-to wall in a greenhouse can also be used for them, but in that case the framework should be erected away from the wall in order to admit of a circulation of air.

In procuring plants it is better to start with young ones rather than those of some years' growth, for the reason that one can train young plants better. Pruning consists in the removal of thin, weakly growths. In tying out the shoots give them what room is possible for development. Lapageria roseum is the species, and from this there are several varieties, amongst them being L. rubra (red) and L. alba (white). They flower almost continuously from early summer until late in autumn.

W. F.

Cinerarias for early blooming

Where wanted in flower early seeds should now be sown and placed in a cool pit or greenhouse. Shade from all bright sunshine must be provided at all stages of growth. Coolness is one of the main essentials in the cultivation of this plant.

EASTER WEEK IN THE GARDEN

Southern and Midland

Indoor Peaches

The disbudding of the trees must be carried out before the shoots exceed 1½ inches in length, and on well-trained trees it is usually sufficient to leave one sound growth as near the base of each twig as possible and one at the tip, the latter to be stopped when about 4 inches in length unless extension is desirable, as in the case of young trees. While it is not desirable to disbud the whole of a tree on one day much may be done at a single operation without injury. It is unwise to overcrowd the trees with young wood at any time, as this results in a lot of thin, weakly growths which are unable to ripen properly and, as a consequence, produce poor quality fruit.

Tomatoes

The earliest plants should now be ready for their fruiting-pots or for planting out in prepared borders. Good but not unduly enriched soil is advisable, for if manure is used extravagantly the whole crop will develop rankness and become a total failure, and it is of the utmost importance that such a state of things should be forestalled. The later sowings are ready for pricking off into small pots, and from this date growth will be more rapid. A final sowing for providing a batch of plants for the open should now be made.

Forced trees and shrubs

In addition to their use in providing cut flowers these are often used for the decoration of rooms, where they have to remain—often in draughty and uncongenial positions—far too long, the result being that when finally removed they present a pale, drawn, and unhealthy appearance, and not infrequently those of an evergreen character often shed a large percentage of their leaves, and in order to bring such back to a healthy condition it is necessary to place them in a warm house for a time, where watering may be carried out with care and frequent syringings given. Most shrubs respond freely to gentle warmth at this season. If brought forward with discretion, and with the many bulbous plants also available, there should be no shortage of indoor flowers.

Roses and other shrubs damaged by frost

It is now only too apparent that considerable growth has been destroyed, especially among climbing Roses and shrubs, the curious point being that old specimens of a genus are absolutely killed, whereas young examples are only slightly injured. I strongly advise the cutting hard back at once of all such, trusting to the formation of new growth from the base, there being no satisfactory alternative. To leave quantities of half-killed growth only impedes the formation of new wood and is a loss of time. The pruning of decorative Roses should be continued, and any doubtful old growths should be cut clean out.

Hardy fruit

Trees growing on the east sides of walls are liable to become exceedingly dry even in the depth of winter, and it is advisable to examine such, and, where necessary, apply a thorough soaking of water, or the partial loss of the season's crop may be incurred. All pruning must now cease, except among newly planted trees.

Strawberries

Stir up the soil—but not deeply—among established beds, removing dead leaves and other foreign matter in order to encourage growth and give the beds a pleasant appearance. Young plantations will be improved by hoeing.

Onions in boxes

Those pricked off at the beginning of the month are growing freely and may now be transferred to sheltered cold frames,
are closed early in the afternoon.

Fine clusters of even-sized Tomatoes of the Up-to-Date variety
This picture shows what can be done in the small cold house with very little expense

Lettuces growing in frames

Plenty of air should be admitted wh
weather is favourable and sunny, but
be found advisable to close the sashes
the sun's power is exhausted. Air ea
fine mornings or scalding will set in
large percentage will be spoilt.

General planting

The main crops of Potatoes must
planted and generous sowings of Ma
Peas made on richly prepared ground.
which are usually so troublesome
earliest sowings, are best kept do
placing a few traps along the surface
rows immediately the Peas are sown.
I have frequently observed that such P
rarely interfered with until a few day
sowing, when the seeds have beg
moisten and swell.

Spring Cabbage

Where the beds have suffered from
the vacancies should be made good w
delay. E. Mark

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Border Carnations

In many districts here in the nor
Border Carnation must be wintered
frames and planted out after all fear o
hard frost has gone. As a rule, e
April is a suitable time. The plants m
well hardened off before being set out i
flowering quarters. Well-worked and
rich soil is necessary for success wi
plant. Where this soil is inclined to
tiveness a fairly generous dressing
wood-ashes lightly forked into the
before planting is begun will be ver
ficial.

Pansies and Violas

While very early planting of these
subjects very often leads to serious lo
snails and slugs attacking the young
it is advisable to now have them set
their flowering quarters so that the
may have the chance to get a good
the soil before dry, warm weather
Well-enriched soil rather inclined to b
is the most suitable medium for the
of the Viola family.

Plant Gladioli now

Although the bulbs of this popular a
flowering plant may be planted up ti
the present time is very suitable for
in the bulk of the large-flowered kind
viding the weather and soil are favo
Deeply worked and liberally manured
is necessary for best results, and eac
should have a handful of clean, coars
placed under it at planting time.

The herbaceous borders

With the winter being prolonged rig
March much of the ordinary routine
has been retarded, but this, fortunate
been accompanied by a late start into
of most things, the hardy perennial
being no exception. There is, therefo
time to make new beds or borders of
but the sooner this can be done the
Old borders should be overhauled and
tidied up, removing the débris left
winter and neatly forking the surfa
tween the plants.

Sow Sweet Peas

Where it is desired to sow these whe

loom there is still time to do so, but ould be no further delay in having it uite good flowers can be obtained nethod, but naturally the plants will in coming into flower than are those rly and planted out.

may now be sown

never safe to sow this vegetable before advent of April. The author of that l old book, "In a Manse Garden," hen dealing with this subject: ns must not be sown before April or certain to run to seed, *having else to do.*" Early Milan is the best or early sowing.

Beans

s may be planted freely at any time e third week of April. Small sowntervals is preferable to sowing the t at one time.

Beet

rly autumn supplies a small sowing Turnip-rooted variety may now be it it is much too early for risking the p sowing of this root.

re Peas

previous sowing begins to show the ground another sowing should so as to ensure an unbroken supply. einer Marrowfat sorts may be sown w on, as there is now little fear of rotting. Webb's Senator, Glory of , and Boston Unrivalled are among best varieties for present sowing.

ng off"

s work that demands almost daily at this season, it being always ad- us to have the transplanting accom- hile the young plants still are quite turn to the same temperature and refully from all sunshine for a week ermit of the roots becoming active.

wering Chrysanthemums

reat bulk of these should now be dated in cold frames to help preserve f, sturdy habit so necessary when oration has to be carried out.

C. BLAIR.

House Gardens, Linlithgow.

VEGETABLES

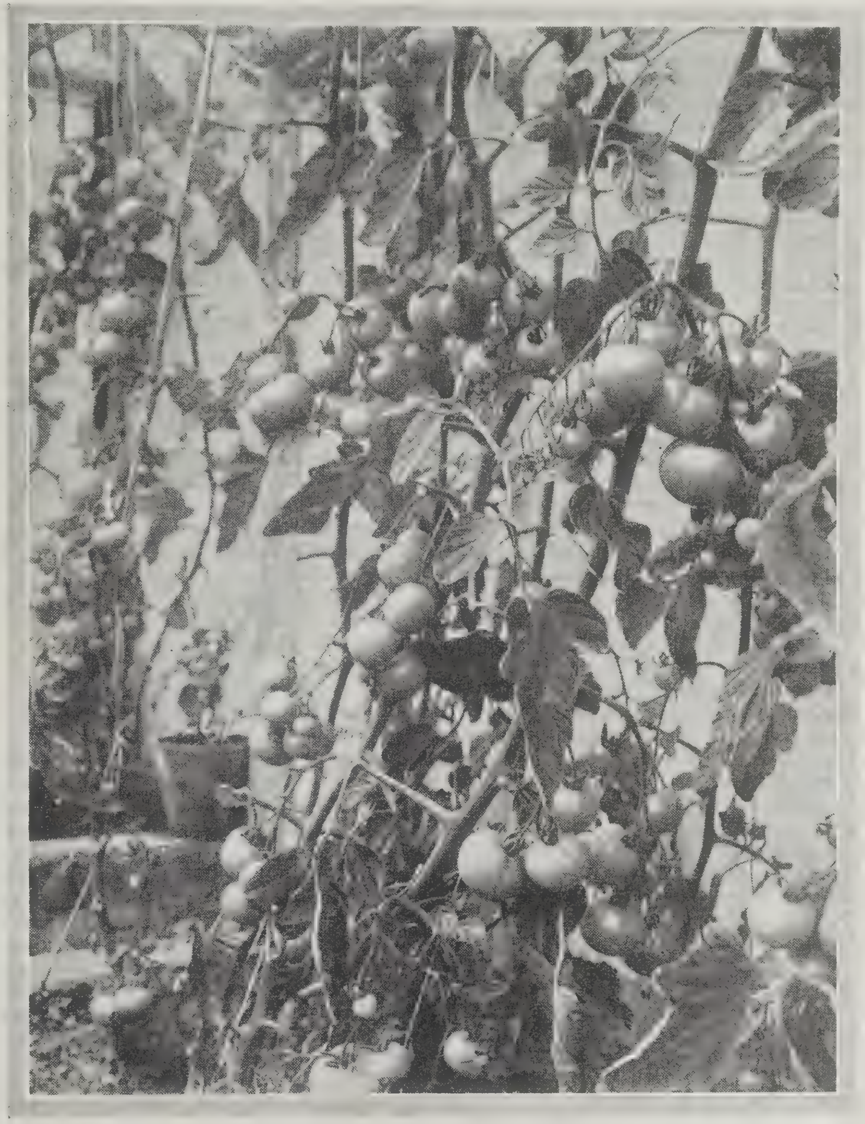
Tomato culture

ONE who has a glass house, small arge, should not miss putting in a Tomato plants during April. Large of this table delicacy can be easily by the most modest amateur at a ll cost. Good plants can be pur- any nurseyman's for a few pence d in a cold house with a little ttention they will produce good crops ble or the market. Tomato culture ting and profitable, but several small eed attention if success is to be These points are apt to be over- not sufficiently understood.

ass should be in a position facing t too high a roof but with plenty tation if needed. The plants want mth, and air; above all, they require atering and a fairly dry atmosphere. ot days come round the windows opened and the glass of the roof ; extreme heat is bad. The plants ally sold in small pots; this is best can be transferred to the house dation without disturbing the roots. plants should be selected; there are d varieties, so that we can take the an's recommendation without fear. ety that is advised for outdoor plant- lo well in the cold house. It is best to plant them where they are to remain to fruit and large pots must be provided if pots are used. The best way is to have brick troughs, filled with earth to within a foot of the top. These can be built round the sides of the house and filled as follows. First we place a layer of broken pots and gravelly sand for drainage, then another layer of about 6 inches of sharp sand which will ensure that the roots become more fibrous. We must always keep in mind that it is the fibrous roots that produce the fruit and that the long, fleshy roots throw long, lanky stems. Too much water will also produce lankiness. The aim must be to get the plants to fruit at as short an interval as possible up the stems and the conditions of growth must be planned to this end. A layer of at least 18 inches of good soil is then placed in the trough, but quite 12 inches of depth at the top must be left as this will be needed afterwards. The soil should be well sifted first and no manure, soot, or artificial manures used. With Tomatoes the feeding is done from the top after the second lot of fruit has set and not before. The young plants are planted well down into the soil, taking care not to injure any roots; they will soon go ahead and should be watered daily.

When the flowers come we can help the setting of the fruit by gently tapping the vine supports. As a rule the first set of flowers does not produce any fruit to speak of, and the amateur need not be troubled by this. As the second and third lot of flowers appear we must give support to the stems; we now must speak of them as vines, for with the coming of the fourth set of flowers the growth is very rapid. Tapes or string hung from the top of the house will be found equal to canes or sticks. Just under the joint of the leaf stems is the place for the tying, and care must be taken not to bruise the stems, or bleeding will take place. At this stage we must add more earth; in fact, it is a golden rule to add an inch or more of soil when every set of flowers appears until the trough is about full. This also applies to pots, of course. Also we now begin to feed the plants with liquid manure; at first with a weak solution, and as the fruit grows we can increase the strength in proportion.

Side shoots are pinched out as they appear and the leaves are cut back as the fruit grows. This must be done in the noon of day to give the cut a chance to dry quickly. I think it best to trim the leaves away from the fruit clusters as they become fair sized. This will give the fruit a chance to ripen and to receive the nourishment that the leaves would be taking. The top of the vine can be



Tomatoes well repay cultivation

Plants should be put in the cold house in April taken out after the eighth or tenth set of flowers, but growers will be well advised to limit the vine to not more than eight clusters. The last sets of flowers do not seem to produce fruit before the first frosts of the autumn come, and it is best to be content with eight good clusters than have inferior fruit at the head of the vine. Early fruit for the market is taken from the plants before fully ripened, and quickly ripens in the light on shelves. This is a good plan as it allows the other fruit to benefit, and it gives us the earlier and better prices of the first deliveries.

There is a market for good English Tomatoes, and any of the local stores will gladly pay full wholesale prices ruling at th and will ask for more. The points t in the gathering and marketing ar the Tomatoes should be clean and c packed, they should be picked with t and sepals attached to the fruit, a should be of even size as far as pos

DAVID L

MY GRANDMOTHER

By SIR WILLIAM LAWRENCE, Bart.

(Concluded from page 204)

LADY LONDONDERRY tells me she has a portrait of Anne, Marchioness of Londonderry, who, it will be seen, is wearing flowers in her hair; it looks as if the servant aped her mistress. However, we must hope that all went well in the end, for the correspondence concludes by Lord Londonderry sending my Grandmother a haunch of venison.

Eighteen shillings a week in the 'forties appears to have been the right wages for a head gardener. Thus the Duchess of Leinster writes from Carton, Maynooth, Ireland:—"Many thanks, my dear Mrs. Lawrence, for the trouble you have so kindly taken. I have no doubt that the person you mention, of the name of Johnston, will answer very well. I hope he is a single man, for there is not space for a man with a family in the cottage intended for him, which has but two small rooms. We should propose (if you approve) giving him 18s. a week, with lodging, firing, and a little bit of ground for vegetables, no candles. If he agrees to this and will send me his direction, I need not give you any further trouble, and we should engage him from March 1st, when the cottage will be vacant."

In 1842, or perhaps later, Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, afterwards Lord Lytton, the distinguished novelist, writing from Bayons Manor, says:—"The wages my present gardener receives are only 18s. a week and a cottage rent free, but the wages in the country are lower than those near town. I should probably not get the sort of man I want for the same terms. On the other hand, if the wages were too high, I should probably have but a fine gentleman—a superintendent—and not a working gardener which I require. . . . I am at a loss exactly to fix what I had best give, but wages would probably not be the obstacle if in other respects the person suited me."

Even in 1845 there were gardeners who did not like advice, for the Duchess of Beaufort writes from Llangattock:—"I am now at a little cottage of ours in Breconshire, in a beautiful country, and where I am making a very humble little flower garden.

"Many thanks for your kind offer about my gardener going over to Ealing Park. I think I will not avail myself of it at this moment, as I am in the act of changing my establishment in that respect. I am sending away the man you saw who did not produce a better show in my garden this year than he did last, and I have now got a very good working man who is to be under my head gardener, and I hope he will do better than the last, who was too fine a gentleman for me, and did not like advice, even from you, who may be allowed to be qualified to give it. We shall not be fixed at Badminton for the next month; when we are, I shall write to remind you of your promise of again visiting us, and I hope then you will see a little improvement in the state of things."

The Duchess was a keen gardener, and there are many references to Roses and Verbenas which were sent from Ealing Park to Badminton, and my Grandmother was wont to send baskets of hot-house flowers to the Duchess for her parties; and, indeed, she frequently furnished the ballrooms of her friends in this way. Lord Hardinge, to whom I referred above in connection with the Amherstia, used to get a great many Indian plants for my Grandmother through Sir John Littless, who was Governor-General of Bengal; Lord Hardinge himself grew a number of plants at South Park, and mentions that he has Mountain Bamboo growing out of doors from seed in very high perfection, and expresses the hope that it will resist the frost as he gathered it near the Himalayas.

MIETZING

Baron Hugel, of Vienna, the famous botanist, was a frequent correspondent. In, apparently, 1844, he sent over the following plants:—

- Lasiopetalum floribundum,
- Lasiopetalum grandiflorum,
- Boronia spatulata,
- Manettia versicolor,
- Hemiandra pungens,
- Cæsia Helleri,
- Pimelia Meipergiana,
- Nuytsia floribunda,
- Gentiana antartica,
- Prostranthera retusa,
- Callicarpa japonica,
- Lilium lancifolium rubrum (novelty from Mietzing),

in charge of the First Secretary of the British Embassy. In November, of the the same year, his head gardener, M. Daniel, pays a visit to Ealing. Of him the Baron writes:—"He has a beautiful and charming wife and two little girls, but I believe that he prefers flowers to any of them. He is a man of wide experience in propagation and cultivation of all plants. However, he knows Orchids less well, as they are in charge of an under gardener. If you think it suitable, M. Daniel can plant my tree (doubtless the reference is to a Deodar) on my behalf in the same way as Princesses are married by proxy by the Ambassador. M. Daniel knows my collection of plants, with the exception of the Orchids, better than I do myself, and he will be able to offer you anything you like in exchange for the beautiful flowers you have given me; perhaps you will be good enough to allow your head gardener to give M. Daniel cuttings of any plants which he may desire, and which you can spare."

PARIS.

Next there comes the turn of Paris, where my Grandmother sent 11 species of Orchids in 1842. M. Richard, Professor of the Faculty of Medicine in Paris, writes on April 22nd, 1842:—

"Unfortunately, on my arrival in Paris I found myself face to face with so serious a position that for several days I was undecided what to do. I found that the two pieces of Epidendrum erubescens which I possessed were dead. The cause was carelessness on the part of one of the younger gardeners. You can imagine my chagrin when I was impossible completely to fu promise which I had made to you. ever, I had remembered that there a single piece in existence, namely, gium, and accordingly I wrote at o it should be sent to me, no matte price they might put on it there. This specimen reached me, and it is now way to you. But it is far from b good condition. Under careful treat think it will grow, but it is far from brilliant condition. Meanwhile, *it is piece which exists in Europe,* and if fortune it does not succeed with y will have the consolation to know one else in the world possesses th . . . I have added to Epidendrum er (a very sick plant) and to Odonto membranaceum, the only two spec asked for, three other species which I are not to be found in your magnific lection: (1) Cæsia macrostachya, L did not see a living plant of this which has pink flowers, in any colle London. (2) Oncidium Lindleyanum species from Brazil. (3) Oncidium ceras, Hooker. I desire, Madame, t will see in this little addition the since which I feel to show you all my gr I have just heard that a consignm Orchids from Havana will arrive in J will be my duty and my pleasure t them with you, and I believe you w some plants which are worthy to be f your magnificent collection. Since turn to Paris I have felt very strong ing regard to what I saw in Lond especially at Ealing Park, that my c was far from being a good one."

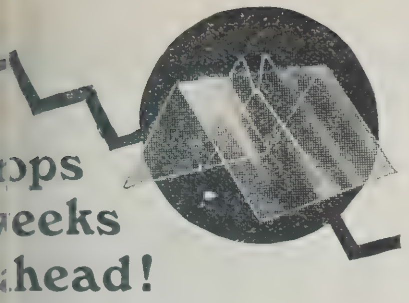
M. Richard then explains that he ing plants by the Boulogne to Dove and that he has placed at the bottom case not only some botanical books b the two dead pieces of Epidendrum, my Grandmother can assure herself other plant exists in the world!

Just as to-day, the Rothschilds wer gardeners, Baron James de Rothschi ing from Paris in 1843, arranges an ex of plants, his plants to be sent thro nephew in London. The Baron and B de Rothschild, who lived at Gunne were constant visitors at Ealing Park. had eight children, whom they were bring over to play with my two aunts

THE ROYAL BOTANICAL SOCIE LONDON

On March 25th, 1843, the Secretary, de C. Sowerby, writes:—"The Counc Royal Botanic Society having been in that a large plant of the Andromed bunda would be acceptable, have direc to forward you one, and selected the but one in their garden. The largest been moved last year is not now in suc condition. I am also directed to assu that the Council feel it an honour

(Continued on page 225)



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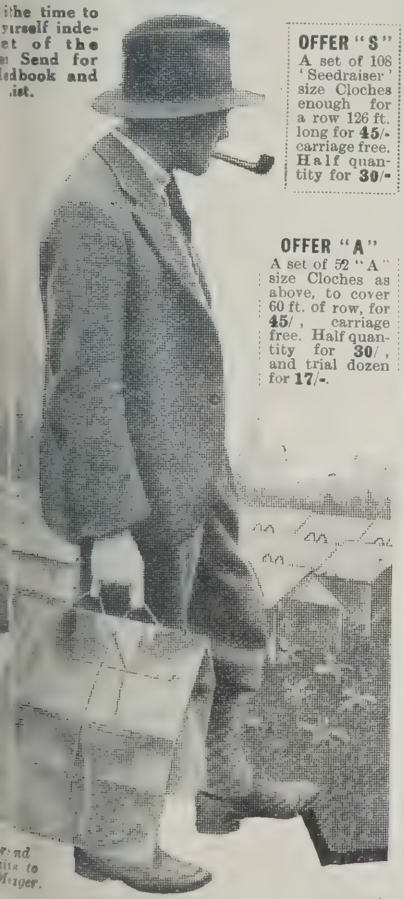

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Dean's Early Snowball, selected strain (250 seeds)	—	6d
All the Year Round, very distinct, large heads (250 seeds)	—	6d
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All Leading Varieties	—	3d
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All the Year Round, excellent and reliable ...	8d	2d
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ONION		
Excelsior, true (packets of 1,000 seeds)	2/-	6d
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Best of All, fine exhibition Onion, excellent quality and one of the best keepers	2/-	6d
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Hollow Crown, specially selected	4d	2d
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Summer or Winter	3d	—
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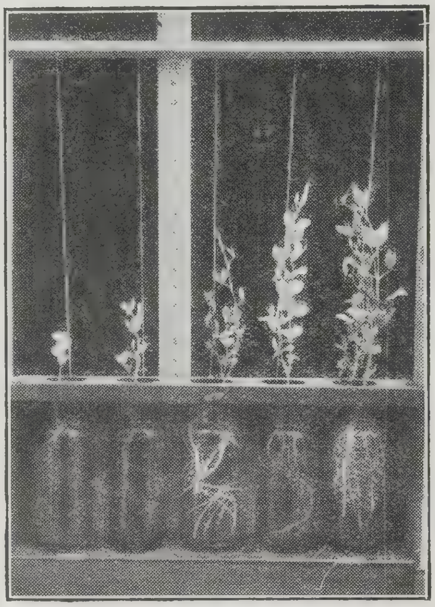

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SWEET PEAS GROWING IN DISTILLED WATER.

A SMALL outlay on Fisons' Fertilizers will enable your crops to be increased greatly, blooms improved, and the season extended.

It is most important when feeding Flowers and Vegetables to use perfectly blended, properly proportioned foods. This is secured by using Fisons' Fertilizers, which will increase the yield of your garden.

Fisons' Technical Bureau

Following nearly a century of experience in research in soils and Fertilizers, a vast amount of data has been accumulated and is freely at the service of our clients. No obligation is incurred by writing to us for advice, which we shall be pleased to give to the best of our ability. The feeding of turf, flowers, vegetables, and fruit is a fascinating subject, and comparatively few gardeners are aware of the really amazing results that can be achieved for a small outlay of money.

FISONS'
CANARY GUANO
(A Compound Fertilizer)

is a scientifically compounded general garden Fertilizer. Largely organic in nature it may be used with perfect safety. Canary Guano has the largest sale of any horticultural Fertilizer in the world and is used by leading exhibition growers. Use 4 ozs. to the square yard for Fruit and Flowers.

PRICES (in bags):	7 lbs.	14 lbs	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**5/-**	**9/-**	**16/-**	**26/6**

FISONS'
CHAMPION FERTILIZER
For Potatoes and Vegetables

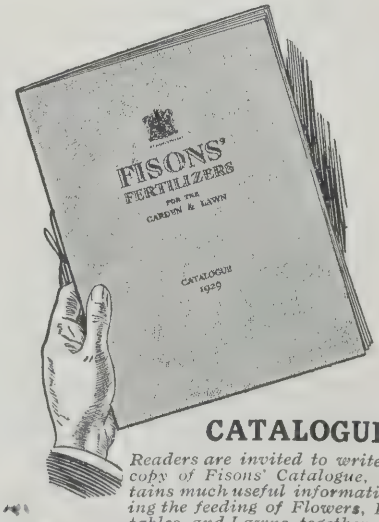
is recognized as the most productive Fertilizer for Potatoes and Vegetables. It is the product of prolonged experiment and research. Rapid growth and early maturity of first quality and heavier crops are assured. Use 11 lbs. to the rod.

PRICES (in bags):	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**4/6**	**7/-**	**12/6**	**19/-**

FISONS' SPECIAL
ROSE FERTILIZER

Roses require plenty of nourishment. Finest blooms are obtained by applying this Fertilizer immediately after Pruning. The essential plant foods are supplied in correct proportion and form. Use ½ lb. to each tree or bush. Full instructions sent.

PRICES (in bags):	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**5/-**	**8/6**	**14/-**	**24/-**



CATALOGUE FREE

Readers are invited to write for a free copy of Fisons' Catalogue, which contains much useful information concerning the feeding of Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, and Lawns, together with details and prices.

JOSEPH FISON & CO., LTD. — IPSWICH

Specialists in Garden Fertilizers and Lawn Renovation

16A

to add anything to a garden so ultivated and so rich as that you idered celebrated.”

gain, in the following year, on April writes :—“ At the same time that I you the enclosed copy of a resolu- the Council, allow me to remind you ear approach of the first Exhibition in the gardens of the Royal Botanic which will take place on Tuesday, instant. I am the more bold to do nembering that your late gardener, de, last year took the highest single given by this or any other society llection of plants, and I feel assured would be sorry if by some chance sent gardener should be deprived of the opportunity of showing that the splendid collection you have so carefully reared is more than ever capable of producing plants superior to any that can be brought into competition with it. Such was the effect produced last season that those Members of the Royal Family who honoured the gardens with their presence expressed great admiration, and I trust your name will ever stand at the head of the list of contributors to the exhibition of plants in the Regent's Park.”

The glories of Ealing Park, of Chiswick, and of Gunnersbury have departed, but the chariots of their successors in the Welsh Hills, on the Solent, and under the walls of Windsor Castle still churn up the Olympic dust.

Answers to Queries

—Queries and answers are inserted in ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre- follow these rules: All communications clearly written on one side of the paper d addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, Letters on business should be sent to the The name and address of the sender ired in addition to any designation he ire to be used in the paper. When more query is sent, each should be on a piece of paper; the name and address lded to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *sent to press some days in advance of queries cannot always be replied to in the immediately following their receipt. We do to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

GREENHOUSE

as amazonica

briber, Esher).—The Eucharis is ily a stove plant—that is, it needs, at minimum temperature of 55 degs. he winter months, and if it be re- o bloom early in the year a night ure of 60 degs. to 65 degs. with a degs. during the day must be main- A suitable compost, when repotting sary, is two-thirds of good fibrous one-third of leaf-mould, with a dmixture of charcoal in pieces about of a Hazel Nut, and plenty of coarse But, in the case of established plants, is seldom necessary—they may re- the same pots for years and continue health. Drainage must be very for excess of moisture leads to il, and sourness is fatal to the During summer a moderate of shade is desirable, and at that house in which they are grown may allowed to run up to 80 degs. or 90 ome very good growers prefer to he pots in bottom heat, but this is by ens necessary. After flowering, the ay be kept cooler in order to rest t the bulbs must not, unlike many e dried off or failure will follow, for haris is essentially an evergreen

st glasshouses

C., Dartford).—Philip Miller, in his ners' Dictionary” (6th Edition), pub- ecember 15th, 1770, frequently refers ove and other glasshouses, the glass time being Muscovy glass. It would, , appear to be about the middle of teenth century that the first of these were built.

fibre failing

).—The failure is obviously due to that the bulbs were placed in the hot al in which the fibre would, naturally, uickly, with the result that the bulbs come “ blind.” Although the fibre pear to be sufficiently damp on the yet it may have been dry at the and when fibre becomes dry at the centre it is practically impossible to re-moisten it. After potting, all bulbs ought to be plunged out of doors in a bed of ashes or of sifted soil until roots are formed. It is hopeless to endeavour to force bulbs of any kind until the roots are so far advanced that they will support the growing plant, a fact which amateurs are inclined to overlook.

Fuchsias

(T. H. H., Warwickshire).—There is a wide selection of the various forms of the Fuchsia, and individual taste must, necessarily, be the ultimate ground of choice. Four good double varieties can be recommended in Frau Emma Topfer, a fine old variety with a very large corolla of pinkish-white, deeper toward the base of the petals. The sepals are coral-red and, in common with many other double Fuchsias, these do not appear of sufficient size for the large corolla. Phenomenal produces very large blooms. The corolla is of a deep violet colour marked with rosy-crimson at the base. La France has large, well-reflexed sepals and a distinct, tinted corolla which is often described as blue, and though a long way from that colour it is a very distinct shade. Comte Leon Tolstoi is a notable variety, its closely packed corolla being of a deep purplish-blue without markings of any kind. The habit of the plant, too, is very good. Four good singles would be Rose of Castile (purple corolla), Arabella (sepals and tube white, corolla rosy-purple), Mrs. Marshall (scarlet corolla), and Annie (corolla rose). Four drooping varieties might include Sunray (variegated foliage), F. procumbens, Molesworth (double, white corolla), and Mrs. Bright (single, white tube and corolla).

Oleander

(G. G., Bucks).—The buds from last year must by no means be cut off. The Oleander will only flower in a satisfactory manner when the plant is rather “ leggy,” and if you cut these buds off you are not at all likely to have blooms this year—nor, indeed, next year either. Oleanders are not difficult subjects when planted out as yours is, but it may be necessary to see that the drainage is free, and a little top-dressing annually is recommended.

FLOWER GARDEN

Dahlias

(“ Ambridge ”).—You do not say whether you possess a greenhouse or not, but if you do the Dahlias should be put into boxes together with a little leaf-mould or soil and stood on a stage therein. If kept just moist young, strong shoots will quickly form, and these, taken off when about 3 inches in length and with a small portion of the old tuber attached, and potted up singly, will make excellent plants for placing in the open in May. Such plants produce finer blooms than old specimens. If you have no greenhouse, then divide up the old plants, leaving a living growth to each piece, and plant out in the open direct. This, however, should not be done before the end of April.

Shamrock Pea (Parochetus communis) wanted

(G. S.).—Seeds are offered by Messrs. Thompson and Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich.

Plants and shrubs rabbits avoid

(N. B.).—It is an undoubted fact that the taste of rabbits varies in different districts, but a fairly wide experience results in the following list of plants which have not been attacked by these pests:—Bulbs of most kinds, Primula denticulata, Veronicas, Alstroemerias, Pyrethrum uliginosum, Tritomas, Trilliums, Foxgloves, Saxifrages of many kinds, Pæonies, Doronicums, Anemone fulgens, Silene Schafta, and all the Polyanthus family. Among shrubs may be mentioned Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Philadelphus Delavayi, Leycesteria formosa, Ribes of varieties, many Maples, and, of course, Laurels. But, as has been said, the tastes of rabbits vary in different districts, owing, no doubt, to the available amount of the ordinary herbage, which forms the principal food of the rabbit. During hard frosts they will attack shrubs which, at other times, they leave severely alone.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Box hedge

(W. R. J.).—Box, as a rule, has very thick masses of fibrous roots and may, therefore, be transplanted with considerable ease. Planting may still be done, but it should not be unnecessarily delayed, and dull and open weather should be utilised for this purpose. Prepare the soil well, adding plenty of half-decayed leaf-mould and a little sand. As you desire a light rather than a dense hedge, planting may be done at a distance of 2½ feet from plant to plant, using plants 1½ feet to 2 feet in height, although, of course, larger plants can be used if desired. It will be necessary, at first, to trim in the shoots to some extent in order to promote growth, and if the weather be dry after planting watering ought to be done for a time. Box hedges are easily established and easily managed, more especially when they are allowed to grow, practically, in a natural manner as you propose to do.

Climbing plants for arch

(E. L. B., Kent).—For such a favoured position Wistaria sinensis naturally suggests itself. It is ornamental alike when in bloom and when its handsome foliage is at its best. In such a position, too, it might conceivably bloom twice in the course of a season. Forsythia suspensa, too, would be a good plant for the purpose indicated; Lycium barbarum, Aristolochia sipho, Celastrus scandens, Clematis Flammula, or one of the many charming Honeysuckles would afford alternatives. Possibly in your district Solanum jasminoides would succeed, and nothing is more effective. If you desire something quite "uncommon," Menispermum canadense or Periploca græca may be recommended. Both are very pretty, indeed, if not exactly strikingly handsome, but P. græca ought not to be planted in the neighbourhood of the house, as some people object to the rather pronounced odour of its small velvet-brown flowers.

VEGETABLES

Retarding Chicory roots

(G. Sewell).—About the end of March the roots should be lifted and plunged either in soil or fine ashes on the north side of a wall, the crowns being buried about an inch beneath the surface. This will check the growth considerably and should enable you to provide a supply during the desired period. Also when preparing the roots for blanching place them in a cool room instead of a warm one, or under Rhubarb jars in the open, and in the coolest place you can provide.

MISCELLANEOUS

Black Mulch paper

In the issue of "The Scientific American," August, 1928, pages 122, 123, and 124, there appeared an article *re* Black Mulch paper for crops, made in U.S.A. in rolls. It was experimented by the U.S.A. Department of Agriculture, and remarkable results were apparent. In some crops the increase is really wonderful, as much as 691 per cent. increase in Sweet Corn, and in Carrots 507 per cent. Other crops, too, showed a great increase, notably Cucumbers, with a 512 per cent. increase. Has anyone amongst our horticultural readers heard of this? I should like to know if they have or if they have tried the paper, and if and where it is procurable in this country. INTERESTED.

[We understand that the experiments to which you refer were very successful in the States, especially on soils which are liable to dry out rapidly under drought conditions. We have no record of the paper being used in England, but we are publishing your letter in the hope that if the paper has been used here our readers will give you the benefit of their experiences.]

Lawn sand

(D. B.).—The correct time to apply lawn sand is just as the grasses are beginning to make new growth. Repeat the dressing as often as is necessary to kill the weeds. It is important that the lawn sand remains on the weed foliage as long as possible before rain washes it off. Please see reply to "F. M. G." on page 192 of our issue for March 16th as to the method of making lawn sand. If you do not want to go to the trouble of making your own mixture you should consult our advert. columns for a good lawn sand, which should be applied according to the maker's directions.

Soil samples

(Woking).—We have examined your three samples of soil and find that they contain a fair reserve of lime, so that your crop failures cannot be due to soil acidity. From the samples received it appears to us that your garden is short of organic matter, and this should be applied in the form of short, well-rotted farmyard manure. Further, the soil is short of available phosphate and potash. For the present you could make up this deficiency by applying a mixture of three parts superphosphate and one part sulphate of potash at the rate of 4 lbs. per square rod. Next autumn you should apply an equal mixture of basic slag and kainit at the rate of 3 lbs. to 4 lbs. per square rod. A system of manuring such as outlined above, *plus* a fairly generous application of farmyard manure, should put things right. If you apply calcium carbonate as suggested in our previous reply once in each three years you should be able to keep the lime content of your soil in good condition. The Rose specimens have been examined, and there is no sign of fungoid trouble. The recent spell of cold weather is responsible for their appearance. We think that, although the plants have had a considerable check, they will break again.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Persistent.—Ruscus hermaphroditus. This unusual plant may be obtained from John Scott and Co., The Royal Nurseries, Merriott, Somerset.

CATALOGUES ON ORIGINAL LINES

"Bunyard's Best Six, a Selection of Fruit and Flowers for Amateurs," published in the interest of the connoisseur and the busy man. George Bunyard and Co., Ltd., Royal Nurseries, Maidstone.

"Herbaceous and Alpine Plants," with brief descriptions as near accurate as may be hoped for. Gullicks, Waterloo Nurseries, Salisbury.

"Hardy Plants," advanced copy. Alpines and hardy plants described in original and literary style, illustrated with over 100 line drawings. An interesting, instructive, and even humorous catalogue. Gavin Jones, Letchworth, Herts.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

"Seed Testing," by John Stewart Remington. Useful to gardeners, farmers, and agricultural students, who can easily apply the up-to-date methods described. Published by Isaac Pitman and Sons, Ltd., 10s. 6d.

"The Rose Annual, 1929," including a full report on the International Rose Conference, with beautifully coloured illustrations and numerous articles more welcome than ever. Published by the National Rose Society, 28, Victoria Street, S.W. 1. 10s. 6d. to non-members.

Manchester and North of England Orchid Society

AT the meeting held on Friday, March 15th, 1929, the members of Committee present were Messrs. J. B. Adamson (in the chair), A. Burns, A. Coningsby, J. Evans, A. Keeling, D. McLeod, W. J. Morgan, and H. Arthur (Secretary).

AWARDS OF MERIT

Cypripedium Hugli (Pyramus x Elise II. Keelings Var.), Cyp. Volga (Zaria x Cardinal Mercier), and Cyp. Amazon (Mem. F. M. Ogilvie var. Rex x Perseus), from Capt. W. Horridge.

Lycaste Skinnerii Wivelsfield Var. and Odm. Venustulum Wivelsfield Var., from J. Ingham, Esq.

Odontioda Colinge var. Evansiæ and Dendrobium Gatton Monarch, from Mr. J. Evans.

Odm. Pescatoreii var. Peach-blossom and Odm. Meredithiæ (Rossii x mustulum), from Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons.

CULTURAL CERTIFICATES

Mr. J. Howes for Dendrobium Wardianum and Sophronitis grandiflora.

GROUPS, &c.

J. B. Adamson, Esq., Blackpool (gardener, Mr. J. Howes), staged a group to which a large Silver-gilt Medal was awarded Odontoglossums Theresa lilacina, Chanticleer, Leeana, Bonar Law, Coronation, and West Point Beauty; Odontioda Colinge var. Ruth,
Cypripediums Boltonii, The Major,
ence Golden Glory, and Ernest Reid
drochilum glumaceum, Oncidium
dum, and others.

Mrs. Bruce and Miss Wrigley, Bu
dener, Mr. A. Burns), were also aw
large Silver Medal for a group:—L
Skinnerii vars. Sentinel, Claret,
Goliath, Alba var. Pearl, and Lassi
Tunstillii; Dendrobiums Apollo
Cybele album, Rolfæ roseum, Melan
var. Luna, and Euryades var.
Lady; Vuylstekeara Ingescens, Cym
Pauwelsii var. Beige, with Cyps. in

J. Ingham, Esq., Gee Cross, Hyd
awarded a large Silver Medal for a gr
Odontos. Lambeauianum var.
Rubens, and Gloriana; Odta. Gloss
nobile Berkeley's Var., Cyps. Olymp
Chairman, Vashtii, Imperator, and
lings.

Capt. W. Horridge, Bury (garden
Coningsby), staged Dendrobiums
Bolholt Var., Aureum, Lady Colma
King George.

Mr. John Evans, Colwyn Bay,
Miltonia St. Andre, Cymbidium
ianum, and Cyp. Enchantress.

Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons, Br
staged Oncidium superbiens, Cyp. C
Dillon, and Dendrobium Renown.

The next meeting will be held on
April 5th, 1929, at the Houldsworth
and on Thursday, April 18th, at the
Hall, Manchester, in conjunction w
spring show of the Royal Botanic
Horticultural Society of Mancheste
Northern Counties.

H. ARTHUR, Secre

The Soldanellas (Moonw

These diminutive Alpine perennials
tractive little plants, inhabiting ver
altitudes on the great mountain-ch
Europe. Soldanella alpina is a mos
esting plant, and is found growing n
snow-line, where it receives a plentif
ply of moisture from the melting sn
essential condition in its welfare.

The genus is a small one, comprisi
three or four species, particularly suit
growing in the small rock or Alpine
A situation at the base of the rockery
be selected for them in partial sha
where they will obtain an ample su
moisture. S. alpina has beautifu
bluish, pendant flowers, bell-shape
deeply fringed, three or four on a stem
3 inches to 5 inches high. The lea
roundish and bright green. S. mont
the largest species allied to S. alpin
larger in all its parts; in all other res
is similar, and needs the same treatme
minima is a very small plant with
thick round leaves and purple-c
flowers produced singly on a stem
1 inch high. S. Clusii is rather small
S. alpina, but is otherwise similar, w
exception of its flowers, which are pu
colour. There are several varieties i
vation, including S. Wheeleri, a whit
of S. alpina. All the species succee
soil of a vegetable character, such a
and leaf-soil, to which a liberal quan
sand is added. Precautions should be
against slugs. Sand spread arour
plants occasionally is often very use
warding off attacks.

Once the plants become established i
able quarters they make appreciable g
but they should never be allowed to
from the lack of moisture. They m
propagated by division of healthy pla
the spring, or raised from seed. The
Soldanella belongs to the natural
Primulaceæ, and the flowering perio
the spring, March to May.

FERTILISERS

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT & ROSE, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM-KILLER, 17/6 per cwt., carr. pd.
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eed Killer (non-poisonous to animals) will make an your weedy paths. Tins, 1/6; bags, 6/6.

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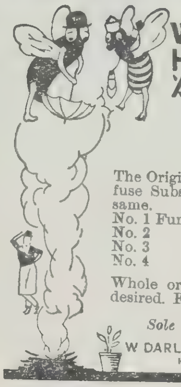

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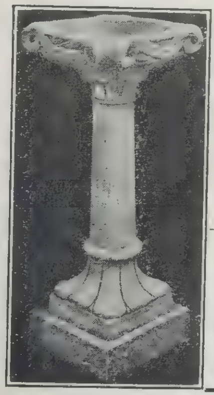

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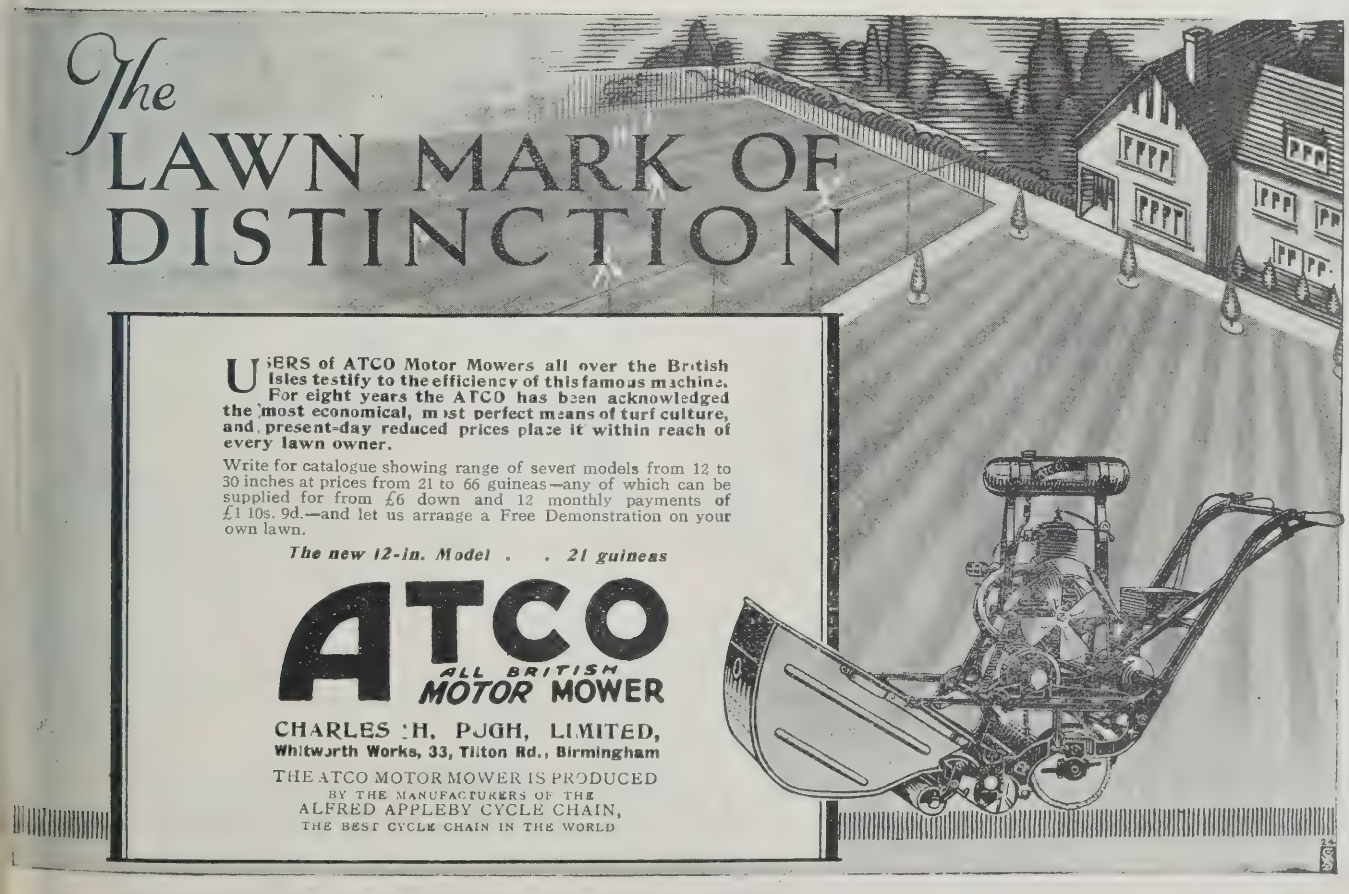

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		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft 6 in. ,,	17/6	16 -
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8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,,	26/6	24/-
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Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ½ in. iron tyre.

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Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

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Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.

	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4 3	4/3 each
15 in. ,,	5/6	5/- ,,
18 in. ,,	6/6	5/9 ,,
21 in. ,,	8/6	7/- ,,
24 in. ,,	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

GARDEN LIGHTS

	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
5 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3 - each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9 6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6 9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE No. 18

This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES

These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS

Well made from selected material.

In natural wood Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14 6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.

	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

INCINERATOR

Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

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SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE

This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6 6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared room wanted.

Panels.	Length.	Height.	REDUCED PRICES. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9/6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
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100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20/-
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	24/6	25/-

We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4 6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16 6	14 9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21 9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10 6	9 6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23 6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	2[illegible]/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

RUSTIC FLOWER STAND

Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE

Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

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Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual,	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at n figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who re strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved matchboarding, painted one coat of good oil colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages f side of house. Complete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.
15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6
30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0
16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0
20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0
24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6

Do not pay high prices for your frames made fron boards. We can supply at the following low prices. made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality board plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0
16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0
20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0
24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABL MOTOR HOUSE

Constructed of strong framing c with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved b roof boarded and felted, 1-in. for floor and strong joists. W fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doors on strong butts and fitted Towe and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

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Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and single Fitted lock and key.

ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5	x 3 6	£3 18 0
6	x 4 0	£4 5 0
7	x 5 0	£5 10 0
8	x 6 0	£5 2 6
10	x 7 0	£9 5 0
12	x 8 0	£12 5 0

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Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
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6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
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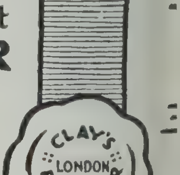

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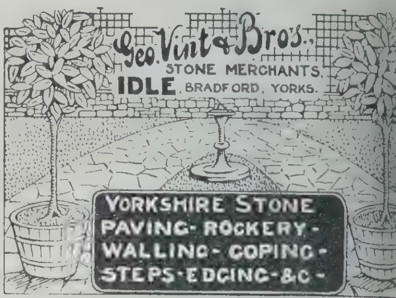

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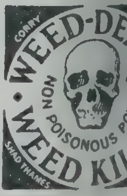

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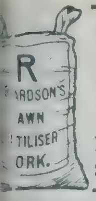

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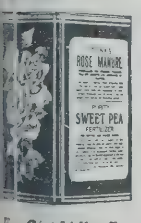

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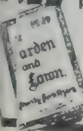

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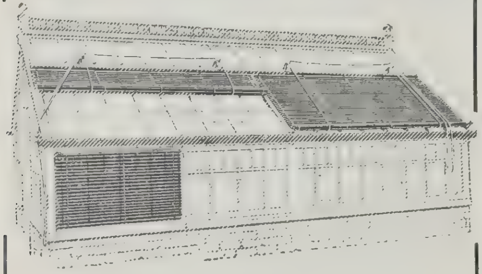

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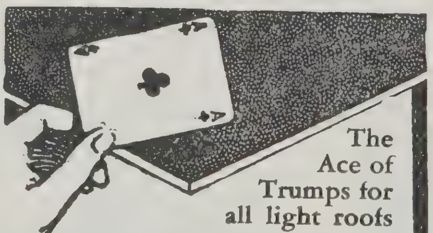

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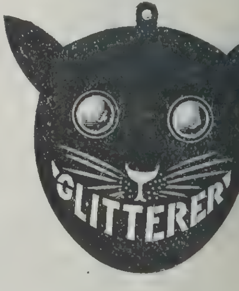

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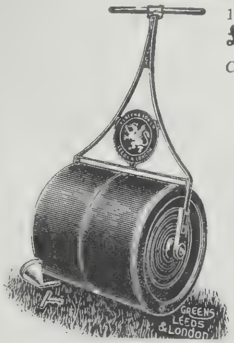

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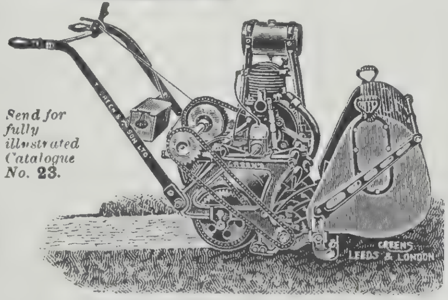

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GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Taking Them Round the Garden

I, yes! do come round (I know I shall ate taking you). Our first halt is in ont of the Daphnes Mezereon—or pne Mezereum, as you like it. They are good this year, fat branches of blossom as thick as Hyacinths and in several ious shades of creamy-pink. The day is he sun warm, and the smell—*pace* the eginald Farrer, who did so loathe it—nly. After some silence one of them s, flatly, "They *so* well at my old n" (Why cannot ay they *are* nice, ty *smell* nice?)

et, we stop where been slaving at icas for years and The soil here is ny for the lovely g, so we had to their beds with iggings and many et and blankets of ould, rotted cow e, and imported These delicacies ways seized upon iately by a quantity f vile Elm roots, the dendrophilic cies of the gar- master will not of the brutes be- removed, and cal searches and s have to be altogether a t deal of trouble e well rewarded by pink and pale single things ning on their stems. I have a great many but they always behind, both s and angulosas, ing-slower to h and more than the blue nk ones. The s are very hearty, especially the pink hich has still got its last year's leaves, d bronzy, in wreaths around its mass ers.

got quite excited here and said: we've seen these in sheets and sheets, all over the place in Mrs. ggreen's They were quite pretty in the *she* had!"

we moved past the small pond. I like to say *how* small it is, but it is sweetly adorned on one bank just now by a very thriving clump of Narcissus minimus.

"Is that the common wild Daffodil?" they asked, with sprightly interest.

Next came Primula Sibthorpii, that sweet, merry lilac person with the bright yellow eyes (and if you do not say this is pretty I shall murder you).

They did not say it was pretty. Neither did they say the first of the Anemones, fulgens and Scythinica, and some very pushing but all the more welcome St. Bavo's in pink and rosy frocks were pretty, but they began very long-complaining accounts of how certain Anemones, which I gathered were Coronaria, because they got them from Geashill, would *not* do in their garden.

I did think Scilla sibirica alba would, perhaps, draw a word of praise. It is so very nice, and you do not see it everywhere. But all they said was that they had not seen it before.

Tulipa Kaufmanniana

A glorious species, and the first of all Tulips to flower. Flowers soft shade of creamy white flushed deep orange in the centre, coloured externally with red

And so I hurried them off, not with any gifts as Mr. Bowles does, because I am not good like him, and kind and generous to those who—who—well, who have not made me feel I like them very much indeed.

But they caught sight of a great find I had had recently; a wild flower, it is true, and a very common one, but quite double instead of single, and quite double the ordinary size. And they said: "What on earth do you want to put that in a pot for? It is all over our garden, being weeded up."

I must add a wee little bit, though it is nothing to do with the garden, except that there are flowers on the cups and saucers and plates. We had a new breakfast service and a visitor. We were simply bursting with the pleasure of the new service, and had spent quite a lot on it, because we thought it so very pretty, though too expensive.

"Oh, yes! *very* like ours," said the guest. "I wanted something cheap, so I got it at Slump's the other day."

I cannot sign this, can I, except, perhaps,

NIL ADMIRARI.

Abutilons

These handsome foliage and flowering plants which once enjoyed great popularity as greenhouse subjects for some reason fell out of favour. They, however, are so attractive as to warrant a word of commendation on the arrival of spring. Their cultivation is not difficult for an amateur. They require a temperature of 45 degrees to 50 degrees in winter and from 55 degrees to 60 degrees in summer, and a compost of two parts old loam, one of peat or good leaf-mould, and sand with ample drainage. The orthodox way of propagating Abutilons is to take cuttings of partly ripened wood after plants have bloomed, inserting them in pots of silver sand, and plunging the pots in a hot bed in spring, or to place them on a shelf near the glass, where they can be shaded for a time until rooting takes place. Old plants need to be cut back in February or March. Young struck plants should be pinched once or twice to encourage a bushy habit. Another method is to sow seed in pans of light sandy soil in a genial heat in spring, and grown on, they will make serviceable plants and bloom the following year. Where it is desired to use them as wall coverers inside a house they should be planted out in a bed. Copious supplies of water must be given in summer and syringings with tepid water several times a week will greatly help, and do much to thwart the attacks of Red Spider.

MIDLANDER.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Longevity of Yews

WHEN looking over some old catalogues and guides of trees and shrubs recently, I same across the following in the "Foresters' and Planters' Guide" for 1907-8, published by Clibrans, Ltd., Altrincham. I thought it might be of interest to readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED :—

"We have not to cross the Channel, writes Sir George Birdwood in the 'Times' to find trees of a standing long prior to the date of St. Luke—the Yew trees of Braburn, Kent, being 3,000 years old; Darley Churchyard, Derbyshire, 2,096 years; and Firtingal, Aberfeldy, Perthshire, 2,500-2,600 years, while other long-lived British Yews are those of Crowhurst, Surrey, 1,400 years; Fountains Abbey, Ripon, Yorkshire, 1,200."

J. LODGE.

An avenue of old Yews at Copped Hall, Essex

The late Mr. J. Mayne

It was with genuine regret that I read of the passing away of Mr. J. Mayne, whose kindly and modest contributions won for him the friendship of gardeners the world over.

I would appeal to the older and experienced gardeners who read GARDENING ILLUSTRATED to send in articles such as Mr. Mayne wrote. What to them may appear commonplace is infinitely more valuable than any extensive commenting on any special subject, and is read by those who need experience and confidence.

I sincerely trust that there will be others who will continue with the same good work which Mr. Mayne did, as many of us in foreign lands look to British gardeners as the source of our inspiration.

A YOUNGER GARDENER.

Oakland, California.

Daphne Laureola

In your issue of January 26th, 1929, is an article by H. Stevens on the "Early-flowering Daphnes," an article which, to my thinking, fails grievously to do justice merits of D. Laureola. But this neg so universal that I am in doubt wheth own experience with the plant is pecul not. I enclose a specimen from a se grown in my garden from seed shed d or indirectly by a plant collected in this bourhood, for, though not common abouts, it is a well-known plant in this Now, at this season of the year, from 8 p.m. onwards my garden is filled delicious Primrose scent from plants Laureola. Personally, on a still ever have often smelt the scent of this plan distance of 30 yards. Yet, in his articl H. Stevens gives no merit to this pla yond that of evergreen foliage, for whi the way, it makes me pay dearly by sh its yellow leathery leaves in summer. try the scent of enclosed in a room at 9

JOHN S. GAY

Hall Cottage,
New Earswick, York.

[Although we can detect no smell sprays sent, we can endorse all that our spondent has to say in praise of the re ing spring-time odour of Daphne La when in bloom. It is one of those de odours like the smell of the little cr cones now to be found on the Larch tha be picked up many yards away fro plant.—ED.]

Primula Florindæ

A plant worth growing

At this season all lovers of plants the look-out for something new. P Florindæ, of comparatively recent int tion, is certainly one of the finest hardy introduced since the war. It is adapta many uses. To be seen at its best it be planted in large groups associated Willows, Astilbes, etc., by the side of or stream. It is also at home in th baceous border planted in groups of th more on the shady side of some talle jects, preferably of a shrubby nature. also be used with a most pleasing effec cut flower mixed amongst other flowers of a delicate shade, and mas the lower parts of the rock garden it mands the attention of all.

This is one of the hardiest and grown of all Primulas. Seed sown no make nice plants to put in their perm quarters in the autumn. Like most strong-growing plants, it succeeds bes deep, rich soil. A liberal supply of far manure, leaf-mould, and bone-meal, plenty of water during dry spells, will a magnificent display of tall spikes of s scented yellow blossoms during the late of summer and autumn. TEVIOTS

Primula Bulleyana

With reference to Primula Bul (page 199), I think the majority of p day P. Bulleyana are very inferior form result of not selecting and re-selecting year. A good form of this Primula i worth growing, especially in large mas moist woodland. It is no use saving from the best plants only. All inferior must be ruthlessly scrapped before th fluence the best forms with their pollen hybrids mentioned by F. H. Fisher I t be those of P. Bulleyana and P. Bee If the former is the seed parent, the colours will give a majority of yellow-o copper-red tints, and if the latter is th parent, pinks, rose-carmine, and mauve predominate.

The salmon tints referred to as bein my strain of P. pulverulenta, unfortu unlike this plant, do not come true. N the hybrids do, and many of them are As to the colour of P. Bulleyana, spe rn memory, I think the best description v.ld be apricot-yellow, with the buds hving a deeper shade. If this species is a:fully selected I am sure it is well worth .ace in our garden. From what I know f'. chungensis I think P. Bulleyana is a eer garden plant, and I find it as adapt-h as and more perennial in our gardens n P. Sikkimensis and P. microdonta, and sorms. I have young plants of P. Bulley-n Ward's Variety. It came to me as such, lch is, I believe, a better form than the r.inal one. G. H. DALRYMPLE.

— Mr. F. H. Fisher evidently thinks 'rnula Bulleyana better kept out of the alen unless we tolerate it (and its other a:nt, P. Beesiana, which probably even ne people would exclude) for its beautiful hlren that flower after P. japonica and P. uerulenta are past. Considered by itself ny would agree, but it may be beautiful n't suitable setting. Put it (or let it put sf) among Japanese Irises, for instance, the pond side, and there will be little a:e to discard it from there. F. J. C.

Primula farinosa

am grateful to " J. R. K." for his notes our issue of the 23rd ult. In his successes es, indeed, thrice blest, as, since my previ-u note, the prolonged and record frost in , one of the most exposed spots of the l lands, appears to have worked still :her havoc among my plants of Primula nosa, and has also struck a hard blow uch true Alpines as Dianthus alpinus and .ieglectus, while such treasures as a batch f Meconopsis quintuplinervia, many Alpine rnulas, and Cushion Saxifrages (except S. l:ina) look healthier than ever, the last dry e:od of seven weeks having forced them to nain dormant as in Nature.

'here is still a further query I have to ai: about P. farinosa, and would be glad if none could throw any light on an interest-:spoint—what is P. farinosa Craven Gem? r would assume that this variety origi-ad in Farrer's Craven Nursery, as one of is Aubrietia hybrids was named Craven n, but no reference has been found in his t works, and apparently the name has no uiority.

'hether the plant is of English or Con-nntal origin is obscure, and exactly where ffers from the type is doubtful.

'r. Sangster, of Messrs. Thompson and l:gan, tells me that it has been grown at wich for several years, though the source f upply is unknown. The form—there at :—is a much better perennial than the I, and flourishes near a small pond in e'y soil, where it has been for a few years. le than that he dare not state in case, n taking stock this spring, it is found ngst the departed.

am inclined to think that altitude, as sug-e:ed by " J. R. K.," has something to do i the longevity of P. farinosa, and that kswollen crowns induced by the softer con-it ns of a southern summer are unable to :d the damp and cold of the winter.

'ne more point. Does " J. R. K." con-d that individual plants in their wild state 'orkshire are generally long-lived? My rvations would point to the contrary.

F. H. FISHER.

Snowdrops at Burford

a recent issue of GARDENING ILLUS-R'ED you were good enough to publish the l wing note :—" Thanks to the kindness f Ir. E. A. Bowles and other good friends n now growing Snowdrops bearing the a es set out below, and would be glad to in, by purchase or exchange, any other ns that may exist :—

" Atkinsii (Painswick Churchyard), Allen's Seedling Byzantinus, Byzantinus November, Caucasicus, Cilicicus, Elwesii, Elwesii Balkan form, flavescens, Fosterii, Galatea, Icariæ, Imperatii Boyd's Long, Imperatii Twin Flowers, Lady Beatrice Stanley, latifolius Allenii, latifolius azureus, latifolius Wisley Form, latifolius Glasnevin Form, Magnet, Melvillei (Dunrobin), Merlin, Montgomery, Mrs. Backhouse No. 7, Murielæ, neapolitanus, Neil Fraser, nivalis (double yellow), nivalis Ewbank, nivalis (late-flowering form), nivalis (no green spot), nivalis Sir Herbert Maxwell's Variety, Olgæ, plicatus Boyd, plicatus Burford Variety, plicatus flore-pleno, poculiformis, Sharlokii, Straffan, Valentine, viridapice, viridapice (white form), Warham."

Of these Straffan has disappeared, but I have some hope of getting it from Ireland. " Murielæ " should be " Rachelæ," " Murielæ " not being in cultivation. Mrs. Backhouse No. 7 has also left me, but see below. Thanks to the kindness of Mr. William Robinson, Lady Moore, Mr. J. C. Watt, Mr. P. H. Thompson, and others I have added the following to the collection :—

Geranium Farreri, flowers of a delicate Apple-blossom tint, with black anthers

Backhouse's Best, Brenda Troil, Cassaba, Corcyrensis præcox, Elwesii J. C. Watt's hybrid, Green Snowdrop, Icaria, Imperatii Bitton, Iris, Latifolius Gravetye Mocca's Variety, Red Head, St. Mary's Abbey, Whitallii, besides three unnamed forms from Gravetye and two from another source. Icaria (Gravetye) is quite different from my original Icariæ, a latifolius variety. Corcyrensis præcox flowers in October and November, Iris is a little like Magnet, but has the three inner segments of the perianth deep green. Owing to the frost many of the Snowdrops are short in the stem. Atkinsii is very fine, producing many flowers with four outer segments, and Allen's Seedling is the size of a pigeon's egg.

In conclusion I may add that three friends have promised me further varieties, including one said not to flower until June, and I hope they will materialise.

Burford. WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

Geranium Farreri

FOR those who desire a plant which is neat in habit, charming in appearance, beautiful in flower, and at the same time large enough to be seen without danger to trousers knees, a long way would be trod before they could find a plant better than Geranium Farreri.

Discovered by the late Reginald Farrer in 1915 in Western China, Geranium Farreri is as robust in constitution as any other hardy Geranium.

Originally collected at 15,000 feet above sea level, it seems quite satisfied in Sussex, setting a fair crop of seed last year. The plant never exceeds 6 inches, even when in flower. The flowers are an inch and a half in diameter, and are of a delicate Apple-blossom tint, while the bunch of stamens in the centre of the flowers bear black anthers, making a striking and unusual contrast. They are borne on 2-inch to 3-inch stems, and nod gently to every breath of wind in a charming manner. The flowering season is from the end of May to mid-June, and then on and off until autumn, when the leaves change colour and gradually die down.

Associated with the golden Calochortus amabilis, Geranium Farreri is exquisite, although personally I prefer to see the plant isolated, showing its quiet charm against a mossy rock, without disturbance from other competing beauties.

Any position seems to suit this plant, though perhaps it is at its best on a cool exposure, while adequate drainage always repays itself. Gritty loam suits its needs perfectly, and, once established, this Geranium will be a joy for ever.

Sharpthorne, Sussex. REGINALD KAYE.

Amherstia nobilis

FROM THE HON. LADY CECIL, C.B.E.

I have read with much pleasure the articles by Sir William Lawrence about his grandmother, Mrs. Lawrence, especially her triumph in flowering the Amherstia nobilis. It may interest your readers to know that my father, the late Lord Amherst of Hackney, was given a plant, a young one that had been sent to Kew, in the early eighties. The one at Kew was then in a poor state from overcrowding and did not flower. My father built a special house for it in the gardens of Didlington Hall, Norfolk, with a double glass roof and two tanks to give the requisite moisture, in which we grew blue Nympheas. It flowered beautifully for the first time in 1887, and Queen Victoria graciously accepted a bloom.

The plant was first discovered by Dr. Wallich in Burma in 1827, and named after Countess Amherst, wife of William Pitt, second Baron and first Earl Amherst, who was Governor-General of Bengal, 1822 to 1828. When the tree flowered at Didlington I photographed a son of Dr. Wallich sitting under it. For the following 19 years the tree flowered every season from January to March. I have an oil painting which I did in the early nineties of a flower, natural size, when there were 50 blooms. Having now seen it at its best in Ceylon I can appreciate what a good specimen my father had of this magnificent tree.

It is not easy to cultivate even in the tropics. The tree at Buitenzorg, Java, was a poor specimen; the fine old tree at Singapore is dead. Those at Peradenia, Ceylon, are a wonderful sight in January, clothed in immense scarlet showers of bloom. Each spray, with some 20 flowers, measures about 2 feet 6 inches by 18 inches, and the tree, of 30 feet to 40 feet, is covered with them. I have not got my notes to refer to, but I think it was in March, 1887, that I wrote an account of the Amherstia in "The Garden."

ALICIA M. CECIL
(*née* Hon. Alicia Amherst).

Luculia gratissima

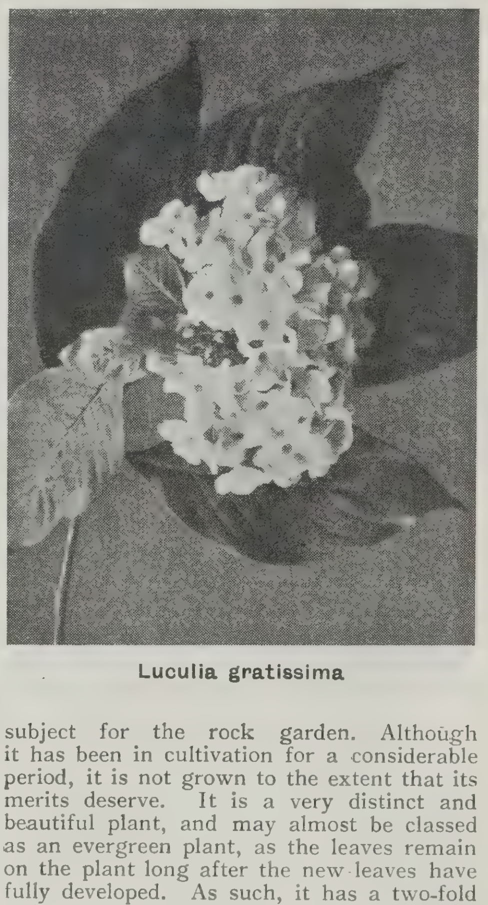
WHO may possess the temerity to name the loveliest plant? And yet have I often gazed upon the clear pink blossoms, deliciously fragrant and clustered at the extremities of richly-leaved branches and named it perfection. The flowers are of clear, shimmering, satiny pink and slightly fleshy in texture, the green leaves ample in size and deeply coloured. The growth of this shrub is upright and strong—it is an ideal subject for planting out in the border in a cool greenhouse or conservatory; it enjoys a mixture of three parts loam to one of peat, with a liberal sprinkling of sharp sand, and the drainage must be thorough. Established plants should be cut hard back after flowering, as the young growths will produce flowers the next autumn, and during winter very little water will be required; during the growing season, however, copious supplies of water must be forthcoming, and drought is possibly a cause of the bud-dropping, to which this plant is prone. This Luculia may be grown and flowered successfully in pots, but as a specimen planted out, its beauty will be fully realised. A native of the temperate Himalayas, it came to us in 1823, and was followed, in 1843, from the Khasia Hills, by L. Pinciana, a white and deliciously-scented species. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Erysimum pulchellum

One has to write of Erysimum pulchellum with some reservation. It is one of the subjects which is attractive at certain seasons, and even at all seasons in some gardens, but fails to maintain its reputation in other places where it grows too strongly. Farrer tells us that it grows from 1 foot to 2 feet high, but with me it never attained even the lower stature he mentions, and at no time has it reached more than 9 inches or so. Farrer qualifies his statement of height by saying that "it can also earn its name for daintiness by not exceeding 2 inches." It should have poor stony and sandy soil to keep it dwarf, as when it is at its full height, which is when it flowers in spring, there is a look of lankiness about the plant through the stems being rather long for the size of the heads of flowers they carry. The foliage is quite pretty, growing into a mat or carpet of rather spoon-shaped, toothed leaves rising but little above the ground. In spring the bright orange-yellow flowers are raised above this mat and remain for a considerable time in bloom. In autumn, if the first flower stems are cut away, a smaller number of flowers are produced. These are practically stemless, and then the plant looks much better than in spring. There are several forms differing little except in the form of the leaf, which in the type is toothed. E. pulchellum is readily raised from seeds or increased by cuttings. S. ARNOTT.

Galax aphylla

This little North American hardy herbaceous perennial is a most charming subject for the rock garden. Although it has been in cultivation for a considerable period, it is not grown to the extent that its merits deserve. It is a very distinct and beautiful plant, and may almost be classed as an evergreen plant, as the leaves remain on the plant long after the new leaves have fully developed. As such, it has a two-fold claim to popularity, and one would expect to meet with it more frequently. Its cultivation, though not difficult, may be partly responsible for this. It delights in a damp situation, a vegetable soil, and slight shade.



Luculia gratissima

The small white flowers, which are fairly numerous, are borne on slender naked stems, 12 inches to 18 inches high, in a comparatively dense spike, several inches long. The leaves are heart-shaped, nearly round, evenly toothed, veined, and somewhat leathery in texture; they are also smooth and rather shining. The colouring differs at the different stages of growth, the new leaves being pale green, assuming beautiful tints of reddish or scarlet hues, as they become older. This finely-tinted foliage is supported on roundish wiry stems, which, during the autumn, take on a highly polished surface. The general habit of the plant is very neat and pleasing. It flowers in
and August, the bloom lasting in good
dition for some considerable time.

As regards its treatment and cultiv
a position should be selected, when
templating planting, combining slight
and a cool damp soil, avoiding all ten
to sourness. A situation at the base
rockery in a recess formed by large st
depressed a little below the natural g
level, would prove an ideal position fo
plant; the stones would then combine i
viding the necessary amount of shad
quired. A compost of nearly all lea
to which a small quantity of good loa
charcoal is added, together with plen
moisture at all seasons, suits this plan
mirably. The charcoal is helpful in ke
the soil sweet. An annual top-dressi
this latter material will also be found
very beneficial. Propagation is
effected by division of healthy, well-g
clumps in the autumn. The clumps s
be lifted complete and thoroughly s
out, when the crowns can be readily p
replanting them separately under s
conditions to those mentioned above.
common name for this plant is "The
Plant." J.

Cynoglossum amabile

Cynoglossum amabile is a lovely bie
plant and of great value for the garden.
profusion of its masses of showy blue b
with its freedom of growth in any soil
made it one of the most grown plants.
one of Mr. Forrest's introductions
China, where it is said to grow in the
districts of Tingynch. Therefore its
with us is in arid, sunny spots, the soil
of a poor rather than of a rich nature
forms a compact plant 2 feet or more
and bears numerous flowers on slender s
on erect branching stems with a light,
effect. The flower-stem is leafy all the
up, and its loose clusters of flowers some
resemble the Forget-me-not, but the sha
blue varies.

It is distinct from anything else in
vation and an effective border plant.
also well worthy of a place on the l
flanks of the rock garden where a rich
mer effect is desired. Seed may be sow
August, but good results are obtained by
ing in the spring. The seeds may be sow
boxes of light soil and raised in a cold fr
and the young plants pricked out into b
or into an old garden frame as soon as
are fit to handle, removing them early t
borders. It sows itself freely in various
tions when once introduced. H. STEVE

Alyssum spinosum

This species is quite distinct in aspect
any of the family, and one of the most u
being a tiny shrublet which, when
grown, will prove a delightful orna
especially when it grows into silvery bu
The stems are prostrate, but so thickly
duced that they rise into a full, round t
foot high in the centre and falling low a
sides. It is best to give it room to sp
otherwise much of this beauty will be
The wiry branches are clothed in all
parts with tiny white leaves, and it b
clusters of white flowers. It is one of
hardiest and most easily cultivated of pl
thriving anywhere, even in hot, dry p
where rich vegetation is difficult to estab
The plant spreads into dense bushes, an
old branches become transformed into sp
hence the name. It is easily increase
cuttings or seed, grows in any soil,
thrives best in soil of a sandy nature.

H. STEVEN

Rose Rêve d'Or on cottage

The Individual Treatment of Roses

I.

Recently it was suggested in these columns that of all the articles, catalogue descriptions and hints, and other contributions to the culture of the Rose, upon which the enthusiast largely relies for his guidance, hardly any ever mentioned the necessity for individual knowledge and treatment, and that in the few cases where this most essential point in really successful culture was noted, very little, if any, information was given as to what this or that particular Rose required in order to give of its best

UBTLESS the frequent failure to ealise the importance of this detail in ultivation is responsible for much of sappointment which is experienced over haviour of certain Roses, both "old" new." It is equally probable that the ature" of the Rose, as a whole, tends duce the impression that so long as one minates between Teas and Hybrid Teas, wen Hybrid Perpetuals and Pernetias, on, one need go no further in know- or practice in order to obtain the best s of which particular Roses are capable. true lover of the Rose, who hesitates ard even the least satisfactory of all he until every possible chance has been red towards the improvement of its ution, will quickly discover that merely criminate between Hybrid Teas and uals and so forth is altogether insuffi- To regard and to treat this or that s" of Rose *en masse,* as it were, as ight treat a bed of Intermediate Antir- ns of various colours, is wholly in- qate in the attempt to attain any con- standard of excellence. To the keen an the bald generalisations that Roses oss feeders and require a rich adhesive and that the Teas must be more lightly than the Hybrids, are but half-truths thy the term "cultural hints" in the gement of our most exquisite and popu- wer. To him each and every Rose is lass unto itself, an individual, and, as reveals particular inclinations and re- ents, and responds to personal, ex- study and care in details of treatment. s direction, it may be added, it is clear e grower of a mere score or two may "rosarian" equally and truly as he unts his trees by the thousand.

with the idea of emphasising such that these brief notes are contributed. That they have no pretensions to being exhaustive or even comprehensive will be readily apparent; to attempt to deal individually with all the better-known Roses alone would probably require a lifetime of experiment and experience, and the conclusions occupy at least a volume. They represent merely the gathering together, in no sort of order or classification, of a heterogeneous collection of notes jotted down as occasion offered, the results, in plain and simple form, not of extensive reading on the subject nor of hearsay, but of more than 20 years' personal practical experiment and experience of Rose culture on the lines indicated above. If they are in any way informative to some, suggestive of further experiment to others, provocative of amplification at the hands of those of more lengthy experience, so much the better for the Rose and for the grower.

Only the other day, in these columns, a correspondent said that "with the treatment on which almost all other Roses thrive Mabel Morse sulks." Precisely! And so long as this Rose is given the treatment on which most Roses thrive, it will continue to disappoint, as I have noticed it so often does. No manure, natural or artificial, but a soil uniformly, consistently, and decidedly moist, will establish this Rose as one of the last to be discarded. Florence L. Izzard may be bracketed with the former in both the details mentioned, but in this case the result of too generous treatment seems to be the production of overmuch coarse wood, often awkwardly placed, with accompanying deterioration in quality and freedom of bloom. The delightful Golden Emblem, one of the outstanding difficulties of which is its tendency to die back badly, largely overcomes this fault if grown in a soil practically free of manure, so open as to be distinctly on the light side. And of all Roses this is the one I should prune last, never before the end of April, for if any Rose is susceptible to frost, at least in the colder districts, Golden Emblem is, and is the first to succumb. Wilhelm Kordes is another which, if it does not actually resent manure, is far better with the most sparing treatment; indeed, feeding of this Rose seems to be quite secondary to suitable pruning. Like a number of others, it is frequently pruned too hard, and the best results accrue from using the knife on it almost as lightly as one would on a Noisette.

It would seem superfluous to suggest how better to grow our old and yet most valued friend, Frau Karl Druschki. This old Rose frequently perseveres to remarkably good results under by no means ideal management. It is not, and never will be, a wet weather Rose, but we can assist it considerably by attention to one or two details; by disbudding, of course, which is absolutely essential, by—who would believe it?—giving it rather less manure than we usually do, and, equally important, by pruning far more lightly than is often the case. Though seldom seen, the ideal method with this Rose is to peg it down—so treated one would hardly recognise it. The same may be said of Avoca—the last-mentioned method apparently being the only way to obtain the freedom of bloom so often lacking in this otherwise satisfactory Rose. Still another old stager, Caroline Testout, which we have known how to grow everywhere and anywhere, for so long, and about which it seems almost ridiculous to suggest anything so late in the day, has a quite common fault, the cure for which, or partial remedy at least, does not seem so well known. In some gardens this old stager "balls" its blooms badly, but grown in the heaviest possible soil which is not actually clay a vast improvement is effected. Heavy land, too, and a

A double-flowered form of Campanula pusilla

heavy hand with the knife, appears to be the treatment most acceptable to The Queen Alexandra, of effective colouring, but unsatisfactory habit and growth. Those otherwise splendid Roses, Geo. Dickson, Earl Haig, and J. B. Clark, are invariably spoiled by distorted blooms and hanging heads. The remedy as to 90 per cent. of both faults is to peg them down and "spur." If grown as a "bush" quite light pruning gives superior results. The indispensable Hugh Dickson is also first-rate under the same treatment, and it may here be noted that this Rose, when grown as a "bush," resents anything like a sheltered position, and rejoices in exposure and rough usage. Elsewhere it tends to great excess of wood. Given really stiff, not too rich loam, and lifted and transplanted every two or three years, H. Dickson is magnificent in form and colouring. Of other older Roses Joseph Hill is undoubtedly tender under the winter conditions generally prevailing in the North, and should be given adequate protection, while the ancient but useful Ulrich Brunner should be allowed to develop into a good-sized bush, as then only will the colouring and shape of bloom be up to the standard of which it is capable. And as far as colouring goes, there is little doubt that Roses which vary, such as Sunburst, which in one garden is a really rich yellow and in the next a washed-out cream, or dirty white, do so, not only under influence of season or soil, but also of the age of the wood on which blooms are produced. It will be found that blooms of Sunburst on old wood are regularly of far deeper tint than those on young growths. Upon suitable pruning, therefore, in this case, at least, richness of hue largely depends. Fading of colour as the bloom expands is often alleged against some of the yellows, but I have never found this to be so with Mrs. W. Quin, which has, as far as I can see, as a bedding Rose, but one fault. It has a tendency to precocious growth, and is thus liable to be frostbitten badly. Therefore, late, and be it said not too heavy, pruning should be practised, and, indeed, this Rose is probably best allowed to form a bush of considerable size. As it is of very vigorous habit it can well have a little more space than is usually given. C. V. Haworth, though a Hybrid Tea, is another which is liable to frostbite, and pruning should be delayed as long as possible. F. S. Key is, to my knowledge, the only Rose which actually prefers shade, and, grown under completely cool conditions overhead and below ground, this comparatively little-known Rose is well nigh perfect. where it is sure to disappoint. The coloured Frances Gaunt and pure M. D. Hamill are two which prefer lighter pruning than is generally the similar Roses, while the popular Mr Herriot seems to gain in vigour and st of stem by sparing use of the knife. heavy land suits the latter best, but case is this Rose so satisfactory as grown as a standard with normal pru

J. R

(To be continued.)

Ononis Natrix

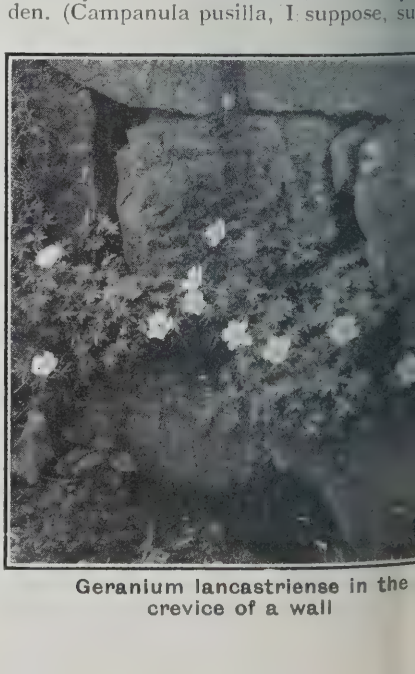
A noble plant when well grown flower-stems are often 2 feet in height, branched, carrying endless pairs of flowers opening successively to the ext of the stem. The stems are so thick duced that they form a dense tuft, and a shoot falls away from the closely centre it produces a fine effect. The bl are drooping in the bud. It shou planted in a sunny position in a cre small pocket between stones. This the root moist and protected from t sun, which otherwise the plant enjoys. compost should consist mainly of goo to which a good proportion of broken added, and the soil should be open to depth, as the tap root strikes deeply in ground. It is truly an imposing pla should be planted in positions where summer effect is desired. The plant fectly hardy, but objects to water ab crown for any length of time. This m avoided by planting at a slight angle to it to get away quickly.

H. Stev

Native Plants in the Garden

Now that we have such an immense range of foreign flowers to choose from it seems, at first sight, rather foolish to cultivate our native plants, and, in fact, we usually find that those plants that give us most pleasure in the countryside give us least in the garden. Wild Daffodils in a pasture are as pretty a sight as any but a farmer could wish to see, yet in the naked soil of the garden they look awkward and gawky. Wild Hyacinths and Cowslips may be downright ugly in the border, and the fragile beauty of the Rosebay Willow Herb (which is combined with an unexpected strength of character that tends to become aggressive in the garden) looks uncomfortably rustic in sophisticated company. It seems as though our choice of flowers is influenced by a feeling for the æsthetic harmony between a plant and its natural surroundings, so that we prefer, in the frankly artificial setting of the garden, those plants that we have never seen in their wild state. The only native plants that do not seem out of place in the border are rarities, such as Geranium lancastriense, Fritillaria Meleagris, and the Welsh Poppy, which few of us ever see outside the garden. These, like all our rare and beautiful native plants, have been cultivated by nurserymen for generations, and there is not the smallest excuse for adding to their rarity by collecting them.

Much more obviously fitted for the garden than any of our normal wildlings are the variations from type among the common plants that happen to have a decorative value. There are many such abnormalities, and we think at once of doubleness, albinism, variegation of foliage, and a fastigiate habit of growth. These are all "monstrous pieces of Nature," and we need not hesitate to collect them, for though such variations may be valuable in the garden, they are nearly always useless to the plant and may be often a positive handicap to it in the struggle for existence under normal conditions. D ness is an aberration that is characteris useless to the plant, but often enhan value to the gardener. It ruins the gr many plants, such as Irises and Campa but it heightens the effect of those f whose beauty depends upon their n grouping, and it often adds a depth an ness to their colour. Its occurrence our common wild flowers has given us two good garden plants. There is the Lady Smock, which is a perfect little plant with its solid spires of Lavender miniature Stock, while the normal delicately charming in the water mead hopelessly lost in the garden. Anothe is the double white Meadow Saxifrag "Pretty Maids all in a row" of Mary den. (Campanula pusilla, I suppose, su

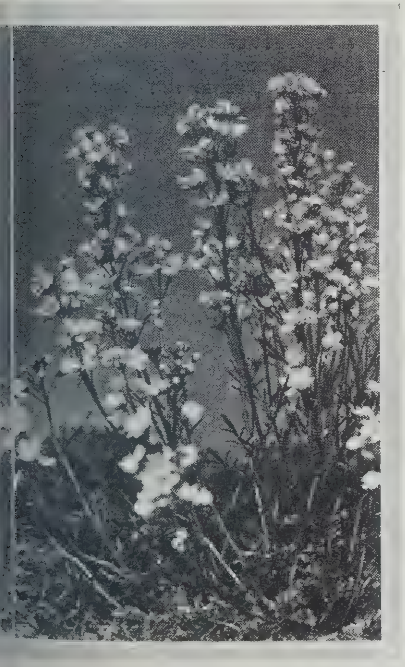


Geranium lancastriense in the crevice of a wall

ilver Bells.") And some of us have a
ss for double Buttercups, especially in
pany of the Dusky Geranium.
ism has given us some good plants in
ite Foxglove and the white Colum-
hich are not only useful to throw up
our of the type, but have a certain
ghostly beauty of their own. In some
forms, such as those that we meet
the Geraniums, the stamens and the
of the petals fail to share in the
decoloration, so that the albino has
ter more emphatic design than the
form and may reveal its latent beauty.
rgated leaves are not everyone's fancy,
dowdy common Bugle acquires an
ost of distinction when its rather
lue flowers are set off by silver varie-
aves.

ddition to these abrupt departures
ype there are other and commoner
ns which often greatly increase the
value in the garden. The faint
of the wild Thyme and the common
which are richly beautiful in wide
on the moors and hillsides, makes
ok thin, and even washy when con-
a small patch in the garden. But
inted forms, which do not need to be
on a large scale to bring out their
have been collected and distributed.
hyme and Heather suffer another dis-
nge in the garden, for we miss there
dations of tone that distance and the
ities of the ground give to them in
atural surroundings. But we can
d this defect by planting together as
arieties of colour, both in flower and
as we can acquire, and we shall find
ch a collection gives, rather un-
tly, a more natural and congruous
an a group of the pure type.

variations from type are so slight
y seem hardly worth collecting, and
may have as great a potential value
trivial variation in the field Poppy
caught Mr. Wilks' seeing eye and
, in time, the noble race of Shirley



ouble-flowered Cardamine (Cuckoo Flower or Lady Smock)

Our native flora is still a great
of possibilities for the gardener, for
s are constantly appearing, and pro-
often disappearing, since the decora-
s usually have but a short life in
the rough-and-tumble competition of their natural surroundings, and those who care for flowers will do the community a good service if they keep an eye open for good-looking variations among common plants and introduce them to their gardens. For many good plants that we now reckon familiar would never have been known were it not that "being observed by some curious lovers of varieties they have been transplanted and so made more common."

F. A. H.

Wallflowers

There are a great many varieties of the common Wallflower (Cheiranthus Cheiri) in existence at the present time, and these are among the best of spring-flowering plants. In past years we have had them in bloom for many months, commencing to flower as early as December, and continuing to bloom throughout the winter, in favourable seasons, by raising plants of the early-flowering kinds. The ordinary standard biennial varieties continue the succession throughout spring and early summer. Wallflowers are true harbingers of spring, and to-day they are grown more than ever, both for market purposes and for decorative work in the flower gardens of large establishments, parks and public gardens, and in villa and cottage gardens. They are equally useful massed in beds or borders, by themselves, or in conjunction with other spring-flowering subjects, *e.g.*, Tulips and Daffodils.

Wallflower seed is very often sown too late, with the result that the growth has not had time to mature properly to enable the plants to withstand the winter; consequently, and in the event of the plants pulling through, many of them are so weakened that they make a poor show of bloom later on. I have grown large quantities of Wallflowers in this locality (Midlands), for very many years, with unfailing success, and they have always proved a standby when many other spring-bedding plants have done indifferently through one cause or another. The procedure usually followed in their cultivation is to endeavour to grow the plants on without a check throughout, from the time the seed is sown until the plants are put out into their flowering quarters in October. The seed is sown the first week in May on ground not recently manured, in drills 1 foot apart. As soon as the young seedlings are large enough, they are transplanted into rows 15 inches apart, allowing 8 inches from plant to plant in the rows, choosing a showery time for the operation. After transplanting, the seedlings are watered to settle them, and to assist them over their removal. During the summer months the soil between the rows is kept clean and aerated by frequent hoeing. This hoeing, and constant stirring of the soil, is the secret of success during the growing period, between June and October; growth and root action is encouraged, and evaporation of the moisture from the ground is retarded, the loose top-soil acting as a mulch to the plants. By the time the planting-out season arrives they have developed into splendid, bushy well-matured plants, capable of withstanding the rigours of winter, and in the spring producing flowers of good size and texture in abundance.

Many Varieties

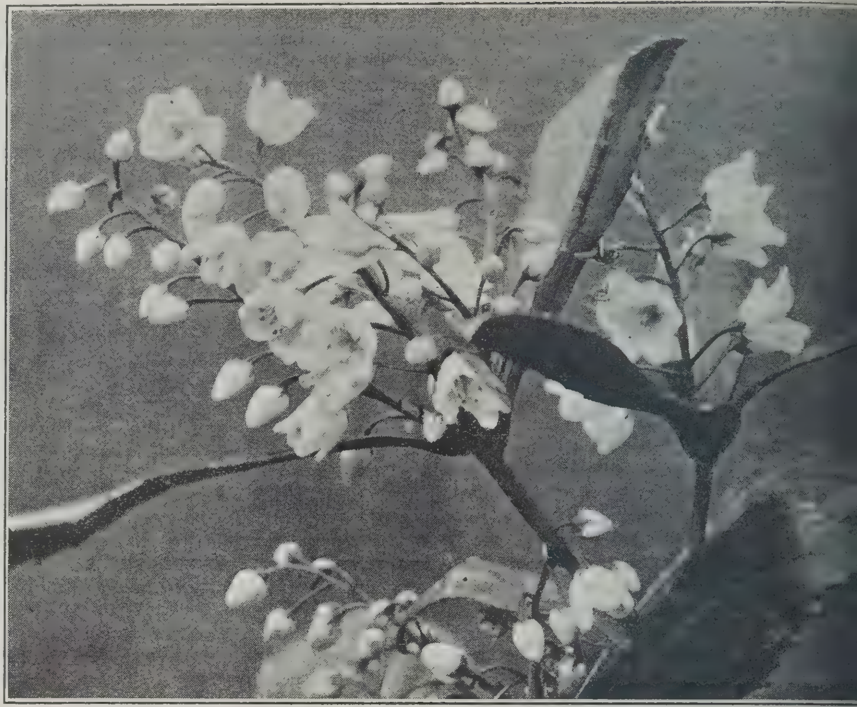
There are now a large number of varieties to choose from, all of which are worthy of cultivation, each variety having some outstanding merit to recommend it. The actual choice is really a question of individual taste or requirements. Apart from their usefulness for spring-bedding purposes, the plants afford a good green foliage throughout the winter months.

Besides the common Wallflowers, there are a number of perennial species of Cheiranthus, but all are not quite hardy. Some of these, however, will grow and survive mild winters if planted on rockwork, or on walls. One or two are worthy of mention, *e.g.*, alpinus, mutabilis, Menziesii, and Marshallii, the latter a supposed hybrid. The following are a few varieties in the biennial group of distinctive merit: Fire King, vivid orange-scarlet, height 15 inches; Orange Bedder, rich orange, shaded apricot, dwarf compact habit, height 9 inches to 12 inches; Sutton's Giant Blood Red, a variety of sturdy habit, and large spikes of bloom, freely produced, height 15 inches to 18 inches; Cloth of Gold, one of the best yellows, and very effective in large masses, 18 inches high; Sutton's Three Queens—Purple Queen, rich purple or ruby colour; Faerie Queene, primrose and pale citron flowers; Eastern Queen, apricot changing to rosy-pink, height about 18 inches; Harbinger, an early bloomer with rich brown flowers, height 18 inches; Ryder's Crimson Velvet, rich crimson flowers, freely produced on large spikes about 18 inches high; Golden Vulcan, a golden counterpart of Crimson Velvet, a rich golden colour, and with a fine habit, freely produced and lasting flowers.

A double-flowered form of a native Bramble

Siberian Wallflowers

The Siberian Wallflower (Cheiranthus Allionii) has come into considerable prominence during the last few years. Its flowers are of a brilliant orange colour, and produced with extraordinary freedom. The plant attains a height of 9 inches to 12 inches on the average. It is one of the most delightful of early-flowering plants, and may be used for spring-bedding purposes, or to provide a succession to the ordinary Wallflowers. It makes an ideal subject for beds, borders or rockeries, continuing to bloom the whole season if the seed pods are removed. Grown in large masses or groups, it is very effective, creating a brilliant display. The plants may be treated as biennials, in the same manner as the ordinary Wallflowers. Seed may be sown in June or July, transplanting the seedlings into nursery rows, and later transplanting the plants into their flowering quarters in October. Another sowing may be made in August or September, planting out the following spring to continue the succession throughout the summer months. Care should be taken when transplanting, as tap roots are formed, which are easily damaged, and failure may result if carelessly handled, especially when the plants have attained a considerable size.



Anopterus glandulosus

A beautiful flowering shrub from Tasmania shown at the last R.H.S. meeting by R. Gill and Son, Falmouth

The Ceanothus

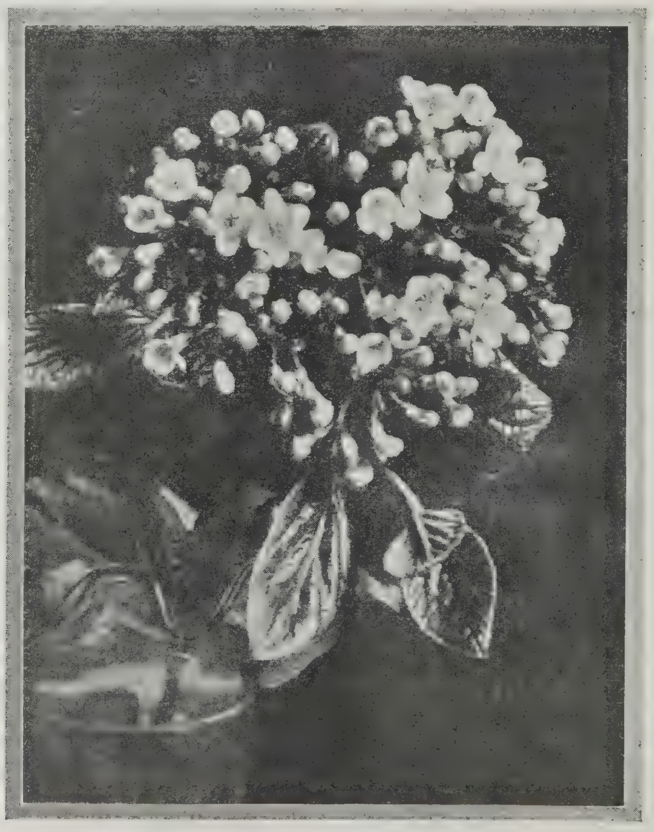
The Ceanothus have long been in the front rank of flowering shrubs, and are deservedly popular, being elegant, rapid in growth, and beautiful in bloom. Some attain moderate dimensions, while others are dwarf bushes with rounded form. The varieties have proved fairly hardy and useful in the summer garden, flowering freely and showing considerable beauty of foliage.

The headquarters of these shrubs is the Pacific slope of N. America, and in cultivation they do best when baked by the midday sun. If well hardened they will grow with vigour and defy frosts, though some slight covering is necessary during very severe weather.

All the species are attractive. There are one or two that give better results when allotted wall space, even in the warmest counties, but this should not deter amateurs in other climes from selecting a warm corner.

The following are among the more important:—Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles, one of the best for the open border. Extends the season well into autumn. This plant requires to be fairly hard pruned as soon as frosts are unlikely, say, the middle of April; in fact, all the varieties should be seen to in
this respect as the flowers are prod
the current year's growth. C. azur
fers a wall with a southerly aspect,
masses of lovely pale blue flowers a
produced during May and June. C.
is a dainty-flowered bush and lasts
fection a long time. Though quit
enough to be grown as a bush in the
parts of England it is usually grown
a wall. Grown thus it is often 6
8 feet high. C. veitchianus produces
of bright blue flowers during early
while C. rigidus is a deep blue. T
several others, some almost white,
above will be sure to please if well c
Cuttings put in during early autum
cover of a hand-light usually give
percentage of rooted plants, but lay
the quickest and best results.

H. St



Viburnum Burkwoodii

A new hybrid that will be again shown at the next R.H.S. meeting

Trees with coloured folia

Beautiful as the variegated Elms
purple and copper Beeches are, th
other trees to be recommended on
of their delightfully coloured foliage
Acer Negundo, the variegated kinds
striking. The following are wor
ing, for they are small-growing a
stand pruning: Foliis marginatus
with golden variegated leaves; vari
with silver variegated foliage; and C
cum aureum, with leaves of a golden
Catalpa bignonioides Aurea is anoth
golden tree, keeping its colour
through the summer. Then there is
sylvatica Zlatia, a beautiful golden
though unfortunately the colour decl
fore the season ends. A nice golde
Ash is Fraxinus excelsior aurea, as
F. americana aucubæfolio. Idese
carpa should have a place with it
heart-shaped leaves with bright red
A very handsome purple leaved tree
always retains its colour well is
cerasifera atropurpuræa. Another
purple-leaved tree is P. Persica foliis
A most striking silver-leaved tree
from the Himalayas is Pyrus vesti
lastly is Robinia Pseudacacia aurea,
handsome golden tree indeed.

F

Avenue of Olives

LA MORTOLA

Cypresses and Echiums

La Mortola

Some impressions of a famous garden

Egarden of La Mortola was con-
vi and created by one who was not
ly a keen gardener, but an ardent
of Nature. When the late Sir
Hanbury first took over the estate
7 it was his intention to make it a
ninly for the plants of the Mediter-
rgion, but it has become a botanical
offering hospitality to representa-
he flora of the globe. Albeit, it is
its founder desired it should be,
else a garden, a garden not only
and trees but of tranquility and
al beauty.

t any rate, was the first and most
npression I gathered there. Hav-
ached it, as all doughty pilgrims
the noisy, dusty, racketing, over-
oast road, and descended into its
1-bathed peace, one becomes con-
a profound and soothing calm
als about one like a fragrance. It
occasions that one thinks of Bacon
o whisper his immortal words lest
keyed savour with which they have
ivested should even shadow their
eauty. Moreover, words of still
neration will by this time have
he visitor's attention, for here,
stone and appearing as if borne by
pitual messenger from an enchanted
he inscription :—

IERUNT VOCEM DOMINI
EAMBULANTIS IN HORTO

eard the voice of the Lord God
walking in the garden . . .

e centre of the garden stands the Palazzo, mellow and restful in its Italian architecture and soft colouring, and from the terraces adjacent to it one may realise that the grounds, sloping steeply seawards, do not only occupy the whole of a cliff-walled promontory of about 100 acres in extent, but that Nature could hardly have bequeathed to art a spot more highly favoured for the making of such a garden as this.

But, let me hasten to explain that I do not mean to imply that the climate of this part of Italy is always ideal for gardening. Ask Mr. McLeod Braggins, La Mortola's superintendent, and he will tell you that if recent experiences of wintry weather on the Riviera have been rather more than exceptional his records show not a few disastrous visitations of the sort, not to mention deluges of rain of tropical violence and hurricanes of devastating force.

No, it will not do to assume that gardening is all so easy on the sunny Riviera. When I suggest that those who have created La Mortola have had the gods on their side I mean to infer that the natural features of that rugged cape with the grandeur of its sea and the wild, rocky precipices which rise so impressively to landward, not forgetting the stream and its deep, shady ravine on the western side, together comprise a raw material of such unique charm and possibilities that if La Mortola is a gem among gardens it owes not a little to the setting.

That La Mortola might have had a different fate is true enough. But Sir Thomas Hanbury knew better than to violate that which is the most priceless feature of the place. And as one wanders about the gardens it becomes increasingly manifest that as little as possible has been done which would in any way tend to intrude upon Nature's own design.

The last time I was at La Mortola was early March, and upon each of the two long days spent there the sun shone from a cloudless sky of Italian blue. The temperature felt like that of an English June, and the sea which washes the line of that superb crescent, the " Shore of the Setting Sun," between La Mortola and Genoa, lay calm as a lake, blue as a Gentian, beyond the Pines which fringed the rocky walls of the garden.

Of the vast number of things horticultural gathered together in this garden it is clearly impossible to write here, but, in briefly touching upon some of the more outstanding features, the noble avenue of Cypresses which at one time lined the only approach to the Palazzo, viz., that from the Roman road, via Aureliana, which traverses the garden, is worthy of a foremost mention. There may be finer specimens of Cupressus sempervirens in other parts of the world, but the stately, sombre columns of this avenue, rising black against the intensely brilliant sea and sky, here occupy a position so commanding and so dominate the main part of the garden that they will leave their imprint on the memory if anything will. Moreover, at the feet of these giants are ranged the many Echiums which are grown to such perfection in this garden. Only a few of these, notably E. formosum, were in flower, but one saw enough to realise something of the wonderful masses of Borage-blue with which these huge Buglosses must challenge sea and sky during the later days of spring.

About 100 species and varieties of Acacias (Mimosa) are grown at La Mortola,

Succulents at La Mortola

which means that there are few months of the year in which some of them are not in flower. Nearly twenty of the winter and spring bloomers were on show when I was there, and some of these were so full of their billowy gold that the air about them was heavy with their Meadowsweet fragrance. Always in curious distinction to the Acacias on the Riviera are the Citrus trees, and these, as all the world knows, are a strong line at La Mortola. Not only does the broad, dark-green leafage and rather stiff habit of the Oranges and many of their kind make a striking contrast to the light and elegant Mimosas with their vivid yellows, more lively greens and steely emeralds, but the aromatic odour of Citrus fruits in hot sunshine has a pungent tang which is wholly absent in that of the other. Although my memory of the Orange tribe in California was still fresh, the wide range of kinds seen here was something of a revelation. There were Oranges of every conceivable size, from midgets like marbles to huge yellow globes as big as the crown of a bowler hat. The former represent the class often used by Italians who make crystallised fruits, while the latter are familiar to us only in the form of candied-peel. There were also blood Oranges in various degrees of " bloodiness " as well as varieties which yield both from their aromatic rind and scented blossoms the oils used in perfume distilleries. Also in abundance were those sour Oranges which nobody wanted until a Scotchman came along who, finding they could be had for nothing, invented marmalade. As for sweet ones, Mandarins and the rest, these are raised in endless diversity. There are Lemons as fat as Pumpkins, Limes small enough to sit in acorn-cups, with an interminable number of intermediate sizes, while the Grape Fruits graciously offer the innocent a solution of the origin of their popular name by growing in great pendulous clusters.

Agaves and Aloes

The present owner of La Mortola has a weakness for succulents, and his collection of these weird things is probably one of the finest in the world. Since my ignorance of succulents is abyssmal I can only assume that interest in them is a matter of temperament, and am ready to believe that they make charming pets when once you get to know them. But I seldom feel really at ease with succulents, for you never quite know where you are with them. Here, for example, is a fluffy ball of iridescent monkey-fur, so silkily soft that it invites you to stroke it; a most engaging toy. But your kind intentions are immediately frustrated by its next-door neighbour, some fiery Mexican, who leaps forth brandishing blood-red spears in his gory hands. Again, the lovely scarlet blossoms of a Cereus may hold your admiration, but only until your flesh suddenly creeps and you shrink with horror from a squalid, loathly object, which, like a slab of putrefied liver, is lurking in the shadow of that beautiful Brazilian.

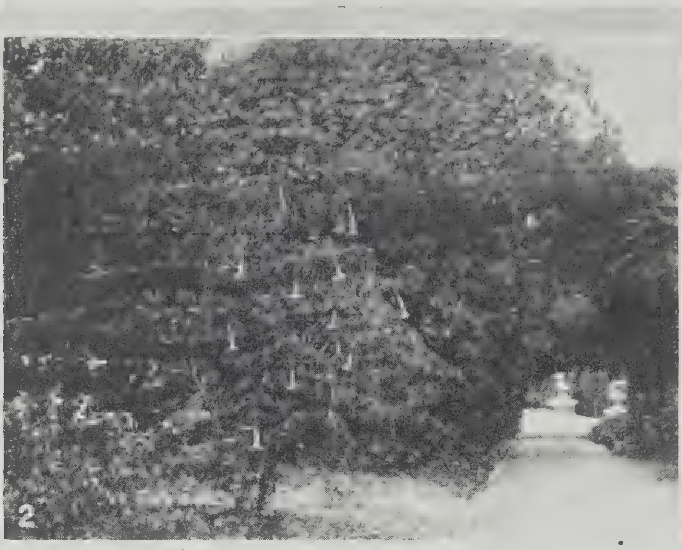
No one who is confronted by the " plantes grasses," as the French gardener calls these vegetable camels, can complain that if La Mortola is a place of unspeakable loveliness it does not stage any thrills, and pretty dramatic thrills, too. For here the giant and the pigmy hob-nob with one another; fairy princesses flirt with ogres of sinister and dreadful mien. The grotesque and the sublime, the beautiful and the ugly bask in the same sunshine; the ferocious and the debonair share the same rock; the damned and the dejected writhe and coil
feet of the tall and gracious.
plants which pretend to be snakes a
candles and pincushions, bayo
clubs, insects and toads and m
And all of these will provide
material for a lively dream as l
serial film for any visitor romanti
to desire such a diversion.

With a lingering vision of the A
as through a door-way pillared by
lofty Cypresses, their torches of cri
orange flaming in the sun agains
trous sapphire of the sea beyond,
a place where that elegant Sedge
Papyrus) the papyrus of Ancient E
standing in a cool, clear pool which
its long, green blades and the dro
sels of its silken crowns. Then wa
the uncommon experience of a
allows one to see from above ra
below the many climbing sub-tropi
of a winding pergola which wo
the usual conditions, never be s
since most of the blossoms seek th
appear only on the top. Here, o
gola alone, was enough of gran
interest to haunt a gardener's m
ever.

Presently, I was able to renew
quaintance with some Daturas,
the fine yellow D. chlorantha, a
specimen whose long, drooping be
lanquid with their own sultry
Wreathing a stone balustrade
dainty festoons of rose, lilac, or v
several Hardenbergias, whilst on t
close by some Camellias, in bloo
snow-white in bold contrast, were
blossoms, all perfect in form and
Cassia tomentosa was in full b
prostrate Rosemary was draping
wall along the whole length of
court with its subtle blend of em
azure. In shady spots the pale s
stars of Vinca difformis were remi
that the humblest of native plant
joy this sanctuary, and the T
(Euphorbia dendroides) of the hills
feet tall, was accorded a not less
place than the sumptuous Paulo
perialis whose wonderful masses
blossoms rising above the enorm
were singularly ornamental. Ano
striking object was Oreopanax dact
with Aralia-like foliage covered with
brown fur.

With bells of a warm cin
Canarina campanulata was ring
news of spring from a trellis which
with Rosa indica, R. sinica anemon
Banksiæ, R. bourbonia and other
full flower. Buddleia auriculata,
gascariensis, and B. asiatica were a
rate form. From a border Russel
was already trumpeting its appre
the sun with bugles of crimson.
Armandi had enveloped a pergola w
of Hawthorn-scented white flowers
are rarely seen on this fine plan
sunny lands. The gorgeous reds an
of the Clivias, those cousins of
whose name recalls the noble House
were blazing with red-hot splend
rocky slope. Primula malacoides
few groups of P. kewensis, made a
of tender lavender-blue beneath the
a lofty Eucalyptus. Genista mon
with slender wisps of white, was ble
perfume with that of Osmanthus
and Jasminum primulinum showing
it ought to look like in English gard
unguicularis, in shades of lavender
white, was flowering in great qu
noted also among other border thin
settia pulcherrima, Salvia elegans,
cana, and S. gesneræflora, many

1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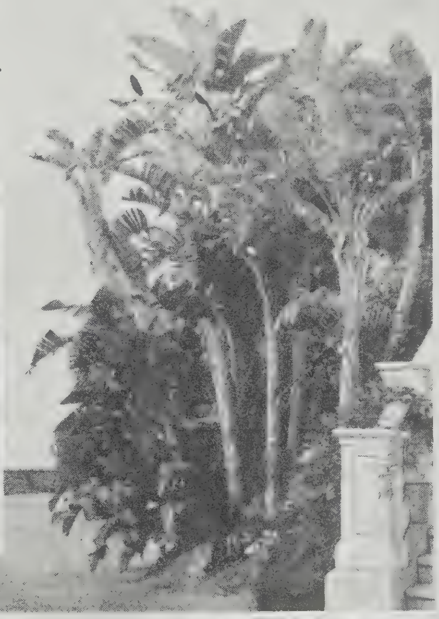
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7

THE FAMOUS RIVIERA GARDENS AT LA MORTOLA

. In the Italian garden.

. Datura suaveolens (sweet scented). Note the large trumpet-apl white flowers.

. The Snowdrop Tree or Silver-bell Tree (Halesia tetraptera) near e lazzo.

4. Mr. S. McLeod Braggins (Superintendent of the gardens at La Mortola) standing by the bole of an Olive tree

5. Strelitzia angustifolia, a Bird of Paradise flower from South Africa.

6 and 7. Pines, Palms, and succulents, including Prickly Pears, Opuntias or Indian Figs.

iums already suggesting full summer, with Gerberas, Agathæas, Strelitzias, the fragrant Enocephalus africanus, Reinwardtia trigyna, like a glorious yellow Linum, and the lovely Westringia rosmariniformis. Fuchsia triphylla and F. corymbiflora were very delightful, as was the dainty rose-pink Lopezia miniata. A Clianthus was making a great show of colour with its clustered lobster claws in a rich scarlet, whilst on some of the walls Bougainvillea glabra, in one or two choice varieties, as well as B. spectabilis and B. lateritia were reminding us that there are better colours than the prevailing magenta in this gorgeous race.

So one might proceed indefinitely endeavouring to unfold the treasures even of a winter's day of this famous garden. But, conscious as I am of many omissions, the exigences of space have to be regarded. La Mortola is as inexhaustible as it is enchanting.

A. T. JOHNSON.

Research in the Garden

DURING the life of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED considerable progress has been made on the scientific side of horticulture, especially during the last 20 years. Previous to that many cultural operations which obtained were practised, because, by the long process of trial and error, it had been established that such methods produced good results. The last 20 years of our existence has seen many changes, and the labours of our scientists have enabled us to make a more rapid progress than was possible by the trial and error method, but it should be noticed that this rapid progress has, in the main, been built up on the solid foundations of past experience.

We live now in the age when we are very gradually finding out why we do certain things in the garden. If we make a critical examination we must admit that research during the last decade has established the fact that much of the old rule-of-thumb practice was based on right lines. As an example let us recall the fact that many, many years ago gardeners who aimed at producing Potatoes free from the blemish of Surface Scab grew their crop in leaf-soil. Within the last few years Millard, working at Leeds University, has shown why this was so. Millard demonstrated the fact that the organism which caused Surface Scab in Potatoes normally lived as a saprophyte, on decaying organic matter in the soil, but if organic matter was short in any given soil in which Potatoes happened to be, the organism concerned would attack Potatoes as its first choice when decaying organic matter failed. In view of this the growing of Potatoes in leaf-soil, which is practically pure organic matter, was very sound practice. Many examples could be given to show that gardeners in the early days of the life of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED did many things, the real reason of which they knew not, but research has shown that they were right. To the student it is of interest to take any of the established cultural practices and try to find out the reason of it all.

It is often stated that we have more insect pests and fungoid diseases in recent years compared with 30 or 40 years ago. We are of the opinion that this is due to at least two causes. (1) Present-day research is gradually clearing up many of the life-histories of the organisms concerned, and it is now possible to define the actual cause of crop failure, but in the old days "blights" were accepted as part and parcel of certain years, and often several organisms were concerned when only one cause was accepted. (2) Plants are now grown on a greater scale than in the old days, *e.g.*, Tomatoes used to be a crop grown by a few in private gardens scattered all over the country. If a crop failed it was destroyed and no very great harm was done. Now Tomatoes are grown by the acre, organisms which cause crop failure have a very fine chance of multiplying with extraordinary rapidity, and the destruction of a few plants thought to be affected does not control the trouble, because the organism had spread its activities beyond the few. Further, the Tomato must of necessity be grown on the same site year after year, and this fact alone tends to favour the development of the troublesome organisms.

Perhaps the most outstanding event during the last 50 years in connection with pest control has been the placing on the market of so-called tar-oil washes, which have enabled gardeners to control certain troublesome fruit pests during the dormant period of the year. Tar distillates are as yet a long way from being perfect, but even the imperfect article is superior to anything we had in the past.

Research work with fruit culture has made rapid strides in the last 50 years, and the work at East Malling and Long Ashton has helped to clear up much that was obscure. Not the least of this work is that of root stock influence. We can now buy Apple trees on a definitely known stock which can be relied upon to produce a tree which will answer the purpose for which it is intended. The work of Apple stocks has reached a very advanced stage, and progress has been, and is being made with the other fruits.

Research has helped to clear the character of many a young gardener. The case we have in mind is with regard to the culture of certain plants which have always been known to be liable to "damping off." Of the many, perhaps Cinerarias will do as an example. Twenty years ago, if one was in charge of a batch of Cinerarias it frequently happened that just as the batch was coming into flower some of the plants began to wilt and eventually die. When the head paid his next round the journeyman in charge was blamed for over-watering, and to be "sacked" for so doing was not unknown. The research worker has now established the fact that the damping off of Cinerarias is due to a fungus the spores of which are liable to lurk in many places in and around the greenhouse, decaying staging or even the greenhouse itself. It can also be introduced in the soil by contaminated water.

The position of soil and manurial problems is similar to that of the other branches of our work. We now know much that we did not. The actual use of organic manure is more thoroughly understood, while the extended use of inorganic manures to supplement depleted supplies of the organic material has done much in producing larger crops. Synthetic farmyard manure is now an accomplished fact, and in many gardens waste material is being treated and made into good manure which, 10 years ago, would have been destroyed by fire, and the ash only used. The advantages of research are not confined to the country in which the work is done, and synthetic manures is a case in point. By adaptations of the same process much waste organic material in many parts of the world is being used to produce crops of Maize, Cocoa, Tea, Sugar, fruit, etc., etc.

Enough has been said to indicate that, during the last 50 years, considerable progress has been made in clearing up some of our problems. Much remains to be done, but we can look forward with confidence to the future. Each piece of work done helps on the cause, and as long as practice and science work hand in hand good must result.

Notes on annuals

SANVITALIA PROCUMBENS
been largely grown, its merits h
been fully recognised by those
dwarf-habited, summer-blooming
is a fit companion to the Lo
Alyssum, which are so much used
flower beds on the grass. It pr
bright orange-yellow blossoms v
and continuously all through the
until frost comes. This is an excel
for window-boxes, and would be
if better known. It should be
warmth in February, and as soo
young plants are large enough to h
should be pricked out in boxes, or, b
be put into small pots so that they
very little check when planted out.
in this way and well hardened bef
ing they will come into bloom early
have a long blooming season.
grandiflora cannot be termed showy
flowers possess a refinement which
Seeds can be raised early in Mar
glass and put where they are to blo
large enough to handle, or they may
in the open ground in the latter end

This annual must have a nice,
where it gets plenty of light and air
ing among other more robust-habit
it does not display its true charact
best to leave from three to six
gether about 4 inches apart. Th
need a constant supply of flowers th
the summer cannot afford to ne
annual Chrysanthemums. It is
come-again with them, and they are
pleased. They need little nourishm
long periods of drought do not dest
blooming power.

If used simply for decoration flow
be picked off before seeds form,
exhaustion and the consequent
condition quickly come. These are
growing among low-growing shrubs
lar places where the soil is poor
very dry. All that need be done is
the seeds in; enough will be sure
up. If allowed to bear some seeds
first year there will be no need
annually; enough young plants wi
every spring.

Malope grandiflora is one of the
annuals. It is of vigorous habit and
allowed ample space for developmen
wise the large, handsome flowers do
their true character. It has a fi
massed, and, where there is space,
used in that way. Seeds should
where the plants are to bloom. Th
up readily and should be thinned out
6 inches to 9 inches apart, accordin
nature of the soil. This annual
need rich ground, it being apt to
much to leaf in highly fed land.
space, abundance of light, sun, and
a moderate amount of food is all
needed.

Jacobæas should be grown by th
have to deal with soils that parch in
They love free exposure to sun and
not demand constant attention in th
of watering, and require but little
ment. It will, therefore, be seen h
able they are to garden owners wh
devote a great amount of time and
afford to spend a large amount of m
their gardens. Clarkias are indis
and so easily grown. Sown early in
the open ground and thinned out
apart they flower freely all through t
mer. Those who need a good suppl
bloom should make a feature of this
making two sowings, one in the latte
March, another a fortnight later.

Godetias, to be seen at their bes

nty of space—at least 9 inches from
plant. They will then make stems
of the top of a fishing-rod and will
large, handsome blooms. There are
me fine double-flowered varieties of
wy annual. Godetias and Clarkias
useful for growing in pots for the
ring decoration of rooms and con-
ies. They are easily raised, and can
essfully grown by those who may
ly an elementary knowledge of grow-
nts in pots. Eschscholtzias are a
instance of what selection and cross-
have effected in garden flowers. A
oarse yellow flower which has never
ld in very high esteem has given birth
rties which are as varied in colour as
beautiful. A great point in favour
annual is that it is not liable to the
of insects or diseases of any kind.
er, it is so easily pleased in the matter
that it will grow and bloom freely
nost summer-flowering plants fail to
heir true character. In gardens of
able extent this annual will be found
eful as it quickly covers the ground.

J. CORNHILL.

DOOR PLANTS

he Gloxinia as a biennial

S handsome warm-house plant may
successfully cultivated in at least three
erent ways—as an annual, as a
i, and as a perennial. After numer-
ls I am strongly of opinion that best
are had by the biennial method. In-
, therefore, of sowing the seeds in
defer this operation until the middle
h and grow on the seedlings slowly,
eadily, all through the summer,
, and winter. In the way of sowing,
off, and so forth the methods em-
when a start is made in January
owed, but after the little plants are
ed in 3-inch pots a rather lower tem-
is desirable, and during July,
and half of September a house or
out artificial heat will suit splendidly.
-September, however, a little warmth
again be allowed, and the plants
red to 5-inch pots, in which they will
hrough the autumn and winter.
n their whole career a moist ash stage
est base on which to stand the pots,
this is provided it is seldom that
attack these plants. During winter
erature of about 55 degs. suits nicely.
ng must be very carefully attended to,
her dryness nor constant saturation
ver be permitted. While in spring,
, and autumn shading is necessary
h Gloxinia, during the winter months a
sition must be provided. The soil in
stages of growth until the final pot-
ould consist of equal parts of best
loam and sweet, flaky leaf-mould,
ough sharp sand to ensure porosity.
first half of February I have always
do be a very suitable time for the final
For the strongest plants 7-inch
e best, while the smaller specimens
ally do well in the 6-inch size. All
ust be quite clean and dry, and the
e should be arranged with special
anything stagnant is quickly resented
plant. The compost should be made
ree parts best fibrous loam, two parts
uld, and one part coarse, clean sand.
may be added, with advantage, a
otful of bone-meal and a 5-inch potful
nson's Plant Manure to each barrow-
, ixing all thoroughly together. Pot-
uld only be moderately firm. Return
ame temperature, give a good soak-
tepid water, and from henceforth shade from bright sunshine. Attend carefully to the watering and little more attention will be necessary, the above-named fertilisers being, in most cases, all that the plants will require to carry them through the flowering period. While it is as a biennial that the Gloxinia will give of its best, the very best colours and forms may be retained, if desired, and treated in the usual way, but certain of the modern strains of this plant are so uniformly fine that it is hardly worth while troubling with old bulbs. C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Hybrid Streptocarpus

These beautiful hybrids have of late years greatly increased in public favour. Their cultivation is easy, and, when well grown, they amply repay the time and trouble spent on them. They produce a continuous succession of large trumpet-shaped flowers embracing colours from pure white to rose, purple-lavender, red, and rich rosy-purple. The three species that have played the most important part in the production of these hybrids are S. parviflora with small white flowers, S. Rexii with bluish flowers, and the curious S. Dunni with one enormous leaf and reddish flowers. If we consider the quality of these three species we are at once struck with the great advance made in substance, size, and colour of the splendid hybrids of the present time.

Seed is easily obtained, and should be sown in a temperature of 55 degs. to 65 degs. in February or March. As the seed is very minute it requires handling carefully. The pots and pans employed must be quite clean and well drained with crocks, over which place a layer of Moss, finally filling them to within an inch of the top with a compost of loam, leaf-mould, and sand. Make the surface quite level and moderately firm, water through a fine rose, and leave the pots or pans to drain for an hour before sowing the seed. The latter should be covered very lightly with very fine soil. Place a pane of glass over and stand the pots in a snug, shady corner away from the draught. Turn the glass over each morning, and directly the seedlings are large enough to handle transplant into well-drained pans filled with a similar compost and return to the same position as before until established, when remove to a shelf near the glass. Here they will grow rapidly and soon will require transferring into 3-inch pots, using a little more loam than before.

During summer no fire-heat is needed, and they thrive best in a snug, shady structure such as Ferns delight in. As autumn approaches, the strongest will throw up a few flowers. Throughout the winter keep the plants in a structure with a minimum temperature of 45 degs., taking care not to overwater. As spring advances additional moisture is required at the roots, when they will soon start into growth, and, if shifted into larger pots, will flower nicely through the summer and well on into the autumn. During the flowering season they derive considerable benefit from a little weak liquid-manure occasionally.

Where a warm structure exists the seed may be sown in January, and, if grown on quickly, will flower the following summer. Even while in the 3-inch pots many will flower well and are useful to place in small vases for table or room decoration. One great thing in their favour is that the flowers last well in the cut state.

Amateurs will find these hybrid Streptocarpi highly decorative plants, and under the above treatment will secure a wealth of flowers. The first year the plants usually throw from two to five flowers on a stem and from 20 to 25 spikes, and as the plants become stronger and older the flowers are much more freely produced, 50 to 70 flowers in various stages of development being frequently seen on a single plant. F. H.

The Tuberose

The Tuberose (Polianthes tuberosa) is, owing to the delightful fragrance and beauty of its flowers, one of the most popular of cultivated plants. According to Miller it was first introduced to this country "from Genoa by the persons who import Orange trees." Some doubt will always exist as to the origin of the word tuberose. It is generally accepted as designating a tube Rose, but it must be admitted that neither the plant nor the flower has the slightest resemblance to the Rose. The probability is that the French way of spelling the name is the proper one, *i.e.*, "tubéreuse," which means tuberous, and is in unison with the correct description of the plant. Even the Italian name "Il Tuberose" may be translated into tuber-flower or bulb-flower. Although it was originally imported into this country by Italian merchants it is known to have been long and extensively cultivated in the East Indies previous to this.

Large quantities are now imported into this country from America, and the double American variety, Excelsior Pearl, is the finest strain, having beautiful pure white double flowers of delicious fragrance. The tubers are procurable through the usual channels from January to April, and when received are quaint and somewhat shapeless in form, with an abrupt and singular base, and very dry. Their culture, or rather the growth and production of flowers from the bulbs prepared overseas, is of the simplest. They only need starting in moderate heat to induce them to form leaves and push up their flower-spikes. All side growths should be removed from the bulbs to divert the full strength of the plant to the central growth. For greenhouse or conservatory decoration they may be grown singly in 5-inch pots, giving aid with dilute liquid-manure when the pots have become filled with roots and the flower-spikes are developing. By growing them in successive batches the season of flowering may be extended throughout the summer. They are also extremely useful in summer-bedding schemes, and for this purpose the bulbs should be started in 4-inch pots in April and planted out at the end of May, when the flower-spikes are well formed. They are best planted amongst other subjects, which furnish their somewhat naked base. Unfortunately, the bulbs are valueless after the first year, and this may account for its relatively restricted use in outdoor gardening.

W. AUTON.

The flowering house or conservatory

Where blinds are not provided, this should now be shaded with one of the preparations offered by horticultural sundriesmen. Summer Cloud is a very useful preparation, looks well, and is easily applied. Such houses are now unusually bright with bulbous and other flowers, including many shrubs, and in order to retain these in good condition over the longest possible period, air should be freely given, the house being kept, as far as circumstances will permit, at a temperature not exceeding 45 degs. to 50 degs.

Winter flowering Begonias

Cuttings of most kinds are becoming more plentiful, and should be utilised as much as possible until the number—with a small surplus—has been obtained, when the old stocks which tend to breed mite may be disposed of. The earliest batch is ready for shifting into small pots.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Lawns, grass walks, and playgrounds

These must now be cleansed by hard and thorough sweepings in preparation for the mower, which will shortly be brought into use. The sweeping should be followed by rolling, which must be repeated a few times before the lawns are fit for mowing, the second rolling taking a crosswise direction. The grass should not be permitted to exceed 1½ inches in height before the first mowing, otherwise unsightly lines will remain for a long time, and as machines are usually overhauled and blades sharpened before the first mowing takes place, it is most essential that small sticks and stones should be scrupulously removed when sweeping, and the blades set slightly higher than usual the first time over, as with present-day motor mowers a nail or stone caught in the blades would probably wreck the machine.

Grass edges

It is usual—following the first mowing—to render smart and tidy the edges of all grass, the edging knife being used where necessary, as this renders future cutting of the grass by shears more effective and expeditious, by removing the grassy roots which tend to grow out of the sides of the edges. Above all, avoid the perpendicular edge which gives way the first time it is trodden upon, whereas, if cut at a sloping angle, it not only looks quite as well as the straight edge, but may be trodden upon with perfect safety. Most gardeners take a pride in such edgings, and those who have not yet adopted this principle are strongly advised to do so.

Annual flowers

Practically all kinds may now be sown on well-prepared ground in the open for summer display. A fine day, when the soil works clean and dry, should be chosen, and after scattering the seed broadcast it should be raked in with an iron rake, special attention being given to beds or drifts of Mignonette, otherwise chaffinches will devour it. If slugs prove troublesome a dusting of soot and lime will check them, and this is best applied whilst the morning dew is on the ground.

Choice annuals

Varieties which may be sown now include Rhodanthe Manglesii, and its white variety, R. maculata, R. atrosanguinea, Felicia abyssinica (a lovely blue), Mignonettes in variety, Phacelia campanularia, Phlox Drummondii in a variety of colours, Single Asters, Swan River Daisy (Brachycome), Lychnis rosacœli, Viscaria, Calandrina speciosa, Hunnemannia fumariæfolia, etc.

Bedding plants

Those of the Pentstemon and Snapdragon order which were raised from autumn cuttings and wintered in cold frames should, with others of a similar character, be planted out in their permanent quarters. This applies to quite a lot of plants which, though not to be relied upon as absolutely hardy, are quite safe in the open from this date, providing they have been hardened off gradually.

Chinese Primulas and Cinerarias

These should now be sown under glass to furnish plants for mid-winter, and where not already done a sowing of Cyclamen can still be made to provide plants for blooming in small pots, the earlier sowing being now ready for potting up singly into 60-sized pots. Avoid excessive heat and sunshine for these, a temperature of 45 degs. to 50 degs. being ample, the plants being shaded from hot sunshine.

Seakale

The thongs made from the roots as advised early in the season and placed in moist sand may now be used to form new plantations in the open, as the young growth is already visible. These should be planted at 18 inches to 2 feet apart on richly-prepared ground, where they will develop handsome crowns for next winter's forcing.

Onions and Leeks

Those raised and grown under glass must now be hardened off in readiness for planting out in the open; rich, well-drained, and prepared ground is necessary for the former, which should not be planted too deep, and should the weather be very dry at the time of planting the little plants should be watered in. Trenches will be required for the Leeks, which need a deep, rich bottom soil.

The seed bed

The time has now arrived when all kinds of winter vegetable seeds may be sown, including Brussels, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Winter Greens, Cabbage, Savoys, Leeks, and Coleworts. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Sow spring Broccoli

Not infrequently the spring varieties of this useful vegetable are sown too early. The plants get too rampant before late autumn and then are killed, or at least badly damaged, by frost and the winter gales. From now on till the middle of April is a very suitable time for having this done in our northern gardens. Three very good and hardy varieties are Methven's June, Leamington, and Evesham Giant.

Maincrop Carrots

Providing the ground is in good working order the chief sowing of this root may be made at any time up till the middle of the month. Freshly manured ground must be avoided or failure is pretty certain. The site of last season's Celery trenches, or where good Leeks were grown, will be found admirable, as a rule. The soil must be well and deeply worked, and it is advisable to well tread it down before drawing the drills.

Plant early Potatoes

From now on till the end of the month is the best time for the planting of all kinds of Potatoes, the earliest being tackled now. Well-tilled soil on a sheltered south border is the best place for the earliest batch. A fair dressing of well-rotted manure should have been dug into the soil some time previous to planting. Duke of York is still one of the most reliable for first crops, while Edzell Blue is an admirable variety for furnishing a succession to the other.

Turnips

These may now be sown freely, but "little and often" will furnish a finer supply than a large sowing at one time. The old Milan Purple Top is still, probably, the best for early sowing.

Sow more Parsley

A sowing made now will furnish abundance of good leaves in late summer and autumn, while a portion may be transplanted into frames about the end of August to provide supplies throughout the winter and spring months. A good strain of the old Myatts Garnishing I find very sa
for winter use.

Transplant evergreens

During the next few weeks is the
of the whole year for transplanting
hybrid Rhododendrons, and Yews.
is still nice and moist, and with the
having considerable power it is als
warm, and so the roots become
once and ensure the success of the
In the case of really dry weather s
these newly planted subjects mu
copious waterings at the roots and b
overhead in the evenings of hot, dry

Attend to the lawns

Very soon the mower must be s
these, so it is advisable to have all la
swept and rolled as soon as possible
more thoroughly these operations
formed the sweeter will the mower
the better appearance will the lav
Do not roll while the turf is sodden
should be trimmed, where necess
walks cleaned before they get very

Rose pruning

Get this work finished off as early
ble now, for it is safe to prune even
tender kinds. Get all prunings rem
burned at once, and the beds forl
neatly, so that the Rose garden be
and attractive.

Propagate Phloxes and Asters

When the shoots of Phloxes and
Asters attain a height of 3 inches to
any scarce or specially fine varieties
easily increased by means of cuttings
may either be inserted round the
4-inch or 5-inch pots filled with ve
compost, or may be dibbled into a
similar compost under a cold frame.
case shade from all sunshine and kee
close, and rooting will soon take plac

Thin clumps of perennial plants

Many of our best hardy herbaceou
send up more shoots than are n
with the result that the clumps g
crowded with weakly stems that bl
poorly. It is advantageous, there
now reduce to a reasonable num
stems of plants that have sent up t
shoots. Always remove the weal
badly placed growths, and so give t
a chance to develop properly.

Border Chrysanthemums

The rooted cuttings of these a
making good progress in cold frames
process of hardening off must sh
carried out preparatory to planting
flowering quarters.

Clarkias and Schizanthuses

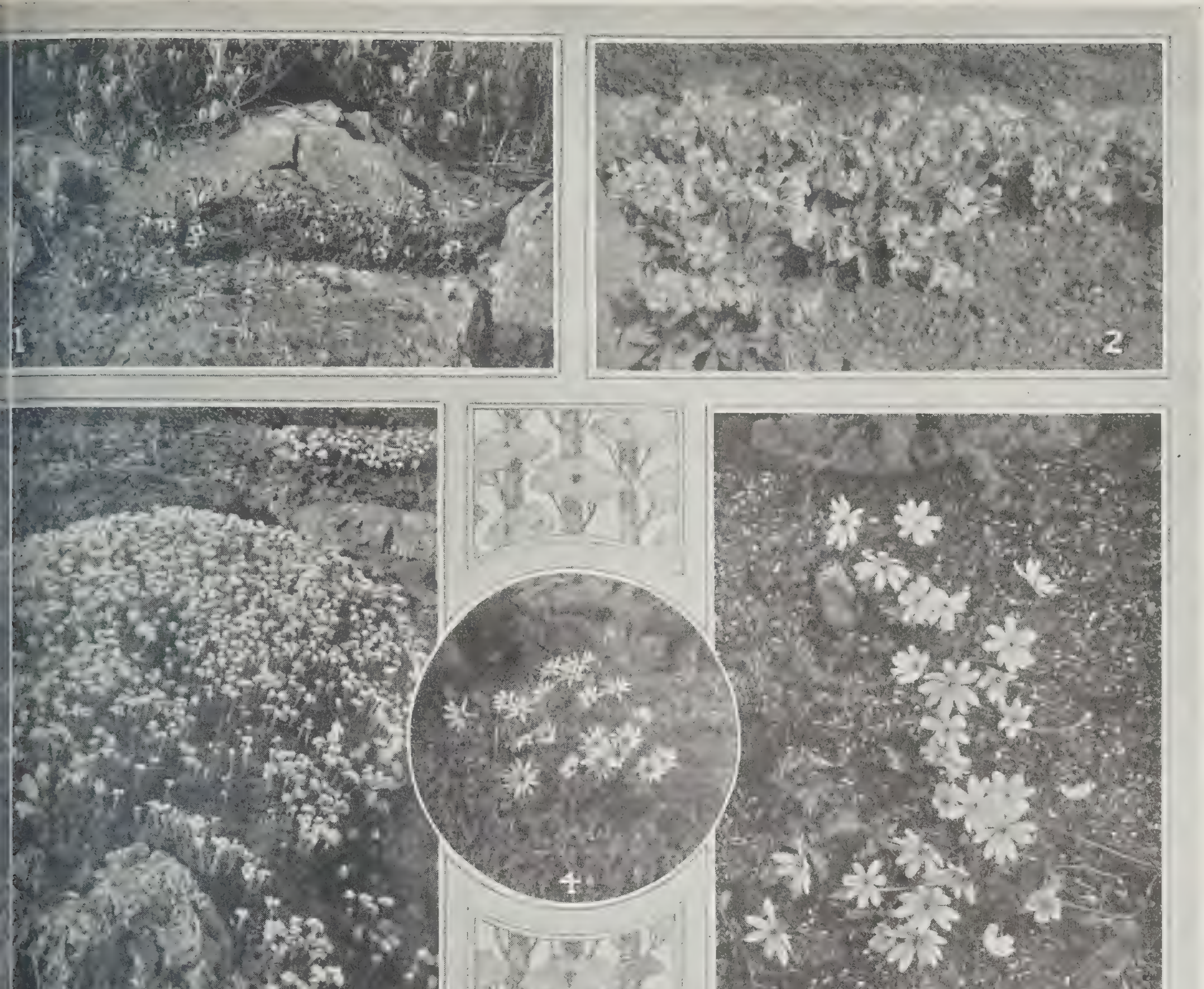
Autumn-sown plants of these fine
meant for greenhouse decoration sh
neatly staked and tied where this
already been done. If the pots are w
with roots, occasional waterings of so
or weak liquid-manure will be very be

Pot-on late Chrysanthemums

Many of these will have filled wit
the small pots in which they were
some weeks ago, so it is desirable t
them a shift into the 6-inch size, using
sound compost and potting very firml
turn to the frames and keep rather cl
shaded for two or three days. Afte
give abundance of air and all the ligh
ble, not permitting dryness at the roo
taking care, also, not to overwater.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow



Saxifrages, Anemones, and Primulas. April flowers in the rock garden at Kew (See page 212)

axifraga Kyrillii, a distinct yellow-flowered hybrid from Bulgaria. ubby plant showing in the background is Lavendula vera.

rimula marginata, flowers mauve, from the Alps of Dauphiny and nt.

axifraga apiculata, a lovely green carpet freely studded with pale lowers.

4. Anemone blanda from Asia Minor, white, mauve on the outside.

5. Anemone angulosa, the large blue Hepatica of early spring.

6. Saxifraga marginata, a beautiful species with white flowers from the mountains of Central Italy.

7. Saxifraga Haagei, of garden origin, a dark green cushion with deep golden-yellow flowers.

Kew in Spring

(See page 241.)

THE warm sun of the past week has brought things on apace and the Crocuses on the various mounds looked very beautiful on Good Friday. Scillas, Anemone Hepatica, and a few early Daffodils gave a real foretaste of joys to come. But in this late season, perhaps, the most delightful places still are the Alpine-house and the conservatory or No. 4 House. In the Alpine-house the following were duly noted:—Iris Sindpers, like a large pale mauve Cattleya; Fritillaria pudica and F. aurea, the latter greenish-yellow, spotted (a very delightful plant for pots); Crocus versicolor var. Picturatus, nearly white and outside marked and feathered maroon; Bulbocodium vernum and Hyacinthus azureus, also looking very pretty in the rock garden; Scilla sibirica and the white variety, alba; Tulipa Kauffmaniana var. Brilliant, a wonderfully beautiful, warm, cerise colour, and the more ordinary creamy one; Saxifraga Grisebachii Wisley Variety, particularly fine in large pans; the pretty little mauve Crocus Corsica; Shortia uniflora var. grandiflora (pink) and S. galacifolia (white, shaded rose). Narcissus were represented by those little gems Nanus and Cyclamineus, nearly over, and at the end of the house Daphne odora just coming out to delight us with its fragrance.

In the conservatory fine groups of colour were to be seen. Rhododendron violaceum, a striking and distinct colour at this time of the year; Clivias; Prunus Sieboldii; Eupatorium Raffillii with its scented Ageratum-like flowers. Genistas formed another sweetly scented group. Rhododendron molle made a fine show at one end of clear lemon-yellow. Callistemon citrinus, nicely out, with its curious red brush-like flowers, and the Strelitzia or "Bird of Paradise Flower" was just showing colour, and the Cyclamen persicum, Primulas, Hyacinths, and Narcissus in variety were a great centre of attraction, judging by the large crowds of admirers.

A. L. W.

Herts.

Postponement of Daffodil Show

Owing to the lateness of the season the R.H.S. Daffodil Show, which was to have been held in the Society's new hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, on April 9th and 10th, has been postponed for a week. It will now be held in the old hall in Vincent Square, Westminster, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 16th and 17th. All entries must reach the Society not later than by the first post on Saturday, April 13th, but it will be helpful if they arrive earlier.

EXTRA FORTNIGHTLY SHOW.—In view of the postponement of the Daffodil Show the Society will hold an ordinary fortnightly show in the new hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 9th and 10th.

STANDING COMMITTEES.—The Fruit and Vegetable, Floral, Orchid, Narcissus, Scientific, and Library Committees will meet at the usual times on Tuesday, April 9th. As the Daffodil Show is confined to Daffodils only, the Narcissus Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 9th.

The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution

The 83rd Anniversary Festival Dinner in aid of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution, will take place at the Mayfair Hotel, Berkeley Square, W., on Wednesday, June 26th, when Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, O.B.E., will preside.

Answers to Queries

Questions—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent each should be on a separate piece of paper, the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of d
cannot always be replied to in the is
ately following their receipt. We do
queries by post.*

Naming plants—*All who wish the
be named should send fair examples
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippe
and points of shoots are useless.) Not
four plants should be sent in any one
same correspondent. Where more th
is sent they should be numbered. Of
cones should always be sent.*

TREES AND SHRUBS

Myrtles and frost

Please tell me what should be done with a large Myrtle bush which is very much cut with the frost and all the outer leaves are brown. Also the Veronica bushes have their leaves quite shrivelled. Should they be left to recover, if possible, or is it better to cut them back, and, if so, when should this be done?

"TALBOT."

[Leave them for another week. They may show signs of recovering, when the plants should be trimmed back and all the dead wood cut clean away.]

Shrubs for a London garden

(F. V.).—The following may confidently be expected to thrive in the neighbourhood referred to:—Rhododendrons, the Portugal Laurel, Hollies, Euonymus in variety among evergreens, while flowering shrubs might include Viburnums, Philadelphus, Ribes, Exochorda grandiflora, Forsythias, and Laurustinus. Weigela rosea and Ghent Azaleas, too, would, almost certainly, succeed.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Chrysanthemum book

(James Warr).—There is a very good little book on the subject, "Chrysanthemums for Amateurs," by H. H. Thomas, which costs 1s. 9d. post free in this country, but something additional would be required when mailing it to U.S.A. It may be had from Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2. This firm also offer "Chrysanthemum Culture for Amateurs," by H. J. Jones, post free in this country for 2s. 3d. This latter is probably the book you inquire about.

ALPINES

Alpines to cover stones

("Alpine").—(1) As you gave the heights of the stones you wished covered we naturally supposed that you required robust-growing rock plants. Had you merely mentioned that you wished to cover stones flush with the soil there would have been no difficulty in giving you a list of creeping kinds that, in time, would grow over such. You can select Arenaria balearica, A. montana, Acæna, Arabis, Aubrietia, Cerastium, Dryas octopetala, Alpine Phloxes, some of the more robust Mossy Saxifrages, like Wallacei, Rhei superba, cæspitosa, camposii, Clibrani, decipiens, and trifurcata, and Thymus. (3) Even if the Roses are unsuitable the other plants named in a former reply should suit.

FLOWER GARDEN

Farfugium Grande and F. argentea

(A. L.).—We find no mention of this in any hardy flower list. Possibly there are no stocks of it in the country. This is, undoubtedly, owing to the fact that an element of tenderness renders it unfit for open-air culture. In highly favoured districts which experience no severe prolonged frosts and where the vicissitudes of our English climate are felt in a modified form only it would probably thrive. In a London nurs
grown in tubs for exhibition purpo

Plants for sandy soil

(Erika).—The combination of
"practically pure sand" and ra
formidable one. Few plants of
habit will succeed under such cond
the absolutely rabbit-proof plant
be discovered. The Armerias or S
the Horned Poppy, the Arenaria
worts, the Sea Buckthorn, the com
Thorn (or Sloe) are practically the
which suggest themselves and w
have any chance of surviving.

Planting a small pond

(E. A. O. Travers).—Before any
attempted it will be necessary t
mounds of the following mixtu
plants to grow in:—Best turfy l
curable—and, if not, the best loa
procure—should form two-thirds
ture, the remainder being made
seasoned cow manure and leaf-m
should be about 9 inches in d
leaving 9 inches of water over
which will be found satisfactory.
accommodate six Water Lilies.
the following:—Nymphæa Esca
Meteor, N. James Brydon, N.
albida, N. m. carnea, and N. Moor
Of other water plants we suggest
ing:—Aponogeton distachyon,
umbellatus, Caltha polypetala,
trifoliata, Ranunculus lingua,
variabilis, Scirpus lacustris (the
rush) and its variety S. l. ze
Pontederia cordata. Some of the
in good soil rather rapidly, and we
to limit yourself to one plant on
kind, otherwise you will shut out
entirely and thus destroy what s
pretty and interesting feature. T
the tree is rather unfavourable
the plants, and Water Lilies do
sun. You should be able to p
whole from either of the
nurserymen:—Messrs. Amos Per
Nurseries, Middlesex, or Messrs.
Sons, Bath Road, Taplow, Maiden

Buds of Anemones

(S. M. M., Cork).—The destruct
buds of the St. Brigid Anemones
due to attacks by a rodent, most
short-tailed vole, or (if there be wa
hand) by the water vole, which is
monly called the "water rat."
unlikely that birds are the culprit
are much too clean to allow of th
tion. The remedy is obviously
poison. Inspection will most lik
the "runs" of the offenders.

GREENHOUSE

Cyclamen flowers

(Crossways).—The cause of your
flowers failing to open is that they
affected with Thrips. If you take
and examine it with a good hand
will find numbers running about an

(Continued on page 244)

BY APPOINTMENT.

AWNS Require Attention—NOW

NOW is the time to feed your lawns in preparation for the summer months. A reliable complete fertilizer will quickly create dense turf. Moss, clover, and weeds should be eradicated now by applying Fisons' Lawn Sand.

Fisons' Technical Bureau is maintained for the benefit of enquirers, without obligation.

FISONS'
LAWN GUANO
(A Compound Fertilizer)

est dressing for turf. It feeds the turf over a long period and will not burn lour the grass. Lawn Guano quickly strengthens the roots and encourages growth of fine grass. As used by important clubs and municipalities. Apply the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court.

Prices, in Bags :	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**5/-**	**9/-**	**15/-**	**25/-**

FISONS'
BASE FERTILIZER

be incorporated with the soil before sowing grass seed. Specially prepared note strong root growth and give new grass a good start. Use 4 ozs. to the a few days before sowing the seed.

Prices, in Bags :	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**3/-**	**4/6**	**7/6**	**12/6**	**20/-**

FISONS'
LAWN SAND

The most effective preparation for destroying clover, moss, and small weeds, and in so doing stimulating the grass. A thimbleful destroys a large weed, such as a plantain. Should be applied now at the rate of 4 ozs. to the sq. yd., or 1 cwt. for a regulation doubles tennis court. Measure and full instructions sent.

Prices, in Kegs :	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**5/-**	**9/-**	**16/-**	**27/6**

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are the finest procurable, being specially tested before selection. Special Mixture (for Bowling and Golf Greens, finest grasses only).

Prices, in Bags :	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 lbs.	1 cwt.
Carriage paid	**15/6**	**30/-**	**58/-**	**110/-**	**210/-**

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ATALOGUE

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arieties, see the Raiser's List.

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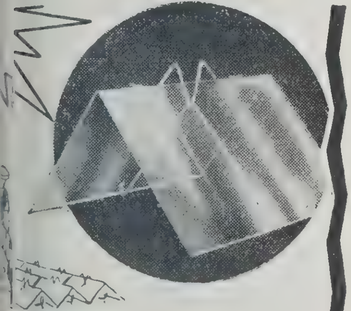

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Australia, California, S. a, &c., dislike root disturbance

all they hate damp combined cold.

out of doors where they are to , and protected with the CHASE TINUOUS CLOCHE, such are really happy.

remember—under the cloches t every viable seed germinates— must sow *very* thinly.

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Zeeland Day Line
L.N.E.R. Night Route

petals. This pest in the adult stage is about one-third of a line long, of a pale brown colour. It is furnished with four narrow, fringed wings; the hind part of the body is black and shining. The larval stage is wingless, but very active, the colour dull yellow. The pupa stage is very sluggish. All three stages were present in the specimens sent. Thrips are very destructive under glass and breed under this condition all the year round, especially when the atmosphere is on the dry side. The recent cold spell would assist the spread of this creature, because much firing had to be done, and perhaps you have not used sufficient water to counteract the extra heat. Usually by good cultivation and the judicious use of the syringe for damping down Thrips can be kept under control. Your best method of control now will be to give the plants a light fumigation with nicotine on three successive evenings, afterwards keeping plenty of moisture around the plants. We can understand the frilled varieties only showing signs of attack, because the frilled petals offer more chance of the Thrips finding a good hiding place.

Cordyline indivisa flowering

(P. Griffiths).—It is nothing unusual for this plant to flower and occasionally mature seed in this country. You will assist if you pollinate the flowers at midday when fully out and by keeping moisture from them until the seeds are set.

A floating sundial

When placed upon the water in sunshine it is claimed that the dial will automatically "set" itself, giving true solar time and true compass points. Supplied by the John Holmes Timekeepers, Brighton

VEGETABLES

Tomato fruits

(Harrietsham).—We think that if you wrote direct to Messrs. Carter at Raynes Park they would be in a better position to reply to your query *re* Tomato fruit.

ROSES

Diseased Rose wood

(Harrietsham).—The Rose specimen sent for examination is affected with Crown Gall, which is caused by a bacteria, namely, Bacterium tumefaciens. This disease is recorded from all over the world, and it attacks many cultivated and wall plants. With Roses the galls are always hard, such as you send, and although the galls occur most frequently at the collar they may occur in any position on root or shoot. Manetti Rose stock produce the biggest galls. Plants that are growing vigorously produce bigger galls than those which grow more slowly. Some Rose growers do not consider that the presence of Crown Gall is detrimental to the plants, but it appears likely that food material elaborated by the plant is used in the production of the galls and that such food could be used by the plants in other ways. The disease can, of course, spread from one plant to another, but, as far as is known, infection must always take place through a wound. The only treatment is to cut away the gall, and all wounds so made should be painted with Stockholm tar to prevent re-infection.

Secateurs for Rose pruning

(B. A.).—We recommend the Guienne Secateurs No. 3, made by Guienne Secateurs, Ltd., 25, Spencer Road, Chiswick, W. 4.

MISCELLANEOUS

Electroculture apparatus

I have recently forwarded a trial order for four Electroculture apparatus, invented by Mr. J. Christrofleau, a well-known French scientist. With this new apparatus could it be possible to increase crops in considerable proportions, to minimise manual labour appertaining to culture, to economise immense sums of money spent annually for fertilisers?

Semarang, Java. THIO KWAN ENG.

[We have no experience of the Electroculture Apparatus mentioned in your letter. As we understand it, the use of electro culture is only in an experimental stage and has not yet reached general practice. According to "Research and the Land," by V. E. Wilkins, B.Sc., published by His Majesty's Stationery Office in 1926, "The field experiments have demonstrated that an average increase in yield of 22 per cent. may be obtained by applying an electrical discharge to spring-sown Oats and Barley. The effect on Clover-hay seems also beneficial; on winter-sown Wheat the results are uncertain. At the same time, the laboratory work on pot plants and growing seedlings is continually revealing new possibilities, and it has shown how much there is still to be discovered on such points as the ideal strength of current and the best period at which to apply it." Since this was written we have no doubt that considerable progress has been made. We should be interested to learn from you in due course the result of your experience with your purchased sets of apparatus.]

Book wanted

(H. Simons). — We recommend "A Glossary of Botanic Terms," by B. D. Jackson, price 7s. 6d. Publishers, Duckworth and Co., London.

Roe deer and goats barking

Can any of your readers rec
strong-smelling mixture to apply
planted trees to keep roe deer and
barking the stems and branches?

[It is very doubtful whether an
prevent goats doing damage to tree
but certainly it would be worth w
"Reynardine." There is anoth
tion known as "Horticole," wh
have the desired effect.]

NAMES OF PLANT

H. Franklin Townsend.—Olear
K. G.—1, Scilla sibirica; 2, C
Harper Crewe; 3, Cryptomeria ja
G., Ireland.—1, Probably
angustifolia, plant absolutely dri
possibly Pulmonaria saccharata, d
Staphylea colchica; 4, Colletia sp
horrida).
Skisdon.—1, Anemone fulg
annulata grandiflora; 2, Anemone
Rosebud.—1, Rhododendron p
Pulmonarias; 3, Echeveria secun
4, Primula denticulata.
W. P., Liverpool.—Helleborus
(Lenten Rose).
W. W. B., Rugby.—Daphne Me

NEWS IN ADVERTISEM

A little booklet recently publis
Magna Cider Fruit and Farm Co.
presents an attempt to convey
technical language, and in as sm
pass as possible, the most up-to-da
tion concerning modern methods
berry cultivation and the control
It has been compiled in the light
research work carried out at the
Research Station at Long Ashton,

The L.N.E.R. have been advise
Dutch canals are again free fro
that the blooms of the bulb fields
their best about April 27th.
frosts have delayed the blooms app
a week.

CATALOGUES RECEIV

Kelway and Son, Langport.
Gladioli.
David Green and Son, Albe
Lytham, Lancs.—Garden sundries
Wm. Power and Co., Waterford,
Farm seed catalogue.

Correction

The advertisement of A. Turrell
in the issues of March 23rd and
tained an error in the section f
lights. The first size quoted shoul
by 2 feet, not 5 feet by 2 feet as pri

LATE NOTES

The John Benn Hostel and Mi

On Tuesday, May 7th, a speci
of "Mr. Cinders" at the Adelph
will be given in aid of the John Be
Stepney, E. 1. Her Royal Highnes
Mary has very kindly consented
sent. The members of the Con
giving their services, and the wh
proceeds from the sale of ticket
handed over to the Hostel for wo
East London.

With the exception of the pit,
being reserved for this occasion
and 4s. 9d., the ordinary theatre
be charged.

Auricula Show

The National Auricula and Primu
(Southern Section) are holding the
Floral Meeting at the R.H.S. Hal
Square, London, S.W., on Tue
Wednesday, April 23rd and 24th.
over 30 classes scheduled.

EN FLY ON CINERARIA. **Keating's** Powder these plants will remove all trace of Green will not hurt the plant. Use dry; keep dry. Prices, **2d., 6d., 1/-.**

eating's in Your Greenhouse

The Silver Medal

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Better than brick rubble: as durable and porous as Sankeys' Famous Garden Pots

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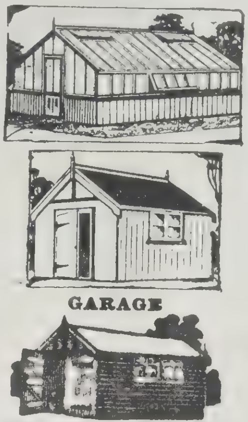

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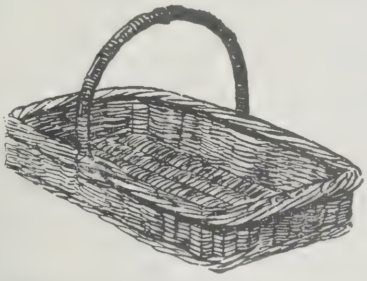

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WICKER CHAIRS, TABLES
of Best Essex Grown Willow

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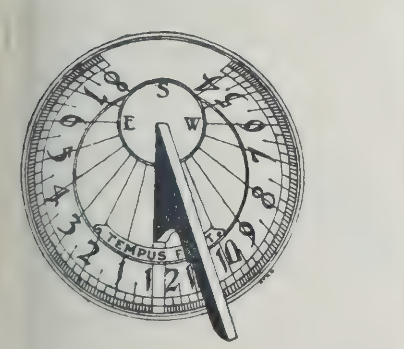
TEMPUS FUGIT

hese new lines will bring Sun-Dials within the means of all Garden lovers

THE "NORFOLK"



ANTIQUE DESIGN.
Divided to 5 minutes.

ich Diameter	- -	£3 0 0
,, ,,	- -	3 7 6
0 ,, ,,	- -	3 12 0
2 ,, ,,	- -	5 3 6

THE "SUSSEX"

Dacet Umbra

5 inch Round or Square, Brass Lacquered or Bronzed Antique Finish - - 15/-

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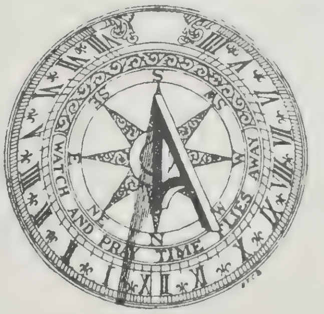
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EXCLUSIVE DESIGN.
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12 ,, ,,	- -	6 15 0
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18 ,, ,,	. -	14 5 0

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HE "'JOHN HOLMES' AND 'SUN'" TIMEKEEPERS,
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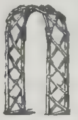
SALE! GREATLY REDUCED PRICES SALE

Select from the following Exceptionally Low-Priced Offers for Immediate Despatch

ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

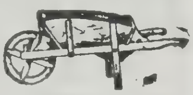
No. 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.



		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. 6 in. ,,	17/6	16/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. ,,	22/6	20/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,,	26/6	24/-
8 ft. ,,	6 ft. ,,	33/6	30/-

GARDEN BARROWS

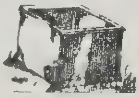
Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ¼ in. iron tyre.



	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23 6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.



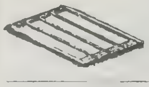
	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. ,,	5/6	5/- ,,
18 in. ,,	6/6	5/9 ,,
21 in. ,,	8/6	7/- ,,
24 in. ,,	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 ft.

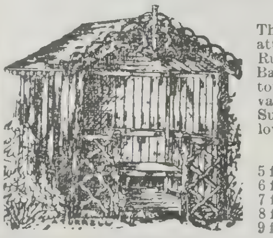
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

GARDEN LIGHTS



	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

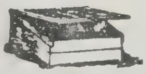
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

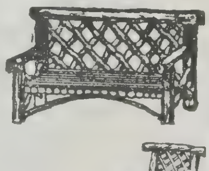
SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS

Well made from selected material.



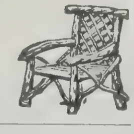
In natural wood. Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

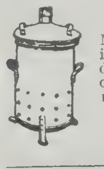
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

INCINERATOR

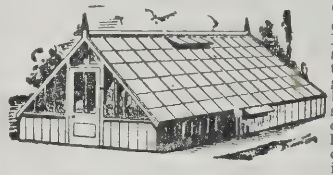


Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE

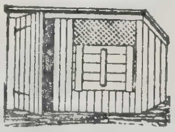
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

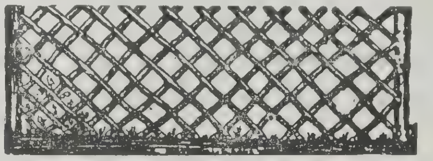


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6 6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12 - ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	Reduced Prices. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9/6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9,6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	21/6	25/-

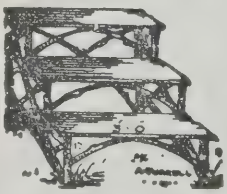
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7 6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20 -	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9 6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

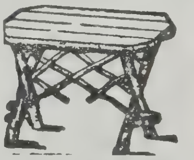
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

GARDEN EDGING

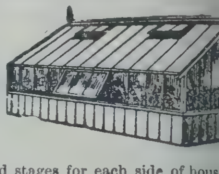
Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUS

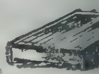
These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of hous plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.



Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6		

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all wood work painted two coats.



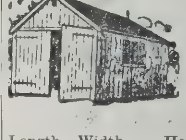
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6

Do not pay high prices for your frames made fr boards. We can supply at the following low prices. made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boar plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTAB MOTOR HOUS

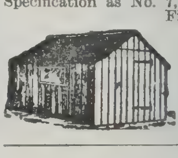


Constructed of strong framing with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved roof boarded and felted, 1-in for floor and strong joists. W fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doo on strong butts and fitted Tow and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No.

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and singl Fitted lock and key.



ft.		ft. in.	Usual.
5	x	3 6	£3 18 0
6	x	4 0	£4 5 0
7	x	5 0	£5 10 0
8	x	6 0	£6 2 6
10	x	7 0	£9 5 0
12	x	8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite wat All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out. in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

A. TURRELL & SONS, (Dept. G.I.) FOREST HILL, S.E.
(2 minutes Forest Hill Station, L.B. & S.C. Rail
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—No. 2614 Saturday, April 13, 1929 TWOPENCE

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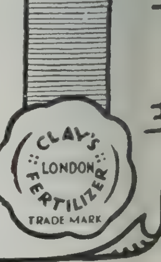

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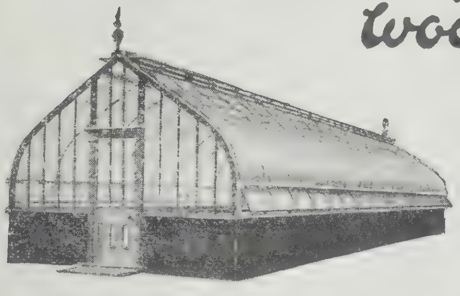

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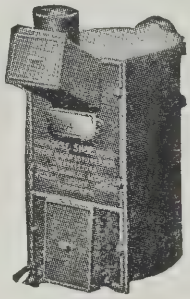

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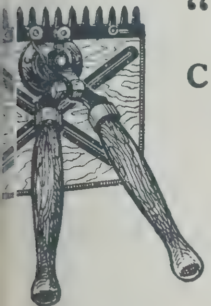

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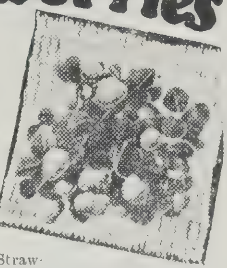

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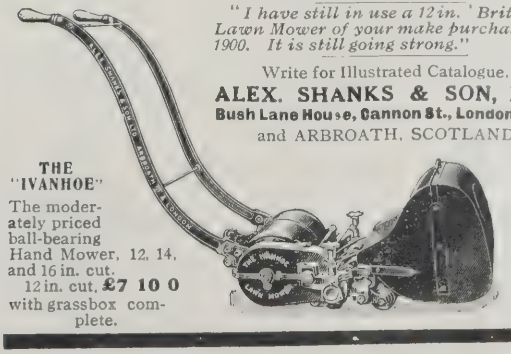

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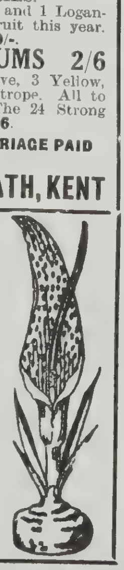

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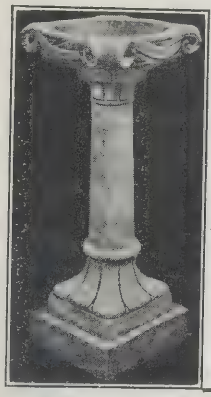

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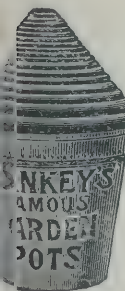

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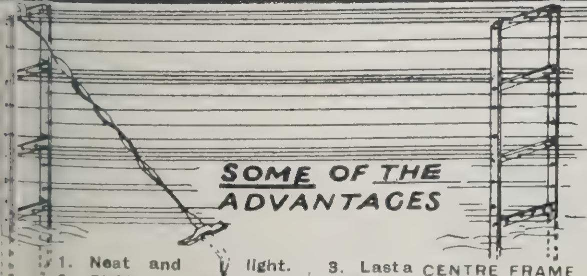

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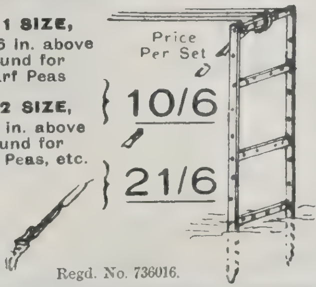

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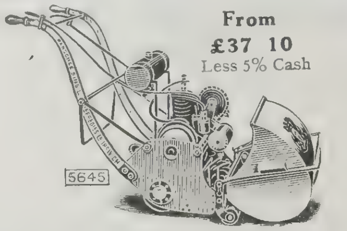

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Many gardening people believe that all seeds sh be sown by the end of Easter. This is qui fallacy, because Easter is a movable feast, and s years it is a month later than others.

Expert gardeners disregard this foolish theory they know sowings should go on to the end of A Never was this truer than at the present time everything this year is quite a month late owin the severe frost we had at the beginning of the sea

We strongly advise everyone with a garden to chase any seeds they may require now, and sow when the weather is favourable, and we can as them that seeds sown in April will produce quit good, if not better, results than those sown earli

We still have a few of our seed catalogues on hand and will be pleased to forward you one by return, if you will be good enough to send us your name and address on a postcard.

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Riviera Jottings

By E. H. Woodall

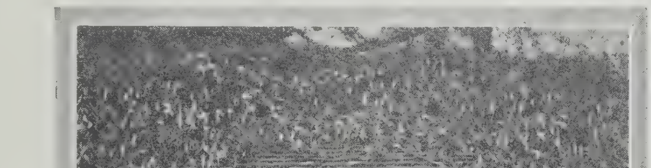
glories of double-flowered Peaches, various Crab Apples, Clematis Armandii, and Anemones under Cherry trees

H last letter told of the damage done ythat February frost. To-day I will vte of the glories that have followed tree weeks of unclouded sunshine and tnperatures. Never have I seen such os masses of bloom on the elowered Peaches (scarlet r han red), rose-pink Clara rnd the huge double white, r's double pink Cherry, the u Crab Apples in shades of al blush, that seem as if the nter had added to their n Clematis Armandii (the fom from La Mortola) scents as it hangs in wild luxuri- pm the boughs of an old ad contrasts with the Stocks, ries, and Violas beneath. In w valley the Anemones of hade of colour carpet the d under the Cherry trees, e Periwinkles, Cyclamen in ty and both Orchis and y vie with each other in nd quantity.

unum Carlesi, Forsythia mlia, Xanthocerus Sorbifolia, chorda Alberti magnifica be- r you by their beauty and are; even some of the Acacia ilta that I thought injured o in fairly good flower above ses of Coronilla Valentina I beved doomed a month ago, erful is the vivifying power nine, which makes me hope i six weeks' time England lve recovered from those , lark days of winter. The d f this most abnormal season reuire much detail in record- t. A friend from Roquebrunn that he never registered an 2 degs. of frost in his so nothing is injured. I en Bignonia venusta and villea in flower at Cap hile reports from Hyères, es and even sheltered Men- t of Palms killed by the re by frost, so there must be er difference in climate and than was realised on this . Plants, at any rate, show it plainly. Man in warmed houses knows nothing of the vagaries of weather during winter nights; not so the exposed shrub or tree.

E. H. Woodall.

La Selva, Nice.



Clematis Armandii over a summer house at Myddelton House, Waltham Cross

Inset: Flowers of Clematis Armandii, each about 2 inches across, colour creamy white, borne in clusters during April

This handsome evergreen climber is a native of China. It has persistent trifoliate leaves, the leaflets being dark green and of a leathery texture. In the gardens at La Mortola the flowers scent the air as they now hang in wild luxuriance from the boughs of an old Olive tree

Phosphate fertilisers

We have received from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries a copy of the revised leaflet No. 394 dealing with above subject. The leaflet points out that:—

Phosphates serve at least five purposes in the soil:—

(1) They cause an earlier development of the young plant than would otherwise occur.

(2) They bring about a considerable development of fibrous root.

(3) They counteract the rankness of growth which is liable to occur on land richly supplied with nitrogen compounds.

(4) They hasten ripening and improve the quality of grain.

(5) They increase the feeding value of ordinary fodder crops.

The leaflet is, of course, written for farmers, but gardeners should be interested in it because all five purposes mentioned have a direct bearing upon garden crops, *e.g.*, the use of phosphates encourages earlier development in all crops, and if our crops get away well at the start good crops are to be expected. A considerable development of fibrous roots enables our plants to make full use of any manure that is in the soil, and also to make the greatest use of quick-acting manures which are from time to time added. To be able to counteract the rankness of growth occasioned by heavy dressings of nitrogenous manures is of great importance to gardeners because we are apt, if we can get it, to be fairly liberal with our farmyard manure, which is rich in nitrogen and poor in phosphates, with the result that our crops grow rank, soft, and are prone to disease. Early ripening is another important factor, especially in certain late districts, but gardeners should, however, bear in mind that heavy dressings of phosphates in early districts are apt to curtail the growing season. If phosphates increase the feeding value of fodder crops we see no reason why the ordinary crops of our gardener should not be better feeding value following phosphatic application.

Bones, superphosphates, and basic slag are compared.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Bigger British crops

It always appeals to the writer that a business man has not even the time to exploit to his satisfaction one only of the many branches of gardening, and it is with some fear that I approach a very technical subject, prompted by having just listened to a decidedly duller B.B.C. programme than usual. There are districts in England where listeners may adapt their wireless sets and experiment with their aerials on plant culture.

I know nothing whatsoever about Tomato culture—excellent things, full of vitamins—but remember that during school holidays spent learning to analyse soils at a Ministry of Agriculture Station the chemist there grew the most delicious Tomatoes, though his secret was unknown to me, and now at least one of my neighbours, also a Tomato fiend, in order to improve his crop, grows some of his Tomatoes in pots and leads his wireless aerial into the soil on one edge of the pot, a piece of copper wire being buried in the soil on the opposite side and taken thence over the pot-side to earth as with ordinary earth wires, the pot being insulated on a plate or other convenient non-conductor.

I am told that the results from this electrical treatment as regards fruiting are remarkable, and I pass on the idea simply so that the disgruntled may get some return on the outlay of their aerial.

But here in Rugby no doubt conditions are exceptional; there is quite a lot of electrical current running about wild. Transatlantic wireless telephone garble come into crystal users' programmes, and visitors to the Imperial Wireless Station on a rainy day have experienced an electrical shock, as, standing on the wet road, they clutch the handle of their car-door.

However, here is scope for experiment in some districts, and while presenting the idea free I take no responsibility for negative results to Tomato or other crop treated!

F. H. Fisher.

[We have received inquiries from others on the subject of wireless and its influence on plant growth. There is doubtless some influence upon the salts in the soil exerted through the passage of electric current there, but it is by no means clear what actually happens, and all attempts at applying electric currents so far have failed practically.]

Menispermum canadense (the Moonseed)

Recommended as an uncommon climber (see page 226 of March 30th), Menispermum canadense is an interesting rather than a showy climber. It has white flowers in June, followed by black berries which have a most lovely purple bloom, making the berries look very much like small Grapes with frost on. The foliage is Ivy-like and a nice green, which would contrast beautifully with any other climbers it associated with. Menispermum canadense is easily grown, thriving in most sites in any soil, but likes, for preference, a moist spot with a good top-dressing of farmyard manure in its growing period. It is easily propagated from seed. From the latter it was named Moonseed as they are crescent shaped.

R. Moore.

Thorpe Hall Gardens, Essex.

A magnificent group of new coloured Freesias shown by Mr. G. H. Dalrymple at the Royal Horticultural Society's Meeting on March 26th and 27th

Apple Ashmead's Kernel

I am very interested in the notes appearing from time to time on hardy fruits, especially Apples, and I have wondered why none of your correspondents mention Ashmead's Kernel, which I consider one of the finest Apples we have. We have 10 standard trees here which have only failed to crop once during the last 14 years, while in a good season we have picked as many as 100 potts (56 lbs. each).

The flavour and keeping qualities ar
cellent. We usually have fruit right
the time when we can commence to us
early Apples.

I am sending a few for your trial
opinion. I hoped to send a photograp
the readers of Gardening Illustrated
unfortunately, it was not clear enoug
publication.

C. Baynham,
Head Garden

Chambers Court, Tewkesbury.

[A delicious Apple in texture and fla
very aromatic and of good appeara
brown flush covered with russet.
dessert Apple in April we know of no
better in quality. Unfortunately, it ha
reputation of being a poor cropper. I
raised by Dr. Ashmead, of Gloucester,
1720, and it is interesting to have so g
report of it from its county of origin.
hope others find it a good cropper.
certainly an Apple of exceptional qual
Ed.]

Coloured Primroses

In answer to Mr. G. F. Coombs
March 2nd, page 139) I want to say i
rectory grounds in Co. Tyrone I have s
quantity of single Primroses in all shad
pink apparently growing wild, also
white ones.

A. Lendr

Corkil Kilskerry,
Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

White Fly

This vile pest is the cause of much tr
not to say heartbreak, to many gard
and when it secures a footing it is a
impossible even to keep it in control. I
had a very gratifying experience in co
tion with White Fly, and I wonder if
experience is unique. When I took c
of my present place some half-dozen
ago I found every house providing hosp
for myriads of the fly. When a door
closed, or when they were disturbed,
rose in clouds. To get rid of them app
to be a hopeless task, but since then a
every specific—save cyaniding—has bee
sorted to. With indifferent success, how
although by perseverance and continua
secution I must admit that an improv
was effected. Tomato-houses continued
breeding-grounds, and ultimately, so lo
the fly was kept in some kind of contro
fight was given up. I finished 1928
apparently, sufficient stock to keep us
ested throughout the present year, but,
ever has happened, there is not a Whit
nor, so far as the closest scrutiny reveal
egg of a fly to be seen. Last year, a
date, the Tomato plants were infested
year they are absolutely and entirely
Can anyone suggest a reason which ma
count for this wholesale and happy clear
Is it possible that some epidemic has
responsible? If so I wish I knew wha
epidemic might be! Of course, durin
late winter the temperature of the h
was, owing to the exceptional severity
frost, lower than usual, but it was no
normally so—not, I fancy, low enough
out White Fly and to destroy the vital
the eggs. There is no possibility of a
take. The White Fly is gone—e
evasit! Can anyone account for it?
has anyone, fortunately, had a simila
perience?

A Scottish Garden

Saponaria lutea

Going over lists of plants to see wh
should add to our gardens is intere
though generally tantalising work.
usually ends in a drastic cutting dov
desiderata. Some 25 or more years a
grew for some time Saponaria lutea, h

hope that it would reveal some hen unseen to justify its retention of its rejection to make room for the od things at command. I am, how- rtain that S. lutea will not again find into a list of my desiderata. I have ked up what Farrer says of it. His begins unfavourably, but is later by his praise of what " we are apt ook, the real and personal charm of , little, bright green mat of flattened eage springing from the woody trunk, turn blind eyes upon the diaphanous of the small hyaline flowers them- ith their woolly calyx and blackened lack anthers."

all due deference to our departed y one may, without rashness, say is not so easy to detect the subtle and that most growers of Alpines mething which will appeal more to their sense of beauty, and will, e, leave S. lutea in its native moun- greeing with Farrer's introductory that it " is a rarity that suffers from cipations aroused by its name."

may, however, be some who will cultivate this Saponaria in view of remarks, and these may safely do so ry rockwork in a well-drained soil of al loam without lime, or in a sunny r. S. lutea is increased by division es. It comes from Mont Rosa and enis.

S. ARNOTT.

Coloured Freesias

RE are still people who say: " I do care for coloured Freesias, the old ite ones are good enough for me." y, for fragrance and the fresh, cool a large bowl or two of their cream ow flowers nothing beats F. refracta rly spring before Primroses and pale s are plentiful. But those well-filled, ls gain greatly in beauty if a few sses stand among them which have ed with pleasing blends or contrasts any lovely hues the late Mr. Jacob, rs. Hoog, Mr. Dalrymple, and others en to the coloured Freesias of the lay.

charmed with the contrast of the er and cream tints of Primrose Day, l in the same vase with the warm Red Indian. A few spikes of these aeties are shown in the drawing, but unch painted in their true colours is to show what a fine contrast they

er are many good yellow varieties, and k well mixed, but are marvellously if a dozen spikes of the rather wered but brilliant Flame are scat- ong them.

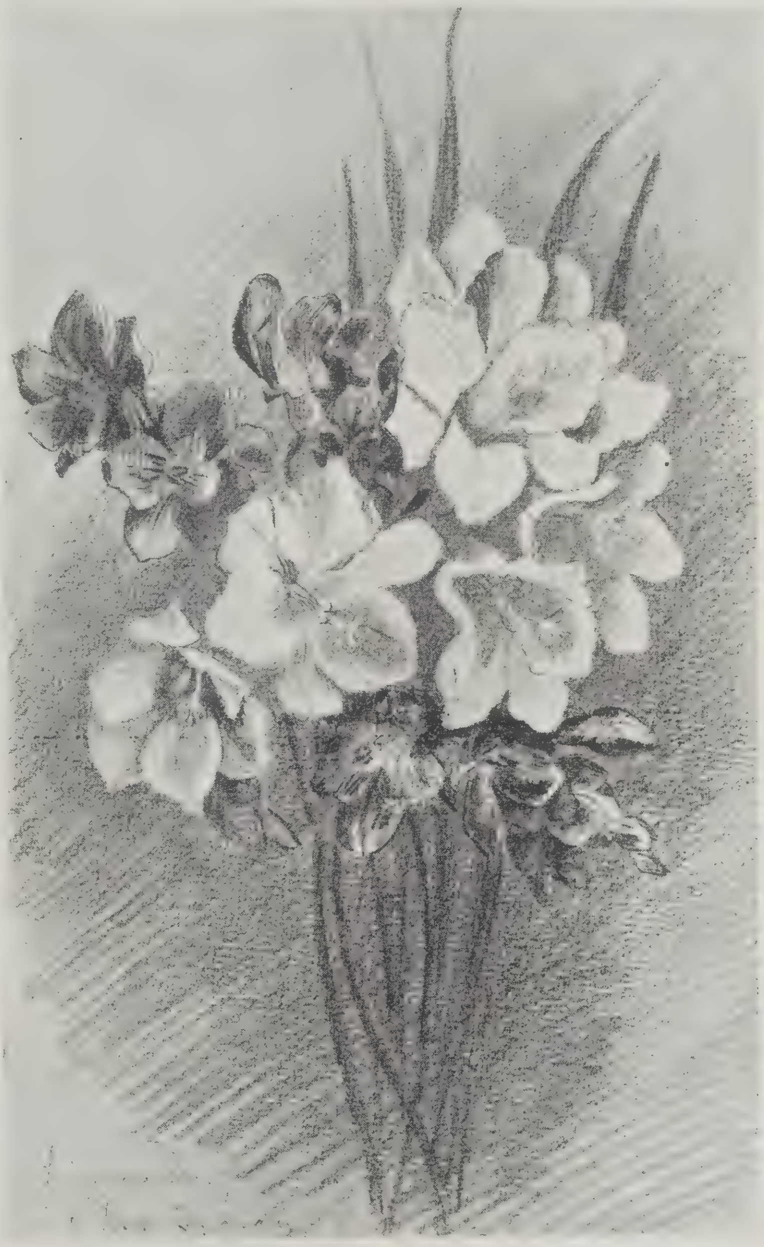
d Old Rose mixed with Cream etoo, and lilac varieties, with Wistaria deep note and Grey Dawn for the t, make me long for the next season red Freesias.

E. A. BOWLES.

late Pear: Josephine de Malines

ariety stands quite by itself in habit th, foliage, and flavour, which is erfumed. It is sometimes described a, and often is so even on the exhibi- le, but I have had it averaging a good om cordons. It is longer coming ing than some, but it is worth wait- Pruning needs special care, for ts fruit buds usually take three years the flowering stage it sometimes de- ature fruit buds at the tips of the ear's growths, especially short ones, are not always recognisable until February, as the wood buds are also round. It is well, therefore, at the main winter pruning to leave the doubtful growths till later. This variety can be grown as an irregular bush, a medium standard, and a good cordon; though it needs experienced pruning to keep the latter well feathered. The fruit should hang as long as the leaves, which means birds have to be guarded against if much is not to be spoiled. It may be kept in good condition until April in some places and seasons, but is at its best with me in late January and early February.

A. PETTS.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Coloured Freesias Primrose Day and Red Indian

Variety in room plants

The choice of pot plants for room decoration is far too often limited to Aspidistras, Kentias, and Pteris Ferns. Where is the Ficus elastica of pre-war days? This India-rubber plant is rarely seen, yet it is no more difficult to maintain than is a Kentia. Careful watering and cleanliness are the two chief requisites in indoor cultivation of this and most other decorative plants.

Chlorophytum elatum variegatum might be more popular were it not for its name. The green and cream strap-shaped leaves are quite graceful and harmonise with most surroundings. The Chlorophytum is long-suffering and can put up with a certain amount of ill-treatment. A native of South Africa, it does not require very much water, and is quite easy to propagate by division of the roots.

The Cordyline, or " Club Palm," is good for rooms where there is plenty of space. This Dracena is a native of New Zealand. It is graceful and semi-hardy. One variety provides the natives of the Sandwich Islands with food, clothing, and housing material.

Fatsia japonica, often still termed Aralia Sieboldii, is coming back into favour. The dark green, leathery leaves are very ornamental, and it is an easy plant to grow.

Grevillea robusta requires a light situation and not too much water. One of the most graceful of all foliage plants, the Grevillea hates a close, stuffy atmosphere. It is not at all difficult to rear, and lasts as long as any other plant in rooms.

Araucaria excelsa, the Norfolk Island Pine, is the most graceful of Conifers. Firm potting and moderation in watering are the chief essentials. It will last for years with proper care.

A colour group of yellow Dahlias

Dahlias grouped for colour

THE great variety of fine Dahlias now to be had makes it easy to form good masses for colour value. The pictures show a part of the garden that is given entirely to summer flowers, what were formerly known as bedding plants. Here are Geraniums, Iresines, Cannas and Dahlias, variegated Maize and Ricinus, with half-hardy annuals, such as Zinnia, Salpiglossis, Alonsoa, Perilla, Amaranthus, and French and African Marigolds. The Dahlias in the lower illustration are:—On the left a low-growing single-flowered one from Holland, nearly white, but suffused with a yellowish tinge, and beyond it one of the good yellows of moderate height of the bedding class. On the right are some of the tall kinds, of pale shaded pink, and a white of good habit nearer the path. Beyond these is a telling mass of the red-leaved Ricinus Gibsoni intergrouped with red Dahlias and backed by a tall old kind of an almost blackish-red, which tones finely with a foliage bush of Prunus Pissardi, the same dark-leaved Prunus forming a mass of rich darkness on the wall at the back. Beyond the left-hand group come Cannas and Dahlias of a softer red. G. J.

Iris cristata

The delightful little Iris cristata does not appear to meet with the demand its merits deserve, though it has been in gardens for very many years, having been introduced from America as far back as 1756. Its native habitat is in the gravel by streams in the Central States. It is quite hardy in this country and, where it is happy, increases freely. It is only about 3 inches or 4 inches high, and has wonderfully beautiful little flowers of, what Farrer calls, "the rarest crimpled powder-blue-and-golden beauty of blossom!" I am more disposed to agree with the late Mr. W. R. Dykes in his description of the colour, which he calls "delicate lavender or lilac." The "gold" of Farrer's account is rendered by Dykes as the "irregular yellow dappled crest, which is such a charming feature of I. cristata, as in other Irises of the same section." The best position for this lovely little Iris is in a rather low, damp, half-shady place in well-decayed vegetable soil with the addition of small gravel mixed with it. In northern gardens less shade is required than in those of the south. Propagation is effected by taking off the small side growth just after the flowers have withered. I have found slugs fond of this Iris. S. ARNOTT.

Gentiana Andrewsii

Those seeking an interesting Gentian would do well to plant Gentiana Andrewsii. Answering to several pet names, such as the "blind Gentian," the "bottle Gentian," and sometimes the "closed Gentian," this species, when in flower, always attracts great attention. Its flowers are peculiar because the five parts of the corolla never spread. The flower always looks as if it is only in "bud."

This Gentiana is certainly of easy cultivation, and seems quite happy in any soil, providing it is in a moist spot. It is a deep blue in colour and reaches a height of sometimes 2 feet, and is in bloom in late summer.

It is a native plant of North America; can be easily propagated by careful root division or from seed. R. MOORE.

Thorpe le Soken.

Notes from a Cornish gard

NOWADAYS, when one gardener
another, the question usually is: "
have the gales and frost treated y
And the answer, in the case of this g
in North Cornwall, is: "Not so ba
Eight or nine trees down, including a
Acacia dealbata, and only a branch o
knocked off the Rhododendrons, is
charged to the first; whilst frost has
few shoots and flower buds off tender s
and hybrids of Rhododendrons and
Sollya heterophylla, Crotalaria capensi
entirely improved seedling), and appa
a very old plant of Cytisus fragrans.
this last was probably nearing its life
anyhow. Freylinia cestroides looks dea
will most likely shoot again, and ar
it has never flowered, though it has
in its present position for many years.
I notice a little damage to Hoheria pop
Drimys aromatica, and the Myrtles.
pensations there are, however, which,
all, may be bad as well as good. Ar
our light treatment by the east wind w
paying the price of a visitation of sta
Myriads of them come here nightly fro
surrounding country, and day by da
garden becomes more whitewashed
odoriferous; nor is there anything w
do to drive them away. But oh! for a
north-wester, even if it does blow do
tree or two, for that will get rid of
as it blows right up the valley.

A peregrine falcon came over my hea
evening flying very fast and low, an
shriek of a stricken starling was hear
mediately after, so one, at least, m
death in a good cause.

Some years ago I was coming u
drive and one struck a redwing almos
my head and about 50 feet up, followe
seized it some 20 feet lower, and fle
As pretty a bit of hawking as one coul
to see! An ignorant farmer in these
asserts that the peregrines have been
his chickens, and a keeper says the
about his pheasant chicks, so that one
ing himself "F. Z. S." is doing good s
in the "Western Morning News"
cording the remains he has found in m
visits to several of the falcons' eyries

Pigeons, grouse, gulls, thrushes,
starlings are represented, but not a
chicken or young pheasant, which is na
as the peregrine strikes its prey in the

But ornithology is not gardening, t

Yellow Dahlias to the left, white and pale pink to the right

Hoheria populnea, which has stood the winter well in a Cornish garden

ardeners are likewise bird lovers, and
lgise for the digression.
curse, the weather has hindered plant-
a certain extent. But here there are
sations in the other direction, for,
l of one's usual activities, one has
le to deal faithfully with many enor-
ramble and other plants, good per-
themselves, yet often over invasive.
g-neglected corner meets one's eye,
e the man on the mizzling, drizzling
the “ Ingoldsby Legends,” one says,
at least, I'll make a clearance.” But
there is more to be done than is ex-
First a series of vast Brambles, then
Ashes and Sycamores of various
ext a smothering Ivy or two, and per-
a Honeysuckle. Thereafter one
dead branches, and they have to be
and, lastly, overhanging boughs of
d often an entire Laurel or Holly
be abolished. The former, given
d labour, can be rooted out. But
gain will I try to grub up an old
or the tap-root goes down and down,
one attempt to do so years ago
ignominious failure. And one's
How they are lacerated by prickles
ayed with the east wind, until one
ey will never be presentable again.
nodically and for years I have grown
s here. Does not Reginald Farrer,
“ Yorkshire Garden,” record that in
909) “ I myself saw, with my own eyes, how ardently the little old clumps (of P. Cockburniana) were shooting back to life ”? Primula farinosa was thriving near it at the same time, I remember; and that astonished him considerably.

These, alas! are all things of the past, for the genus needs more attention than can be given it here.

But the report of the Primula conference in the R.H.S. Journal, Mr. A. W. Darnell's invaluable articles, and the fact that P. Agleniana and P. Reidii flowered well here last year has led to fresh experiments.

P. Forrestii has done well in two solid masonry walls, but both face south-west, and during prolonged droughts several of them have died. Last year I tried to replace these with seedlings, but put them out too large and too late and they all succumbed. So in the autumn I sowed seed in heat, pricked them out early, and have now transferred them to a cold frame; and am hoping that, planted out small and early in April, they may get established before the drought we so often get in May arrives.

There is a steep and lofty bank on one side of the drive, facing north, which may suit some of the more difficult species. The soil is bad, but a certain amount of better stuff can be added. P. Reidii bloomed there for two years, and P. Agleniana had one flower scape, but did not, I think, get enough nourishment. Omphalogramma has lived there, but so far has produced no flower. This year I am trying on it three large plants of P. Forrestii, one P. Winteri, one P. nutans, and a good batch of seedling P. cyanantha and Reidii. For the last three or four years I have sown broadcast on it surplus seed of Chinese Rhododendrons, and a certain number of these have germinated and seem to be doing well. Further down the drive there is a group of the Blue Augustinii, and several self-sown seedlings of this and of R. nipponicum have come up on the steep slope below among the Moss and Ferns.

Some of us have a fondness for self-sown seedlings, and occasionally they turn out to be really good things. A good many years ago I discovered four growing under a biggish Rhododendron, and, noticing that the foliage was out of the common, took them up and looked after them. They turned out to be hybrids between campylocarpum and perhaps Kewense, one white and the other three yellow with red spots, and fine large flowers at that. So much for the efforts of our friend the bumble-bee!

And now, at last, after weeks of frost and hot sun, some rain has come, and the gardener's heart rejoices, for he can listen to the wood pigeons and blackbirds before he gets up, and afterwards can see his flowers coming out in every direction.

“PETER THE HERMIT.”

Pricking off seedlings

There is a deal of this work to be carried through about this time. Best results follow when the pricking off is carried out while the seedlings are still quite small. Keep rather close and shade carefully from all sunshine for at least a week, and thus permit of the little plants getting a good start into the new soil.

Primula Forrestii

The Individual Treatment of Roses

II.

(Continued from page 232)

Recently it was suggested in these columns that of all the articles, catalogue descriptions and hints, and other contributions to the culture of the Rose, upon which the enthusiast largely relies for his guidance, hardly any ever mentioned the necessity for individual knowledge and treatment, and that in the few cases where this most essential point in really successful culture was noted, very little, if any, information was given as to what this or that particular Rose required in order to give of its best

LIME seems to be about the last thing many think necessary to the good cultivation of the Rose, and there are countless Rose gardens which have never known even a "dusting." Why, is hard to understand, for one would have thought that the mere fact of its corrective influence, specially in ground so frequently receiving regular and heavy doses of manure, would have made an occasional dressing, at least, an obvious item in their culture. I have never yet known any Rose which objected to it in moderation. Contrariwise, I have known the half of a Rose garden which received a light dressing every other year to give results in every way superior to the other half.

And there is at least one Rose to which an annual dressing is acceptable and beneficial; indeed, I would say an essential item, in its culture to a high standard. This is Rev. F. Page Roberts, one of the most popular Roses, but not often seen giving the best of which it is capable. In soil deficient in free lime it is quite ordinary, but with a good yearly dressing, accompanied by the fairly hard pruning, comparatively speaking, which it prefers, one would hardly recognise it as the same Rose. My experiments in this line have scarcely covered sufficient ground and time to be quite certain on the point, but, so far, I am inclined to think that the popular "flame" and "sunset" coloured Roses, as a whole, benefit, as regards definition of colour, at least, by the application of a light yearly dusting of lime.

Two comparatively old and indispensable favourites, Mme. Segond Weber and Mme. Melanie Soupert, may be coupled together in a preference for as little of the knife as possible, and, in the case of the latter, unless disbudding is practised with no light hand, both the shape and substance of the blooms suffer to a remarkable degree. H. E. Richardson is a Rose which I have always considered inferior to several others of its colour. Under normal conditions of stiff, rich loam, its propensity for useless, lanky growth and scarcity of bloom is so strong that one wonders that there is still any demand for this Rose. In light soil with abundance of leaf-mould, and under light pruning, these faults are, to some extent, corrected; nevertheless, there still remain to this unsatisfactory Rose the apparently incurable tendency to flatness and discoloration of bloom.

Many growers now omit from their lists the old Rayon d'Or. It has, without a doubt, been rightly superseded. Nevertheless, there are gardens where it is still to be found amongst the more elect and where one is loath to part with it altogether. It will, of course, always have flat blooms, but it can easily be more free in their production and more satisfactory in general growth than it sometimes is. In many gardens, it is simply murdered, every spring, as the knife goes round in March in the usual haphazard "en masse" pruning operations! Beyond removal of dead and ill-placed wood and the merest shortening of the shoots retained leave it alone! Give it really stiff, rich land, and if you are on the point of discarding it you will probably decide otherwise, if only for its colour, which, at its best, is superb. Betty Uprichard (I am not yet convinced that it should be U-prichard, and should be sorry to saddle so delightful a thing with so awkward and ill-sounding a name!) is admirable in every way save, perhaps, its paucity of petals. I grew it first under normal conditions of soil and pruning, with the result that its growth was tremendous, but its blooms, though of good colour and substance, sm
than I expected. Since then I have
another batch in considerably lighter
with only moderate feeding, and pr
rather less severe than is customary,
need no further proof that these are the
ditions conducive to perfection in this
ideal Rose.

Those close relations and rivals, O
and Mme. Butterfly, seem uniformly
factory under almost any conditions. I
my best results, however, have been i
tinctly heavy soil, much heavier th
usually suggested for the Hybrid
though I have not observed that feedi
any extent is necessary to perfection in e
On the other hand, I am quite sure on
do no good at all with Sunstar, a Rose
has caused much disappointment, unles
can give it the most liberal treatment,
it, indeed, to excess. Lady Roundw
fancy, gives a much better bloom, in
stance and size, if pruned rather
severely than is usual to members
class, and the same may apply to Lady
together with the fact that this Rose is
so good as it might be unless given
liberal treatment, with a stiff soil as fo
tion.

G. C. Waud, which, for its distinctne
colour should be in every collectio
another which responds most readily to
ing and a heavy loam, and seems to giv
most perfect blooms without reductio
freedom if rather heavily pruned. With
Aaron Ward, on the other hand, I wou
sparing with the knife, but equally l
otherwise. And there seems to be bu
way of having much of Christine's be
and that is by giving it up as a "bu
for which its growth is too weakly
short, and elevating it to the dignity
"standard," a form in which Lady Hi
don is also superior. A little more knife
usual, but not too rich ground, seem to
the latter as well.

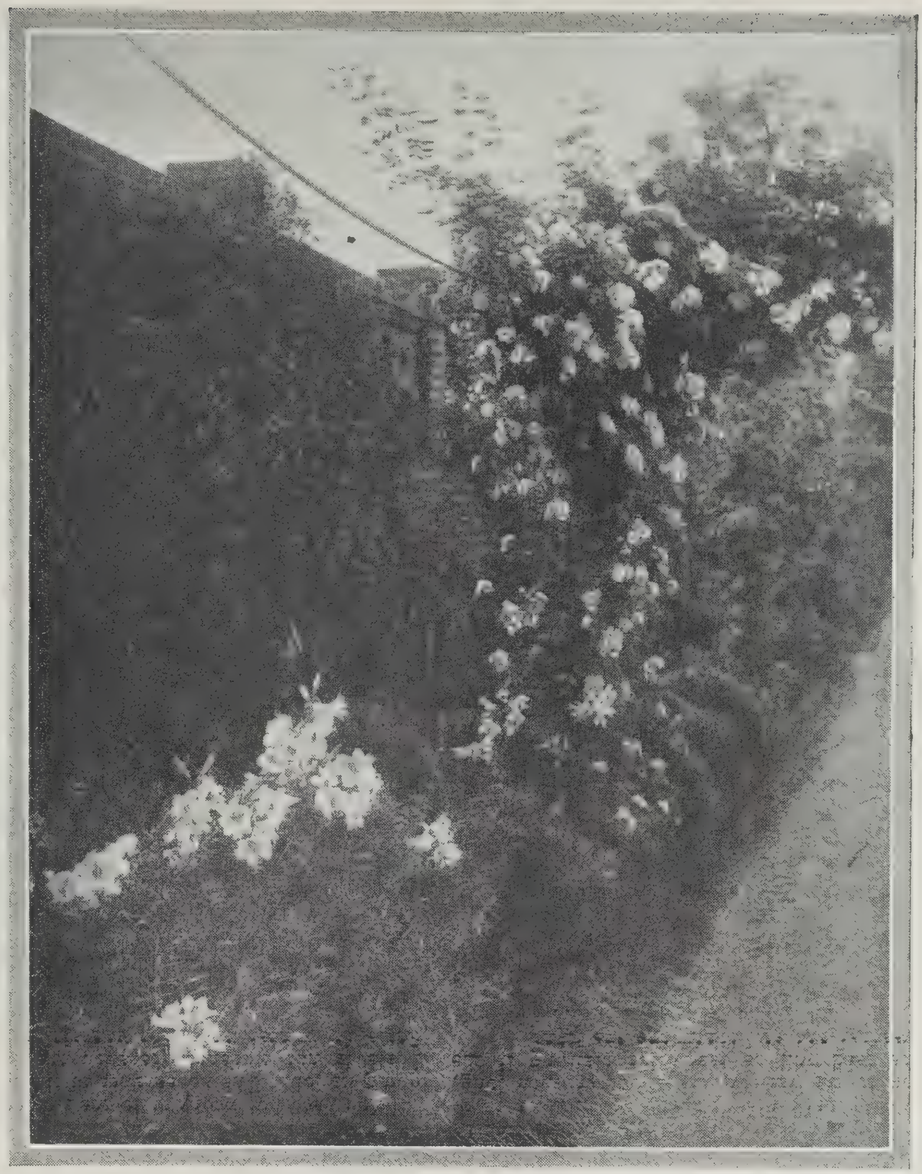
"En masse" planting, as carried o
so many gardens, is simply courting
pointment with three Roses I have
down as decidedly "bad starters,"
Marcia Stanhope, Clarice Goodacre,
Lord Charlemont. Unless the greatest
is exercised in choice of ground and cli
conditions, in placing plenty of dry, f
loam among the roots and immediately
them, and in avoiding the slightest vari
in depth of planting compared with the
vious insertion, losses are almost sure
sult, and will, indeed, do so, to some ex
whatever one does. Once established, M
Stanhope prefers very moderate cutting
whereas, unless Clarice Goodacre is
hardly treated in this line and given "s
thing of the best," the blooms will be
ridiculously small. Prince de Bulgari
the way, is an old stager which does
when subjected to careful use of the
The ever satisfactory, still indispens
Mme. Abel Chatenay, however,
superior, at least, in the moderate loa
which I have it at present, if cut quite
With Hortulanus Budde the chief indiv
item in culture seems to be the imme
removal from the bed of every bloom
than half developed, for at this stage a
and rapid deterioration in colouring oc
which ends up, if the flowers are left t
pand, in an equally weird and wholl

The sweet scented Rose Evangeline over an arbour and seat

lashing of shades! Roselandia I can
respectable form indoors, but nowhere
iow else! But Nellie Parker is one I
rticularly as regards colour. This
is, however, vastly inferior in the
ooms obtained by drastic disbudding
hose of moderate size resulting from
al reduction of buds. The still more
beauty of the older Mme. Jules
s quite likely to be confined to repu-
ily, with those whose acquaintance
Rose is but short. Not until it has
lightly pruned for several years and
to develop to a bush of some size
exquisite Rose reveal its best. And
iow, historic, Victor Hugo will rather
than otherwise a heavier use of the
in is usual with so vigorous a per-
The same may be said, in its class,
Ravary, and free disbudding is an

those fine exhibition Roses, H. V.
and J. G. Glassford, I would err
i the severe side than otherwise, not-
ding the fact that the latter is none
in production of bloom. The ex-
perfumed Miss Connor—not too
:luded—resents anything more than
test treatment with the knife, but
with most lovely blooms to really
manuring, and Elsie Beckwith will
etter grower, with a higher percent-
rst-rate blooms, if discrimination and
scretion accompany the knife.
ly no modern dark red disappoints
as Etoile de Hollande. My best re-
regards both vigour and substance
ns have been with bushes lightly
grown in soil which is on the light
which has heavy applications of
i about once a fortnight. Emma
would be magnificent if consistent in
loom and strength of petal. Con-
improvement in this is effected by
vere pruning and really rich soil.
one "single," in my experience,
om the others, to any degree, in its
equirements. Whereas free use of
on one and all merely deprives one
of their bloom, in the case of Mrs.
Fisher to prune is almost to ruin,
ss it is grown well and given more
an usual it makes no headway at

dding Rose, the old Chateau de Clos
is seldom pleasing, in spite of its
colour, free-blooming, and perfume.
i does one see the climbing "sport"
'pegged down" to fill the bed in
the usual bushes, yet this is the only
really beautiful Rose grows, blooms,
n at its best.
; the hosts of Roses at present in
n there are, undoubtedly, vast num-
ch are wholly satisfactory, practi-
fect, under the treatment normal to
re of the Rose, including a consider-
ber I have grown, but of which no
is made here, for the very good
hat, as I have known them, they
o outstanding "individual" tastes,
ents, idiosyncrasies, or whatever one
them. There are, also, of course,
of recent introductions which I am
but upon the "individual" treat-
which I would prefer to give no
pinion until I have experienced them
rimented for another season or two.
rough and somewhat unorthodox
l probably be sufficient, however, to
ate the futility of the "en masse"
t of Roses as a whole, or to show
sity for individual knowledge should
to get the best possible out of each
Rose one grows. The encourage-
such methods as exemplified here
t least, lead some of us to be less
we are prone to be, to write down
this or that Rose as a "disappointment," a "failure," a "bad doer," or to be "scrapped" at the first opportunity, ere we have given them the chance they require to show their real worth. Certainly, the greater our individual intimacy with our Roses, their particular weaknesses, inclinations, peculiarities, the more clearly shall we realise that many Roses are much "better" than they seem, that there are very few Roses, indeed, which are not a sheer delight, and fewer still which are not worth growing. J. R. K.



Madonna Lilies and Rambler Roses

Arenarias

The Arenarias or Sandworts are extremely pretty little Alpine plants calling for a minimum of cultivation. Most of them thrive in sandy soils and sunny positions, though some of them prefer moist and partially shaded positions. Most of them spread freely and rapidly, affording a ready means of propagation by division, but propagation by cuttings and seed is also readily effected. A. balearica is a gem of the race, and is excellent for covering moist walls or rocks, to which it clings closely, forming a dense carpet of tiny leaves. Above these, borne on slender pedicels, appear myriads of tiny white, starry flowers, which maintain their attractiveness during a long period in the summer.

A. Ledebourii is a neat little Sandwort with minute rosettes of tiny bluish-grey leaves surmounted with miniature sprays of small white flowers.

A. montana is a large-growing species forming trailing masses of grey-green foliage. It bears large snow-white flowers from June onwards, and is an excellent subject for the sunny rock garden, where it trails gracefully over large rocks, covering them with attractive foliage and almost campanulate flowers.

A. purpurascens is a tufted, decumbent plant of perfect habit and the only member of the genus with distinctly coloured flowers. In July and August its little tufted mounds of small leaves are studded with tiny flowers of a lovely shade of lilac. It prefers a moist situation, and if planted in dry, stony positions it should be given liberal supplies of water in periods of dry weather.

A. tetraquetra is less floriferous than some other species, but an interesting plant. The ovate, recurved leaves are imbricated in four rows, giving the plant a distinctive appearance. It grows freely in ordinary light soil, producing its somewhat capitate flowers in August. A. Saxifraga is a satisfactory plant for sunny positions, its somewhat rounded leaves and large white flowers being attractive.

W. AUTON.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Vineries

The early Vines will now derive much benefit from weekly applications of diluted manure-water, or if such is not available one of the excellent artificial Vine manures should be used about once each fortnight. Whatever is used it will be advisable to entrust its application to skilful hands only, otherwise more harm than good will result. Weak applications should be given to commence with, a slight increase in strength being applied in successive waterings. With artificials some good growers favour scattering these over the surface of the border and watering it in, while others mix the desired quantity with water beforehand and dilute as required. Personally, I prefer the former method, and it is often delightful to see the little white feeders perforating the surface in search of it about a fortnight after its application. Tying, stopping, and gradual training of the shoots will require almost daily attention, this being a delicate job which, if hurried, will most certainly end in disaster by the shoot breaking from the rod.

Peach houses

Growth here is rapid, and the training of the young shoots must receive almost daily attention. Where there is a danger of the trees becoming crowded a portion of the shoots should be pinched back, but if the disbudding was carefully performed, the amount of stopping necessary should be small. A weak application of liquid-manure will benefit trees, swelling their fruit, and careful observation must be given where there is the slightest suspicion of Green Fly attacks, and should their presence be noted the house should be fumigated at once, otherwise many of the fruits will be disfigured.

Peaches in the open

These are now in bloom and must, unless bees are plentiful, be hand-fertilised at midday. A rabbit's tail answers the purpose well, and should be lightly drawn over the blooms to distribute the pollen when the latter is quite dry. Protect the trees at night and thus prevent loss from frost, the coverings being drawn aside during the day. Apricots and choice Pears should receive similar attention, otherwise a portion at least will be lost.

Stove and greenhouse plants

Growth is now rapid, and at the present time this should, especially among stove evergreens, be encouraged by weak applications of manure-water and early closing of the houses, together with a free use of the syringe, which not only assists in producing the necessary moisture in the atmosphere, but keeps down plant pests.

Shading plant houses

Wherever possible blinds should be fixed for this purpose, as during dull weather they may be rolled up and thus admit full light to the plants. It often happens, however, that a permanent form of shading is the only alternative, and where this is so no time should be lost in getting it on, as too much air applied to keep down temperatures is not always favourable to plant life.

Perpetual flowering Carnations

The plants are now making rapid and strong growth, flowers are abundant, and no harm will arise from a damping down of the paths on bright mornings, together with a light spraying of the plants on favourable occasions. Careful watering and feeding is important, and though free ventilation should be given, I would much rather see the houses rise in temperature, within reason, than to admit cold draughts to the plants. The young stock will benefit from light overhead spraying on fine days, and free ventilation should be given. Many of these will require stopping, and many will require a shift into larger pots.

Newly planted trees and shrubs

Examine these at intervals and soak any showing dryness at the root. Scarify the surface soil, and wherever possible apply a generous mulch of decayed leaves or other litter.

Sweet Peas

Sown in pots in the autumn and wintered in cold frames, these are now ready for their permanent positions, which should have been thoroughly prepared beforehand. Care should be taken that before planting out they are in a moist condition and well watered in after planting. It will also serve as a little protection from cold winds if short twigs are placed alongside at once.

Vegetable Marrows and Indian Corn seeds

These should now be sown to furnish plants for the open in May. The former may be sown singly or in numbers in pots and the latter in boxes or pans, the resulting seedlings being potted up separately when 3 inches in height. The latter gives a delicious food which is much appreciated here, and is planted in the open about May 20th.

Salads in frames

These have been plentiful and excellent, and must shortly be succeeded by those which have wintered in the open, therefore encourage these by frequently stirring the soil around them and by the application of a light stimulant. E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Grape thinning

This tedious but very necessary operation should be carried out, as far as possible, during dull days, for double the amount of work can be carried through when the operator is in a fairly comfortable state and not unduly heated. It is always well to thin Grapes while the berries are still quite small.

Tomatoes

The main batch of these are now ready for their fruiting quarters, whether to be grown in beds, boxes, or pots. A good, fresh compost is desirable in any case, but it is a mistake to make it very rich, this causing undue leafage and stem at the expense of fruit. Unless the loam be of very poor quality use no animal manures, but a fair amount of bonemeal is good, and a liberal quantity of dry wood-ashes almost indispensable. In all cases make the soil quite firm.

The Melon house

With the lengthening days Melons are making more rapid progress and so demanding frequent attention in the way of tying, pinching, and watering. To prevent attacks of vermin a moist atmosphere must be maintained in the house.

The Peach house

Dryness at the roots is fatal to success with the Peach as is a dry, warm atmosphere, so damping down must be attended to at least twice a day and the soil kept moist. Continue the disbudding of the later houses and tie down the shoots as often as is necessary in the early houses.

Pot on seedling Cyclamens

If the 2-inch pots are well filled with
but not unless, it is desirable to now
shift into those of a larger size. In th
of the strongest of the plants 4-inch pot
be given, but all weaker ones should ha
3-inch or $3\frac{1}{2}$-inch. The compost sho
composed of the best fibrous loam, swe
mould, and sufficient clean, coarse s
ensure a free passage of water. A
thoroughly decomposed manure m
added, but strong artificial fertilisers
be avoided at this stage. Do not p
firmly. Return to same temperature,
from all sunshine, and maintain a nice,
atmosphere in the house or pit.

Planting shrubs

During the next few weeks is a ver
able time for transplanting Hollies, L
Yews, and Hybrid Rhododendrons, th
being in good condition for inducing th
to move almost at once. Should a dr
set in shortly after planting, it will be
sary to afford all the newly moved bus
occasional soaking of water at the root

Box edges

Where it is necessary to relay these t
sent is a good time for having this t
and tedious work carried out. Seeing
edges will stand for a long time after
laid down it is desirable to make a
good job, a badly planted Box edging
an eyesore in any tidy garden. Ed
good condition should be neatly clipp

Trim Ivy

It is only by clipping close in ever
that Ivy retains a neat and close s
Indeed, it is only this annual attentio
assures its clinging securely to the wa
left untrimmed for even a few years it
heavy that, not infrequently, much
beauty is spoiled by pieces becoming de
and when once this happens nothing
duce such pieces to cling again.

Planting Asparagus

Where it is necessary to lay dow
beds of this vegetable about the mi
April is a very favourable time for do
This plant rather resents being transp
so the ground should be in full readin
fore the plants are brought forward,
they be kept out of the soil for as
period as need be.

Broad Beans

A final sowing of these should now
in, the resulting plants, as a rule, carry
supplies until frost arrives in October.

Sow more Peas

As the previous sowing becomes
through the surface a further sowing
be put in, this helping to maintain
broken supply so necessary in most g
Superlative, Royal Salute, and Dread
are very reliable sorts for present sowi
all of medium height.

Maincrop Carrots

If not yet sown it is now advisable
this done without much further delay.
unfortunately, the case that this valua
cannot, because of the ravages of the
of the Carrot Fly, be successfully gr
numbers of gardens, nor is there, app
any absolutely reliable cure, or rath
ventive, to be had, so one has just to
loss, and occasionally a season comes
when quite good results are had. Th
ing, and no thinning of the plants, is
at times and is easy to carry out.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow

ALPINES AT A RECENT MEETING OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY IN GREYCOAT STREET

A rock garden planted with Saxifrages and dwarf conifers

Saxifrage in the foreground between the rocks is the very pretty l S. Jenkinsæ, with pinkish flowers freely borne in cushions of dense blue-grey rosettes

Shown by Casburn and Welch

Collection of Alpines in pans, including magnificent examples of Saxifrages Jenkinsæ, Griesbachii Wisley Variety, Crocuses, and Muscari

The tall Liliaceous flowers in vase are those of Leucocoryne ixioides var. odorata, closely allied to Brodiæa. (See issue March 9, pp. 162 & 163)

Shown by Clarence Elliott, who collected bulbs in Chili

Shakespeare Garden and Its Plants

NY readers will have read with in- t-est, as I did, the short article titled " Flowers for a Shakespeare " by E. J. Ellis, which appeared in ue of March 2nd. The following were mentioned:—Aconite, Lily, l, Poppy, Rose, and Violet, but this t be well extended. The ambitious en plant a Myrtle Grove (or at least), to which Shakespeare alludes in and Adonis." "The sombre Yew " might find a place and also the Vine, to clothe a "covert alley." In V." the last-named is referred to

er Vine, the merry cheerer of the
heart
npruned dies; her hedges even
pleached,
ke prisoners wildly overgrown with
hair,
ut forth disordered twigs."

dor gardens a low wall or hedge was ly introduced where "Rosemary for rance" grew.

he Tempest" Ariel sings:—

errily, merrily shall I live now
nder the blossom that hangs on the
bough."

Were these, as many suppose, the flowers of the Lime trees so often trained to form a shade walk in those days? Apple trees must certainly be included, which are alluded to in "Henry IV." The Mulberry is thus referred to in "Coriolanus":—

"Thy stout heart
Now humble as the ripest Mulberry
That will not hold the handling."

May trees are delightful in every garden, and in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" we read of the time

"When Wheat is green when Hawthorn
buds appear."

To clothe the garden house or to shade a seat we have the fragrant Honeysuckle, for in "Much Ado About Nothing" the poet mentions:—

"The pleachèd bower
Where Honeysuckles ripen'd by the sun
Forbid the sun to enter."

We may, perhaps, be excused for quoting the familiar lines from "A Midsummer Night's Dream":—

"I know a bank where the wild Thyme
blows,
Where Oxlips and the nodding Violet
grows,
Quite over-canopied with luscious
Woodbine
With sweet Musk Roses and with
Eglantine."

The Eglantine, it may be recalled, was the charming old name for the Sweet Briar,

"the leaf, whom not to slander,
out sweeten'd not thy breath."

Although Shakespeare makes mention of the "bold Oxlip" several times, he does not forget the more fragrant Cowslip, for in "The Tempest" Ariel sings again:—

"Where the bee sucks there suck I;
In the Cowslip's bell I lie."

The more simple the flower the more beautiful seems the picture which the poet conjures up for us. In "Love's Labours Lost" the Daisy is thus referred to:—

"When Daisies pied and Violets blue,
And Lady-smocks all silver-white,
And cuckoo-buds of yellow hue
Do paint the meadows with delight."

Then we read of the Daisy again compared to the hand of the sleeping Lucrece:—

"Without the bed her other fair hand
was
On the green coverlet, whose perfect
white
Showed like an April Daisy on the
grass."

Another humble flower is recalled in the line :—

> “ The azured Harebell like thy veins.”

The words put into the mouth of Ophelia, although so familiar, cannot be left out :—

> “ There's Rosemary that's for Remembrance,
> Pray, love, remember :
> There's Pansies that's for thoughts.”

Ophelia also exclaims :—

> “ There's Fennel for you and Columbines,
> There's Rue for you ; and here's some for me ;
> We may call it Herb Grace o' Sundays.”

In “ Much Ado ” the handsome variegated Thistle is mentioned thus :—

> “ Get you some of this distilled Carduus Benedictus and lay it to your heart ;
> Why Benedictus? You have some moral in this Benedictus !
> Moral ! No, by my troth I have no moral meaning,
> I meant plain Holy Thistle.”

It is thought the “ Gillyvor ” referred to in “ Cymbeline ” was the Wallflower, but the Stock was also known by this name. There was also the Clove-Gillyflower, or the Coronation (Carnation), so let us take the advice of Polixenes to Perdita :—

> “ To make your garden rich in Gillyvors.”

In the “ Winter's Tale ” a host of flowers are referred to :—

> “ The fairest flowers o' the season
> Are our Carnations and streak'd Gillyvors.” . . .
> “ Here's flowers for you,
> Hot Lavender, Mints, Savory, Marjoram ;
> The Marigold that goes to bed with the sun.” . . .
> “ I would I had some flowers o' the spring ; Daffodils
> That come before the swallow dares ” ;
> . . . Pale Primroses
> That die unmarried ere they can behold
> Bright Phœbus in his strength ; the Crown Imperial ;
> Lilies of all kinds, the Flower-de-Luce being one.” (*Compiled*).

The allusion to the white Flag Iris is an important one to those who would plant such a garden as that suggested. Let us end with this apt quotation :—

> “ I doubt this garden lacks no flowers to make a garland of in any season.”

Such is the garden that Sir Francis Bacon wrote of and Shakespeare sings of, a place for strengthening the weary spirit, for youth's fond dreams and maiden's fancies, for lovers' whispers, for children's gambols, or for the telling of some wondrous fairy tale, with the murmur of the stream, the sighing of the breeze, the song of the birds, and the hum of the bees to soothe and refresh us with their music.

May such a garden, like Shakespeare's Rosemary and Rue, ever “ keep its seeming and savour,” and be to all who enter it “ Full of Grace and Remembrance.”

H. H. Warner.

Gentiana sino ornata

Few new plants have come through the winter better than this fine Gentian, which should now be lifted and divided up. One nice plant will easily furnish 30 good planting pieces. It is one of the easiest plants in the world to divide, the little parts coming away as independent units and ready to replant at once. A mixture of loam, leafmould, peat, and sand will be found to suit this Chinese beauty admirably.

Perpetual Carnations

April is the month when the Carnation is once more in full growth and the period when the tide should be “ taken at the flood.” The rapid growth which it makes should in no way be checked.

Flowering plants in particular must be fed either by one top-dressing of Cartion Fertiliser or liquid-manure water given twice during the month. So quickly do the growths develop that if plant supports are not used one must take care to see that the growths are tied in good time ere they fall and break.

Every good cultivator has his insecticide in stock, as one day's delay in attacking Green Fly means the spoiling of one's plants. The leaves of a Carnation which have been punctured by Green Fly never recover, and this is the first stage towards disease.

The new Carnation Kathleen, deep salmon (Award of Merit)

With young plants it must likewise be the aim to keep them on the move, and any in 2-inch pots soon require an immediate shift into a size larger, while the earlier batches should likewise be potted into a 5-inch pot.

Stopping, if possible, should be done a couple of weeks after repotting, as the plants break more freely and receive less check. With regard to stopping, the fact that all varieties do not grow alike makes it interesting to observe the best way to do it. The short growers, like White Pearl, if stopped rather high (that is to say, if the growth is broken out at about 6 inches) make a good plant from this one stop, bloom earlier and more freely if all the shoots are not stopped again. Should, however, a growth be running off to bloom in August this may be broken back if early blooms are not required. While the one stop applies to the minority of varieties it is the best method with all the dwarf growers, which include Lady Inverforth and Countess of Harewood.

Not the least among the pleasures of grow-
ing Carnations comes at this seaso
year, when the sun stiffens up the s
brings back the perfume which h
lacking during the major part of th
Not only Carnations, but most pla
much of their fragrance in winter.
varieties, too, which have been a litt
in their colour now renew these sh
that there is little to complain of
respect.

Just as birds renew their plumage i
so do Carnations develop their beaut
reds are, perhaps, most acceptable in
but we see the best of the new or
apricot shades from spring on, and th
colour which at the moment is
Good examples of these are Sunny
Allwood, and Happidais. Orange
and Sheila Greer are two older
which are both worth retaining in
tion.

The early varieties which we first
orange shades were not good growers
the above make nice, healthy plants,
a very important point.

Laurence J.

Carnation Kathleen

THERE are now many good P
Carnations, but there are not m
the subject of our illustration. K
is a deep salmon-pink in the way
Inverforth. It has almost rounded p
a shell formation which have the r
producing an unusually shapely bloom
chief point about Kathleen is its
growth and free-blooming habit, a
few Perpetual Carnations have had
tinction of an Award of Merit fr
R.H.S. in the month of January—th
severe test of a Carnation's mi
blooming habit. The calyx of this
seldom splits, and lastly, but by no
least, it has a fragrance of the tru
Clove type. It was raised by Messrs.
Low and Co., of Bush Hill Park,
ceived the Award of Merit on Janua
of this year.

Pyrethrums as cut flowe

THERE is no more satisfactory fl
creation, for the market grower, t
Pyrethrum, or coloured Marg
writes Mr. F. J. Fletcher in “ Cut
for Market.”* They bloom at th
moment that the bulbs are finishing an
suitable coloured flowers are scarce.
blooms, produced singly, stand erect o
long stalks and have the true and alw
mired “ Daisy ” form. Bold, and
elegant, they will remain beautiful for
three weeks after being cut, if suppli
fresh water, and offers all that can
sired of a flower except fragrance.
other merits are sufficient to make up
deficieney and to establish them
favourites during their all too short se

There are single and double forms.
of their admirers favour the single for
probably they belong to a class whi
that, on the whole, single forms of
every flower are more beautiful th
double. Without endorsing that pa
view, we are bound to admit that a fin
Pyrethrum, of a pleasing colour, is
perfection, as we can hope for, but it
said that both singles and doubles a
rate sellers. A grower must cultiva
forms, and this he can do with the
confidence.

Now the Pyrethrum is, more or less
face-rooting plant, and has a root-
particularly well calculated to search
assimilate all that is assimilable in t

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* “Cut Flowers for Market,” by F. J. Fletcher.
by Ernest Benn, Ltd. ; price, 2s. 6d.

is why they exhaust it so thoroughly. are as manifold as the hair on one's iough the habit of the plant is not would suggest the need of so many, ier its foliage nor blooms appear to ng, but, presumably, it is because of nificent underground system that it rish and bloom in poor and shallow ough not up to market standard. To his, a deep and fairly rich soil is y, as also is moisture, and where n be provided, flower stalks from s to 24 inches are produced, sur- by blooms of first size and quality.

are several ways of working up a ck of plants, the readiest and easiest ng to grow plants from seed—but either the best nor the most economi- e end; for while quite a good strain so raised, there is always a good pro- not up to market standard, and are, , unprofitable. Further, there is no e of colour, and as the market will e certain colours, which must be distinct from each other, the others be weeded out and scrapped. On the nd, certain plants of outstanding night form the nucleus of a big increased by the methods to be de- irectly. We do not, therefore, decry ig of stock by seeds, though we have but its disadvantages. It must also that only single varieties can be orily raised from seeds, so that the of propagating by some other ds very apparent.

gation by cuttings is resorted to, haps by nurserymen than by market These are taken in April, cut off he base, and inserted in pots or pans soil. They are then given the pro- f a cold frame with lights, and kept l and shaded for about a month, ey are beginning to root, and may ed. Later they are either potted off d out in nursery beds.

te almost universal way of increasing by lifting and splitting up the plant, is done either in August or March l. The August splitting has tremen- antages if the weather is favourable; is a time of drought, then it should be deferred till the spring. Its especial advantage lies in the fact that the plants become well established during the autumn and produce a crop of flowers of good quality the first season, while those split up in March or April give a much smaller and poorer crop, especially if the harsh cold winds prevail (as they often do) for weeks. An August like that of 1928 is ideal for the purpose, bad though it has been for others.

The splitting up is undertaken when the plants are on the move, and only then with perfect safety. In the spring they are making their start after the winter's rest; in August they are active after the crop and making their autumnal growth. To split them up when they are inactive often means their loss through rotting.

The beds must be thoroughly well prepared. A liberal dressing of manure must be worked in, and the soil thoroughly disintegrated to a fair depth. The better this work is done, the more profitable will be the results, keeping in mind the fact that the plants have to stand three years, that they are heavy feeders, and that there are no means of getting beneath the roots for the whole of that period. Top dressing, both for second and third years, is necessary.

There are many varieties of single and double flowers; but though they may all find their place in garden adornment, the market grower will naturally select about a dozen of them as embracing the best for his purpose. We offer here a selection, though probably another dozen, equally meritorious, could be found if necessary. Singles: A. M. Kelway, rose; Comet, crimson; Elsie Gertrude, pink; James Kelway, crimson-scarlet; Queen of Whites, white; Firefly, crimson. Doubles: Aphrodite, white; Captain Nares, crimson; Princess Beatrice, pink; Haage et Schmidt, carmine and rose; La Vestale, blush; Marquise de Stella, rose; Queen Mary, shell pink.

Narcissus lobularis

Perianth sulphur, trumpet yellow. It is commonly grown under the name Narcissus nanus

An uncommon edging

In recent years there has been a tendency to do away with Boxwood edgings. There may be several reasons for this. Some have the idea that it harbours slugs, others object to it on the ground that it requires to be trimmed in late spring when other work is pressing, and in many districts it has the unsatisfactory habit of dying out in patches. Many other subjects have been tried with varying success. A very uncommon and entirely reliable edging is Cotoneaster thymæfolia. This is one of the hardiest shrubs growing, and can be clipped to any height required, from a dwarf edging of a few inches to a hedge of 3 feet or more. It is easily propagated from cuttings inserted in autumn, and should be planted the following season about 4 inches apart. It will soon become established and make rapid growth. Care must be taken to have it cut hard back in order that it may form a close, thick hedge. Unlike Boxwood, it may be clipped during hard weather in winter. Those who are making new gardens or renovating old ones ought to give this beautiful grey edging a place. TEVIOTSIDE.

Narcissus nanus (true) in foreground, shown on April 9th by Barr and Sons

Flowers rich full yellow and very dwarf

Lonicera nitida

This comparatively new shrubby Honeysuckle is a beautiful and charming plant, a wonderfully free grower, and an excellent subject for planting in the shrubbery or as a plant in the formation of a hedge. The shrub is evergreen in character with small, dark, glossy, green leaves, and of a compact habit of growth. The general aspect of the plant is exceedingly pleasing with its slender, erect shoots and dense foliage. It grows to a height of 3 feet to 5 feet.

This shrubby Lonicera is a native of W. Szechuen and Yunnan, China, at altitudes of 4,500 feet to 7,000 feet. It was introduced by Wilson in 1908. The plant is perfectly hardy and should grow practically anywhere in this country. It is also a shrub specially adapted for seaside planting. It is, however, as a low-growing ornamental hedge that this delightful shrub will probably be found to be most useful. When contemplating the formation of a hedge of this Lonicera it is advisable to prepare the ground by trenching or bastard trenching, about 3 feet to 3½ feet in width, some time previous to planting, allowing it time to settle before putting out the plants. Though it will bear close clipping there is something to be said in favour of lightly trimming a hedge of Lonicera nitida and thus retaining the natural graceful habit of the plant at all seasons. J. L.

Potentillas

The large number of Potentillas which are eligible for the herbaceous border are useful as unrivalled plants for inclusion in a narrow border where very tall plants cannot be used. They also make good front row plants for a large border. The culture of Potentillas is not hard, and the plant is best seen in bold groups rather than small clumps. All thrive in good garden soil. Where possible they should be grown in bold groups, for they thrive better if so placed than as solitary plants, and no plants have a finer effect in a border by themselves. The Potentilla may be had in many forms, but my favourites are the old single forms, which often show such shading in their colours. The flowers are 1 inch across and in clusters at the end of each branch. The branches are 18 inches high and very slender, so that if unsupported in their early stages of growth they will fall to the ground. Such neglect will be almost impossible to repair when the flowers are nearly developed, as branch after branch will break away in tying. The prime favourite with most growers is Gibson's Scarlet, a strong variety that runs 2 feet in height. Other good kinds running to about 18 inches in height are:—P. argyrophylla, with greyish leaves and orange-yellow flowers; P. Thunbergii, crimson-maroon; P. nepalensis Willmottiæ formosa, salmon-pink; P. pyrenaica, yellow. Propagation is effected both by division of the root and sowing of seeds. H. Stevens.

A refined self yellow Incomparabilis, the stock of which was acquired by Mr. R. F. Calvert

Shown by Mr. J. L. Richardson, Waterford

Narcissus juncifolius, a sweetly scented species from the Pyrenees and Montserrat (Spain)

Shown by Barr and Sons

Alpines in Greycoat Street

Miniature rock gardens and Alpine plants have been well shown at recent meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society.

The competition for the Sewell medals for six pans of Alpines brought keen competition. Two of the best plants in competition were the tiny but lively and brilliant reddish-pink Androsace ciliata and the rare Fritillaria Karadaghensis, shown by Mr. R. Bevan, Henley-on-Thames. Good pans of Shortia uniflora grandiflora, Saxifragas Faldonside, Burseriana speciosa, lilacina, Primula Allionii and its white variety from the Alpes Maritimes were shown by Mr. C. Kirch, of Beckenham.

Many good pans of the pink-flowered Saxifraga Jenkinsæ were noted. Probably the most floriferous pan was of S. Burseriana Gloria, with well over 300 flowers, shown by Casburn and Welch, who also staged S.S. Burseriana, sulphurea, Irvingii, and Paulinæ.

Mr. Clarence Elliott showed representative collections in which Saxifraga Griesbachii, S. apiculata, and S. a. alba were in evidence.

Of the small Narcissus suitable for rock gardens reference should be made to N. nanus (true), shown by Barr and Sons, and the sweet-scented N. juncifolius from the Pyrenees.

Unfortunately, many exhibitors have been showing N. lobularis under the name N. nanus, though the two are distinct. H. C.

Saxifraga Irvingii

This resembles a silvery Moss in the dwarfness of its tufts, and in dry, gritty, or sandy soil spreads into neat cushions from 3 inches to 6 inches across.

It grows only 1 inch high and bears very large flowers for its size. These appear above the leaves and rise well above the foliage. The flowers are rich carmine and borne singly on slender stems in March. It is a plant for the rock garden in dry,
spots in well-drained sandy soil. G
broken limestone may be mingled wi
soil, but if there is plenty of sand this
essential; a few pieces half-buried in t
will guard the plant until it has take
and also form a key to subsequen
dressing. Frost, wind, or wet seldo
any damage to the flowers, which co
the same freshness all through thei
flowering season. Being minute, th
consideration should be to keep it fr
distinct from all neighbours. It is a va
plant, being hardy, dwarf, neat in habi
fuse in bloom, forming gay cushions
moraine or silvery tufts from the chi
rocks.

The plant is easily increased by cu
pressed into sandy soil under shelte
bell-glass. Old plants will be benefite
top-dressing of sand worked well amo
plants. H. Stev

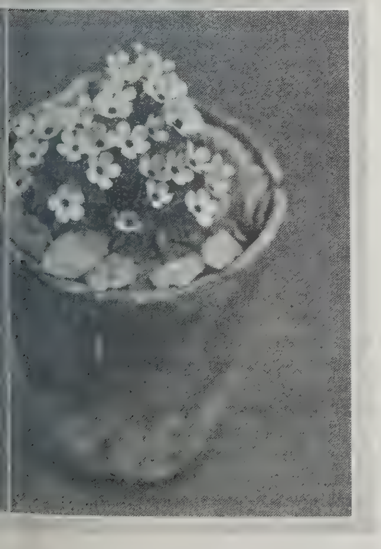
Story of the Anemone

The seventh of the evening discu
arranged by Dr. W. F. Bewley (D
of the Experimental and Re
Station, Cheshunt) and held in the
Hall, Elm Arches, Cheshunt, was deve
a talk by Mr. E. A. Bowles, M.A., Wa
Cross, on "Anemones." Mr. J. C.
occupied the chair. The Anemones, sa
Bowles, were a very interesting ra
plants, and very simple in their constru
thus pointing to the fact that they wer
bably one of the oldest races. They bel
to the Natural Order Ranunculacea
Buttercup family, but were even more
constructed than the common Butt
The member of the Buttercup family n
to the Anemone was the Lesser Cela
Ranunculus ficaria. Anemones were
found all over the world, although they
represented by one species only in Tas
and three in South Africa. Going on
scribe the similarity in construction be

r Celandine and the Hepatica group
nes, he said the Celandine had a
e calyx immediately under the
th no space between them. The
s appeared as though they also had
the same manner; these bodies,
were not sepals, but involucral
d there was always a space, how-
t, between these bracts and the
outer floral leaves. The involucral
the Anemones followed the leaf
species where the leaves were pal-
ere the bracts, and where the leaves
h divided one at least of the bracts
Another point was that the bracts
qual in size.

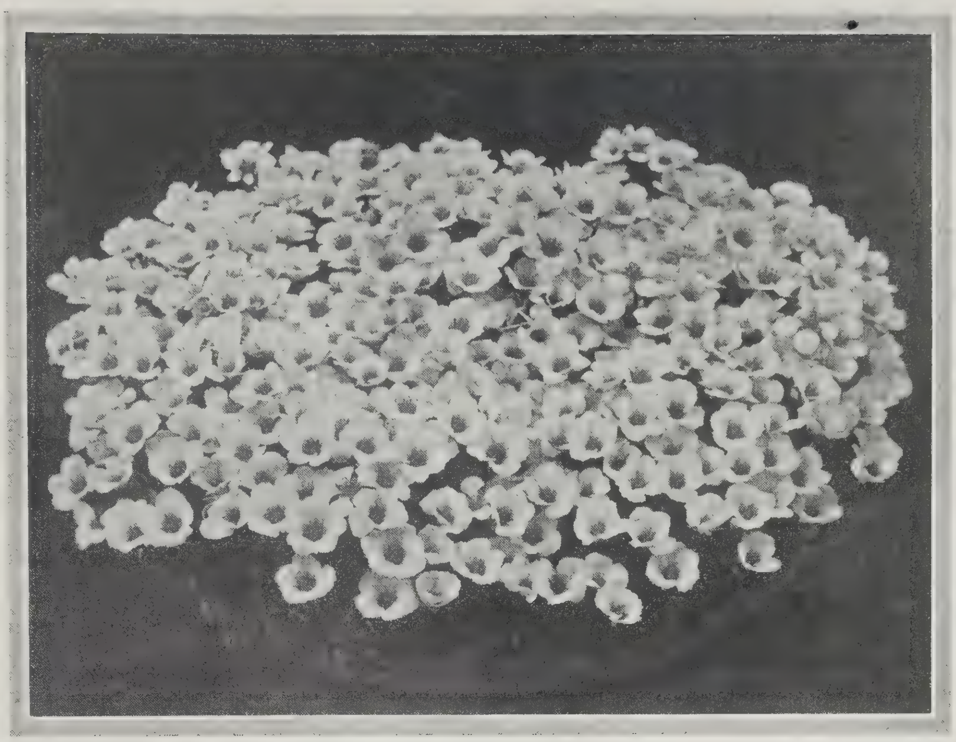
estion arises, continued Mr. Bowles,
ther the Anemones have any petals.
e lower floral leaves are often
ifferent in shape and colour, being
shed with green or purple, and may
the sepals of the flower, the re-
floral leaves representing the petals.
ubling " of Anemones throws some
this question. In the Anemone two
doubling are found. In one type,
ple, the St. Brigid, the sepals are
ided and increased in number, while
ls remain unmodified. This type
rred to by the old writers as the
odite Anemone. In the other form
ng the centre of the flower is fitted
ass of petaloid bottles due to proli-
The central axis of the flower in
of doubling keeps growing and a
of whorl upon whorl of trans-
nthers and small sepals replaces the
ss of carpels. In this double form
ne coronaria it is possible to recog-
nate whorls as sepals because of the
istic silky hairs found on the under-
he sepals. In Anemone blanda, a
Greece, similar forms of doubling
d. In A. nemorosa, the common
emone, a double form has arisen in
e successive whorls of modified
rts are repeated twice only. Some
s approach very closely to the
the similarity being particularly
in A. pulsatilla, especially in the
lematis Stanleyi, found in Zululand,
at it is a shrubby species, might
mistaken for an Anemone. The
erican plant, Syndesmon, connects
s with the Thalictrums or Meadow

ll these similarities which Anemones
p other genera of Ranunculaceæ it



sace ciliata, a good plant in a very small pot

Shown by Mr. R. Bevan



Saxifraga Burseriana Gloria

Shown by Casburn and Welch

would seem probable that it was from the Anemones that some of these genera began. In looking round for the oldest species or parent stock of a genus it is usual to look for one which has a greenish or yellowish flower. Thus the yellow-flowered A. palmata, a native of North Africa and Spain, and A. ranunculoides, which is very like a Buttercup, probably represent the oldest forms in two races. Both these species have an attempt at a second flower, but are not generally branched. Branching in Anemones probably began with A. multifida, and this leads to A. japonica and other much-branched forms. The Japanese A. flaccida connects A. nemorosa with A. rivularis and A. obtusiloba.

Where the Anemone occurs wild it is usually plentiful. A. occidentalis covers miles of mountain-side in America, while A. alpina, A. sulphurea, and A. stellata are found in masses in their native countries. The most beautiful of all Anemones is A. alpina.

In his concluding remarks Mr. Bowles dealt with the mythology connected with the Anemone. Usually associated with Adonis, the Anemone, or Adonis flower, was said to have sprung from the blood of Adonis when he was slain by a wild boar. The story was known best from the Greeks, but could be traced right back to the Phœnicians. On the northern slopes of Lebanon was the valley of Adonis and the Adonis river. There also was found Adonis' grave. It was probable that this place was the origin of the Adonis cult, and that it was brought to Greece by the Phœnician traders. The derivation of the name Anemone was interesting. It was generally connected with the Greek *anemos* meaning the wind, and the " wind flower " was a name in common use. It was probable that the Phœnician name was the Syrian for Adonis, which was Naaman, and the similarity of this word to the Greek *anemos* led the Greeks to give this name. Pliny tried to explain it by saying the plant was given this name because the flowers only opened when the wind blew. This was a very poor explanation, because the flowers were usually closed when such weather was prevalent. Others said it was so called because the wind scattered the seed. These explanations were rather like Archbishop Trench's instance of a false derivation that the goat was so called because it will " go at you."

The Red Sage

This Sage differs from the ordinary green variety in the colour of its stems and foliage. These are purplish-red, but, being thickly covered with grey down, the impression retained by the eye is that of soft dove colour rather than red. It is very useful for special places, such as dry banks, its unique colouring harmonising well with other plants. In the variety tricolor one half of the leaf is a peculiar shade of mauve-pink, occasionally blotched with yellow, a well-coloured specimen is a very beautiful object. Like the common Sage, it can be easily propagated at this season. Select shoots about 9 inches or 10 inches in length and insert them in prepared ground with a dibber to a depth of 6 inches. If made quite firm they will soon root and form good plants. Care must be taken to select the best-coloured branches for cuttings, otherwise the plant will soon revert to type.

Men of old considered that the use of Sage conferred longevity! Miss Rhode, in her " Garden of Herbs," has collected many quotations to prove it. " How can a man die who has Sage in his garden? "—Arabian Proverb. " He who would live for aye must eat Sage in May."—Old English Proverb.

Sir John Hill, writing of his garden at Bayswater, says that " the common red Sage has the greatest virtue," and that " Sage properly prepared will retard that rapid progress of decay that treads upon our heels so fast in the latter years of life, will preserve the faculties and memory, . . . will long prevent the hands from trembling and the eyes from dimness, and make the lamp of life, so long as Nature lets it burn, burn brightly." J. COMBER.

Nymans Gardens.

Taking cuttings of Sage (Salvia officinalis)

Although the use of herbs has become less general of recent years, the Sage is still in request, especially in autumn and winter. Plants can be raised from seed, but naturally it is saved from specimens which produce seed freely, and, because of this, have a more or less biennial character, often dying out when most needed. It is, therefore, wise to obtain a good leafy variety, one that flowers but seldom, and then propagate it by cuttings.

Many years ago Mr. Beckett, of Aldenham, advised the insertion of rather long cuttings in the open ground at this season. We tried the plan and found it so satisfactory that it has been practised here ever since. The ground is prepared, three or four cuttings are pulled off with a heel, the soil is drawn back with a spade, the cuttings inserted together up to the leaves, and the soil trodden back firmly on to their bases, levelling it afterwards to form a tilth on the surface. If placed at 1 foot apart a close bed of foliage will be obtained before autumn.

Nymans Gardens. J. COMBER.

Seed Potatoes: A selection

A "true stock" or a "clean land" certificate is required in the case of a sale of all Potatoes for seed. The "true stock" (T.S.) certificates are given for crops of varieties immune from Wart Disease which have been examined while growing and found to be of nearly 100 per cent. purity. The "clean land" (C.L.) certificates are given in cases where the land in which the crop was grown is known to be free from Wart Disease, or, alternatively, where the seed Potatoes themselves have been examined and found to be free from that disease. Growers who want to sell seed Potatoes and have not yet obtained their C.L. certificates should apply at once to the Ministry of Agriculture for them. It is, of course, better in all cases that certificates should be given after examination of the growing crop, and growers of Potatoes for seed are advised to have their crops annually inspected for purity. The true stock certificate means more than the clean land certificate, and should assist growers to obtain a better price. Buyers must see that the number of the certificate, with the other necessary particulars, is supplied to them by the seller in accordance with the law.

In selecting varieties for planting, the results of the recent trial of varieties by the Ministry of Agriculture may be useful. Generally speaking, the following were the best amongst the First Earlies:—Epicure, Sharp's Express, Immune Ashleaf, and Dargill Early. Among the Second Earlies:—Arran Comrade, Great Scot, and Ally. Main Crops:—Kerr's Pink, Majestic, Up-to-date, Arran Chief and Arran Consul, and King Edward. Kerr's Pink has cropped particularly well.

In boxing and sprouting seed before planting, the best approved method is, briefly, as follows:—Place the seed in shallow boxes with the crown or rose end uppermost; put the boxes in a shed with plenty of light but no frost. If that is done, only the strong eyes will sprout. When the sprouts, which will be dark green, purple, or blue, according to the variety, are about an inch long, the seed will be ready for planting if the weather and soil conditions are right.

Report on condition of horticultural crops on 26th March

Beans and Peas (autumn-sown).—Severely damaged by frost nearly everywhere.

Broccoli (Spring Hearting).—Excellent heads reported from Cornwall; elsewhere much frost damage and prospects are poor.

Cabbage (autumn - planted). — Much damaged by severe weather and crops will be very late.

Cucumbers (under glass).—Satisfactory generally.

French Beans (forced).—Satisfactory; considerable improvement reported from Sussex this month.

Lettuce (frame).—Fair generally, but below average in Sussex.

Lettuce (outdoor).—Damage by frost has been severe generally, and in some places only a small proportion of the crops has survived, and this will be late.

Mint (forced).—Satisfactory.

Parsley.—Below average.

Radishes (forced).—Average.

Rhubarb (natural).—Growth very backward; crop will be late.

Seakale (natural).—Backward.

Spring Onions.—Growth delayed; present prospects no more than fair.

Tomatoes (under glass).—Growth checked by weather, but considerable improvement recently.

Anemones.—In Cornwall sheltere are flowering well; picking still in p in Scilly Isles.

Arum Lilies.—Some foliage dam Cornwall; good in Herts, but below in Sussex.

Carnations, Perpetual (under g Satisfactory in Herts, but below ave Essex, where bloom is slow in openin

Daffodils and Narcissi (indoor).—Ge satisfactory.

Daffodils and Narcissi (outdoor).—I Isles Emperor, Empress, and other crop varieties are in full swing, Ornatus will be available very s Poeticus a full crop. In Cornwall are coming in slowly. Elsewhere cr very backward, though prospects ha proved very much recently.

Hyacinths (forced).—Satisfactory.

Roses (under glass).—Satisfacto Herts, but below average in Essex.

Tulips (forced).—Good average crop

Violets.—Flowering well in sheltere tions in Cornwall and Devon, but se damaged by weather in exposed place ticularly in Sussex. Reported fair in

Wallflowers.—Good in Scilly Isles; ward in Cornwall; elsewhere the cr been severely damaged. In some pl has been ruined.

Answers to Queries

Questions—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent each should be on a separate piece of paper, the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, cannot always be replied to in the issue i ately following their receipt. We do not r queries by post.*

Naming plants—*All who wish their pl be named should send fair examples of ea stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of and points of shoots are useless.) Not mo four plants should be sent in any one week same correspondent. Where more than on is sent they should be numbered. Of conif cones should always be sent.*

FRUIT

Apples not fruiting

I have an orchard planted about 12 years ago with Grenadier, Bramley Seedling, and Lane's Prince Albert. The trees were well planted, and each year are covered with bloom and fruit buds. We never have a good crop, though the trees are pruned and clean. Any Apples borne drop off the size of Chestnuts. A. LENDRUM.

Corkil Kilskerry,
Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland.

[The flowers must be insufficiently pollinated, probably opening very early and before many insects, especially bees, are about to discharge this important function. Of course, spring frosts while the trees are in bloom would have the same effect. Under such conditions it is difficult to advise a remedy. We think, however, that you may be pruning too severely. Ordinary orchard trees require but little of this, an odd branch being removed where there is fear of overcrowding or where the balance of the tree is to be impaired being, usually, sufficient.]

Mussel Scale

I have an Apple badly affected with Mussel Scale, and was advised to use Abolene tar-wash. The tree was sprayed with a 10 per cent. solution at the end of January, but the wash appears to have failed, because the scales are still in position and look as good as ever. JOHN.

[You need not worry as to the Abolene not doing its job. The appearance of the Mussel Scale is not evidence, because the Mussel Scale in winter does not contain a living creature. In autumn, under the old tive scale, the old female scale lays a n of eggs and then shrivels up and di you carefully examine a "scale" durin ter with a good glass the old skin of th *plus* her egg-laying efforts, can be Tar oil washes penetrate the old scal many of the eggs are killed. Please se to F. Trollope.]

—— I enclose a portion of Appl (Worcester Pearmain) which I beli affected with scale. As it is an old about 15 years I should think—and g amongst an orchard of half-standards two years ago I am prepared to upro burn it if you think it advisable. The trees are quite clean at present. Woul sulphur kill the pest, or any spray? trunk of the tree is simply covered. trees were sprayed with Mortegg in Ja F. TROLL

[You are correct in stating that your tree is affected with Mussel Scale. tree was sprayed with Mortegg in J most of the eggs beneath the old scal be killed, but with such a bad attac must not expect complete control at th attempt. Spray again the first week i with a good nicotine wash, because that period any eggs not killed will In the immature stage the pest is killed. All your trees should be spraye a tar oil wash each season, and such ment should in future keep your trees paratively free from insect pests. We point out that it is important to use th mer nicotine spray not later than the the first week in June; if applied later Scale is difficult to kill. If the w ut earlier the eggs are safe under scales and nicotine wash does no lortegg, on the other hand, pene- scale and the eggs are killed *in* ase see reply to "John."]

FLOWER GARDEN

nus Newark Park and Michael- Daisies

chell).—The former is of perennial nd is increased by means of cut- e have had no experience of raising ed, and do not find such included d list. Michaelmas Daisies are in- means of cuttings taken in spring, may be taken either from the base nts or at a little distance from the In taking the latter you merely re- top 3 inches or 4 inches of growth, me immediately below a joint, in- dy soil, and strike them in an air- ne, shading from bright sunshine g lightly overhead occasionally to cessive wilting of the leaves.

ROSES

Roses

—Etoile de Hollande, Arthur Cook, IcArthur, Mrs. Henry Morse, Mrs. bwles, Ophelia, George Dickson, ine.

GREENHOUSE

Cinerarias

grown Cinerarias for many years, he whole, have met with marked n fact, I have had single flowers across. But some plants, when ap- perfect health and forming flower- apse, wither, and die. The pots thy roots, but the stems just above nd where the roots form become he able article in yours of Novem- ast does not help me to discover Great care has been taken to r-watering. Your assistance to ason, and also a preventative, will

E. D. C.

nerarias sent for examination are y a Foot Rot which, in this case, by the fungus Phytophthora According to Dr. Bewley the es of infection are soil and water t infection can also arise by spores o seed-boxes and flower-pots. We to burn all infected plants together il in which they are growing. The d be sterilised with a 2 per cent. Formalin. The rest of the batch aking out those infected should be rough soaking with a solution of Compound. Another season you nt your potting soil with a 2 per nalin solution, and make sure that supply is pure. Cheshunt Com- be obtained from several of the h use our advertisement columns. und as sold only requires dilution . Write us again if we can be of istance.]

Cyclamens

hing to save seed from some speci- Cyclamens, and should be very cultural directions. How many each corm should be allowed to hould it be sown as soon as ripe? a cold greenhouse.

Miss F. Mordaunt.

huld confine the seed pods to five plant. Each pod produces quite a seeds. When set and swelling a thin stake to each stem carry- and tie securely, but not tightly, thereto. Continue to give water as required, but do not wet the pods. Continue to do this until the pods ripen, watching that they do not burst and spill the seeds. As soon as there is any sign of the pods opening gather them and lay out on paper in a sunny window, taking care that no draught carries them away. You need not, indeed should not, sow the seeds as soon as ripe, the Cyclamen being a plant whose seeds improve with age. That is to say, for a few years, but not indefinitely, of course. Seeds garnered this year would be in good condition for sowing in autumn, 1930, and a few subsequent years.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Mistletoe not fruiting

I have enclosed a few twigs of Mistletoe from the garden here. Could you inform if same is female form? It has not set berries since I came here, but I believe it used to; but I am told there were many trees with Mistletoe on, but now there is only one left. If it is the female form when does it come into flower and would it be possible to fertilise with pollen from male form if that could be obtained at time of flowering? Scot.

Perthshire.

[All of the twigs sent bear female flowers. The plant you have is, therefore, berry-bearing, but you must see that the flowers are pollinated. The Mistletoe is now in full flower and a pollen-bearing branch should be tied on to your plant. It would be a good plan to graft the male form on to the host plant to ensure pollination in future years.]

Quick-growing creeper for south wall

(W. S. Clark, Dorset).—Clianthus magnificus or Abelia floribunda, the former for preference.

VEGETABLES

Preventing seed Potatoes from sprouting

(Nemo).—It is now too late to do much in the way of preventing seed tubers of Potatoes from sprouting. In future, in order to retard sprouting, the chosen tubers ought to be thoroughly exposed to the sun, at the time of lifting, until the skins are quite toughened and green. Afterwards store in an absolutely cool place from which frost can merely be excluded. A low temperature ("cold storage" in a modified form) is the surest preventive of premature growth. In spring lay the tubers out thinly in boxes, covering them with dry soil or with sand. If they show symptoms of sprouting turn the seeds, and this will keep them safe. As soon as it is possible to do so place the boxes out of doors, in a northerly exposure if possible. Your "succession," however, might be attained by planting—even at the same date—early, main crop, and late varieties. Potatoes do not all mature at the same time, even when the different sorts are planted simultaneously.

MISCELLANEOUS

Books on landscape and rock gardens

(R. A. B. O.).—Probably the best book with the most information in a simple way is "How to Lay Out a Garden," by Edward Kemp, which, although published in 1858, is still obtainable at second-hand book dealers at a very small cost. With reference to the rock and Alpine book, Farrer's "Rock Garden," a little book on rock gardens for amateurs, by H. H. Thomas, and "Rock Gardens, How to Make and Maintain Them," by Meredith, would all be of assistance. Spon's "Architectural and Builders' Pocket Price Book" will give you much practical information.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Constant Reader.—1, Probably Berberis Wilsonæ; 2, dried beyond recognition; 3, Spiræa arguta; 4, Juniperus rigida.

S. P. H., Tipperary.—1, Magnolia Campbellii, a typical bloom of this beautiful species. You are fortunate in having a tree in flower. It does not usually flower before it is about 25 years old. 2, Rhododendron arboreum, *not* R. barbatum.

CATALOGUE RECEIVED

W. E. Th. Ingwersen, Ltd., Sharpthorne, East Grinstead.—Hardy and Alpine Plants.

Lavender

Lavandula Spica, the common Lavender, is an evergreen shrub 3 feet to 4 feet high, with erect branches, the whole plant covered with a close minute down which gives it a grey or whitish aspect when the growths are quite young. The flowers are produced in July or August at the top of the erect stalks 12 inches to 18 inches long; they are arranged in whorls, crowded in dense spikes 1 inch to 2 inches long, and of a pale blue colour. The plant, though hailing from warmer climates, survives on all our warm soils, and may be cultivated almost anywhere, though it may be killed occasionally in severe winters on cold, wet soils. Propagation, however, is easily effected by cuttings placed in a cold frame in sandy soil during the autumn months, or plants may be raised from seed sown in the spring.

A native of the Mediterranean region, it has been cultivated in Britain since the middle of the sixteenth century, and probably long before. The flowers appear when few shrubs are in bloom, and their fragrance is appreciated everywhere. Mr. W. J. Bean, writing about this plant, mentions some dried flowering sprays gathered over thirty years ago which filled the room with their fragrance.

Formerly Lavandula vera does not appear to have been recognised as distinct from L. spica, and even to-day it is considered as a synonym of the latter species. De Candolle separated the two species in 1815, but for garden purposes they might be treated as synonyms. Lavandula vera is the plant commonly grown for yielding Lavender oil. This is the plant grown so largely in fields at Mitcham, Surrey. Lavender grown at Mitcham is a very ancient industry, the spikes being sold about London and elsewhere, and bought by house-wives for scenting bed-linen. They are also made into Lavender water. Lavandula spica yields the Oil of Spike. The leaves are also fragrant, but the scent is not so strong and pure as that of the flowers. There is a white-flowered variety, alba, and a dwarf form nana, both of which appear to belong to L. vera.

L. Grappenhall Variety

This is evidently a variety, or a good form of Lavandula spica. It is a variety of great merit, vigorous in growth, habit, and constitution, and a profuse and early bloomer, continuing until quite late in the season. The flowers are large, very fragrant, and produced on long spikes. It forms a fine shapely shrub when grown as a specimen plant, about 3 feet to 4 feet high. The foliage is grey.

The following is an extract from particulars supplied by Messrs. Clibrans, Ltd., Altrincham:

"You are quite right in your assumption that the plant was introduced to commerce by ourselves. We bought the stock from the late Mr. Thomas Fletcher, of Grappenhall, near Warrington, Lancs. Mr. Fletcher was in business in Warrington and resided at Grappenhall. He was very keenly interested in plants, and it was he who first brought this particular variety of Lavender to our notice in his garden.

"We do not know the parentage, neither at the moment are we able to state whether Mr. Fletcher had raised it himself, nor whether he had obtained it from some other source. In any case we were so impressed with its value that we purchased this stock from him in autumn, 1901, and put it into commerce shortly afterwards."

The Lavenders and many other plants of a shrubby and half-shrubby character, hailing from the Mediterranean region, that are hardy in Britain, like warm, sunny positions in our gardens. Many of these have greyish foliage, and are good winter plants, for example: Artemisia, Rosemary, Santolina, etc. They are seen to advantage planted on the top edge of walls, bottom, or face. Most plants having grey or greyish foliage seem at home when planted in conjunction or associated with wall-gardening, stone paving, or terrace gardens. The Lavenders are fine plants for dwarf hedges to borders, or as dividing hedges in the flower garden.

Dendrobiums

THOSE possessing a stove temperature may grow and flower the major part of these to perfection. They are easily cultivated among the general run of stove plants throughout their growing season from February and up to the time the pseudo-bulbs or annual growths have ceased growing, when a cooler as well as a drier atmosphere must be given them, so that their growth may become thoroughly ripened. Many are delightfully fragrant, while others have no scent. They are found thriving in pots, pans, baskets, also on blocks of wood suspended from the roof of the glasshouse, taking up but little space, and getting the necessary light for their well-being.

The resting period must be ample, say from October well into January, or even a bit longer. It is useless to expect a well-flowered plant that has not had this thorough ripening of the growths, which can easily be ascertained by examining the top of the current year's growth, although it is not here you will get many flowers this coming spring; it is the previous season's wood that produces flowers in plenty, notably D. nobile, and its varieties D. pendulum, intermedium, Wallishianum, cœrulescens, and, finally, wardianum, a most beautiful form, with large, individual flowers of a rich colour, and quite as easy of cultivation as D. nobile. Though this Orchid is termed deciduous, most of them usually retain part of their foliage, and at times produce a few flowers. It is the two-year-old growths that eventually become leafless, and yield the profusion of bloom on a thoroughly well-grown and well-ripened specimen. Where many fail is in being too eager to introduce them to stove heat again; this hurrying is fatal to a production of flowers. Watch and wait until you can see the "nodes" swelling up at the part where the leaf was. Sometimes nearly half their length will flower; some of their growths reach 2 feet or even more in length when well cultivated. A specimen of D. nobile has been known to carry as many as 300 flowers. D. wardianum is more or less of a pendulous habit, and may well be given basket treatment. It should also be stated that it produces its flowers freely on growths made the previous summer. D. crassinode, a good basket variety. D. devonianum, D. chrysanthum, D. Pierardii, and D. pulchellum also thrive and flower well thus treated.

As regards the resting period, an intermediate house that has more or less fresh air admitted according to outside conditions proves an ideal position providing the plants are kept quite near the glass, so that the ripening of the growths may be perfected and secure any sunshine that may be going. No moisture overhead should be given, and only sufficient root watering to prevent the same from unduly shrivelling. Pot-grown plants must be neatly staked, the individual growths being kept well apart, so that sun and air can do their part in building up stout, well-ripened pieces. When introducing the plants to more heat and moisture, see that they are given the coolest end, or else new shoots from the base will push, which are best retarded until the plants have passed their flowering stage, when every encouragement should be afforded them to perfect strong shoots to flower two years hence.

Should it be necessary to cut the flowers for indoor decoration, little harm will be done the plant if the growth is severed at the base; but this must not be overdone, or it will weaken the plant; and any growth that has ceased flowering and shows signs of shrivelling may be at once cut away.

There are a number of this genus, such as D. thyrsiflorum, superbiens, chrysotoxum, aureum, speciosum, and many others more or less beautiful, with various colouring, which require somewhat different treatment, and are best in a structure devoted to them; neither do they give the same amount of blossom as D. nobile when grown in an ordinary plant stove as above.

Pots varying from 5 inches up to 10 inches may be used, which must be perfectly clean, also the drainage; they should be quite half full, as they take a deal of root watering after once established, covering these with Sphagnum. The compost itself should contain more than half good fibrous peat, the remainder chopped Sphagnum, and a piece of charcoal here and there between the whole. This also does for baskets and for those cultivated on blocks of wood with Sphagnum, fastening the plant with copper wire, both of which naturally require far more water than those in pots. Dipping these in a pail or tank of warm water is the best remedy.

Division of the root-stock should be done just as new growth begins at the base, setting the plants on a cone-shaped mound a few inches above the rim of the pot or basket, keeping them well syringed twice daily. Any excess of root watering ere they become established would lead to dire results. All the genus enjoy the daily syringe during active growth, but discontinued during the resting period.

Like every other plant cultivated under glass, Dendrobiums have an enemy or two, mealy bug, scale, thrip, or yellow fly, which must be kept at bay by fumigating and sponging.

J. M.

Cistuses

All the Cistuses revel in full sunshine and are excellent subjects for planting on dry banks, and in poor, sandy soils, where many other shrubs would scarcely exist, they grow with remarkable freedom and flower profusely. Although the individual flowers last but a day, they follow each other in quick succession, and maintain a display over a considerable period. Natives of the Mediterranean region, they are, unfortunately, not perfectly hardy under all conditions in this country, but on light, warm soils in the southern counties one need have no hesitation in planting them freely. Plants can be easily raised from seed, which may be sown in a frame in early spring and grown on in small pots till large enough to be planted out. Propagation is also readily effected by means of cuttings. These should be made from partially ripened shoots in late summer, inserted in boxes of sandy soil, and
a cold frame, where they root
If potted into small pots in the
kept in a frame during winter
strong plants for planting out the
spring. C. cyprius is a hardy,
shrub growing quickly to a height
or 8 feet and producing clusters
white flowers marked with crimson
C. florentinus is a very floriferous,
shrub of somewhat spreading habit,
reaching more than 2 feet or 3 feet in
C. ladaniferus, the true Gum Cistu
tall-growing species somewhat resem
cyprius in habit, but bearing large,
flowers. C. laurifolius is also a ta
ing shrub with dark, leathery leav
large white flowers with yellow sp
Loretii is a dwarf species bearing larg
flowers stained with crimson. C. pu
is probably the most showy of the
bearing large flowers of a rich, rosy-
with a conspicuous chocolate blotch
base of each petal. C. salvifolius
Salvia-like leaves, is very distinct
worth a position in a sheltered sp
Silver Pink, a variety of recent intro
said to be a natural hybrid, is a mag
shrub of upright growth bearing long
clusters of a delicate shade of silve
which are very attractive. W. A

Spartium junceum (Spani Broom)

This late summer and autumn fl
shrub is an extremely ornamental and
subject when in flower, its blossoming
extending over a long season, from
September. Though somewhat ga
habit it may, by judicious planting in
positions and in association with ot
propriate subjects, be made to assume
fine and lasting effect. It grows from
to 12 feet high, with erect dark green,
like stems, almost devoid of foliag
bears fragrant Pea-shaped blossoms
in terminal racemes 12 inches to 18
long, borne on the current season's
The flowers are similar to those of th
mon Broom, but considerably larg
brighter in colour.

The shrub has been known in this
for many years, having been introduce
South Europe as long ago as 1548.
easy plant to manage once it becomes
lished, but it dislikes root disturbanc
consequently, is difficult to transplan
this account plants should always be
in pots until required. Like the c
Broom, it produces seeds in abundance
there is no difficulty in obtaining a su
plants. It should always be raise
seed and the seedlings grown on in po
required for planting out in the positio
are intended to occupy permanently.

Spartium junceum will grow pra
anywhere, and may be employed for m
with fine effect. Especially is this the
used in conjunction with some other
with a view to hiding its usually nake
such, for example, as Berberis Aqui
For growing on dry banks with an
growth of double Gorse it forms an adr
subject, or for massing in odd corn
planted in groups in shrubberies it is
effective, producing a wealth of colour
most other flowering shrubs have pass
of flower. If desired it may be grow
formal bush by cutting the plants over
early spring before growth commences.
shoots will then be produced all over th
which will bloom at the usual season.

In South Europe this shrub is also es
on account of its economic value. The
yield a fibre obtained by maceration, w
made up into thread, cordage, and
fabric.

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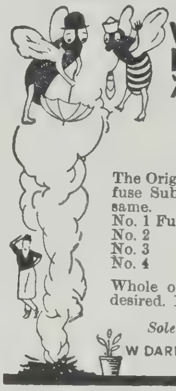

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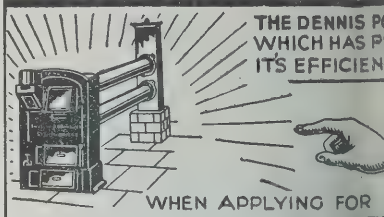

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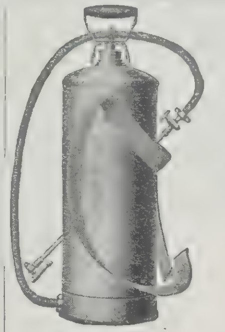

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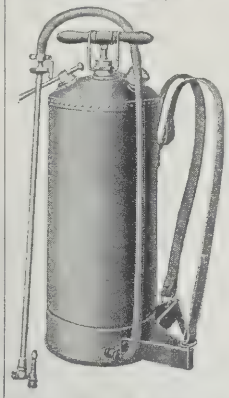

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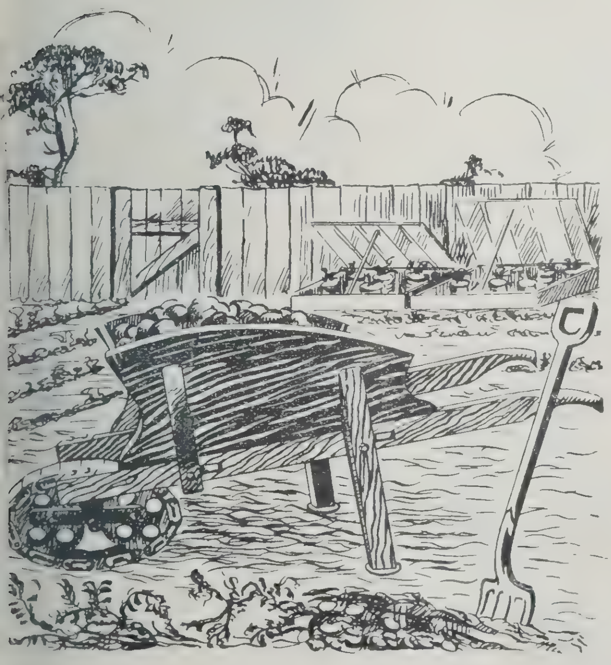


"OXFORD ROADLESS" BARROWS

Granted an Award of Merit by the R.H.S.

are ideal for use in the garden, and will carry their load over newly-dug, soft ground, ***without sinking.***

Exceptionally strong but light design. Constructed of thoroughly seasoned timber, treated with preservative. All screws driven home by power. No nails. Detachable backboard.

Type "G" (illustrated) . .	£3 7 6
Grass extension . . .	10 0

Immediate Delivery.

Full particulars on request :

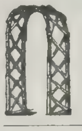
OHN ALLEN & SONS (OXFORD), LD., Dept. D, COWLEY, OXFORD

SALE! GREATLY REDUCED PRICES SALE

Select from the following Exceptionally Low-Priced Offers for Immediate Despatch

ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

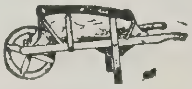
No. 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.



		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft 6 in. ,,	17/6	16 -
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. ,,	22/6	20/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,,	26/6	24/-
8 ft. ,,	6 ft. ,,	33/6	30/-

GARDEN BARROWS

Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ¼ in. iron tyre.



	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23 6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.

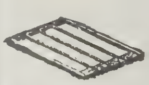
	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. ,,	5/6	5/- ,,
18 in. ,,	6/6	5/9 ,,
21 in. ,,	8/6	7/- ,,
24 in. ,,	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

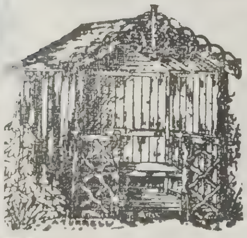
GARDEN LIGHTS



Size	Unglazed. Usual	Unglazed. Sale	Glazed & Painted. Usual	Glazed & Painted. Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3 9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE

No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES

These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS

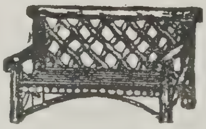
Well made from selected material.

In natural wood Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17 6

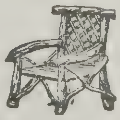
Bark off, stained and varnished.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6



RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.

	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6



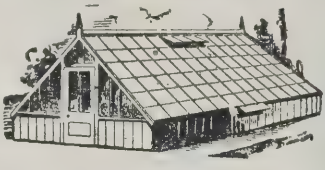
INCINERATOR

Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE

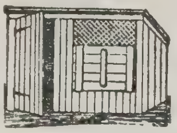
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

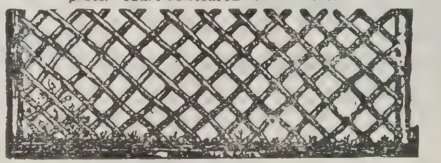


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Floor. Usual.	Floor. Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12 - ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15 - ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted



Panels.	Length.	Reduced Prices. Height.	Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9 6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	21/6	25/-

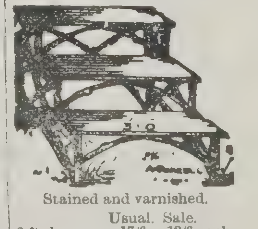
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7 6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9 6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10 9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

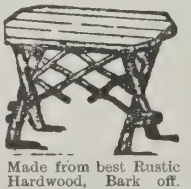
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

GARDEN EDGING

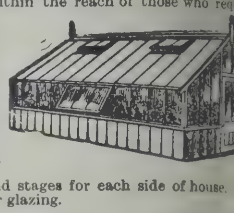
Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at no figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who req strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.



Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s. d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft	17 2 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	21 14 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6		

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

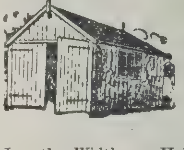
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6

Do not pay high prices for your frames made from boards. We can supply at the following low prices. F made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boards plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABL MOTOR HOUSE

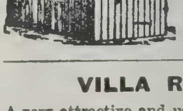


Constructed of strong framing with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved roof boarded and felted, 1-in for floor and strong joists. Wi fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doors on strong butts and fitted Tower and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No.

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and single Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from p tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite wat All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable s back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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Collection B, named kinds ..	9s. per dozen
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BEAUTIFUL ROCKSTONE, Red and Grey, also crazy and squared paving, etc., direct from quarries.—PARKVALE QUARRY CO., Chilmark Quarries, nr. Salisbury.

CHEAP GOVERNMENT WIRE ! ! !—Great for training Fruit trees, Peas, Beans, Hops, Arches, Greenhouses, Tomatoes, Logans; Tying, Fencing, etc. Strong, flexible, steel-stranded, and waterproof covered. Several thicknesses, from 17s. 3d. mile (full 1,760 yards). Small lots quoted. Post card to-day for free samples and list of 300 bargains.—GREEN'S GOVERNMENT STORES, 70, Albert Street, Lytham.

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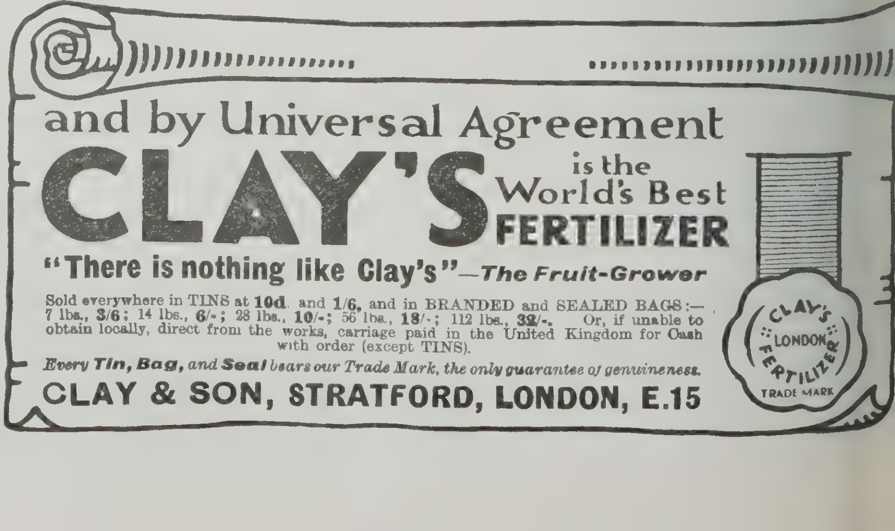

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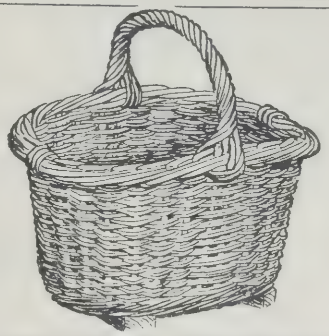

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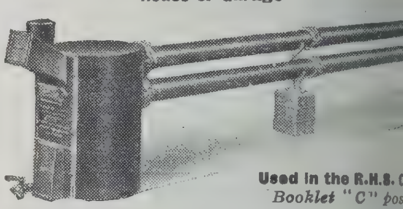

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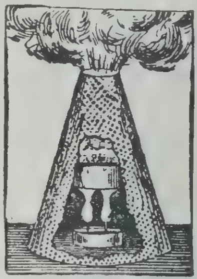

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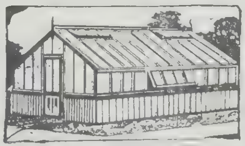

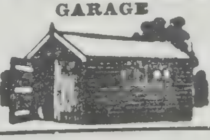

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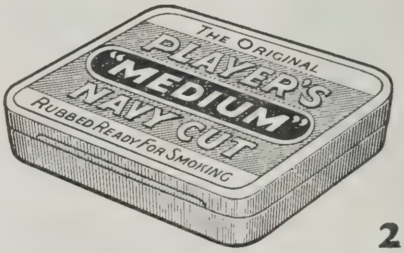

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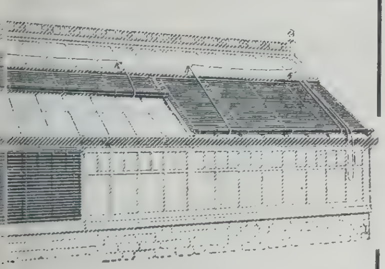

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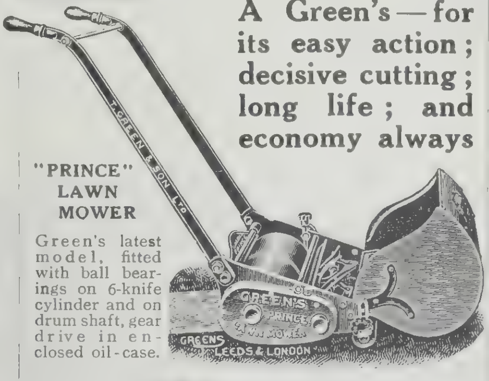

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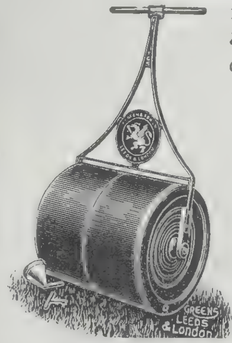

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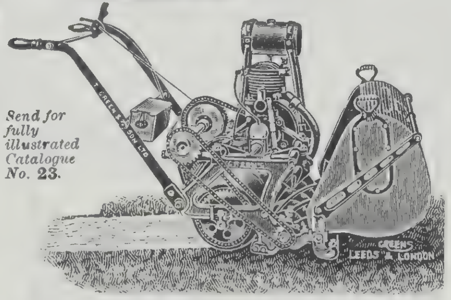

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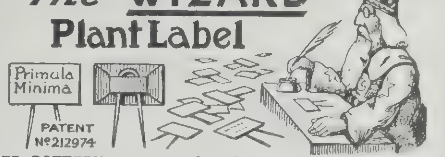

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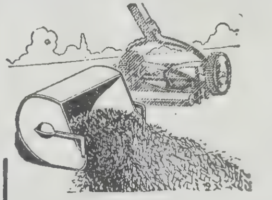

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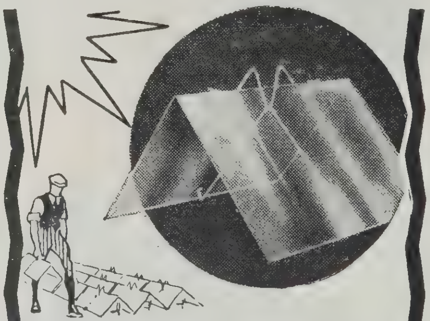

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ARDENING ILLUSTRATED

15—Vol. LI. APRIL 20, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World. 15/-

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Some Thoughts on Pruning Roses

literature of the Rose has now as- rd very bulky proportions. Every t of its culture has received con- attention in the Press, and no small this has been bestowed upon so that one wonders if there is any- sh to be written on the matter. sufficient egotism to presume that ows may mark a new epoch, the riter offers it as the result of ideas in the mind by a fairly long ex- of Rose-growing.

Rambler Roses Excelsa and Dorothy Perkins on arch and walls

gin at the commencement of the season, which, paradoxically, is at of that of the period, we ramblers to h first. No- ut a raw would think g the pruning until the ut so fearful the secateurs that when- are used they rally applied paringly. The nce is that the pergolas get with a lot of its that do but obstruct and disfigure . With such vigorous as Excelsa or Perkins mere are useless, nature of the suggests the it should re-

uts one in the words of and very ex- Rose grower expressing impatience with the of the average amateur on this Look at a Rose thoughtfully and it you where and how it needs was his sagacious remark. Never ds truer than these applied to such as those referred to above and milar. If they are such ultra- growers they tell us very plainly to rt a little, but plenty of space for the old wood is allowed to remain th will be all at the top, each oot seeking air and sunshine by self to ungainly heights. On an means the sides are bare of d flowers, and in any case it results in a lack of strong shoots from the base.

When the amateur starts pruning such Roses he seems to need the armour of the Christian for faith, hope, and courage. Then he is not afraid to cut out bodily at the base all old shoots so that new ones will appear early in the next season and replenish the growth. To leave this job until the spring means tearing off dozens of young shoots and eyes on wood that should be retained. This year being so exceptional after the record cold of late February and early March there may be still time to do the work now without much risk of this in some gardens, but it is autumn work properly when all wood that has borne its flowers should be removed.

A fearful pitfall to many amateurs is the pruning of standards—and, by the way, how they love them. Considering the trouble they prove to them one would wonder why the preference is shown for this form of Rose if there was no suspicion that they do not know what they are doing from start to finish. The light-hearted, airy way that the young starters plant out their borders or grass plots with standards is amusing to the old stager. Of course, they must be standards, because everybody else has them, and one must not be out of fashion in gardening any more than in anything else, so in they go by the dozen.

How they should be treated is often an unsealed secret to their owners. A neighbour tells them he prunes his hard. They see his fine blooms and imitate his example on such strong growers as Hugh Dickson or Caroline Testout, and lo and behold! some lovely, vigorous shoots come from the bottom. They prosper, but the heads of the plants do not, and, of course, are soon dead and done for. In support of such a statement this is exactly what happened in the garden of some young, newly married friends of the writer, who, when he saw the result of their innocence, was aghast. Not one of those standards had survived. Had saner counsels prevailed the heads would have been only lightly pruned, and any tendency to suckering instantly repressed. Had greater latitude been allowed to the top growth suckers may not have appeared at all.

In connection with pruning, one often wonders how much exhibitions of Roses have to answer for the failure of the amateur grower—at least, for the first year or two. Experience teaches, if it does not dishearten beforehand. The young enthusiast visits a show, sees marvellously fine blooms, reads that they are obtained by severe pruning, serves all his Roses the same, and meets with disaster, as in the case referred to above. When experience comes it teaches there is more in the raising of fine blooms than in merely severely pruning, and no form of Rose emphasises this so much as the standard.

What puzzles the old hand at Rose-growing is why the amateur does not turn his attention more to pillar Roses. Here is a way of beautifying a garden quite as attractive as any other, and offering fewer snares to the uninitiated. All the strong-growing sorts like La Tosca, General Jacqueminot, Florence Haswell Veitch, Juliet, or the two referred to before, and many others answer this purpose, besides the ordinary climbers. Here the matter of pruning is simplified for the beginner, for beyond the removal of old wood, the shortening back of the strong ones retained for a little distance from the ends, and the severer cutting of weaker shoots little more is needed, and vigorous growth need not be feared. And what a glorious show results the following season compared to the two or three blooms on the standard, which generally is all that the amateur can manage.

The best form of Rose for the young starter to exercise his powers on is undoubtedly the bush. Even here it cannot be asserted that his path is easy when it comes to pruning. Not only is it necessary to pay attention to the class of Rose, but also to the peculiar habits of at least certain individual plants. For instance, the Lyon Rose, at one time very popular and still a favourite, has a very strong objection to be pruned at all. Prune it in March or April and nearly every shoot cut will die down to several buds below. The writer's way is to humour it until well in May, and when growth is strong and vigorous to cut down where required, irrespective of new shoots. It does not sulk after that, but goes ahead. Several of the Pernettian variety have a similar habit.

The amateur who despairs of learning all these little peculiarities that may affect pruning may take comfort from what the present writer saw at a London Rose garden in a noted public park in pre-war days. Here every bush Rose was cut down to a uniform height as level as a table-top when each March came round. What was the idea of this method, considering that a good staff of capable gardeners were ever to hand cannot be said, but the results later on were certainly very satisfactory, and no mincing picking and choosing of cuttings from here or there could have produced better, for visitors from all parts of the metropolis used to come and enjoy the summer show, and testify to its excellence.

It has been truly said that nothing teaches an intelligent man more than the cultivation of a garden. It even tones down the dogmatism of the most egotistic—he remembers his own unaccountable failures—and that is saying much for its influence. So that to exalt any mode of pruning into a dogma is to fortify oneself against the reception of new ideas, and then it is time to quit gardening. Look well into the nature of the plant, study its habits, think how best it will yield the result desired, and then treat it accordingly. If there is any doubt in the matter err on the lenient side, if at all, and prune sparingly.

OLD SARBOT.

The Great Spring Rose Show

The National Rose Society's great spring Rose show is held this year in the Royal Horticultural Hall, Vincent Square, S.W., on Friday, April 19th.

This annual exhibition is, without doubt, the most extensive, beautiful, and varied display of spring Roses to be seen in any part of the world.

In the artistic classes the competition this year is very keen, and some very attractive exhibits are on view, to which reference will be made in our next issue.

Naming of Daffodils

A reference to the classified list of Daffodil names published by the Royal Horticultural Society shows that the raisers of new varieties have adopted various methods for selecting their names. Many raisers have named them after their wives and friends, as no less than 77 are registered with the prefix "Mrs." and 61 where the title commences with "Lady." An ideal way of naming flowers would, of course, be to select or create a name which would in some way give a pointer or guide to the parents, but that is not always easy, as frequently no proper record of the crosses is kept. Next to this, perhaps the best method is to find a name which gives some idea of the character of the flower. Many raisers have attempted this, as there are 111 names registered commencing with "gold" or "golden," 52 with "red," and 78 with "white."

The Rev. G. H. Engleheart, P. Barr, P. D. Williams, and The Brodie of Brodie appear to have exercised the most care in selecting their names. In addition to the titles they have chosen with a view to giving some guidance as to the nature of the flower, Mr. Williams has named many after the various places of interest near his home in Cornwall. The Brodie of Brodie has also, in addition to what might be called proper Daffodil titles, named many after places of interest in the Highlands of Scotland, where he resides, and others after places with which he was associated during his active service in the Great War at Gallipoli and elsewhere.

Owing to the very large number of names already registered it cannot now be easy for anyone to find suitable names for their new varieties.

Mr. A. F. Calvert, who has a very fine collection of new varieties, many of which have proved to be of sufficient value and beauty to justify their being registered, has taken several names from places he visited during his four journeys into the interior of Australia. Then, again, he has already named more than 50 of his new varieties after different racehorses he has owned. Bradwardine and Clwyd, both of which were much admired when shown last year, and received Awards of Merit, are named after horses which won several important races for him. Bradwardine won the Brighton Cup, Northumberland Plate, and Newmarket Handicap. With Clwyd Mr. Calvert won the Great Jubilee Stakes at Kempton Park, Bridegroom won the Queen's Prize at Kempton, and Royal Flush also won several races. Some of his other racehorses after which he has named Daffodils are Prince of Poets, Westralian, Bonny Winkfield, Chit Chat, Husky, and Liscarton. Another nice flower he has named after his steam yacht, "Iolanthe," 634 tons, which was originally built for Sir Donald Currie.

Classified list of Daffodil names, 1929

To Daffodil enthusiasts the R.H.S. classified list of names is indispensable. The new
list just out may be obtained from the
Horticultural Society, Vincent Square,
don, S.W. 1, price 1s. This comprehe
little book also contains the arranger
for the registration of Daffodil names.

NOTES OF THE WE

The National Bulb Society

A Daffodil and Tulip show unde
auspices of the National Bulb Society a
National Gardens Guild will be held at
Whiteleys, Ltd., on April 23rd, 24th,
25th. Schedules may be obtained fro
Secretary, Mr. A. K. Lock. The Na
Bulb Society, 9, Gower Street, B
Square, W.C. 1.

Studley College Flower Show

Arrangements for the flower show
of Studley College, to be held in the
Hall of the R.H.S. on April 24th, ar
ceeding apace, and many leading tra
hibitors have agreed to stage groups
have also consented to the sale of thei
duce after the show in aid of the A
Fund. Her Royal Highness Princess
will open the show, and is sending a
tribution of flowers from Goldsborough
The Organising Committee appeals to
culturists in general to assist by sending
of flowers, fruits, vegetables, and dair
duce, and to stage exhibits at this
The future of Studley College large
pends upon the results of the efforts of
who are now working on its behalf.

British Carnation Society

At a recent Council meeting it was
mously decided to elect Mr. Percy F. Bu
Honorary Life Member of the Society a
present him with a Gold Medal suitab
graved in recognition of his valuable se
as Hon. Secretary in the past 10 years.

The Garden Club

Mrs. Marion Cran has kindly consen
be the guest of honour at the Garden
on Tuesday, April 23rd, when she will
talk about the making of her gard
Coggers, Benenden, which will be e
"The Growth of a Garden from the Ro
illustrated by lantern slides.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Primula farinosa

REFERRING to F. H. Fisher's query regarding the longevity of Primula farinosa in Nature (page 229), although I agree with him that it is probably not a long-lived species, on the average, when growing wild, I see no reason why an individual plant under favourable circumstances should not live for 100 years or more. One reason for believing this is that I have a white-flowered plant that I collected in Upper Teesdale in 1920 that is still growing in the garden, where I planted it nearly nine years ago. Besides the Upper Teesdale plants I have had some for seven years from a habitat on the Lancashire coast, where, in contrast to the former, they would be accustomed to a comparatively mild winter and warm summer. In addition, I have collected this Primula on the Durham coast, in the French Alps, in Savoy and the Pyrenees, and in Italy in the Dolomites. The conclusion I have come to after cultivating it from so many different places is that it is not
so much the climate as the soil that ma
When I give it ordinary garden soil (a
loam that has been limed) it is short-
It does well for a time, but during the
or second winter its roots rot away, s
the crowns come loose with the frost, i
do not rot as well.

When planted in a neutral (not dec
acid) vegetable soil or in lime-free lo
have found it much longer-lived. I c
explain the reason for this, but suggest
in certain soils the bacteria, which app
attack the roots, are more virulent, an
plant is unable to stand their attack.
haps this supposed greater bacterial a
is brought about by the cultivation o
soil, and not by the presence of lime, a
vegetable soil and lime-free loam that I
used have always been from uncult
ground. This seems to me the more
as, when wild, P. farinosa appears to h
preference for a limy soil. If this is n
solution one would be driven to the idea
the greater water content of the soil in
of its wild habitats, or a colder winter

activity of all bacteria in others, are ors responsible for its well-being.

NORTHUMBRIA.

Sowing Streptocarpus

article on "Hybrid Streptocarpus," " F. H." (issue April 6th, page 239), nave grown this highly decorative use perennial with much success, and the cultivation submitted by your tor, except the covering of seed after ith fine soil. I find sowing on the and gently pressing the seed in gives num germination. Your contributor to mention the beautiful S. Wend- hich throws its blooms from a single height of 18 inches, and deserves a every collection. .F. C. G.

Tuberoses

your note on Tuberoses recently I ou may like to know that I found in the nursery gardens at Panama 1925 the original single form of e. It differs greatly in refinement ose we already grow in England, ronger throat, and the flower, which of the shape of a Jessamine, being and flatter. It is very fragrant, and bloom remained fresh in water for hree weeks. It has flowered well in a cool greenhouse for two seasons ported bulbs. Another difference is flowers form more of a cluster, some- the manner of a Bouvardia.

ALICE MARTINEAU.

Streptocarpus Wendlandi, which throws its blooms from the base of a single leaf

Disasters from frost

nting up the deaths and wounded I am agreeably surprised to find Buddleia alternifolia in rude health and covered with buds, though without any protection. It is good to find that this fine thing is quite hardy.

Solanum jasminoides is alive, though it has lost most of its leaves. Clematis Armandii has been cut to the ground, but is shooting up. The Californian Poppy (Dendromecon), which flowered last summer, seems lifeless and Feijoa with it, while none of the newer Rhododendrons have suffered, nor have two Camellias, one in angle of house the other in open, but sheltered by Bamboos.

The tale of disaster is worse when one comes to the Primulas. Wanda and Pam have entirely disappeared, so have the Bartley Strain of pulverulenta, and all the Alpicolas and the many hybrids, such as Red Hugh, damp and frost together not being to their liking, but P. frondosa is looking well. In fact, nearly all those that were planted out last September and October—hundreds and in many varieties—have vanished, leaving not a trace.

My Heaths have suffered a good deal—E. codonoides killed. Still, considering the severity of the frost and my especial black soil with water not far away, I am well content with the garden as a whole. The Meconopsis Baileyi and others and Gentian sino-ornatus are looking strong and well.

ALICE MARTINEAU.

Sunny Corner, Ascot.

The Streptocarpus is an attractive subject for the warm greenhouse

Nemesia Strumosa Suttoni and Polyanthus Spetchley strain

When Messrs. Sutton first offered Nemesia Strumosa Suttoni I procured a packet, and had a wonderful display, nor have I ever since had a failure with this glorious dwarf annual. And yet it is not a plant at all widely grown in many districts. When Messrs. Barr first put on the market the wonderful strain of Polyanthus raised by the late Mrs. Berkley, of Spetchley, instead of being disappointed at the produce of a small packet of seed I found that the seedsmen had really understated the beauty, size, and diversity of colour of this strain of this, our finest spring-flowering, plant. C. B.

Linlithgow.

Ranunculus Lyallii in New Zealand

I regret to gather from the notes of "A. W." on this subject in your issue of February 2nd last (which I read with very much interest, for they are the result of personal experience and observation) that the word "here" in my note published January 19th last conveyed the erroneous impression that this plant could be grown in Auckland. The wider meaning, "New Zealand," was intended. "A. W." is quite right in saying that the semi-tropical climate of Auckland is quite unsuitable, and I have not seen it growing outside the South Island of New Zealand.

There is (or was) a clump or two growing in the Rhododendron Dell in the Municipal Gardens at Dunedin (some 600 miles south of Auckland), and probably the Curator of those Gardens, Mr. J. T. Tannock, would also be able to furnish reliable information as to the growing and propagation of our so-called "Mountain Lily," though anyone following "A. W.'s" direction would, I think, be well guided.

When on the Milford Track one January (our summer) we first came on scattered clumps at the head of the Clinton Valley, and these, to our disappointment, had finished flowering and were ripening seed, but as we rose the McKinnon Pass the plants increased in number and size till just below the saddle there were colonies of them in full bloom, and their big saucer-shaped leaves holding more or less of a recent rain were used as drinking vessels.

On our return four or five days later they were covered by a pall of snow which fell in the interval. A. E. GRINDROD.

Auckland, New Zealand.

A spineless Cactus (Astrophytum myriostigma)

AMONG the quaint and curious things of Nature one can easily include the Cactus family as a whole, and as a real curiosity of plant life the A. myriostigma will be hard to beat. This plant, really a spineless Cactus, has the appearance and feel of a piece of stone, being quite hard and heavy, yet at the proper time it produces flowers of the Marguerite or large Daisy type, of a straw colour, and occasionally tipped with black. The plants themselves are usually globular, but generally have five ribs, the specimen illustrated being the four-rib or Bishop's Cap variety, which is much more uncommon. Sometimes they are discovered with six or eight ribs, but five is the usual. They are natives of Central Mexico, usually being found growing in the open Mesa amongst stones.

There are two distinct varieties, one being a grey or greyish-white, the other of a much greener colour. The former being located near Torreon, in "Orro de la Roso," the latter is abundant in the "Sierra la Tabla," near Guascama, or "Minas de San Rafael." Naturally, coming as they do from Mexico, they require a warm house. They are very easy to grow if the usual Cactus culture is followed, and are always objects of great interest.

A large specimen of the grey variety is very striking, looking like a piece of carved stone, and one has to look twice to be convinced that it is a plant. F. E. COOPER.

Shanklin, I.W.

Grafted Lilacs

Why will some nurserymen persist in sending out grafted plants of Lilac? One could understand the practice were the Lilac a difficult shrub to propagate, but why grafting should be applied to a shrub of which cuttings root almost as readily as those of a Fuchsia is not easily understood. Admittedly Lilac plants from cuttings require some time to grow into saleable plants, but, even so, when one has such plants there is no likelihood of sudden deaths under forcing conditions, or of outcrops of growth from the objectionable stock. It is practices such as this which bring the valuable art of grafting into disrepute. A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Epilobium or Willow Herb

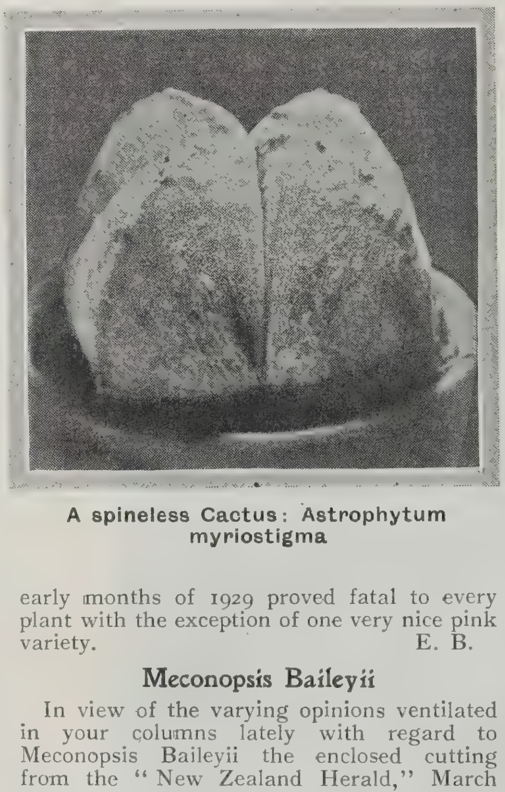
When in England in 1925 my wife and I were much taken by the Willow Herb (Epilobium angustifolium (?)) which, though grown in the parks, is regarded at home as a weed—albeit, a very pretty one. We thought we would like to grow it here, but though I have twice imported seed I have not, so far, succeeded in raising plants.

Perhaps one or other of your readers can inform me through your columns whether the seed loses vitality quickly or if it needs some special treatment. A. E. GRINDROD.

Auckland, New Zealand.

Antirrhinums: Wanted a hardier race

Would it be possible for raisers of this popular flower to direct their attention to giving us a hardier race. There is little lacking now in colour, in size of spike, and individual flowers, and in variation in height, but, unfortunately, they are very tender. In bygone days if one had a flower of good colour and substance it might remain in the border, and if trimmed over in the early spring would develop into a fine bush, but it is not so with the new race, which have no claim to be called perennials. Certainly the early months of 1929 proved fatal to every plant with the exception of one very nice pink variety. E. B.



A spineless Cactus: Astrophytum myriostigma

Meconopsis Baileyii

In view of the varying opinions ventilated in your columns lately with regard to Meconopsis Baileyii the enclosed cutting from the "New Zealand Herald," March 11th, 1929, may be of interest:—

RARE TIBETAN POPPY

Of interest to horticulturists is the flowering of a newly-introduced plant, the blue Poppy, in the gardens of Mr. F. C. Mappin, Epsom.

This rare species caused intense interest at the Royal Horticultural Society's show held at Chelsea, London, last May, a leading paper describing it as "the most beautiful flower on earth." It was originally found growing at an altitude of 11,000 feet by Major Bailey when journeying through Tibet, and again a year or two later in the same place by the noted plant collector, Captain Kingdon Ward, by whom it was introduced to cultivation.

In its natural habitat it is a perennial with attractive bluish-green leaves which, when young, are covered with white "hairs." The flower-stems grow to a height of 2 feet or 3 feet and bear several nodding flowers 2 inches or 3 inches across. There hav numerous attempts to raise the plant ir Zealand from seed, but so far none has completely successful. The plant now f ing at Epsom was successfully import its owner. A. E.

Auckland, N.Z.

Lupin in Spain

Can anyone tell me the name of the deep yellow Lupin with the fragran Cowslips that is now in bloom near th in Southern Spain?

I met it a week ago and fell in love it. Mr. "Iris" Baker and his b happened to be in the same hotel on way to explore the Atlas flora in Mo but could not help me.

I also found a beautiful Linaria flowers like black velvet and another and yellow.

All the hills were covered with the rynchium, which looks just like a very Iris unguicularis, and a charming pin grey Phlomis (to me), but which Mr. said was a Salvia. ALICE MARTIN

Broccoli for late districts

The Spring Broccoli is an esteemed coming at a time when fresh vegetabl by no means abundant. Speaking gen there is little use in attempting varieti mature during winter, as not one sea ten can a single decent head be secured. different with the varieties that matu March, April, and May, for, as a rule, survive the winter.

It is a mistake to sow these Broccolis too early. After repeated find that about the middle of April give results. To plant on too rich and to ground also invariably results in the dying off during winter. I have for years planted Broccoli on the site vaca Leeks or autumn-sown Onions and Sp and that without first digging the g It is somewhat difficult to plant in ground, but if the work is carried ou mediately after heavy rain it is easier. this treatment the plants, even if they slowly, are dwarf, sturdy, and firm.

In spring all dead foliage should moved, the ground lightly forked or hoed, and a mulch of well-rotted m applied all over the surface. This will g stimulate the plants, and when the Br are over, the manure can be dug in f benefit of the succeeding crop.

There are numerous varieties now market, but the following three I find reliable:—Evesham Giant, Leamington Methven's June. If one variety only be grown I would unhesitatingly "pl for the last-named. It is the hardiest good size, produces well-protected heads of excellent table quality, and g long succession. C. Bl

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Spring cultivation and sow

Excellent progress was made with c tion and sowing during the latter h March, when the land was found to excellent condition and easy to work good seed beds were obtained even on soils. So far germination of the spring ings has been slow owing to cold nigh lack of moisture. Good progress has made with the preparation of land for toes, and some earlies have been pl Although little of the main crop has be in yet, this work is about as forwa usual.

AUTUMN-SOWN CROPS. — Autumn

ave suffered from the heavy frosts,
h the advent of the warmer weather
nprovement was noticeable at the end
ch. Autumn-sown Peas and Beans
considerably from the frost, and
h a certain amount of second growth
ticeable at the end of last month it is
ted that the yield will be materially

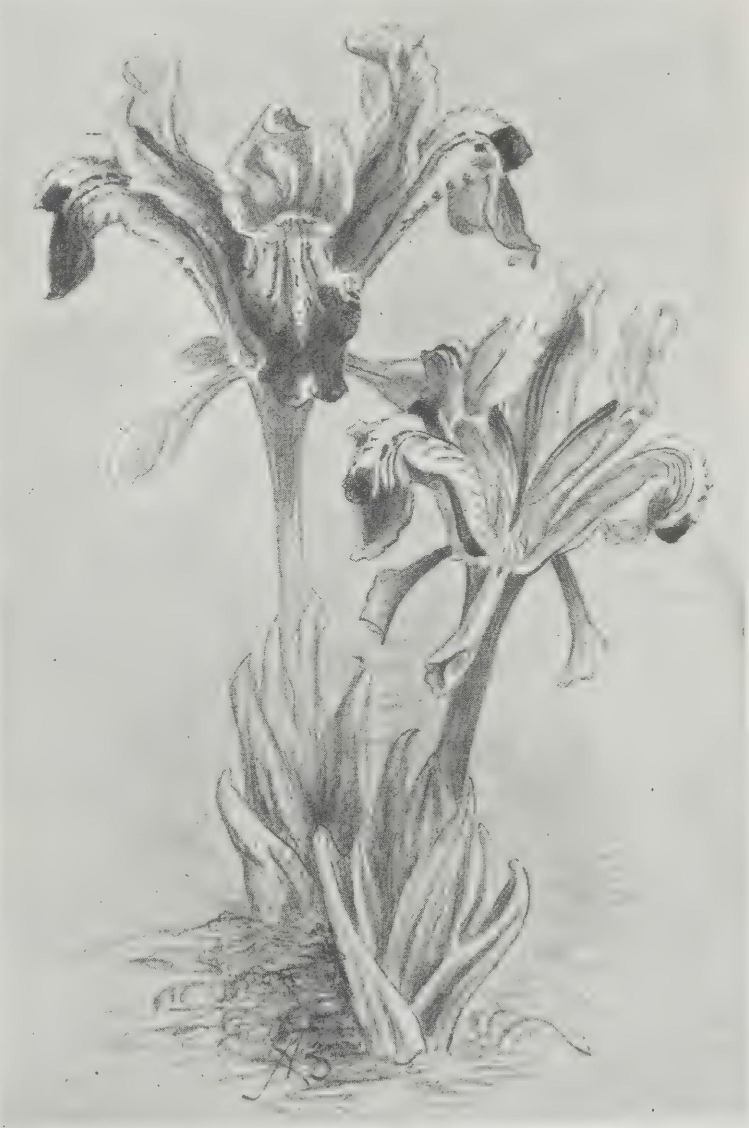
ing generally, seedlings are back-
d have made little growth during the
Although checked by the frosts,
re generally expected to recover, but
d warmth are now essential.

Iris rosenbachiana

terribly flowerless March gave me
delightful garden thrill in the flowers
Iris rosenbachiana. It is the first
have possessed this chamæleonic gem
amily of many hues, and never before
been able to handle it and examine
re the extraordinary form, and what
nly express as contortions and gri-
of its flowers. They go through a
pantomime of changes of attitude and
ion as they pass from youth to age.
orning the tip of a bud may be seen
g from its double spathes; in an hour
it has shot up and is almost free of
mbrace; before evening the falls may
vay from one another with such rapid-
movement that the performer might
be one of those film star flowers we
the screen going through their quick
s from bud to fruit in a few minutes.
a Juno Iris, what in others would be
ndards spring out and spread them-
downwards. Then the margins fold
rs until an ample oval segment be-
a narrow tube with a funnel-shaped
at its tip. However much they may
importance, and conceal the bright
ng of their inner surface in so doing,
ertainly provide a wonderfully pleas-
se of balance and poise to the flower;
finish as is provided by the antennæ
e insects or the forked tail of a swal-

falls are the most remarkable feature
, chiefly on account of the highly-
crest of brilliant yellow which orna-
their most conspicuous portion. It re-
me of the nuptial crest of a newt, with
ts and toothed ridge. The outermost
this crest is of a rich crimson-purple,
g a fine contrast with a patch of
yellow that is found just behind it,
hich gradually deepens in tone until
rich orange-yellow as it passes down
the stamen. When seen in profile,
est, with its purple finish shaped like
hatever it ought to be called, on a
ary's head, is a most beautiful and
ing object, very difficult to describe.
claw of the fall is also very unusual
uno Iris, in most of which, as in the
own I. alata, there are wide wings
h side which curve inward upwardly,
ing the style branches. In rosen-
a the claw is almost strap-shaped if
out flat; but in life the margins of
lw are rolled downward. This greatly
the apparent width of the claw and
a rather wide gap between it and
le branch above. The tucked-in posi-
the blade of the fall is another re-
ole feature, and, from the little I have
n of its behaviour, seems to change
line and pose as it ages.
impossible to give a detailed descrip-
the colour ranges of this variable
, for as Sir Michael Foster wrote of
I were to adopt the practice common
' florists,' and give a separate name
plant which differed in any way in colour from its fellows, I could, I think, easily make a list of something like a hundred named varieties. In fact, hardly any two plants are exactly alike."

The best forms have a good deal of rich crimson colouring about them, especially on the upper surface of the style arm. In some a pure white tip to the fall makes a beautiful contrast with the purple velvet behind. The style crests vary in every shade of palest lavender, shot either with rose colour or the range of blues found in Hyacinths, and the sides of the crest wear tiger's stripes or leopard's spots, according to the taste of their owner.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Iris rosenbachiana

The poor creature has suffered sadly at the hands of its portrait painters. The best figure I know is in Sir Michael Foster's paper on Bulbous Irises, published by the Royal Horticultural Society in 1893, although it shows a clumsily-built flower in a dejected mood, I should say drawn in its old age. The Botanical Magazine figure—T 7135—is coarsely drawn, and all the charming twists and rollings have been flattened out. H. Moon's beautiful group in "The Garden," June 16th, 1888, shows two flowers well coloured, but much confused in drawing. It was most likely drawn from a cut bloom, as it is shown too close to the ground and with wrongly shaped leaves, which are too few and as narrow as those of I. reticulata, instead of being wide and overlapping as in other Junos.

E. A. BOWLES.

The Balsam

Comparatively few people show any interest in the Balsam, one of the oldest of florists' flowers. Some who do grow it, do so in a half-hearted fashion, and seldom give the plants an opportunity of becoming all they might be. There is a reason for this, of course. It is not because of any difficulty in regard to their culture, nor that the flowers of the Balsam are not beautiful, it is that they are "unfit for cutting."

We live in a time when the worth of a blossom is not only measured by its beauty and sweetness, but by its value for cutting. This is a barrier so far as this greenhouse annual is concerned. I use the word "greenhouse" advisedly, as, although I have grown it as a summer bedder, it is really when grown in pots, anything up to 10 inches, with good, rich food in the shape of old loam, leaf-mould, and cow dung, and with stimulants administered from time to time, that one is likely to obtain worthy specimens.

LEAHURST.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Pruning shrubs

Those grown in masses for their coloured bark are so beautiful and in such striking contrast to ordinary dull-wooded trees and shrubs growing about them that we are tempted to leave them unpruned until as late in the season as possible. The time, however, has now arrived when this must no longer be delayed, and I advise those who would enjoy the richest effects to prune such shrubs back rather severely, *i.e.,* to about three or four buds from their base. These remarks apply to the glorious Red Dogwood (Cornus alba), generally—though erroneously—entered in nurserymen's lists as Cornus sanguinea, this latter a native and less important shrub; also Salix vitellina var. britzensis, a lovely subject for a wet piece of ground, the white-barked Brambles, Rubus biflorus, R. quinqueflorus, and R. leucodermis, with bluish stems, and other subjects.

Bamboos and Hollies

The present is an excellent time for the lifting and transplanting of these fine subjects, which are just commencing their new growth. If moved with care, mulched with litter, and kept moist at their roots, with an occasional spraying overhead should the weather prove hot and dry, no anxiety need be felt for their future. Should the planting include Hollies of large size, a good, stout stake should be added to prevent swaying.

Seeds of early flowering bulbs

Unless these are required to ripen for future sowing it is much better to remove them and thus enable the plants to develop better bulbs instead of wasting energy on unwanted seeds. The charming Chionodoxas, Scillas, Iris, Snowdrops, the large-flowered varieties, Erythroniums, Anemones, and Daffodils are included here.

Removing protective material

Ashes piled around choice Delphiniums, Gypsophilas, and other succulent plants to protect their young growths from slugs, and similar material used for the protection of doubtfully hardy shrubs, etc., must be removed without delay, as exposure is essential for the robust growth now developing. The same applies to climbing plants on walls, arbours, etc. Many choice wall shrubs have been severely damaged this year, and the sooner the affected growths are shortened back the better it will be for them.

Bedding plants

These must be hardened off in succession, and for this purpose cold frames are excellent. Pelargoniums, Fuchsias, Heliotropes, and a whole host of subjects used for this purpose will be perfectly happy in cold frames from this date, and safe if mats are thrown over the lights at night. This will relieve the congested conditions of the houses and enable later-struck batches of plants to develop more freely. Pinch out the tips of growths showing a tendency to run away, and thus preserve shapely plants.

Peas

A sowing should be made every 10 days in order to maintain a constant supply, and those which are now growing freely should be staked before they exceed 6 inches in height, otherwise squatting will take place. Excellent varieties are Gradus, Gladstone Improved, Royal Salute, and Telegraph.

Kidney Beans

A sowing of these may be made in a cold frame at this date, the lights being kept closed until the Beans are through the soil, when on fine days air may be admitted. The lights, however, should be closed early in the afternoon and the plants lightly dewed over in order that the enclosed sun-heat may carry them through the night.

Potato planting

This should be completed at the earliest opportunity, and the early varieties which were started in frames and planted on warm borders should have a little soil drawn up around them immediately they push through the soil. Keep the root store as cold as possible, even if this entails a damping of the floor occasionally, otherwise those preserved there for kitchen use will wilt and lose their value. This applies to all kinds of stored roots.

Mulching fruit trees

From this date a good mulch applied to heavy-cropping trees of Peach, Plum, Apricot, Figs, and Pears growing on hot, sunny walls will be found most beneficial. The borders should, however, be in a moist condition before its application.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Tomatoes

If not yet done, it is now advisable to get the main batch of these into their fruiting quarters. With care these may now be planted, even in unheated glasshouses, but in this case all possible sun-heat must be conserved by closing the house earlier than when artificial heat is used. Very careful watering is also necessary, for while the Tomato resents actual dryness at the roots, a too frequent application of water before the roots have taken full possession of the soil is certain to bring disaster by "souring."

Salsify and Scorzonera

A sowing made now will, ordinarily, supply all demands for these roots. The ground should be double-dug, a fair dressing of manure being given the bottom spit, but none in the top, or the roots will fork and be of no use. Shallow drills 15 inches apart should be drawn and the seeds scattered thinly and evenly. When large enough to handle, thin to 9 inches apart in the rows.

Parsley for early use

The plants raised under glass should now be ready for planting out after being well hardened off. Allow 9 inches to 12 inches between the plants and, where possible, have the row near a path or alley so that supplies can be picked easily in all weathers.

Onions

Box-raised plants, providing the weather is fairly genial, should now be planted out on richly prepared but firm ground, taking care to have the bases of the plants very little below the surface, for if planted deeply only "thick-necks" will be had.

Lettuce and Radish

To ensure regular supplies of these a sowing should be made every fortnight or so. Rich, rather cool soil is desirable for best quality. If sown on dry, thin ground the flavour of both will be poor.

The Celery trenches

These should be prepared now, as the soil is still fairly moist, and it will be possible to make neat and workmanlike trenches without much difficulty. Do not spare
manure, as good Celery can only be gr
in very rich soil.

Potatoes

The planting of these may be finishe
once, even the latest varieties being none
early if planted now.

The Strawberry beds

Well hoe the soil between the rows
quently, and give an occasional dusting of
wood-ashes, which, besides being benef
to the plants, is also very discouragin
slugs. Remove runners as they appear,
also flower-trusses on newly planted beds

Currants and Gooseberries

Plying the Dutch hoe frequently bet
the bushes will keep down weeds and,
dentally, benefit the bushes.

Bedding plants

Continue to move these to cold fram
they become large enough. There are
several varieties to be pricked off, and
will require the space vacated by earlier
hardier subjects.

Pansies and Violas

The planting out of these popular sub
should be proceeded with as fast as poss
it being advisable to give the roots a ch
to take possession of the soil before the
warm weather sets in.

Border Carnations

These should also be planted in
flowering quarters. A fair dressing o
wood-ashes forked into the surface b
planting begins will greatly help the p
to take a grip of the soil.

Border Chrysanthemums

These must now be carefully harden
and planted in their permanent qua
Only moderately rich ground shoul
chosen for these plants, very rich soil
leading to soft, rank growth and few
badly coloured flowers.

Sow hardy annuals

By sowing the seeds of these homel
beautiful plants now, germination w
quite rapid, and slugs and other vermi
have but little chance to attack the seed
as they so often do when the seeds ar
in too early. Sow thinly, and also thi
young plants vigorously as soon as the
large enough to handle. Few of these
require rich soil, some of them indeed
doing really well on poor ground.

Plant out Sweet Peas

If the weather be fairly genial the pl
of these should be carried out now.
must, of course, be properly hardened
fore this is carried out, so as to be a
stand any change of climatic condition
may follow.

Late flowering Chrysanthemums

The bulk of these are now fit for
into 6-inch pots. Use a good, subs
compost and pot firmly. Return t
frames and keep rather close and shad
a few days, but afterwards allowing
dance of air and all light possible.

Young Gloxinias

Seedlings from a January sowing ar
advanced enough to be potted off into
pots. A good deal of leaf-mould sho
included in the compost. Water wit
and shade from all sunshine.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

garden at Newpark
ne end of winter, a
which a few weeks
e will be a blaze of
ır. The liming pro-
on the fruit trees
only keeps down
, but is beneficial
ne soil when washed
ff by spring rains

The devastation amongst the Orchids has been confined to certain species. Happily, there are plenty left, and the picture shows a plant of the Dendrobium Pierardii

A Scottish garden

nis part of Scotland we have had a
trying winter, and there has been
iderable devastation amongst the
which were unable to withstand the
hard frost. Naturally, under these
ons things have been kept back in the
, but the recent spell of very fine
r has altered everything, and we have
ery busy liming the fruit trees and
g various vegetables. We find that
ning process is an excellent one for
g down pests, and not only does it do
ut the accession of a little lime to the
f the fruit trees, when it is washed off
rain, is found to be highly beneficial.
vithstanding the hard weather, there
een some bright spots amongst the
eries, due to the presence of the
e (Daphne Mezereum), which looks
hat peculiar with its great blaze of
without any leaves. In the green-
and the Orchid-house we have had
a lot of trouble during the winter,
to the presence of two pests, which,
, we have now got rid of. These two
were a large grasshopper, whose
y is not very clear, but which, ap-
ly, we imported from Central America
egg stage. The nymphs of this grass-
proved to be very destructive to the
ent green tips of such Orchids as the
Phalanopsis and the Dendrobiums, destroying many of these, and, of course, curtailing our display of flowers. The other pest we had to contend against was the Australian cockroach, which seemed to have a fancy for the same succulent points. Both of these creatures had the nocturnal habit, and the destruction they created was always carried out at night. By dint of fumigating and hunting these pests we have now apparently got rid of them.

LOUDON MACQUEEN DOUGLAS.
Newpark, Mid Calder,
Midlothian, Scotland.

Chrysanthemums

These are now growing apace and must be encouraged to develop strong growth by airing freely on all favourable occasions. A cold frame is the most suitable place for them at this date, and the plants should be placed on a bed of moist ashes. Shift the little and later struck plants into larger pots as required, but not exceeding 6 inches in diameter at present. Where decorative plants to flower in 6-inch pots are required a batch of cuttings should now be taken. These will strike freely if placed in a cold frame and shaded from bright sunshine.

Daphne in full bloom at Newpark

The Rose Garden

THE first two weeks of April are usually set apart to commence the pruning and thinning of Rose trees and bushes, yet no exact date is advisable, as the weather, also local conditions, should be the determining factor ere the knife is brought into use. The pruning is a very important business because different varieties require a mode of cutting it would be folly to mete out to the whole family of Roses if the very best results are to be looked for when flowering time arrives. Further, the more hardy varieties, such as Hybrid Perpetuals and Hybrid Teas, should be the first to start on. The Teas themselves are usually of weaker growth, the last to be dealt with. Unless the secateurs are exceptionally sharp the knife is still the best instrument for pruning, first removing any dead wood or briar shoots at the base, if any, although the latter can be more easily detected when in leaf. Twist these in preference to using the knife for their removal, and in case of any overcrowding of Rose shoots remove the worst or ill-placed. Rose bushes are frequently left far too thickly to get the best blooms procurable.

An interesting collection of Lent Roses or spring-flowering Hellebores, sent by Mr. Scrase Dickins, Coolhurst, Horsham, to the R.H.S. Meeting on April 9th and 10th

As regards Hybrid Perpetuals some good growers of half-a-century ago used to cut back to two buds, yet while not quite advocating this close pruning, these as well as the Hybrid Teas will certainly respond to more severe shortening than the Teas for instance, although the latter should be well cut back as regards the weaker shoots, leaving the strongest 6 inches to 8 inches long, cutting quite close to a bud in each instance. The third or fourth bud from the base of last year's wood will be suitable for H.P. as well as H.T. The stronger the wood the less necessity to hard prune. Newly planted trees or bushes need cutting hard back as soon as it is seen that the buds are swelling up.

China Roses require a good deal of thinning out, but the best results are obtained when not hard pruned, then you get fine bushes 4 feet to 6 feet high and half as much through, creating a wonderful sight when at their best about the middle of summer. Roses occupying wall space, pergolas, etc., should have been attended to immediately they passed out of flower, thus throwing more sap into the new basal shoots as well as giving more space, sunlight, and air, which aids progress of the same and the maturation of the new wood for the following season. Some of these shoots usually require a little shortening in the spring, cutting to a prominent bud.

Where Bracken or strawy litter has
afforded the weaker Roses as a prote
from severe weather it will be necessa
remove such before pruning, and after
has been finished and cleared up a good
ing of rich manure should be lightly f
in with as little root disturbance as pos
Cow manure is best for light or shallow
This, in conjunction with some good
will prove of much benefit to the plants.
heavy soils a little lime, burnt eart
wood-ash make a good change now
again, adding stable manure if though
sirable. Isolated specimens, whether i
open or against fences and walls, should
the ground lightly forked up, then a la
good manure, and over this some 3 inc
loam or ordinary soil from immediate
roundings. This will prevent the m
drying up, and also look neater fo
coming summer.

The pegging down of Roses does n
pear to be practised much, but there are
varieties that make extra strong shoots
are amenable to this treatment. Is
cause such beds represent something
carpet-bed arrangement? Most of us
to see them growing upright with a few
ports. It is more natural, even wit
blooms, and as far as my experience
such robust growers are best catere
against fences or pergolas.

Standards appear to be more often p
than they were a few years back, and
can be no dispute as to their value.
their base is planted with dwarfs l
former be supported with stout stak
good heads carry a deal of wind; al
that the bark is not chafed by using a
of shredding or cloth, and that the t
not so tight as to cause any injury.

The cultivation of Hippeastr

We are very much indebted to the
pioneers of these beautiful plants, me
have done wonders in hybridising
Messrs. James Veitch, of Chelsea, Wi
of Holloway, and Kerr, of Liverpool.
lieve many people have refrained from
up their cultivation on account of a
that they require great heat in additio
hotbed for their successful cultivatio
doubt they may be well grown under
conditions, but my experience of g
them is that they may be thoroughl
grown in a minimum temperature o
55 degs. to 60 degs. F. and entirely w
the aid of bottom heat or hotbed.

A very important point to remembe
feed well when growing, so that the
will develop and get thoroughly ripened,
will enable them to produce strong
spikes the following season. Assumin
they have been taken from their restin
during winter—a shelf in a fruit-ho
frame where the temperature does n
below 45 degs. is a good place for
proceed to syringe or damp with a
watering-can, when good ripened bul
soon show signs of activity.

This is the time when any repottin
may be required should be unde
Bulbs in large pots do not always n
potting each year. It is often suffic
remove 2 inches or so of the surface so
fully and replace it with fresh co
Those bulbs that are to be repotted
have the old soil shaken from the roo
should be placed in pots of a size suit
the dimensions of the bulbs. Large
well-rooted bulbs 3 inches or so in di
would need 7-inch pots, while for s
bulbs 5-inch and 6-inch pots would b
cient.

During the process of repotting some
bulbs will occasionally be found to ha

This is generally the result of over-ing or inefficient drainage, allowing oil to become waterlogged, and it may used by the soil being too moist while ants are resting at a low temperature. plants, if valuable, may often be re- to health by placing them in small watering sparingly, and not allowing to flower for a year or two.

ood potting medium can be made up of parts of good loam, half a part leaf- , half a part well-decayed manure, a bone-meal, and some coarse silver sand. horoughly and make sufficiently moist stick to the hand. The bulbs should e more than half buried in the compost potting. Remove to a temperature of gs. to 60 degs. in a light position and ue to spray overhead, when they will begin to make signs of developing their -spikes.

en in flower I generally associate them other plants in the conservatory, and from bright sunshine, removing them to the growing house or frame as soon ey have passed out of flowering. Con- to water, and feed occasionally with -manure until they have completed growth, and when the leaves show of decay gradually reduce the watering ey may be finally transferred to their winter quarters. Propagation by seed proves a ready and very interesting method of increasing the stock of plants if one has the necessary space at command. The seed should be sown in the usual way, using a seed-pan and covered to the depth of about ¼ inch. Use a rather light compost for this operation—two parts loam, one part leaf-mould, and a good dash of sand.

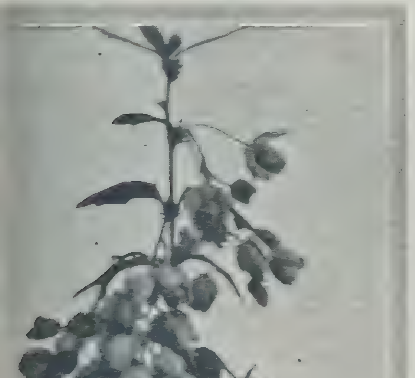
If the seed is new, germination will take place in a few weeks, when they might, with advantage, be placed near the roof-glass and kept shaded from bright sunshine, using the syringe on all favourable occasions. The little seedlings will soon make sturdy growth, and when they have begun to make the third leaf they should be potted singly into thumb pots, using the same compost as before. I find it better to plunge the little pots in finely sifted ashes in a box which retains moisture and keeps the surroundings more uniform. Here, if they are well tended, they will make such progress that the little plants will soon require to be potted on into pots a little larger. In the early stages it cannot be too often repeated that the pots must be well drained. Seedlings respond freely to liberal treatment. Some cultivators rest the seedlings during the winter, but I think it best to keep them growing continuously until they flower, which generally takes about two years from sowing the seed.

It is very seldom they are troubled with insect pests. The worst enemy is Thrip, generally brought about by too dry an atmosphere or too close proximity to the hot-water pipes. A good method to combat this evil is to spray occasionally with an approved insecticide.

Once a good batch of these plants is secured they will continue to flower annually for many years.

J. BOOTH.

Head gardener to W. G. Wigram, Esq.
Highthorne Gardens,
Husthwaite, York.



eris linearifolia (Comber 770, 797).
cted in a recent Andean Expedition

Shown by Lt.-Col. Messel

ers warm, rich apricot in colour, and r than those of B. Darwini, which it nbles. Very floriferous. In open places wood clearings this evergreen shrub attains a height of from 4 feet to 10 feet

Brasso-Cattleya Springtide var. The Node

A very large and beautiful novelty shown on April 9th by Mrs. Carl Holmes, The Node, Welwyn. First Class Certificate

Tropæolum tuberosum

The tuberous Nasturtium is more generally known as a decorative plant in this country, but it is also worth the attention of growers as a vegetable, for it has many of the properties of the Potato. Known as the Capucine tubéreuse in France and the Peruanische Knollen-Kresse in Germany, it is in more general use on the Continent than in this country, though it makes a useful winter dish where a large variety of vegetables is in demand.

A native of South America, where it grows in mountainous areas at altitudes of from 5,000 feet to 10,000 feet, it is a heavy yielder. In nutritive qualities it is equal to the Potato, and, although the tuber has a suspicion of woody tissue, this disappears in cooking.

Cultivation is similar to that of the Potato, and the tubers should be planted in rows about 3 feet apart in April or May after danger from frost is over. The long, trailing growths may be allowed to run over the ground, but better results are obtained if light branches are provided for them to grow over. Growth is much slower than that of the Potato, however, and the tubers do not form until late in the autumn. They should, therefore, be left to grow until October or November, when they may be lifted and stored in sand.

W. AUTON.

Iris stylosa

This and its lovely varieties, large plants which have finished blooming, should now be lifted, divided up and replanted at the foot of warm, sunny walls. This is necessary for the protection of the very early blooms more than anything else, as the plant will thrive in a reasonably sheltered position in the open. The soil should be fairly good, and water given occasionally until the plants are established. The old foliage may be shortened back.

SHRUBS OF RECENT INTRODUCTION

By Herman Spooner

During the last half century a great change has taken place in gardening as practised in this country. Perhaps the greatest change of all is in the taste that has been developed for hardy plants, particularly for hardy flowering trees and shrubs. Although a number of very fine species were available before the period mentioned, they were, for the most part, lost in the dismal plantations that were known as shrubberies, whose main purpose was to give privacy or shelter, and not primarily to display the beauty of the trees and shrubs that composed them.

TOWARDS the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century this taste was fostered by the numerous introductions of new species, including many hardy flowering trees and shrubs, which took place about that time. These new species came chiefly from Japan and China, and were due, for the most part, to the activities of such collectors as Maries in Japan, and Wilson, Forrest, Farrer, and Ward in China. The result is that the number of beautiful trees and shrubs available for gardens is now so great that the amateur is bewildered when trying to make a suitable selection from catalogues, especially if he is dealing with a garden of only a limited extent. It is with a view to pointing out which shrubs seem to have "come to stay," amongst the introductions of the last 50 years or so, that the following notes are given.

Corylopsis Veitchiana, a spreading Hazel-like bush

One of the earliest spring-flowering shrubs, producing pendant spikes of primrose-yellow flowers in March and April

To commence with the earliest of spring-flowering shrubs, the Witch Hazels, the most important addition was made just about 50 years ago, when Maries introduced to Messrs. Veitch's nursery the fine species, Mollis, from China. This has the largest and most richly coloured flowers of any of the half-dozen or so species known in cultivation, and if space for only one can be spared mollis should be selected. When planting, it should be remembered that its flowers are produced in winter, and a sheltered spot should be chosen for it and a fairly light, warm soil.

Belonging to the same family as the Witch Hazels are the Corylopses, small shrubs with pendant racemes of primrose-yellow flowers, that appear in early spring before the leaves are put forth. The Japanese species, pauciflora and spicata, are the best known, as they have been longest in gardens, but recently several others from China have been introduced, to which the names Willmottiæ, Wilsoni, and Veitchiana have been given. Speaking broadly, these have a general resemblance to each other, and, where space is limited, only one species need be grown. A warm situation or a sheltered spot in the foreground of the shrub garden should be chosen for them.

To the extensive Viburnum family several important additions have been made of recent years. The most meritorious of these is Viburnum Carlesii, a native of the maritime areas of Korea and islands in the Japan Sea, whence it was introduced about 25 years ago. It is a deciduous shrub, produci globular clusters of fragrant pearly- flowers in April and May. These are at the ends of the branchlets of the pre year, and for this reason the shrub s not be pruned. It is of rather slow gr but succeeds in most soils if not to where the situation is open to the sun Even in small gardens this choice s should have a favoured spot.

A closely allied species, now known bitchinense, was formerly in culti under the name of Carlesii, but it is a straggling and in every way a less de plant than the true species.

A choice Viburnum from China, whi owe to Farrer, is V. fragrans. This, li preceding, is deciduous, and has the of producing its fragrant flowers durir winter months. These are borne in cl that are pink in the bud stage, but white when fully open. They are fol by fruits at first of a red colour, then It should receive the same treatme Carlesii, and succeeds in similar situat

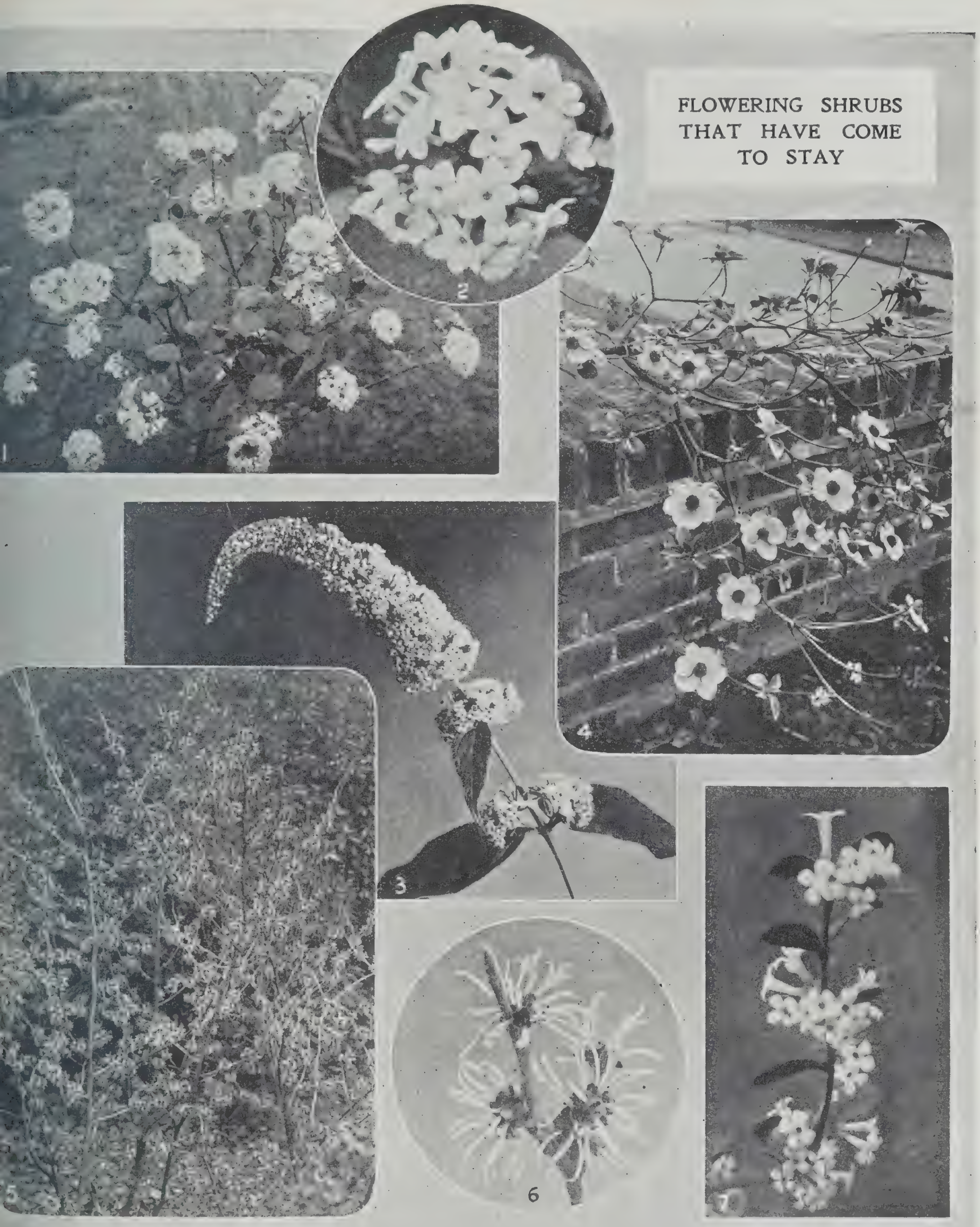
Of the evergreen species V. rhytidoph is, perhaps, the most remarkable, it the largest-leaved of any. The leave thick and corrugated, with a heavy beneath. The flowers are not very tive, they are borne in large corymbs a succeeded by red fruits which ultimate come black. Where space can be af it is a desirable species, but for smal dens the more elegant V. utile, with flowers and blue-black fruits, or V. D with its broad, oval, leathery leave turquoise-blue berries, will probably b ferred.

All the above belong to the fertile-flo section of the genus and are quite d from the sterile-flowered kinds tha known as "Guelder Roses" and " ball Trees," many of which are well and deservedly popular in the shrub ga

The magnificent genus, Magnolia, h ceived many important additions durir period we are dealing with, although n finer than the older M. stellata and M spicua and its hybrids, that flower ea the year before the leaves appear.

Perhaps the best of the newer additi M. parviflora, a native of Korea a Japan, whence it was introduced som ago, but is still uncommon in gardens. species produces its flowers in May an after the leaves are formed. The 4 inches to 5 inches across, egg-sha bud, and saucer-shaped when expanded infolded petals of pure ivory-white, central mass of scarlet stamens which the most remarkable feature of thi flower. Magnolia Wilsonii, introduce China in 1904 and again in 1906, clos sembles this species, and is at prese rare. Also closely alien to parviflora Watsonii, which was introduced from in 1889. The exact home of this plant known, and it has been suggested t may be of hybrid origin, the supposed p being M. parviflora and M. hypoleuc it is less hardy than these species. I duces larger flowers than parviflora, bu it, has blood-red stamens and a strong odour. For small gardens these fine s are welcome additions as they are not

FLOWERING SHRUBS THAT HAVE COME TO STAY



nd 2. Viburnum Carlesii, the most popular shrub of recent luction. Native of Korea. Flowers blush pink, passing to pure , and very fragrant.

Buddleia variabilis magnifica. The large inflorescence of fragrant purple flowers have a great attraction for butterflies in late summer.

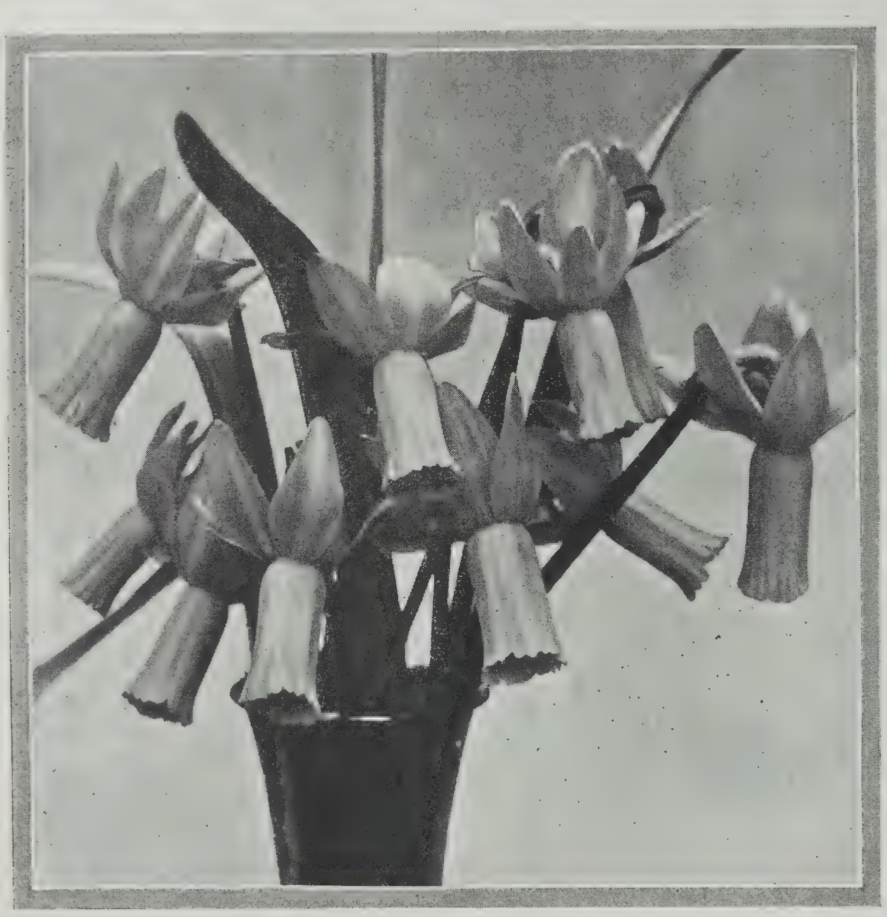
4. Cornus Nuttallii, the noblest of the Cornels or Dogwoods from Western N. America. The large petal-like bracts are cream coloured.

5 and 6. Hamamelis mollis. Golden-yellow flowers of rich fragrance in mid-winter. The finest of the Witch Hazels.

7. Osmanthus Delavayi, one of China's gems. April flowering.

to quickly outgrow their space, although in their native countries they form small trees.

Before the introduction of new kinds from China the S. American Buddleia globosa, the "Gold Ball Tree," was the only hardy representative of the genus in this country. Since the opening up of China by collectors many additional species and varieties have been disclosed, some of which are valuable acquisitions. The most important are the forms of B. variabilis, known as magnifica and veitchiana, which produce long terminal racemes of rich lavender-purple or mauve flowers, small as individuals, but showy in the mass. They have a honey-like fragrance and in July and August, when they appear, they are a favourite haunt of butterflies. To produce the long shoots which terminate in flowers the plants should be pruned hard back in winter or spring. These shrubs are already popular and are found to be valuable as town plants and for seaside gardens. Both these forms are introductions by Wilson.



A new Cyclamineus hybrid (unnamed), with trumpet 1½ inches long
Shown by Mr. F. A. Secrett

A quite distinct species which we owe to Farrer is B. alternifolia. This is also from China, whence it was introduced about 1914. This species produces its flowers in clusters in the axils of the leaves, along the entire length of the slender arching branches. They are lilac in colour, fragrant, and appear in late spring and early summer. Planted on banks or beside a lake this fine species is a most effective ornament.

The useful genus Osmanthus, usually represented in gardens by the Holly-leaved O. ilicifolius, has received several important additions from China during recent years. One of the most delightful of these is O. fragrans, a neat little shrub only a few feet in height, clothed with small Box-like leaves in the axils of which are borne the flowers. These are produced in spring in clusters. They are small and tubular, resembling those of a Jessamine in miniature, and are delicately scented. Another and hardier species is O. Delavayi, also a small shrub with terminal and axillary clusters of white, fragrant flowers that appear in April.

Few gardens are so favourably situated that the fine varieties of Camellia japonica can be grown in them without the protection of glass, as their delicate flowers are liable to frost injury. The family, has, however, a hardy representative in C. cuspidata, a recent introduction from China. This is a neat evergreen shrub with bright, glossy, green leaves 2 inches to 3½ inches long and small white flowers produced in April that resemble in miniature those of the single, white-flowered Camellias. The moderate size and neat appearance of this shrub commend it to the attention of gardeners, although its flowers fall far short of the perfection of the indoor kinds.

Related to the Camellias are the Stewartias, several of which are in cultivation, although rare. The Japanese species, S. pseudo-camellia, is one of the hardiest. It produces white flowers in July and August. These are cup-shaped, with crisped margins and a central mass of orange-yellow stamens. Before they fall in the autumn the leaves assume beautiful tints of red and gold. A sheltered position, but not a dry soil, should be chosen for it, preferably in a peaty mixture.

(To be continued.)

Salvia patens

A few pots of this lovely blue flower are appreciated in greenhouse or conservatory, so a few strong young plants should now be placed in 5-inch pots which, when well filled with roots, can be moved to the 8-inch size and thus form fine, large specimens.

The Strawberry

THE culture of this plant is compara
easy, and it will grow in any good
den soil. The soil should be
trenched 2 feet deep, adding good
manure to the depth of 1 foot from th
face. In trenching, if there should be
soil it is advisable to throw it to the
as to mix in with the manure and pr
the plants making too much leaf inste
flower-stems. Planting should be carri
as soon as the young plants grown
runners are sufficiently rooted, whil
ground is warm enough to encourage g
before winter. If this is not convenie
operation should be held over until
spring. Choose a dull day for planting,
the soil is moderately moist. The prop
tance for planting varies according
variety and nature of soil. Good, ric
and robust-growing plants, such as
Sovereign, require 2½ feet each way; s
varieties only require 2 feet between the
and 18 inches from plant to plant.

A trowel should be used for pla
taking out sufficient soil to enable the
the plant to be covered, and then p
firm with the hands. On no account
the crown of the plant be buried. Afte
has been done give a dressing of old de
leaves if the ground has a tendency
heavy, and water well in, after
sparingly until the plants are well root

On completion of planting the g
should be kept clear of weeds, using th
occasionally to stir the surface. If ru
appear do not cut them off, otherwise a
abundance of foliage is induced. Wai
the runner has a second joint, when
be removed up close to the parent plan
a sharp knife. As the plants develo
show their flower-spike, surface-dress t
close up to the plants with clean slaked
after which a good mulching betwee
rows is very advantageous. This
should consist of dry stable litter well s
out and freed from all horse-droppings

During the flowering period until the
are ripe, the plants should never be a
to become dry, for they evaporate a
amount of moisture during dry we
Copious supplies of water should be gi
as to reach the bottom roots. As the
ripen withhold the water to ensure
flavour.

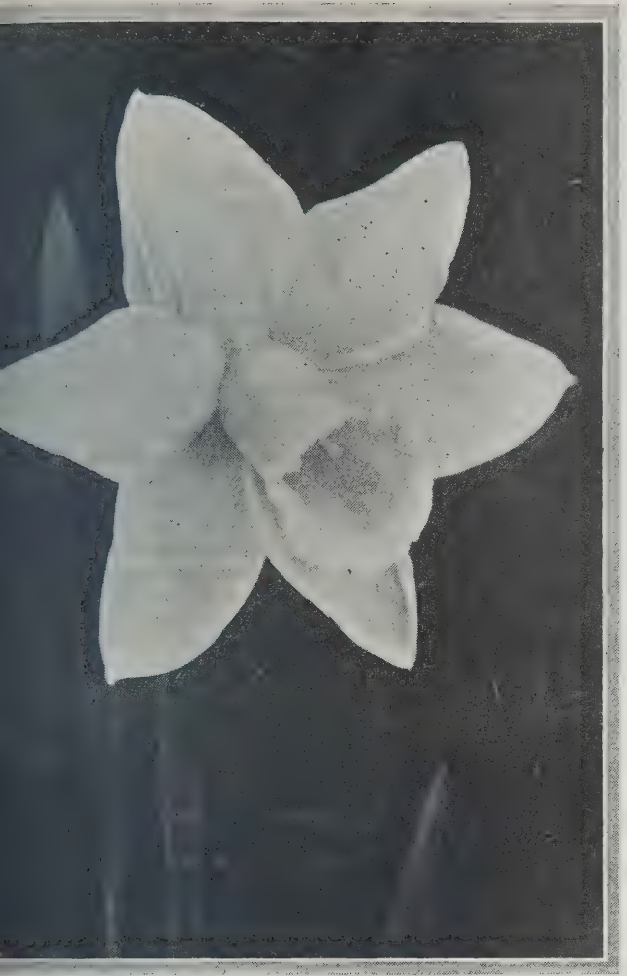
After the fruits are all gathered r
the litter and clear the bed of weeds a
cayed leaves, after which it should be
dug over to allow air and moisture
to the roots.

If this method be adopted the plan
give good results for at least four
years, after which new beds shou
planted.
J

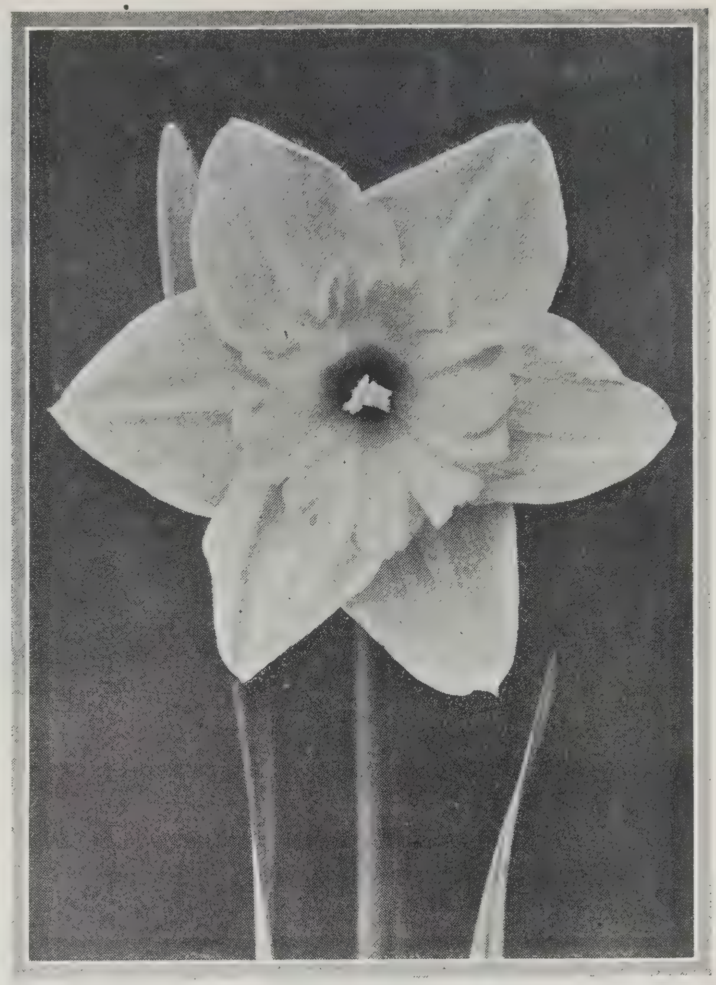
"Stewing" Pears

Nowadays it is, more or less, the f
to decry stewing Pears and to say tha
ought to be replaced by dessert va
which (so the critics say) are better fo
ing or cooking purposes and, besides,
preciated in a raw state. These criti
entirely wrong, for a dessert Pear is pa
flavourless when stewed, and is not ne
juicy and tender as the varieties gro
cooking purposes. Such sorts as C
Verulam, and Uvedalis St. Germain
cellent for stewing, and during Janua
February the supply is hard put to it t
pace with the demand. These ar
hardy Pears and bear consistently.
utmost care is desirable in gatherin
storing—the storing must be done in
place so that the fruits may not shriv
keep juicy and plump as long as possib

A SCOTTISH GARDE



Snow Crown, a good bicolor trumpet



Coverack Gold, a fine yellow Incomparabilis

w Daffodils, exhibited for the first time on April 9th, raised by The Brodie of Brodie, and shown by Mr. R. F. Calvert

w Daffodils in Greycoat Street

Royal Horticultural Society's new in Greycoat Street was well filled a good variety of exhibits on April 10th, when those who are able to early Daffodils put up a grand dis-

L. Richardson, of Waterford, was in his very best form, and was the much-coveted Gold Medal. His contained perfect blooms of such arieties as Golden Flag, Master Nimrod, Solario, Beersheba, Music elen O'Hara, Tenedos, White Nile, hite Emperor, Marquis of Headfort, Glow, Loyalist, Mystic, Silver Plane, Fortune, Brightling, Fanny Currey, , Scarlet Gem (an attractive Poetaz), , and Golden Ingot. Every vase in ction was an object of interest, and should be made of the great care and n in the arrangement of this magni- llection. The two novelties, Fanny an exquisite Leedsii with a rich illed cup flushed with apricot, and ngot, a large-flowered Incomp. with en-yellow trumpet, both received an f Merit.

ollection of Poets by Mr. F. A. vas one of the great attractions of v. Foremost among the varieties ere Red Rim, Wide Wing, Dinton nnie Weedon, Huon (one of Engle- est), and Everlasting, a new Leedsii. group was one of the finest Cycla- hybrids we have seen, having large, deep, lemon-yellow flowers with trumpets 1½ inches long (see illustration).

From Barr and Sons came a magnificent and well-staged group containing bold vases of Glory of Haarlem, Hera, Fiery Monarch, John Evelyn, Nero, Polemon, Beersheba, imposing pillars of Sunrise, and several double-flowered varieties, including Glowing Phœnix, Milk and Honey, and Carnation.

Messrs. R. H. Bath, Ltd., showed a deep golden trumpet Daffodil named Advance Guard, suitable for market and garden purposes, and this was recommended for trial at Wisley.

Mr. R. F. Calvert, of Coverack, Cornwall, put up a magnificent group, which was much admired, but the thing that created the most interest was the large number of new varieties which were shown for the first time. There was a series of fine flowers raised by The Brodie of Brodie from Fortune, including Fortune's Beauty, Fortune's Crown, Fortune's Gem, Fortune's Gleam, Fortune's Glory, Fortune's Pride, and Basra. Among the other new varieties which Mr. Calvert showed for the first time were Avebury, China Clay, Chit Chat, Cokefield, Clwyd, Cornish Cross, Cornish Gold, Coverack Beauty, Coverack Crown, Coverack Gold, Coverack Lad, Crystal, Fortitude, Golden Boy, Golden Champion, Golden Cross, Highland Chief, Helston, Hortus, Liscarton, Lizard, Manacles, Quetta, Royston, Sheeroe, Snow Crown, Westralian, White Glory, and Winkfield's Dower. When one remembers that Mr. Calvert owns the entire stocks of these new varieties, together with those he exhibited at the previous meeting, which included such fine flowers as Whiteley Gem, Tashkend, Bonny Winkfield, Bradwardine, Carnsulan, Dafila, Gilded, and Golden Bantam, some idea can be formed of the interesting and valuable collection of Daffodils he has succeeded in making during the last few years. When he was congratulated by one of the best judges on Daffodils on the number of new varieties he had been able to introduce this year he surprised him by saying that, although most of his flowers were over, he was still hoping to be able to exhibit some more new things this season, including a few really good things.

In addition to the above collection of new varieties Mr. Calvert showed many specimens of some of the best-known varieties, such as Beersheba, Alroi, Amir, Blazing Sword, Bokhara, Cicely, Corregio, Gallipoli, Gaza, Halfa, Kandahar, Mitylene, Moira O'Neill, Naxos, Nevis, Nissa, Pilgrimage, Puritan Maiden, Quartz, Rheingold, Rosary, Samothrace, Water Lily, White Conqueror, White Emperor, White Sentinel, and Yukon.

This large stand, which was 40 feet long, was broken up with a number of small upright stands all filled with interesting varieties, such as Medusa, Liscarton, Tenedos, Crœsus, Bernardino, Coverack Cheer, Chit Chat, and Firetail.

There were over 2,000 flowers on this stand, everyone of which was grown by him in his gardens at Coverack, Cornwall, and for his exhibit he was awarded a Silver-gilt Banksian Medal.

Brighton Spring Show. The group of Primula obconica gigantea in 3-inch pots shown by Mr. W. G. Bright, Hove

Spring Show at Brighton

CONTRARY to expectations, the spring show of the Brighton, Hove, and Sussex Horticultural Society, held in the Dome and Corn Exchange April 10th and 11th, proved a far greater success than the previous spring shows. Some exhibitors dropped out owing to damage by frost during the severe winter. Happily there were others ready to take their place. Within easy reach of Brighton are the well-known nurseries, Cheals, of Crawley, and Allwood, Haywards Heath, and these two firms are always well represented at the Brighton Shows.

Special mention should be made of the extensive group of Primula obconica gigantea shown by Mr. W. G. Bright, Lyndhurst Nurseries, Hove. Over 600 plants were shown, both red and white, all well-flowered seedlings in 60-pots.

Alderman Kingston, Deputy Mayor of Brighton, again won the Fox Silver Rose Bowl for a table of plants showing well-flowered Begonias, Schizanthus, Cyclamen, and Primula obconica.

A very delightful group of Orchids was put up by Sutton Bros., Woodside Nurseries, Hassocks, including a fine plant of Dendrobium nobile virginale, with six spikes of pure white fragrant flowers.

Mr. H. Anscombe, Bristol Nurseries, Kemp Town, was one of the most successful exhibitors, winning the cup presented by the Sussex Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Co., for a fine oval group of flowering and foliage plants, in which Spiræas, Dielytras, Acacias, Lilium longiflorum, Hydrangeas, Kerria japonica, Dutch Iris, and Metrosideros or Bottle-brush trees were all used with good effect. A large and beautiful group by W. Balchin and Sons, Ltd., Hove, occupied one end of the hall; it was most effectively arranged.

In addition to those already mentioned, non-competitive exhibitors included Allen-Brown, The Violet Nurseries, Henfield; April Showers, Ltd., London; Chez-Nous Nurseries, Newick (Alpines and Succulents); G. Eastwood and Son, Downs Nurseries, Hassocks (forced Strawberries); G. Miles and Son, Victoria Nursery, Dyke Road, Brighton; W. Miles and Co., Ltd., 16, Church Road, Hove; Mr. Arthur Pratt, 83, Preston Road, Brighton; and Reamsbottom and Co., West Drayton, Middlesex (Anemones).

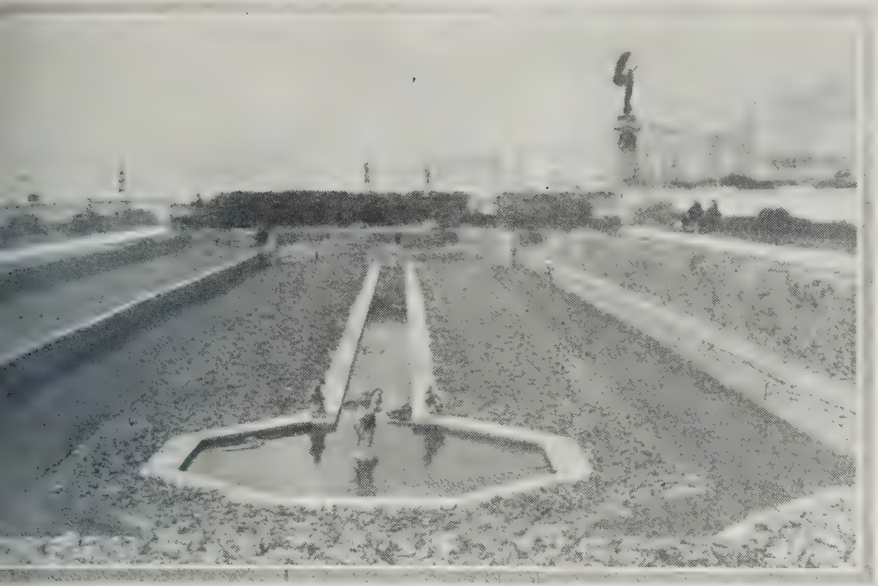
The Society continues to make good progress, and the Secretary, Mr. H. J. Bingham, announced that the membership had now reached 2,600. Special preparations are being made in support of the Sussex County Agricultural Show, to be held at Preston Park, Brighton, June 12th and 13th. The Society's outings, which are very popular, include this year visits to the gardens at Leonardslea; Anthony Waterer's N at Knaphill; Royal Gardens, Kew Lord Dewar's garden at Ashhurst

The Society is doubling the prize in the trade section for the summe autumn shows.

Diseased Daffodils

(C. E. Butler).—Your specimens are attacked by the small Narcissus Eumerus sp., and from the appeara the bulbs there appears to be little dou this pest is the main cause of the t The adult flies appear in May and and deposit 30 or 40 eggs in each selected. The female fly uses the h by the withering foliage and crawls do hole, and the eggs are laid very close bulb. The eggs hatch, and the grubs up the bulb and begin to feed; we growth or death may result, accord the number of maggots present. You go carefully over your beds and remo burn all the attacked bulbs. Search bulbs that have not appeared above at all, because these will contain a fu of maggot. The usual control meas the Narcissus flies is to lift all the b soon as they are ripe, and when thor ripened off the bulbs should be soa water at a temperature of 110 degs. special apparatus can be purchas carrying out this treatment. Top d the beds with very fine soil, when the begins to wither, is sometimes carried prevent the flies from entering the s we consider the lifting and hot water ment is far more efficient. In addition above pest some others are pres number of bulbs were infested wit Mite, and if you take off some of th scales you will find the tiny mites in p A few larvæ of one of the fungus (Sciara) were present, and also a of spring-tails. We are inclined to that Eumerus is the chief culprit, a others largely secondary. One bul attacked by a fungus, Botrytis sp., there is much of this about the beds be sterilised after lifting with a 2 pe Formalin solution.

A fine specimen plant of Dendrobium nobile virginale. Flowers pure whit and fragrant. Shown by Sutton Bros.



Formal garden with fountain and canal near West Pier at Brighton
In a few weeks the borders will be gay with Tulips and Polyanthuses

Answers to Queries

ons—*Queries and answers are inserted in*
ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre-*
follow these rules: All communications
clearly written on one side of the paper
d addressed to the EDITOR *of* GARDENING
D, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4.*
on business should be sent to the PUB-
The name and address of the sender are
in addition to any designation he may
be used in the paper. When more than
y is sent each should be on a separate
paper, the name and address being added
As GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent*
to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.

Naming plants—*All who wish their plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

d Narcissi

H. Royston).—The specimens sent
nination are affected with Bulb Rot,
caused by a fungus, namely Sclero-
. Several other kinds of bulbs can
ked by this or a similar fungus. The
ns sent were rotten right through,
soil was inclined to stick to the
urther, the black bodies which form
ng stage of the disease were present
rotted surfaces of the bulbs. If the
is widespread, your best plan would
t all the plants that are diseased and
em, afterwards treating the positions
hich they are removed with a 2
t. Formalin solution. When the
bulbs have completed their growth
ould be lifted and carefully sorted
hose that show any trace of the
should be destroyed. The healthy
n then be replanted in autumn, but
st be used to remove all soil attached
lbs because the disease contaminates
and spreads gradually from diseased
thy plants, and there is always
nfection from soil taken from a bed
sease has appeared. The fungus can
rolled in the soil by using a 2 per
ution of Formalin, but sufficient must
d to thoroughly soak the soil to a
f 9 inches. This is expensive,
ce it is advisable to try a new site.

rouble

. Y.).—We have carefully examined
ecimen Tulips, and cannot find any
fungoid or insect trouble. It appears
kely that some error of cultivation
to the failure. It is difficult to
for this, because you state that some
came on well. It occurs to us that perhaps the bulbs were put into the fibre late in the season. It is essential that all bulbs for fibre work should be potted up early enough so that vigorous root action takes place before leaf and short growth commence. Trouble might result if the Tulips planted were of more than one variety, because some varieties do not take kindly to fibre work and fail to make satisfactory progress.

Lilies for a light, dry soil

(Seven Rides).—Amaryllis Belladonna and Lilium candidum certainly. The African Umbrella Lily—Agapanthus umbellatus—can be confidently recommended. There is both a blue and a white form. Agapanthus Moorei is a dwarf form and would also succeed. L. speciosum or one or other of its forms could also be included; and, if it is appreciated, Hyacinthus candicans would be at home in the described conditions.

Plants for flint wall and tiled roof

(Meiktila).—The following are suggested for the roof: Sempervivum arachnoideum (Cobweb Plant), S. spinosum, S. atropurpureum, S. globiferum, S. Hausmanni, S. Pittoni, S. Thomsoni, S. fimbriatum, S. Hookeri, S. Fauconetti, S. Wulferii, Sedum dasyphyllum, S. album murale, S. lydium, S. pilosum, S. glanduliferum, S. acre, Raoulia australis, R. glabra. Wall: Erigeron mucronatum, E. philadelphicus, Convolvulus mauritanicus, Zauschneria californica, Gentiana acaulis, G. lagodechiana, Globularia cordifolia, Acæna microphylla, Acantholimon venustum, Achillea argentea, A. tomentosa, Æthionema grandiflorum, A. pulchellum, A. Warley Hybrid, Alyssum spinosum roseum, Anemone Pulsatilla, Androsace lanuginosa, A. sarmentosa, Antirrhinum asarina, Arenaria montana, Asperula tuberosa, Artemisia pedæmontana, Aubrietia Dr. Mules, A. Bonfire, A. Lavender, and others, Corydalis cheilanthifolia, Heuchera sanguinea, Hieraceum villosum, Campanulas abietina, carpatica, muralis, garganica hirsuta, isophylla, rotundifolia major, Scheuzeri, Warley, and C. barbata, Cheiranthus linifolius, Helianthemums in variety, Cotyledon simplicifolia, Encrusted saxifrages in variety, Coronilla cappadocica, Omphalodes cappadocica, Cytisus Ardoini, C. decumbens, Dianthus cæsius, D. deltoides splendens, D. neglectus, D. alpinus, D. microlepis alba, Edrianthus serpyllifolius, Saponaria ocymoides splendens, Erodium chamædryoides rosea, Erythrea diffusa,

Brighton Spring Show: First Prize oval group of flowering and foliage plants shown by H. Anscombe, Kemp Town

Geranium lancastriense, G. Pylzowianum, Gypsophila Fratensis, Helichryssum bellidioides, Hypericum repens, Lewisia Howelli, L. Cotyledon, Lithospermum prostratum, Œnothera riparia, Onosma taurica, and Oxalis floribunda. The plants will give you a quicker return, but if the weather is hot and dry spray them in the evening until they are established. Seeds of Erinus alpinus might be sown in some of the crevices. When planting, care must be taken to prevent the dry air from getting at the back of the roots.

ALPINES

Primula Winteri

I should be greatly obliged if you would tell me the correct treatment for Primula Winteri grown in a pot in a cool house now that it has done flowering.

H. L. P. BAKER.

[The two essentials for the happiness of this plant during the summer months are protection from sun and plenty of moisture. An ash plunging-bed with a north aspect protected from the direct rays of the sun is the ideal, and care should be taken to provide water, when necessary, throughout the dry season. P. Winteri may be taken out of the cool house when the other Alpines are cleared from now onwards and brought in again during early autumn.]

Alpines in stone trough

I have just put in my garden a stone trough, old and cracked, all round, horizontally, near the bottom. This will serve for drainage. I propose to plant in the trough. It faces south in full sun. Will you, please, say what plants are suitable for it?

H. S.

[The first essential is to make certain that the trough is so arranged that all water will drain out of it, as stagnant water at the root is fatal to Alpine plants. Test trough before filling with soil by pouring in water. It may be necessary to adjust the level of the trough, or even to chip a drainage hole in the bottom. Rocks built into the trough help to retain moisture during the hot weather, a most important point when exposed to the full heat of a southern aspect, and striking results may be obtained by bold effects, an outcrop being constructed to rise at least a foot above the trough sides. By this means many aspects may be obtained, and those plants requiring some protection from mid-day sun accommodated. In the soil mixture a liberal amount of stone chippings and very well-decayed leaf-mould, which for preference has been sterilised in an oven, is advisable for a southern aspect, and the plants noted below, which are obtainable at any Alpine nursery of repute, will settle down and give a long flowering period, so that there will generally be something of interest to look for in this miniature garden. For the higher slopes of the outcrop the following are admirable:—Draba dedeana, D. imbricata, Dianthus neglectus, D. Freynii, Potentilla nitida (full sun), Kabschia Saxifrages (amongst which the following have proved particularly adaptable:—Saxifraga Burseriana, S. Jenkinsæ, S. Myra, S. H. Marshall, S. Borisii), Primula Clusiana, Raoulia australis, Armeria cæspitosa. In the lower pockets many of the smaller Campanulas, such as Miranda, arvatica, Kewensis, and Waldesteiniana, and Wahlenbergia serpyllifolius major, Oxalis adenophylla, and if a sheltered corner is available with a pocket of leaf-mould Saxifrage oppositifolia splendens will be happy. At the sink-level may be planted to mat together Gentiana verna, Bellis cœrulescens, Potentilla aurea, Erigeron leiomeirus, Polygala calcarea, Viola biflora, V. Bertolonii, Primula farinosa, and Arenaria cæspitosa aurea. To fall over the sink sides selection may be made from the following:—Asperula suberosa, Androsace lanuginosa, A. Sarmentosa Chumbyi, Dryas octopetala, Phlox Douglasii, Hypericum reptans, and any of the prostrate Thymes. The hottest and dryest corners facing south may be filled with many of the smaller Sempervivums, Sedum spathulifolium rubrum, and some of the Silver Saxifrages, such as S. Burnatii, S. Cochlearis minor, S. Baldensis, and S. longifolis Walpole's Variety. It takes approximately 30 plants to fill an average-sized sink garden.]

ROSES

Rose Marechal Niel in pot

(Seven Rides).—The correct treatment has been given to the weak specimen of this fine Rose in a small pot. As soon as the shoots from the severely pruned branches attain to a length of, say, 4 inches the plant may be moved on into a larger pot—one 8 inches in diameter is suggested meantime. Drain the pot well and use a compost consisting of 3 parts old turf, rather roughly chopped, and half a part each of leaf-mould and sharp sand. The addition of a handful of bone meal would be advisable, but manure ought not to be given in the compost. If necessary, by and by, liquid manure could be given. It may be added that care ought to be taken that the plant is not exposed to draughts in the cold greenhouse. Marechal Niel is unfortunately predisposed to mildew under such conditions.

Black Spot on Roses

(B. H.).—Yes; Corry's Black Spot 40 is recommended, and you should keep it in readiness. $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. is sufficient to make a 20 gallons spray.

GREENHOUSE

Gardenias

("Bucks").—It is the low temperature that has affected your Gardenia, this plant requiring from 15 degs. to 20 degs. more than you are giving. A very moist atmosphere is also essential to success with the stove varieties, of which the specimen sent is one.

Lilies and Begonias

(Inquirer).—Lilium auratum, when grown in pots, usually blooms in July, so that you would require to place it on the north side of a wall should it show signs of being too early for your purpose. Without a number of plants it is impossible to "time" such. With several plants you can, by different treatment, be pretty certain of attaining your object, simply by placing a few in a perfectly cool place, others in a slightly-heated house, and still others in a warmer house. These Liliums, however, resent a high temperature. Lilium lancefolium (speciosum) flowers later, so you would require to give it a little more warmth than the auratum, to have it bloom in August, but strong heat must be avoided. There is less trouble with the Begonias as these continue to produce fresh flowers over a lengthened period, but to have them at their best in August, use no fire heat and shade carefully from all sunshine. Give abundance of air, but avoid cold draughts.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Honeysuckles spoilt by Green Fly

(Meiktila).—Green Fly is very destructive to Honeysuckles growing at the foot of walls, but if you pay special attention to the watering of the plants—or even mulch them and spray every 10 days with Quassia and Nicotine, according to the vendors' (Messrs. Bentley and Sons, Barrow-on-Humber, Hull) directions, you will probably steer cle
this pest. Honeysuckles growing in
exposed positions are less subject to thi
figurement

VEGETABLES

Unsatisfactory Peas

(Seven Rides).—It is unusual for wee
interfere with Peas, although they, at
attack Broad Beans, in the seeds of
the dormant insects may be observed.
weevils are in the seeds of the Pea
latter should be soaked in tepid water
being sown—the insects, or most of
will be found floating on the surface.
would put an end to the attacks upo
foliage. Is it not possible that the t
may be caused by one or other of the s
the yellow slug acts very much in the m
described, and confines itself to the ed
the young foliage. The "minute black
to which reference is made is "thrips.'
remedy for this is forcible syringing
soapy water—this treatment, if pe
with, will effect a clearance. Attac
encouraged by unhealthy plants.
growing the Peas in well-prepared tre
like Celery trenches on a small scale.
shelter afforded in the early stages wo
conducive of rapid growth, and the
stage would speedily be past, althou
course, thrips will attack Peas at almo
stage if the weather be hot and dry,
the plants be not watered.

Tomatoes and potash

("Anxious").—A good method of
ing potash to the soil in Tomato cul
by means of a liberal dressing of dry
ashes. This should be well mixed w
soil before planting, and later, when
ing a top-dressing of fresh soil, add m
this material. The commercial potash
considerably at times, but if you must
add about one-third of an ounce t
gallon of water, applying this occas
after the fruits have attained some s
may also be sprinkled all over the soil
rate of $1\frac{1}{4}$ ozs. per square yard in spri
again about the middle of summer.

Cabbage query

(A. J. H., Surrey).—The Cabbage
the garden races, such as Brussels S
Savoy, Broccoli, and Kales, have all
from a wild plant called Brassica ol
This wild Cabbage, B. oleracea, is a
plant of Britain, and can be found in
West England, Wales, and the C
Islands, and is also wild on the We
South coasts of Europe, whe
probably came to England. In its wi
the plant is a biennial or perennial,
stem 1 foot to 2 feet high, stout,
decumbent, and scarred, leafy at top
actual date of introduction is very un
Most authorities agree that the date
cultivation is very ancient, and there
no doubt that the wild plant was
food long before it was cultivated.
stated: "The principal kinds of C
existed at least as early as the si
century." We are sorry that we
definitely state in what country and
year the Cabbage was first cultivate

FRUIT

Peaches on outside wall

(Seven Rides).—Apart from Peach
the principal enemies of the Pea
mildew and aphides. Some variet
much more susceptible to the form
others—Royal George, when it att
some age, being very liable to attack
remedy is dusting with flowers of
until the fungus is overcome. Aphi

(Continued on page 278)

Eureka WEED KILLER

Powder and Liquid
Original Double Strength

Price is right. Quality is right.

Its reputation is based on its record of actual performance. It enjoys the largest sale of all weed-killers. A speedy and safe method of killing weeds.

Eureka's full strength never varies, and, year in, year out, it gives the same satisfactory results.

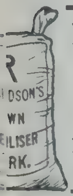
Your paths can be perpetually tidy without backaching, tedious labour.

Other Eureka Products include: Eureka Lawn Sand, Soilfume, Eureka Worm Killer.

AS EASY
AND SAFE
TO USE
AS IT IS
SURE AND
LASTING IN
EFFECT

FREE TIN
AS MEASURE
LARGEST SALE
"Eureka"
WEED
KILLER
TRADE MARK
REGISTERED
CONTENTS OF THIS TIN MIXED WITH 25 GALLONS OF WATER
MAKES SUFFICIENT DRESSING FOR 100 SQ.YDS OF PATH & C.

Only Makers:
MLINSON & HAYWARD LTD.
51 Newland, LINCOLN
All agents supply, any difficulty write makers



FERTILISERS

LAWNS, 20/-; FRUIT & ROSE, 19/6; GENERAL GARDEN USE, 17/-; WORM-KILLER, 17/6 per cwt., carr. pd.
And all other Fertilisers.
HY. RICHARDSON & CO.
Skeldergate Bridge Works, YORK

BAMBOO GARDEN CANES

—AND BAMBOO OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FROM "TWIGS TO YACHTMASTS" SUITABLE FOR AN INFINITE VARIETY OF PURPOSES
— WRITE FOR OUR —
STANDARD PRICE LIST

A.E.DAVIES & Co
164 LEVER STREET.
CITY RD. LONDON.E.C.1

HEDGE PLANTS

We have a Choice and most Complete Selection of
HEDGE PLANTS, FLOWERING SHRUBS, AND ROSES
Stout flowering Plants.
Lists Free.
J. SCOTT & CO., ROYAL NURSERIES, MERRIOTT, SOM.

The Perfect Surface
for
arriage Drives & Pathways
is

RAVELITE
(Regd. Trade Mark)

NO MUD
NO WEEDING
NO ROLLING
NO SCOURING
under stormwater

fact an ADAMANT SURFACE
with the pleasing and
general appearance of
PERFECT GRAVEL.

Supplied and laid by
HITTENDEN & SIMMONS, LTD.
Bank Buildings, MAIDSTONE, Kent.

KING'S ACRE NURSERIES

Established 1785 **HEREFORD** Awarded 117 Gold Medals

Special Offer for Spring Planting

ANTIRRHINUMS

The Cheapest and Best Bedding Plants obtainable

The best effects are obtained by planting in masses, whilst beds of special colours may be planted according to the colour scheme decided upon, and in borders the tall varieties should be planted at the back, following on with the intermediate kinds, and edged with the dwarf and Tom Thumb varieties.

TALL VARIETIES, growing about 2 to 3 ft.

Bonfire—Bright cinnabar-red, yellow blotch
Cerise King—Rich cerise-pink, white throat
Cottage Maid—Very handsome pale pink, white throat
Crimson King—Beautiful rich crimson, very fine flowers
Orange Beauty—Orange-scarlet, gold tipped
Queen Victoria—Large white
Rose Dore—Self salmon-rose, shaded gold
Yellow King (Majus)—Deep golden-yellow

INTERMEDIATE VARIETIES, growing about 1 to 1½ ft.

Black Prince—Intense crimson
Bonfire—A beautiful orange and flame colour
Canary Bird—Pale shade of pleasing yellow
Carmine Queen—Rich rose-carmine
Cottage Maid—Pale coral-pink, white throat
Daphne—Coral-rose, white throat
Fascination—Deep flesh pink
Golden Monarch—Golden-yellow
Golden Queen—Deep yellow
Morning Glow—Terra-cotta, orange
Nelrose—Deep rose-pink, very popular
Scarlet King—Rich scarlet, fine
The Beacon—Beautiful salmon hue
Vesuvius—Deep vivid orange or flare colour
White Queen—The finest white bedding variety

DWARF VARIETIES, growing about 6 ins. high.

Apricot Queen—Apricot
Brilliant Crimson—Rich crimson
Delicate Pink—Shell pink
Orange Scarlet—Rich orange-scarlet
Rose Queen—Rose
Snowflake—Good white variety

Very suitable for edging.

The plants offered are hardily grown, and can be successfully planted from March to June. We have retarded plants for later planting.

Prices—Single dozen, **2/-**; per 100, **10/-**; per 1,000, **90/-**.

Carriage paid, packing free, for cash with order. **Nurseries 130 acres.** Late Cranston's

Bedding Plant Catalogue Free on Request

be cleared off by syringing with cold water, and plenty of it, applied with some force. Not only Peaches and Apricots, but all wall trees in a warm exposure ought to be thoroughly watered during dry weather. A mulch of well-rotted manure or of leaf-mould would prevent undue evaporation.

Blood manure and Vines

(R. Humphreys).—You surely do not intend to use fresh blood in your vinery, seeing it would cause such a horrible smell, and, anyway, much better Vine manures are to be had without any of these objectionable drawbacks. Full reliance can be placed on Thomson's Vine and Plant Manure, Wood's "Le Fruitier," and others advertised in our columns. If you must use blood procure the dried article and use according to directions.

MISCELLANEOUS

Books on Violas

("Japonica").—Books on this subject are now very scarce, but Messrs. D. Macleod, Ltd., Publishers, Cowgate, Kirkintilloch, Dumbartonshire, offer two—"Violas and Pansies," costing 10d. post free, and "Pansies and Violets," 1s. 3d. post free, and these may suit your requirements.

Plants for classification

(G. H. Spinney).—Few plants in this list from Tokyo will be of any use to you, but we have classified all we possibly could, and this should assist you in determining which to try. The seeds you have no desire to keep would probably be acceptable to any of our nurserymen who cultivate stove and greenhouse plants, such as Messrs. Clibran and Sons, of Altrincham, Messrs. Russell, of Richmond, or Messrs. R. Veitch, of Exeter. You might care to advertise them in the columns of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. (1) A composite, hardy only in favoured districts. (2) Probably greenhouse shrub. (3) Strong-smelling annual from New Zealand. (4 and 5) Greenhouse plants. (6) The She Oak of Australia (greenhouse evergreen). (7) Indian trailing plant, requiring stove temperature. (8) Stove evergreen. (9) Probably from New Zealand, tree or shrub (greenhouse). (10 and 11) Stove annuals—allied to Senecio. (12) Similar to Staphylea, and would probably succeed in the open. (14) Greenhouse evergreen—flowers white. (15) Greenhouse—tuberous-rooted. (18) Greenhouse evergreen shrub from New Holland. (19) Stove evergreen. (20) Primulas, unable to trace these.

Heating Tomato house

(R. R.).—For a house of the suggested dimensions 4-inch pipes—a flow and return—right around the house would be necessary, and a Robin Hood Junior Boiler would be well up to the work. The pipes may be placed where most convenient, but preferably along the back wall and the front of the house. The latter ought to have a door at either end, and plenty of provision for free ventilation is indispensable. Make a hard path of the width of the doors from end to end; prepare well the border, and allow 2 feet between the plants in the lines—these being also 2 feet apart. The needful work of training and tying can be attended to by an arrangement of light foot-boards. It is not necessary to brick in the beds. A smaller house at the boiler end, with a double flow and return of 4-inch pipes, would be of great benefit, as young plants could be brought to the planting stage more quickly than if seeds were sown in the larger house. Any further details will be gladly given.

NAMES OF PLANTS

V. B., Glengariff.—1, Acacia retinodes (syn. A. fragrans); 2, A. verticillata; 3, A. armata var. angustifolia; 4, A mucronata; 6, A. armata; 7, A. Baileyana.

W. N. E.;—2, Arabis lucida variegata; 3, Saxifraga moschata variety, no flowers were open on this kind; 4, Saxifraga decipiens grandiflora (Bathoniensis). No. 1 not in box.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENTS

Lefco ornaments

It is interesting to note that the material used in the construction of Lefco garden ornaments is of a similar nature to that used in some of the well-known buildings in London. This is evidence of the ornaments' durability, and their powers to withstand rain, frost, and sun. The new catalogue of the Leeds Fireclay Company, the manufacturers of the ornaments, contains an extremely wide range of models, and is worth studying. It can be secured from the Company, Dept. C.S.49, Wortley, Leeds.

Cultivation of Beetroot and Sugar Beet

The Sugar Beet, now grown by the acre in this country, is a root plant of the same family as the Mangold. Properly cultivated, it is a long tapering root of a shape and colour similar to a Parsnip, but larger and broader at the top. Its weight, excluding the crown and leaves, averages from 1½ lbs. to 2 lbs. Unlike the Mangold, it grows almost entirely below the surface.

The best soils are deep loams, well supplied with lime and organic matter. Any free-working soil, however, adapted for growing roots, Barley, or Potatoes should grow Beets well. Very shallow soils should not be used. In such conditions, instead of a long tapering root, the Beet is apt to take a Mangold shape and develop fangy roots.

It is usual to grow Beet as a cleaning crop in the rotation, replacing Mangolds, Swedes, or common Turnips. There is, however, no hard or fast rule for the place of Sugar Beet in the rotation.

Practically all the manure in the rotation is applied to the Beet crop. The crop will not exhaust the soil, and the manuring, together with the thorough cultivation, will improve and clean the land for the succeeding crops.

In general, the manurial treatment is that usually necessary for a good Potato crop. This will, of course, vary in different localities according to the nature and condition of the land and the manuring of preceding crops.

Farmyard manure should be applied in the autumn; phosphate, potash, and sulphate of ammonia should be harrowed in when preparing the seed bed, and nitrate of soda should be applied immediately after singling. As a general guide, the following dressing of fertilisers may be suggested:—

1½ cwts. sulphate of ammonia,
4 cwts. superphosphate,
2 cwts. potash salts (30 per cent)

harrowed in before drilling, followed by 1 cwt. nitrate of soda as a top-dressing immediately after singling.

Where the land is deficient in lime it is important to apply it or factory lime waste in the autumn or early spring. Up to 2 tons per acre of lump or ground lime, or, if near a factory, factory lime waste at the rate of 4 tons per acre.

A good seed bed is essential. A faulty seed bed is often the cause of a patchy field of plants. The seed should be drilled
ably on the flat in rows about 18 inche
and not more than 1 inch deep.

Success, however, very largely depe
the singling and hoeing of the crop.
object is to cause all the efforts of gro
be concentrated in the best plants whi
being isolated to create the sugar.
should be done early, thoroughly, an
tinuously until such time as it is no
possible owing to the rows being cove
the leaves of the plants. It should b
menced as soon as the plants in the r
veal themselves. As the leaves a
sugar-producing agents care should be
not to damage them. In hoeing, the
should not be uncovered. Exposed roo
sugar content. Hoeing must be main
not only by the hoe between the rows,
the hand hoe between the plants in th
The Beet crop compels constant clean
the land until the leaves meet in the ro

When the plants show four leaves i
tion to the seed-leaves they should b
fully singled 8 inches to 12 inches apa
cording to the width between the row
being taken to reserve the best plant
experiment conducted in Germany
these results:—Singled at the proper
15 tons per acre; singled one week
13½ tons per acre; singled two weeks
10 tons per acre; and singled three
later, 7 tons per acre.

New classes at the forthcom Rhododendron Show

I would like to call the attention of
to four new classes that have be
augurated for the Rhododendron
which is being held on Tuesday, Apri
entries for which should be received n
than 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April
though late entries will be accepted i
is space available. The classes are n
66 to 69 inclusive, namely:—

66.—Six vases containing six varie
Rhododendron foliage, flower
permitted.
67.—Three trusses or sprays of Rho
drons, species and/or hybrids.
restricted to exhibitors who
never won a prize at any show
Rhododendron Society or Asso
68.—Six vases of Rhododendrons gr
the garden of an exhibitor wh
not regularly employ more th
gardener.
69.—The best foliage Rhododendron

Two of these are specially valuab
year in view of the lack of flower due
lateness of the season.

LIONEL DE ROTHSC
New Court, St. Swithin's Lane,
London, E.C. 4.

New Delphiniums

Many excellent new varieties o
phiniums are being introduced this
Kelway and Son, of Langport, for in
are offering over a dozen new variet
new, ranging in colour from deep blu
purple, to delicate lavender. Among
may be mentioned Belle of Somerset,
lavender with dark eye, petals tipp
black; Dark Lantern, dark, velvety,
blue, with yellowish central petals,
dwarf habit; Dominion, semi-double,
white central petals, edged with blue.

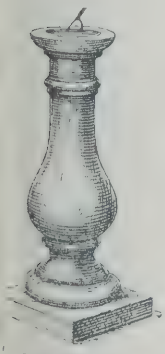
The new Curator of Ke

Great interest is taken in the appoi
of Mr. T. W. Taylor to succeed Mr.
Bean as Curator of the Royal G
Kew. Mr. Taylor has been Assistant
in charge of the tropical department fo
years. We congratulate him most
on this appointment.

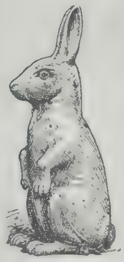
'LEFCO" GARDEN ORNAMENTS

After the Spade Work Add the Finishing Touch —A "Lefco" Ornament

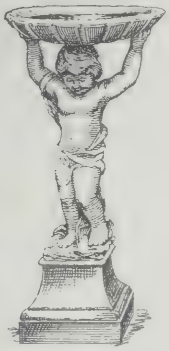
HOWEVER enthusiastic, you can't make a beautiful garden by pade work alone. Planning is essen-al, and in your planning you'll find e "Lefco" book of Garden Orna-ents inspiring and helpful. Among e many charming Vases, Sundials, igures, Bird Baths, etc., illustrated in is book, you are sure to find at least ne just made for your arden. A Bird Bath aybe to stand in the centre f the lawn ; a pair of Vases t the head of the flight of steps ; a sundial at the end of the crazy path, or some of the animals among the rockeries.



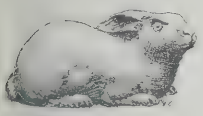
Sundial No. 22.
Price **45/-**



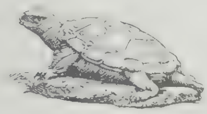
Rabbit erect.
Price **15/-**



Bird Bath No. 25.
Price **105/-**



Rabbit feeding.
Price **15 -**



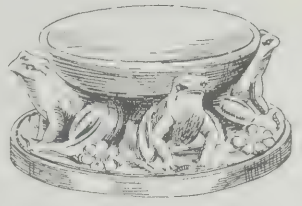
Tortoise.
Price 15 -

"Lefco" Garden Ornaments help the garden lover to make doubly attractive the result of his labour of love. They adorn and improve any garden — none is too small. There are designs to suit all types of gardens and prices to suit all pockets.

Send now for a copy of the "Lefco" book of Garden Ornaments. Sent free and post free on receipt of Coupon request. Cut out and fill in the Coupon now, and post it off to - day.

"LEFCO" GARDEN ORNAMENTS will last as long as your garden

Each "Lefco" piece is made of similar material as used in the construction of such well-known buildings as the Park Lane and Regent Palace Hotels, London. "Lefco" Ware with ordinary care will not crack nor rust ; it will withstand rain, frost, and sun. It never decays ; the speckled biscuit-coloured ware stays beautiful always. Look for the label on every piece of "Lefco" Ware. It assures you that it is genuine and British made.



Bird Bath

No. 66. **Price 50/-**

The Latest addition to the range of

"LEFCO" GARDEN ORNAMENTS

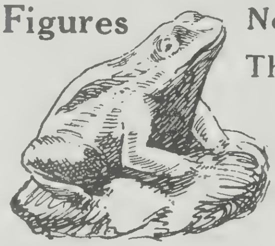
This delightful model has been specially designed at the urgent request of many hundreds of "Lefco" owners. It is particularly suitable for small gardens. Lovers of birds in the garden can now secure this charming piece at the special introductory price of **50/-**

Height . . .	8½ ins.
Width of Bowl .	14 ins.
Width of Base .	18 ins.

Cost Price Samples "Lefco" Miniature Figures

No. 1

The Frog



2/6

POST FREE

This quaint "Lefco" piece stands 3 ins. high. In addition to its use in the garden it forms a really admirable paper weight or mantel ornament. Made of the famous "Lefco" Ware it will not crack ; a wipe with a damp cloth will remove any dirt. Charming, useful, and very low in price. Obtainable only from the makers.

Price **2/6** post free.

London Showrooms :

2, Cavendish Place,
London, W. 1
(Oxford Circus)

CUT OUT AND POST THIS COUPON TO-DAY.

To
LEEDS
FIRECLAY
COMPANY, LTD.,
Dept. (C.S. 49)
WORTLEY, LEEDS

Please forward me free and post free. copy of your booklet of "Lefco" Garden Ornaments and name of nearest supplier.

* Also forward me the "Lefco" Miniature Frog, as advertised, for which I enclose 2/6 to cover postage, packing, etc.

Name..

Address..

* Cross out if not desired.

SALE! GREATLY REDUCED PRICES SALE

Select from the following Exceptionally Low-Priced Offers for Immediate Despatch

ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

No. 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.

		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. „	4 ft. „	13/6	12/-
8 ft. „	4 ft 6 in. „	17/6	16/-
8 ft. „	5 ft. „	22/6	20/-
8 ft. „	5 ft. 6 in. „	26/6	24/-
8 ft. „	6 ft. „	33/6	30/-

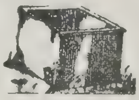
GARDEN BARROWS

Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ½ in. iron tyre.

	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23/6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.



	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. „	5/6	5/- „
18 in. „	6/6	5/9 „
21 in. „	8/6	7/- „
24 in. „	10/6	9/- „

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

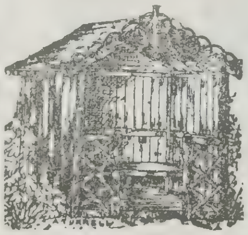
Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 „
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- „

GARDEN LIGHTS

	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4/9	4/- „	9/6	8/- „
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- „	13/6	12/- „
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 „	15/6	14/- „

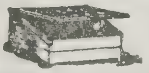
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

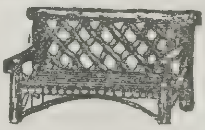
RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS

Well made from selected material.
In natural wood. Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. „	14/6	13/6
6 ft „	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. „	18/6	17/6
6 ft. „	24/-	22/6



RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.

	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

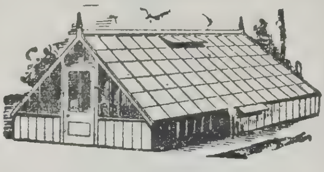
INCINERATOR

Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 „

BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE

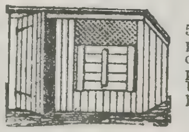
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

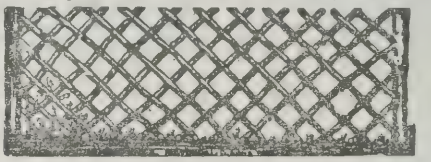


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	Reduced Prices. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9/6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12/6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20/-
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	24/6	25/-

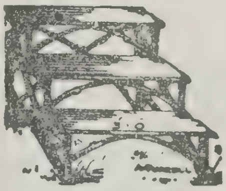
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 „	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 „
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 „	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 „
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 „	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 „
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 „	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- „
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 „	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 „
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 „	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 „
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- „	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- „
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 „	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 „

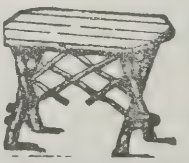
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- „	5/6 „

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at m figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who re strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.
15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6
30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0
8 x 6 2 „	3 7 6	3 1 0

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0
16 x 6 4 „	6 6 0
20 x 6 5 „	7 10 0
24 x 6 6 „	9 2 6

Do not pay high prices for your frames made fro b ards. We can supply at the following low prices. made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality board plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0
8 x 6 2 „	4 7 6	3 18 6

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0
16 x 6 4 „	7 5 0
20 x 6 5 „	8 8 0
24 x 6 6 „	10 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABL MOTOR HOUS

Constructed of strong framing with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved roof boarded and felted, 1-in. for floor and strong joists. W fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doo on strong butts and fitted Tow and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No.

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and singl Fitted lock and key.

ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0

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A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite wat All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out. in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

LI.—No. 2616 Saturday, April 27, 1929 TWOPENCE

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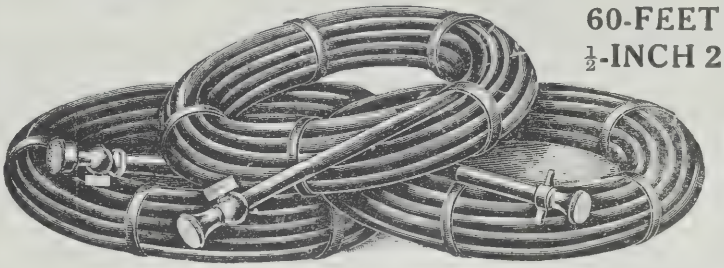

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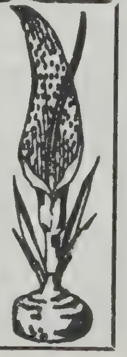

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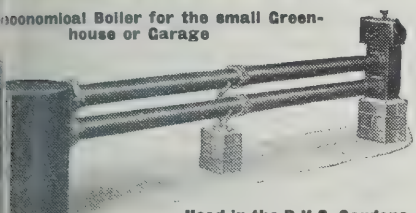

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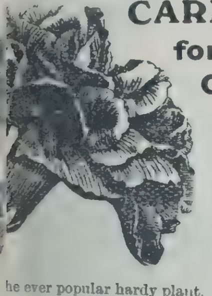

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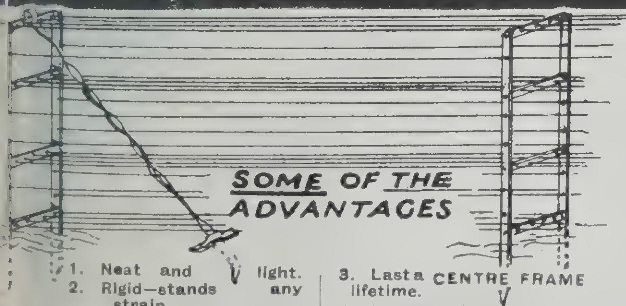

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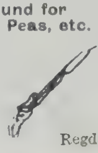

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Novelties at the Daffodil Show

Daffodil Show held in Vincent are on April 16th and 17th, and re- ed elsewhere in this issue, was re- e for outstanding novelties of d distinction, also for the splendid n blooms sent by growers in Ireland nwall. Although the Show had been d a week the date was still too early growers.

Show attracted specialists not only l parts of the British Isles, there an invasion of discerning and dis- ing buyers from Holland.

said that bulb growers in Holland are to replenish their stocks of bulbs, as ses have been very heavy during the nter, which was even more severe in than in this country.

interest was also taken in by Covent Garden ex- d, as remarked by a lead- bitor, the London Daffodil becoming an auction, at ew Daffodils are bought ighest bidder.

lil specialists were to be wsing for long intervals corner of the hall where D. Williams staged a of his newest seedlings, which were unnamed.

pick of Mr. Calvert's ncluded Coverack Gem— rful flower and the talk of w—J. K. Ramsbottom, double-flowered Cheerful-

nnot speak too highly of derful collection staged by . Richardson, of Water- r which the gold medal rded. We have grown to reat things from Water- t the flowers this year fer than ever, not only in also in depth of colour. istance, that marvellous Hades, with its intense ed corona, was even of ue than ever this year. nothing to approach Hades depth and warmth of its oured corona. It probably l more attention than any wer in the Show. Another emarkable for its depth of as Copper Bowl (Beacon e), so admirably shown by Wilson, of Broughshane, rim, who won the Engle- Challenge Cup for 12 raised by the exhibitor. ies to receive the Award r were :

Solleret, a large Jonquil hybrid, raised by Mr. Engleheart and shown by Mr. W. B. Cranfield.

Adventure, a bold, upstanding variety, with all the appearance of a Trumpet Daffodil, but shown as an Incomp. It has broad, rich yellow perianth, and was the subject of great admiration (see illustration, page 281). Shown by Mr. F. Herbert Chapman.

May Malony—as a Show flower—a well-formed Leedsii, raised and shown by Guy Wilson.

Beersheba, the grand white Trumpet that has gained many honours, is now granted the Award of Merit for cutting.

Carminowe, the Barrii here illustrated, was awarded the premier honour, and scored full points for condition, form, texture, colour, and pose. Shown by Mr. Richardson.

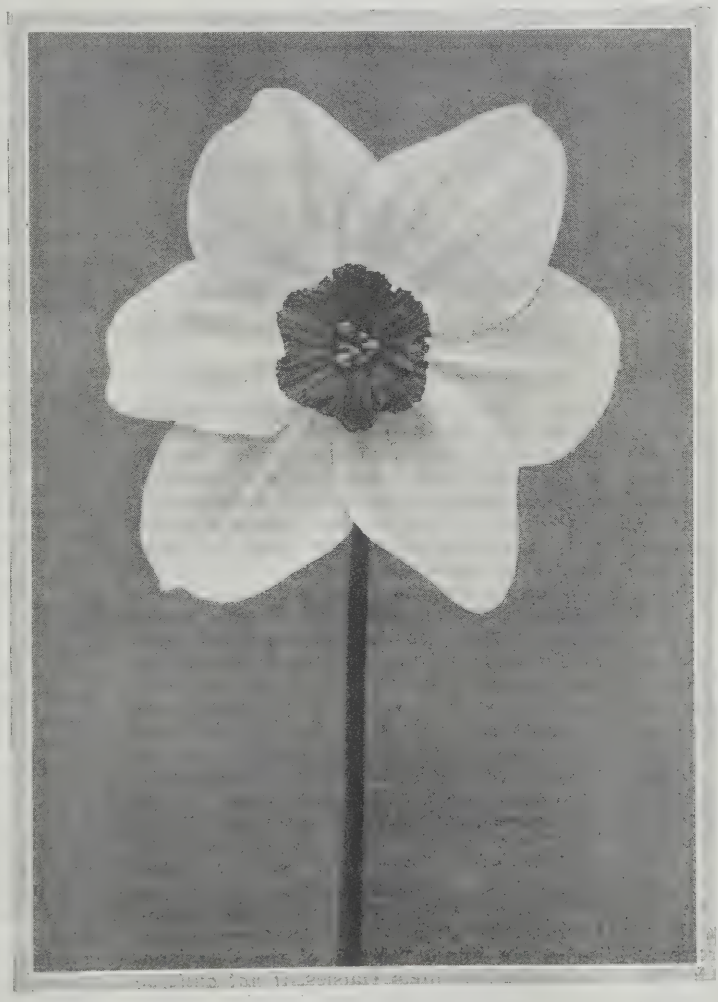
The Gold Medal was awarded to the Donard Nursery Company, Newcastle, Co. Down, for a superb exhibit, in which white Trumpets, Beersheba, Eskimo, Kantara, and Everest were much in evidence.

Outstanding exhibits included Mr. Secrett's wonderful and bold display of Poets; a beautifully arranged group by Sutton and Sons; Advance Guard and Fortune, so well shown by R. H. Bath, Ltd.; a comprehensive group by Barr and Sons, in which Cædmon, Sunrise, and Fortune's Queen were remarkably good.

Daffodils that caught the eye on various stands included :

Fairy Cycle, Mystic, Suda, Glorious, Medusa, Royalist, Mitylene, and Firetail.

The claims for new varieties embrace the most interesting features of this Show, and Mr. Guy L. Wilson was first with 12 varieties raised by himself. This is a great honour, of which any raiser is justly proud. His variety New Moon was especially fine. Mr. Guy Wilson is this year going to New Zealand to see the Daffodils there. The announcement that the Peter Barr Memorial Cup (presented annually to someone who has done good work on behalf of the Daffodil) was awarded to Mr. G. W. Leak, of R. H. Bath, Ltd., for his work as a hybridiser, was greeted with applause. H. C.



Carminowe, awarded the Banksian Medal for the best bloom in the competitive classes

Campanula Hallii

We are fortunate in possessing a goodly number of hybrid Campanulas for the rock garden, and the charming little Campanula Hallii ranks among the most precious. It well deserved the Award of Merit bestowed by the Royal Horticultural Society on August 8th, 1923, and its progress into favour has been remarkably rapid and consistent. It is of the type of Campanula Bellardii, and yields its exquisite pure white bells in profusion for months in summer. It is an excellent plant for the rock garden, either on the level or in crevices of the rocks, while it is a delightful subject for the wall garden. It is a good grower with the ordinary treatment of other rock plants.

S. Arnott.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

The great frost

THE effect of the great frost, so far as can be ascertained at present, was most capricious. Fremontia californica and Faluja paradoxa never turned a hair, whilst Carpenteria was severely burnt. Hoheria populnea merely lost its leaves, yet many Hymenantheras were killed. Lagerstrœmia indica on a wall was untouched; hard by, Buddleia auriculata is severely crippled. Young plants of hybrid Helianthemums escaped undamaged, and old plants were killed. Roses like R. macrantha, R. levigata, R. sinica-anemone are breaking into growth right down the branches. Chrysanthemum Mawii from the Atlas, and Putoria calabrica from Spain, were killed; Triptillions from the Argentine Andes survived. Celmisias have come through well, but Diplarrhena Moræa and Milligana Johnsonii are dead. The dry weather has suited the Pæonies admirably; of less common varieties P. Cambessedesii is showing four flowers, P. Smoutii five or six, and P. Brownii two. The Moutans, notably "Elizabeth" and "The Tycoon," are in splendid fettle. Irises promise very well; certain garden Irises which were very sick last year and were transplanted are making wonderful recoveries, and the Oncocyclus Iris and wild species are first class. Tender things like I. Wattii, I. Japwat, and I. japonica pl. var. suffered a little, but are all right. It is clear that the enemy of the Riccardi Hybrids is wet, not cold, and I am planting out all Prof. Mitchell's hybrids in my sand garden. Tulips are quite free from fire, and I have never seen T. Kaufmanniana better. Lilies, Lycoris, and other Amaryllidæ are very strong. Four established plants of Daphne Genkwa are in full bud and Mimulus glutinosus breaking from the base.

Tender shrubs in the gardens near Minehead suffered cruelly. The two very old Acacia dealbata at Dunster Castle are dead, and the Benthamia in the churchyard severely damaged. At West Porlock, in Mr. and Mrs. Blathwayt's garden, the Leptospermum hedges are destroyed, and only one tree of the many varieties of Acacia has survived. The Cordylines were badly hit; the crown of a great tree was lying across Mr. Hadden's doorstep. Telopeas have furnished the surprise; Telopea truncata has proved hardy in the most exposed positions, and Mr. Loder tells me Telopea speciosa is unharmed with him.

WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

Celmisias from New Zealand have stood the winter well

Blue flowers

With reference to a recent article on blue flowers by W. Auton, would your correspondent verify the colours of Anemone hepatica and A. apennina and let us know the result? I do not mean in a general sort of way, but a strict colour description. It may interest him to know the spectrum shows them between purple and violet.

And I would like the name of the true blue Aubrietia, as I wish to use it to replace a bank of Forget-me-nots, which are sometimes shy in seeding.

But surely Mr. Auton is forgetting the title of his article when he mentions "primroses from pale blue to deep violet." Incidentally, I have yet to find the blue primrose which fades a real blue or does not reveal any other hue in the spectrum

When reading your Jubilee number I was impressed by the wonderful advance generally made in horticulture, and especially with the accurate information given to one in horticultural journals, but it did strike me very forcibly that colour description stands to-day exactly where it did fifty or more years ago. Cultural treatment is always given simply but accurately in your columns, botanical descriptions are exact, plant descriptions leave little or nothing to be desired, yet colour description is often incorrect and misleading through the use of extremely loose terms, and the surprising thing is that such inaccuracies are seldom questioned. In the article under review are the words (the italics are mine) "Many of the Campanulas and Michaelmas Daisies, *if not quite so blue* as the Delphiniums," which means nothing. Blue is blue; it may be light or
dark, strong or weak, but if it is not s
as something else then it cannot be
Other looseness of descriptions are "
shades of blue of the Iris." These are
purple. "Lupins in various shades of
and purples." They are practical
purple and purple is inadmissible in
plant article. Native Geraniums are in
as being blue; they are not blue.

Is it not time some definite effort was
to ensure even a little accuracy in
description? Is the colour of a flower
little importance that any old thing
to describe it? The importance of
description has already been realis
France, Germany, and America,
colour charts are in the hands of
gardeners, and colour chart definitio
generally used. Perhaps in time w
follow the lead given us by foreigner
adopt a standard colour chart, but unt
I appeal to correspondents to refrair
looseness of description and use a m
of accuracy which will not disgrace th
standards reached by other branches o
culture.

PERCY E. CHAPPELL (MA

Daphne Mezereum as a native

In a recent issue you published
article on Daphnes, and specially me
D. Mezereum being possibly found
certain parts of England.

As a boy, living near Reading, I k
a certain coppice where the Daphne
be found growing wild, and personally
several plants of it. In 1926 when h
leave I made a search for it in th
coppice, but without result.

H. EM

Poloi Division,
P.O. Paloi, Cachar.

Plants running to seed

Certain members of the plant world
to have a strong passion for perpe
their line. They seem to have a "r
conviction that they must not depa
life, without providing an heir, and if
demise threatens, they hasten headl
reproduce themselves.

The common Dandelion, growing
hedge, spreads itself, runs into leav
foot in length, and is in no special h
flower. But in a lawn it is a stunted
little more than a flower spike—and
less.

On walls and other places where
are necessarily short-lived they seem
to seed quickly—and to very little else
strength is in them, what nourishme
can derive from bricks and mortar,
solely for purposes of reproduction.

When bamboos flower it is generall
as a sign that they are going to die.
last despairing effort is towards p
tion of the species.

The peculiarity has been noted and
to use. The Aloe, which shares w
Tulip tree and a few other members
plant world the distinction of flower
rarely, is sometimes artificially stimu
blossom. Gardeners cut off its roots,
plant, fearing that it will die, has
flower and bear seed.

C. PEN

Taplow.

Taking them round the gar

"Nil admirari's" article is very
life. What a waste of time having
such people round one's garden!

My experience may amuse your co
dent.

A friend of mine came to see me,
me a plant I much wanted. She is
lover of all and everything belongi
garden, and though not blessed wit

TWO NEW DAFFODILS TO GAIN THE R.H.S. AWARD OF MERIT

leret, a "strong minded" flower of remarkable deep yellow , well proportioned, on a strong stem. Jonquilla hybrid raised by . H. Engleheart. Shown by W. B. Cranfield

Adventure, a bold show flower, rich deep yellow, with expanding upturned trumpet, reflexed at the mouth. Shown by Mr. F. Herbert Chapman.

world's goods, is the soul of generos- was able to give her a few things to me, including a really nice lot of n blooms, which, as she was paying n her way home, were seen by an ance who is *not* a gardener. ly scenting something for nothing, greeted a few days later: "Oh, I s. —— the other day. She told me t your garden. I *would* so like to d see it—may I?" What could I "Yes." Well, she came, and as we tour there appeared another, such who began the same tale of having s. —— and "I simply *had* to come the garden." Off we started again, ing duly paid polite attention to a od colony of Erythronium revolu- nsoni, they began to gossip about eighbours; they discussed the tea- that they had been to recently, the each person had worn; everything ll thrashed out while they marched e garden, with myself walking be- hey were still thrashing it out when ack to the house again, never having to look at a single plant; and they d good-bye and how much they had the garden, and "would *simply love* again." (Not if I can prevent it!) id not send them off with any gifts,

Mr. Bowles have done so? I think all his kindness and generosity, ave been tempted to push them into River.

"NIL ADMIRARI" SECUNDUS.

Apple Ashmead's Kernel

Mr. Baynham's remarks in your paper for April 13th *re* this old Apple are very interesting, and speak well for its behaviour with him at Chambers Court, Tewkesbury; where it is far from having a shy-bearing reputation. I had no idea it is looked upon as a poor cropper. It is, I know, considered by many to be of excellent quality, and I think worthy of note for extended cultivation, for good Apples of this type from April onwards are worthy of appreciation. Last year I was asked by a keen pomologist if I could obtain for him a few grafts from Gloucestershire of the true old Ashmead's Kernel Apple as he had a very high opinion of it. I was successful in obtaining these through the kindness of a friend who is well acquainted with the orchards in that county; also working upon the Paradise stock a few trees for myself, which are coming on well.

Some years ago I knew an old tree of this variety, but it was in a declining state and made no wood suitable for grafting, but even from this old relic the fruit was of good flavour. This was but a few miles from Chambers Court, and it was a surprise to me on reading Mr. Baynham's remarks that so many trees existed in his locality, as I was under the impression it was getting extinct. Many of the old orchards of Gloucestershire contain good Apples of unknown parentage, these originating as seedlings from the cider mills and known only under local names, but some of really good quality. Soil and locality have a marked effect upon the flavour and appearance of many Apples, some of which I would scarcely distinguish on the soil I am now interested in, it being less favourable than the fertile marl of the Severn Valley.

"NORTHANTS."

Queen wasps

Although the winter has been a severe one it has not appreciably diminished the numbers of queen wasps. Doubtless, after the abnormal quantities of these pests in the course of last year, we need not be surprised that many queens have survived, and it behoves us, at this time, to destroy as many as possible, remembering that each one killed at the moment means a nest less with which to contend when the fruit ripens. The potential mothers are sluggish on the wing just now and are comparatively easily caught. Up till now (April 22nd) I have accounted for 17, these being killed, chiefly, in the vineries and in the fernery, in both of which structures the warm, moist heat appears to possess an attraction for the wasps. Later on, when the bedding plants are put out to harden, it has been my experience that considerable numbers can be killed frequenting the boxes and frames. It is, surely, worth while to do what one can to lessen the plague of wasps. A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Narcissus Pepys

I noticed the illustration in your last week's issue (page 272) of the Cyclamineus hybrid I exhibited at the Daffodil Show last week. This was raised by Mr. P. D. Williams, and he informs me that he has named it "Pepys." F. A. SECRETT.

Marsh Farm, Twickenham, Middx.

THE DAFFODIL SHOW

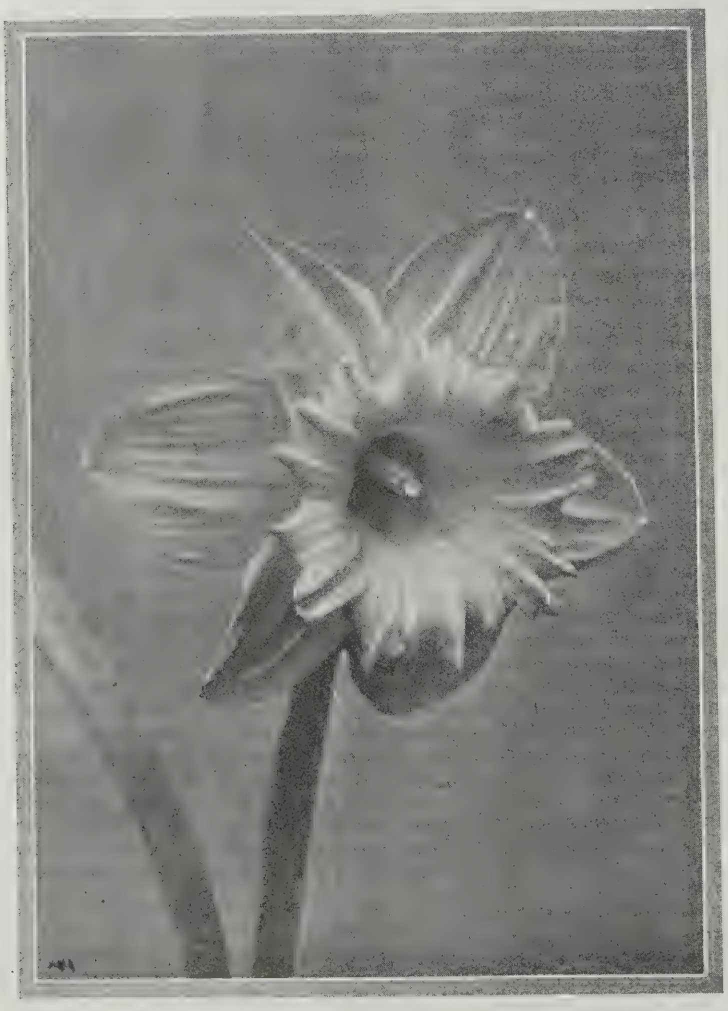
By Guy L. Wilson

A time of pleasant incidents and reunions

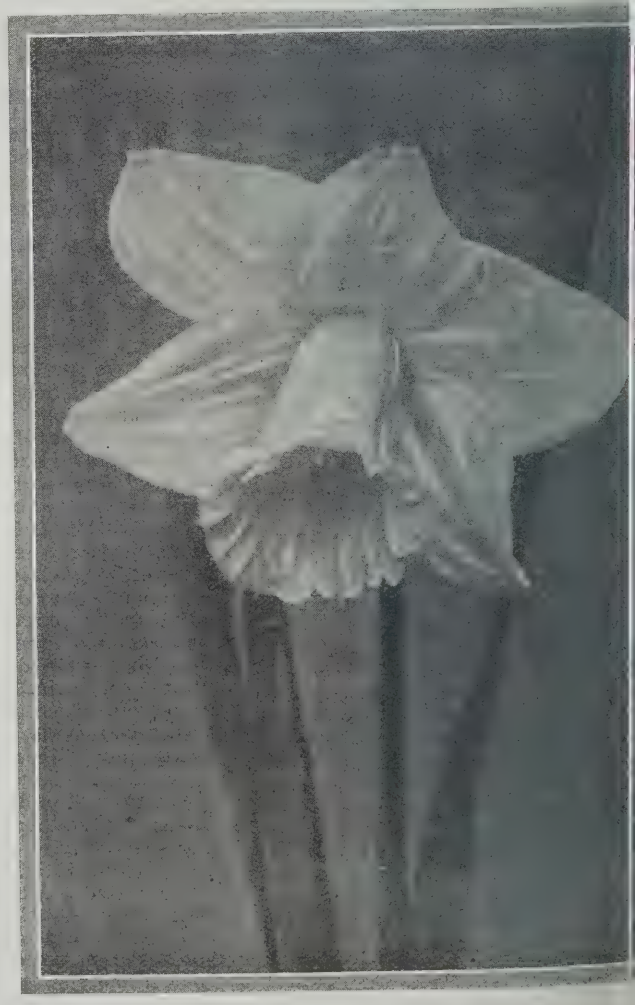
THIS gathering of most of the world's greatest Daffodil breeders and growers, and such of their flowers as they could bring, was, as usual, for them and for keen lovers of the Daffodil the most interesting event of the season. The quantity of flowers shown, and the quality of some, was rather below average. That they were not a very great deal worse was surprising, as, during the first three months of the year, England passed through a spell of frost of almost unprecedented severity and duration, since which there has been practically no rain. The effect of this weather was apparent in some of the flowers, while in many districts they were so retarded that growers were unable to exhibit. In consequence there were not so many entries as usual in competitive classes.

Owing to the lateness of the season the show had been postponed for a week, but had it been postponed even longer we should in all probability have seen a fuller and better balanced display. As it was the Irish and Cornish growers had an unfair advantage; their districts lay outside the area of the most severe weather and their flowers were in beautiful condition. We always expect something of superfine and super-refined quality from Mr. P. D. Williams, of St. Keverne, Cornwall, and we were not disappointed. His groups in one corner of the hall were the last word in quality and perfect condition, beautifully staged without overcrowding. Two of his flowers were quite outstanding. One was called Crocus, a big, tall Trumpet with just a touch of Incomparabilis in its composition; its spherical perianth of immense growth, circular and flat, stood at right angles to the beautifully proportioned flanged trumpet. The flower was of great substance and of solid, uniform, darkest brilliant golden colour throughout, a unique flower. The other, Porthilly, was a tall Incomparabilis of perfect balance and lovely form, with smooth, broad, clear yellow petals and solid, blazing-hot, orange-scarlet crowns, wonderful brilliant, almost scarlet and gold flowers. There was also a big Leedsii of wonderful quality with somewhat star-shaped, slightly reflexing, clear white perianth of smooth, solid texture, and goblet-shaped, clear primrose crown, and a beautiful Barrii of great size and smooth, clean, refined texture that had immense rounded perianth of clearest white and a beautiful saucer crown, clear citron-primrose with a ribbon of clear orange-red.

Mr. J. L. Richardson, of Waterford, Ireland, had a 44 feet exhibit of truly magnificent Daffodils, the centre-piece of which was a bunch of half-a-dozen flowers of Hades, which he has shown befo never quite so fine. I always thou wide cup was the darkest bit of colour seen, but this time it showed a g brilliance and fire of scarlet that w astonishing. Around it were grouped vases of the most glorious blooms peerless white Trumpet, Beersheba, have seen, of immense size, perfectly ful form, pure white with cool green their trumpets, tall, stately, serenely ful; unquestionably the queen of D The Donard Nursery Company, al Ireland, had a splendid group for wh Mr. Richardson, they were awarded Medal. On their stand were two ex ally good seedling yellow Trumpets, t Trumpet, Eskimo, in fine condition noticed a good bunch of what is prob rarest of Daffodils nowadays, cernuus plenus. Mr. R. F. Ca Coverack, Cornwall, also had an group of very fine flowers, amongst new giant Barrii named Coverack outstanding. It had very huge, ivory perianth and very wide sauce full of glowing colour. Bokhara w Incomparabilis of good quality and s with a fine orange-copper cro Penzance, a large Leedsii of beauti and quality. Messrs. Barr's group



Grand Master, rich golden yellow, a market flower for forcing, resembling King Alfred and claimed to be a fortnight earlier. Note the wide and deeply frilled trumpet. Shown by Tyler Bros., Southrepps, near Cromer



Gregalach, one of Richardson's best, with long lemon trumpet and ivory-white perianth—a flower of smooth, clean, and texture, perfect in form and pose.

le range of varieties, amongst which
Diamond stood out. This is a huge
with solid ivory perianth and deep,
red eye. They also had the Poet
non in beautiful condition. I was
d to see in Messrs. Sutton and
very effectively arranged exhibit
l fine new varieties, notably, Tunis, a
ificent Leedsi of grand, upstanding
It is a glorious big Lily-like flower
substantial, gracefully waved, wide
ath and expanding, flanged, generously
crown which is edged with pale
y-gold. The rest of the flower is solid
y-white. It would be difficult to over-
nte the decorative effect of this noble
in the garden. They also showed
, a substantial and symmetrical clear
and yellow bicolor Incomparabilis that
l be of value for market. The Welsh
Fields had a telling group, conspicuous
hich was a striking display of the rich
e-red crowned Incomparabilis Bright-
They also had several fine large
pets, notably Bimbo.

centre-piece of Messrs. R. H. Bath's
was Advance Guard, a grand first
Ajax of very bold and graceful decora-
orm and a plant of immense vigour.

ny fine flowers were to be seen in the
etitive classes. Copper Bowl, Killi-
and Damson were all red-cupped In-
urabilis varieties of superb colour and
y. Carminowe, a magnificent Barrii
g snow-white perianth and almost
on eye, was selected by the judges as
est flower in the competitive classes.
upremacy of Beersheba amongst white
dils was more firmly established than
as in the single bloom class it won the
second, and third prizes, the first prize
grown by Mr. J. L. Richardson being
rvel of size and beauty. In the seed-
lasses some beautiful new flowers were
n. Mr. Richardson had a series of
bicolor Trumpets bred from Cleopatra
hite Knight that were wonderfully
ful, huge, of superb waxy texture,
clear colouring and grand form, with
breadth of petal and beautiful round,
hly rolled-back trumpets.

J. S. Arkwright showed a most inter-
flower named Corgi, an Incompara-
of a most distinct biscuity-buffy-
tty colour. In the classes for Leedsii
ies some flowers of great merit and
were shown. Several raised by The
of Brodie were outstanding, namely,
ora, very tall, very large, smooth, and
lid, waxy texture, lovely form with
, flat, very wide perianth, and not too
crown, nearly white throughout.
thes, of most charming form, milk-
, with a gracefully flanged and frilled
bordered with clear lemon, and Riva,
le flower of great stature, broad white
th, and big, frilled, cream crown
id with warm apricot-pink, a great
y. There were very many other flowers
perlative merit, but time and space pre-
l further detail.

show time is always full of pleasant
nts and re-unions with our Daffodil
s. As I sat at an improvised table by
and arranging flowers the evening be-
the Show I felt a light touch on my
lder, and, looking round, found myself
to face with the high priest of the
dil, Mr. Engleheart himself, who, since
saw him some years ago, had passed
gh a severe illness. I was delighted to
him looking in the best of health. He
bviously pleased to meet again many of
lowers he had raised, especially Beer-
l, which, I think, he considers the most
iful of his children. He tells me that
ll has some fine whites coming on, and that he is now at work on a wonderful strain of pink-crowned flowers.

Helen O'Hara, a beautiful long trumpet. The whole flower is pale primrose, passing to ivory-white. Admirable for cutting

On the second day of the show Mr. A. F. Calvert made me the most acceptable gift I have had for a long time, namely, a copy of his book, "Daffodil-growing for Pleasure and Profit." Mr. Calvert, who is a comparatively recent recruit in the ranks of Daffodil lovers, has used his remarkable gifts of energy and organisation in the interest of the flower in securing chapters on every aspect of breeding, cultivation, and marketing from all the greatest and most experienced authorities on these subjects. The volume is a bulky one of some 380 pages, in addition to which, at the end, are upwards of 200 photographs of Daffodils, many of which are good, and some not so good. I read as much as I could of the book on my way home in the train. The more I read, the more did I realise that Mr. Calvert has rendered the flower and all who grow it and love it a service of infinite value in getting together and publishing what really seems to be most of the knowledge and experience of the outstanding growers, past and present. Such a work was long overdue and ardently wished for, and in producing it Mr. Calvert has accomplished something that seemed beyond the rest of us, and has made us all his debtors. When it is realised that the book contains contributions from such authorities as Mr. Engleheart, Mr. P. D. Williams, The Brodie of Brodie, and Mr. A. M. Wilson, no Daffodil lover will rest content till he has obtained it. I have not yet had time to explore the wealth of information on pests and diseases, and other important matters contributed by competent authorities, but I am simply astonished at the amount of invaluable information that has been got together in the book, and feel quite sure that it will prove a very considerable help forward to the important and growing industry of bulb and flower production in Great Britain, and at the same time it will be of the greatest assistance and encouragement to amateur growers.

Tulipa præcox

This beautiful species, introduced in 1825, is, according to Baker, only a geographical form of T. Oculis-solis, and not a distant one either, as the latter was obtained from the South of France in 1816. For gardening purposes T. præcox is much the finer; it has a strong, upstanding habit, the stem often reaching 18 inches in height. The bud, 3 inches or more in length, is soft red on the outside, with a large blotch of yellow at the base, the whole shining like satin in the sun. As it ages the flower opens and flaunts its uneven petals widely, displaying a black eye, two inches across, margined with golden yellow, the inside of the petals being brilliant scarlet.

When I first grew Tulip species, I was told that it was necessary to take them up each summer, ripen them, and replant the following November. This may be imperative in some soils and with certain species, but it certainly does not apply to all. Many will grow on without lifting, improving each season, but, of course, they must be taken up and divided when they become crowded, generally in the third or fourth year.

J. Comber.

May Malony, the lovely and delicate Leedsii for which Mr. Guy Wilson gained an Award of Merit. There is delicacy and charm about this tall-growing, refined flower, with its rich primrose-yellow corona, and cream-white perianth

St. Egwin, a well-made Giant Barrii show flower of perfect form, co
uniform clear soft yellow. Note the broad, overlapping segments of
perianth, rounded and of good poise, standing over 2 feet high. Sh
by Mr. J. L. Richardson

A Rock Garden in April

Choice Alpines and early-flowering shrubs in a small garden

THOUGH biting frosts and a long-delayed spring prophesied widespread destruction, Alpine plants, on the whole, though unprotected by the winter blanket of snow which keeps them warm and snug on their native mountains, have come through a severe ordeal with flying colours. Lithospermums have perished—I hear sad stories to this end from many districts—Helianthemums have been badly cut, often killed, and, of course, that vivid South American, Verbena chamædrifolia, has utterly vanished. Though it can never be reckoned a hardy plant, this is well worth replanting every year for the extraordinary brilliance of its dazzling scarlet flowers. Yet we have lost relatively few Alpines, and my rock garden is already splashed with patches of colour, while vigorous growth has been evident in rapidly increasing degree during the past fortnight, and promises much for May and June. A plant which, however, has broken its promise for three consecutive years is Omphalogramma vinciflorum, the best of a whimsical race. Though it has the half-shade and moist soil, which all the Omphalogrammas prefer, true to its family characteristic, it has, so far, been too lazy to produce its lovely Periwinkle blue flower.

The first to bloom this year was the dwarf Rhododendron moupinense. I have a pretty form with flowers pink-and-white like Apple-blossom. In early March its fat buds split to produce flowers which withstood frost and wind with amazing hardiness; a valuable garden shrub, this, flowering freely the third year after sowing seed. All Fools' Day was greeted by the first bloom of Narcissus minimus, a month later than usual; this is the smallest and dwarfest of all Daffodils, with dainty little trumpet-flowers of rich golden-yellow on 3 inch stems. It likes a peaty soil, and has become well established with me, piercing up every year through a carpet of Campanula tyrolensis. This Campanula, by the way, is not often seen; it resembles a dwarf C. pusilla, of which it is probably a form, scarcely 2 inches high, with the daintiest of pale lavender-blue bells. Other Narcissus species at present in flower are N. cyclamineus, also very late, N. Triandrus albus, and the much larger form N. Triandrus calathinus.

I am glad that I did not trim away the withered, dead foliage of a large patch of Hypericum reptans, for it now makes a very effective russet-brown carpet, in beautiful contrast to the spikes of Muscari conicum Heavenly Blue which grow through it. Of other bulbous plants a few blooms of Iris reticulata still linger, and I have found some healthy growths of the little yellow Fritillaria armena from Asia Minor, planted 18 months ago. At the foot of the rock-garden, a group of Tulipa Eichleri is just showing its flower buds and will soon be the brightest spot in the garden. This is a truly magn
species from Turkestan, with broad, n
flowers, often 9 inches across, of
scarlet, with a glowing black-and-gol
T. Clusiana, the Lady Tulip, is happ
warm, stony slope, while higher up T.
and T. linifolia are thriving. The latt
particular favourite; its olive-green lea
daintily undulated, and margined with
line of crimson, and spread almost h
tally over the ground; in three weeks'
will bear its neat little flowers with the
colours of the field-poppy, brilliant
with a black base. I fear that T. mo
which is rarely happy in cultivation, h
out this year.

Primula viscosa and P. margina
lighting up two rocky ledges. Of th
I collected in the Miniera Valley of th
time Alps a very fine form with bea
silvered, deeply-toothed leaves. It is
easy plant to grow, and very lovely. P
frondosa and P. scotica are thoroug
home on my Alpine lawn. This spot i
to behold in May and June. Here hav
mingled their roots and stems such g
Dianthus neglectus and D. alpinus, A
purpurascens, Gentianella, Campanu
bata, and C. Billardi Miranda, Er
Massoni, Androsace carnea, Douglasia
ana, Gentiana verna, Potentilla an
Ranunculus anemonoides, and many
all jostling each other in the friendlie
I tuck chips of limestone under the t
Dianthus every spring, and can thor
recommend this practice. Here als
pretty little biennial species of Helianth

I have under the name, probably in-
of H. Breweri. It forms a low bush,
s high, covered with small lemon-
flowers, with chocolate eye spots, and
bout very freely. Viola biflora does
ll in a cool, damp spot at the foot of a
k; its tiny golden-yellow flowers are
arming. Some years ago I collected
Aquilegia Reuteri and have now a
olony of this lovely mountain Colum-
hich makes a glorious show in June,
ery large flowers, varying from rich
e to lavender-blue. Large plants do
ansplant very successfully, year-old
being the most satisfactory to move.
other plant is worthy of mention,
nbergia serpyllifolia major, which
low, evergreen cushions, studded with
yrian purple bells. This, too, I treat
same way as Dianthus neglectus, sur-
ng the stem with stones, but using
knobs of sandstone instead of lime-

beautiful Blue Poppy, Meconopsis
, has pushed up fine crowns this
and seems to have increased its store
our during its winter sleep under-
l. There can be no question now as to
nplete hardiness or duration of life. It
rue perennial, thriving amazingly in
hade and a good, deep soil. I have it
d around a slim-stemmed Silver Birch,
e contrast of the shimmering sky-blue
s and the silvery-white bark is ex-

appy association of early-flowering
is Rhododendron præcox and Erica
. These are very close in colour and
nise delightfully. Plant some Daphne
eum album alongside, and you have a
at is hard to excel in the early days of
. Behind these I have also growing
lia stellata, whose rosy-tinted buds have just expanded their snow-white strap-petalled flowers. Mention of Erica carnea reminds me that there is a very fine form of this useful heath called E. Vivelli. It flowers a few days later than the type, and is a beautiful deep rosy-carmine in colour. Other combinations of flowering shrubs that are effective later on are the double pink Cherry, Cerasus Hizakura, with creamy cytisus præcox; the pale blue powder-puffs of Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles with Perowskia atriplicifolia, a beautiful Himalayan sage-like shrub, with long, spiky heads of violet-blue flowers over greyish foliage; these are two valuable shrubs for autumn effect. I also look forward to seeing in September and October the large scarlet hips that Rosa Moyesii bears so freely, beneath which I have planted Berberis Thunbergi, whose graceful arching sprays of brilliantly-tinted autumn foliage blend perfectly with the fruits of this fine Chinese Briar.

Many other suggestions run through my mind, and I might proceed indefinitely, both in practice and on paper, were it not that my garden is small and space in these pages limited. R. G. W.

Alpine lawn and rock garden

The nursery

Most gardens possess a small nursery, or reserve, where choice subjects are planted from small pots and boxes until more is known of them, or until they have grown large enough to take a place among established specimens, and it is usual to transfer a number of these to the shrub and flower borders each year. Thus space becomes available for the planting out of more recently propagated material from small pots, etc., which have been wintered in cold frames.

A trio that is hard to excel in the early days of spring

A happy association of early flowering shrubs

Rhododendron præcox, Erica carnea, Daphne Mezereum album, with rosy-tinted buds of Magnolia stellata in the background

The Spring Show of the National Rose Society

OWING undoubtedly to the extraordinary vagaries of the weather during the past winter, the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall in Vincent Square was not quite so well filled with exhibits as is usual at the Spring Show, held on Friday, April 19th.

However, the quality of the blooms was, in many cases, very superior, and the Polyanthas, which were very much in evidence, and which are rapidly coming to the front as decorative plants, were very generally and very well shown.

One noticed particularly the colouring of Locarno, Superba, L'Ideal, La Reine Elisabeth, and Golden Salmon, the brilliancy of which seemed to be intensified by the intermingling of the variety White Echo. The Polyanthas are easily grown, have a prolonged flowering period, and appear to have a great future before them for decorative purposes. Messrs. Cutbush showed in pots a particularly attractive rectangular group of these, which included a new brick-red Continental variety named Mrs. A. Hudig.

The winning box of that glorious old yellow Rose Maréchal Niel at the N.R.S. Spring Show exhibited by Mr. A. T. Goodwin

Blooms of this Rose were presented to Princess Mary on this occasion

In the class for staged groups of cut blooms, Messrs. Elisha Hicks were awarded first prize for a very fine exhibit, which contained particularly good specimens of Climbing Lady Hillingdon, Climbing Mrs. Herbert Stevens, Souvenir de Claudius Pernet, Charles Shea, and Angele Pernet.

Messrs. Ben. Cant obtained second prize for an artistically arranged group, in which were especially noticeable Mrs. Beatty, Phœbe, and Padre. Messrs. George Prince were awarded third prize. Prominently in their group was displayed Elizabeth Arden, a creamy-white, scented, and full rose.

In the Nurserymen's class for exhibition blooms in boxes, Messrs. Frank Cant were awarded first prize, and their perfect bloom of Dorina Neave (see illustration) received a silver-gilt medal as the best bloom in the Nurserymen's section.

The new Roses exhibited were few in number, and hardly up to the average of excellence. Julien Potin, a full, bright yellow, scented, French Rose, with glossy foliage, was given an Award of Merit. It attracted a good deal of attention, and created a very favourable impression. Messrs. Beckwith showed Polly—rather like Ophelia—and Florex, a fairly full, scented, deep pink Rose. Messrs. Ben. Cant showed Joan Cant, which might be described as a mixture of Gladys Holland and Madame Abel Chatenay. They also showed Mrs. Walter Jones and Daily Sketch. The former of deep orange colour, which appeared to fade easily, and the latter a brilliant piece of red and yellow colouring.

In the Amateur section, Mr. G. A. Hammond was awarded first prize for a staged group of cut bloom. These were of very fine quality, particularly Mabel Morse, Mrs. Foley Hobbs, and Mr. G. A. Hammond. Mr. Hammond also obtained first prize for a box of 12 exhibition blooms (see illustration), one of which—Mrs. Campbell Hall—was awarded a silver-gilt medal for the best bloom in the Amateurs' section.

Mr. J. N. Hart obtained first prize for six good blooms of Mrs. Foley Hobbs, and Mr. H. Oppenheimer first prize for a basket of very fine blooms, artistically arranged, also illustrated.

Mr. T. A. Goodwin again obtained first prize for excellent blooms of Marechal Niel, for which he has become famous.

In the Ladies' classes for Amateurs, Mrs. Courtney Page was awarded first prize, both for dinner table and bowl, and in the open class, Mrs. C. R. May was also awarded first prize for both dinner table and bowl. For the dinner table and bowl the favourite Rose seems to be of the Ophelia type, the long, stiff stems of these being particularly suitable for the purpose. Beautiful specimens of Lady Sylvia being shown. During the morning, Princess Mary thoroughly inspected the various exhibits, and on leaving the Hall, graciously accepted a basket of fine blooms of Marechal Niel, grown by Mr. T. A. Goodwin.

Precautions against insect

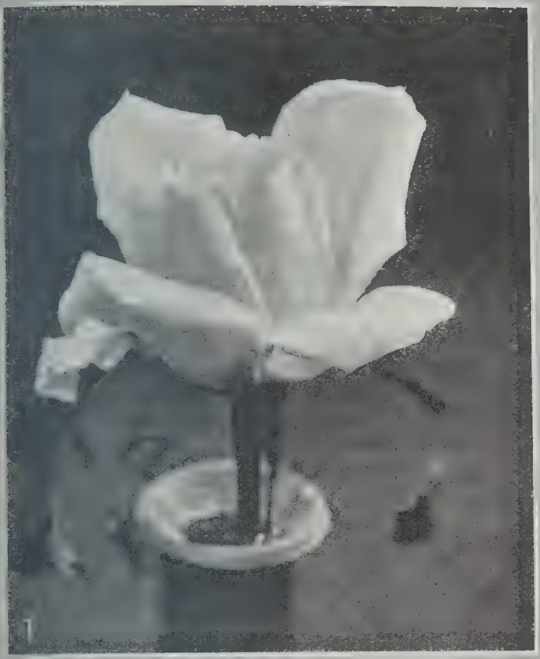
It is commonly supposed that a har
ter like the last is of great value in
ing many kinds of injurious pest
growers sometimes look forward
following summer as likely to be
which the work of pest control will
duced to a minimum. That belief
borne out by the facts, and, as an in
we may recall the events of 1917
weather in the early months of that y
very severe, frosts as bad as those of
and February last being experienced.
following summer the position in re
insect pests of farm crops seemed
than usual. South Lancashire and C
suffered from an epidemic of the Whe
Fly, and there was much damage by
throughout the country. Pea and
crops were almost ruined in many c
and there was a definite increase in M
Fly, which in the preceding period o
had been inconspicuous. Roots
much from Cutworms, and White B
caterpillars were unusually abundant
Cabbages. As regards fruit, the
Moth caterpillar was common and
throughout the country, and there wa
complaint of the damage it caused
haps, however, the most outstandin
was an epidemic of Antler Moth cate
in the Peak district—the pests o
literally in armies, which devastat
moorland pastures. On the opposite
the account there is a note in the reco
aphides of all kinds were scarcer tha
and did not do much damage. It is
however, that, on balance, 1917 was
year for insect pests, and while this w
no justification for prophesying that t
will be equally bad, the facts do sugg
strongly that a severe winter should
to any relaxation in the routine m
for dealing with our insect enemies.

Cornus canadensis (The B berry)

The erect stems of this valuable litt
grow no higher than 6 inches, on th
which are circles of oval-pointed lea
the middle of these the flowers grow,
not unlike a small white Anemone,
closer examination one finds what
appearances were white petals are b
white bracts enclosing very small
flowers; these are followed by clus
vivid scarlet berries. It is attractiv
times, best I think in the autumn, w
foliage turns nearly the colour of it
Cornus canadensis seems to thrive an
but is most at home in semi-shad
plenty of sand in the soil. It can be in
by root division in late spring, or
from seed. R. M

New Apple King George

As a dessert Apple in April there i
to be said in favour of this new s
raised by Lady Thornycroft from
Orange Pippin. The flavour is as goo
parent, but keeping much later, com
use in February, March, and April.
most valuable addition to our desse
at a time when there are not many fi
Apples in use. The Fruit Committe
R.H.S., on trying the fruit in the s
1928, recommended an Award of Mer
ject to the trees being inspected by
The Sub-Committee saw the trees
in the nurseries of Cheal and Sons at
ley, and were so satisfied with the
and cropping capacity of them that th
firmed the Award of Merit. This ne
was well shown at the R.H.S. S
April 23rd.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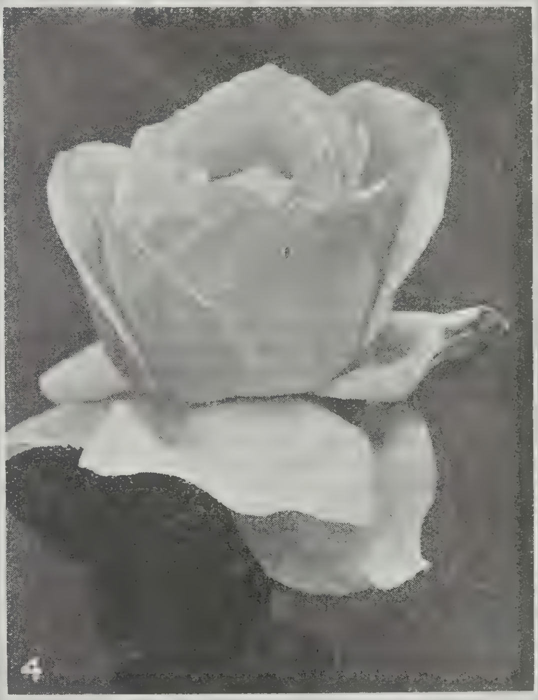
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1. A fine bloom of Rose Mdlle. Stella Mallerin (like a white Mamam Cochet). Shown by Mr. G. E. Deacon, Norwich.

2. The array of bowls of Ophelia and her sports Mme. Butterfly, Lady Sylvia, and J. C. Mensing. The First Prize bowl by Mrs. Courtney Page is in the foreground.

3. The winning basket by Mr. Oppenheimer, containing fine blooms of Nellie Parker, Dean Hole, Edel, Souv. de Claudius Pernet, and Earl Haig.

4. Rose Dorina Neave, lovely pink. Awarded Silver Gilt Medal as best bloom (Nurserymen's Section). Shown by Frank Cant and Co.

5. The winning box shown by Mr. G. A. Hammond. The blooms shown include: Mrs. Foley Hobbs, Mrs. E. Mawley, Edel Capt. Kilbee Stuart, Mrs. C. Lamplough, and the Silver Gilt Medal bloom of Mrs. Campbell Hall raised in the back row.

5

THE SPRING SHOW OF THE NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

The Christmas Rose (Helleborus niger) and its varieties

The time has arrived when these fine plants may now be safely lifted, divided, and used to form new plantations. Position and soil are important, and this must be carefully considered before preparation begins. On sandy, light soils the back of a south wall or hedge should be chosen, but on cold, heavy soils a greater exposure to sunshine will do no harm. The beds should be deeply trenched and enriched, and must certainly be well drained. As old lime rubble possesses a great attraction for them a generous use of it should be made in heavy soils, or if this is not obtainable chalk should be used. In dividing up the plants great care must be used to avoid damaging the crowns, and the same may equally apply to the fleshy roots. Select clean, healthy pieces—even though small—in preference to large and partly worn out roots, and plant firmly, watering for a time should the weather prove hot and dry.

Border Chrysanthemums

These should now be planted out where they are to bloom, and even though small, growth will at once be cleaner and stronger than has been the case during the last few weeks. These plants resent being coddled up in frames, and never seem to come quite into their own until ready for the open. Pinch down any shoots which show a tendency to run during the next few weeks.

Hardening-off plants

There are many subjects which, though grown on in greenhouses, are hardier than the majority of plants usually employed for bedding, and from this date many such may be stood in the open with a skeleton frame erected over them to support a light covering at night. This will relieve the congestion of the houses considerably, and no time need be lost in carrying it out. These include Hydrangeas in tubs, Lilies of most kinds, Eucalyptus, Grevilleas, Agapanthus, Cannas, Plumbagos, etc.

Arum Lilies

Gradually harden off these plants which have ceased to bloom, but avoid extremes until these have become accustomed to lower temperatures. Continue to feed occasionally with liquid manure, and permit the foliage to ripen gradually. When somewhat hardened they may with advantage be stood in the open, but protected from rough winds.

Gloxinias, Cyclamen, Gesneras, and Achimenes

Those raised from seed will require shifting into larger pots at intervals; there are, however, some seedlings which, for various reasons, do not keep pace with the main batch, and until these show greater activity and roots are plentiful they should remain undisturbed. Those grown from old corms should be encouraged by daily syringings and brisk, moist temperatures.

May-flowering Tulips

As some of the handsome tall varieties are liable to be broken off when in full bloom, light sticks should be placed to support them in advance of their opening.

Tomatoes

All available space should now be utilised for these in houses, where, given reasonable care, a very handsome return will be made, and those intended for planting in the open next month should be grown as hard as possible, preferably in cold frames.

Runner Beans

A sowing may now be made in boxes in gentle warmth. Where the young plants will be through the soil in a few days, no attempt should be made to hurry them, and as soon as two good leaves have formed they may be transferred to cold frames. Such plants will come into bearing at a much earlier date than those sown in the open in May.

Carrots and Beet

The main crops of these may now be sown on warm and well prepared soil, which, previous to the drills having been drawn, has received a free dusting of soot. Ground for these crops should not be enriched with a lot of manure, otherwise large, coarse examples will result.

Vegetable Marrows, Salsafy, and Scorzonera

These may all be sown, the former on specially prepared beds in the open for a late crop, and the remainder in drills 16 inches apart on deeply and well-worked ground. These latter are in considerable demand, but are not grown as often as they should be.

General work

The staking of Peas will require constant attention, as will also the hoeing of all young crops, which derive immense benefit from this stirring of the surface. Various crops of Salads, Spinach, Turnips, etc., must be thinned when large enough to handle, and others sown to maintain a supply.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Sow Wallflowers now

To secure really fine bushy plants it is necessary here, in the north, to sow about this time. But the Siberian variety, Cheiranthus Allionii, is an exception, as, sown early, it invariably begins to bloom in autumn, and is thus spoiled for a spring display. Sow in shallow drills, and prick off into nursery lines when the seedlings are 4 inches high, transferring them to flowering quarters in autumn. Myosotis, Campanula pyramidalis, Agrostemma, and Canterbury Bells should all be sown in boxes of light soil, and then set in a cool greenhouse or frame. They can, of course, be also sown in the open, but are really more trouble when this is done. When raised in pans or boxes, the pricking off may be carried out during bad weather, and time saved, while the plants, as a rule, are larger and better than those raised in the open gardens.

Pansies and Violas

The planting of these should now be pushed on. Planted now, the plants have less risk of damage by slugs and snails, and, as a rule, grow away quickly, whereas those put out early are often crippled, either by vermin or the weather.

Border Chrysanthemums

If the plants have been well hardened off, as advised recently, and the weather is fairly genial, a start can now be made to plant them in their flowering positions. Good, but not unduly rich, soil suits this plant best. When heavily manured, growth is soft and rank, and any flowers that do appear are of poor quality.

The planting of Sweet Peas

This work may now be proceeded should the weather be favourable an ground in good condition. I have never able to see the advantage of early pla Early May, as a rule, gives excellent re

Trim Box edges

Few things are more objectionable garden than over-grown or uneven edges, so it is advisable to trim these every spring. It is a disagreeable, breaking job, but if attended to annual much more easily done. With a little pra any handy man will soon get into the of doing it tidily, and be able to cover a long stretch in the course of a day. cleaning up is as bad and troublesome clipping, and also requires to be pr done.

New Strawberry beds

If these were planted in spring, the must not be allowed to fruit this year flower-stems as they rise must be nippe while runners, too, unless it is desir obtain fresh plants in autumn, should be removed at frequent intervals. Wel the ground between the plants frequ and so induce sturdy, healthy growth.

Fruit bushes

Very considerable benefit results frequently hoeing the ground betwee Currant, Gooseberry, and Raspberry b while weeds are kept down and the qu look smart and tidy.

Vegetable crops

Another sowing of Peas will be abo again, good varieties for present use Superlative, Commonwealth, and Salute. More Spinach, Lettuce, Radish Turnip should also be got in accordi requirements. If not yet finished, the ing of Potatoes should proceed as fa possible. Keep the hoe at work a young vegetables of all kinds.

Cinerarias

Prick off the seedlings into boxes as as large enough to handle. Keep well s from the sun, and do not over- especially at first. A further batch m sown and brought on as coolly as possi

Primula malacoides

Seeds of this charming little Primros now be sown and given cool treat Damp is its greatest foe, so watering always be carefully attended to.

Cyclamens

Old bulbs that are intended to be gro again must have a little attention. chuck the pots under the greenhouse as is so often done, but take them to a cold frame, attend them well with until the foliage begins to look like ri off, when water should be given sparingly until growth begins to be more noticeable. Enough should th given to get the growth to spring strongly and healthily.

Dahlias

The later batches of cuttings will, f most part, have been placed singly in while the earlier lot will doubtless be for removal to cooler quarters—in case, a cold frame, where they will r to be well matted over at night in cas should suddenly descend on us, as it does at this season C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

ational Horticultural Congress, London, 1930

he Eighth International Horticultural ss, held at Vienna, Austria, in 1927, itation from the Royal Horticultural to hold the next International Horti l Congress in London was accepted. been decided that the Ninth Inter al Horticultural Congress shall be held don from August 7th to August 15th, immediately before the Fifth Inter al Botanical Congress, which is being n Cambridge from August 16th to t 23rd.

Executive Committee has been ted by the Society to make the neces rrangements for the Congress. The rs of this Executive Committee are sor B. T. Barker, M.A., of the Uni of Bristol; Mr. E. A. Bowles, M.A., I., F.L.S., F.E.S.; Mr. E. A. Bun F.L.S.; Mr. F. J. Chittenden, F.L.S., I., Director R.H.S. Gardens at Wisley; aniel Hall, K.C.B., M.A., F.R.S., or of the John Innes' Horticultural ite; Mr. R. G. Hatton, M.A., of the Malling Research Station; Sir William nce, Bt.; Mr. G. W. Leak; Mr. C. T. ave, V.M.H., Treasurer of the Royal ultural Society; Dr. A. B. Rendle, F.R.S., V.-P.L.S., V.M.H. of South gton Museum, and Mr. H. V. Taylor, B.Sc., Commissioner for Horti at the Ministry of Agriculture; the ary of the Royal Horticultural Society as Secretary.

main subject for discussion at the ess will be "Propagation, vegetative and al," for which papers and communica ave been and are invited, and Dr. Van ck (Holland), Dr. R. J. Graham (Great), Professor Priestley (Great Britain), Esbjerg (Denmark), G. E. Yerkes), Carl A. Dahl (Sweden), Dr. r, (U.S.A.), Professor Faes (Switzer Franz Richter (France), Professor (U.S.A.), Miss M. E. Reid (U.S.A.), edcliffe Salaman (Great Britain), and dwin Baur (Germany), etc., etc., have ed their intention of presenting papers. Committee points out that there will er sections, and is prepared to receive tions for papers for consideration. extensive programme for visits to re stations and gardens of horticultural t throughout the kingdom is being ed.

Committees appointed at the Congress n Vienna in 1927 will present their :—

mittee I.—On Nomenclature.
mittee II.—On Awards.
mittee III.—On Colour.
mittee IV.—On Horticultural Institions and Research.
mittee V.—On International Exange of Young Gardeners.
mittee VI.—On the Development of e International Committee.

munications made to the Congress by of papers, or participation in the l discussion, will be permissible in h, French, and German.

correspondence should be addressed to ecretary of the Royal Horticultural y, London, S.W.1.

erbaceous Calceolaria

plants will now be showing for , so a little gentle feeding will prove ial. Keep Green Fly in check by rising occasionally. Seeds may still wn to provide plants for next year's ly.

Answers to Queries

Questions—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent each should be on a separate piece of paper, the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*All who wish their plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Lilium tigrinum and lime

I was much obliged by your kind reply *re* Anemone pulsatilla Mme. Van der Elst, and, of course, if it likes peat it hated *us*—all lime. Will you now tell me why can I not grow Lilium tigrinum either in the native soil (limy, stony, very well drained) or in any made bed? Liliums regale, auratum, Martagon, Martagon album, candidum, chalcedonicum, Willmottiæ, Formosanum (hardy form), testaceum, even Farreri (though, of course, it spends all its time walking round, and only flowers occasionally) all thrive. But no kind of a Tiger Lily comes up after the second year. What is it they want? Lilium speciosum, too, is not altogether happy, but it keeps alive, and produces rather malformed flowers every year. We give it peat. M. L. W.

Bath.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Persian Cyclamens

IN raising seedlings of these bright greenhouse flowers, my chief aim is to produce flowers of rich and distinct colours, with good shape and substance, good foliage, and especially plants with a good habit. I cross only my very choicest varieties on the above principles, and recommend not more than three or four blooms for seed on each plant, and for this reason each bloom when crossed will produce, putting aside accident, a pod containing from 30 to 60 or more seeds. . . I cross each bloom carefully, if I want colour, with two blooms of separate plants of the best colour and shape I can find, and so with each, for I find you can vary the flower very much. . . I can scarcely praise the value of Cyclamens too much, for whilst growing, and previous to blooming, they are handsome foliaged plants, and in this stage, as well as when in bloom, they are admirable for table decoration. They commence blooming in September and October, and continue, if not forced in heat, until April and May. . . H. L.

[This is a Lily which very much resents the presence of lime in the soil. To grow it in your soil you should prepare pockets of good fibrous loam, lime free, with a liberal admixture of sand and well-decayed leaf-soil. The reason why this Lily and speciosum do not do well in your made beds is that you are probably giving them peat in the true meaning of the term. That is, bog peat, which is generally unaerated and acid. All Lilies love leaf-soil, but a great many detest peat. If you make up your soil with plenty of well-decayed leaf-mould in the place of peat you will probably have much better success. Good drainage is, of course, essential. Only use the bog peat for the Swamp Lilies of North America.]

Unhealthy Primrose plant

(S. M. M.).—(1) The enclosed plant is suffering from an attack of wireworm, several of which were still alive among the roots. This would account for the condition of the others you mention. Lift all the plants after flowering, wash every particle of soil from their roots, and replant on fresh ground which has received a dressing of Vaporite or other soil fumigant, and your plants will, in all probability, regain their former vigour. For the new plantation use from the healthy plants only and destroy those of a yellow appearance at once. (2) We believe the double-flowered Primrose to be Burgundy, not Arthur Dumollin.

Lilium speciosum

(O. M. Goens, U.S.A.).—These bulbs may be moved now, provided that there is no growth showing above the ground. If they have already made growth, even a few inches, they should on no account be disturbed until late autumn. These Lilies dislike lime, though they tolerate a certain small amount in the soil. It is not advisable to mulch the top of the bed with animal manure. Good, well-rotted leaf-mould is far better. A little well-rotted animal manure may, however, be placed advantageously a few inches *below* the bulbs where the basal roots can reach down into it.

Bulbs after flowering

Could you kindly tell me the best time to dig up Crocus and Narcissus bulbs and how they should be treated before planting out again? "HARRIETSHAM."

[As soon as the foliage gets brown the bulbs of both may be lifted (in the case of the Daffodils *must* be lifted), laid in shallow boxes, and set in a dry, open shed to dry. When thoroughly dry grade the bulbs, the largest for pot culture (if desired), the second size for replanting, and the small either for planting in the reserve garden or in grass, where they will flourish and eventually flower. As the Daffodil takes practically no rest it is well to plant these in August or September, but the Crocuses may be left over until October. If the largest bulbs are not required for pot culture they will, of course, be ideal for planting in the garden.]

Heuchera not flowering

I have a few plants of Heuchera sanguinea which I cannot get to bloom freely. I have tried lifting and dividing, also enriching the soil without success. They are growing in a sunny border in fairly light soil containing lime in the form of mortar-rubble. The plants are growing freely and in a healthy condition. Can you advise me as to what methods to adopt to get them to flower? "SCOTTISH GARDENER."

[This plant is, proverbially, a shy bloomer. You seem to have given it quite orthodox treatment, so we can only conclude that, as in so many other gardens, the soil does not really suit this Heuchera. It is really in few gardens that it blooms at all well. The late Mr. James Mayne, in his garden at Eltham, found it to thrive and bloom splendidly. He very kindly sent us some cuttings a year or two ago, but, notwithstanding the special care lavished on them, have scarcely ever bloomed. You would be well advised to cultivate H. brizoides or H. Pink Profusion instead of H. sanguinea, as these bloom profusely every year and have pretty coral-pink flowers on fine, wiry stems, and they are ideal for cutting, as well as for garden adornment.]

Clumps of Pampas grass

(" Awbridge ").—The flower-stems may be cut back and the plants given a generous mulch of well-rotted manure all round the roots, this being all that is necessary. Dead foliage, too, of course, can be removed.

GREENHOUSE

Pelargonium foliage

(Me).—The marking on your Pelargonium leaves sent for examination is due to White Fly (Aleurodes vaporariorum). These creatures live by piercing the foliage and sucking out the juices of the plants, and in many cases the piercing is followed by spotted foliage. We should advise you to take steps to clear up the White Fly by fumigating the house with frequent doses of calcium cyanide or a White Fly fumigant. Details of both materials appear frequently in our advertisement columns. If you have any difficulty in applying either fumigant write us again. The vendors of the materials mentioned will give you full details for application, but you must be careful, because you say that " The house contains many kinds of plants " and some plants are injured by these fumigants.

Lapageria leaf

(" Queenie ").—By the appearance of the leaf sent we should say that the plant has had a severe attack of Red Spider, caused by lack of moisture both at the root and in the atmosphere of the house. It may also have been subjected to too much heat. With judicious attention it will, doubtless, recover, but will take some time to do so. You should spray frequently with some approved insecticide, making certain that the undersides of the leaves are thoroughly wetted with the spraying liquid.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Acacias

(O. M. G., U.S.A.).—The reason these have not bloomed is probably because they are not yet large enough. If you grow them on until they are about 4 feet high you will find they produce bloom fairly freely, increasing in freedom of bloom as they get larger. They will do well in any average good garden soil.

Pruning Ceanothus

Three very fine shrubs of Ceanothus are trained against the wall of the house facing due south. They were badly caught by the frost (22 degs.) in February, and it was feared they were dead, but in the last 10 days they have all begun to put out tiny shoots. They are generally pruned after flowering in April or May, but as there is no question of flowering this year will it be best to leave the dead wood as a protection for the young shoots and avoid further strain on the tree or prune hard back and cut away all dead growth?
B.

[We recommend that all the dead wood should now be cut clean away.]

Climbers for a north wall

(H. H. M.).—Late Dutch Honeysuckle might be tried, but such a position is hardly suitable for white Jessamine. The following would prove satisfactory:—Climbers: Rose Bouquet d'Or, Mme. Isaac Perriere, Wistaria sinensis, Ceanothus, Gloire de Versailles, Clematis montana grandiflora and C. m. rubens, Jasminum nudiflorum. Shrubs: Cotoneaster Simonsii, C. horizontalis, Lilac Souv. de Louis Spath and Mme. Lemoine, Rose Fellemberg, Rhododendrons and Azaleas if your soil is not calcareous, Forsythia spectabilis, Berberis Darwini, B. subcauliata, Skimmia japonica var. fragrans, Daphne Mezereum, and Aucuba japonica and Pyrus japonica.

Creamy white Clematis

(Solace).—The variety you refer to is most probably Clematis Henryi, a magnificent creamy-white flower. We have never before heard the name " Hiawatha " applied to a Clematis. Are you quite sure your friend gave the name correct, as no such plant is listed so far as we have been able to trace, either by our own or Continental nurserymen?

Wistaria not flowering

Can you give me any reason why Wistaria sinensis does not flower? It is situated on the south side of the house and has been planted five years. It has made huge growth which has been stopped from time to time, but so far not a single bloom has been seen.
" LYNTON."

[It looks as if you have planted your Wistaria in too rich soil. This plant, while it demands a fairly good loam mixed with leaf-mould, is apt to run to wood and leaf if too generously dealt with. A good method for inducing the formation of flower-buds is to prune side shoots during summer in much the same way as fruit trees on walls are treated, while in winter these side shoots are again somewhat shortened.]

Thuya Lobbi dying

(F. G. Rydon).—It is difficult to account for your trouble unless the trees have been damaged by frost, and even if this is so, it is unusual. Is there any possibility of them having had any destructive liquid poured about their roots or over their foliage? All you can do is to cut away the damaged growth—even though this may entail cutting them to within 4 inches or 5 inches of the central stem. They will then shoot out again if alive, and in time make fast growth. If you find they are really dead to the base, then we advise you to renew them without delay as there is yet time to do so before the end of the month.

Tricuspidaria

Can you give me some idea of what the evergreen shrub Tricuspidaria is like, and under what conditions it is likely to succeed?
EMILY M. BURN.

[The Tricuspidaria is only half-hardy and is usually cultivated as a cool greenhouse shrub. It has flowered out of doors at Castlewellan, Co. Down, Ireland, for several years, and appears to be quite hardy there, also in Cornwall and other favoured parts. It flowers twice a year, the blooms being of a brilliant crimson colour. This plant thrives best in a compost of equal parts peat, loam, and leaf-mould, with enough coarse sand to ensure porosity.]

ROSES

Rose canker

(Robinet.)—Your Roses are affected with Stem Canker (Coniothyrium fuckelii). This fungus often causes trouble amongst R
The disease commences on the young w
and does not affect the foliage. Spores
produced from the diseased patches, and t
serve to set up the disease in new areas.
should cut out and burn all the infected w
repeat as often as is necessary to ol
control.

FRUIT

Mulching Peaches

Is it advisable to mulch a " F
George " Peach tree with cow manure
is grown in a cold house, and is abo
years old.
" LYNTON

[If the tree is not making unduly st
wood, a mulch of cow manure would be
ficial, but should the shoots be very
this material must not be used.]

VEGETABLES

Tree Tomato

(New Reader).—The Tree Tomato i
tremely prone to that pest White Fly
roots freely from cuttings at this period.

Vegetables under paper

I have recently seen a report upon pla
various vegetables etc. under paper,
French magazine " Je sais Tout." I
to know whether this method of planti
known in England, and if so where the
can be obtained and any details rega
the method of using it. Should it be n
you I shall be glad to send you a copy
article, translated from the French.
CHAS. P. HAY

[We have no record of this paper h
been used in England. We should like
the article quoted in your letter. Pe
some of our readers have used the pap
so, may we ask for their observations?

MISCELLANEOUS

Moss on lawn

(Georgiana C. Dillon).—Bad drainag
poverty of the soil are the chief causes
trouble. Temporary relief may be h
tearing up the Moss with a new stee
and then dressing the lawn with on
lime to four parts loam, the whole
spread evenly over the surface after
riddled and well mixed. A little ar
manure may also be given. We hav
known of good results following the
dry wood-ashes applied liberally as
dressing. In any case roll the law
after either of these top-dressings hav
applied. Next winter it would be ad
to have the lawn properly drained.

Moonlight

Please could you tell me what eff
any, moonlight has on plant growth
where I could find an account of experi
to ascertain its effect?

[We are publishing your letter in th
that some of our readers may be a
assist you.]

Artificial manures

(Suburban).—Plants require from th
certain chemical elements, and of the
ments it is always necessary to replac
chemicals which, for various reason
likely to be in short supply. The ele
other than these four are, under mos
ditions, present in sufficient quantit
produce good crops, and under usual
practice they are not added. The fou
ments supplied by gardeners to their so
nitrogen, phosphate, potassium, an
cium (lime). Iron is necessary for th
duction of the green colouring mat

but most soils contain plenty of iron,
e deficient in soluble iron compounds,
these sulphate of iron is usually
Soils which are deficient in soluble
flect this by producing plants with
oured foliage. A soil which has re-
an overdose of quicklime usually
the need of sulphate of iron for a
Sulphate of iron used in a lawn sand
its object the killing of certain weeds
lawn. If you have a garden with
lifeless soil you would be well advised
some organic manure in addition to
artificials. Try Wakeley's Hop
as a substitute for farmyard manure.
read our article on page 152 of our
r March 2nd.

ng land

op ").—The idea of sowing the land
ustard is excellent, as it will keep
n check, and when this is ploughed in
t will enrich the soil, and there will
eed for further manuring in the mean-
We do not advise the use of lime at
ge as many of the plants you mean to
e are lime haters, so until you have
as to the positions the various classes
s, shrubs, etc., are to occupy, it will
to leave the lime alone.

NAMES OF PLANTS

missing.—1, Primula denticulata.
H.—Robinia pseudo-acacia (False
or Black Locust), now bursting into
he thorns are characteristic of this

.—1, Saxifraga oppositifolia splen-
. S. bathoniensis, still one of the best
sy Saxifrages.
I.—Narcissus Sunrise, a splendid
of the Barrii section. You show
dgment in deciding to grow it in
numbers.
oor.—Narcissus Argent; poor

, *Old Brompton.*—Billbergia nutans
stration).

Billbergia nutans (nodding)

A greenhouse or window plant that is frequently sent to this office for naming. Native of Brazil, 1868. The sepals are reddish, petals green, both with a blue margin

Early vegetables

RE are many frames occupied just
with early raised vegetables which
uld be well hardened off before being
fully to air and sun. Too frequently
rs plant them out in the open, no
whether they are fit to withstand the
ange of temperature or not, with the
hat the check they receive so cripples
at they seldom get over it. Vegeta-
quite hardy if grown under normal
ins, but when raised in a warm house
e, they are as tender as hothouse
therefore, if taken out of such
es and at once exposed to cold
he result is disaster. If the weather
be cold, with dry winds, do not be in
to get the plants out. If there
hasty planting out all past labour
ense may be quite wasted.
of Lettuces, Cauliflowers, Brussels
which should have been transplanted
ble distances apart on slight hotbeds
s, should be lifted with nice balls of
ched and planted in their permanent
with a trowel, the holes being made
ient size and depth to take the plants
e leaves. Press the soil around them
and if the weather is dull, with
e, no further care is required, except
al against slugs and other vermin.
ns raised under glass will require care
roots go down deep, and when lifted
le to injury unless they have been
which is by far the best system.
r, if they are in boxes, insert the
at one end of the box, so as to get
it well beneath the roots, and so lift them with the mimimum of injury. Planting should always be done with the trowel, as then holes can be made that will take the roots full length. At the same time, guard against too deep planting, as this will tend to "thick neck" or stout stems instead of bulbs. As soon as they become established, onions require ample support in the way of feeding. If the plants are lifted without balls of earth attached it may be necessary, if there is bright sun, to shade them, but it is well to remember that the less shade given the more sturdy will be the plants.

Many Peas are sown in pots and boxes, which may now be planted out with every chance of success. To obtain the best results give every Pea a space of 4 inches. A trench should be taken out deep enough for the roots to be inserted without twisting.

All Peas require a rich, deeply-cultivated soil, and it is as well to remember to give the tall-growing varieties plenty of moisture to obtain the finest results. When planting has been completed and the weather becomes dry, a nice sprinkling with a fine rose can is beneficial, but there must be no heavy watering as this will lower the temperature of the soil. When fully established and growing strong, more liberal watering will be required if the weather is dry.

A most important thing with all newly-planted things is to keep the surface soil loose by the frequent use of the hoe. Not only does it keep down weeds, but it assists in promoting strong and healthy growth.

No watering should be done in the evening at this time of year, for it not only makes the soil could through the night, but it brings out the slugs and snails. F. H.

Vegetables to make up for losses

An inspection of some ten acres of allotments enables one to realise the wholesale slaughter of all green vegetables. I have seen nothing like it since February, 1895. Of the thousands of Broccoli put out hardly one is left, only a few autumn-planted cabbage, possibly about one in twenty, and even the hardiest Kales are badly cut. Asparagus Kale, and similar broad-leaved varieties seem to have suffered more than the dwarf curled sorts. That being so, it will be well to give the reminder that it will be advisable to set to work promptly and sow several things that can be relied on to come along quickly and compensate for above failures. Deans early Snowball Cauliflower should be one of the first choices. It does its work very quickly, and being dwarf and very compact can be planted at 18 inches each way, and so a capital cutting is obtainable from quite a small area. A pinch of a quick turning-in Cabbage as Flowery Spring may be sown to fill up the gaps in the autumn, planted big. Autumn-sown broad Beans are also badly cut up; the best sort to sow now to come in quickly is Beck's Dwarf Green Gem, especially for small gardens. It is not easily obtainable, and missing from many catalogues, but an old favourite of mine, as I have found it acceptable to those who object to a strong flavouring Bean. It comes in very quickly, and for its height is a grand cropper. A sowing of French Beans can be made on a warm border if provision is available for protection in the case of spring frost. A row or two of Spinach is also likely to prove acceptable, as there is very little left of the autumn-sown crop, also an early Lettuce of the Tom Thumb type. In a season like this one has to be thankful for good crops of all kinds of root vegetables, including potatoes, otherwise we should have to wait a long time before there was much variety in our vegetable cooking. I am writing of gardens like my own where we have to rely solely on outside work, and there is no glass either to grow crops inside or bring things along for outside planting. E. BURRELL.

Hardwick.

Marketing of Cornish Broccoli on the Continent

Up to about three years ago the Broccoli produced in Cornwall was grown from local seed and did not produce the firm, white curds which the market so desires. Seed of superior strains was obtained through the agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Cornish Broccoli graded up in quality. A deputation of growers of Cornwall, with the County Horticultural Superintendent, visited the Continent in January last to see into the possibilities of marketing Broccoli at the more important centres there. As a result, they came back determined to try sale on the Continent, to grade and pack it, and incidentally to get permission from the Ministry to use the National Mark on it. The Ministry agreed and made regulations prescribing grades and marks, the whole organisation and arrangement being agreed with the Cornwall Branch of the National Farmers' Union and the County Horticultural Superintendent. Seven growers applied for permission to use the Mark, and consignments were despatched to Brussels and Cologne.

Studley College for Women

Studley College, in Warwickshire, represents a pioneer effort in the education of women in agriculture in this country. The Governors, with the approval of the Ministry of Agriculture, are endeavouring to buy the College, and the Treasury has promised a grant on a £ for £ basis up to £5,000. A fund has been formed, to which subscriptions are invited. In connection with it a show and sale of flowers, fruit, vegetables, and dairy produce was opened by H.R.H. Princess Mary on Thursday, April 25th, at the Horticultural Hall, Westminster.

The importance of the part played by women in agriculture is not always fully realised. Out of about 800,000 workers, 100,000 are women and girls, and there are in addition to these about 20,000 women running farms and small holdings on their own account. The hard times through which agriculture is now passing have caused most people to realise the importance of sound technical training, and Studley College supplies this at present to some 60 students, and would supply it to more if its financial position allowed. The College, though self-supporting, has no endowment and no reserve fund, and to provide these and to purchase the premises the Governors are asking the public to support their efforts. Apart from the point of patronage of the show at the Horticultural Hall, Westminster, on April 25th, those who are able to support the Fund directly are invited to do so by sending contributions to the Honorary Secretary of the Studley College Fund, at 26, Eccleston Street, S.W. 1.

Norfolk and Norwich Horticultural Society

Spring flower show

This is the centenary year of this old Society, having held its first exhibition in 1829. It was, therefore, very encouraging to find that the entries upon this occasion exceeded the average of the past five years; indeed, they reached pre-war numbers. Narcissi, owing to the extreme cold weather, were not quite so long in the stem as usual, and one also noticed that several of those which are usually over before the show date were at their best this year.

Captain A. Sandys-Winsch, the Secretary, won the cup for 24 varieties of Narcissi and Daffodils, distinct. As this is the third win it now becomes his own property. This grower is making great strides in the raising of seedlings, and many on his stand under "numbers" foretold of a demand for them when they are put into commerce.

Colonel H. G. Barclay (gardener, Mr. W. C. Barrie) also had an exceptionally good lot of quite up-to-date named kinds. The smaller classes, especially the Trumpet section, were very attractive, many new kinds and seedlings being included in them.

Vases, baskets, and other decorative classes were all well contested.

General cut flowers.—In this section Carnations were predominant. Colonel Barclay had far away the best.

In the classes for greenhouse flowers, hardy flowers, and hardy outside-grown flowering shrubs Mr. Sam High, gardener to J. A. Christie, Esq., M.P., Framingham, took three firsts. A tit-bit in his hardy flowers was a vase of the bright-coloured Tulipa protescens, and of the flowering shrubs Magnolia Kobus and Osmanthus Delavayi were outstanding. Violets from Mr. F. J. Endersby, gardener to Gerald Gurney, Esq., Keswick Hall, Norwich, were a meritorious feature.

Pot plants.—These are always good. The splendid collection on a table space 8 feet by 3 feet exhibited by Mrs. H. J. Copeman, 111, Newmarket Road, Norwich, were exceptionally well grown, and embodied Calceolarias, Schizanthus, Primulas, Cinerarias, etc., literally sheets of bloom. Great credit was due for this exhibit to Mr. Mitchell, the gardener.

Mr. Ernest Bond, Newmarket Road, also had a fine group, and, besides this, took prizes for Cinerarias and other pot plants.

Cyclamen were in profusion, wonderful plants being staged by Colonel H. G. Barclay and Mr. Gerald Gurney.

Fruit and vegetables.—These were not a strong feature.

The Trade gave of its best and helped as much as anyone to make the show of educational worth. Messrs. Daniels Bros., Ltd., Norwich, had bulbous flowers in great varieties, early forced Irises being an outstanding feature, as also were their many-coloured Freesias. Allens, of Norwich, had a beautiful display of forced Roses, so also had Messrs. A. Reeves and Co., Old Catton, Norwich. Allwood Bros., and C. Engelmann, Ltd., both had effective displays of Carnations. Bakers, of Wolverhampton, had rock plants in great variety. Miller, Wisbech, had hardy flowers and rock plants. R. Winder, Ltd., also had a good display of forced shrubs and rock plants. Without doubt the pick of the trade section were Bath's Daffodils, some priced at £40 per bulb; how they made one wish for the purse of a millionaire.

Though not a trade exhibit we must specially mention the collection of Roses in pots put up by an enthusiastic amateur, Dr. G. E. Deacon, Brundall. They richly deserved the Gold Medal which the judges awarded.

Aytch Pea.

Trees of remembrance

With the approval of the Roads Beautifying Association, the Roads of Remembrance Committee are appealing to the public to co-operate with them in planting trees in commemoration of those who fell in the Great War, or of any outstanding event in our public or private lives; of the visits of any prominent persons to our country; of occasions of national rejoicing or mourning, and of births, marriages, or deaths in our own families.

Those to whom this is of interest may like to know what can be done through this Committee for planting either single trees, or a number of trees to form an avenue or group.

(1) By arrangement with the Surrey County Council with whom the Roads Beautifying Association are collaborating in roadside planting, certain trees can be allotted on the Kingston By-Pass for Remembrance purposes, according to the wishes of the donor.

(2) Should members of the public wish to plant trees on any other road than that mentioned, if such roads are suitable for this purpose (that is to say with a sufficiently wide margin at the side), the Roads Beautifying Association will approach the highway authorities concerned, and request permission for the planting of such trees.

The Roads of Remembrance Committee of the Roads Beautifying Association would arrange for the preparation of the ground, the provision, planting, and staking of the tree and the fixing of a permanent tablet, for the inclusive sum of two guineas per tree.

A list of trees herewith are suggested as suitable, but many other varieties may be planted if specially desired.

TREES FOR THE WAYSIDE.

Trees.

Acer dasycarpum, platanoides (Norway Maple), platanoides Schwedleri, Pseudoplatanus (Sycamore), Pseudopl. purpureum, Pseudopl. brilliantis rubrum (Red Maple).
Æsculus carnea, Hippocastanum, plan sis (Horse Chestnuts).
Ailanthus glandulosa (Tree of Heaven
Alnus cordifolia, glutinosa, incana ((for damp places).
Betula alba (Silver Birch).
Carpinus Betulus (Hornbeam), pyramidalis.
Castanea sativa (Sweet Chestnut).
Catalpa bignonioides.
Fagus sylvatica (Beech), sylvatica pu (Purple Beech).
Fraxinus excelsior, Ornus, am (Ashes).
Gleditschia japonica, triacanthos Locusts).
Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree).
Juglans nigra (Black Walnut).
Liriodendron tulipifera (Tulip Tree).
Magnolia acuminata.
Platanus acerifolia (Plane).
Populus alba pyramidalis, beroli canescens, Eugenei, nigra bet nigra italica (Lombardy Poplar), carpa.
Quercus Cerris, conferta, coccinea, beana, Mirbeckii (Oaks).
Robinea Pseudacacia (Acacia).
Salix cœrulea (Bat Willow), Matsuda
Tilia vulgaris, euchlora, petolaris (Silver Lime), platyphyllos.
Ulmus stricta (Cornish Elm), Wh nitens.

Conifers.

Cedrus atlantica (Mt. Atlas Cedar).
Larix europæa (Larch).
Pinus Laricio (Corsican Pine).
Tsuga Albertiana (Western Hemlock
Taxodium distichum (Swamp Cypres

Flowering Trees.

Amelanchier canadensis.
Cornus Mas.
Cratægus Carrierei, prunifolia, Dou Double white.
Laburnum (Waterer's or alpinum).
Prunus Avium fl. pl. (Double gean) (Waterer's var. of Bird Cherry), P Blireiana, serrulata sekiyama, y (Double Peach and Almond perh too short-lived).
Pyrus aucuparia (Rowan), Aria (Whit Aria majestica, intermedia, pin spectabilis fl. pl. floribunda, Ele purea.

All communications concerning Remembrance should be addressed Hon. Treasurer, Roads of Reme Committee, of the Roads Bea Association, 47, Victoria Street, S.W.

Spraying fruit trees in open blos

The danger in spraying fruit trees open blossom with washes co arsenate of lead is that visiting bees killed. The lead arsenate washes tainly of great value in extermina Winter Moths, the larvæ of which siderable damage to the trees, but th ing should be done either just be blossoms open or immediately a petals have fallen. There may be so difficulty in arranging this in big c as, of course, the different varieties come into blossom at different time it should be aimed at, and certain should be no indiscriminate spraying blossom with lead arsenate. If a are noticed where bees die in nur such circumstances as are descri should be reported to the Ministry culture.

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ly stuff? Or are you deferring planting
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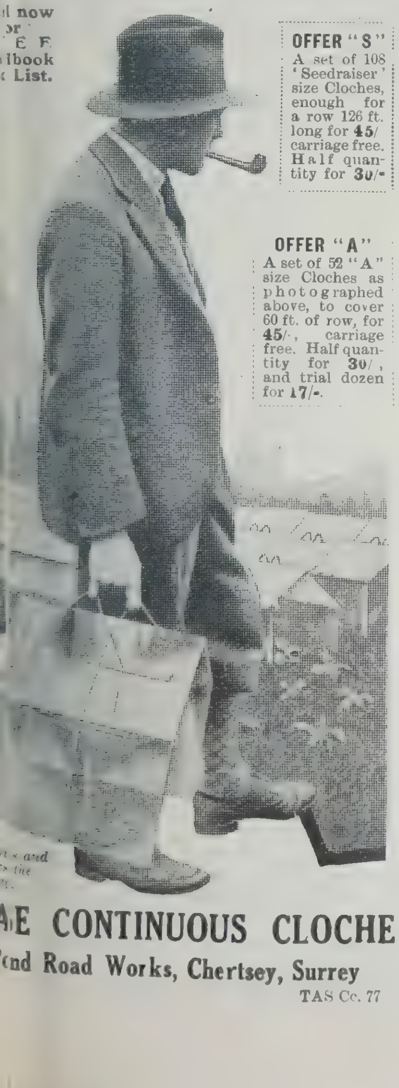

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Cottage Maid—Very handsome pale pink, white throat
Crimson King—Beautiful rich crimson, very fine flowers
Orange Beauty—Orange-scarlet, gold tipped
Queen Victoria—Large white
Rose Dore—Self salmon-rose, shaded gold
Yellow King (Majus)—Deep golden-yellow

INTERMEDIATE VARIETIES, growing about 1 to 1½ ft.

Black Prince—Intense crimson
Bonfire—A beautiful orange and flame colour
Canary Bird—Pale shade of pleasing yellow
Carmine Queen—Rich rose-carmine
Cottage Maid—Pale coral-pink, white throat
Daphne—Coral-rose, white throat
Fascination—Deep flesh pink
Golden Monarch—Golden yellow
Golden Queen—Deep yellow
Morning Glow—Terra-cotta, orange
Nelrose—Deep rose-pink, very popular
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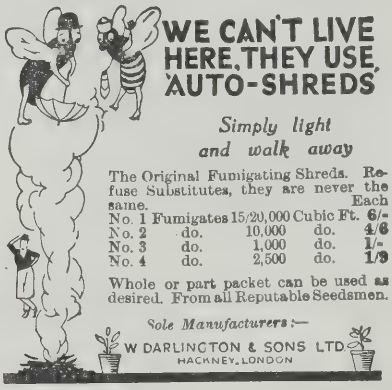

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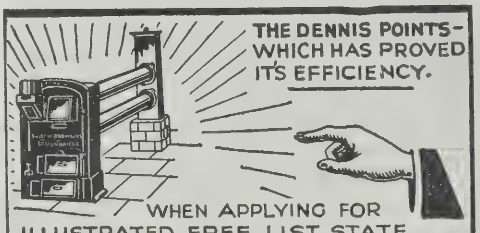

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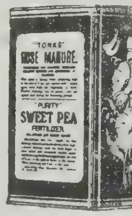

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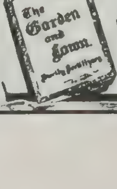

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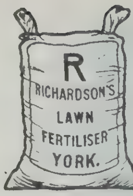

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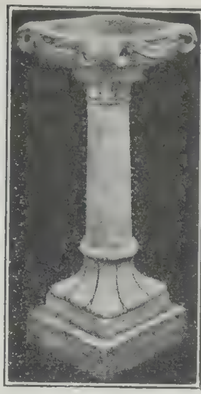

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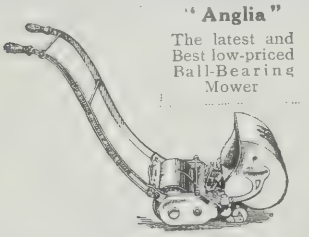

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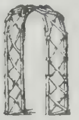

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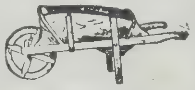

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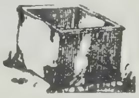

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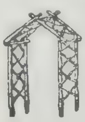
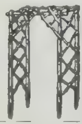
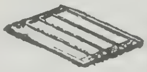




Height 8 ft.

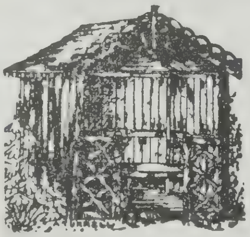
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

GARDEN LIGHTS



	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3 - each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4/9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13 6	12 - ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

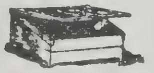
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

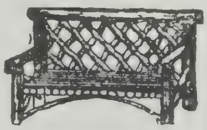
	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS



Well made from selected material.

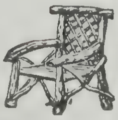
In natural wood Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17 6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

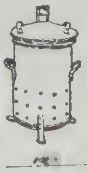
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

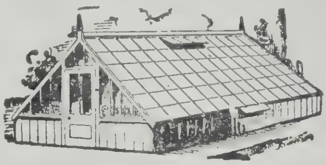
INCINERATOR



Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

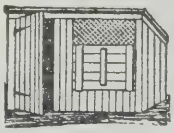
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

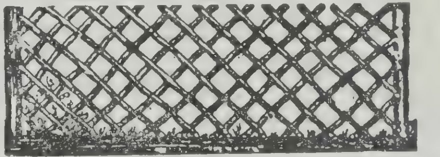


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12 - ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	Reduced Prices. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9 6
1 0	8 ft.	3 ft.	9 6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	21/6	25/-

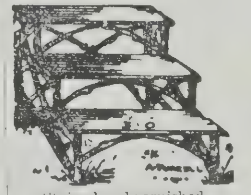
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13 6	12 - ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

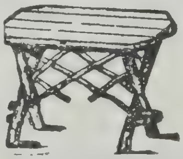
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

GARDEN EDGING

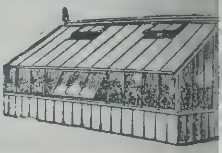
Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at a figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who r strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.



Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.
15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6
30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0
16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0
20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0
24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6

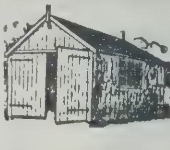
Do not pay high prices for your frames made fr boards. We can supply at the following low prices. made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boa plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0
16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0
20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8
24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTAB
MOTOR HOUS

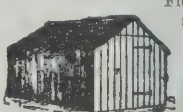


Constructed of strong framin with ⅝-in. tongued and groove roof boarded and felted, 1-i for floor and strong joists. fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass. d on strong butts and fitted T and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, N

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and sin Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5	x 3 6	£3 18 0
6	x 4 0	£4 5 0
7	x 5 0	£5 10 0
8	x 6 0	£6 2 6
10	x 7 0	£9 5 0
12	x 8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed fro tongued and grooved boards and substantial fram covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite w All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removab back. The whole stained and varnished inside and o in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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FLOWERS · FRUIT · VEGETABLES · BEES · GARDEN DESIGN
TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

.—No. 2617

Saturday, May 4, 1929

TWOPENCE

ENING ILLUSTRATED" is regis- t the General Post Office as a News- The Offices are at Bouverie House, treet, London, E.C. 4.

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New descriptive catalogue of these and of Michaelmas Daisies, Gaillardias, Lupines, Water Lilies, Dahlias, Antirrhinums, etc., now ready, free. Orders for £3 and upwards carriage and package free for remittance with order. Superiority in quality. Moderation in price.
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YORK STONE PAVING for Garden Paths, and Lily Ponds, rectangular or crazy for rustic work, steps, and wall coping, rookery.
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The cultivation of the Wallflower was revolutionised when we introduced the orange-scarlet varieties, and we strongly recommend flower lovers to try the following:—
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Send for our coloured catalogue, containing a complete list of all the varieties worth cultivating.

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Also Rockery and Walling Stone.
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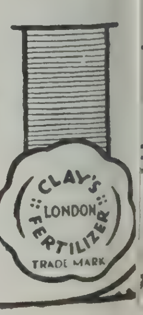

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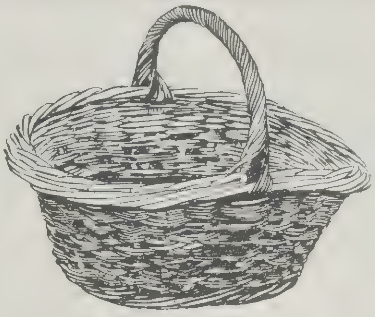

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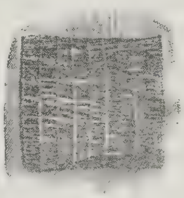

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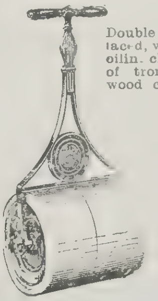

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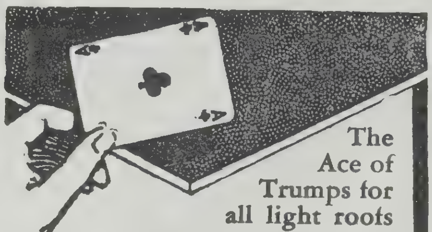

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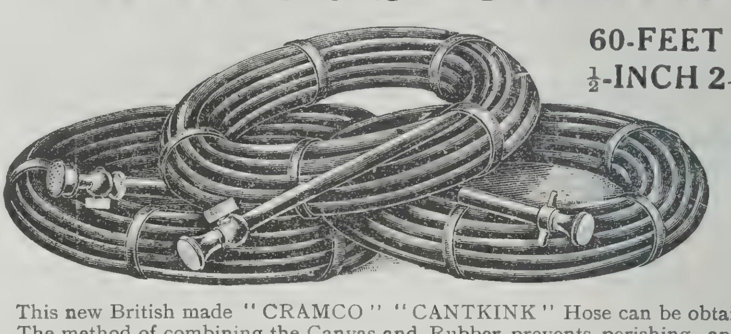

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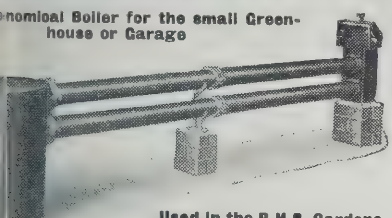

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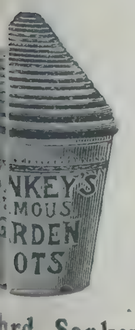

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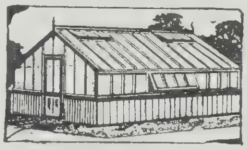

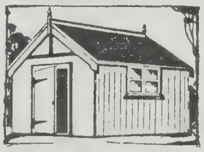

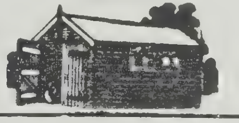

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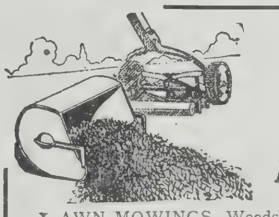

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Roses: Afterthoughts of the Spring Rose Show

RE is something very satisfactory he visit to a show when one can back and enjoy what one saw. At nt Rose Show an unusual number collected around one table attracted tion. At first I thought some new Rose must be the cause, but soon two lovely exhibits of yellow Roses—chal Niel and Mrs. Beatty—in com- and Maréchal Niel won. I thought most perfect blooms in the show— d others. Their agrance and lour remain as y recollection. 10 cannot grow bing Maréchal ould try Mrs. a bush variety very similar in and nice bushy

now itself con- more Lady Mme. Butterfly, selandia than r varieties, and lee are the best Roses that They are the rst easily grown y the amateur, y be supple- by Richmond, Beauty, and for crimsons. delightfully n when forced ass.

een rosarian, ils to have the ew Rose of was naturally d by Julian which received icate of merit. rilliant yellow, my opinion to all those of e of Florence Mabel Morse, and Souvenir de Pernet shade, while it is infinitely than Mrs. Wemyss Quin. This alone th going to the show to make its ance.

ay expect every Rose to have a fault, rm, size, colour, scent, as well as plant, I rather fancy Julian Potin ss.

Courtney Page's dinner table of the ellow Roselandia was an exhibit as perfect. No wonder one felt a grow Roses in spring at the sight One may have these spring Roses, too, with little more trouble than given to Chrysanthemums, except for the warmth required to force them.

Those who like bright colour can find it in Chas. P. Kilham, another Rose well shown, with bright orange apricot centre and carmine pink outer petals. The variety forces well and is superior to Padre in every respect. This Rose was another good thing to remember.

With Roses, as with so many plants these days, we have too many varieties, yet not enough good ones, and we still want more good crimson Hybrid Teas, for how few there are without serious faults. Take the two most ideal of crimsons, Etoile de Hollande and Bedford Crimson, neither of these are really good forcing varieties, and I did not see a flower of them at the show, although I looked around wistfully for them.

Dwarf Polyantha Roses are now in the sun of popular favour. So numerous are they that one can no longer remember them. We can be emphatic, however, that the new variety Sunshine is the best of the yellows. Of the others, Orleans Rose appeals to me as still the best all-round in the rose shade, Mrs. Cutbush the best pale pink, and both of these are old. Kershaw Poulsen is an excellent full double flower of deep rose shade, and Elsie Poulsen the best single dwarf Polyantha that we have. Orange King is probably the best in this colour, and Golden Salmon is effective, but not quite constant. Of the reds no one seems to know the best, and they all have faults, although the majority force well, as do all of the names I have mentioned. Very pretty and long lasting flowering plants they make, as good in the conservatory as in the open.

A. Swallow.

April Roses

The soft golden yellow Roselandia—a sport from Golden Ophelia—arranged with the young foliage of cut-leaved Maples

Schizopetalon Walkeri

This beautiful little annual, better known as the Lace Flower, deserves to be grown more than it is. Being a native of Chili, it is not fully hardy, and as its roots are very delicate, it greatly objects to being transplanted. It has a most beautiful and attractive flower; the growth, which is slender, attains the height of about 1½ feet, ending in a long stem of pure white flowers. The blooms are of unusual shape, being quite square, and resemble a small piece of lace, while the flowers are Almond scented. During the day the flowers remain closely coiled up, but in the evening they expand, filling the air with their scent. The seed should be sown in May where the plants are to flower, but earlier results may be obtained in the cool greenhouse in pots. The soil in the open must be raked quite fine, the seeds sown thinly, and covered with only a mere dust of soil. Select a warm, sunny position, and thin the plants to quite 6 inches apart.

By following the above suggestions for its cultivation growers of this delightful plant will have little to complain of in results under normal conditions.

F. H.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Narcissus moschatus

ONE of the most charming Daffodils for the rock garden is Narcissus moschatus of Haworth, which has for its popular name "the snowy-white Daffodil of the Pyrenees." It is in flower with me as I write (April 24th), after having been in bloom for some time.

Like other flowers here, it is much later than usual this year, but it is very welcome and is a distinct ornament to the position it occupies. It has been planted on a terrace in front of a sandstone boulder, in a crevice of which grows a good plant of that old white Primula known as P. pubescens alba, for which other white Primulas have been grown (Farrer goes fully into the question of this and other white Primulas, but that point is beyond the scope of this note). On first opening, N. moschatus was quite a creamy-white, which looked dull compared with the purity of the Primula. But as days passed on, this "snowy-white Daffodil of the Pyrenees" justified its name, and the lovely little drooping flowers became of the greatest purity. It is rather variable in size, but all the plants give us lovely little flowers on 6-inch stems that always associate admirably with other flowers of the choicer parts of the rock garden. It is recommended for naturalising in grass and for the rock garden, but I have not tried it in the former.

S. ARNOTT.

Anemone Pulsatilla

A few years ago I sent to a nursery for some roots of the above-named Anemone, which is one of our most charming and uncommon early-flowering plants. For many years I lived within a tramp of the chalk downs on which they grew, and each year about Easter we made a pilgrimage to find the Pasque Flowers in bloom.

This year one of the plants I obtained from the nursery under the name of A. Pulsatilla has flowered profusely, but the blossoms are considerably larger and a lighter colour than any that I have ever found growing wild, and they are borne on stems nearly a foot high. The plants are growing on a sunny slope in chalky soil, with good drainage, but not rich. Mr. W. Robinson, in "The English Flower Garden," writes as having found them in the *woods* of Normandy, and as our native variety is, I believe, never found in woods or a shady position, but always on the steep slopes of chalk down, I think it may be possible that I received a variety which is not a native of England, and should be glad to know if the larger and lighter-flowered variety described has a distinctive name. It possesses the characteristic silvery down-like covering on the stems and buds which add so much to its beauty. The purple stigma stands out distinctly in the centre of the rich yellow stamens.

H. H. WARNER.

Balsams

I read with pleasure the note from "Leahurst" in the issue of April 20th (page 265) concerning the Balsam. From a decorative point of view few things are so attractive in greenhouse or conservatory as a well-grown group of Balsams, but, as the writer correctly states, the family has lost caste because it does not fulfil the modern requirement demanded from almost every plant—that of being suitable for cutting purposes. Nevertheless, Balsams are well worthy of attention, and, by successional sowings, batches may be had in bloom from late spring until autumn is well advanced. Those who do not estimate the value of a handsome and symmetrical plant entirely from a "cutting" point of view might do worse than give a little attention to the Balsam. In the category of plants which, like this, are not popular nowadays may be included the Celosia family—C. pyramidalis, C. plumosa, and C. cristata. The latter is, of course, the Cockscomb which, years ago, was such a favourite with exhibitors, while the other forms, with their vivid crimson, scarlet, and yellow plumes, used to focus the attention of visitors to houses in which Celosias were grown. It may interest "Leahurst" to learn that I yet devote some attention to Balsams and to Celosias. Perhaps, to some extent, this is a matter of sentiment, because in the gardens in which I served my apprenticeship both were grown, and grown well, and I have never lost my liking for them. I may add, too, that (although I have made but few changes) the Balsam and the Celosia have been appreciated wherever I have gone.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Narcissus moschatus of Haworth

The snowy-white Daffodil that grows in the Spanish Pyrenees south of Javarnia. Note the pretty drooping perianth

Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

I wonder if the Bartley Strain of Primula pulverulenta is less hardy than the original form, for I have lost all my plants this winter of Lady Thursby and the other Bartley varieties, and I note that another correspondent has also. While nothing will kill the old crimson Primula pulverulenta, apart from being trodden on, the lovely Bartley varieties probably are more particular, and require a lighter soil, a rather warmer and less damp position. I have planted out all my Bartley seedlings in light shade in a position just referred to, giving them good light loam, with a nice mulch of old manure beneath them. I am hoping they will be more satisfactory like this.

D. D. V.

Newbury.

Regelio-Cyclus Iris

The hot summer of 1928 provided a h like climate for Regelio-Cyclus Iris, they have started their spring growth great vigour and promise. For some I have tried the experiment of liftir August and drying off in a greenhou against leaving the roots permanently i garden. In most years one gets better fl from the lifted plants, but better foliage the undisturbed plants. This year, how it seems that the unlifted plants are goi flower exceptionally well and the folia more healthy and vigorous than I have seen it. One clump, planted five years is growing under a wall and is shad summer by a wine berry, which keeps the rain and the soil is bone dry. O clump, about 2 feet long by 6 i wide, there are already twelve buds sh and the leaves are almost of Germ vigour. No manure has been giv these except a little spent calcium c added some years ago. Two other u clumps in the open, not sheltered from rain, are also extremely vigorous, and have been undisturbed for five year generally flower fairly well. My soil, t on limestone rock, is a rather hot, dry and it seems that, provided lime is these Iris will do quite well when turbed, but after a dull year few flowers be expected. From my own experie should think the best way of all is to the roots unlifted, but protect from r soon as the flowers are finished.

E. A. BUNY

Forms of Anemone ranunculoi

Are there two forms of An ranunculoides in garden cultivatio have had the usual one for many but three years ago I found in a growing with Vinca minor in Haute an infinitely superior form. There large patch of it, and I noted that it several respects, different to the type. now well-established here in loam an mould in partial shade beneath codonoides. It is now in flower, and ference from the type is most marked usual form with me, growing in d places, does not exceed 3 inches in nor the leaves exceed 2⅛ inches acro flowers solitary and very small, the dark-coloured. The Savoie variety is 8 inches in height (with a measur leaves on the flowering stem 4½ inches the flowers generally two on a stem a as Anemone nemorosa and of a rich cup-yellow. The stems are green.

Horsted Keynes. MEILOR BRID

[Mr. E. A. Bowles kindly informs there are at least four forms of A ranunculoides:—The northern type small round flowers (Holland, Ge Scandinavia, etc.). The southern especially on slopes of Mte. Baldo. E the larger one referred to. The flowe out flatter. It is generally rather mo cult to grow, and shy in flowering in gardens. Then there is a pale coloured form and a good semi-double.

The Acanthus

Why is it that the Acanthus is deservedly neglected? Even in where it finds a place it is usually fo ing out a precarious existence at the a shrubbery where it has no chance its true form. When grown under conditions such a variety as A. molli of the most ornamental of plants, and if it does not surpass, most of the fine sub-tropical plants which were forme out of doors during the summer mor nt may, in the course of a few years, a spread of 8 feet or more, and it ow up a dozen stately flower spikes ght of 6 feet. Other good sorts are sus, A. hispanicus, and A. longifolius. districts all may succeed in partial ut in Scotland it is better to plant unniest position which is available. ily is easily propogated by means of ut division of existing plants is quicker. A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Alyssum spinosum

being an old favourite of mine I glad to see it so worthily described Mr. H. Stevens on page 230. A. would appear to be more akin to an Alyssum, and it is now included genus Ptilotrichum. Here it has o be one of the best of all plants for sun-baked soil. It is, in fact, as proof as a House-leek, and will the flat or flop over the face of a h equal good-will. Even a place in l wall does not come amiss to it, and ot perfectly hardy everywhere I find permanent in such a position. As ens states, the little bush of a dozen height covers its silvery leaves with of white flowers in spring and early Although these blooms are small borne so profusely that, in combination the fine, angular stems and dainty hey suggest a delicate piece of lace. ion to the white-flowered type there ral colour forms of this delightful mong these one may find a variety s from pale rosy-mauve to a washy he best of these are, I think, Pt. roseum, in which the blossoms are pink. I have found this form in y as good as the typical species, and s a very charming mound when with its rosy flowers. Although it get above the stature given, a well-lant may ultimately cover 2 square 3 feet square at the base. These orms should, of course, always be ed by cuttings. A. T. J.
ales.

The great frost

uld seem that Devon this winter ced as much frost as is usual in other England in a normal winter.

ffect on plants, therefore, should be as to what is worth planting, with to having to give protection only in al winters.

is only one casualty, viz., Dendro-igidum, but as this came from a se and was planted in the full blast and East winds it hardly had a

ge tree of Paulownia imperialis, ves welcome shade in the middle of , is untouched, as is the Tulip tree dron tulipfera.

s that were browned but are shooting fresh foliage are Veronicas, Pitto- Crinodendrons, and Carpenteria a.

lla glauca and Prunus subhirtella lis took no notice of the frost, and blooming all the winter, and, of the Witch Hazels and Lonicera issima bloomed in their season, as us Davidii.

ine Australis and Erica Veitchii urt, as are Genista fragrans, hus Lyallia, and, of course, the s, Camellias, and Rhododendrons.

large leaved Saxifrage Megasea t, but recovered and bloomed as

her the lesson seems to be that shrub or plant is well established and far more frost than is usually credited, as all the above were quite unprotected. S. J. KNILL.
Barnstaple.

—— Sir William Lawrence's note on the above made interesting reading. It certainly is curious the plants frost affected and those which withstood it. Here Carpenteria californica, Diplarrhena, Moræa, and Chrysanthemum Mawii came through untouched. The old Eucalyptus globulus trees will lose every leaf, yet young trees 15 feet high are not hurt. Eucalyptus Gunnii is also untouched. The Glory Pea, Clianthus puniceus, on a south wall, is nearly killed, and so is Calceolaria violacea on the east wall.

Iris japonica seemed to thrive on the hard weather and is already showing signs of flower. Daphne indicum is in flower now and was not touched. Cordylines suffered here badly, Gilia californica and aggregata were killed outright, but most of the Callistemons, Billardieras, Mutisia decurrens are safe, and I see Lathyrus splendens is breaking from the base. R. MOORE.
Thorpe Hall Gardens.

Ptilotrichum (Alyssum) spinosum roseum

Vegetables under paper

In your issue of April 27th, Mr. Hayley asks about this method of growing vegetables. It is not by any means new. In fact, is a very old system, but has not (I think) been tried on commercial lines in this country. Paper was greatly used 80 or 90 years ago by the best type of gardener. In fact, the lights of frames were made of light lathe wood, on which the paper was drawn tight and tacked. It was then given two coats of boiled linseed oil and allowed to dry thoroughly before using. It was a special white cartridge paper, very strong, and had the advantage of being cheap and durable and light to handle, besides being warmer in frosty weather than glass. I have made and used many of them. Where frames were scarce and when the lights were wanted for another frame, the paper frame was used; it protected the plants from the sun and kept the soil moist, or rather kept the moisture from evaporating, and enough light went through to keep the plants from drawing unduly. I have, and do at present, used paper outside for protection on small plots of seed, and hardly ever sow a box of seed without a covering of paper. It is warm and will keep out almost any degree of frost if used as a protection around a plant in the winter and spring.

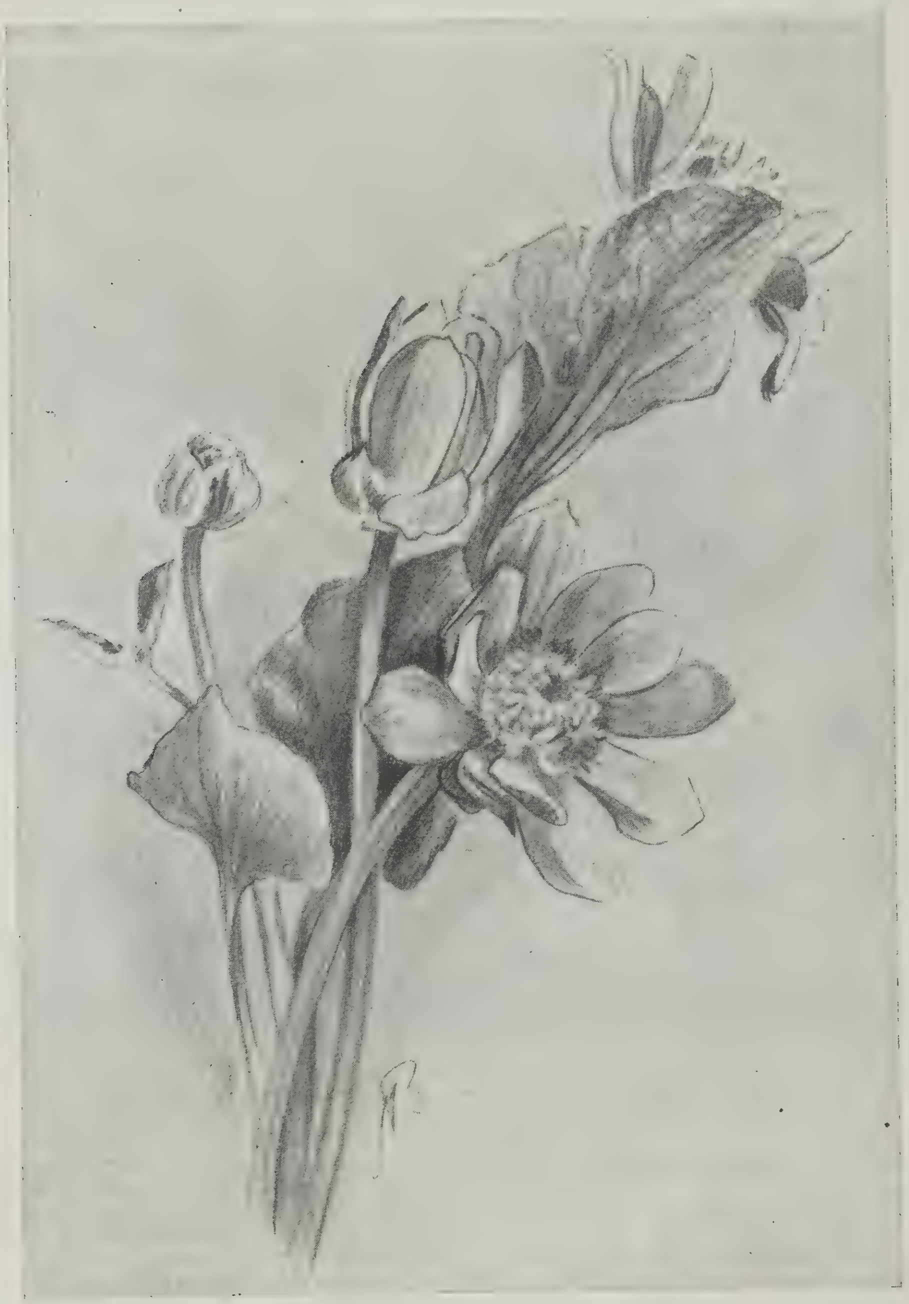
A choice Rose, or any other plant, with a covering of paper will stand the severest winter, and many times have I used same for protection The only trouble being, it is liable to get torn in the wind unless tied down. Seeds can be sown under it. It is a splendid covering for sowing Alpines (acting like a covering of snow to them in their native habitat.) In regard to using it on a large scale, when talking to a Dutch Bulb traveller, over 30 years ago, he told me that the German growers were using it on a large scale to cover the early vegetables. The paper was in large rolls and they simply pushed a pole through the centre and then dragged it along the beds they wished to cover. It was of a certain width and strongly made white paper. It was easily put on and taken off, and, of course, the only trouble would be the wind. The paper was put on as flat as possible, no hollows being left for water to lodge. He told me they got much earlier crops by this method.

Whether it would be cheap enough in Britain to use, I do not know, but it could be used easily in small places and by amateurs for protection of choice plants and seeds of all kinds; also if tried over fruit bushes in spring would protect them from spring frost. Ordinary newspaper is good, but does not last long, being of a soft nature. For protecting Chrysanthemum blooms in the autumn, it is often used by cottagers when preparing for shows.

TRANSPLANTED THISTLE.

Ficaria grandiflora

PERHAPS it is because the native Lesser Celandine is such a tiresome weed in some gardens that many people fight shy of the beautiful southern form shown in the drawing. It is, however, a precious possession when well established in sunny positions at the base of shrubs—deciduous ones for choice. It is frequently one of the first plants to show flowers in the New Year, and the largest form, from Algeria, will give a flower or two in December if the weather is favourable. If grown in moist ground in semi-shade it flowers later and becomes taller, with very large flowers and leaves. Again, it is a good subject to grow in a pot in a frost-free house and to bring into a sunny window in the early days of the year.



From a drawing by E. A. Bowles

Ficaria grandiflora

It will spread rapidly and be difficult to get rid of if its allotted portion of ground is dug and disturbed, for it forms abundant small tubers, every one of which can grow into a plant if separated from the parent, just as is the case with the ordinary Lesser Celandine. Therefore it should be planted where it is wanted, and there be left alone to form a charming carpet of rich green leaves under its brilliant yellow stars glistening in the sunlight on those precious days of late January and early February, when the warmth brings out the bees to the Crocuses and the Snowdrops lift their skirts to show off the green embroideries on their stiff white petticoats. It is also known as F. calthæfolia; no bad name either, for its leaves can be as large as those of the Kingcup when the plant is really happy. I have collected various forms and sizes of it in Algeria, Greece, and Italy. The Algerian form is the best, but is another instance of size and tenderness going together, and this horrible winter has punished it badly.

The Italian forms have not been injured at all, but have been retarded to flower in March, about six weeks later than their usual appearance. The white form of the common Lesser Celandine and the three known double forms are all favourites of mine, and they neither increase too rapidly nor appear where they are not wanted, because I just leave them alone. Another good point in their favour is the way they disappear—one
say melt away—when they have fi
flowering and the days are long and w

E. A. Bow

The hardy Umbrella Pla

Umbrella Plants are generally grown
glass, but in addition to the green
species there is the hardy variety C
longus. In the latter part of the summ
early autumn it is a very decorative s
During the spring, too, the green, Ru
leaves are very effective This hardy s
differs from the greenhouse one in
taller in growth, and its pendulous flor
on longer stems.

This Cyprus should be given a
position and a loamy, well-manured so
greatly likes moisture. To grow it t
fection, it certainly needs marshy grou
it will do well in a flower border i
watered freely. In a boggy position or
there is an inch or two of water o
ground some fine specimens may be
reaching 4 feet to 5 feet in height.
border, of course, it does not reach mo
half this height. In the wild garden
may be left undisturbed for years. F
damp spots or on the margins of strea
lakes few plants can touch it for bea
interest. It is also useful for arrangin
cut flowers. Propagation may be e
in spring by division of the roots. F

Iberis Little Gem

Of the several forms of the useful
sempervirens which we have in culti
the miniature variety named Little
seems to appeal with a special force
grower of rock plants, and it has pr
real boon to the owner of the smalle
gardens. Little Gem is only some 3
or 4 inches high, and constitutes a ne
right bush of evergreen leaves and
flowers in plenty. It is quite easily gr
any ordinary soil and, until this se
have never lost a plant during wint
January last, however, during a gale,
panied by the most severe frost we h
for over 30 years, my plants of this
were seared as if by fire, and are still
mournful-looking objects. Such an o
my plants suffered does not occur fre
however, and we may look upon it
fectly hardy. We had no snow to pro
plants, which accounts for their
injury. S. Ar

Arabis Taplow Rose

Connoisseurs in Alpine flowers g
care little for such Arabises as A. alp
A. albida, but thousands of garden
and small, would be comparatively
early spring were it not for the snowy
of bloom presented by masses o
Arabises. There had long been a w
pink or red flowered Arabis which
come before the Aubrietias and bloo
the others. The first to make its app
was A. aubrietioides, with ligh
flowers, but it has not proved so hard
where as is required. Various othe
since come into the field, but some
are not good enough, either in the
of flowers they produce, in colour, or
of growth, and the best I know is
Rose. It flowered with me last year,
spring it has been in bloom since t
week in March on rockwork be
moraine. It is planted in a crevice
stones and has made free growth,
compact nature. It is covered with
which open a light rose or blush, pa
a good rose. It is readily propag
cuttings or division of large plants.

es from a Cornish garden

Rhododendron moupinense

The flowers, usually three in a cluster, are white and fragrant. Native of Tibet, where it grows in the forks of trees

E, four of us, three crocks and a post-
nan, have been moving large Rhodo-
lendrons up a one-in-three incline,
y hard work it has been. To add to
bles the stretcher on which we carry
acked in the middle and we had to
-iron bars to strengthen it. In some
e could only drag, inch by inch, along
ınd, so we were heartily glad when
's work was over.

odendron moupinense got the frost,
lutescens escaped it. What a beauti-
ng it is in the woodland, with its
graceful growth, reddish-brown
and clouds of primrose-yellow flowers.

chmium, just opening, is of like
but taller, some 12 feet high here, I
and with the prettiest little pink
flowers, which, alas! are all too

vidum, too, of the lapponicum series,
rming little thing about 3 feet high
vered with its small salver-shaped,
flowers. Nor is its white variety,
rom a supposed cross with Keiskei,
beautiful.

pens is blooming for the first time
aving always previously been frosted.
ondering what to cross it with, for its
should be something very low-
, with a brilliant flower. Hybrid-
ith these early flowers is always
work, however, and we only saw the
of Blackthorn out on March 29th,
ryone knows the proverb, "Bitter as
ming of the Blackthorn."

a pity it is that so many people do
m to know the difference between
and tuum, and cannot let the beauty
countryside remain untarnished.
re Snowdrops down by the river, and
ds in one or two of the woods, but, far
ting them rest in peace, I have heard
f those who come with sacks and
skets, and not only pick the flowers
le, but grub up the bulbs as well, and
m. We have put Rhododendrons,
a wood bordering on the main road,
e idea of beautifying it and giving
to the passers by, but these often
eir branches torn off, sometimes by
ts, who ought to know better. One
even cut off the top of a Chinese
last year for a Christmas tree. How-
e caught four of the delinquents the other day, and I shall have to prosecute them as a warning to others.

But now for my sins, and to my great disgust, I have caught the infantile disease of German measles, and have to stay in one room for a week, leaving all my precious seedlings to be watered by someone else, and wondering what casualties I shall discover when let loose. It is too provoking! But as one enjoys going round the garden after absence from home, so I am anticipating a pleasant walk before long and some progress in most things. For, after all, it is spring, in spite of north winds and an entire absence of rain. . . . Yes, and the walk was pleasant, for many things had come out during the week, amongst others Magnolias conspicua and kobus, and one or two rather notable Rhododendrons.

But how detestable it is to leave the watering of one's seedlings to the gardener. So far as I remember there was a great Earl of Strafford whose motto was "Thorough." I have always admired him, and oftentimes wished that my gardener would adopt the same rule in life. But he is probably incapable of doing so, as are many of his kind. They water superficially, and the top soil looks damp when the master comes round, but next day an unnatural dryness shows itself. This is bad enough for established plants, but very much worse for seed and small seedlings, and I am terribly afraid that several boxes of Stuartia pentagyna may not germinate as a result of this treatment, and certainly one or two boxes of Rhododendrons are looking very sick. And the two notable Rhododendrons. One was R. Daphne, named after Lady Weymouth, the parentage of which is Bloodred arboreum x Thomsonii x neriiflorum. This is practically a Hose-in-hose flower, and its colour is the pure red of neriiflorum, but a trifle darker. Three of them there were on an 18-inch bush, and one hopes that the sister plants will be equally attractive.

R. agastum, of the irroratum series, was the other treasure. This arrived as a rogue among some other Chinese seed. It appears to be perfectly hardy and is a large white flower with delicate pink buds which have a big dark crimson blotch in the interior and some spots of the like colour on the upper lobes. The bloom is much larger than that of irroratum, and the plant has bigger and more leathery leaves. There is a curious hybrid from M. de Vilmorin out too, made, I suspect, by M. Mottet, and supposed to be polylepis x lutescens, though I rather wonder whether R. lochmium is not really one of the parents. It is very floriferous and of an uncommon yellow-pink colour with a touch of fawn, which is unlike anything I have seen before.

A group of Osmanthus Delavayi is particularly effective this year, for it entirely escaped the frost, and presumably last summer suited it, since every twig is a mass of scented white flowers. Two years ago it bore a certain amount of fruit, hanging drupes like small Cherries, and these I sent to a correspondent in British Columbia, but have not heard whether the seed germinated.

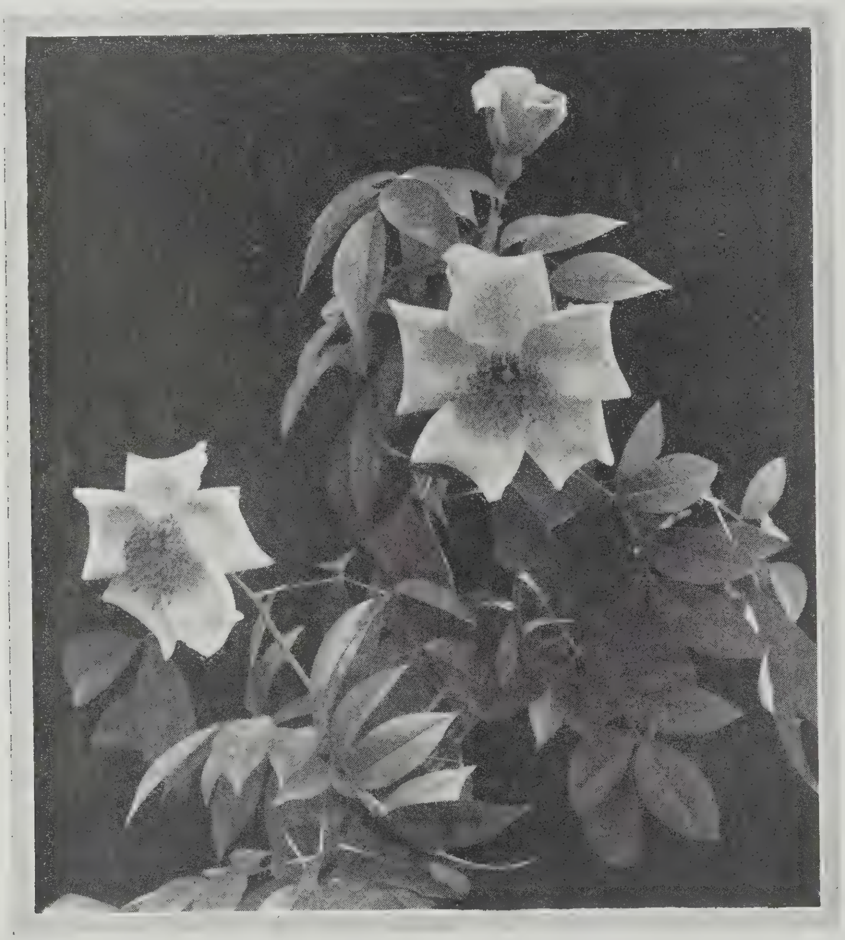
A newcomer to this garden is Sutherlandia frutescens. A friend who lives in Sussex

Rhododendron lutescens, which escaped the frost

It is the first of the triflorum series to open its flowers sent me seed of it two years ago, and the resulting plants stood the winter in a cold frame without the least injury, and I have just planted out the best specimen, which is bearing an abundance of its sealing-wax red Pea flowers, and very ornamental it is.

A nice little batch of Primula rosea had lately come out, and was giving us great pleasure in a damp spot alongside the drive, but in one night the ubiquitous and abominable rabbit ate off every single flower-scape. To-day I have had an experience which would be amusing but for the waste of time entailed. The Vicar of a neighbouring parish, who always applies to me for material wherewith to decorate his church, wrote that he proposed calling on me to get my advice on certain Rhododendrons in his vicarage garden. This evening he bicycled over, but I could get nothing coherent out of him, so I sent him home and, after tea, got in the car and went on a visit of inspection. His Rhododendrons were all Ponticums, and were planted tight under the boles of Beech trees.

Peter the Hermit.



Rosa gigantea

Awarded the R.H.S. Cultural Commendation when shown by the Director of the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge, on April 23rd

Cheiranthus Allionii

Cheiranthus Allionii is a perennial, but young plants are always to be preferred, and if, when the first flush of bloom is past, the seed vessels are removed, the plants will bloom practically throughout the year. I have, in a rock edging, many plants yet in fine flower which were put out in October of last year, and which began to bloom in April. C. Allionii is faintly and pleasantly perfumed.

A Scottish Gardener.

Rosa gigantea

It is such an unusual event for this Rose to flower in this country that when it does so it is worth recording. It was first discovered in Manipuh in 1882 at an elevation of 7,000 feet in the Shan Hills, Upper Burma. It is also a native of Western China, where it has been collected in Yunnan.

Rosa gigantea grows and flowers well on the Riviera, and has been used quite a lot for hybridising, but although it is hardy in some parts of England the sun apparently has not sufficient power to bring it often to the flowering stage.

It is said to have first flowered in Europe in 1898 at the Château Eléonore at Cannes. It is first recorded to have flowered in England at Albury Park, Guildford, in 1903, when two flowers were produced, again in 1904, and also at the same place in 1905, when it was shown at the Royal Horticultural Society meeting on February 28th and given a Botanical Certificate as well as a Cultural Commendation. Since then it has flowered at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in 1910, while it bloomed for the first time in the Cambridge Botanic Garden in 1917.

Undoubtedly due to the fine summer of 1928 this Rose is again at the present time producing a good display of its handsome flowers in the corridor of the range of glass-houses at the Botanic Garden, Cambridge, where it climbs along the roof.

Rosa gigantea is a very vigorous climber, and in its native country runs over trees, forming at first straight-branched stems as thick as 3 inches to 4 inches in diameter. The leaves when young have a rich bro green tint, becoming pale shining green mature, and consist of five to seven le The prickles are very few on the flo branches, which are short, sharp, ar curved, whilst on the young flow shoots these are large, massive, flat recurved.

The flowers are a beautiful g yellow in the bud stage, becoming pale age, particularly when exposed to the then almost white, and are from 4 inc 6 inches across. The plant is supposed the origin of the Tea Rose. It certain the delicious scent of it. The sepal linear-lanceolate, about an inch long are white on the inner surface. The are orbicular-obovate, while the stame numerous and the anthers are of a orange colour.

The fleshy fruits, which become as la small Apples, are said to be eaten Nagas.

George H. Pres

University Botanic Garden,
Cambridge.

Rose species of garden val

Some species of Rosa, by virtue o elegant growth, their delicately be flowers, and in some instances the sistent and highly coloured fruits, oc very prominent position amongst plants, and of them Rosa Moyesii is p larly desirable. This magnificent C species produces flowers of a colour to describe and of a penetrating brillia have heard the colour called a rich cotta-red. They are freely produced somewhat straggling growths, are sin curved, and quite 3 inches across, a succeeded by large scarlet fruits, th sisting until December in favourable s The plant will form a large and ha bush or it may be utilised as a climbe like R. Hugonis, it requires ver pruning.

R. Hugonis, also from China, prod May crowds of canary-yellow flowe beauty greatly enhanced by the at Fern-like foliage. Very handsome isolated specimen, in groups or as plant, this comparatively new species find a place in all gardens.

In R. Willmottiæ we possess a st beautiful Rose of ample and elegant The Fern-like, greyish foliage is a foil to the rosy-carmine flowers, wh freely produced. This species sh allowed to develop its natural grace line and it should be given a sunny on sloping ground.

R. rubrifolia is noteworthy for its foliage and red stems, and is fine for effect.

R. nitida is a lovely plant and is es welcome in the rock garden, where mer its red flowers are very attract are succeeded by scarlet fruits. The shining dark green in summer, ch autumn to a purplish hue, so that th shrub, some 2 feet high, is interest the greater part of the year. A American species, R. nitida was int so long ago as 1807.

R. sinica, with its large white flow shining leaves, the former with stamens, is superb for a warm wall, very lovely variety, R. s. Anemone, wi single pink flowers.

R. spinossisima maxima, sometime R. altaica, forms a large ramblin clothed with single pale yellow flow is ever an object of interest and adm

There are many others, but enumerated are capable of creating so fine garden effects.

Ralph E. Ar

sing groups in the New Hall on April 23rd and 24th

.L visitors were agreed that the show eld on April 23rd and 24th was one f the best, if not the best, that has ield in the New Hall. The success of ow was largely due to many large and rious groups of spring flowers. A has to be large and very imposing to he Gold Medal, especially in the New out no less than four Gold Medals were ed on this occasion, viz., Charles- & Co., for Orchids, in which Odonto- n Hybrids predominated; Sanders, agnificent circular group of fine plants mbidiums on a large floor space near is; Sutton and Sons for a large, oval, ndulating group of Darwin Tulips, also floor of the Hall; and Mrs. Buck- an ardent reader of this journal, of h Castle, Doneraile, Ireland, for a bold orgeous display of Anemones of the Castle strain.

re were six good groups of Daffodils, ous rock garden displays, and groups lvering shrubs.

ne group of Schizanthus Hybrids was y Mr. Samuel Wallrock, The Manor

ld Medal group of Darwin Tulips by Sutton and Sons

e, Stanmore; and star flowered Ciner- by Fanny Lady Leon, at Bletchley l.

Primula anisidora

nula anisidora is a bog plant, and is a of the Chungtien Plateau in Yunnan, it grows in moist places at an altitude ut 10,000 feet above sea level. It be- to the Candelabra section of the genus la, and it has smooth leaves with ld margins. The flowers are borne in n a stem about 18 inches tall, are of maroon colour, with a bright yellow nd are ¾ inch in diameter. The whole n including the roots, gives off a sweet d perfume. It thrives in a good moist and may be treated as a bog plant the growing season. It is possibly satisfactory when treated as a biennial.

Gavin Brown.

Creagh Castle strain Anemones shown by Mrs. Bucknall. Gold Medal

Primula frondosa

This beautiful spring-flowering Primula is a native of Thrace, where it grows in open sunny mountain pastures. It belongs to the Farinosæ section of the genus Primula, and is not unlike P. farinosa itself, though larger in flower and a little deeper in colour. It forms a rosette of egg-shaped leaves about 2 inches long, which are covered on both surfaces with white meal. It forms a large clump, comprised of numerous crowns, and should therefore be divided occasionally. From the centre of the rosettes slender, erect stems, also mealy, arise to a height of 3 inches to 4 inches, bearing an umbel of pale lilac blossoms, fully ½ inch in diameter. It thrives in an open, sunny position, in a fairly moist, heavy loam.

Gavin Brown.

A Gold Medal exhibit of Cymbidiums by Sanders of St. Albans

Thinning Fruit Blossom

By E. A. Bunyard, F.L.S.

THERE is an abundant promise of Apple and Pear blossom in the South, and, all being well, a bumper crop should follow. Perhaps nothing is more harmful to fruit trees than overcropping, and certainly nothing more unprofitable to the commercial fruit grower than the glutted market. It is probable, therefore, that the success of the fruit season will depend upon rigorous thinning, and, as a first step, the thinning of fruit blossom should be considered. Though little practised in this country it is frequently done in France, especially with Pears, and it has, of course, many advantages over fruit thinning. First of all, if we reduce our blossom by half, so much less is taken out of the tree in setting the young fruit and the consequent withdrawal of food supply from the tree and soil, which is only wasted. It is not often realised what an immense strain on the trees' food reserves takes place during the blossoming and the early stages of setting of the fruit, and it is a well-known adage that a large amount of blossom does not mean such a good crop of fruit as a moderate one. Secondly, the insect population does not increase with the extra blossoms, and therefore the chance of pollination is greatly reduced, but by thinning half the blossom success is more likely in this direction.

Flower thinning can be most easily done by a pair of Grape scissors so far as the Apples are concerned, and the central blossom of each truss is usually the strongest and should be left in preference to the side flowers. As to how many flowers should be left, the number of trusses is, of course, a guide, but if we reduce the number of flowers by half in a year of abundant blossom, this should amply provide for eventualities. There are usually some late and little developed buds on Apples and these are valuable and should be left on, as in cases of severe spring frost, as in 1928, it was these laggard blossoms that provided the crop.

With Pears the flowers are more in the nature of a raceme, *i.e.*, radiating from a central stem, and it is easy to pinch off, say, half of each truss, and in this case the lower flowers are usually better fruit producers.

When the flower buds are separated in the truss, so that they can be easily snipped off, the work can begin. It requires some courage to throw half the blossom of a tree on the ground, but if we keep in mind the fact that a large crop of small fruit is valueless, and some definite standard of, say, one fruit per truss if the spurs are near together, such boldness will find its due reward in the autumn months.

Spring treatment of Vines

A SHARP look-out must always be kept for mildew, and as the rods in houses are breaking into growth, every effort should be made to prevent it this summer. Errors in ventilating are a frequent cause, as are watering, or the want of water. A soddened border and an atmosphere parched and draughty, or dry roots in a damp house, must inevitably be followed by mildew.

In summer spells of cold, damp weather sometimes set in, when the leaves are in the soft stage, and some growers make the mistake of shutting up all ventilators quite tight and not opening them until sun has sent the thermometer too high for the good of the Vines. Such treatment is bound to bring on mildew. It is now time to begin to correct these evils by giving the Vines a fair start. No matter whether the structure is heated or not, a low temperature should always be the rule to commence with. Until the buds are on the point of breaking, keep the pipes only just aired, and in cases where there are no pipes, then ventilate on all occasions when the weather is favourable.

The great thing is to let the rods break as naturally as possible. Always keep in mind what is prevailing with our fruit trees in the open.

To the inexperienced or amateur I quite understand it is difficult to distinguish between damp and wet soil in an inside border, but I think it will help them if they overlook the fact that damp is cold, and that cold
not always denote an indication of suffic
moisture; that is, of course, as far as
are concerned.

The rods should be sprayed in the mor
during the early stages of growth, and
a day when growth is more advanced, but
last operation must be early enough to a
the water to dry up before night. Someti
rods have a tendency to break at the
only, leaving the rest of the buds at a st
still. In such cases, loosen such rods
the wires and let them hang down so tha
flow of sap is steadied. About this stage
temperature should be about 50 degs
night, with a rise of 5 degs. by day wit
sun heat. Progress will then be steady,
when the shoots are an inch long a
more warmth should be given. At this
we shall be able to see which are the str
est shoots to aid in disbudding. In
operation the general rule is one shoot
spur, but it is as well to disbud gradual
avoid accidents. Rods sometimes deterio
and in such cases a new lease of life m
given them by laying in a new growth
the lowest possible spur. These shoots
not be pinched until they are 3 feet in le
to strengthen the lower part, and the
that follows should be allowed to gro
long as it will. Stop all laterals, excep
leading one, at one leaf beyond the b
as soon as ever the latter can be seen.
laterals that are fruitless to grow to
fourth leaf before stopping. This rule
applies to leading growths which
reached the top of the structure, but i
case of young Vines allow more freedo

When the flowering period arrives dan
and syringing must be stopped, as a
dry and buoyant atmosphere is necessa
ensure a good set. At mid-day it is a
plan to go over the rods and tap them sh
in order to distribute the pollen, or give
a slight dusting with a rabbit's tail. A
to former conditions should be made as
as the berries are set. As the sun incr
in power, follow the last damping of th
by a high temperature in which g
revels. At this stage ventilation must r
careful attention, especially in the mor
otherwise there will be scalded leaves.
at the same time care must be taken
there is no undue fluctuation in the tem
ture of the house. F.

"Six of the best" Pears

The above phrase is a very useful
tisement in connection with all kin
fruits, whether large or small, especial
small growers, for with the endless n
of varieties now in commerce it is no
to make a selection if one only wants
of the best. It is peculiarly applica
Pears, of which there is often a tende
plant too many of the same season,
very short-lived after approaching the
ing season, with the result that unless
is an opportunity of placing surplus
numbers have to go to the manure
This is more especially the case wi
earliest varieties, which come in when
fruits are plentiful, and it also
partially to the second-early varieti
which Bon Chrêtien may be taken as a
August and September Pears shou
planted very sparingly. About the fou
keeping Pears I have grown are
Bonne, Thompson's, Nouvelle fulvie
Glou Morceau.

I noted above that this phrase a
equally to small and large fruits, as,
stance, with Gooseberries. If one pl
small collection of cordons it is advisa
pick an early and late sort that will be
able for all culinary purposes and some

An over abundance of Pear blossom

By reducing the blossom now so much less is taken out of the tree in setting the young fruit r of the best dessert kinds that will n rotation for a couple of months. A the best is also a maxim that might pply to the selection of Cherries and erries. E. BURRELL.

ato growing in small houses

rule, in many houses, the end of or early April is quite soon enough to Tomatoes, whilst in not a few places g can be done until May when some garden subjects can be removed to ames for hardening. I know some, nce were very keen on raising their lants from seed, sow it early in the ut the necessary heat which had to be -and which was not required for other nts—proved more expensive in the un than purchasing the comparatively ants they needed. The average man wants but a small number of Tomato two or three dozen at the outside, and him to procure them from those who a business of raising, and so by May his house is relieved of other things, oes can be potted or placed in boxes t away. If the truth could be told the cost of fuel, and the failures h damping off and inadequate warmth es, the one who procures his plants as hen he wants them is the gainer.

l and May bring more sun, which is der glass, and Tomatoes feel the beneft. It is one thing to be able to devote e exclusively to Tomato growing, and r to bring on young plants amongst hings. Tomatoes resent a check, and heat can be given from the commenceuntil weather conditions improve, and regular heating of the house unary, it is better to defer making a start. horoughly convinced that uninterrupted in Tomatoes is more to be considered etting fruit early without regard to the production. W. F.

Runner Beans

Runner Bean is in constant demand ur large gardens from July to October, also the most important green crop in titude of cottage gardens, allotments, en in the tiny backyard gardens of our towns. It grows freely and serves the purpose of embellishing unattractive es and affording wholesome food. of the warmer regions of South ca, it is a very tender plant and will mb to a slight frost which the Dwarf Bean growing alongside would en- It is thus possible to obtain earlier s from Dwarf Beans than from rs, but in weight of crop and duration son the Dwarf types cannot compete he Runner, and by many the flavour of ter is preferred.

Runner Bean is a moisture-loving subnd a period of prolonged drought is rying, especially on light, porous soils. sure continuity of supplies, therefore, it d practice to grow the plants in well- ed trenches where the soil has been worked and had abundance of organic e incorporated with it, thus rendering e retentive of moisture. On heavier his may not be so necessary, but in all the ground should be deeply worked ell manured.

hing is gained by too early sowing outnd about the first week in May is early h to make the first sowing. A further g may be made in the first half of June intain supplies later in the season, but uld be noted that continuity of supply gely controlled by method of gathering, othing tends to arrest the development of successional Beans so much as leaving a few pods at the base of the plant to mature seed. If the pods are gathered as fast as they become ready those that follow have a much better chance of development.

Although large areas of Runner Beans are grown under field culture conditions without supports, by practising a system of pinching the growing points better results and heavier crops are obtained by affording stakes; long, stout Pea-sticks form the most useful supports. If these are inserted on each side of a double row, slightly inclined to the middle and securely attached to a horizontal rod at a convenient height, they form an ideal structure for the plants to climb on and prevent them from suffering during rough, windy weather.

The modern varieties of Runner Bean are marvellous productions and a striking example of the advance made in the food value of varieties of vegetables in the last few decades. So recently as the 'eighties of the last century a grower in Oxford acquired fame by producing Beans of unusual size for that time, some sample Beans "measuring 9 inches from the beak to the handle and weighing exactly one ounce." It is nothing uncommon for our present-day varieties to double these figures, and the increase is not in the least at the cost of quality or refinement in appearance. Under good conditions of cultivation the modern 18-inch Bean is a handsome model, almost stringless and containing flesh of splendid cooking qualities, while the free-bearing character of the plant leaves nothing to be desired. W. AUTON.

Celery trenches

These must now be prepared in readiness for the earliest kinds, which will be large enough for planting out towards the end of the month. Trenches for double rows should be from 15 inches to 16 inches in width and about the same—or on heavy soils slightly less—in depth. The bottom of these trenches should be deeply broken up and a good layer of well-decayed manure placed thereon, and over this 3 inches of good loam to plant in. See that the young plants now growing in frames do not suffer from lack of moisture, and when about 4 inches in height gradually harden off, ultimately standing them in the open.

Rhododendron Linley Sambourne

Rhododendron Linley Sambourne

THIS hybrid was the result of a cross made in 1913 between a large-flowered hybrid and R. Loderi, not at that time in commerce. In habit the plant is somewhat tall and loose, but the branches are well furnished with long, dark green foliage. The large trusses are made up of widely expanded flowers, in colour a rich, rosy pink, with a deep carmine blotch at the base of the segments. It received an Award of Merit at the Rhododendron Show, May 1st and 2nd, 1928.

The writer had been invited to view a plant of R. Loderi, a gift from Sir Edmund Loder, then in bloom for the first time, and was very kindly given a flower to carry home. On the way, the potency of the plentiful pollen contained in it was realised, and later used to pollinate a number of species and large-flowered hybrids. Careful records were kept, and some six hundred plants raised in the spring of 1914. But soon the men, and even the boys as they grew up, left for the "Front," and an untrained lady-gardener, previously a milliner, took charge, but, hard worker as she was, she did not realise the importance of keeping batches of seedlings separate, with the result that although one parent of R. "Linley Sambourne" is well known, it is not wise to be too sure about the other. J. COMBER.

Achillea umbellata for the dry wall

This is a pretty dwarf rock plant, and one eminently suited for growing in the dry wall, where its beauty can be seen and admired at all seasons of the year. It is a fairly fast-growing plant, and very quickly establishes itself in new surroundings. The flower-heads, consisting of six or eight white flowers, are produced in the form of a simple umbel during the summer. Its regularly lobed leaves are clothed with a dense silvery pubescence, which enhances the beauty of the plant.

It is advisable to divide and replant it about every third year, when it develops a straggly appearance. This may easily be done by pulling the plant apart and replanting the pieces, which will re-establish themselves in a very short time. J. L.

Rhododendron intricatum

MANY of the dwarf Rhododendrons are well adapted for use in the rock garden, and among them R. intricatum well deserves its place. The variety, while it is a robust grower, never becomes over-exuberant, and its delicate blooms are always welcome early in April. I have in mind in my own rock garden a plant of R. intricatum, the soil beneath which is carpeted with Synthyris reniformis. The combination is perfect, the two plants blooming simultaneously and harmonising remarkably well. Certainly R. intricatum varies in colouring in different gardens, but I am inclined to attribute the variation to soils and, perhaps, in a less measure to exposure. Be that as it may, R. intricatum is a most desirable plant.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Deutzia Veitchii

THIS is quite one of the best Deutzias, if not the best, and is a very effective small shrub as an isolated specimen, in the shrub border, or trained against a wall. D. Veitchii was introduced from China by Mr. E. H. Wilson about 1912, and it received A.M., R.H.S. The flowers are large, and a very beautiful shade of pink in colour, the panicles ample and freely produced. It comes very near to D. longifolia, and, indeed, sometimes D. Veitchii is listed as a varietal form of that species. The latter is, however, better coloured, and, I think, a superior acquisition. If not of very rapid growth, these deciduous shrubs are not fastidious, and will thrive in any ordinarily good and well-drained soil, in a sunny position; they are very beautiful when planted on a large rock garden. I well remember a particularly pretty effect created by D. Veitchii growing against an old grey stone wall.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Genistas: Fragrant flowering shrubs

Cytisus fragrans, popularly called Genista, is a refreshingly fragrant, yellow-flowering evergreen shrub, useful for pot culture for bringing into bloom in the greenhouse in spring. It is a shrub which appeals to many, inasmuch as it can be successfully grown in a greenhouse where only a moderate temperature is maintained in winter, and anyone who has a house which is kept at about 50 degs. need have no hesitation in taking it in hand. A few plants in a house in flower are sufficient to fill it with a delightful perfume which reminds one of the fragrance of the Lemon-scented Verbena (Aloysia).

To grow them to perfection Genistas need to be potted in a compost of loam two parts to one of sand and fibrous peat. Grown in 5-inch or 6-inch pots they are most useful for window and table decoration. After plants have ceased to bloom they should be cut well back, kept within the warmth of the greenhouse for a time, and well syringed in order to encourage new growth, afterwards being removed to a cold frame until the weather admits of their being stood or plunged out of doors for the summer months. They should be well looked after in regard to watering when so located. Propagation can be effected from cuttings of the new wood taken off when several inches long, or a selection can be made of half-ripened non-flowering shoots before plants are cut back. Those taken with a "heel" are not long in rooting if placed in a striking pit or in pots of sandy soil and plunged in warmth. Quite nice little specimens can be grown in $3\frac{1}{2}$-inch pots, but it is when potted on into 5-inch pots that they are the most appreciated. From about 18 months from striking these make very desirable plants.

W. F.

Shrubs of Recent Introduction

By HERMAN SPOONER

During the last half century a great change has taken place in gardening as practised in this country. Perhaps the greatest change of all is in the taste that has been developed for hardy plants, particularly for hardy flowering trees and shrubs. Although a number of very fine species were available before the period mentioned, they were, for the most part, lost in the dismal plantations that were known as shrubberies, whose main purpose was to give privacy or shelter, and not primarily to display the beauty of the trees and shrubs that composed them.

(Concluded from page 272)

TO the Deutzias have been added the fine D. discolor major, a form with arching sprays of large rose-coloured flowers, and D. longifolia Veitchii with flowers of a rich, rosy purple, both distinctive plants in the family to which they belong. The Spiræas have been enriched by the new Chinese S. Henryi, a large-growing kind, from 6 feet to 9 feet high, producing corymbs of pure white flowers at the ends of the twigs along the whole length of the arching branches; and S. Wilsonii, a closely allied species, and similar in general appearance. S. Veitchii, also from China, and probably the best of the Chinese kinds, is a strong-growing kind, producing shoots 6 feet in length in one season, and in June corymbs of pure white flowers along their entire length.

Rhododendron intricatum in the rock garden

The additions to the large genus Rhododendron from China have been very numerous, the mountainous interior being apparently the headquarters of this fine family. Many of them are of botanical interest only, but there are some fine forms that may prove of great value to the breeder. Amongst so many good things it is difficult to make a selection in a short article such as this, but mention may be made of the dwarf-growing species, of which R. intricatum is a type. This is a small bush, clothed with roundish leaves not over $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, and covered with glistening scales. The flowers are produced very freely in trusses terminating the branches; they are about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch across, and of a pale violet-purple colour. For the rock garden, or for mas
as a carpeting for Lilies and other such
growing plants, this species and its allie
decided acquisitions. Another Chinese sp
of earlier introduction, and therefore b
known than the preceding, is R. rac
sum. This is also a dwarf kind, growi
about 5 feet to 6 feet, of a neat, bushy h
with small leaves up to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch
length. The flowers are borne in prof
in April and May in the axils of the u
most leaves and terminating the bran
They are of a variable shade of pinkish
about 1 inch across, and very charming

The wild Roses have also received
new kinds that are too numerous to me
in detail. Perhaps the most distinctiv
garden purposes, by reason of the u
colour of its flowers, is R. Moyesii,
W. China. This grows about 6 feet
feet high, and has abundant, fine, needl
prickles, and neat dark green leaves
posed of from seven to ten leaflets.
flowers are of a deep brick-red c
2 inches to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches across, and are foll
by drooping, bottle-shaped red fruits
inches long.

The genus Berberis, which includes
fine garden plants as B. Darwinii, an
hybrid stenophylla, has been greatly enr
of recent years by new kinds from C
Amongst the latter are both evergreen
deciduous species, valuable not onl
flowering plants, but also for their au
colouring and ornamental fruits which
retain throughout the greater part o
winter. Although not finer than the
kinds mentioned, some of the newer
ductions possess special features that
them valuable as garden subjects. Pe
the most generally attractive is B. Wil
a charming dwarf species, seldom more
3 feet high, with neat, small leaves that
a beautiful red before falling, and abu
berries of a bright pinkish red that a
chief attraction. Another deciduous s
that produces brilliant autumn colouri
B. polyantha. This attains a height
feet or 8 feet, and the slender, a
branches are clothed with leaves 1 in
2 inches in length, broadest at the tips.
bright yellow flowers are produced in
abundance in axillary panicles, and
followed by vermilion berries, which
a fine splash of colour after the leaves
fallen.

Amongst the evergreen species of Be
may be mentioned Gagnepainii, which
about 6 feet or 7 feet high, and has a
stems, clothed with dark, dull green, n
leaves up to 3 inches in length, and to
along the margin. In autumn the
leaves assume a reddish tinge and fo
pleasing contrast to the dark, purplish
fruits, which succeed the clusters of
flowers. For massing in beds or for fo
a low garden hedge this species is dec
useful. Another evergreen is B. pru
the stems of which attain 6 feet to 10
clothed with spines, and light, glossy
leaves, 1 inch to 3 inches in length, the
of which turn a bright red in autumn.
flowers, borne singly or in clusters, ar
lemon yellow colour, and are follow

ies of egg-shaped black fruits, thickly with a waxy "bloom," which give bluish colour. Another pleasing ever- s B. verruculosa, also from China. It t 4 feet high, and has dark, glossy eaves, that are glaucous beneath, and inch to 1½ inches in length, arranged ters on the branches. The bright flowers are succeeded by blackish hat are coated with a thick white wax, them a striking and conspicuous nce.

hy to rank with the Barberries for reat variety, rich autumn colouring, illiant fruits are the Cotoneasters. amily, like that of Berberis, has re- many recent additions from China, which have distinct merit as garden s, either for decorative work, or as and cover plants. The best known, oldest of the newer kinds, is C. talis, introduced about 50 years ago. as low-spreading branches that are with small leaves about ½ inch long, kish-white flowers that appear singly, all over the plant during May. The red fruits persist after the leaves have which they do late in the year, after ng orange and red tints that are very ve.

ntrast to this species is C. Henryana, green, 8 feet to 10 feet high, with green leaves, 3 inches to 5 inches in and tough and leathery in texture. ite flowers produced in corymbs in e followed by crimson fruits. Another ine evergreen species particularly ve when in fruit is C. ballata, intro- rom China by way of France. This nted, dark green leaves, 2 inches to 3 inches long, and felted beneath with grey or yellowish down. The flowers in corymbs are succeeded by pear-shaped fruits of a brilliant red, which are its real attraction.

Deutzia longifolia Veitchii

Flowers rich rosy purple, borne in axillary clusters. One of Wilson's introductions from China

Belonging to the same family as the Cotoneasters is Stranvesia undulata, a recent introduction from China, remarkable for the beauty of its bright red fruits, which are abundantly produced, and for the red autumn colour of its older leaves. Climbing plants have also benefited by recent additions from China, especially the Vines, although nothing superior to the older Vitis Coignetiæ is amongst them. The Vines are, of course, valued for the beauty of their habit and foliage, and for their fine autumn colouring. The most meritorious of recent introductions are V. armata and its variety Veitchii, which have large, heart-shaped leaves, often 10 inches long by 8 inches broad, the leaf-stalks and principal veins covered with gland-like processes; V. Henryana, rather tender, with compound leaves consisting of three to five leaflets, of a rich velvety green, with pink and silvery veins; V. leeoides, a species having pinnate leaves up to 1 foot in length, green above and purplish beneath; and V. reglaophylla, similar to the preceding, but with doubly pinnate leaves, often 2 feet in length, and very striking in appearance.

Magnolia stellata planted at the waterside

One of the finest of all early-flowering shrubs

Amongst flowering climbers the most striking addition is the lovely rose-red variety of Clematis montana, known as rubens, which forms a charming companion to the type. The evergreen species, C. Armandii, is also a fine plant. It has trifoliate, leathery leaves, in the axils of which are borne the clusters of creamy-white flowers, each of which measures about 2½ inches across. This list, lengthy as it has become, includes only those species or varieties introduced from their natural habitats in distant countries, and it takes no account of the many fine additions to our hardy shrubs which nurserymen and others, in this country and on the Continent, have evolved by cultivation and hybridisation. These latter include many fine plants belonging to such families as the Lilacs, Mock Oranges, Ceanothuses, Spiræas, Diervillas, flowering Currants, etc., to say nothing of Rhododendrons and Azaleas, which are in a group apart. It will be gathered, therefore, that these new introductions and improved varieties provide a vast amount of good material for the hardy shrub garden, in addition to such old favourites as Crab Apples, Thorns, Cherries, Laburnums, Wistarias, Honeysuckles, Kalmias, Heaths, Cistuses, etc. If wisely selected, it is now possible to have in the hardy garden shrubs or trees that will bloom throughout the year, and autumn effects in fruit or foliage equal in splendour to the beauty of the flowers

Hollyhocks

Although much hardier than the Dahlias, it is risky to plant them out early, more because of the damage caused by wind than by frost. If, however, the weather gets genial they can now be got out. See that they do not suffer from dryness at the roots.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Sweet Violets

Abundant material is now available with which new plantations may be formed, and this will permit of the frames in which they have been growing being used for other purposes. The position for the plants should be enriched by well-decayed manure, dug over deeply, and for preference in partial shade. When lifting the plants remove the strong, healthy side shoots only for transplanting, and these should be planted in lines 1 foot apart and from 9 inches to 1 foot apart in the rows. If the weather continues dry, water must be given at frequent intervals until it is apparent that the plants have taken hold of the soil.

Lobelia cardinalis

This handsome Mexican flower in all its varieties may now be planted where it is intended to bloom. It thoroughly enjoys a deep, moist, leafy soil, and in such the plants will attain 5 feet to 6 feet in height and produce very handsome flower-spikes. Any old plants which have wintered safely in the open should be lifted, divided, and replanted at 1 foot apart on fresh ground.

Alpines and perennials from seed

These come very freely if sown in sandy soil at the present time. The boxes, pans, or pots used should be well drained and placed in a cool closed frame, where they should be shaded from bright sunshine until germination has taken place. Seeds which may also be sown on well-drained borders in the open include all kinds of Wallflowers, Honesty, Delphiniums, Columbines, Harebells, Hollyhocks, etc.

Hardy annuals

Those which for convenience have been raised in frames and grown on in readiness for the beds and borders may now be planted out, water being given until they have become established.

Staking perennial flowers: Pæonies, Delphiniums, Lilies, etc.

It is important that supports be placed to these flowers before growth has advanced too far, otherwise much damage will result. The former kinds look best when staked with Hazel branches, but single sticks are preferable for Lilies, and if extra fine spikes of Delphiniums are desirable the growths should be thinned. The same applies to Herbaceous Phloxes.

The Alpine garden

All vacancies should have been made good ere this, but where positions have been reserved for choice dwarf annuals no time should be lost in getting these sown. A few choice subjects for this purpose include Platystemon californicus, Ionopsidium acaule, Sedum cœruleum, Felicia abyssinica, and Portulacas.

Chicory

This plant is in great demand during the winter months, and the present is the time to sow the seeds. The soil for this should be well prepared and in good heart, the seed sown in shallow drills at 14 inches apart. When the plants have reached about 3 inches in height they should be thinned to 6 inches apart.

Cucumbers and Melons

Many frames which have been used for the hardening off of bedding plants will shortly be available for other purposes, and may well be devoted to the above, plants of which should be prepared in readiness. The best results are obtained where a little bottom heat in the shape of fermenting manure or other material can be buried beneath the soil.

Trenches for Scarlet Runner Beans

These must now be prepared as for Celery, for although they will not be required for another fortnight it is advisable to have them in readiness beforehand and thus enable the newly moved soil to become weathered.

Fruit trees

Remove protecting material which has now served its purpose, in order that the trees may obtain their full benefit from air and sunshine. It may also be found necessary to give such trees a thorough soaking of water.

Strawberries

In some districts it is getting difficult to obtain straw for the protection of early-flowering varieties and for placing beneath the fruits, therefore I advise growers to get such material without delay so that no time is lost when it is needed.

Gooseberries

Keep a sharp look-out for the destructive caterpillar of the Magpie Moth on Gooseberries and Currants, and should its presence be located spray at once with Katakilla, the safest and finest insecticide one could possibly use for this pest. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Dahlias

It is a mistake to retain these too long in heated houses, as they get lanky and long-jointed, and therefore less able to withstand the check inevitably caused by planting out. As soon, therefore, as the plants get from 6 inches to 7 inches high have them transferred to cold frames, where they can get abundance of air during the day, and may be well matted up at night should frost threaten. In this way they can be gradually and properly hardened off for planting out early in June.

Pentstemons

These stately autumn-flowering plants are, of course, almost hardy, even here in the north, so if they have not been coddled during the last few weeks they may be set out in their flowering quarters. To have good results the ground should be fairly rich and well and deeply worked.

East Lothian Stocks

It is only by having these fine Stocks fit to plant before the middle of May that really good results are had. Rich, rather heavy loam suits this plant best, while the situation must be open and sunny. If growing in boxes or beds under a cold frame, considerable care in lifting the plants is desirable, so as to secure a good ball of earth around the roots. To this end give a thorough soaking of water the day previous to planting out.

Antirrhinums

These, if they have been hardily grown during the last few weeks, should also be in a fit state for setting out in their permanent quarters. This plant is not at all fastidious as to soil, but a sunny position is desirable.

Dwarf Beans

On retentive land it is risky to sow these yet, the seeds being very apt to rot should a wet spell set in. With light, open soils it is different, so a sowing may now be made on such.

Runner Beans

These are slightly hardier than the d sorts, although at times during cold, weather the seeds rot. It is, therefor good plan to plant twice or three times number of seeds necessary, and if gem tion is good the plants can be thinned 4 inches or 5 inches high. It pays to this Bean generous treatment.

Early Parsley

The plants raised in heat should no planted out. In gardens where this fails to do well a generous dressing of mould forked into the ground before p ing takes place will ensure a fine, he crop.

Onions

Box-raised plants may now be plante if this has not already been done. Sp sown beds should be thinned as soon as the plants can be handled. Choose sho weather for this operation if possible.

Early Leeks

The plants raised early in the year glass should now be planted out in prepared trenches. Should the weath dry give a good watering, and if there b sign of frost or drying winds afford a protection by laying a few Spruce bra over the trench.

Feeding Ferns

Plants that are pot-bound can be g benefited by systematic feeding with liquid-manure, clear soot-water, Ichthemic guano. The latter is easily pared, a dessertspoonful to a gallon of being a suitable strength at first. three may be used week about, and tw week is often enough at first, but late may be increased to three times weekly.

Pelargoniums

Given cool treatment and a regular s of weak liquid-manure (twice or thr week) all sections of this useful famil bloom over a long period and keep green and conservatory gay, while the double of the Zonal section are valuable a flowers.

Cinerarias

Prick off the seedlings into boxes of soil before they get too large. Cool ment and shade from all bright sunshi the main essentials to success with this Earlier batches should be potted off a in a shady frame.

Herbaceous Calceolarias

A little gentle feeding will greatly these showy subjects. Keep free of Fly by periodic vaporisings with ni To produce plants for next year's blo seed may now be sown. A cold frame a north wall is the best place for the pans.

Primula malacoides

Seeds sown now will produce plant will succeed better, as a rule, than raised earlier. Cool treatment is de and very careful watering, damp bei chief enemy of this pretty little Primros

Tomatoes

These are now setting freely, and ver feeding must be resorted to. While manure is excellent, quite as good resu had by the judicious use of artificial lants. By giving light dressings of about once every three weeks good follow and considerable time is saved.
C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

The Sweet o' the Year

E beautiful maiden of the old legend
no, clothed in golden draperies, flies
m mountain-tops over the land,
ng blossoms as she goes, would seem
power to stir into life and colour the
of Nature over which she passes. A
blush is given to the "faint, sweet
-flower" by the stream-side, and the
ps open their hearts of gold to give
eting, for is she not the "Sunbeam
" for which they have been watching?
far away in the garden the buds of
nine pratensis fl.-pl., the lovely double
-flower, are showing tiny tips of
Their opening into full beauty
nises with the advent of the mystery

can imagine just the old-fashioned
which the great Shakespeare had in
nd's eye when he gave this plant the
of "Lady's Smock." Only a weed,
t quite ready to adorn any garden, so
ely floriferous is it.
r plants of weed-like growth are the
as, otherwise Honesty. The mauve-
n masses of bloom strike a cheery note.
Honesty is rather later in blooming.
ch green of the leaves contrasts well
he purity of the blossom, sometimes
the "Spectacle-flower," as the oval
ssels fall away, leaving the silvery,
rent partition remaining on the stalk.
n varieties these somewhat despised old
are suitable for grouping in woodland
garden.
flower, above all, belongs to the Sweet
Year, now at its zenith. Clustering in
banks under the hedgerows in shel-
orners they are a joy to everyone, and
garden the blossoms that have been
ing in small quantities all winter are
truly a delight. Wedgwood and
e blues mingle with buff and terra-
shades, while the "crumpled Cow-
" and Hose-in-Hose are of never-
interest.
sweet Narcissi Poeticus are unfurling
vaxen petals, equally beautiful in the
varieties as in the rather later
ia-flowered Narcissi, a blossom not to
ly surpassed. The Anemones, by the
decree, are breaking into patches of
ce. A large family, they provide
of the greatest interest in varieties to
rockwork, water, or herbaceous gar-

y in a mossy dell down by the river
riety called nemorosa droops or is
in turns, whilst its double form
ties the garden and steals away through
odland and to grassy slopes, where it
shes little colonies and keeps its own
y.

"An old favourite"

e were many plants of Hesperis
alis fl.-pl. alba in an old garden of
go. There they flourished exceedingly.
clumps of beautiful sweet Rockets sent
ms several feet in length, thickly set
hite Stock-like blossoms. Their fra-
was a happy memory. The faint day-
veetness becomes intensified as the sun
own, and to walk in the garden or
room in the evening where they are is
a revelation of their deliciousness, and
hey are well called "Sweet Rockets."
old garden were many delightful
t Side by side with the double white
s were clumps of Dielytra spectabilis,
nk and crystal lyre-shaped blossoms
from the gracefully arching stems,
old Pansies, Musk and Monkey-
, Roses and Potentillas, and Blue-
larys all were there.

Nowadays the old Sweet Rockets do not seem to adapt themselves so graciously to their surroundings. Whether they are given the same treatment as in the old garden is doubtful. It is well to keep young plants on hand ready to fill up gaps should such occur. These may be propagated by offshoots or cuttings. The soil must be rich, stiff, and calcareous. Withered blooms should be removed.

The purple variety of double Rocket has become even more scarce than the white. It is a most desirable plant for the early summer herbaceous border. Sometimes these double Rockets do exceedingly well, and it is quite possible, with more or less trouble, to coax them into their great beauty. E. A.

Pyrethrums

Pyrethrums are of extremely easy culture, and grow freely in most garden soils. There are many varieties, single and double, and being varied in fine colours they deserve to be well cultivated. The habit of the plants is compact when in bloom, ranging from 18 inches to 24 inches in height, and forming pyramids of flowers. In all kinds the flowers are carried erect on stiff stems well above the foliage, and the flowers are abundant. The single section usually exhibits a taller and a looser growth, and should be placed in the border behind a plant of more lowly stature.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Mother of Thousands

THIS fine old plant . . . was at one time only to be found in the cottage window. It is, however, very suitable for hanging-baskets and other situations for which its pendent tresses render it valuable. It is particularly free flowering, and the flowers, which are borne on large branching panicles, are light and graceful. Its leaves, which are dark green, are prettily mottled with white, and the plant sustains little or no injury from room cultivation. One peculiarity which increases its beauty, and which makes it so precious for hanging-baskets, is its long, reddish, thread-like runners, here and there furnished with little rosettes of leaves or plantlets. . . . Thus we have masses of delicate white flowers rising above the green-and white foliage, and below a shower of silky red runners. . . .

As old plants do not bloom so long as young ones, occasional replanting is desirable. March and April is undoubtedly the best time to plant, just as they are commencing growth. Autumn planting should always be avoided. Even in light sandy soils a wet winter will ruin autumn-planted stuff. July planting is often advocated, soon after the plants have flowers, and, providing the plants receive proper care and attention as regards watering, there is no reason why Pyrethrums moved in July should not prove successful.

Though Pyrethrums are in their fullest beauty in June they are seldom altogether flowerless throughout the summer, and healthy clumps will give a good percentage of bloom in autumn when most needed.

Many of them are equally at home in a thin shrub border as in the herbaceous border. Sun, indeed, is probably the first essential to success with the Pyrethrums, an absolutely open and even exposed spot suiting them best, and a light, but fairly rich, sandy loam on the dry side. Lime or old mortar rubble may be mixed with the soil to make up a good rooting medium. The chief enemy in the form of garden pests is the slug, which shows a decided liking for the young shoots. By placing around the plant a good handful of lime, however, this pest is overcome.

I append a list of varieties:—Double varieties: White Queen, pure white; Queen Mary, deep pink; Pirle, rose pink; Lady Derby, pale pink; Wiga, yellow and pink; Excelsior, pink and cream; J. N. Twerdy, crimson and gold; Yvonne Cayeux, primrose; and Dainty Queen, pale pink and cream. Single varieties: James Kelway, deep red; Harold Robinson, rich crimson; Mrs. Bateman Brown, velvety crimson; Margaret Moore, soft pink; Agnes Mary Kelway, rose; H. M. Stanley, bright crimson; Snow White, pink to white; Princess of Wales, soft pink; and Aurora, creamy pink.

H. Stevens.

Anomatheca cruenta

Although introduced from the Cape of Good Hope nearly a century ago, this remarkably bright little bulbous Irid does not appear to be very widely grown. This may be due to the fact that its complete hardiness is doubted, but even if the plant has to be treated as a half-hardy bulb, it is worthy of the attention of the grower, for its dwarf stature, carmine-crimson colour, free-flowering habit, and long period of display combine to make it a most useful border plant. Probably its hardiness depends more on soil and position than on actual temperatures, for on warm borders in well-drained and sandy soil it grows with remarkable freedom, and increases rapidly if left undisturbed for two or three years. The bulbs are somewhat small, and should not be planted at too great a depth. In a light sandy soil from 3 inches to 4 inches would be suitable, but on heavy types of soil from 2 inches to 3 inches is sufficient. Where the natural soil is of a very retentive nature, however, it is advisable to remove several inches from the surface and replace it with light, gritty material which should be worked as much as possible into that remaining. A narrow border in a sheltered position, well drained, and so treated, becomes a warm border, and permanent planting may be practised with success. W. Auton.

Violets

Young runners are now breaking freely from the plants, and from these the best Violets are raised. These runners on unkindly soils do not take hold freely, and where this is the case, and a large stock has to be raised, turn these runners into cuttings early and get them well-rooted in frames. Cut them off about 3 inches long, if possible with a little root, and dibble them into a bed of rich soil in a frame. Keep the latter rather close for two or three weeks while the cuttings are rooting. Then gradually inure them to plenty of air, harden off for two or three weeks in the open air by removing the lights and then plant out.

They should be given a partially-shaded position on light, warm soils, such as the shadow of a wall or building for part of the day, but not beneath the drip of trees. Where the soil is heavy the bed must be specially prepared by digging in leaf mould or old potting soil. Violets are hearty feeders, and delight in plenty of well-decayed manure. Some growers favour a good dressing of lime. F. H.

Coleus thyrsoides

Coleus thyrsoides is a beautiful winter-flowering greenhouse plant, and one that is exceedingly useful, either in the conservatory or for house and table decoration, coming into bloom at a time when flowering plants are most valuable. This species is a native of British Central Africa, and was introduced during the latter part of last century. It flowered at Kew for the first time in 1898. Its beautiful blue flowers are produced in comparatively long and somewhat loose racemes, in pleasing contrast to the pubescent stems and pale green foliage. Well-grown plants are especially decorative, and when displayed in groups of several together, they present a splendid ornamental effect. The plants make fine specimens, attaining a height of from 2 feet to 3 feet.

This Coleus is by no means difficult to grow; ordinary greenhouse treatment suits it admirably. Propagation is effected by means of cuttings, April and May being quite soon enough to put them in. These should be inserted singly in small pots, and placed in a warm propagating case until rooted, transferring them later to 4-inch pots. When thoroughly established they may be grown on in an ordinary greenhouse temperature, and kept shaded during the hottest part of the day.

This species grows very rapidly, and it is also a gross feeding plant, consequently it should have plenty of root room in order to develop properly. If extra large specimens are desired, pots 8 inches or 9 inches in diameter will be none too large. Small plants for house or table decoration may be rooted later in the season, in June or July; these will make nice useful plants for the purpose mentioned. They will thrive in a compost consisting of fibrous loam, leaf-soil, decayed manure, and sand in suitable proportions. When the plants are established and have made plenty of roots, they require to be liberally fed, and will receive considerable benefit from occasional applications of liquid manure or soot water. The plants should receive cool treatment throughout, and a night temperature of 50 degs. is sufficient at any period of their growth. It may also be added that the plants continue in flower for a long time during the winter. J. L.

Specimen Cinerarias

The Cineraria of to-day must be classed as one of our most indispensable decorative plants for spring flowering under glass. Their cultivation is simple, and to secure plants a yard high and as much through calls for no special skill. But we must employ the Star variety (C. stellata), which, by its habit, lends itself to treatment.

The seed should be sown thinly in a shallow, well-drained pan containing a mixture of peat, loam, and sand. After watering, cover the pan with paper to ensure quick germination and the seedlings will be up in about 10 days. Remove the pan now to a shelf near the glass and shade from strong sun, applying water when necessary by immersing the pan in a tub of water. When the plants are in the rough leaf prick them out in similar soil about 2 inches apart and again return to the shelf.

In due course shift the plants into 4-inch pots, using a compost of two parts fibrous loam to one of sand and leaf-mould, and when the plants have recovered from the shift remove them to a cold frame, standing the pots on a hard ash bottom.

When growth is a little more advanced and the centre stem about 4 inches high nip out the growing point. This causes the plant to break, and from this break we may expect from four to six side shoots. Another shift is now necessary, this time into 6-inch or 7-inch pots, using two parts good chopped loam, one of leaf-mould, and one of old decomposed manure. Arrange the plants again in the cold frame or pit and see that the foliage of each is quite clear. When the shoots which result from the first pinching are about 4 inches or 5 inches long pinch them again and this will be all the pinching required. For the final potting into 9-inch or 10-inch pots the best compost to use is two parts of chopped loam, one of dried cow manure passed through a ¼-inch sieve, one of good leaf-soil, plenty of sharp sand to keep the compost open, and a dash of soot. Pot fairly firm, stake out the shoots neatly, and growth onwards will be both luxurious and strong.

Cinerarias revel in moisture, so vigorous syringing each evening should not be neglected. As a preventative against Green Fly syringe the foliage with XL All or other insecticide in the evening. This makes the foliage bitter and prevents attacks.

D. M. F.

Kalosanthes (Crassulas)

Unless a flower is useful for cutting, it does not have a large following of growers to-day, and even amongst owners of greenhouses this prejudice often obtains. Kalosanthes are examples, yet who can say that these miniature monkey-puzzle-like plants are not attractive when the points of the shoots are carrying their brilliant red flowers? It is rather unfortunate that Kalosanthes should be regarded with indifference by so many owners of greenhouses, because they are not difficult to deal with, provided they are given a compost made up of three parts peat, one part loam, with a little ground charcoal added. They delight best in a warm, humid atmosphere, but in a house where miscellaneous subjects are grown and kept free from frost, there they will thrive. Propagation is effected by cuttings from ripe shoots, removing two pairs of bottom leaves before placing them in pans of the compost named to which silver sand is added.

MIDLANDER.

Toads in the garden

A toad is a useful pet in the yard or in the garden. Not that you can teach a toad to do tricks or anything like that, but, in a measure, it can be tamed so that it becomes accustomed to people and to human voices and other domestic noises. Contrary to an old-time belief, handling toads will not cause warts on the hands; the warts remain on the toad, where they belong.

A toad's unselfishness lies in its almost insatiable appetite for insects. It is stated upon good authority that one toad, in the course of three months' time, will devour almost 10,000 insects, including worms, slugs, beetles, flies, mosquitoes, crickets, cutworms, plant lice, and other more or less destructive pests.

In order to thrive toads must have moisture, so it becomes necessary often to provide a shallow basin or pool of water in which they can soak their bodies in comfort; for that is their method of quenching their thirst. They are long lived. One was known to live thirty-six years, and then lose its life by accident.

Toads are warty and cold, but not slimy, as some people think. The temperature of their bodies is governed by the temperature of the air. As a means of defence they are able to throw off from their warty skins a fluid which is extremely irritating to the mouths of dogs and certain other animals The fluid does not irritate human skin unless it is communicated to the membranes of the mouth or to the eyes. German violinists
said to use it on their hands sometime
prevent perspiration. The toad has bri
shining, beautiful eyes. It has a ca
interesting way of "playing possum" w
frightened by flattening itself against
ground, which it resembles in colour,
ceasing to breathe for a time.

"BETTER FLOWERS

Border Chrysanthemums

Early Summer Pests

ONE of the most important items w
leads to ultimate success with Bo
Chrysanthemums is to keep the pl
clean and healthy throughout their e
growing period. During early summer
two pests which are liable to give rise to
trouble are the Leaf-mining Maggot
Aphides, or Green Fly. In connection
the former, there is no doubt that w
possible it is good practice to comm
operations before the plants are removed
doors. The small flies which are resp
ble for the trouble seek the shelter of
greenhouse for the winter, and in early sp
deposit their eggs in the leaves of cut
and young plants. By fumigating tw
three times with auto-shreds the flies
killed, and, furthermore, it is claimed
this preparation is capable of destroying
egg in the leaf. If allowed to remain
disturbed the egg eventully hatches out
a small maggot, the presence of whi
indicated by an irregular, discoloured li
the surface of the leaf. This is the resu
the leaf-miner eating its way along bet
the upper and under protecting surfac
the leaf, the maggot itself being locat
the end of the line. In cases of mild a
the culprit can be pinched between the
and the thumb-nail, or removed from
under-side of the leaf by means of a pin
sharp-pointed knife. If the leaf is se
disfigured it is better transferred from
plant to the fire. Occasional syringing
watering with dilute soot-water ten
make the leaves bitter and distasteful,
spraying solution which contains an el
of paraffin keeps away the fly when lo
for a suitable place in which to lay its eg

Green Fly proves harmful to plant
two ways. In addition to sucking th
from the plant these insects cover the
with a sticky substance which tends to
up the stomata or breathing pores.
are many commercial preparations to b
which prove efficacious against this pes
quite a useful one can be easily made by
ing 1 lb. of soft-soap in 2 pints of
Whilst actually boiling, this is poured
suitable receptacle containing ½ pint o
affin, and the whole is thoroughly mix
well-worked with a syringe. Careful m
is necessary so that no free paraffin is
the solution, otherwise damage to the
anthemum leaves would result. Half
of the mixture diluted to fill a 2-
watering-can is sufficiently strong and s
be applied by means of a syringe which
a very fine spray. Attention should b
to the under-side of the leaves, and pa
larly to the growing-point of the plan
tender nature of which proves very attr
to the Aphides. Owing to the fact that
pests breathe through pores on the surf
their bodies the covering made by the f
soap interferes with respiration and
about death. A further spraying with
water some time later serves to rid the
of the dead insects, and to wash the sp
solution off the leaves. Aphides multipl
amazing rapidity in a very short spa
time. Periodical sprayings must oft
undertaken in order to keep the pest
paratively harmless.

A. E.

Answers to Queries

—Queries and answers are inserted in
ILLUSTRATED free of charge if corre-
follow these rules: All communications
clearly written on one side of the paper
addressed to the EDITOR *of* GARDENING
D, Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London,
etters on business should be sent to the
The name and address of the sender
red in addition to any designation he
e to be used in the paper. When more
query is sent, each should be on a
piece of paper; the name and address
led to each. As GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

queries

some Daffodils growing in pots,
hich looks like being attacked with
and, as the bulbs are very expen-
o not want to destroy any without
save.
you suggest anything whereby I
able to destroy this pest and save

st to sow Daffodil seeds immediately
ripe or keep them and sow later ?

EELWORM.

you commence trying to save your
bulb it would be wise to isolate the
ch you think is attacked by eel-
No matter what the trouble be, it
o spread to the healthy bulbs if the
one be not removed. Daffodils
by eelworm have a dark ring
e bulb; this ring may occur at any
ween the base and the neck of the
en a bulb is attacked, the trouble
spreads until the whole bulb be-
otten mass. Your effort to save the
depend largely upon how far the
as developed. The accepted con-
lworm in Daffodils is to heat the
bulb for three hours in a water bath
perature of 110 degs. Fahr. The
od is necessary to allow the bulb
heated right through at a uniform
re of 110 degs. Fahr. Experiments
ed that the eelworm concerned can
t a temperature of 108 degs. Fahr.,
hat damage to the bulb can occur
temperature reaches 112 degs.
the margin of safety is not very
le hot water treatment is most suc-
en applied to dormant bulbs, but
nk that the bulb is likely to die
hing that stage you can risk treat-
lb while growing. Daffodil seed
ays be sown as soon as ripe.]

twin-flowered

ch obliged for your answer to my
to diseased Daffodils, and shall
actice the remedies you mention. I
ing rather a curious freak
which grew amongst others in
bed. I have never seen another
hough I grow thousands.

C. S. BUTLER.

you for sending the curious
specimen, the cause of which is
determine, but probably due to
he bulb by some insect during its
It does, however, occur from time
nong collections of these flowers,
atter are generally in pairs.]

unsatisfactory

nary Daffodils in my garden, such
or and Golden Spur, grow
every year and increase very
t better kinds, such as White
and Orange Glow, do not
rive, and have a starved look.
planted in ordinary garden soil
e others. What manure should I
and when should it be applied ? My soil is limestone and light. I give plenty of leaf mould.

LEIX.

[It is just possible that the bulbs of the kinds you mention are not planted as deep as they should be, and to assist them we advise a dressing of good top soil, to which has been added crushed bones. This may be applied now at the rate of 7 lbs. of bone meal to each bushel of soil, the soil being placed over the roots to a depth of 1 inch at least.]

GREENHOUSE

Diseased Violets

(H. P. T.).—We have examined your specimen Violet plant and find that it has been attacked by a fungus, probably Botrytis. Species of Botrytis are often saprophyte in habits, but some of them are always liable to become parasitic and cause much trouble to the plant lover. Violets are often difficult to winter in frames, especially if planted from the open into the frames late in the year. Violets should be put into the frames and allowed to recover from the effects of moving long before there is any need to put on the frame lights. The lights should be taken off on all favourable occasions, and, in the main, the lights must be used to keep heavy rain away rather than to keep the plants warm. Exception to this is, of course, during a period of frost, during which the lights must remain on and covered with mats, if necessary. Plenty of air and not too much moisture in the atmosphere of the Violet frames are essentials to success. If the trouble appears in your frames another year, dust a little Flowers of Sulphur about the plants.

Azaleas and Chrysanthemums dying

Can you tell me what is wrong with enclosed plants ? The smaller piece of Azalea is off a plant that looked when in flower as if it would shrivel and die, and now the whole plant is as enclosed; the larger piece is of another plant that bloomed freely and looked perfectly healthy; when it had done flowering it withered, and is all over as enclosed. Are they beyond redemption, and if not, what is the treatment and the cause? The Chrysanthemum cutting was in a different greenhouse and has been moved to a cool frame, and you can see it is withering. Much larger plants are also losing their leaves by turning yellow.

M. A. C.

[The shoots of the former were quite dead when received, and as there is no sign whatever of insect life upon them, the trouble is due to improper culture. You do not say whether the house in which they have been growing was heated during the winter, and if not, the plants have probably been frosted; if the house was heated, then the trouble is due to bad management, such as allowing the plants to become too dry, or overdosing them with artificial manure, either of which would bring them to their present state. We do not think there is the slightest hope of recovery, and we advise you to throw them away. The Chrysanthemum has damped off, a state of things brought about by the application of too much moisture at the roots and about the foliage during its cutting period. Place any other of its kind that you may have in a cold frame, standing the pots on a bed of ashes; air freely, but carefully, on fine days, and water the plants only when this is absolutely necessary.]

Geranium foliage

(Geo. Noble).—We have carefully examined your specimen Geranium and cannot find any trace of fungus disease or insect pest present; further, the roots are quite healthy. It appears to us likely that some error of cultivation is responsible for the spotted foliage. Water collecting on the foliage and the sun shining through the drops is a likely cause; this could be prevented by airing the house a little more freely. Of course, there are many things which cause the trouble. Fumes from a lamp, stokehole, or an overdose of fumigants are frequent offenders in this respect.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Douglas Pine

(James Ridley).—The specimen shoot of Douglas Pine is covered with the egg stage of Chermes Cooleyi. This creature is a serious pest of the Douglas Fir, and much depends upon the size of the tree as to whether or no you can adopt control measures. If the tree is large spraying will be impossible, but if you can reach the tree with a spray fluid you should be able to save the tree. A good spray fluid can be made as follows: Paraffin, 2 pints; soft soap, 1 lb.; water, 10 galls. Dissolve the soap in a gallon of boiling water, remove the solution from the fire and while hot add the paraffin. Churn the mixture by syringing the fluid back into itself. Finally, make up to 10 galls. with soft water and thoroughly churn again before use. A full account of this insect is contained in Bulletin, No. 4, of the Forestry Commission, obtainable from H.M Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2, price 2s. 1½d., post free. Please note that we do not reply to enquiries through the post.

Dying back of Yews

(A. H. Wolley Dod).—We have examined your specimens and can find no trace of a fungus. The trouble is, no doubt, due to the cold weather experienced during the winter. Evergreens are in the same condition throughout your district, and, in almost all cases, the damage is most apparent in one or two places. (1) On the sunny side; (2) where the prevailing wind has caught them. We notice in the specimens sent that the tips appear to be dead, and although we think that the shoots will break below the injured portion, the dead tips will be unsightly unless removed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Arsenite of copper

(J. E. B. Grasmere).—This substance is very poisonous and great care must be used in its application as an insecticide. We believe that it has been used as a poison wash for fruit trees and as a poison for slugs when mixed with bran. If Arsenic is required at all for horticultural insects it is usually used in the form of lead arsenate, because this material is equally as poisonous as the other arsenic compounds and is not so liable to burn foliage. Arsenite of copper is known in commerce as Scheele's Green, and is used in the Arts. Paris Green is another similar material used largely in the past as a poison wash for caterpillar, and still used for making poison baits for certain soil pests. You should write to the chemists whose names appear on the packets for directions as to its use, because the label only says "containing arsenite of copper," and as we do not know how much it contains we do not care to advise.

NAME OF PLANT

G. H.—Polyanthus too withered to identify.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Fred J. Bell, Crescent Nurseries and Egremont Nurseries, Whitley Bay.—Violas, Pansies, Chrysanthemums, and Collarette Dahlias.

Kelway and Son, Langport, Somerset.—Asters, Gaillardias, Lupins, Pyrethrums, and other hardy plants.

Forest Products, Ltd., Ross Road, Huntley, Glos.—Forest trees, Conifers, hardy and ornamental flowering trees and shrubs.

Report on condition of horticultural crops on April 25th

Asparagus.—Very backward.

Beans, Broad.—Autumn sown, badly damaged by frost. Spring sown, backward.

Beans (Kidney Runner).—Sowing in progress.

Broccoli, Heading.—Badly damaged by frost. Late varieties good in Cornwall, but elsewhere poor. Sprouting—Poor generally; much injured by severe weather.

Cabbage (spring sown).—Need rain. Autumn sown, badly frosted generally. Crops late and light.

Carrots.—Early sowing germinating well in some districts.

Celery.—Germination good; pricking out delayed by cold and drought.

Cucumbers (under glass).—Plants strong and healthy, but rather backward. Cutting begun in some places.

Leeks.—Fair generally.

Lettuce.—Wintered badly; spring sowings require rain and warmth.

Onions.—Autumn sown much damaged by frost; spring sown germinated fairly well, but progress very slow.

Peas.—Early sowings germinated well, on the whole, but growth is very slow.

Rhubarb.—Backward; requires rain.

Seakale.—Yielding fairly well in Middlesex.

Tomatoes (under glass).—Late, but making headway.

Apples.—Backward, but there is promise of a good show of blossom.

Cherries.—Good promise generally; early varieties now in full bloom. Damage by frost reported in some parts.

Currants, Black.—Promising generally.

Currants, Red.—Prospects good on the whole, but frost damage to early varieties is feared in some districts.

Gooseberries.—Flowering freely; frost injury reported to be fairly heavy in some parts.

Pears.—Blossom plentiful, but severe frost injury is feared in several places.

Plums.—Good show of blossom generally; frost damage feared in places.

Strawberries.—Damage by severe winter weather appears to have been very general, especially among older plants. Growth backward.

Delphinium Show

We have received from the British Delphinium Society the schedule for their First Summer Show of Delphiniums, to be held at the R.H.S. New Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, on Friday, July 5th. There are 15 classes for Amateurs and seven for the Trade. Entries must reach the Asst. Hon. Secretary, A. J. Moir, 25, Burstow Road, Wimbledon, S.W. 20, by June 25th. The schedule contains several interesting articles on the culture and marketing of Delphiniums, by well-known authorities.

Gardens and literature

If we go back to antiquity we remember in Homer's Odyssey the famous palace of Alcinous, King of the Phæacians. Without the courtyard was the great garden, where grew tall trees blossoming, Pear trees, and Pomegranates, and Apple trees with bright fruit, and sweet Figs and Olives in their bloom. The fruit of these trees never perisheth, neither faileth, winter nor summer, enduring through all the year. There, too, are all manner of garden beds planted trimly that are perpetually fresh, and therein are two fountains of water. These were the splendid gifts of the gods in the palace of Alcinous.

The historian, however, has warned us that to mix together casual references in poets, such as Horace, Tibullus, Ovid, or Virgil, and to construct a picture of the average Roman villa out of these materials would be misleading. Still the growing love of the country farm and garden can be traced in Roman times. Thus we read of Pliny the younger that he was almost a collector of villas in different parts of Italy, and had two on Lake Como, the higher one "Tragedy," the lower "Comedy." He begins the determined choice by serious writers of the country not only for recreation, but for literary work. Further, it is recognised that the later gardens were all alike, modelled on the plan of Pliny's Tuscan villa, with a portico opening on the "xystus" or terrace, walls bordered with clipped Box, or Ilex hedges leading to grassy lawns adorned with fountains and marble seats. But as you follow the story of the Italian Renaissance gardens and the paintings which picture contemporary villa retreats it is a long succession which you find of Cypress and Pine, Ilex and Box in all sorts of geometric and fantastic designs, and on the whole a remarkable relative paucity of flowers.

Chaucer in England is the pioneer poet of birds and flowers in the fields and gardens, as when he sees the glory of the flowers and exclaims:—

'Farewell my boke, and my devocioun!"

It is delightful to read of the out-of-door gatherings in the shade of gardens of the Florentine humanists. Francesco Petrarcha, "the first modern man of letters," was also the first humanist gardener. In 1339 he constructed his "upper garden" at Vaucluse, on the left bank of the pool, "immediately below the cave of the source." Petrarch tells how he and the friend who assisted him found the task heavy toil, and how in the intervals "they laid their weary limbs on a knoll and discussed ancient literature, comparing the Greek and Latin poets." In a later letter he describes a second garden he has made close to his house, "better tended and beloved by Bacchus (that is, suited for Vines). Near it, at the back of the house, separated by a short bridge, is an arched recess in the natural rock which prevents my feeling the heat of the blazing sun. It is a place that invites to study, and I fancy it is not unlike the little chamber where Cicero was wont to declaim, except that the latter had not the Sorgues gliding past it." The Sorgues was the beloved stream. Here we get the main features of the literary man's country home, the house where he can receive friends, the garden and lawns, with shade against the heat of the sun, and the slope of the grounds towards a stream or river.

Boccaccio associated his stories with the
gardens of Poggio Gherardo and
Palmieri, near his home at Settignan
get the full atmosphere of nighti
broad alleys with pergolas of the Gra
fruit in blossoms, gay flowers, a
central white marble fountains. In R
the Abbey of Thelema was purposely
by the river Loire, within two leagu
great forest. There one rule was: "
que vouldras" ("Do just as you like"
of course, by the riverside was the fa
den of pleasure, and in the midst of
fair labyrinth. The glorious gardens
Medici helped to develop the philos
artists, and poets of Florence. So w
gardens of Este and the Gonzage
with the gardens of Papal Rome, t
dens of Venice.

Not only were the palaces of kin
mansions of nobles equipped with g
where literary men were encouraged
and discuss books, but churches and
had their orchards and gardens, and
ful college gardens and lawns were
the institutional provision.

Although our climate has not offe
same advantages, England has joined
connection of gardens with lit
Shakespeare's garden is recalled. It
Sir Thomas More's garden at Chels
an outlying country district, that the
ful gatherings of English literary m
place. Ellis Heywood, in "Il Mor
of the famous dialogues. "Six ge
after having dined with Thomas, as
mound which rose in the garden
host and seated themselves on a gre
shaded by some spreading trees, and
conversation. . . . The slope of the
was adorned with flowers and fine h
seemed an enchanted garden with
woven by Nature to recreate the phil
who came there for rest."

In conclusion, these joys have ne
more classically described than by
Milton in "l'Allegro" and in "Il Pen
the quiet pleasure of

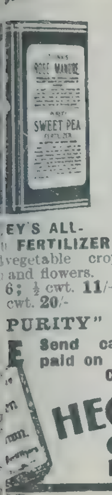
retired Leisure,
That in trim gardens takes his pl

ARTHUR H

Cottage window plan

In many parts of England keen i
taken in cottage homes in beautify
dows with flowering and foliage pl
some villages there appears to be a
rivalry in this direction, which culm
competition at the local show for
window plants. Fuchsias, Zonal a
Pelargoniums, Heliotropes, Phyll
Clivias, Scarboror Lilies, Liliu
auratum and lancifolium, with f
pots of trailing white and blue Ca
along with well-grown pots of so
Asparaguses like plumosus, or th
Sprengeris, all come in for cultu
owners of these cottages. In many
plants are grown to a state of perfe
one would scarcely believe possible
greenhouse. Perhaps it is because
been grown from quite young plants
from the first become accustomed
vironment. We have known instan
annuals have been specialised as
plants, as single specimens, Balsa
glossis, Schizanthuses, Clarkias c
for attention, and finer results could
been possible had they been brought
a greenhouse roof. Obconica
Primulas seem favourites with n
country people, who keep them in
dows the year round. In the m
cases the gardener is the housewife

WOODBA



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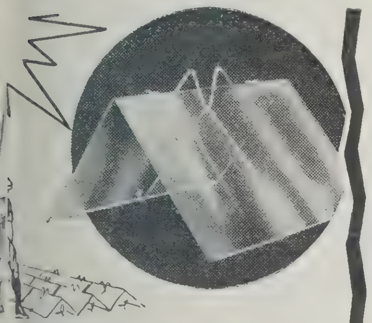

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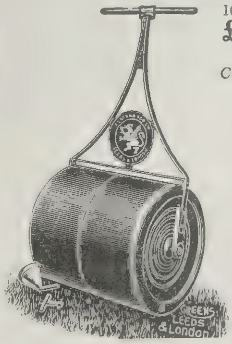
£6	£6:10	£7:10

Less 5% for cash.
Complete with grass-box.



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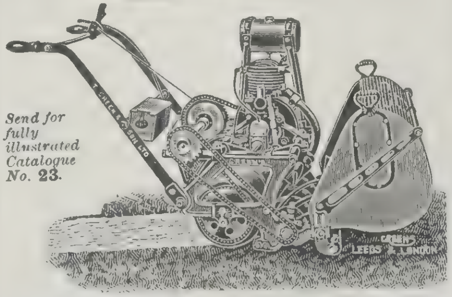

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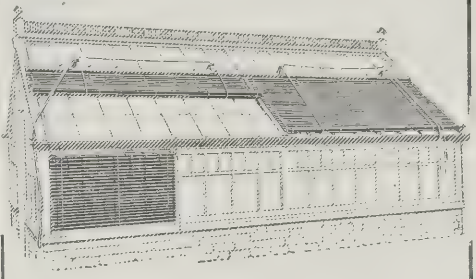

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		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
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Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ¼ in. iron tyre.

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Tops for either of the above	7/6	6,6

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Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.

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12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
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HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
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	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
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No. 18

This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

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These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

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Well made from selected material. In natural wood. Bark on.

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6 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

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4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
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7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
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9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
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500 in stock ready for immediate despatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

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6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
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160	8 ft.	6 ft.	21/6	25/-

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8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

RUSTIC FLOWER STAND

Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

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Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
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GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

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These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at non figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who requi strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. C plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6
15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0	14
20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0	19
25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6	25
30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0	36

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0
12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0	4
16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0	5
20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0	6
24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6	8

Do not pay high prices for your frames made from boards. We can supply at the following low prices. Fr made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boards, plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6
12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0	4
16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0	6
20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0	7
24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6	9

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABLE MOTOR HOUSE

Constructed of strong framing cov with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved bo roof boarded and felted, 1-in. bo for floor and strong joists. Wind fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doors on strong butts and fitted Tower and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.	Sa
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0	£5
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6	7
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0	10
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0	12
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0	14
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0	15
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6	18
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0	20
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0	24
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0	28
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0	32

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No. 2

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and single Fitted lock and key.

ft.	ft. in.	Usual.	Sa
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0	£3
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0	£3
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0	£4
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6	£5
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0	£8
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0	£11

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from pla tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing. covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite waterp All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable sea back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out. in sections for easy transit and erection.

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

I.—No. 2618 Saturday, May 11, 1929 TWOPENCE

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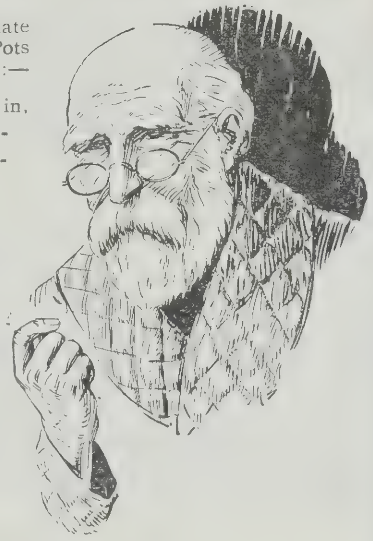

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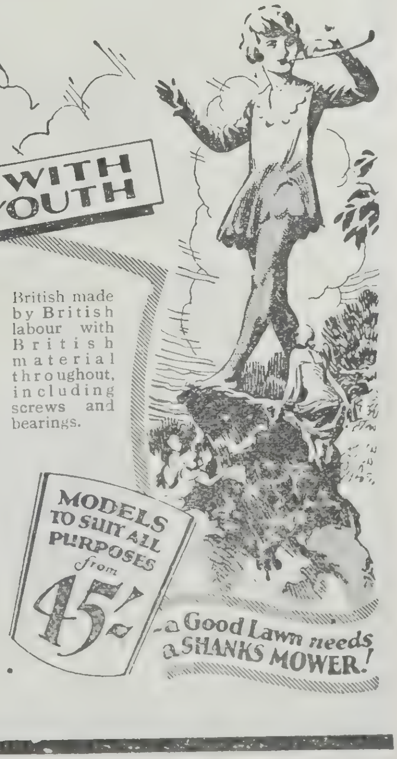
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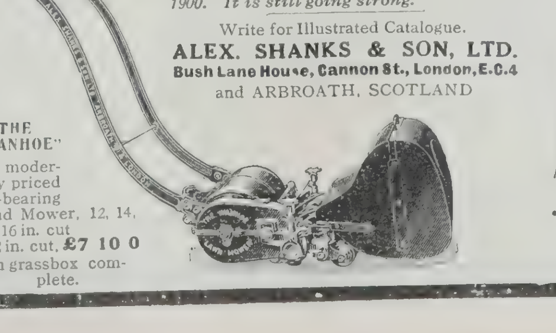

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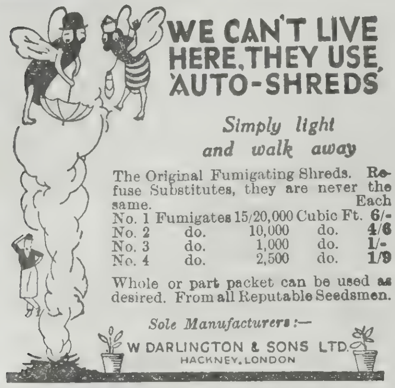

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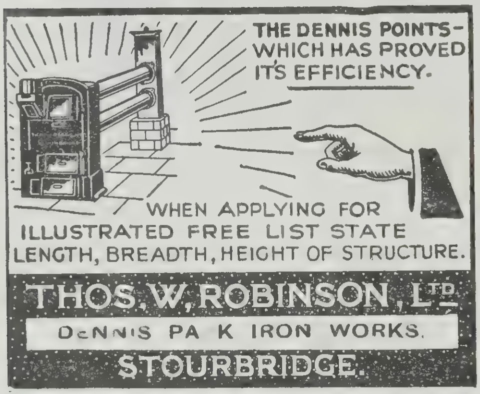

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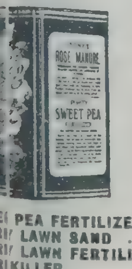

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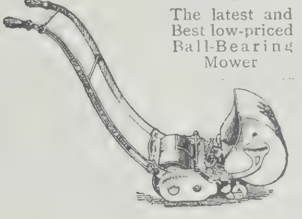

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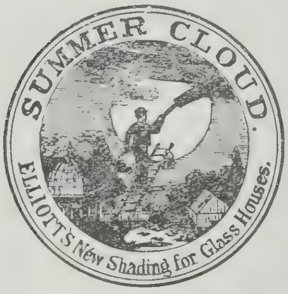
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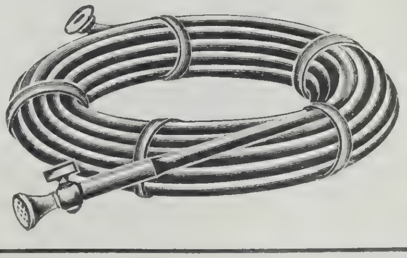

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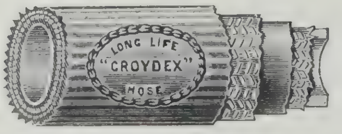

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The effect of Fisons' Champion Fertilizer on Beans. Untreated pot on left; treated pot on right.

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GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

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The Winter of Our Discontent

By Sir Arthur Hort

last we have had it, that "old
hioned winter," and, in many dis-
ts, at least, it has been followed, not
warm showers which might have re-
any plants desiccated by frost, but
h winds, continued frosts, drought,
levastating sun. One may feel half
d to complain of sunshine, yet the
r knows how destructive it may be
ntempered by seasonable rain, and
anied instead by
g winds from east
th. It is, of course,
r yet to estimate fully
s in the garden; but
judent horticulturist
ake, at least, pro-
observations and try
by them; they may
him a wiser, if a
man. But he will
at the other side of
ure, and may find
ough his plot shows
vacant tenements,
umber of things have
l surprisingly from
e British experience
lmost absolutely dry

subjoined notes from
l North Hampshire
r may interest some,
haps induce them to
tes for comparison.
den in question has
l sub-soil, and most of
a steep slope, facing
y no means enviable
ns when, after one of
erage mild winters,
ome up too early and
by the average fierce
The record of the
ust past (or passing)
nplete contrast; there
n frost, except for an
al respite of two or
days, almost every
om the last week of November to the
writing (April 25th); the lowest tem-
reached has been 6 degs. Fahr.
from the ground, and the reading
cen between 10 degs. Fahr. and 22
ahr. In this period there has been no
ond occasional showers (half an inch
hristmas), and only one slight fall of
. Such an experience should be useful
ing plants introduced since our last
nter, whose hardiness in our climate has not yet had the opportunity of getting certificated—or otherwise.

Sir Arthur Hort's garden at Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hants, from a photograph taken in June

(A) Shrubs.—(1) Not damaged, or but slightly: Abelia Schumannii, Atriplex Halimus, Buddleia alternifolia, Carpenteria californica, Caryopteris glutinosa, Fabiana imbricata, Nandina domestica, Osmanthus Forrestii, Romneya hybrida—cut to the ground, as always; in most English gardens the Romneyas are practically "herbaceous"; the same remarks apply to Phygelius capensis and Teucrium fruticans.

(2) Dead, or badly crippled: Azara microphylla (on west wall), Olearia avicennæfolia, O. Gunniana, O. macrodonta, Glasnevin var., Pittosporum tenuifolium.

(3) A mixed record: Choisya ternata, much browned, but should recover. Cistus corbariensis and C. laurifolius the only kinds with a clean bill of health; Silver Pink, slightly touched, one or two plants killed. Most specimens of all other kinds killed, except in the topmost bank of the garden, where albidus, monspeliensis, and recognitus survive; Clusii, creticus, cyprius, florentinus, lusitanicus, obtusifolius, purpureus, and salvifolius have mostly gone on the bonfire, but a few plants of these have escaped, having had boughs of evergreens stuck round to shade them. Escallonia macrantha cut back more than usual, if not killed, but E. langleyensis quite hearty. Helianthemum.—The species alpestre, alyssoides, lunulatum, polifolium, vulgare Mt. Cenis form, and even umbellatum, also those called Chamæcistus and pilosum, have taken no hurt; while some garden forms are killed entirely, and more hopelessly disfigured; of the group now classed under Halimium, formosum, reputed very hardy, is dead, also its var. unicolor, while one plant of halimifolium has escaped. (This group, it should be added, seems not to be at home on chalk.) Hypericum.—Shrubby species, such as androsæmum, patulum Henryi, and chinense, cut far back; of smaller kinds, empetrifolium and polyphyllum (name doubtful) killed, but not Coris, nor all plants of balearicum and olympicum; fragile, old, and seedling plants killed, not middle-aged ones. Pentstemon (small shrubby kinds), confertus, cristatus, Davidsonii, and Scouleri unhurt; Roezlii and "Six Hills" crippled, if not dead. Potentilla.—Of the many forms of fruticosa one bush of Farreri much damaged, and a New Jersey form; all others, including Beesiana, dahurica, Veitchii, and Vilmoriniana, intact. Veronica.—A pretty clean sweep of most New Zealanders, not only the tenderer, broad-leaved ones, but even Autumn Glory, Aoira, and Warley seedling (never wiped out before), as well as most plants of the small sorts, "Bidwellii," Daubenyi, catarractæ, and Lyallii; those of pinguifolia type less affected, and cupressoides not at all; Hulkeana and Girdwoodiana dead, of course. Viburnum.—The four Far Eastern species, Carlesii,

fragrans, Henryi, and rhytidophyllum, receive a further certificate of hardiness. Rose species.—Indica heavily punished, but other bush Roses, including ferox, Hugonis, Moyesii, lutea Austrian Yellow and Austrian Copper, rubrifolia, Sapphirinii, and Webbiana, in excellent health. Mermaid and sinica Anemone (both regarded as rather doubtful subjects) little hurt.

(B) Herbaceous Plants.—Tale not yet complete. Meanwhile, whether from frost or drought, the Primula and Geum tribes have had a specially bad time. Of Iris species (crested group), Milesii, gracilipes, and, probably, japonica have "gone west"; tectorum, however, only in one place, where it ought to have been divided and re-planted. Bearded Irises, in general, look better than for years past; beardless kinds, *e.g.*, Spuria and Sibirica groups, are shouting for water. Californians have abandoned their quasi-evergreen habit, but seem none the worse. So, too, of Linums, austriacum, narbonense, and salsoloides have lost more "top" than usual; flavum and capitatum are rejoicing; monogynum is dead. Other lovers of dryness, which look all the better for the season, are Tulips and herbaceous Veronicas of dwarf or sessile habit, such as Allionii, caucasica, cinerea, gentianoides, incana, rupestris, spicata, pectinata, Royal Blue, and True Blue (can anyone tell me the origin of the last two azure splendours?), and Anemone Pulsatilla has been in incomparable form.

These jottings were written before I had seen Sir William Lawrence's interesting review of the situation.

Arthur F. Hort.

Chelsea Show, 1929

The Chelsea Show will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, May 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. On the first day, Wednesday, May 22nd, there will be a private view for Fellows and their friends from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and on Thursday, May 23rd, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Only Fellows' and Associates' tickets will admit at the private view, but transferable as well as non-transferable tickets may be used. There will be no admission by payment on Wednesday, May 22nd, until 12 noon, and on Thursday, May 23rd, until 10 a.m., when the Show will be opened to the public. The following instructions are issued by the Society:—

Those who propose to submit new or rare plants to the Committees for certificate should note that the Committees will meet on Tuesday, May 21st; the Joint Iris Committee at 4.30 p.m., and the Fruit and Vegetable, Floral A and B, Orchid and Narcissus, and Tulip Committees at 5 p.m. All plants, etc., for certificate must be entered with the Secretaries of the respective Committees by 4 p.m., new Bearded Irises being entered with the Secretary of the Joint Iris Committee by 3.30 p.m. The Secretaries of the Committees will be in attendance to receive entries from 10 a.m. Exhibiting vans will not be admitted to the Show grounds on Tuesday, May 21st, after 2 p.m.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

The note by "D. D. V." in your issue of May 4th is of interest. I, also, have not found this lovely strain as hardy as the ordinary Primula pulverulenta, and have lost both old and seedling plants more than once. In consequence, I have been endeavouring to learn the results obtained by other growers, and have found that these are most diverse. In some parts this strain appears to be less hardy than the type, but other growers, often quite near, had no difficulty in keeping the Bartley Strain even during this last severe winter. It does not appear to be entirely a question of soil or exposure, and, so far as I can understand, climate is not the determining factor. It is to be hoped that Mr. Dalrymple, to whom we are so much indebted for this lovely strain, will turn his attention to this question, as it is possible that he or some other raiser may be able to eliminate the cause of these losses by selection of seeds from individual plants which may have escaped where others have been lost.

A Primula Lover.

—— In answer to your correspondent, Mrs. Martineau, and "D. D. V.," I, as raiser, have *never* found my strain less hardy than the type. In the case of Mrs. Martineau's plants, I am inclined to think the position may be too wet and cold for them in a season like the past winter. In the case of "D. D. V.'s" plants I cannot say anything, but I find that a rather heavy, holding soil suits them best. I am on heavy clay, and this means deep digging and draining to avoid getting water-logged and stagnant in winter. I am sure that bad drainage accounts for more losses of these Primulas than anything else. Drought and lack of moisture weakens them during the growing season, and they are in no condition to withstand a wet and severe winter, especially if they have been planted out late. Perhaps "D. D. V." will let me know the conditions under which the plants were growing. As the Bartley Strain is pure pulverulenta blood right from start to finish it ought to have the same constitution as the type, which I have always found it to have.

G. H. Dalrymple.

The Nurseries, Bartley.

Amateurs at the Daffodil Show

I read with great interest in your issue of Saturday, 27th ult., my friend, Mr. Guy Wilson's article on Daffodils at the recent
show held in Vincent Square. It was
esting reading, as his articles always a
may I call your attention to the fact t
amateur side of the show seems to hav
entirely ignored. The great object
show is to encourage the amateur, and
as I can see no mention is made of any
exhibits shown by them. May I m
several well-known amateurs who are
of seedlings and who also have go
hibits, the Rev. Rollo Meyer, the R
Buncombe, Mr. John Arkwright, and
others whom I cannot remember
moment. I, myself, had some success
single bloom classes, where I got three

I know you always welcome any
criticism, so I am sure you will not m
doing so in this case. H. G. Haw

Strode, S. Devon.

[This account was not intended to b
report. To mention all prize-winners
or any other large show would occ
more space than can be devoted to t
ject. It is our aim to make reports i
ing and to comment on exhibits rath
on the exhibitors.—Ed.]

The great frost

Sir William Lawrence's notes
effect of the frost is sad reading,
many unexpected results have appe

In the gardens here, I fear, the
will find many unable to respond.
have I seen Cordylines hit so badly
have been; it is yet too early
a definite opinion, but nearly all he
lost their crowns. Even those whi
vived 1895 have suffered. They
probably shoot from the base—possi
the stems, but with us it is Australi
New Zealand plants — Acacias
Eucalyptus, Leptospermums, Callis
Phormiums, Cordylines, Olearias
worst.

The following list may be interes
your readers, who grow these pla
comparison:

Acacia dealbata, 50 feet high, 8 fee
practically dead, and also many sma
younger plants all seem killed.
melanoxylon, cyanophylla, pyn
Rostilifera, juniperina, all dead, an
others; the Eucalyptus globulus, at
feet, is apparently killed, but may bre
base. Eucalyptus Gunnii, urnigera,
dora, Muelleri, coccifera, Amygdalin

Primula pulverulenta Bartley Strain

A fine group in woodland

dly, and in many cases killed. Callis-
pallidus, phœniceus, lævis, rigidus,
is, floribundus, and many others, all
ad. Olearias—the worst are Colensoi—
ns myrsinioides, argyrophylla, For-
re badly hit. Phormium tenax and
s all killed to the ground. Prostran-
nivea, rotundifolia, denticulata,
ras all killed. Pomaderris apetala,
a, elliptica all killed.
gst other plants that have been killed
hit are Banksias, Telopeas, Hoheria,
cas, Veronicas, Benthamias,
thus, Libertia, Calceolaria violacea,
ers; Ericas, Freytinia, Clianthus,
ias, Correas, Lapageria, Buddleias,
rums (many species) Kniphofia,
hias very bad, especially pulverulenta,
20 feet high. Myrtles are very hard
sorts, and yet all Bays, tender and
se, have scarcely turned a hair. One
understand it. H. KEMPSHALL.

sbury Gardens,
eymouth, Dorset.

rost in the West Country

d with great interest Sir William
ce's remarks on above in your late
pecially as regards West Porlock, and
teresting to compare what has oc-
lthere with my experience in South

e lost my Acacias, including Dealbata
nata (curiously enough a friend three
way, in her garden facing north, has
Acacia dealbata touched, and it has
full flower). I have lost Cassia
sa, Leptospermum Boscaweni (an old
and also a very old Solanum
ides, S. crispum untouched, Clian-
llya, Pittosporums, Garrya elliptica,
ria violacea, Myrtus communis,
piculata, Crinodendron dependens,
it but will probably break.

H. G. HAWKER.

e, Ermington, S. Devon.

opsis betonicæfolia (syn. Baileyi)

noble Meconopsis has stood the most
winter admirably, and never appeared
r in the least. My plants are now in
s health and give promise of
ng well. They have been growing in
exposed position and have stood as
those of M. quintuplinervis, which is
ly reputed to be one of the hardiest
st perennial of the Blue Poppies. I
ld that M. Wallichii's young plants
erished, the second time within a
ears in which I have lost my plants of
cies. The plants were no more exposed
. betonicæfolia and M. quintuplinervis.

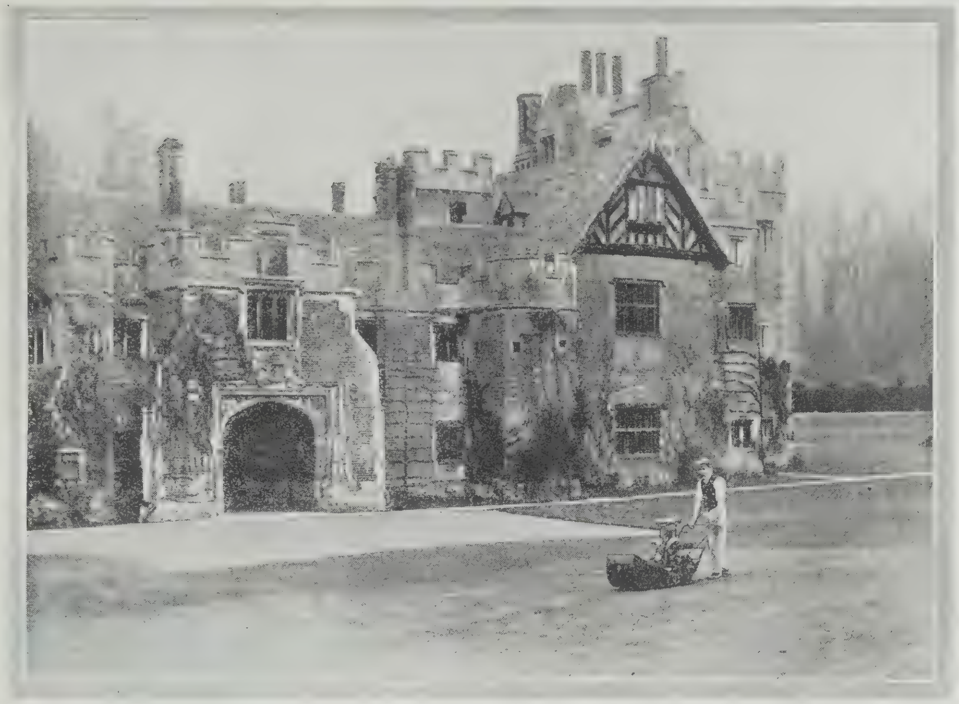
S. ARNOTT.

Birds and fruit buds

u were kind enough to give me a
ion last year as to the best means of
the birds from destroying the fruit
u may like to hear how it worked

the trees were carefully sprayed not
t three or four times with lime wash
strong solution of Quassia, with the
hat they have been attacked more
ly than ever by tits and chaffinches,
this year as well as Apples, some
ich were full of fruit buds being com-
stripped, the odd thing about it being
e damage was not done during the
rd weather, as one might have sup-
but quite recently, just as the buds
eady to open. Unfortunately one
watches them at it, as they seem to
iefly in the very early morning before
n is about. Meantime, my fruit crop
parts done for. H. L. GAYE.

in, Devon.



Compton Wyniates

A background of antiquity

COMPTON WYNIATES, one of the finest examples of unspoiled Tudor building, the family seat of the Compton family, the present head of which is Lord Northampton. The illustration indicates a background of antiquity with the most modern means of turf culture, the Atco Motor Mower, being used on the lawns. It is recorded that Henry VIII. frequently played skittles on this lawn. In this manner modernity plays its part in the beautification of the ancient. A. M.

The Acanthus

A reference (page 294) is made to the Acanthus in the last issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. It is a beautiful plant in addition to its classical interest, and has been grown for many years in the herbaceous garden here, and seemed strong and well acclimatised. Last winter's frosts, however, seem to have completely killed it. This may not be strange, perhaps, as the Acanthus mollis, which grows rampantly in Rome, both in the Forum and on the Palatine, had its leaves frosted into complete pulp there this winter. D. A.

Scaleby Hall, Carlisle.

The Scotch Rocket

I wonder if " E. A.," on page 305, is referring to the true Scotch Rocket (Hesperis matronalis fl.-pl. alba) when he states that he has seen this plant with stems several feet high? This is a plant that I have grown for a long number of years, and have never seen it, at its best, exceed 2 feet to 2½ feet in height. There is a larger and coarser Rocket (the French) which is often 4 feet or 5 feet high, quite a good plant, but much inferior to the Scotch form. In " The English Flower Garden " Mr. William Robinson notes the fact of the two forms, and also states that there are two forms of the purple, one tall and the other, named Compactness, being of better habit and deeper in colour. I have only seen the latter, and it is, as " E. A." observes, even scarcer than the white form.

Notwithstanding the " Arctic " winter and spring here, I notice that the Rockets have come fairly well through it all, which leads one to conclude that excessive damp rather than cold is the main cause of loss where the plants are given proper attention.

I can endorse " E. A.'s " advice to annually propagate this plant, and although quite good results are had from division, much the finest plants are raised from cuttings. These latter, unfortunately, are not always easy to obtain, as the plant is so apt to throw up flower-spikes from every point. An excellent plan is to prevent a plant or two from flowering. To accomplish this nip out the flower-stems as soon as they appear, and secure all side shoots when about 3 inches long, taking each off with a " heal," and inserting firmly in pots or boxes of very sandy compost. The chief enemy of these cuttings is damp, and I have proved that it pays to set the pots of cuttings in a cool greenhouse until rooted, where they can be kept drier than is possible in a cold frame. A fairly rich, stiffish loam seems to be most to the liking of this Rocket.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Achillea Lewisii

While we are comparing notes on the plants which have survived or have been lost owing to the rigours of the past winter I shall be glad to hear from others how the charming hybrid, Achillea Lewisii, has fared with them. Much to my surprise I lost my plants of A. tomentosa one winter, and now the delightful plant of which this is one of the parents appears to have succumbed. I had a good plant in a low wall almost " cheek by jowl " with Cotyledon simplicifolia. The Cotyledon has stood the ordeal without, as the saying goes, " turning a hair."

S. ARNOTT.

An Azalea surprise

I should be very glad to know whether any of your readers have had a like experience to the following:—At Christmas I was presented with a very fine crimson Azalea, which I kept in my sitting-room. A hard frost three days afterwards destroyed the flowers, and although I removed it by degrees into a warmer temperature and gave it tepid water, nothing availed to revive the frosted blooms. Seeing it was hopeless, I pinched out each calyx and continued to tend the plant carefully, and in February was surprised to find crowns of fine, plump buds forming. I then stirred the surface of the soil and gave a half-teaspoonful of Clay's Fertiliser, and continued this treatment up to the present, when the plant is in full bloom again with finer Camellia-like flowers of a far richer colour and consistency. (Miss) F. Mordaunt.

Bournemouth West.

"Six of the best" Pears

Everything in connection with the Pear possesses an attraction to me, and I have read Mr. Burrell's note on the "Six" with much interest. The supreme test, of course, is that of flavour, and it is just here that the difficulty arises. The personal equation is always the deciding factor—the Pear which one man appreciates may be considered poor by another. Let me give an example. I have grown, I daresay, almost every Pear which is worth growing, as well as many which are not worth growing. How many will support me when I say, seriously, that I consider Louise Bonne of Jersey to be the best Pear? To me its vinous flavour and firm flesh appeal in a greater degree than any of the Beurré family. Next I place Winter Nelis, a morsel for a king; small, doubtless, but as we Scots say, "Guid gear gangs in wee buik."

My third string is Doyenne du Comice, its peculiar "new-milky" tang being most agreeable to the palate. Will anyone back me when I select Beurré Hardy for my fourth and Glou Morceau for my fifth of the "six best"? It is with much difficulty, indeed, that I select my sixth. Which shall it be? Marie Louise, Conference, Fertility, Thompson's (Van Mons)? One of them it must be. And I plump for Thompson's. But, as I have said, it is the preference of the individual which must, in the end, decide the matter. Other lovers of this fine fruit will be able to give a list of six equally meritorious Pears, and some will doubtless criticise my choice. They are welcome to do so. I shall be satisfied to abide faithful to my own "Six Best Pears." A Scottish Gardener.

Coleus thyrsoideus

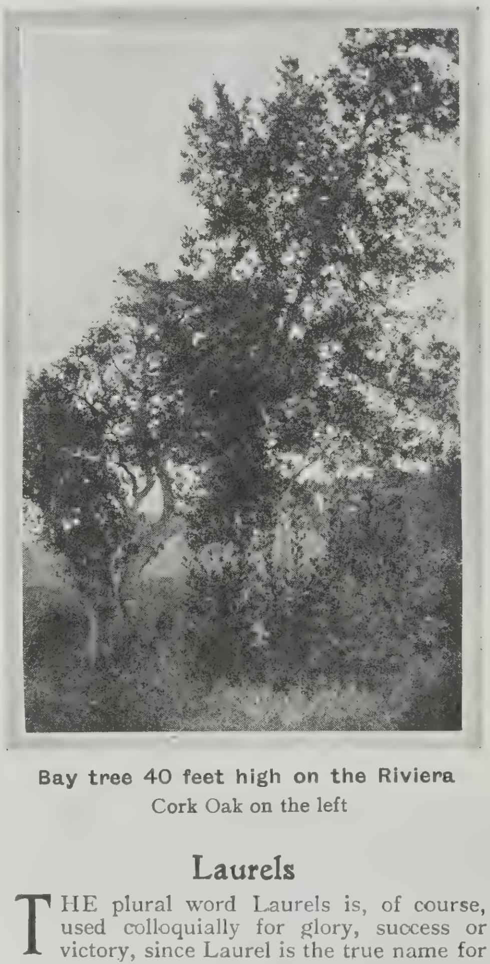
If, as "J. L." informs us (page 306), Coleus thyrsoideus was flowered at Kew for the first time in 1898, then I think I can claim to have flowered it at about the same date. The late Countess of Selkirk, to whom I was then gardener at Balmae, brought me, toward the close of last century, some cuttings of what she described as "a Coleus with blue flowers," and which had been given to her by the Dowager Lady Wynn at Llangedwyn. I distinctly remember that I grew them in a small span which was known as "Jubilee," owing to the fact that it was erected in 1897. The Coleus was C. thyrsoideus, and progeny of the original plants I continue to grow to this day. The plant, if not frequently pinched, is apt to become leggy, and its viscous foliage does not recommend it to some. Nevertheless, its fine spikes of cobalt-blue flowers come in very usefully at the close of the year. C. thyrsoideus is of the easiest possible culture, and while it does perfectly well under greenhouse conditions, I prefer to give it cool stove treatment. W. McGuffog.

Mabie, Dumfries.

Celery trenches

The note concerning the preparation of Celery trenches, in the issue of May 4th, reminds me that I invariably make a practice of making these trenches considerably in advance of this time. I find them useful auxiliaries to cold frames, and, moreover, they release the latter for other things. For example, young plants of Violas, transferred from beds in cold frames to the trenches, soon grow into large and massive plants, with the result that beds and borders can be furnished with fewer plants, and, what is more, the beds or borders more quickly assume an effective appearance. I consider that the extra work involved is amply repaid. Later on, too, seedling Asters, Marigolds, Stocks, what not, pricked off into the bottom of a Celery trench are practically secure from frost and quickly develop into sturdy plants. Boxes of other half-hardy annuals can be hardened off in the trenches, which can, by such devices, be made useful instead of being merely vacant ground for a month or two. Of course, early Lettuces, Cauliflowers, Carrots, Radishes, and Turnips are grown as catch crops on the ridges.

A Scottish Gardener.



Bay tree 40 feet high on the Riviera

Cork Oak on the left

Laurels

THE plural word Laurels is, of course, used colloquially for glory, success or victory, since Laurel is the true name for Bay-tree (Laurus nobilis), the foliage of which was used by the ancient Greeks and Romans as an emblem of victory, or distinction in poetry. We also use the term Laurels vaguely for various evergreens often gathered for decoration, especially at Christmas.

But there are half a dozen kinds of shrubs we English call Laurel. Living specimens of four of these were exhibited for some weeks at an important provincial museum. Nothing but their English and Latin names was, however, given on the labels; and to the uninitiated those specimens of Sweet Bay or Poets' Laurel, Common Laurel, Portugal Laurel, and Spotted Laurel might be closely allied plants, whereas only the second and third have any affinity except in their names.

The real Laurel, or Bay, is the aromatic shrub whose dark, green, narrow leaves are still used to flavour blanc-mange and pickled
mackerel. The French, in some things
practical than we are, call it Laurier,
its Latin name Laurus. Similarly, the
Colchicum "Colchique," while we
Autumn Crocus, though botanically fa
of a Crocus than a Lily. Probably our
Bay is derived from the French ba
berry)—indeed, in Middle English, bay
berry (Skeat). The nearly black berr
the axils of the leaves have but one seec
flowers, which attract so many inse
spring, are small and yellowish-green.
Bay tree is native in certain Mediterr
regions, and has been grown in Engla
over three centuries. On the French R
I once photographed a naturalised spe
40 feet in height. The Bay gives its
name to the family Lauraceæ, with
1,000 species in the tropics and sub-t
mostly with leathery evergreen leaves.
word "family" is used in these notes
strict sense as equivalent to the "n
order" of former botanists.

The Common Laurel or Cherry La
gardens (Prunus Laurocerasus) belor
the Rose family, and is, of course,
close ally to the Plum and Cherry. I
it bears a tall, elegant spike of pure
flowers, which very soon discolour and
When formed, the green, pointed fruit
black, and are sharp to the taste. The
leaves contain prussic acid, and the
are used for flavouring. This plant is
in Prussia, the Caucasus, etc., but
in an almost naturalised state in pa
France and occasionally so in
plantations, where it attains a consic
height.

Closely allied to the latter is the P
Laurel (Prunus lusitanica), which is
not only in Portugal and Spain, but
Pyrenees, Madeira, and Canaries—a
western plant. Its leaves are finely se
smaller and of a more sombre gree
the last; its stems more purple, a
smaller white flowers are on a laxer
The fruit is similar in shape but s
first green, then reddish, and finally
and with an acid and bitter tast
southern England it is often cultiva
shrubberies and attains the dimensio
small tree.

The Spotted Laurel, Japan Lau
Aucuba japonica, is a totally different
belonging to the Cornus or Dogwood
of which we have only two native sp
England. The male and female flow
on different plants (diœcious) an
minute. They are in terminal and
clusters, claret-purple or greenish in
The male flower, with the four st
has a corolla of four stamens a
crosswise at the margin of a disc.
appear in early spring. The curious
of flower buds are well developed in
and this year there are quantities
large, oval, scarlet berries. The le
Aucuba are bright green and pointed
variegated with yellow spots and b
and not infrequently serrated towar
tip.

The Spurge Laurel (Daphne La
which grows as a native so abunda
woods about Bath and in many
copses on stiff soil, is the well-known
shrub with dark leathery leaves and
scented flowers, which, with the pin
somed Mezereon, are the only two
sentatives of the genus and of the fa
Britain. H. S. Thom

Antirrhinums

Should the plants be of good size a
hardened off, they may now be got in
permanent quarters. Too rich soil sh
avoided, as this induces unduly
growth that does not flower at all

he heart of the Canadian Rockies

OCK GARDEN has recently been de at Jasper Park Lodge, the tourist telry operated by the Canadian l Railways in the heart of the in Rockies.

of the flowers are native to that part country. The rock garden and the self lie at an altitude of nearly 3,000 what is Canada's greatest national park with an area of nearly 5,000 miles.

lower illustration shows the log in which visitors to this park are put

ng the native plants to be seen in the rden of Jasper Park Lodge are:—

E ACAULIS, found on steep banks at ns of 6,000 feet to 7,000 feet above l.

EA PECTINATA, which grows at eleva- 5,500 feet to 6,500 feet.

X DIFFUSA, found on dry banks at et to 7,000 feet.

PHORUM (COTTON GRASS), found in laces at about 5,000 feet.

ERON SALSUZINOSUS (E. LORATUS), n meadows at 5,500 feet.

NS, found at 6,000 feet.

of these flowers are very bright and ve, and last year seeds collected in National Park, numbering some 160 t species, were forwarded to this for cultivation by the Royal Horticul- Society. In addition, some 130 different kinds of mountain plants were col- in quadruplicate, for British her- is.

Above: **The Rock Garden, Jasper Park Lodge, Alberta**

Below: **Bungalow Avenue, Jasper Park Lodge**

Lysimachias

genus Lysimachia comprises a con- le number of herbaceous species of ig habit, several of which are good plants, valuable both in the border he woodland garden. They are all of ulture and call for no special attention, ost of them thrive best in moist situations. L. barystachys is a plant of erect habit, its small white flowers being disposed in dense terminal racemes in June and July. L. clethroides is a rather taller growing plant, frequently reaching 3 feet in height; it also bears white, but much larger, flowers, which are disposed in terminal spikes, and present an attractive appearance. L. Fortunei is a useful late-flowering species, its drooping spikes of white flowers appearing in August and September, and its value is enhanced by its foliage turning a brilliant red in autumn. L. Henryi is a dwarf-growing species of comparatively recent introduction; it seldom exceeds 1 foot in height, and bears clusters of rich golden yellow flowers. L. punctata is also a yellow-flowered species of merit, its whorled leaves and flowers being produced on stout, erect stems which often reach a height of 3 feet.

Amongst our native species are two or three plants well worthy of mention. L. vulgaris, the common yellow Loosestrife, has erect, branching stems with bright yellow flowers in terminal, panicled cymes; L. thyrsiflora has also bright yellow flowers disposed in dense axillary racemes, and is a good plant for the moist, half shady glades of the woodland; while L. mummularia, the Moneywort or Creeping Jenny, is well known. A handsome trailing plant, excellent for carpeting or for hanging baskets, its opposite, roundish, glabrous leaves and large, solitary axillary flowers make an attractive display, while its golden-leaved variety presents a richness of hue in foliage which is a striking contrast to the more sombre hues of other plants.

W. AUTON.

After treatment of hardwooded plants

Failures with Azaleas, Heaths, Camellias, and other hardwooded plants, are sometimes attributed to a lack of water during summer, but in quite a number of instances among amateur gardeners, one has to go back several months for a true solution. Sometimes, after they have given of their best, they are hurried from a warm greenhouse to a cold frame to make room for other plants coming into bloom, or young seedlings being prepared for outside planting. Time must be given for the production of new growth and for its perfecting before any attempt is made to change their quarters. This means that for some weeks at least after plants have ceased to bloom, they should be kept within the warmth of the greenhouse, syringed to induce growth, and watered thoroughly when they need it, bearing in mind the close, retentive nature of the peat in which they are potted.

MIDLANDER.

Violas

Whether raised from seeds or cuttings, it is advisable to get these planted out as early as possible in order that they may get firm hold on the soil before hot and dry conditions prevail.

The Rhododendron Show

THE Fourth Annual Show of the Rhododendron Association was held in the New Horticultural Hall on April 30th and May 1st. The splendid display of flowers proved how well Rhododendrons had weathered the past severe winter. Severe frosts during the week previous to the show had in some districts, however, so damaged both flowers and buds that several exhibitors were unable to set up their customary groups, consequently the competition in the amateurs' section was not so keen as usual.

A good form of Rhododendron Augustinii, flowers clear mauve
Shown by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild

The class for a large group of Rhododendrons, plants or cut flowers, produced only two competitors. The first prize being awarded to Lionel de Rothschild, Esq. (gardener, Mr. A. Bedford), Exbury, Southampton, for a tastefully arranged group of the smaller flowered species, including R. Augustinii, R. ciliatum, R. ambiguim, Azalea Vaseyi, and many species of the Lapponicum series. The well-flowered and beautiful plants in this exhibit proved that what these species lack in size of flowers they make up in gracefulness; for it was certainly the most artistic group in the show.

Admiral A. H. Heneage-Vivian (gardener, Mr. K. Leith), Clyne Castle, Swansea, was awarded the second prize for a group composed entirely of cut flowers of large flowered species and hybrids. The magnificent trusses of R. niveum, R. Falconeri, R. Aucklandii, R. Thomsoni, and their hybrids made a very imposing group, but it was of that stolid beauty which seems inseparable with the grouping of masses of cut flowers of the large-leaved Rhododendrons; for no matter how carefully they are arranged, there is always a certain heaviness which gives a poor conception of the beauty of these same flowers when airily poised on the tips of the branches of a graceful bush, with the varying shadows of woodland or shaded garden as a background. It is only in this setting that one can fully realise how truly regal is their beauty, and how just their claim to be the Queen of Shrubs. For a smaller group of cut flowers, J. C. Williams, Esq. (gardener, Mr. W. Micheal), Caerhays Castle, Cornwall, was awarded first prize. His group contained R. floccigerum, R. tephropeplum, R. exeuticum, R. neriiflorum, and many other fine species, which deserved more artistic and careful staging. This group was also awarded the Amateur Challenge Cup.

Col. Stephenson Clarke (gardener, Mr. Fleming), Borde Hill, Sussex, was second, with a well arranged group of species and hybrids.

The Earl of Stair, Lochinch Castle, Wigtownshire, won the class for twelve trusses of distinct species.

Admiral Heneage-Vivian exhibited the best twelve hybrids.

The classes for single trusses were well contested, notable flowers exhibited in these were: The peerless species R. lacteum, shown by A. W. Williams, Esq., Werrington Castle, Cornwall, who also exhibited a wonderful blue hybrid between R. fastigiatum and R. Augustinii. R. Thomsoni x R. neriiflorum, shown by Sir John Ramsden, Bulstrode Park, Bucks. R. dichroanthum x R. neriiflorum, shown by J. B. Stevenson, Esq., Tower Court, Ascot. A fine pink form of R. adenopodum, shown by Gerald E. W. Loder, Wakehurst Place, Sussex. Azalea Weyrichii, shown by G. H. Johnstone, Esq., Trewethern, Cornwall; and a new species, K W 5438B, shown by Lady Aberconway, Bodnant, N. Wales. The trade groups were, as usual, very imposing. Messrs. Gill and Son's large first prize group was very impressive when viewed from the dias, for the large plants towered well above the other groups; the base, however, was perhaps rather too crowded with good things, and from the floor of the hall it looked rather crammed. The first prize group of Rhododendrons not in flower, exhibited by the same firm, was more tastefully arranged, and illustrated the decorative value of Rhododendrons even when devoid of flowers.

Messrs. Waterer, Sons, and Crisp were second in this class. Mr. W. Slocock put up a group of well-grown hardy Rhododendrons attractively arranged. A fine specimen of R. Dairymaid in this group was
awarded the special prize for the best
in the show.

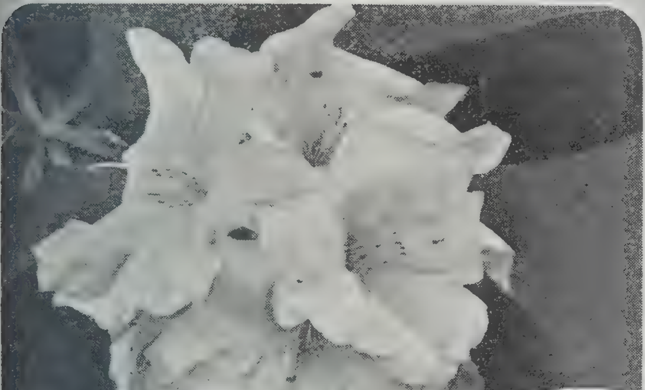
Messrs. R. Veitch and Sons and M
Reuthe each exhibited meritorious gr
containing many good plants and
varieties.

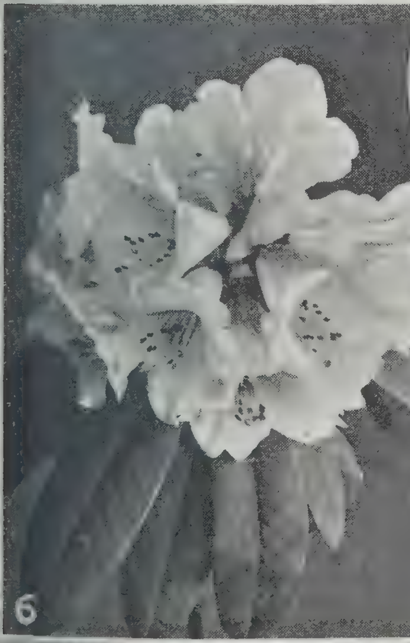
The groups of Azaleas exhibited
Messrs. R. and G. Cuthbert and Mess
Cheal and Son, were each very bright
so attractive that the judges failed to diff
tiate between them, and they were aw
equal first prizes.

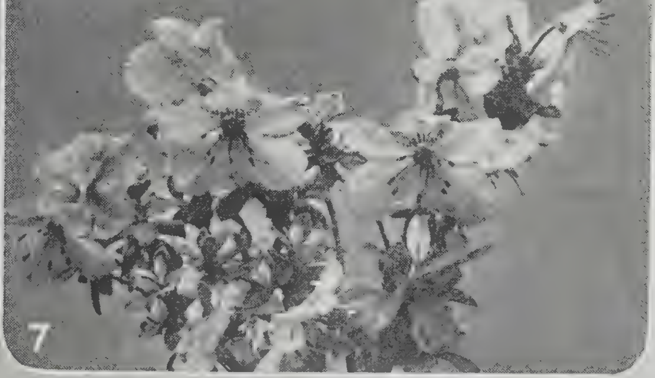
A new class for six vases of Rhododer
foliage was won by Lionel de Roths
Esq.; whilst Admiral Heneage-Vivian
awarded the first prize for a foliage R
dendron plant, his exhibit being a fine
of R. Falconeri.

There was keen competition for
Challenge Cup presented by Mr. Lion
Rothschild for the most meritorious e
of Rhododendrons. This was won
Messrs. R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., of
bridge Wells, who staged a magnificent
of hardy Rhododendrons in flower. A
variety of hybrids and species was inc
in this group, practically all of which we
comparatively recent introduction. On
variety, however, attracted conside
attention—a fine standard of R. G
Cunningham, an old hybrid which ha
been shown for many years. It has
shapely trusses of creamy-white, fre
with purple-brown. Among the
varieties Britannia stood out pre-em
among the scarlets; this is a very str
tone of brilliant scarlet-crimson. Of
reds we noticed Hugh Koster, a very
variety of Doncaster type, but with
larger flowers, in colour shining cri
Horsham, too, was very fine, with very
trusses of deep red flowers Of the
shades Betty Wormald was very fine,
enormous trusses of deep, flesh pink. R
W. Wallace also was an outstanding va
with bright, clear, pink flowers, though
what hard in tone, but nevertheless
showy. Pink Beauty is a fine delicate
without any spots or variation in
shading; and Louis Pasteur also attrac
good deal of attention, being very dis
with large compact trusses with fl
shading from a deep rose at the edg
almost white at the centre of each pip.
Lindsay Smith and Mrs. A. T. de la
were the only two pure white var
shown. Both of these are in the very
rank of hybrid Rhododendrons. They
enormous flowers and are very strong
ing. Mrs. A. T. de la Mare particularly
the eye on account of the delicate green
in the centre of each flower. This v
has the additional merit of fragrance, a
common characteristic among hybrid R
dendrons. Several fine plants of a str
hybrids from R. campylocarpum
also shown. Of these, perhaps the
was campylocarpum hybrid No. 20.
evidently a very free flowering variety,
flowers of an exquisite blend of deep,
pink and soft yellow. Among the s
shown was a good collection of the La
cum section of the dwarf Rhododend
including intricatum, hippophæoides,
giatum, litangense, and several other
ductions of Forrest and Kingdon
There were good specimens of the
scarlet neriiflorum, also the yellow flo
flavidum, and well-flowered plants of dec
and Fortunei. One of the loveliest pla
the whole show was a beautiful for
R. campanulatum named Distinction.
very large, rounded trusses of delicate
flowers of a distinct blue tone.

In addition to winning the Challeng
and the first prize for a group of







SEEN AT THE RHODODENDRON SHOW

. R. lacteum, one of the best species.

. R. Tyermanni, a tender species from Sumatra ; large, fleshy, pale flowers.

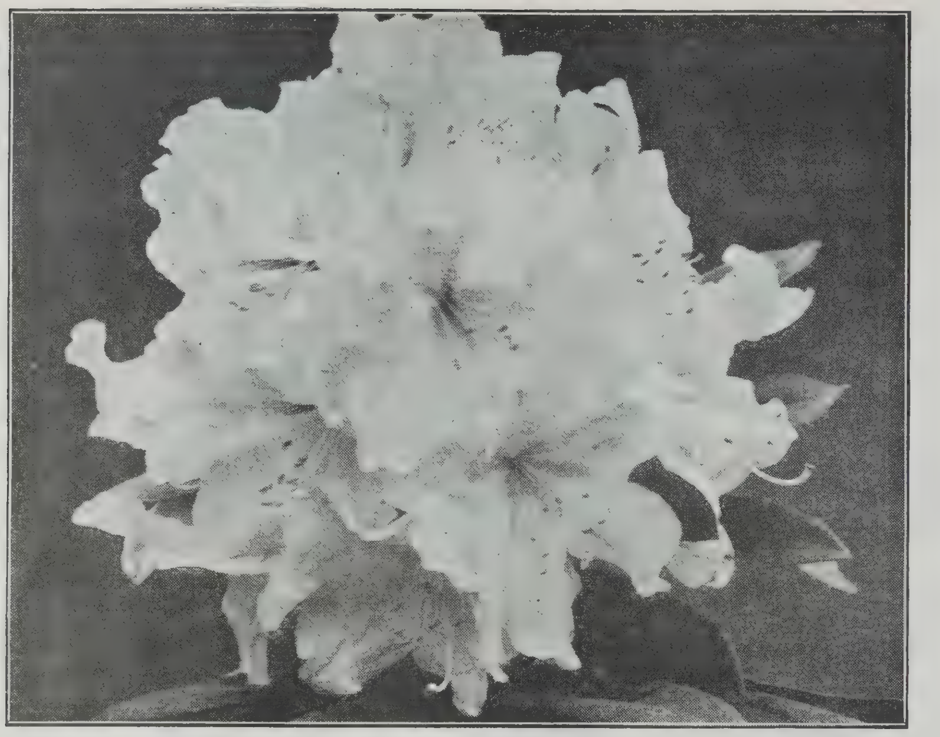
. R. Loderi King George, the finest of the hybrids.

. R. cinnabarinum, orange-red Lapageria-like flowers.

5. R. chartophyllum, flowers lavender colour, with protruding stamens.

6. R. Sutchuenense, one of the finest of the Chinese species.

7. The low-growing R. calostrotum, one of Farrer's introductions.



Rhododendron Mrs. Lindsay Smith, a beautiful truss of large white flowers
Shown by R. Wallace and Co.

Rhododendrons, Messrs. Wallace were also awarded the first prize for six cut trusses of hardy Rhododendrons, the varieties shown being Britannia, Mrs. Lindsay Smith, Horsham, Countess of Athlone (deep mauve), Brabantia (rich rose), and Mrs. George Leak (pink with a chocolate blotch). These last two varieties were shown for the first time.

Hydrangeas in pots

HYDRANGEA HORTENSIS adds much to the attraction of the greenhouse. There has been such great improvement in these plants of late years that it is difficult to associate the blooms of the modern varieties with those that flower in gardens in warm districts. Pink varieties are the most numerous, and it is in these perhaps the greatest variation is to be found. Almost every tone is to be noticed until almost a red is seen in one or two instances. Then there are the pure whites and creams. Blue is the colour that many aim at, but it is still elusive although there are signs of its becoming more fixed. Many a grower has been disappointed with this colour; he will perhaps obtain a cutting from a plant with blue flowers, and it is just as likely its flowers the next year will be pink

There is no doubt that soil largely influences the results, and where there is a lot of iron in it, there blue is most plentiful. Here in this red soil of Devon blue is most plentiful, from the lightest shade to almost a Delphinium blue. And yet in the next garden perhaps, and a similar soil, the huge bushes will carry nothing but pink flowers.

The easiest way is to plentifully mix iron filings with the soil when potting; also to water from early spring until the flowers open with water containing odd pieces of rusty iron. Then, again, the desired result may be brought about by dissolving 1 oz. of alum in a gallon of water, giving a dose of the solution to the plants twice a week until the flowers open.

The most popular form of plant is that in the 5-in. pot, carrying one fine head of bloom. Plants of this kind are not at all difficult to obtain, and to obtain a succession, propagation should be carried out from June into August. When the old plants have done flowering, stand them in the open, and after a fortnight the young wood will have hardened and will root much better.

The shoots selected for cuttings should be about 3 inches long, cut just below a joint, retaining all the leaves but the very lowest. Insert them singly in small pots filled with sandy soil and water them well. Placed in a propagating case on the greenhouse stage they will soon root, but they must be shaded from strong sun. The foliage will quickly indicate when roots have formed, and air should be gradually admitted until the plants are fully exposed, without flagging, to the atmosphere of the structure. The young plants will still need shading from strong sun, and progress will be hastened if the surroundings are kept moist and the leaves sprayed occasionally There must be no overwatering. Shading should be dispensed with as root action increases, and the plants exposed to as much light and air as possible, to prepare them for shifting on into 5-inch or 6-inch pots.

Hydrangeas are of luxuriant growth and delight in a light, rich compost of three-parts loam, one-part rotted manure, some coarse sand, and a little bone meal. The pots must be well drained. Place the plants in the coolest end of the greenhouse for the winter, and give very little water. With the turn of the year the buds begin to swell, and if a few are placed in a warmer position a longer flowering period will be obtained. As the sun becomes more powerful, more water will be required, with liquid manure twice a week.

Directly the flowers fade, cut back the stem to the first pair of strong leaves and grow them on during the summer. From three to five shoots will form, each of which will carry a flower next spring. Repot the plants in autumn, just slightly reducing the ball and give a slightly larger pot. Fine specimens may be grown in tubs for the summer garden, to stand on terraces or sunk in turf on the edge of the lawn. The plants will live for many years if they are surfaced fresh soil in spring, fed with liquid m during growth, and stored in a frost shed during winter.

The following are a few fine varieti White: Mme. Moulliere, Niege Orlea and Germaine Moulliere. Pink: Gu Kremhild, Professor de Dois, and Rhin Blue: La Marne, Mme. Truffaut, and Chambard.

F.

Kalosanthes

Kalosanthes or Crassulas are am greenhouse plants that used to be po but are grown by comparatively few to-day. Their culture is so simple a well adapted are they for small greenh from which frost is excluded and ke moderately warm, that they are wo trial. The worth of almost any flov plant in these days is governed largely beauty of its blossoms; and Kalosanth brilliant in colour, continue in flower good time, are fragrant, and can eas struck from cuttings.

Young plants, struck the previous au can be obtained through the adve columns, and these may be pott spring in a compost made up of three peat, one part old loam, with a little g charcoal added. Kalosanthes are not growing subjects, but are not difficult t with once their requirements are under During winter and early spring they be kept on a shelf near the glass greenhouse, and will need very little rather keeping them on the dry side the buds begin to show, which are at t of the shoots; the flowers are crim colour, though there is also a white for will be enough if, during winter and a temperature of about 50 deg maintained, rising to about 65 de summer. They are best grown with a excitement as possible, and a moist, atmosphere is prejudicial to their su

In taking cuttings after they have flo they should be selected from shoots th not bloomed, and only the ripest stripping the two pairs of lower leav inserting them in pots of compost, drained, made up of loam and san mortar rubble added. Rooting hastened by placing them for a few with a propagator, or, failing this, shelf near the glass in a sunny positi will be an advantage if, after taking t tings, they are placed on a shelf and to dry a little before putting them in th post.

W

A good greenhouse shru

Luculia gratissima is a fine subjec wall in a well-heated greenhouse or co tory. It is an evergreen shrub, and trained to a wall or other support, foliage at all times is effective. autumn it bears numerous clusters of f flowers of a bluish-white colour. It at home in a temperature rather ab ordinary greenhouse, but lower th stove, what is known as the inter house.

It is very effective planted out in drained border of suitable soil, and m be grown in a large pot. I find it s best in a compost of three parts light loam, one part peat, a little leaf-sc plenty of sand. The drainage must free, as the plant requires a good su water during the growing and bl period. As the foliage is of an ev nature the roots must at no time be to become dry, though water should given until it is seen the soil is sligh

Black Mulch Paper

oticed in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED,
ch 30th, an article on Black Mulch
and am sending you samples of two
will be widely used here this spring,
ought they might interest you. I am
closing an article on same, which
d in the " Montreal Witness " a few
go. A. W. JOHNSON.

an, B.C.,
anada.

EXPERIENCES WITH PAPER MULCH PAPER.

IMS made in various quarters that
ering the soil with strong paper
veen rows and around vegetables
not only eliminate the necessity for
ion but produce larger crops, led the
nental Farm of the Department of
ture at Ottawa to make a trial of the
The experiment was carried out with
es, using the Bonny Best variety as
. Ten plants for each of three plots
t out in a field, 5 feet apart each
One plot of ten plants was mulched
ngle-ply roofing, so that the whole
between the plants and 2 feet all
the outside of the plot was covered.
were cut in the roofing to allow the
to grow unhampered. In another
ngle-ply burlap was used as the
The third plot was treated in the
vay by cultivation. When the crop
en harvested it was found that the
lched with the roofing paper yielded
oo pounds more than where the bur-
s used and almost 200 pounds more
here the plants were treated in the
vay. The plants mulched with the
made an exceedingly vigorous
and continued quite green until the
ling frost. Weed control was com-
An examination of the soil, after the
had been removed, showed that over
ole area there was a mass of fine
roots, which extended to the surface
ground. The Dominion Horticulturist
the conclusion that the burlap treat-
as not satisfactory, inasmuch as th
penetrated the burlap, rendering the
sightly. The Tomato plants, however,
igorously and, as already indicated,
well. While the mulching plants
better crop returns, the profit from
is doubtful because of the expense of
lching material. Further tests are
d as necessary before it is safe to
ne the advisability of using either
r burlap for mulching.

uch for a careful scientific trial, here
experience of a home gardener :

ct a year ago I first read about this
arming and its effect on vegetation,
Mrs. P. J. Anderson to " The New
d Homestead," and I decided to try
a small scale, of course, because in
mate, where the growing season is
nything that will force the growth of
vegetables is of great value. So in
ing I prepared my garden patch by
g it thoroughly and making it as
possible. I decided to try with corn
cumbers, as they require a longer
than some other vegetables and are
e to frost.

ught one roll of asphalt roofing and
one length of it along one side of
den. I then took a stout knife and
sses through it, about 1½ feet apart,
on the whole length of the strip. I
ack the corners of those cuts so that
l plant four kernels of corn in the
, and then folded the corners over again. That was all I did to my corn until harvest time came. No weeding, no watering, and no hoeing. From my little patch I harvested 126 fully developed ears of the sweetest corn I ever tasted.

I handled the Cucumbers a little differently, I cut the roofing in two lengthwise, making 18-inch strips. Laid down the first strip, planted my seed along the edge in the same way, and so on until my whole garden patch was covered. I left a space of about one-half inch between the strips for the plants to come through, and they began to come in three days. It seemed as if every seed grew. I thinned them out some, but not enough. They grew so fast and vigorously that before long they covered the ground like a blanket, keeping out both sun and wind, so that the first little Cucumbers that formed rotted or dried away. This was remedied by breaking away some of the vines and large leaves.

I had a few Tomato plants set out in the same manner as the corn was planted, but I had them between the corn and the Cucumbers, and the latter choked them almost entirely. However, they yielded a fair crop. If they had been in a more open place they would have been given an abundant crop.

My roll of roofing cost me 2.50 dollars, but just think of the hours of weeding that it saved me! Walked through the garden twice during the summer and picked out a few weeds that had struggled up among the Cucumbers. That was all the attention given them, and neither dry weather nor heavy showers had any effect on them.

I planted my garden June 5th, and began to harvest the last week in August. Corn planted the same day without paper was two weeks later in harvest time. Hay wire staples were used to hold the paper.

Early Tulips and Narcissus

These may now be lifted and laid out on sunny, open spaces to complete their ripening. This will afford an opportunity to dig and prepare the beds in readiness for the summer flowers.

The flower garden

The system of bedding-out plants for summer display in variously formed masses and in diverse associations has almost passed away. It may be decoration in a certain sense, but it is not gardening. The bedding-out system has run for many years and played its part, and been admired more than it deserved. It has favoured the cultivation of plants of most fugitive kind, plants without beauty yet in the mass giving somewhat pleasing results.

Again, with bedding out is the inevitable sameness which is to be seen in any arrangement year after year. Even where there is great skill and taste gained by long experience in arrangement the sameness is still in evidence. But apart from all this there is in these days the tendency towards greater economy in gardens. The country as well as individuals have become poorer, and those who at one time maintained extensive gardens have felt the pinch of these harder times and are compelled to retrench and garden more economically.

A garden of bedding plants is only a garden of luxury without recompense. Away with it. Remake the beds, plant clumps of beautiful shrubs, put in good, hardy, handsome perennials from the host that is now available that need little out-of-the-way care. Do this and we make decorative flower gardening less staid, formal, and costly, but much more pleasing.

The demand for cut flowers is enormously increasing. Then how much better to devote beds and borders to plants that will yield flowers in abundance for cutting? If a great number of cut flowers must be furnished, then devote some portion less prominent, where plants can be grown in abundance and cheaply, and a bushel or so of flowers can be cut without marring the bedding effects. We, most of us, have to keep down the cost of gardening, especially in the floral parts, so if we can cheaply provide a quantity of flowers for cutting there will be far more value for outlay than can be obtained from any system of summer bedding-out. F. H.

Magnolia soulangeana at Kew

A hardy spring-flowering tree of unrivalled dignity and beauty

50 Years' Development of the Early-flowering Chrysanthemum

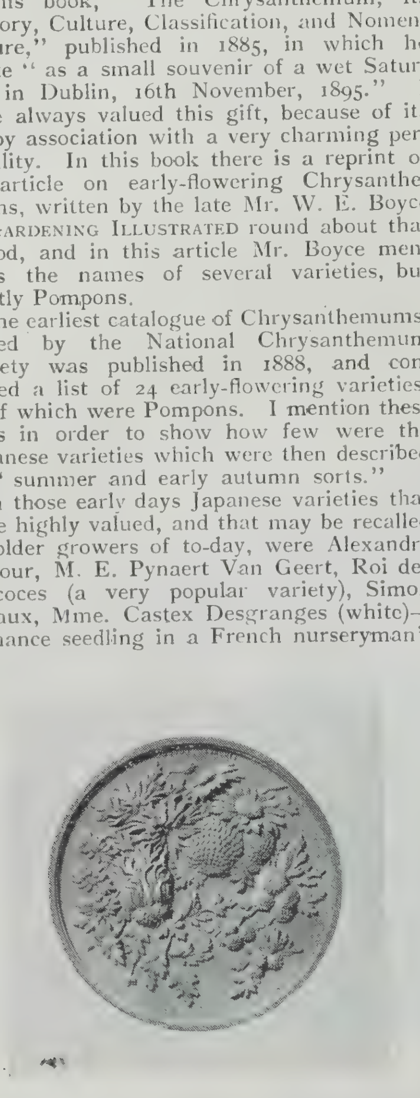
THE record of development of the early-flowering outdoor Chrysanthemums provides interesting reading. In the earliest days of the last half century these plants were often referred to as summer-flowering Chrysanthemums, but the majority of varieties in cultivation at that time were plants of the Pompon type, at that period freely used in parks and public gardens, where their free-flowering propensity and dwarf and compact habit of growth stamped them as ideal for such purposes.

I have before me at the moment a catalogue printed and published in 1886 by the late Mr. H. J. Jones, who at that time carried on the business of seedsman and florist at Hope Nursery, Lewisham, S.E. This catalogue contained the names of 36 early-flowering Chrysanthemums, but of this number quite two-fifths were Pompon varieties, the remainder being of Japanese form and character and a great advance upon the somewhat formal small-flowered Pompons. Some of these Pompons are still grown to-day, notably the varieties Anastasio, Little Bob (syn. Scarlet Gem), and St. Crouts.

In 1895, when I was invited to Dublin to judge the Dalkey Chrysanthemum Show, the late Mr. F. W. Burbidge, the popular Curator of Trinity College Botanical Gardens, Dublin, presented me with a copy of his book, "The Chrysanthemum, its History, Culture, Classification, and Nomenclature," published in 1885, in which he wrote "as a small souvenir of a wet Saturday in Dublin, 16th November, 1895." I have always valued this gift, because of its happy association with a very charming personality. In this book there is a reprint of an article on early-flowering Chrysanthemums, written by the late Mr. W. E. Boyce in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED round about that period, and in this article Mr. Boyce mentions the names of several varieties, but mostly Pompons.

The earliest catalogue of Chrysanthemums, issued by the National Chrysanthemum Society was published in 1888, and contained a list of 24 early-flowering varieties, 13 of which were Pompons. I mention these facts in order to show how few were the Japanese varieties which were then described as "summer and early autumn sorts."

In those early days Japanese varieties that were highly valued, and that may be recalled by older growers of to-day, were Alexandre Dufour, M. E. Pynaert Van Geert, Roi des Precoces (a very popular variety), Simon Delaux, Mme. Castex Desgranges (white)—a chance seedling in a French nurseryman's garden—and its two yellow sports, G. Wermig and Mrs. Burrell, grand flowers when well grown.



Silver medal awarded to Mr. D. B. Crane in 1889 for early-flowering Chrysanthemums

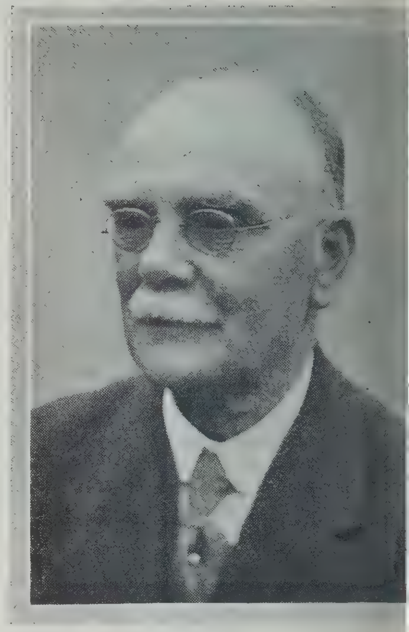
In turning over my medals a few nights since I came across a silver medal which I won in September, 1889, "for 12 bunches early-flowering Chrysanthemums (Pompons allowed), not less than three blooms, with foliage, in each bunch." This was the first exhibition at which a special competition was open to amateurs, and, naturally, I was quite pleased with my success. I recall the difficulty competitors experienced in those days in obtaining the necessary varieties on which they could depend, and remember so well showing the varieties M. E. Pynaert Van Geert, Mme. C. Desgranges and its sports, two or three other Japanese. The rest were Pompons.

We were then on the threshold of great developments. Raisers and growers, represented by such men as Mr. Norman Davis, then of Camberwell, the late Mr. H. J. Jones, who raised that wonderful variety Ryecroft Glory—grown largely for market for years—the late Mr. W. Piercy, of Forest Hill, a most enthusiastic exponent of the early-flowering sorts, and several other men, were all busy exhibiting as and when opportunities were afforded, both at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, and at the Crystal Palace, in this way illustrating the value of the early sorts for the outdoor garden. At that time, too, market growers became interested, but were largely dependent on the varieties Mme. C. Desgranges and its sports for the few Chrysanthemums that were then grown for commercial purposes.

In 1891 Mons. Simon Delaux, of Toulouse, introduced into England no fewer than 125 new varieties—far too many for any trade specialist or the public to deal with satisfactorily in one year. Mr. H. J. Jones purchased stock of the whole set, and I understand sold complete sets of cuttings to two or three other specialists. I used to visit the collection at Ryecroft Nursery, Lewisham, during the period of flowering, and made notes of the better varieties. For many years subsequently the better varieties were constantly in evidence, but, from time to time, because the names of many of these varieties could not be found in the current issues of the specialists' catalogues, growers, especially florists, would give their own English names to them. Consequently, from time to time, one came across these renamed varieties in different parts of the country, and the correct names of the stocks were subsequently established.

Other Continental introductions followed as the years progressed. It was my good fortune in the early 'nineties to obtain stock of the popular Mme. Marie Massé, and in the following autumn to obtain the first-class certificate of the National Chrysanthemum Society for this ideal plant for the outdoor garden. This variety, in subsequent seasons, produced quite a number of sports, such as Ralph Curtis (white), Rabbie Burns (cerise-pink), Crimson Marie Massé (crimson-bronze), and lastly the much-wanted yellow member of the family, Horace Martin.

This family has been the progenitor of many of the better outdoor sorts raised and introduced since that period. It has been possible to trace the characteristics of the Massé family in numerous English-raised seedlings since introduced.



Mr. D. B. Crane

Continental introductions of importance subsequently distributed were the beautiful novelties raised by Mons. Auguste Nonin, of
Chatillon. This raiser, for several
placed on the market a series of early
showing considerable advance in mar
spects. Some of his better varieties
Perle Rose, Champ d'Or, Le Pactole,
mandie, Perle Chatillonaise, Provence
des Blancs, and Tapis de Neige.
English raisers have each in turn done
to popularise the early-flowering kinds
ably Mr. Goacher, who raised, an
many other good things, Goacher's Cri
Carrie, Lillie, Leslie, Polly, and a h
other excellent varieties, all of which
distributed by the late Mr. W. Wells

There have, of course, been other
whose names it is not possible to ment
this somewhat brief note. In more
years, however, Mr. W. Roots, of Cra
Middlesex, has probably given the w
larger proportion of ideal early varietie
any other raiser. Scarcely a season
without some beautiful varieties bei
rived from this raiser's garden. Th
not always available for the public,
many of them are grown exclusively
well-known firm of market growers
as a rule, after a few years they ar
with in specialists' catalogues under
names. We are much indebted t
raiser's splendid efforts, and our garde
richer in consequence. His Cranford
Cranford Yellow, Hollicot Yellow, Ca
and The Ashes are just a few of the
beautiful early varieties this raiser has
us. There is little doubt as the
progress, we shall enjoy the many
beautiful novelties raised by this
grower. Others hard at work in th
deavour to improve these flowers ar
A. W. Thorpe, of Lichfield, who,
the last few years, has introduced ma
cellent novelties, notably Pink Dam
Crimson Circle, and Mr. H. Woolman
ley, near Birmingham; not a season
without quite a good list of novelties e
ing from this source. Then there is
Shoesmith, jun., Mayford, near W
who has been very successful of late
ceiving first-class certificates for his
ing novelties.

Conferences dealing exclusively wi
early-flowering Chrysanthemum held
the auspices of the National Chrysant
Society have done much to dissemin
knowledge of this flower: that held

Palace in 1905 was a noteworthy ind in 1913, under the same auspices, were read by well-known authorities, vhich helped to give notoriety to the and to popularise its cultivation.

in the gardens of the Royal Horti- Society at Wisley have been very in illustrating which were the better for border culture, and at the pre- me the National Chrysanthemum is supervising, under Mr. Hatch, of m, a somewhat exhaustive trial of er-known and more dependable early- g outdoor varieties. In this way pe to eliminate any that may appear ndesirable, and to give prominence to arieties that have points to commend or general cultivation.

ultivation of the early-flowering varie- market growers for some years past en increasing by leaps and bounds, s very noticeable how discriminating men have become in the selection of ey consider worth growing. These ited in number, denoting the fact is only the very best varieties that e best results.

of the larger market growers grow rly-flowering varieties by the hundred d, and there are instances where in- l varieties are grown in tens of thou-

e "'eighties" the writer was told ertain member of the Horticultural "take those dowdy things away." as the feeling then, but everything ave a beginning, and to-day we are some of the results of those earlier , and these results to those who have d the development of the early-flower- ysanthemums, are most gratifying.

gate, N. D. B. CRANE.

nts for the miniature rock garden

miniature rock garden for the cold use or indoors, varying in size from a p pot a foot across, holding half a lants, to more elaborate structures of stone, or cement, and containing up ozen or more specimens, appeals to an ng number of garden lovers. It may ght indoors when flowers are scarce; nts will most probably bloom a fort- arlier than those on the rockery, and, judicial selection of plants, one may mething in bloom almost the whole trough.

rtunately, many rock plants are un- either to close conditions over a pro- period, or to indoor treatment. But some months in the summer to and re-potting, or a fresh batch of each year when the others are planted re are many plants that will do well an environment.

egin with the carpeters, a general e is the tiny Mentha requieni, with its Lavender flowers and fragrant foliage. mes a severe or very wet winter will it outdoors, but in the miniature rock it gives no trouble.

are several Arenarias available. A a is possibly the best, though its A. cæspitosa, a dark, rich green tiny grass, A. cæspitosa aurea, its variety, and A. gracilis, are all ble as close carpeters, with white sparsely borne. In time they will erything with a green or yellow mat, are the easiest subjects to pull apart they be likely to swamp other plants. two Raoulias, australis and glabra, decided contrast with their silvery Both do well in the miniature garden, and although there is little to choose between them, being very alike, R. glabra makes the quicker growth. These are, perhaps, the best of the true carpeters, for one can scarcely call Sedums, Drabas, Armerias, and such-like carpeters in so small a space as the indoor garden.

The next thing to head for is a trailing plant that will hang over the stone, over the sides of the pot, and give as much variety as possible. To mention several for this purpose, perhaps the choicest is the lovely little prostrate Hypericum cuneatum, flowering in summer. It is rather tender to handle, the joints easily breaking, but the golden yellow blossoms, opening from red buds, and the pretty boat-shaped leaves and red stems, spreading prostrate over the stones, are well worth treating the plant carefully.

Then there are Saxifraga oppositifolia splendens and Linaria æquitriloba. The former, one of the earliest and most beautiful of the Saxifrages, makes a splendid show of brilliant rose-coloured blooms in February, and delights to swing them over the pot side. With the latter, however, one has to deal with rather a rampant trailer. On occasions its enthusiasm must be checked, and some people regard it with disfavour for this reason, but it is a useful plant, blooming continuously throughout the summer and autumn, and its dark green, rounded foliage and mauve flowers—rather paler indoors than out—add considerably to the garden.

The lovely yellow Rose Mrs. E. J. Beaty which was so admirably shown at the Spring Rose Show (page 293)

Two small gems worthy of note are Mimulus radicans and Aquilegia discolor. M. radicans is a delightful plant that creeps haphazardly round the pot with its curious leaves dark-blotched towards the inner end, and its purple, yellow-centred little flowers. June and July is its flowering period, and, like most gems, slugs love it. Aquilegia discolor is a small plant about 4 inches high, and flowers at the same time as the Mimulus above. Unmentioned by Farrer, it probably gets its name from the rosy flush upon its cream inner petals, against the light blue outer ones. Aquilegia pyrenaica is also worthy of a place if one can happen upon a small variety of it, that is, in the vicinity of 6 inches or so.

For January flowering, that gorgeous miniature Iris reticulata supplies something choice when most needed. The bulbs may be planted beneath the carpeters any time from September to November—the earlier the better—and shortly after Christmas the grey-green buds opening into rich purple blossoms, splashed with orange, push themselves through the turf. Apart from its earliness and beauty, the peculiar charm of this Iris is that it is sweet scented.

Of the huge family of Campanulas there are several worthy of a place in any miniature garden, and among them are C. fenestrellata and C. Zoysii. The former has very pale blue, star-shaped flowers, set amidst delicate, fresh green leaves. Blooming in July, it makes an ideal subject. The tiny blue C. Zoysii, with its curiously shaped tubular flowers borne profusely, does well amongst plenty of limestone chips. Unfortunately the plant makes an irresistible appeal to slugs, so that even in the miniature garden the stray slug has to be watched for. Because of this care, C. Zoysii will do better than on the rockery proper.

There can be no doubt that no sort of rock garden can be complete without a shrub, or, better still, a small Conifer, for their greenery is scarcely ever liable to mutilation by pests, and so often their colours are such that they achieve a distinction among flowering plants. Above all, their manner of growth—either erect and stately or gracefully prostrate—produces a quiet but very effective dignity it is hard to obtain with other plants. There are many of the smaller Cupressus and Retinospora worthy of a place in the large indoor gardens and but few in the smaller. But in Edraianthus serpyllifolia, Veronica Hectori, and Juniperus communis compressa all that can be desired is found. The first is a silvery, woolly shrub, the second a fine, upstanding little shrub like a tiny Monkey Puzzle, and the third a very erect plant with pale grey-green leafage that is ideal for breaking the monotony of flat, creeping foliage. Outdoors the Edraianthus needs a pane of glass against our wet winters, but the indoor garden seems to suit it well.

W. S. M.

Linaria alpina

Certainly one of the most charming of Alpine plants, this delightful little gem is not at all difficult to establish in sandy, gritty, and rather moist soil, or in crevices in the sunny spots of the rock garden. The Alpine Toadflax is short-lived, but when happily placed it seeds itself so very freely as soon to form cascades of silvered leaves and brilliantly coloured blossoms. The small bluish-violet flowers are vividly touched with orange, and rosea variety is a charming confection in silver, pink, and orange. These Linarias are easily increased from seeds, which should be sown in spring in a cold frame, or in the places in the rock garden where the plants are to flower.

Another treasure is Erysimum, or Cheiranthus linifolium, almost ever in flower, trusses, cascades, and torrents of softest mauve and lavender colouring—an ideal plant for clothing the top of an old wall, or a very dry, sunny slope or bank. The plants delight in a stony soil, and will readily cover a considerable area with innumerable self-sown seedlings.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Vineries

Attend regularly to the tying down and stopping of growth, and endeavour to arrange for an even distribution of the foliage over all parts of the houses. Black Grapes colour better beneath a denser canopy of leaves than white kinds, and this should be borne in mind during the stopping period. In ventilating, avoid cold draughts at all cost, for although a generous opening of the ventilators may be desirable on warm, mild days, this state of things cannot be permitted when cold, easterly winds are prevalent, however bright the sun may shine. Colouring is apparent in the earliest house and a little air may be admitted night and day, but this must not be accompanied by falls of temperature. Careful observation will also be required to see that the condition of the borders is correct at this critical period, but if the latter are properly drained there need arise no fear of stagnant conditions.

Peaches and Nectarines

The earliest fruits will shortly commence colouring and should be exposed to sunlight as much as possible by keeping the growths pinched or tied back, and even removing a leaf or two, if necessary, to admit light. Generous feeding of trees growing in pots and confined spaces may be indulged in until two-thirds of their ultimate size has been reached, when feeding, even of a diluted nature, must cease. Air may now be more freely admitted on all favourable occasions, and those trees which have just completed their stoning should not only be vigorously syringed, but kept abundantly supplied with water. A night temperature of 60 degs. to 65 degs. Fahr. should be maintained.

Figs

Vigorous syringing must be indulged in to keep these free from Red Spider, and overcrowding of the foliage must be avoided at all costs. Those carrying heavy crops, whether in pots or borders, must be liberally supplied with diluted manure water, and even given a light mulch.

Malmaison Carnations

A light shading for use during the brightest hours of the day should be erected over those now coming into bloom, otherwise loss of colour will result and the flowers be lacking in freshness. Thin out the buds, leaving one only on each stem, and tie the shoots in neatly to slender stakes. Stimulants may be applied twice weekly and air admitted freely from both top and bottom ventilators. A few well-flowered specimens arranged in flowering houses and conservatories will be much appreciated, and find the conditions therein to their liking.

Hippeastrums

Plants raised from seed during the present season should be kept growing freely. As cleanliness is of the greatest importance at this stage, the syringe must be applied vigorously among them, and an occasional fumigating given to keep at bay Thrips and Red Spider, their greatest enemies. Keep the plants potted on as required and place close up to the glass in order that growth may be vigorous and clean.

Water Lilies (Nymphæa)

This is an excellent time for establishing plantations of these beautiful subjects, which will thrive in almost any good loamy soil, or even in the muddy soil of lakes and pools. The water is getting warmer each day and plants put in now make headway at once. While these fine plants will thrive with 8 inches of water over their crowns, the ideal appears to be 18 inches. I have, however, grown them successfully in 8 inches of water and 4 feet, and on one occasion a group was very beautiful for several years in 9 feet of water, therefore no one need hesitate to try a few plants who can provide a foot of soil to grow them in. Other water and waterside plants may also be planted at the present time with success.

Runner Beans

These may now be sown in the open, either in prepared trenches or on well-manured land. The drills should be drawn 4 inches deep and 6 inches to 8 inches wide, and the seeds placed in double rows at 8 inches apart. Excellent varieties are Sutton's A 1 and Hackwood Park.

Spring Cabbage

A little sulphate of ammonia sown thinly among the plants will be found very beneficial and will push forward those which received such a check by the severe winter frost.

Pears and Peaches in the open

Stop the shoots of the former at about five buds from their base while it is still possible to do so between the thumb and finger. Attend to the training of the latter when 8 inches in length, pinching back superfluous shoots.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Tuberous-rooted Begonias

Get these attractive subjects transferred to their flowering pots before they get starved, in boxes or small pots, as the case may be. A good substantial compost should be provided. Three parts very fibrous loam, two parts not too old leaf mould; a good dash of wood ashes, and just enough coarse sand to ensure porosity. If too much sand be included, the plants are almost certain to be attacked by that little pest, the Begonia mite. I find that the above compost gives good results, but the addition of a 6-inch potful of bone meal and a 5-inch potful of Thomson's Plant Manure to each barrow-load of soil is a decided improvement.

Repot young Pelargoniums

Young plants of these useful subjects, be they of the Regal, scented leaved, or Zonal type, if growing in 3-inch or 4-inch pots, should now be fit for transference to their flowering pots; those 6 inches in diameter being, as a rule, the best size to use. The compost advised above for Begonias will suit, but rather less leaf mould should be used.

Primula Obconica

This grand winter flowering plant should always be carefully treated. It dislikes dryness at the roots very much, but is even more easily ruined by over-watering, especially in the case of plants that have not well filled their pots with roots. The earliest batch should now be ready to be placed in 3-inch pots, while the later sowings must be pricked off into boxes of good soil while still quite small. Shade carefully and do not give too high a temperature—55 degs. being a very suitable warmth at this stage.

Harden off Dahlias

If of decent size and well rooted, the cold
frame is the best place for these plants
now until planted out early in June. D
neglect giving sufficient water, and whi
sashes should be drawn right back durir
day, they should be run on at night unle
weather is very mild. The sturdier the
are, the better will be the blooms.

The planting of Pentstemons

These grand autumn flowering plant
now, with perfect safety, be planted in
flowering quarters. Fairly rich and
worked ground is desirable, and a sunr
sheltered position will give best results.
large flowered varieties are very hand
and stately, while the Newbury Gem
gives a great mass of bloom when mas
beds or borders.

East Lothian Stocks

Should the weather be at all genia
to get these fine Stocks planted out, a
require a long season of growth to g
their best. Lift with great care so
retain a good ball of earth round the
for, like all Stocks, they suffer consid
check if the roots are bare when pl
Rich, rather retentive soil seems to su
plant well.

Melons

The hand pollination should be se
about mid-day. Always endeavour to
four or five blooms ready for pollinat
the one time, for if this work is perf
piecemeal the chances are that the
"set" first will swell away, the lat
doing little or nothing. Maintain a
moist atmosphere, and a temperature
below 70 degs.

Swede Turnips

This is now recognised as by far th
turnip for winter and early spring
During the last half of May is the
suitable time for sowing. An open,
spot should be chosen, and the crop
greatly improved if a moderate dress
fresh lime be lightly forked into the
before sowing is carried out. Allow 18
between the rows. Many of the so-call
den Swedes are of very poor quality and
worth troubling with. A really good
variety is in every way more deper
the variety Baugholm Field Swede
probably the best for garden purposes

Potatoes

No other crop responds better to
cultivation. From the moment th
appear through the soil, until it is ne
to earth them up, the ground should
quently either deeply hoed or forked
latter, though perhaps slower, is the
method. A very good tool for the pur
the "Buco" Cultivator, if plied
ously.

Dwarf Beans

It is a mistake to sow these on
retentive soils for a week or two y
where the ground is of an open,
character a few rows may now be
I find Dickson's Earliest Of All good
first sowing out-of-doors.

Runner Beans

These are rather hardier than
dwarf sorts, but even they rot at ti
heavy ground if sown early. A ge
supply of well-rotted manure must be
into the ground for this crop. For
use a good strain of the old Scarlet
is as good as anything.

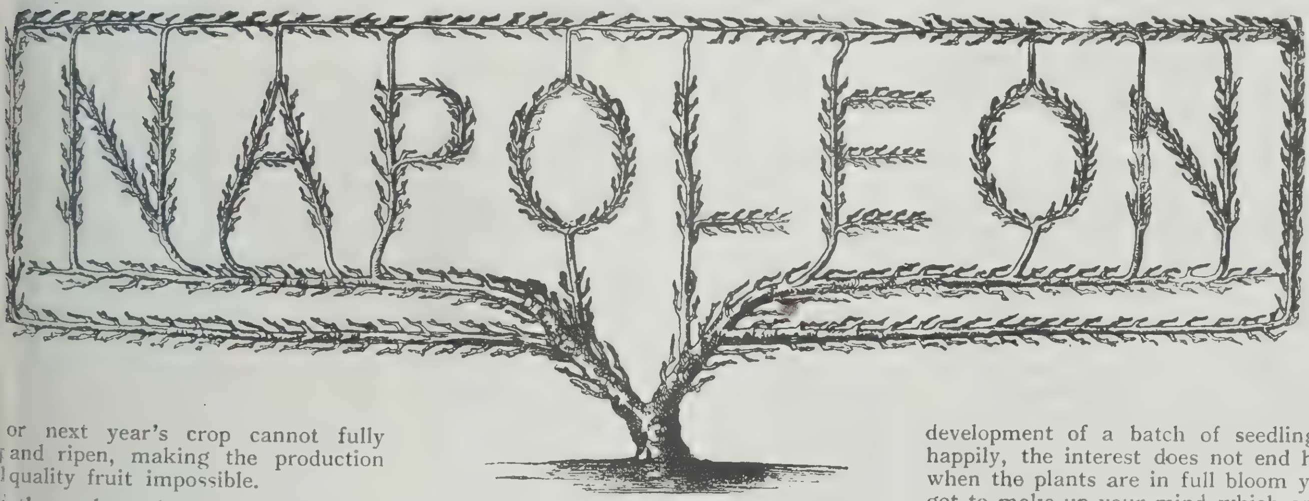
C. B

Preston House Gardens,
Linlithgow.

Training Peach trees

VELL-TRAINED, fan-shaped each tree is a pleasure to look on, ut is not often seen in these days. be argued that perfection of train- not essential to perfection of crop. lly it is not necessary for a shoot to ght to bear good fruit and it is not ole for an ill-trained tree to yield crop, but faulty training, especially rds the overcrowding of branches, tly responsible for unsatisfactory nd certainly the useful life of a well- tree is infinitely longer than that glected one.

bly no fruit trees are more unfav- affected by overcrowding of the s than the Peach and Nectarine, for rent season's growths, from which owing crop is obtained, must be alongside the branches bearing fruit, the greater part of the growing wo sets of wood for the production crops of fruit are striving for their are of light and air in a space ally assigned to one. If this space estricted, the ripening process of the crop is adversely affected and the or next year's crop cannot fully and ripen, making the production quality fruit impossible.



Curious example of Peach training, as seen in a French garden

From "Gardening Illustrated" 50 years ago

then, clear that apart from the ge in appearance of a well-trained ect benefits in high quality crop pro- accrue from trees which have their uniformly spaced and laid in y. If trees are given due atten- n the early days of training, it is cult nor very expensive in time to branches in, on straight lines from a central point, when it be- simple matter to train the sub- shoots from the main branches on e principle. In maintaining the of a well-trained tree, more on summer disbudding and tying winter pruning, for while a rather stem of pruning may be necessary irst years of planting to ensure a nced tree well furnished to the e after results depend entirely on tion of the right bud for replacing ing wood, and laying it in in the ection. The actual distance apart nches should be trained is a matter rower to decide, but, broadly speak- tis not wise to give less than 4 it is, too, much easier to mature its on a long, well-grown, perfectly shoot than it is to produce one fruit of two, poorly grown, ill-ripened

W. AUTON.

on Hall Gardens,
oreton Morrell, Warwick.

Growing window plants for exhibition

MOST horticultural societies encourage the growing of plants suitable for window decoration by offering prizes for the finest specimens, but there is often ambiguity shown in the framing of the schedules, with the result that disappointment and heartburning sometimes follow. For instance, I have known a schedule to read "window plants for show," "plants suitable for a window," without any qualification as to whether the plants may be grown in a greenhouse, or whether they must have occupied a window, and, if so, for how long? It seems to me, as an old exhibitor, that those responsible for compiling schedules cannot be too explicit as to what is actually intended. More than once I have heard acrimonious discussions after awards have been made, as to what actually has been meant. The man, for instance, who grows, say, Fuchsias, Geraniums, Vallotas in his house window from young plants, and who has no greenhouse, should scarcely be expected to compete with one who can bring on what he proposes to exhibit under the roof of a greenhouse, yet, in view of the wording of the schedule, "three plants suitable for a window," he appears to be right in doing so. There should be a class for the encouragement of window plants grown, as such, to give those who have no glass a chance, whatever is offered in the case of plants grown in a greenhouse. Those who contemplate exhibiting window plants should, if the schedule is not clear, have an understanding with those responsible for drawing it up, before the show, as it often saves unpleasantness afterwards. I write from experience in this matter.

LEAHURST.

Raising new varieties

The raising of new varieties of florist's flowers is an interesting and profitable hobby. Suitable subjects to take in hand are Delphiniums, Border Carnations, and Pyrethrums. From a batch of plants, you will usually get one or two good varieties, although it is seldom you get a Millicent Blackmore, a Duchess of Fife, or a James Kelway. No doubt it is cheaper to leave this work to the specialist, but it adds great interest to the work of the amateur and professional gardener alike to watch the development of a batch of seedlings, and, happily, the interest does not end here, for when the plants are in full bloom you have got to make up your mind which are worth retaining and propagating; always remembering that in our gardens of to-day there is only room for something above the average. Even after they have been propagated for a year or two they may show signs of deterioration and have to be discarded. To show how difficult it is to get something outstanding, I remember some years ago reading a lecture by a well-known grower on the raising of new Carnations. He said that their firm, on an average, grew about 2,000 to get one sufficiently superior to supersede any of its class already in commerce.

I don't mean to infer, however, that because a new seedling is not capable of ousting some well-known variety from its position that it is not worth growing, far from it. Nothing adds more interest or distinctiveness to your herbaceous border than several clumps of Delphiniums, Lupins, Gaillardias, Pentstemons, etc., that have been raised in your own garden, and that are different from the varieties your neighbours are growing.

TEVIOTSIDE.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Napoleon

THE Peach tree shown in our illustration represents one of the many ways of training fruit trees on walls adopted in some French gardens. It cannot be recommended as by any means the most profitable method of growing fruit trees, but it affords amusement to those who have plenty of time to attend to it, and who prefer pleasure to profit. This method of training is performed by cutting back to buds where branches are required, and spurring in superfluous growths. Such trees show to the best advantage when trained on white or stone-coloured walls.

Hardy Carnations

Those raised from seed in March are ready for planting out, and beds which have previously received a dressing of lime should be prepared for them. It is important that such beds should be well drained, and where possible raised above the ordinary level.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Sweet Pea seedlings

(Robert Parry).—The small plants sent are so dried up that we can make nothing of them. You should have packed them in damp Moss and so given us a chance to discover what is wrong. Planting Sweet Peas on the same ground over a number of years usually leads to the plants going off in the manner complained of, while too strong doses of manure would have a bad effect. However, if you care to send us on another plant or two properly packed we will be glad to try and decide what has caused your plants to go off.

Sweet Peas

(Inquirer).—It is usual to pinch out the point of Sweet Pea plants when it is intended to grow them on the single stem system. It is immaterial which of the new growths is retained, selecting, of course, the strongest and most promising one.

A dwarf carpeting plant

I have in a corner of my rock garden an irregular patch about 8 feet by 4 feet in which I have choice spring bulbs—Anemones, Fritillarias, Crocuses, and all the miniature Daffodils. These are all right just now, but look either bare or untidy for the rest of the year. Can you suggest a satisfactory carpet that they could live under and grow through, not above about 3 inches high, which would keep itself in order without constant attention and trimming, and not be liable to go off in patches? A small Thyme, or Hypericum, or possibly even Arenaria suggest themselves, but I am not sure that any would be quite suitable. E. FAWSSETT.

[Either of the following would be found admirable for the purpose of carpeting your early spring bulbous flowers and would bloom at a later season:—Gypsophila fratensis, G. repens, Geranium pylzowianum, Helichrysum bellidioides, Thymus micans, T. Serpyllum var. coccineus, Sedum murale, S. spathulifolium, and S. obtusatum. Saxifraga apiculata is also very suitable for this purpose, remaining green all through the summer, but flowers during April. Some of the Mossy Saxifrages are also used successfully for this purpose.]

Tulips producing several buds on one stem

Can you explain this curious phenomena? In a large bed of healthy-looking Tulips a very large percentage are producing three, four, and often five buds in a cluster. In these cases the stalk is considerably thicker than the usual Tulip stalk, in others there are buds appearing up the sides of the stalks as well as the one healthy-looking one on top. We started disbudding so as to help the blooms, but left a few to see to what extent they would open. E. P.

Silchester.

[It is difficult to say with any degree of certainty what has caused your Tulips to behave in this manner, but it looks as though the bulbs must have been damaged in some way when developing their growth last year. Of course, you are aware that a few Tulip species produce several flowers on one stem, but we gather from your letter that yours are just ordinary varieties. We should be inclined to get rid of them after blooming and plant others on a different border where Tulips had not previously been grown. The cause of the trouble was in the bulbs at planting time.]

Meconopsis Baileyi

In reference to the correspondence in your paper concerning the new Poppy, Meconopsis Baileyi, I have a good number of seedlings now ready to plant out, and should be grateful if you would kindly advise me as to the position and soil in which they would be likely to do best. Do they prefer shade or partial shade? Do they mind some lime in the soil? Would they live under trees, a damp position or otherwise? H. C. GAYE.

Seaton, Devon.

[This beautiful and easily grown Poppy loves partial shade, such as that afforded by summer-leafing trees, but it needs light also. Therefore endeavour to choose a spot approximating to that of a woodland clearing where a large tree relieved of its lower branches has been left at intervals. The soil should be a mixture of loam, leaf-mould, and sand, and fairly moist, especially during the growing season, but at no time must it become stagnant. Given this the plants will luxuriate and become almost as large as Cabbages, carrying, in addition to the large central spike of bloom, many large side growths bearing their quota of handsome flowers. Of course, this Poppy can be successfully grown in cool borders containing a proportion of lime in the soil, but the latter is certainly not essential, and from observation the plant is happiest where lime does not exist. Shelter from wind is desirable, and this is one of the reasons why it does so well in woodland clearings. Like the majority of its genus, position counts for a great deal, and if this is carefully chosen success is certain. Your plants, if put out now, should flower in May, 1930.]

Diseased Narcissi

The Narcissi in my garden which I planted three years ago all appear to be affected with bulb rot, as they refused to bloom this year and were rotten when I lifted them.

I see by your reply to Mrs. H. Royston in a recent issue that treatment of the soil with formalin solution is expensive, and that it is best to choose a new site for the healthy bulbs, but as the Daffodils were planted all down one side of the garden, I should be glad to know whether I could use this space for other bulbs, particularly Crocus and Tulips; or whether these would be liable to the same disease?

I might add that when lifting the Narcissus bulbs I put a handful of lime in the holes left before filling up. Will this be of any use? N. LESLIE CAVE.

[Your query is not easy to answer because there are several diseases which cause Bulb
Rot, some of which only attack Daffodil
the others are more general and w
occasions attack other bulbs. If it is n
late for you to send us a specimen we
determine the actual cause of the Bull
and be in a better position to advise.
ing this, we think it would be advisal
you to treat the soil with a goo
sterilizer before planting any other k
bulbs. The lime you applied will do
unless the cause of your trouble happen
bacterial in origin, in which circumstan
lime would be likely to alter the con
very much in favour of the bacteria.]

ROSES

Roses on their own roots

(Thio Kwan, Java).—The following
ties are the most likely to succeed
grown on their own roots:—Rev. F.
Roberts, General Macarthur, Ethel Sor
Christine, Mme. Butterfly, Ophelia,
Uprichard, Caroline Testout, Lady As
George Dickson, Maréchal Niel, Cl
Ophelia, Dorothy Perkins, Gloire de
Mrs. John Laing, Hugh Dickson,
Merrilees, Lord Penzance, Lady Pe
Souvenir de la Malmaison, Ze
Drouhin, and White Maman Coch
your tropical climate a little shade w
welcomed by the Roses, but they must
placed in deep shade.

FRUIT

Vine trouble

(Logwood).—We have carefully ex
the specimen Vine leaves and can
trace of insect pest or fungoid troubl
damage we can find seems confined
edges of the leaves and takes the f
scorching; this might easily be due
fumigation you have given the house
some cultural error. Specimens pack
cardboard box always arrive at thi
more or less dried up, and it is alm
possible to determine the actual cause
trouble. Specimens packed in tin bo
much more satisfactory from our p
view. All we can say about your spe
is that there is no fungus present,
insects were present they escaped in t
If you would like to send us another s
packed as suggested, we shall be ple
examine it for you.

Gooseberry Cluster Cup

(Dublin).—Your Gooseberries are
with Gooseberry Leaf Cluster Cup.
best plan will be to pick off and burn
affected portions and then spray the
with the following solution: Commo
ing soda, 1¾ lbs.; soft soap, 1 lb.;
10 galls. Repeat the picking off and s
at fortnightly intervals until yo
obtained control.

Peach trouble

(X.Y.Z.).—Your specimen arrived i
dried-up condition, and we should fe
certain of the cause of the trouble
specimen been packed in a tin box so
had had comparatively fresh material
with. We are of the opinion t
trouble is Silver Leaf, which is ca
the fungus Stereum purpureum. If
is young the affected portions may
except that certain parts affected
out and should be removed and burne
older trees the natural resistance
disease is less, with the result t
trouble gradually affects the whole tre
steps are taken to control it. The us
trol measure is to remove the affected
below the point where the fungus is
in the wood, in other words, you m
back to healthy wood; all the

should be burned. A dressing of
of Potash, at the rate of 1 oz.
ard, would help the tree and those
in the same house to stand up to the
Do not allow the trees to crop too
and take care to remove every por-
ead wood, so that the fungus does
duce spores which will infect the
rees. Spores are only produced from
od, and there is no danger actually
lvered branches, but if death occurs
portion must be removed at once.

of Currant bushes for examina-

).—The leaves appear to be attacked
is known as Gooseberry Mite or Red
Bryobia prætissa), which attacks the
rly in spring and is difficult to detect
naked eye. Syringe the bushes,
the under sides, with Gishurst
d or Quassia and Nicotine, much
and repeat in about 10 days. This
be confounded with the ordinary
pider " of gardens (Tetranychus

ies for market

N.).—Your soil should grow Rasp-
perfection if properly cultivated,
rop should prove valuable. But the
is the great distance from market,
with the softness of the fruit. That
may be overcome very easily by dis-
the entire crop to jam-makers, who
pply their own barrels and relieve
further risks. A plot of 8 acres
aw you good offers, and if this com-
elf to you you cannot do better than
the plantation at the end of October.
te disadvantages of a wet autumn,
would assuredly finish in August,
esidue would be easily dealt with by
of small parcels to greengrocers in
. £40 per acre is a good yield, but
ually so in favourable seasons.
—Presumably your climate is mild and
exposed. Would it not be worth
lle to consider whether early salads
and Radishes) would not be worth
a side line?

VEGETABLES

n Lettuce

F. Yorke Smith).—The colour is
ural in the sample you send, and
ople prefer such to the ordinary
ved varieties. There are many
which exhibit this pleasing quality,
are generally of a hardier character
n kinds. The burnt edges of the
due to insufficient ventilation.

decayed

Maclaken).—We have never met
d case before, and the cause of your
unknown to us. Is it possible that
were frosted before being lifted or
orage, as either might account for
strongly suggest that you destroy,
g, all you possess and grow them in
absolutely fresh land, which has
a liberal dressing of freshly-slaked
soot, and spray the plants from
nwards with a weak solution of
mixture every fortnight. Heat-
storing, will often produce trouble
lar character.

r leaves for examination

, Norfolk).—The leaves have been
ither through an excessive dose of
or insufficient ventilation, it is dif-
y which. Cucumbers should not be
o flag during hours of sunshine,
the trouble you complain of is sure
to follow. The leaves are also badly attacked with Red Spider, and the worst of them should be removed and placed on the fire. To grow Cucumbers successfully, a heated house or frame is desirable where a temperature of 65 degs. to 70 degs. is maintained at night, rising by sun heat during the day to 100 degs., or even more, after closing down the house in the afternoon. Good, rich soil, possessing a liberal addition of decayed manure is advisable, and this, coupled with a brisk, moisture-laden atmosphere (the plants being syringed twice daily) and care with airing, will produce Cucumbers of the highest quality in abundance. Vigorous syringing is the best means of keeping Red Spider at bay. You cannot expect to grow good Cucumbers in an ordinary greenhouse of mixed plants.

GREENHOUSE

Scorched Petunia

(Henpecked, Devon).—We have examined your specimens and can find no trace of a fungus likely to cause the spotting of the foliage, and conclude that the damage must be due to some cultural error. From the appearance of the plant it looks to us that you may have been a little too generous with your feeding, with the result that the foliage is rather on the soft side. Water has collected on the foliage, and some time or other the sun has caught it and has burnt it. You could harden up your foliage by using Sulphate of Potash, at the rate of 1 oz. to 2 galls. of water. If this was given, say, about three times at fortnightly intervals it should be sufficient.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Climbing plants for wire netting

I wish to grow climbers on wire netting 12 ft. high and 100 ft. long on one side of a tennis lawn, but have never grown any on wire netting. Would you advise a number that would form a screen and look well throughout the year without encroaching on the tennis lawn too much? Would any of these named be suitable? Aristolochia Sipho, Jasminum officinale, Clematis Flammula, C. orientalis, Lonicera Pericyclymenum, L. Belgica, L. Serotina, L. Halleana (japonica), Lathyrus latifolius, L. Grandiflorus, Tropæolum speciosum, Hydrangea petiolaris, Vitis cordifolia, Ampelopsis Veitchii, Lonicera nitida, Stauntonia latifolia, Solanum Jasminioides, Clematis Montana, Wistaria sinensis, W. multijuga, Polygonum baldschuanicum, Climbing Roses, Secoma, Bignonias, or Ivy. Can you suggest any that would be most suitable, bearing in mind that they should require the minimum amount of training?

Barnstaple. S. I. Knill.

[Most of the subjects would be suitable, but would require pruning each year, otherwise their weight after reaching the top would become so great that it is doubtful whether the wire could support them, especially during stormy weather and when in full leaf. The finest Ivy for the purpose is the handsome Persian Hedera colchica, with leaves often 8 inches to 10 inches across; and the most handsome Honeysuckle is Lonicera tragophylla. Pyracantha Gibbsii is good and provides a feast of scarlet fruit in autumn. Other handsome subjects are as follows: Clematis Jackmanni superba, C. lanuginosa, C. Lasurstern, C. Chrysocoma, Vitis heterophylla, Actinidia arguta, Pyrus japonica var. splendens, Escallonia langleyensis, E. Donard Seedling, Ceanothus Gloire d'Versailles, Roses Paul's Scarlet Climber, Paul's Lemon Pillar, R. Cupid, Jasminum primulinum, Ruscus androgynus, Vitis Henryana, and possibly V. Coignettiæ.

Of the Bignonias, both radicans and grandiflora should succeed in your county.

E. M.

MISCELLANEOUS

Cut flowers for market

(C. V. N.).—As a general proposition there is money in flower growing for market if run on right lines. The right things must be grown and must also be of first-class quality, resultant on high cultivation. Also, they must reach market picked according to market methods, and arrive fresh and undamaged. Your distance from reliable markets is a great drawback, say, to Belfast, Londonderry, Dublin, Liverpool, Manchester, and Bristol; the carriage even to these markets would be almost prohibitive. We would advise you to get into touch with reliable men in these markets and discuss with them what they can best handle to advantage. Also read " Cut Flowers for Market," obtainable at this office for 2s. 6d., or through booksellers. The kinds of flowers you select should be of varieties that will travel well, such as: Single and double Pyrethrums, Irises (half open), Daffodils (half open), St. Brigid Anemones, Statice latifolia, Double Gypsophila, Chrysanthemums, Tulips (half open), Scabiosa. Our opinion is that if you can overcome the distance difficulty and grow really good stuff, you have a very good chance because your land would not be highly assessed, and also labour cheap. Salesmen: Belfast, Tooney Bros., Ltd.; Dublin, James Duffy; Liverpool, Daniels and Son, J. T. Poupart, Ltd.; Manchester, F. W. Johnson, Ltd. (flowers only), Austin Coe; Cardiff, W. Bradnum and Co.; Glasgow, Muirhead and Maxwells.

Cheiranthus Newark Park wanted

(R. Pearce).—We are sorry to say that we have been unable to find anyone offering this plant at the present time, and doubt if it can be obtained unless from some private source.

Cleaning rough ground

(A. T. W.).—There is nothing better than growing a crop of Potatoes for bringing rough land into cultivation. Now that the soil is broken up in the rough state you may plant the Potatoes in rows a yard apart. The constant hoeing and earthing-up does much towards bringing the land into a clean and fertile condition.

SHORT REPLIES

G. T. W.—*Re* stimulant for Box trees root-bound in tubs. Occasional liquid-manure, soot-water, or Clay's fertiliser would have the desired effect from now onwards till the autumn. The trees should be put into fresh tubs next March.

B. H.—Spray the Apple trees for Winter Moth grubs with lead arsenate immediately after the petals have fallen. See note " Spraying fruit trees in open blossom," issue April 27th, p. 292.

NAMES OF PLANTS

H. W.—Primula nivalis, common in the gardens of Scotland.

G., Dublin.—1, Potentilla Dubia; 2, Helianthemum, possibly Miss Mold; 3, Holcus lanatus; 4, Salvia officinalis var. purpurea (common Sage); 6, Aucuba japonica maculata (female) (see article this week on Laurels, page 312); 7, Ilex aquifolium var. laurifolia; 8, Sedum elongatum; 9, Forsythia suspensa; 10, Ribes aureum; 11, Eleagnus edulis. Aucuba japonica produces its fruits only when both sexes are growing in close proximity, one male plant being sufficient for the successful fertilisation of 10 or a dozen of the other sex. In purchasing this shrub it is advisable to see that you secure both sexes.

M. K., Stow-on-the-Wold.—1, Epimedium pinnatum elegans; 2, Anemone Ranunculoides.

VEGETABLES

The cultivation of the French Bean

THE seeds of this vegetable may be sown at the present time. If the crop is to prove satisfactory it must be provided with a rich and well-worked soil. I incorporate farmyard manure at the rate of 10 cwt. per 75 square yards of land, and, wherever possible, the ground is double dug. Many germination failures associated with the French Bean may be attributed to deep sowing. Being of tropical origin, the seeds of the species should be deposited in the warm surface soil, as they are liable to decay. I have proved, by experiment, that germination is most successful when the seed is buried at a depth of 2 inches. A double row of seeds should be placed in each drill and each seed should be accorded an all-round distance of 6 inches, to permit proper development. As a safeguard against defective germination or the appearance of weak seedlings, it is well to scatter a few extra seeds at the end of the drill. I have found it a decided help to root formation to sprinkle superphosphate in the drill when sowing, at the rate of half an ounce per lineal yard. The only cultural attention necessary, until Beans are set, is a periodical stirring with the Dutch hoe, to promote good soil, texture, and destroy weeds. Artificial feeding may commence at the time indicated, and for this purpose dilute liquid manure is recommended. The applications may be made at weekly intervals as long as there are any Beans to feed. It is desirable to point out that Red Spider is an inveterate enemy of the French Bean, and any attack must be defeated in infancy or the crop will be ruined. I have known vigorous syringings with chilled water effect a clearance, but if this measure proves useless recourse may be had to a solution made of the following formula: Soft soap, ½ lb., water, 2 gallons. Obviously, it is dangerous to use poisonous specifics in the kitchen garden. Of the many varieties of the French Bean in cultivation, I consider that masterpiece Ne Plus Ultra and Longsword are the most suitable.

GEO. H. COPLEY.

Protecting Asparagus

Just when the first shoots are peeping through the surface we not unfrequently experience a rather sharp frost, their loss being the consequence. Those with their crowns very near to the surface are especially liable to be caught in this way, and these ought, in any case, to have a mulching of very light compost, or failing this, either leaf soil, spent tan, fine peat, or old Mushroom-bed manure, a general mixture answering well. This extra covering, in addition to preserving the young shoots from frost, will also be the means of improving the length of blanched stem and its value accordingly. The least that can be done is to well mould over those clumps grown at a good distance apart, while the beds generally may with advantage receive a loose covering of strawy litter.

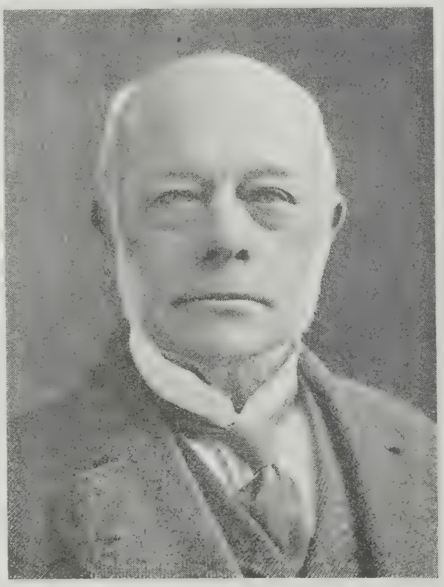
Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund

The annual festival dinner will be held at the Savoy Hotel, Strand, London, W.C. 2, on May 15th, under the Presidency of Mr. Samuel Wallrock. We are grateful to those readers who from time to time send contributions to us on behalf of this deserving fund.

OBITUARY

W. J. JEFFERIES

IT is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. William John Jefferies, nurseryman, of Cirencester, in his 85th year. For many years he had been the moving spirit in the long-established firm, John Jefferies and Son, Ltd. He was a man of rare business instincts, unusual activity, unwearied industry, and sound knowledge of nursery management. He was recognised by colleagues and competitors as an authority whose opinion and advice were always worth seeking. Under his enterprising and fully-informed direction the firm's nurseries were steadily increased in area till they included those at Tower Street, Watermoor, Siddington, London Road, and Somerford Keynes. To all these he gave his daily supervision, in earlier years on horseback, later by driving, and last of all in his car. He was a familiar figure at the meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society, and served on the Fruit and Vegetables Committee as well as other committees of the Society. He was a Past President of the Horticultural Trades Association, and his services were often in request in London and the provinces as a judge of horticultural exhibits.



The late W. J. Jefferies

Past President of the Horticultural Trades Association

He devoted himself largely to the production of forest and ornamental trees, gaining for his firm a high reputation for the Conifers grown in their nurseries. Roses were another of his specialities, and from his early days he was an enthusiastic and successful grower and exhibitor, being a member of the Council of the National Rose Society for many years. Nor did the more prosaic departments of the business, such as farm and garden seeds, lack his close personal attention, and on his weekly visits to the Cirencester Corn Market, which continued up to a few months ago, his farming friends and clients always welcomed his genial presence and wise counsel.

Shows

The City of Salford are holding their thirty-eighth show this year at Buile Hill Park on September 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The schedule which has just been issued is a very comprehensive one, and covers nearly 300 classes in the horticultural division. The prizes include several valuable challenge trophies offered in some of the popul
attractive divisions. One section of th
is devoted to the Manchester and
Pansy and Viola Society. Copies
schedule can be obtained from the Se
Mr. J. Richardson, Parks Supt., Bui
Park, Salford, Manchester.

Manchester and North of En
Orchid Society

AT the meeting held on Thursday
18th, at the Town Hall, Manch
conjunction with the Royal B
and Horticultural Society of Manches
the Northern Counties at the spring
the members of Committee present w
J. B. Adamson (in the chair), Mrs.
Miss Wrigley, and Messrs. A. Bu
Coningsby, J. Evans, A. Keelin
M'Leod, W. J. Morgan, and H.
(Secretary).

Mr. Hugh Low was invited to sit w
Committee.

FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICAT

CATTLEYA SUSAN VAR. VESTAL (
Hye de Crom x Cowaniæ alba), larg
of good shape, pure white sepals and
lip with orange lines in throat;
Doreen var. Perfection, full round
beautifully marked crimson, from
Adamson, Esq.

PHALÆNOPSIS ELIZABETHÆ (Ama
Rimestadiana), a very fine form;
Mildred (Aphrodite x Naomi), large
good shape, deep maroon, lip crimson
yellow anthers, from Messrs. A. J.
and Sons. Odm. Crispum var. Osiri
flower of the Doin type, lip spott
crimson, from Mr. John Evans.

CYMBIDIUM GIANT ROSE (Alexan
Schlegelii), well-shaped flower, soft r
light crimson spots in lip, from
Stuart Low and Co.

AWARDS OF MERIT

B. C. Apollo var. Majestica; B.
Langley Var.; Den nobile T
Monarch; Catt. Linda var. Vestal
J. B. Adamson, Esq.

Cymbidium Eagle; Odta. Elaine
brook Var.; Odm. Percultum Jar
Var.; Odm. Amabile Jarvisbrook Va
Messrs. Stuart H. Low and Co.

Miltonia St. Andre var. Distinctio
Mona virginale; from Messrs. A. J.
and Sons.

CULTURAL CERTIFICAT

Mr. A. Burns, for Miltonia Pha
and Sophronitis grandiflora.

Mr. J. Howes, for Den. Wardian
Den. Infundibulum.

Mr. Selby, for Lycaste Skinnerii.

GROUPS

J. B. Adamson, Esq., Blackpo
dener, Mr. J. Howes), staged a
which a Gold Medal was awarded.
and Hybrids in variety; Odontos.
vars. Faith, Diamond, and others
dithiæ, Excellens and Colossus;
biums nobile alba, Thwaitesiæ, and
florum; Bifernaria Harrisoniæ;
Sanderianum; Masdevallia Ignea.

Messrs. A. J. Keeling and Sons,
were also awarded a Gold Medal for
Cattleyas in variety; Odontos. Migu
Rolfiæ; Odtas. Queen Mary,
Brewii, and Gladys; Epidendrum
Wallisii; Miltonias Charlesworthii
and Venus; Phaius Sanderiana;
violaceum, and Tricophilia Suavis.

Mrs. Bruce and Miss Wrigley,
dener, Mr. A. Burns), staged a
which a large Silver-gilt Medal was
Lycastes Skinnerii vars. Rosalb

(Continued on page 326)

bol

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isitors will find us in our usual ce in the Main Avenue with a play of Abol Insecticide, Patent inges and other well-known Standard den Specialities, and are given a rty invitation to stop and ask stions.

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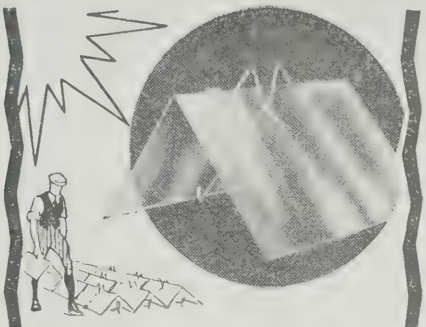

Grow Dahlias!

They bloom too late? Not if you plant out earlier and protect for a few weeks with the

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DAHLIAS & GLADIOLI

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Begonias, Double, same colours, **6/-** per dozen, **40/-** 100.

DAHLIAS, dormant pot grown roots can be planted outdoors now.

Cactus, six distinct kinds	**5 6**
twelve ,, ,, ...	**10/6**
Decoratives, six distinct kinds	**5/6**
twelve ,, ,, ...	**10/6**
Ryders New Dwarf Bedding Dahlias in splendid Mixture ...	½ dozen, **4 3**; dozen, **8/-**

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Gladioli, Ryders Excelsior Mixture Giant, flowered kinds, **2/3** per dozen; **12/6** per 100.

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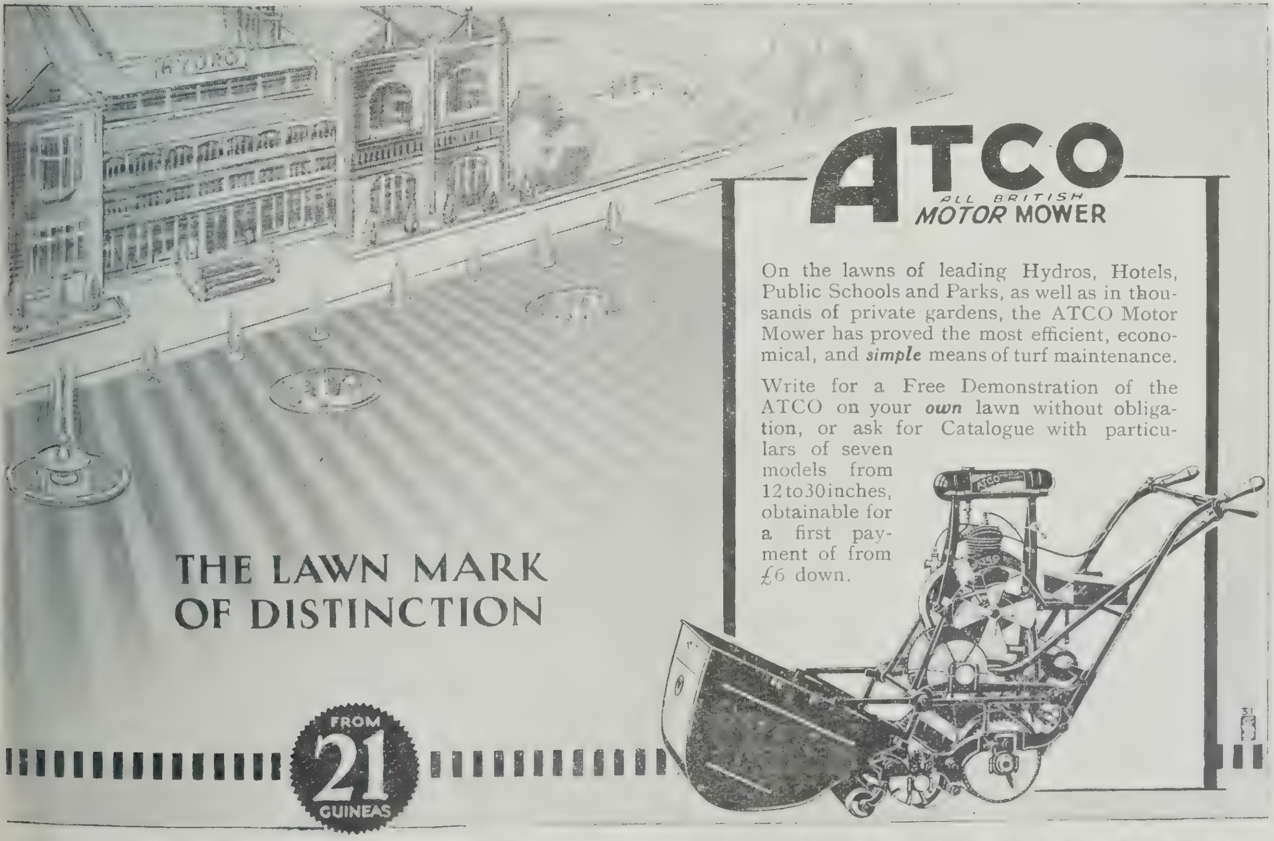

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Robin, Delicatissima, and Lassiglossa; L. C. Canada; B. C. Cliftonii magnificum; Miltonia Bleueana Reine Elizabeth; Masdevallia Kimballiana; Odta. Keighleyense; and others.

Capt. W. Horridge, Bury (gardener, Mr. A. Coningsby), was awarded a large Silver Medal for a group. Dendrobiums in variety; Odontos. and Odtas.; L. C. Beatrice; Sophronitis grandiflora.

Mr. John Evans, Colwyn Bay, was also awarded a large Silver Medal for a group. Cyps. in variety, including Alva, Christopher, and Boltonii; Cymbidiums Erica Sander and Joy Sander; Lycaste Aromatica; and others.

Messrs. Stuart H. Low and Co., Middlesex, staged in addition to awards, Cymbidium Alexanderii Roseum and Odta. Sanderæ.

Mrs. Hollas, Grimsaigh (gardener, Mr. Selby), staged Lycaste Skinnerii.

Mr. D. M'Leod, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, staged Odontos. in variety.

The next meetings will be held at the Houldsworth Hall, 90, Deansgate, Manchester, on Fridays, May 3rd and 17th, 1929.

The Committee will sit at 12 o'clock noon as usual. H. ARTHUR, Secretary.

44, *Mere Road, Blackpool.*

Flowers at the Academy

PORTRAITS and flower paintings dominate this year at the Academy. With the portraits we are not so much concerned, but the flower paintings call for a few observations. Many of the flowers depicted are of poor and inferior varieties. It must be just as easy to paint good and well-grown flowers as poor, anæmic, and weak-stemmed specimens. Well-grown Irises with Venetian glass would look far happier than flowers that had evidently been in a florist's window for days. Then, again, why will artists paint Lilies that have had their anthers removed? Is it necessary to emasculate the Lily in order that it may be an emblem of purity. There are many pictures at the Academy this year in which Lilies appear minus their golden anthers. This is worse than sacrilege. The Royal Lily (Lilium regale) figures in many pictures this year.

The flowering exotic by Adrian P. Allinson is some form of Tillandsia, and Paul Methuen's "Tropical Orchid" may be an Angræcum, but it is indistinct.

A fair number of still-life pictures, as studies of fruit and flowers, are to be seen. The fruit mostly chosen are Apples, Grapes, Plums, Pineapples, and Pumpkins. There are about 30 different flowers selected as studies, Roses crowning the list, with Chrysanthemums coming second. Mixed bowls and bunches of flowers are large in number, and there are fruit trees out in blossom, as well as garden scenes. One of the finest landscape pictures is that by Harry Bush, "The Old Pear Tree in Spring," which shows a Pear tree in a lawn at the back of a row of suburban houses. The blossom is not yet out, but the sunshine is warming everything into life.

One of the best landscapes is that by Sir David Murray, R.A., "Beneath the Bridge the Sleepy River Flows," showing an ancient old stone bridge, beautiful trees and grasses in early greenery, and wild flowers. Another delightful country scene is that by Stanhope A. Forbes, R.A., in his "Across Relubbus Stream." A strongly built stone bridge with boys sitting on the coping and a man leading a horse and cart over the bridge. Foliage is growing between the stones of the bridge. A rather nice study of still-life is given by Edward Chappel, depicting Apples, Grapes, and Pineapples, while a dark blue curtain as a background makes delightful contrasting colours.

"Cheyne Walk Gardens," by Fairlie Harmar, is a typical London park scene. Children are seen playing in the path with their nurses sitting on the seat chatting. Trees just budding, with tall Irises not yet in bloom form a bright green border along the edge of the grass. Houses and traffic are seen in the background.

Two very delightful garden scenes with herbaceous borders are depicted by Sir David Murray, R.A., in "'Neath Summer Skies," as also "The Garden at 'The Swan.'" And again Joseph Farquharson, R.A., exhibits one of his attractive pictures, "In My Garden," the flower border being ablaze with colours of various hues. A portion of "Queen Adelaide's Garden, Windsor Castle," is given by Lilian Stannard Rambler Roses are seen on the right, with trees in the background and a beautiful green lawn towards the left.

A beautiful study of "Flowers and Fruit" is shown by Leonard D. Philpot. Long-petalled Chrysanthemums with Asters, Pæonies, and Phlox, Pineapple, Plums, and Pear, all blended exquisitely. "A Provencal Forecourt," by H. H. La Thangue, R.A., is a typical Continental scene. In the forecourt a girl is standing by a low wall on which are two large Pumpkins. She is holding another which she is cutting up. In the background are some small cottages and a boy with a donkey. The donkey carries two baskets, one each side of his head. The vivid orange colour of the Pumpkins contrast well with the stone colour of the rest of the picture and is very effective.

A homely picture is that by Frederick W. Elwell of "An Inn Kitchen." An old woman is shelling Peas at a table, with three maids looking on. The cook is cooking fowls. The other furniture and utensils is typical of an inn kitchen.

"The Breakfast Table," too, has not been forgotten, for in the painting by J. Wace, Daffodils, Oranges, and Bananas are seen on the table. Birthday greetings may well be said with flowers is depicted in the dainty picture by Anna Airy, "Spring Birthday." A lady dressed in blue, with voluminous train, is holding a bunch of Violets. Before her is a bowl of Azaleas, and some Lilies are seen on a table in the background.

A delightful combination of mauve-coloured Scabious and pink Roses is depicted by Edwin Byatt, and his "July Fragrance," of pink and red Carnations in a greyish-looking bowl, with pink and mauve tinted Sweet Peas by the side, is very attractive. "The Royal Lily," by William M. Milner, is very nice, and "The Flowering Exotic," by Adrian P. Allinson, is a very good piece of work.

A very good study of Daffodils is that by Thomas T. Blaycock, a bunch of Daffodils with Narcissi in a blue vase. Fanny G. Wheeler makes a delightful study of Delphiniums in a glass, and Graham Petrie in Hollyhocks in a cottage garden depicts a pretty countryside picture. In looking at "Mary and Martha," by Midge Bruford, it is difficult to tell whether Mary tempted Martha or *vice versâ*; they are both eating Apples, and seem to be enjoying them, for there are plenty of Apples on a table. A very pleasant study of "Still Life," by Linda Travers, is shown with Apples and Plums in a dish, with Plum on the table. A charming study of "Flowers and Figures" is that by Madge C. Fawkes, depicting mixed flowers in a vase. The dark background throws up the colours and m
very attractive.

We must not forget to mention
Lee, Hawker," by Isabel Codringto
ruddy cheeks, large ear-rings, simpl
hat with straight feather round it,
thrown round her shoulders, just sh
checked blouse underneath and
skirt, nursing a basket as she rests on
trunk, is a very good study.

Summer treatment of Solan

There is something very attracti
well grown pot of Solanum capsicastr
popular winter Cherry, when full of
of green and orange red, and it is
surprising that amateurs who own
houses do not grow them more Th
ture is not at all difficult; as they
little room and come to beauty in
and winter they ought not to be over
By now, whether they were sown in F
or March, or propagated from cut
early April, the plants should be re
their next step. This, the summer tre
may be in cold frames having a north
or by plunging the pots in soil outsid
planting them out, and lifting them
autumn. My experience with S
favours the plan of plunging the pot
soil in a sunny position, open and aw
any overhanging trees. The plants
have two stoppings to promote a bus
from about the middle of May to the
June, and ought never to be allowed to
dry, especially should this point be
at the time the plants flower, as if
quickly drop their blossoms and, ob
there will be no berries in the autu
September, Solanums should be hou
a temperature of about 50 degs. Fah
degs. Fahr. be maintained. Where S
are planted in the ground and hav
potted in September, the greatest ca
be exercised in the matter, shading th
from bright sun, after the operatio
they have accommodated themselve
pots. Such plants are larger tha
grown in pots right along, and m
specimens if well looked after at t
they need potting. Young plants rai
seed this spring can be procured from
ready for potting on, and these may
upon to furnish nice berried s
next winter.

Annuals

So soon as annuals that have be
either broadcast on beds to assist
flower garden display or on prepared
for cutting can be handled, they sh
thinned out to the respective distanc
to be required to allow for the dev
of individual plants. It is a great m
let them remain crowded thickly t
the size and quality of the flowers are
seriously affected, and the duration
also considerably shortened. Wh
are troublesome, it will be found adv
mix up a goodly heap of fine woo
adding thereto a fair proportion of
dusting the beds all over with the s

The Poppy Anemone

It is needless to sing the praise
Crown Anemone. Everybody who
acquaintance with garden flowers k
merits, its easy culture, fine bloom,
variety of colour which a mixed
affords. Those who planted in Oct
have abundance of bloom in spri
there are few plants more service
house decoration thus early in the
sowing of seed in June will produc
which, set out in autumn, will fl
following spring

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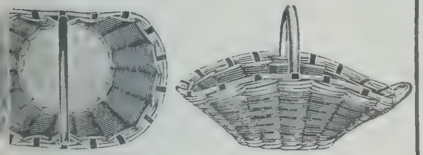

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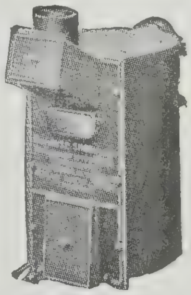

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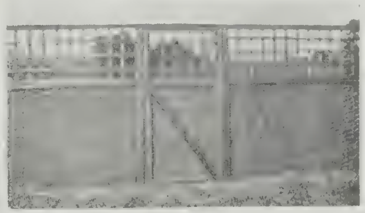

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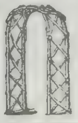

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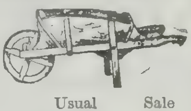

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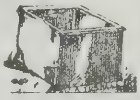

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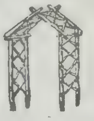

Height 8 ft.

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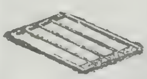
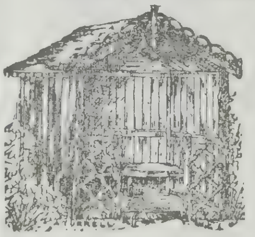


Size	Unglazed. Usual	Unglazed. Sale	Glazed & Painted. Usual	Glazed & Painted. Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4/9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18



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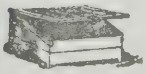
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

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In natural wood. Bark on.

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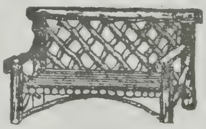

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.

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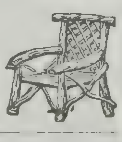
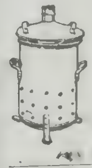
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6



INCINERATOR



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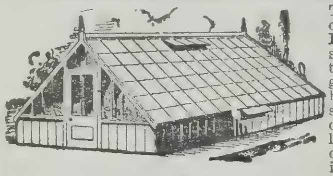

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9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

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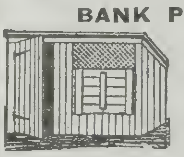

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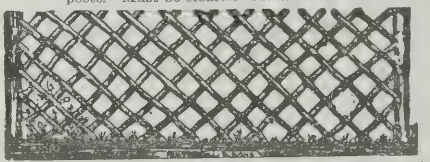

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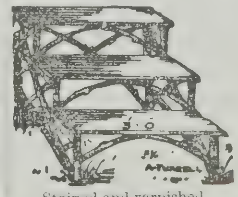
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,
12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



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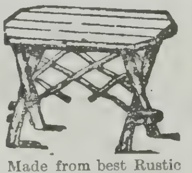
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

GARDEN EDGING

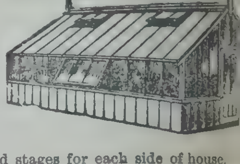
Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE

These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at no figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who requ strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.



Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6
15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0	
20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0	
25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6	
30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0	

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

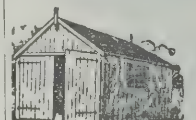
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0
12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0	
16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0	
20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0	
24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6	

Do not pay high prices for your frames made from boards. We can supply at the following low prices. F made of 1½-in. tongued and grooved best quality boards plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6
12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0	
16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0	
20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0	
24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6	

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABL MOTOR HOUS

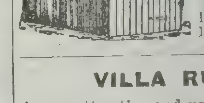


Constructed of strong framing with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved roof boarded and felted, 1-in. for floor and strong joists. W fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, door on strong butts and fitted Tow and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No.

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and singl Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite wat All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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Gardening ILLUSTRATED

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Telephone: Victoria 1572

A corner with bold effects in Mendip Stone **By Gavin Jones**

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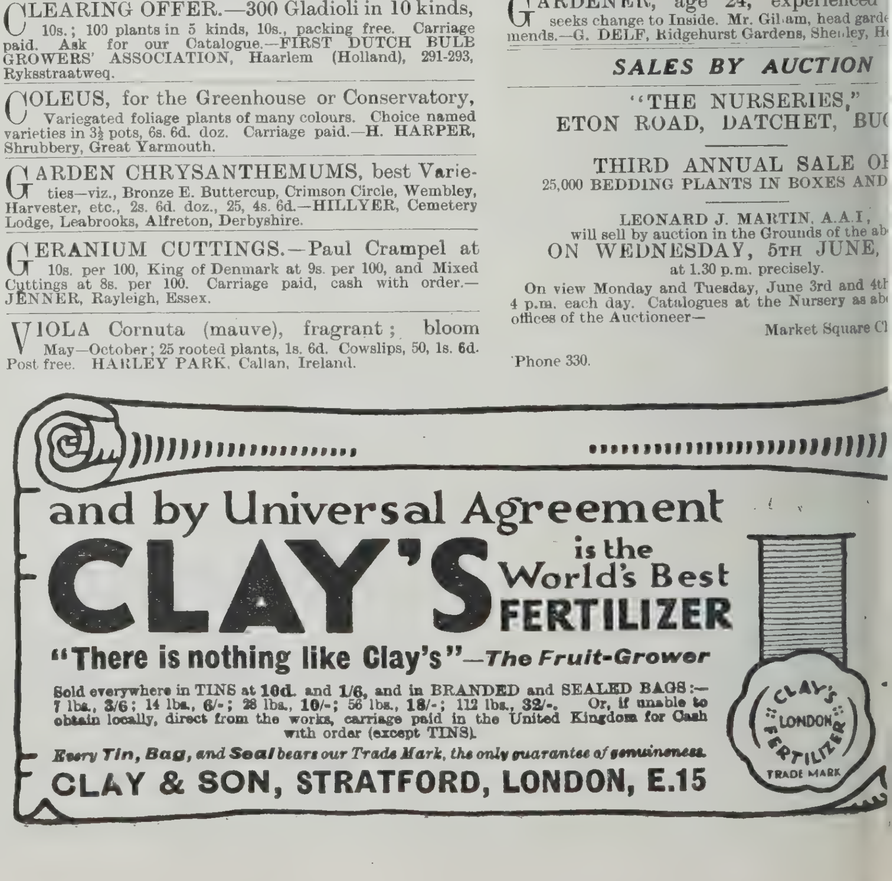

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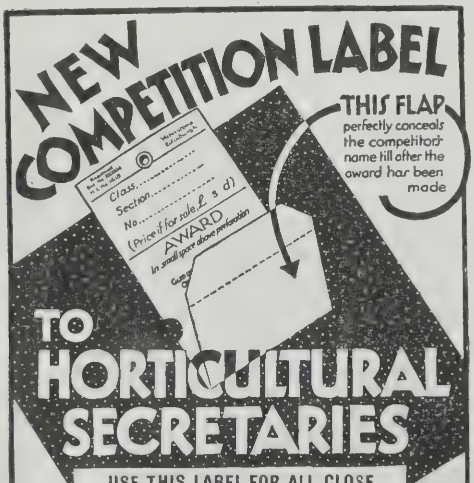
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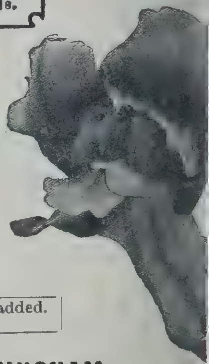

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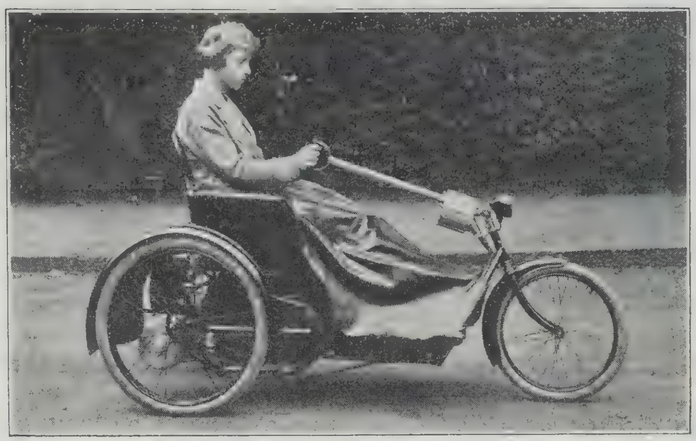

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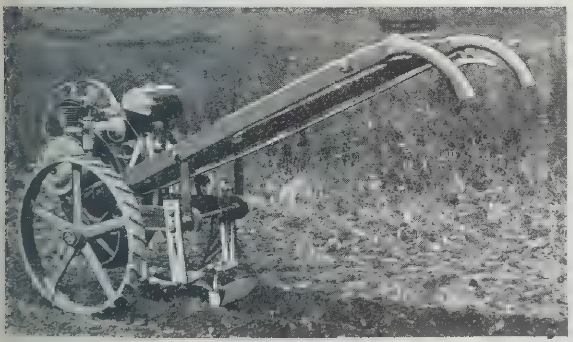

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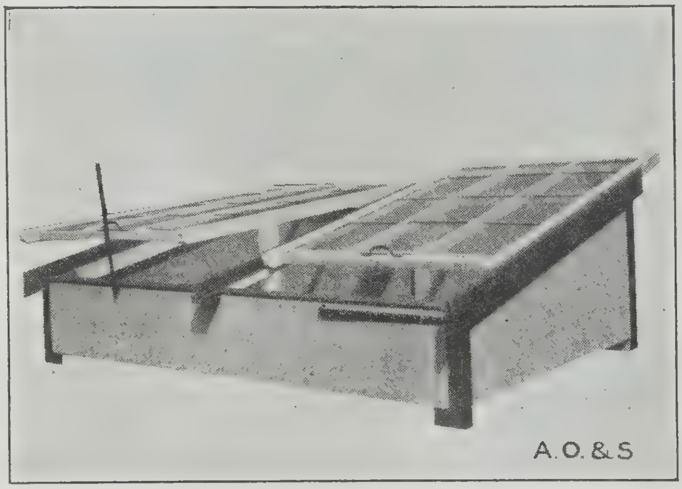

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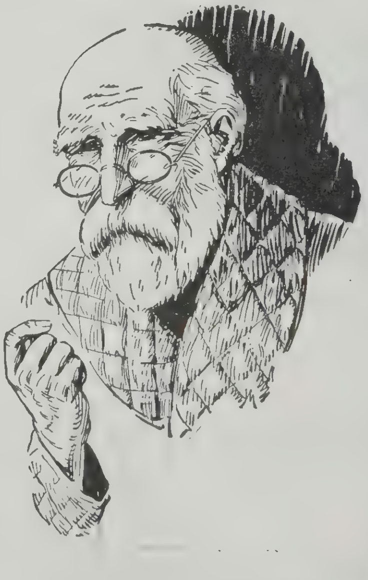

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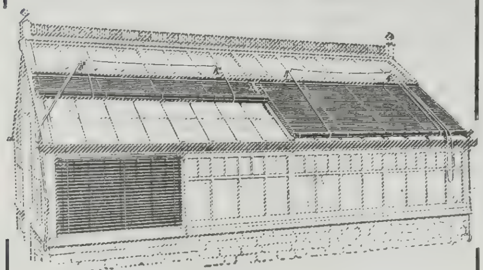

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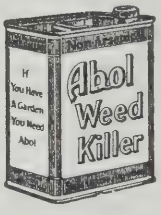
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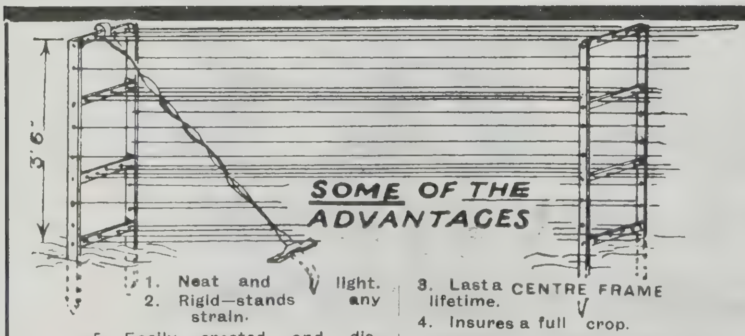

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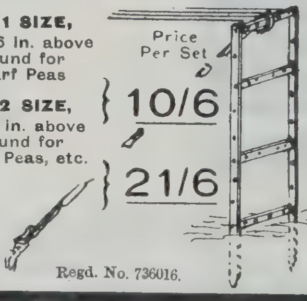

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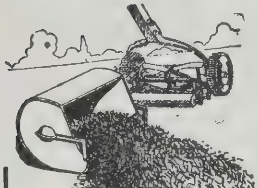

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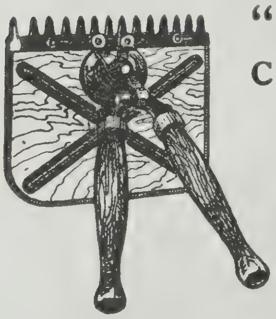

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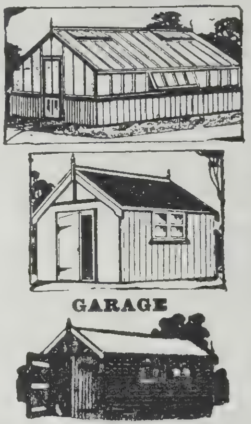

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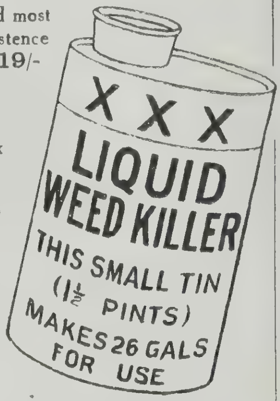
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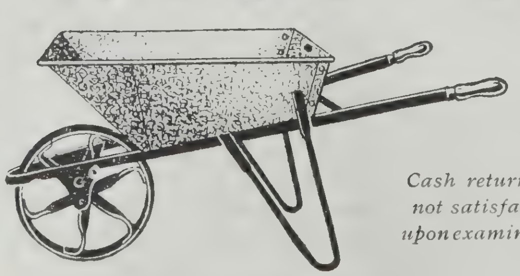

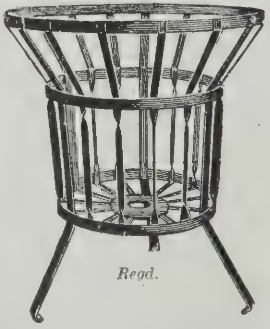

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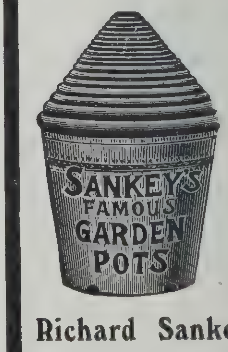

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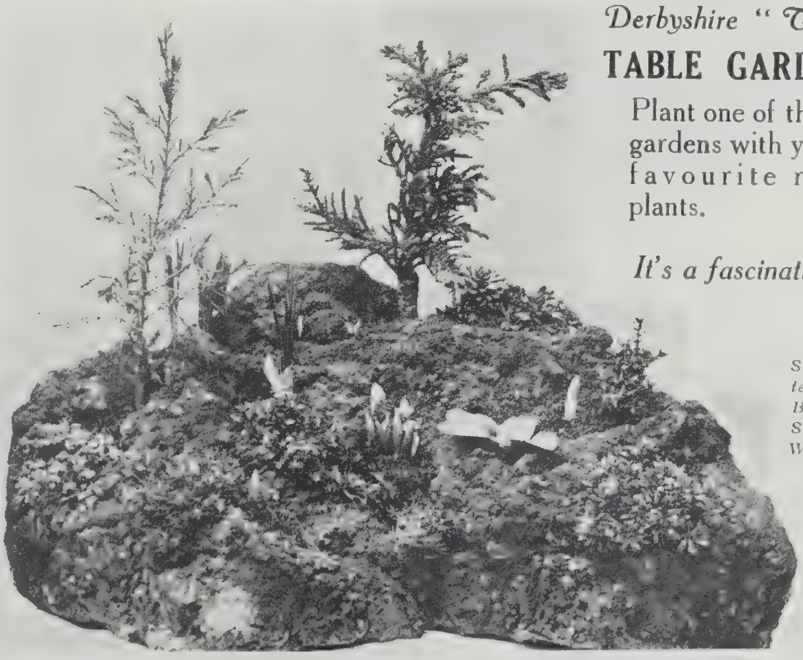

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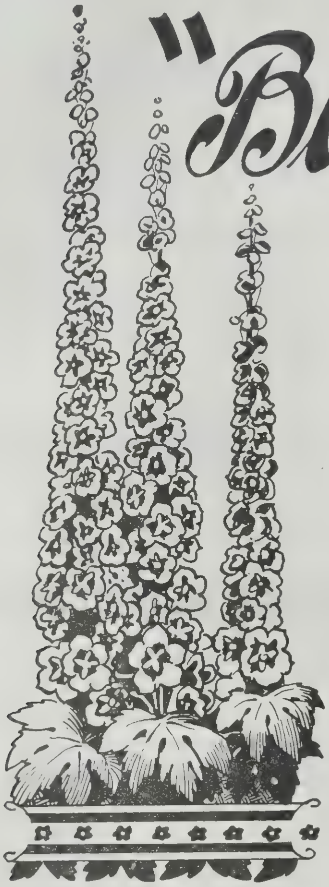

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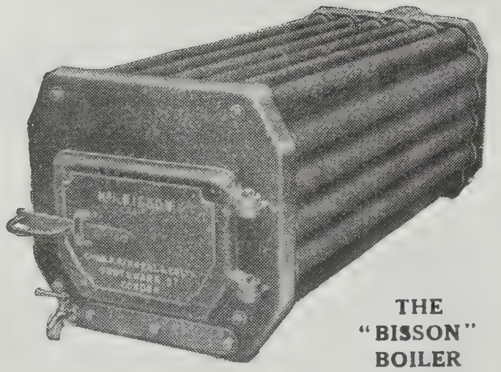

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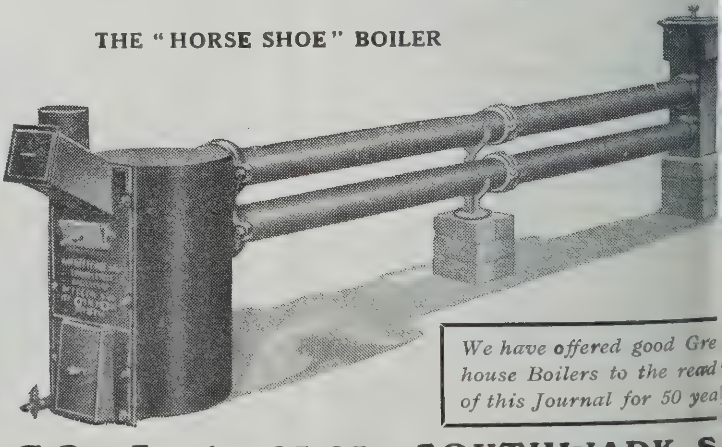

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Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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THE CHELSEA OUTLOOK

The lay-out of the Show — Prospects of an extremely interesting exhibition

Wednesday, May 22nd, the gates of ielsea will once again open to the blic. There is, surely, a magic in a Show—exhibitors and visitors are on o of excitement. Flower shows come), and are forgotten, but Chelsea is ssic annual show fixed in the memory er. This year, owing to the backward following a hard winter, the Show fer from its predecessors in the flowers re to be seen. In past years it has question of how can we keep Tulips or Chelsea, this year the question is an we get them out in time. This e may see Daffodils at Chelsea, while owering Alpines will be more abun- han ever. Then, following the keen ions, there are surprises in store in k gardens.

number of applicants for space has d increased. This year the entries ex- hose for any previous show, and in f the abnormal season there is every pt of an extremely good exhibition.

Y-OUT OF THE SHOW

general lay-out of the show will be l to that of last , but several ations have ade.

order to meet at demand for the first large e has been en- by the addition further 3,500 r feet. An extra e has also rected on the o accommodate ibit which has brought over the United by an en- iastic lady r. This ex- t (described on 34) is designed some idea of a and fauna of alifornian r and Redwood and it is quite k anything pre- ly staged at a, and should prove very interesting. The special tent for Roses, which was so much criticised last year, is situated on the lawn next to the Orchid tent. New and noteworthy plants submitted to the Committees will be arranged in a marquee adjoining the Orchid tent, those plants that receive awards being placed on a special table. This marquee will also accommodate small exhibits from Fellows. The National Tulip Society will hold its annual exhibition on the second day of the show in a marquee at the end of the Rose tent. Groups of shrubs in the open will occupy more space than formerly, and will extend down the main avenue opposite the gardens where hitherto glasshouses have been shown.

Glasshouses and exhibits of heating apparatus and summer-houses will be grouped together in Monument Road, and it is thought that this arrangement will be convenient for visitors, and consequently popular with exhibitors. Hard courts and several exhibits of the heavier type of garden furniture will be situated at the hospital end of the main avenue. Light garden furniture and exhibits of garden ornaments will be arranged on the lawn. The remainder of the exhibits of sundries, including those which occupied the tent on the lawn last year, will be in the sundries avenue.

An exhibit at Chelsea brought from America designed to give some idea of the flora of the Californian deserts. (See also page 334)

Scientific and educational exhibits

The scientific tent will contain not only exhibits illustrating some of the activities of the Society's own experimental garden and laboratory at Wisley, but also exhibits from the East Malling Research Station, the Cheshunt Experimental and Research Station, the Rothamsted Experimental Station, the Seale-Hayne Agricultural College, and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and Edinburgh. All visitors should make a point of seeing these exhibits, most of which will illustrate the results of recent research on horticultural problems.

Information bureau

Throughout the show members of the Society's staff will be in attendance at the Information Bureau in the Scientific tent to give information and advice on cultural difficulties and the means of controlling pests.

Catering

The catering will again be in the capable hands of Messrs. J. Lyons and Co., and there will be two refreshment tents in the Ranelagh Gardens and one on the lawn. At the first-class refreshment tent in the Ranelagh Gardens there will be an à la carte as well as a table d'hote service.

Post, telegraph, and telephone facilities

There will be a post and telegraph office at the Hospital end of the main avenue, and besides several telephones for local calls there will be one for trunk calls.

New plants for certificate

New plants, flowers, and fruits for certificate must be entered with the Secretary of the appropriate Committee by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21st, and new Bearded Irises for submission to the Joint Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society and the Iris Society must be entered with the Secretary of the Committee by 3.30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 21st. Entry forms and any further information which intending exhibitors may require can be obtained on application to the Secretary, R.H.S., Vincent Square, London, S.W. 1.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Rhododendrons and the hard winter

To those who, like myself, are growing or propose to grow Rhododendrons, both species and hybrids, in a small way, a few notes on the effect of the recent severe winter on these plants in an inland and not specially favoured garden may be of interest.

Firstly, all the species, of which about 30 different series and sub-series are represented, including plants of Barbatum, Cinnabarinum, Campylocarpum, Falconeri, Fortunei, Fulvum, Lapponicum, Neriiflorum, Thomsoni, and Triflorum groups, have come through with flying colours, two small Virgatums, K.W. 6272 and 6273, too rashly put out in the open last year, being the only deaths, and Neriiflorum having the leaves but not the growth buds slightly frosted. The rest have not turned a hair, despite 30 degs. of frost followed by a strong sun for many days, while the ground was frozen a foot deep. Practically all the plants are growing amongst tall Birches, which give a certain amount of shelter, but, even so, many plants of the common Ling and Heather in the same situation were killed to the ground.

That the majority of the hybrids should weather the storm was to be expected, but it is gratifying to find that Loderi is quite unaffected, and even the rather tender Beauty of Tremough has survived the ordeal with damage only to the growth buds caused by the combination of sun and frost, though two hardy old hybrids in an exposed position have lost all the flower buds from the same cause.

Japanese Azaleas of the Kurume type, beyond slight frosting of the leaves and some of the flower-buds, were quite undamaged.

Seeing that the winter was the severest for 34 years, causing damage to some of the hardiest of shrubs, this is a very satisfactory state of affairs, and I, for one, shall feel no concern for the safety of the plants in any future winter. Arthur E. Farrell.

Birchenholt, Crowthorne, Berks.

Pear Doyenne du Comice

Who has not, with reverence almost, eaten his first Doyenné du Comice Pear of the season and realised how great a gift is this superlative fruit; individual taste largely governs the appraisement of a fruit, and quite naturally, too, but I have yet to meet the person who enjoyed Pears at all—and who does not?—who could remain "cold" after so delicious a feast.

A great continental pomologist, M. André Leroy, recommended that to preserve this Pear as long in use as possible—its season is November—it should be gathered early and dry, and after the fruits have been placed in store, handled as little as possible. Mr. R. D. Blackmore said, "This is, to my mind, the best of all Pears."

The tree is a regular, if not a heavy, cropper; and succeeds in any form; so great a fruit, however, certainly deserves to occupy space on a south or south-west wall, and here may be culled fruits of fine form and noble size. When ripe they are lemon-yellow, with a suffusion of pale apple-green, generously dotted with pale brown russet, and particularly so round the eye and stalk.

The yellowish-white flesh is delicately perfumed, tender, rich, sweet, and melting—a kingly food.

This, one of the aristocrats of fruits, was raised in the garden of the Comice Horticole at Angers, and the original tree first fruited in 1849. Ralph E. Arnold.

Sweet-scented Mignonette

In my old home in Ireland years ago we had beds of Mignonette deliciously scented and most prolific, so that one could "pick and pick, and come again" all the summer. Then giant kinds came into fashion and the smaller vanished.

I tried the new sorts in variety and found them good for the greenhouse, but not nearly as satisfactory out of doors. They "came" badly, produced a lot of green, and only a few large flowers not nearly as sweet as the old one. I searched in vain for it.

Last year in the catalogue of Messrs. Dickson, of Chester, I found quoted "Common sweet-scented Mignonette." I got a large packet, and was delighted with the result. I gave some seed to a young gardening friend, who wrote later asking where she could procure more, as it had flowered all the summer and been so sweet. Perhaps some of your readers may like to try it.

I might mention that Mignonette requires lime in the soil in some form and a very firm seed bed. K. M. R.

Tilmanstone.

Propagating Lilacs

Your correspondent's note, page 264, on Lilacs is interesting and instructive. One will much appreciate "Scottish Gardener's" method of propagation in print in these columns. Interested.

[It gives me much pleasure to accede to the request of "Interested"; although the process is, or ought to be, familiar to all hardy plantsmen who have to do with shrubs. Peronally, I prefer to propagate Lilacs from cuttings rather than from layers; but both are equally sure methods of increasing the Lilac. The process of layering does not call for a detailed description—it is familiar to everyone. With respect to cuttings, there are two methods. The first, and least troublesome, is to take the cuttings early in August, when the wood is half ripe or thereabouts. These may be inserted in a prepared bed in a cold frame, well watered in, and kept close for a short time. Afterwards plenty of air may be given, and 80 per cent. of the cuttings, or even more, will emit roots. These young plants can be run out into nursery lines in March, and they will be ready for transferring to their permanent quarters in the following autumn. Or, in August, the cuttings may be put in under a north wall in light and sandy soil, burying the stems deeply until, in fact, only a pair of leaves is above ground. They must be inserted very firmly—if "Interested" has ever handled cuttings of the rambler Roses he may follow the procedure. From 60 per cent. to 70 pe will emit roots, and in March the plants can be put out in a nursery b in nursery lines. The second method pagating the Lilac by means of cutti this. Lift a few medium-sized plants a as the foliage drops, pot them up, and them in a cool greenhouse until Feb Then they may have a little more hea 55 degs. or thereabouts. Growth quickly follow, and the young shoots w very freely indeed in a temperature degs., and more quickly, of course, if bottom heat can be given. When well the young plants may be put into 4-in and removed to a cooler house—even, to cold frames. Such plants may be ha off and planted out at the close of well manured ground, watering them, weather be dry, until they are estab Such, briefly, is my method of propa the Lilac. Of course, such plants wo suit those nurserymen who rely up abuse of the gentle art of grafting, generally speaking, quite unsuitable in order that very large plants may be (and cheaply) produced. Such are any price.—A Scottish Gardener.]

New Lachenalias

Several years ago I secured a nun Lachenalias from the late Rev. Joseph Vicar of Whitewell. I see by the which appears on page 145 of the Ma issue of Gardening Illustrated tha Lachenalias were further developed late William Mauger, of Guernsey, a this work of development still contin the name and address of the growers given.

Varieties are named in the abov tioned article, such as Sunset, R Glow, Aurea, Leiden, Rutland, Mont and Goldfinch. I have been unable t anyone to whom I could apply fo varieties, and therefore am writing t you will be good enough to send me th and address of the party or parties wh article states are still continuing th of development. H. F. du

Winterthur, Delaware.

[We have referred this inquiry to Davenport, the author of the article i tion, and he replies:—The late Mauger's business (and, more or l horticultural hobbies, too) is being ca by his son, who bears the same na Lachenalias are grown in his private at "Les Rosiers," Doyle Road, which go out for distribution are de by "W. Mauger and Sons, Br Nurseries, Guernsey." Some of tho tioned in Mr. du Pont's letter were Whitewell. Some are the result of sequent developments.]

Wanted: A Gladiolus guid

I have recently received two G catalogues from widely separated within the Empire. One advises me "English Grown" and give employ Englishmen, yet in the body of the c it is stated "some of the foreign vari be imported bulbs!" In America no i bulbs can be sold, but must be g think) for two years by the impor least that is what I gather from t logues which reach me. In the oth logue a variety is thus described:—

"This is a grand seedling. . . . Th is a deep Orchid shade, entirely fr streaks or flecks, although each flowe a large, richly-coloured blotch."

Can any of your readers who are lovers tell me what colour to exp should decide to order one of the bu

I also notice in one of the catalog

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es bearing the same name, but of dif- n colours. That there are many in- of duplicate names is well known, lo not remember seeing an instance in d the same catalogue. R. A.

Double bunch Primroses

nder if I could appeal to your readers the correspondence column for in- on on the following point:—I have rs been interested in the double Prim- nd have a collection of the various s-white, scarlet, crimson, lilac, yellow, c. Now there have come into my hands lants of double Polyanthus. So far n learn these are of a strain called the cord Hybrids, and were reared by a man, Cocker, of Aberdeen. There is le creamy-white, a purple showing a spot at the base of the petal, a r also showing the spot, a rose-pink claret beautifully margined white, and crimson like a dark Wallflower. f these I found in an old nursery gar- nd a day or two afterwards in a garden I found others. The old man tells me there were eight varie- first and that he bought them all, but t most of them.

the gardens I have seen I have never cross these. Cocker's nursery is now up, and the foreman in one of the nurseries in Aberdeen tells me that ybrids have now disappeared. He there may be plants in old gardens d there. As these are of very great and do not appear to be difficult of in gardens where the ordinary Poly- thrives, I wonder if any of your know of the varieties, or if they found ay extensively to the south or into ds of enthusiasts, or if Cocker reared hen there was not the same wide in- n these flowers. I understand they ll named by him, and am trying to an old catalogue of his herbaceous

REV. WILLIAM MURDOCH.

deenshire.

Rosa gigantea

Preston's note on this Rose in your h issue is interesting to an Australian England. Near Melbourne Mr. Clark, an enthusiastic amateur, raises many new Roses as a hobby, and has presented some 30 proven novelties during the last 20 years to our Australian Rose Societies in aid of their funds. Some of these rival the best of the English Roses we import, and are found in every garden, but what brings me to write is that he more and more uses gigantea as a parent because he finds its progeny practically immune to mildew and dieback, and of fine foliage.

In his climate, with sharp frosts in winter, but none lasting through the day, occasional great heat in summer, and generally a dry, bright atmosphere, gigantea flowers profusely and continuously all summer, and rambles to a great height like a Wistaria up an old Pinus insignis.

Its progeny is, naturally, nearly all climbing in habit, but Mr. Clark has in recent years successfully tried the experiment of again crossing the hybrid with the first bush Rose parent, frequently an H.P., to reduce its exuberance to bush Rose habit. He finds that the gigantea foliage and constitution are strongly prepotent, and that he gets in the usual percentage a vigorous bush type of medium petalage, exceptionally hardy and disease-resisting. It should be worth while to test out his plan under English conditions.

FRANK CLARKE.

St. James' Court, London, S.W. 1.

The Snowy Mespilus (Amelanchier canadensis)

A tree now flowering with remarkable freedom in many parts of the country. The abundant racemes of white flowers are produced before the leaves are fully developed, followed in July by small dark purple or black fruits. Flowers of this tree are frequently sent to this office for identification

Condition of ornamental trees and shrubs

The extremely severe winter and spring has dealt kindly with several species I have in my garden in one of the eastern counties, usually the coldest and most exposed to the bitter east winds and frosts. Double Cherry (Cerasus James H. Veitch) is a picture full of bloom just before the leaves are maturing; Magnolia grandiflora hardly touched and will soon be in its normal appearance; Cydonia japonica full of bloom in N.W. position on wall, a treat to admire; Laurustinus, an old favourite, bravely blooming since December last; Hydrangea budding freely and not perturbed in any way. The Prunus Pissardii were also a joy a month ago, full of bloom, Honeysuckle showing signs of a wealth of bloom in three weeks' time, and Jew's Mallow (Kerria japonica fl.-pl.) a wealth of yellow blossoms.

The Rose bushes—about a dozen—I pruned directly after the spell of sharp frosts, and never looked better. With no severe frosts I shall have Roses in a month, the bushes and foliage looking stronger and better than I have seen them in other seasons.

Mentioning flowers, the quiet spring has treated them kindly, Hyacinths King of the Blues being superb, also mixed colours. The Daffodils have been likewise, truly a good season for them. Blue Auriculas, a charming border, and Pansies a perfect blend of mixed colouring and very fine flowers. I have not lost a single shrub, the only damage I have sustained is the Veronica partly killed, but is going on well now. W. G. B.

Witham, Essex.

Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

May I add my testimony to the hardy nature of this Primula, which is now in full bloom here? I cover it and my other Primulas with Bracken Fern in the winter because they grow in the wettest and coldest part of the garden. But they are in well-drained, heavy loam, and never dry at the roots, even in a drought. Amongst them are Meconopsis Baileyi and integrifolia maxima, now showing fat buds, and Celmisia spectabilis, also full of buds. They all share the Fern covering in winter, which keeps them dry round the crowns and (as I think) discourages slugs.

Let no one think these lovely Primulas are delicate. They are as strong as they are beautiful. (MISS) K. RICARDO.

Berghmote, Wimborne, Dorset.

Plants for the miniature garden

In my article, entitled "Plants for the Miniature Rock Garden," appearing in your issue of May 11th, I must plead guilty to an error.

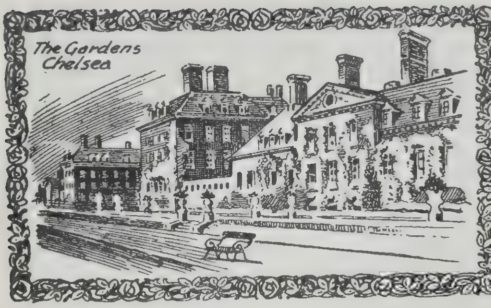
By what mischance it occurred I do not know, but the slip in question is that Edraianthus is meant for Helichrysum frigidum.

Edraianthus serpyllifolius is a trailer with lovely blue flowers, quite different from the shrub meant. WALTER S. MYALL.

Thame, Oxon.

Saxifraga x Godseffiana

There are some newer hybrids with yellow flowers in the Kabschia section of Saxifrages, but one which still stands as one of the best is that named S. x Godseffiana, also called L. C. Godseff, and S. x sancta speciosa. It has for its parents S. sancta and S. burseriana speciosa. Farrer speaks highly of it on account of it "ranking very high among the yellow Burserianas." It is very hardy, flowers freely and early, and is always welcome when it blooms, either in the rock garden or moraine. It is one of the earliest, and is very pleasing with its little mounds of spiny, greyish-green foliage, and, when it blooms, gives an abundance of clear lemon-yellow flowers on short red stems and in loose heads. It appears to like full sun with me, and appreciates a little lime in the soil. It grows quite freely. I observe that the parentage of S. x Godseffiana is otherwise given as Elizabethæ x sancta, but I have adopted that given by Farrer in "The English Rock Garden." S. ARNOTT.



THE
CHELSEA SHOW
MAY 22–24

The Quadrangle
Chelsea

The promise of Chelsea

THERE has been more than a glorious uncertainty about Chelsea this year; for many exhibitors these last few weeks have been a time of gnawing anxiety as to what to concentrate upon for Show purposes, or whether their precious charges would overcome climatic handicaps and reach the top of their form because nothing but perfection is good enough for Chelsea. Whilst some have had necessarily to modify their exhibits, and a melancholy few are *hors de combat* entirely, the large majority of exhibitors, as usual, have come up smiling, and their triumphs will be all the more astounding and pleasurable to visitors who to a lesser degree have encountered delays and disappointments in their own gardens. It will be the old familiar Chelsea "bun," therefore, with a seasoning of special surprises.

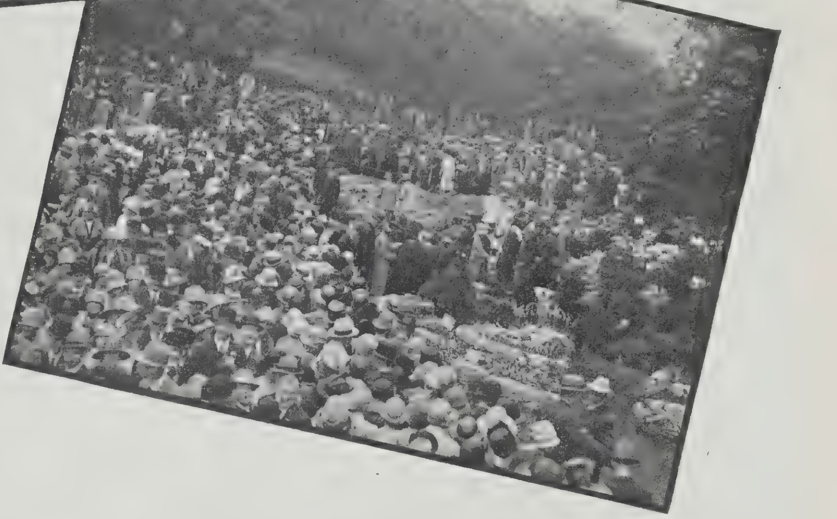
For instance, G. Bunyard and Co., whose exhibits of fruit are so consistent right through the year and always instructive, will be setting up their display on entirely novel lines likely to set tongues wagging if not heads nodding in approval. As usual, there is promise of a glorious display of Irises from this source—always a feature of the Show. Th. Rivers and Son, the pot fruit specialists, are hoping to stage their usual display of Peaches, Nectarines, Plums, and Figs. Fruitarians will not need to be reminded that the Brothers Laxton are once more leading us into temptation with the one and only display of champion Strawberries. The vacancy for a fruit sampler for the Show period is already filled. Their novelties are Acquisition and Primate and other notable new fruits like Duchess of York. The Duke and King George will be in the collection. What Mrs. Dykes' exhibit lacks in size it will make up in distinction, and connoisseurs will find among her natural clumps of the famous Dykes Irises some choice new seedlings if the weather is propitious. The Roses of F. Cant and Co. will include among such popular ramblers as Excelsa, American Pillar, and Scarlet Climber their new seedling Pillar Rose, Promise, which secured the N.R.S. Certificate of Merit last summer. Among specimen standard Polyanthus will be La Reine Elizabeth, Locarno, Superba, Orange Perfection, and others. Two new seedlings in the group of standards and half-standards are Mrs. Hilton Brooks, a salmon Hybrid Tea and excellent bedder, and Mrs. Harvey Cant, a cream Hybrid Tea with conspicuously beautiful foliage. No need to remind B. R. Cant and Sons of what's in a name when it comes to Roses. It was, surely, a genius who called their last summer's Gold Medal Rose "Souvenir of the Old Rose Garden," a piece of nomenclature that is absolutely irresistible. You have to plant a Rose with a name like that, and when are remembered its broad petals, soft pink within and silvery without, its strong growth and old-world perfume, no wonder a big demand for it is anticipated this June when it goes out in pots. With it will go Joan Cant, also a Hybrid Tea of a delightful salmon-pink inside, rich pink outside, thick-petalled flowers well formed and deliciously perfumed. New seedlings not yet in commerce will also be shown. Allwood's exhibit will be in three sections. One will include among all the popular kinds of Perpetual-flowering Carnations their 1929 novelties, Wivelsfield Buttercup (yellow), Guy Allwood (pink), and Rapture (silvery-pink). A second triangular bed of Border Carnations, Perpetuals, and Allwoodii alpinus will show novelties of the latter in Pan (blush-pink), Pixie (white), and Puck (white with deep eye). Sweet Wivelsfield, the Allwoodii-Sweet William hybrid annual, is to be shown separately and in variety. Engelmann's Carnation novelties are mainly four, and special prominence will be given to a very striking variety named Sunny.

Among the hardy plants there is promise of a variety of new Lupins. Prichards are bringing a lot for display in the open in addition to their herbaceous and Alpine groups under canvas. Downer has many new colours, and is expecting blossom to be exceptionally fine. Waterer's most notable varieties will be Afterglow, Orpheus, Wargrave Blush, Wargrave Blue, Magnificence, Iolanthe, and Golden Fleece, all novelties of their raising. Constant Nymph, shown for the first time last Chelsea, will reappear and enchant beholders as before. Their Rhododendron exhibit, which we all look for, will be shown this time near the embankment entrance to the main tent, and among new introductions their Mother of Pearl, a pearly-white form of the grand Pink Pearl, will have pride of place. Others are Prince of Wales, a very fine late-flowering bright pink, and a new pure white variety, sweet scented, and described as a great improvement upon Geoffrey Millais and G. Hardy. An exhibit of trees and shrubs will contain Enkianthus campanulatus, Acer californica aurea, Pyrus Aria lutescens, and bright-foliaged Conifers. New hybrid Lupins as well as masses of Lilium regale will intersperse Hewitt and Co.'s large exhibit of modern Delphiniums, including the well-known Mrs. Townley Parker, Joy Bells, The Bishop, Rose Marie, Violet Queen, and especially Monarch of Wales, which secured the A.M. at Wisley last year. Gentiana verna angulos
figure in their table rock garden
among other choice things, will
Aquilegia glandulosa, Saxifraga Tu
Waters, Meconopsis Baileyi, and G
in variety. Their shrubs exhibit in th
will consist of Japanese Flowering C
Maples, Rhododendrons, Laburnum
Wistaria sinensis, and hardy Ghent A
Isaac House and Son intend to show
stemon heterophyllus True Blue and
special Alpines.

The large exhibit of Bay Trees by
Green, Ltd., will occupy 2,000 squa
They are also showing on the lawn th
styles in garden furniture, and in the
a comprehensive collection of mode
dries.

The popular Killiney Brooms are
from Wm. Watson and Sons, who in
show Lady Moore, the novelty wh
tained the A.M. at Chelsea last year
variety, which baffles the colour
suggests Strawberries and Orange
brilliant red is seen to great advantag
wings of the flowers, which are p
larger than in any other Broom. Lo
bourne (Award of Merit, 1927), wit
scarlet wings in lovely contrast to th
and primrose of the flower standar
also be prominent in the group, as, of
also will be the well-known crimson
Walpole.

To the fore among the garden exhi
be a typically Whiteleggian rock g
Cheddar limestone, with stream and
lightfully vegetated with all the bes



Mass attack on the Chelsea rock gardens

s and dwarf shrubs. Mr. Whitelegg's
will be showing up well in the tents,
he has brought other fine groups of
ies and Azaleas. Gavin Jones is experi-
ing with a new metier for Chelsea rock
ns. Greatly daring he is constructing
weathered pieces of granite brought
the Welsh mountains. These massive
vely Lichen-covered rocks will certainly
a sensation at the Show, and Mr.
Jones is to be congratulated upon the
he has carried out the recent suggestion
e R.H.S. in regard to the employment
familiar stone. R. Tucker and Co.'s
garden in Westmorland stone is also a
worthy attempt in that it depicts a gar-
or the man of moderate means, and will
servedly popular with visitors. This
little home for plants occupies only 30
by 20 feet.

ham and Son's garden will be on the
scale in Westmorland stone once
with a lofty fall set well back, a tor-
stream to a lower level and second fall,
tream continuing to its outlet among
round rocks. A rough stone track
round the site and bridges the stream
two massive stones.

lier and Sons, whose exhibits of dis-
ve shrubs and special introductions from
and India are of so much interest,
how for the first time, in addition to a
of these inside, an informal garden in
pen. The formal garden of W. H.
and Sons, always an outstanding piece
rk in this section, will take this year
rm of a terraced enclosure with flower
rs, grass plots, a pool, and summer-

Webb and Co.'s large group will have
s, Superb, and Stellata strains of
aria as the dominating feature (Mat-
is the variety to look for), together with
olarias, Gloxinias, Primula obconica,
anthus, Salpiglossis, and other green-
plants, which with annuals in variety
give a colourful and most effective dis-

rence Elliott's rock garden will also be
oderate dimensions in Cotswold stone
year, and, as usual, generously planted
distinctive Alpines—Meconopsis quintu-
rvia is one of these. A simple and prac-
garden which anyone could put into a
en conveniently is the end in view.

Mr. Ingwersen will exploit Sussex sandstone suggestively planted rather than bedded out in the usual grand manner for Show purposes.

His table exhibit will delight the lover of rarities and unusual plants.

Baggesens', whose monastery garden was so much admired at the last Chelsea Show, and who make a speciality of old-time gardens, will be building a typical old Devonshire garden. When the visitor feels surfeited with the opulence and colour of "showy" gardens, let him turn aside for this little bit of old England. G.

The "Blahs" at Chelsea

Of all visitors to Chelsea Show few are more widely known or so inescapable as the Blahs. In train, tube, bus, and on our thoroughfares generally the species is not exactly dormant, but as soon as it comes into the environment of "Chelsea" or any other floral exhibition it expands, it unfolds, it glows, it gushes, and, as many an unfortunate exhibitor will tell you, it bores insufferably. Can nothing be done to suppress its vanity and bad manners? Is there no redress for visitors and especially for tired exhibitors when they come up against these Blahs? Their voices are, as a rule, loud, and always persistent and penetrating. Buttonholing the exhibitor or his harassed assistant these folk will never let go until the recital of what they have accomplished with Meconopsis Baileyi or some such thing down at Little Windover is complete. They will prate of the exhibitor's plants that they somehow failed with—and why was that? Or they must tell him of the rare things (purchased from a competing nursery) that they have planted lately, and how wonderfully they are doing. Of this, that, and the other thing that they have bought or intend to buy, and what would he advise as to cultivation. Thousands of other visitors are pressing upon the exhibit, some with definite orders to place, but still the Blahs blah on, and one marvels at the stoicism and courtesy of their listeners. Irresistible, all-conquering, all unaware of the fierce hate they are generating as they pass through the show expressing loudly their acclamation or condemnation, the Blahs blissfully proceed, and where they lead others turn back lest there should arise a desire to do some bodily injury to these incorrigibles, or at least inflict a blow upon their inordinate inflation and conceit. The pest is probably at its worst among the Roses. You successfully deploy from a couple at one Rose group only to find yourself sandwiched between other examples at the next, until, no matter where you turn, they seem to be all over the place, and you can neither see nor smell the Roses for the Blahses. Their chorus swells from defamatory libel to lavish eulogism, but the smile of the custodian of the stand is as that of the sphinx. He has probably noticed afar off an obscure person quietly entranced in his flowers and referring frequently to the catalogue, which means business and an excuse to break away from the Blah person who has him in thrall at the moment. Whether you are doing the Irises, the Alpines, the Carnations, the Orchids, or some other popular section, one or more of these ubiquitous couples will be at your elbow—or rather their elbows will be at you, shovelling you away from a good view of the exhibit that you have secured by orderliness and patience. Out in the open among the formal gardens their loud talk goes on. They sweep all before them. Whoever may be in consultation with the exhibitor is brushed aside unceremoniously, the while they point at, or even poke at with stick or parasol, some feature of the garden that calls for their inquiry or criticism. It is when they reach the rock gardens, however, that they really get into their stride, going it fortissimo and with a sort of hear-what-we-have-to-say-about-this air, a this-is-*our*-Chelsea feeling. Their stamina and the tenacity of their vocal cords are amazing. Nothing subdues them except the Scientific tent, which they occasionally find themselves in by accident. The sundries are to them rather *infra dig.*, but they will at least unbend to them to the extent of asking the long-suffering standholders for all manner of sundry information upon the whereabouts of the secretary, the telephone, the luncheon tent, the stand of a competing exhibitor; and this year they will possibly add to their questionnaire: "Oh, where is the blue bulb from Chili?" And when they ask where is Death's Valley it will require a restraint almost superhuman to withhold the obvious retort, and to be guiltless of "blahsphemy." R. L.

Some sidelights on Chelsea

TWELVE full months have passed in review since the last gathering of the gardening clans at Chelsea, and the foremost event of the horticultural calendar is upon us once more. Once more in a few days' time the curtain will be lifted on the supreme pageant of the year, the Show that draws flower-lovers from every corner of the kingdom.

The stage is set in the Chelsea Hospital Gardens. Gargantuan marquees fill the time-honoured arena to the right of the main entrance, and to these men come with an interminable stream of lorries that disgorge flowers to make this Chelsea surpass anything that has before been seen in the famous grounds, for it is universally admitted every year that the current Show is the finest that has yet been held, the only differences of opinion being as to how many lengths it is ahead of the last. For the few days preceding the opening the marquees are a hive of ordered industry, as the plants and flowers, each one the result of months of tender care and devotion, are arranged in their appointed places in the ranks, while outside among the formal gardens and in the all-important corner devoted to the rock gardens work will have been going on for the past month or so.

HOW PLANTS ARE PREPARED FOR CHELSEA.

Work for Chelsea, however, does not begin in May. In many cases no sooner is one show over than plans and often preparations for the next begin, while many things must take more than a year to prepare. The Sweet Peas, the Schizanthus, and all the annuals, for instance, will be sown on a date in the previous summer or autumn that will have been worked out with minute exactness by calculations based on years of bitter experience which will have taught exhibitors almost to a day how long it takes their plants to come to perfection.

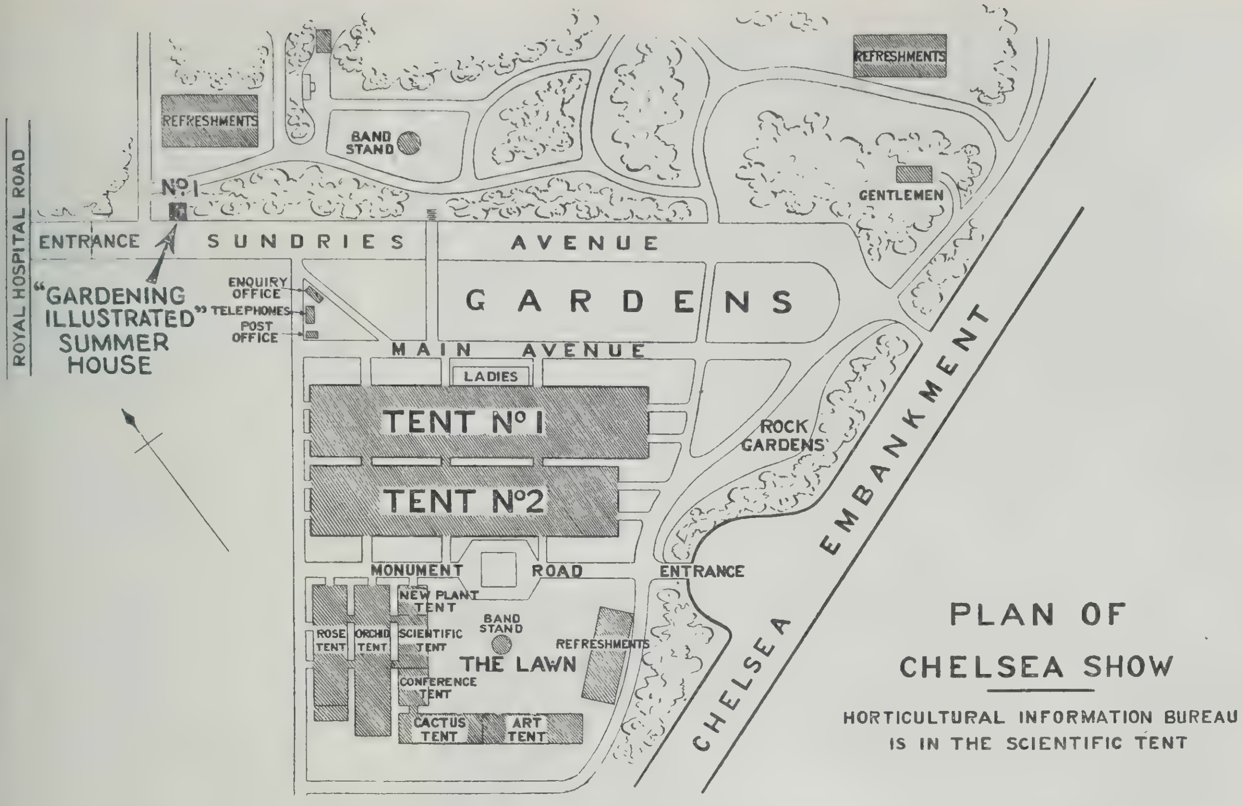
With the Sweet Peas, which are one of the most famous features of the Show, you are not so slavishly dependent on the vagaries of the weather, or in such fear of a treacherous May frost, as in the case of Schizanthus or other pot plants, when you are showing the plant as a specimen and so have but the space of a few days in which each plant is at its best. Sweet Peas you can delay by pinching out the earlier buds if you can force them on soon enough; Schizanthus, on the other hand, you build and mould as they grow by stopping, pinching, and training, and however much you may strive to force or to retard them at the last moment by adjusting the temperature and ventilation of their houses, you are still practically dependent on your original accuracy in choosing the date of sowing; and, even then, a weak spring sun may throw you out, or too long a spell of good growing weather in the winter may bring you in too early.

There must be few, indeed, among those that voice their wonderment at the banks of flowers who realise a fraction of the anxiety they have caused in the production. You hear often enough how people wish they could get their Clarkias half the height of Sutton's; how somebody else can never get his or her Begonias to the size of Blackmore and Langdon's; or four, five, and six blooms on a Sweet Pea stem like Dobbie's; but the months of skilled work that have been put into their production and the eleventh hour doubts and qualms that have attended their staging are points not quite so fully appreciated. Another thing that is difficult to realise is the scale on which things are grown. Take, for instance, the display of Carnations that won Mr. Engelmann the Sherwood Cup the other year for the finest exhibit in the Show. Literally thousands of superbly grown blooms were requir build it up; and in the same way vast of glass must be devoted to the Sweet and Roses, and so forth, each exhi which contains such myriads of p flowers. Carnations, however, do not r quite such special preparations as ma the other things, for they are usually g under glass, in any case, and flowere whole year round. Roses, on the other have to be forced. By grafting in Ja and growing on rapidly, say, three o new shoots on each stock, buds selecte fixed time before the Show and allow develop can be timed to produce a hal flower for the appointed date. Thou of Lilies, Delphiniums, and genera baceous plants are forced, too; while for the increasingly popular Iris g planted by Bunyard and other firm have to be shepherded along, probably under glass and some in the open. and Irises . together one expects complete confidence from Wallace, t Tunbridge Wells, who are always su as exhibitors of Lilies.)

Some of the Primulas even will nee tle forcing, others merely a little pro nursing, but Chelsea is one of the ve occasions on which one sees large tions of Primulas in flower together, a amount of care is worth while to members of such an interesting fam gether. Nearly all the vegetables, of and fruit need special treatment; and of the flowering shrubs will be forc at least, forwarded under glass. Tuli the other hand, are always a probl Chelsea. Even when retarded as far a be they are the first things in the S show signs of wear, and many fall op far and start dropping their petals second day.

Outside, as we have seen, work st the beginning of the month, and, al the formal gardens will all be plann down on paper beforehand, much st pends on how things go on the site— weather that helps or hinders th structional part of the business, and condition of the plants that arrive to fin

Go early and avoid the crowd



PLAN OF THE CHELSEA SHOW

Note "Gardening Illustrated" Summer House is No. 1, Sundries Avenue

ngoff. The planting, indeed, may make or formal garden. You may have a really onceived plan and carry it out with ex- e workmanship, and then quite easily ilit with hothouse plants not properly died off, that soon begin to show signs dress. Not that it is easy, of course, u you be bound to stock the beds from le glass to get a natural effect; but it is t the grower's while to tax his ingenu- t the utmost in order to have his plants ig perfectly happy on the opening day alculated to remain so for the two s trial to follow. That its inhabitants sone and all look at home is one of the actors that make for the success of arden. Considering all the difficulties ir path, then, the formal gardens are ig achievement at Chelsea. In some of azy paving, the Thyme and creeping ig might have been born and bred in evices you see them in.

t; to the rock gardens you must turn, n, for the most popular corner outside nts, if not in the whole Show. You nly to watch the jostling crowds that nbly surround them to realise the num- devotees they attract. Correspond- ly a rock garden is probably the most ending thing to put up at Chelsea.

still have your worries about plants, er and above these you have the grow- ar of not being able to do yourself til under exhibition conditions; you are santly dependent on the purveyors of ck, and more dependent than anything erhaps, on the weather. Further, you ave next to nothing cut and dried be- ou start work—everything must be ld under the strain of the last three ek, and finally you have a site that would lost enough to send the uninitiated away forted at the outset. Yet, in spite al this, the rock gardens fully merit the ron they receive. They are a triumph, ully; and two years ago this fact was given official recognition by the award to Mr. Whitelegg of the Sherwood Cup for his rock garden. Even so, there was an extremely close runner-up in Colonel Gavin Jones, and competition is bound to be very keen again this year.

Enough then of preparations and their attendant strain. On the morning of the 22nd they will be a thing of the past. Exhibitors will already have had a day's comparative rest—from physical labours, if not from suspense—while the judging was going on. The weather usually smiles on the Show. The first of the stream of visitors will pass through the turnstiles at 8 a.m., and the Show will open under a cloudless sky (?). There is no other month than May that shows you Nature in the full bloom of her newly-perfected youth, and no other month that could replace it as the season for Chelsea. The air is warm but fresh, a faint breeze stirs through the young green of the trees down the "Sundries Avenue," which is the first thing you come to through the main entrance. Often the opening day seems the first day of summer, as you sit in the drowsy heat of the afternoon listening to the scarlet-coated band. But there is ample shade in the leafy grounds; and if the rock gardens get hot in the full sun there are the formal gardens, half under a canopy of branches, and the Art tent away among the trees of the park; while the tents are always cool.

From 8 till 12 on the first day of the Show is to be reserved this year, as it was last, for Fellows of the Society. Then at 12 o'clock fashion will flock through the turnstiles. Chelsea, in fact, is the one occasion when a flower show is as much a rendezvous of fashion as it is a Mecca of the gardening world. Is it to be wondered at that few who have once been can resist the old lure of the tents?—the smell of trodden grass mingling subtly with the scents of the Lilies, the Sweet Peas, and the Strawberries?—the aisles of colour stretching as far as the eye can reach, walls of blue Hydrangeas and glowing Begonias, banks of Delphiniums and scented Roses, misty clouds of Sweet Peas and spouting bouquets of Carnations, and cool gardens of Irises and Lilies?—or the tinkling streams and the vivid little patches of Alpines on the rock gardens? It is not a surprising thing that people come again and again. Even during the strike of 1926 they flocked to it; and each year seems to see an advance on the last.

All hail, then, to Chelsea, 1929.

F. C. S. R.

Sale of exhibits

Exhibitors are reminded that, under the regulations, they are forbidden to sell plants, flowers, fruit, vegetables, sundries, pictures, or other articles for removal before the close of the Show, *i.e.*, 5 p.m. on Friday, May 24th. As visitors do not always realise that exhibitors are not allowed to sell articles for immediate removal, cards giving the above information have been printed, and any exhibitor who wishes to display such a card may obtain one on application to the Secretary.

The Secretary would be obliged if exhibitors would take steps to see that all the attendants at their exhibits are familiar with the regulations.

Catering for exhibitors

New arrangements have been made with the caterers with a view to try and improve the refreshments facilities for exhibitors.

The caterers will provide on Monday and Tuesday, May 20th and 21st, an abridged *à la carte* luncheon in the Ranelagh Gardens enclosure, and a 1s. 6d. tea.

It is hoped that the exhibitors will make good use of these facilities, as it was only by special pressure that the caterers were persuaded to extend the show refreshment facilities.

Horticultural sundries at Chelsea

Not all the horticultural public realise the full significance of the above heading, though some of the keener enthusiasts do. Just as new creations of flowers and plants take the public fancy, so various sundries, some of which are patents, registered designs, or new and improved creations, are essential to the raising and well-being of horticultural subjects, flowers, fruits, or vegetables. Some appeal to the beauty and adornment of the garden. It would take pages to mention all the numerous sundries essential or beneficial to modern horticulture, embracing, as they do, the simplest things to the most complex inventions, the result of brains and the highest scientific research. Labels, plant supports, essential tools, motor and other mowers, spraying machines, watering pots, systems of netting, modern glasshouses, heating, fertilisers, manures, insecticides, fungicides, fumigating materials, shading, watering cans, peat, leaf-mould, loam, sand, rocks, garden ornaments, summer and other houses, pergolas, preserves, pictures, and a thousand and one other things. All these sundries, like the flowers, fruit, and vegetables, are, in most cases, new creations, improvements on those formerly in use, and have been created or invented by the various vendors. Where they are not new they are still the best of their type, nothing better, so far, having been invented to supersede them. Let the general public realise that there is something or many things that are desirable, essential, or beneficial to them in their gardens, or of personal benefit to themselves, and after seeing the flowers they should not fail to go round the Sundries Avenue and sections to see what really does appeal to them. The sundriesmen are there to demonstrate and show the advantages of their particular wares, and as nothing may be purchased to be taken away (according to the very strict rules of the R.H.S.), an order must be given for any purchase made, and the sundriesman will send or deliver it to the address stated. It is remarkable what ignorance of the sundries sections still remains in many up-to-date garden owners. They have no idea what labour-saving or efficient tools and machinery can be had at Chelsea Flower Show. Sometimes, quite by accident, they see what they have been looking for for years, yet it may be the fifth or sixth year since its introduction. A tour of the great tents and grounds is not complete without a look round the sundries. Since no purchase can be taken away during the Show and every article has to be sent, the taking of names and addresses occupies more of the sundriesman's time than when he simply handed over the article, as was the custom a few years ago. Visitors to the sundries generally leave their purchases till the last moment and are sometimes disappointed to find a crowd round the stand at which they want to make their purchase. A train has to be caught and so they do not see the wanted article demonstrated. Usually a look in Gardening Illustrated will find the advertisement of the particular stand, and price list can be written for. While it is always the flowers first and the sundries afterwards, often customers to the sundries come in waves and it is not always possible to attend to all in the time. This should be borne in mind and visits paid either earlier in the day or later at night when congestion is not so great. To those who have not paid the Chelsea sundries a visit before, a careful look round is recommended, and if they do not come away full of wonder at the advance in horticultural appliances these lines will have been written in vain.

C. A. Jardine.

The Giant Redwoods (Sequoia sempervirens), the Californian Redwood exhibit

A Desert Garden and Californ Redwood exhibit

ONE of the most remarkable feature
the Chelsea Show this year is the ex
depicting the desert scene and D
Valley, sent by Mrs. A. Sherman Hoy
Pasadena, California.

The Death Valley is the place wh
many years ago, pioneer gold diggers
overtaken and buried alive in a sand st
The flora and fauna of these regions
represented in this extraordinary ex
wherein are assembled the features of
dreds of square miles. In the Death Va
with all its vivid theatrical grimness,
have been identified 135 distinct specie
plants, 124 birds, 12 reptiles, and
insects.

Regardless of expense, the succulents
other plants have, we understand,
brought from the Death Valley—not only
vegetation, but also the stones, sand,
bles, borax, insects, birds, and skele
have all been shipped direct from
deserts for this exhibit. Over 200
(20 ft. by 20 ft.) were used to bring over
collection and it required 10 pantechn
vans to remove the exhibit from the dock

At one end of the exhibit are
Redwood trees of California (Sequoia
pervirens)—one tree is 26 feet in cir
ference. The exhibit occupies a space
100 ft. by 25 ft.; and it will be foun
the Cactus tent, plainly indicated in the
on page 333. This exhibit was previ
staged at Boston, when it was visite
15,000 people and awarded the Gold C

The collection is rich in Opuntias, Yu
Mamillarias, and other plants of the
regions. It is interesting to learn tha
plants in this remarkable exhibit are
presented to Kew by the exhibitor. H.

Suggestions for Chelsea

A mixed bag

Rock gardens in onyx, lapis-lazuli, mo
of pearl, slag, brickbats, marble or
stone.

Refrigeration tent with limestone
coolers for jaded alpine gardeners if a
wave is on.

Gumboots, oilskins, and sou'-wester
hire if wet; electric fans in the tents i

Centrally "heated" cinema
"Talkies" by the star exhibitors i
weather is a washout.

Gyratory one-way traffic system for
tors by means of ropeways—and a rope
for recalcitrants.

Escalator service for the rock g
embankment.

That a special cup be awarded to the
popular exhibit adjudged by a refere
of the visitors on the opening day.

A special award for the most disti
and popular novelty among the Sundri

Strawberry sampling by invitation o

Installation of stentorphone on the
day to announce: No! The plants ar
for sale until 5 p.m.

White ducks or light shantung jacke
exhibitors' representatives. White tr
only for the staff of a well-known g
designer.

No awards to rock gardens until j
have had time to escape.

A "flag" day for gardeners' charit

Tents for the convenience of the Pres
photographers. R

The Desert Garden, showing succulent plants and stones brought from the Death Valley

helsea Show Programme

lnesday, Thursday, and Friday, May 22nd, 23rd, and 24th

TUESDAY, MAY 21ST

m. Staging to be complete. Everyone to leave the tents. Judges meet at the Inquiry Tent.

m. Judging commences.

m. The Joint Iris Committee meets in Committee Tent No. 3.

n The Fruit and Vegetable Committee meets in Committee Tent No. 1, Floral Committee A and the Narcissus and Tulip Committee meet in Committee Tent No. 3, Floral Committee B meets in Committee Tent No. 2, and the Orchid Committee meets in the Orchid Tent.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22ND

Gates open for private view for Fellows and holders of Fellows' tickets.

n. Show opens to the public. Show closes at 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 23RD

Gates open for private view for Fellows and holders of Fellows' tickets.

Show opens to the public. Show closes at 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 24TH

opens at 8 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m.

LOWS' PASSES AND FELLOWS' TRANS- IE TICKETS will admit on all three days h show.

PUBLIC WILL BE ADMITTED ON PAYMENT COWS:—

lnesday, May 22nd, from 12 noon to 8 p.m.—10s.

rsday, May 23rd, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.—5s. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.—2s. 6d.

ay, May 24th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.—2s. 6d.

ets may be obtained before the show Society's Offices, Vincent Square, inster, S.W. 1. During the show ill be on sale at the entrances only.

DENERS' PRIVILEGE TICKETS.—Any pro- al gardener, or any employee in a private, public, or botanic garden, nursery, or seed establishment may obtain one non-transferable ticket, admitting on Thursday, May 23rd, at half-price on application direct to the Secretary not less than three days before the show. All applications must be made on special forms, obtainable from the Secretary.

BATH CHAIRS cannot be admitted on the first day of the show, but on the second and third days they will be admitted between 8 a.m. and 12 noon on payment of an extra 5s. for each chair, which covers one attendant.

Chelsea news and views

Forthcoming events

MAY 23RD.—THE GARDEN CLUB.—Mr. J. R. Koning, Director of Parks and Gardens in Amsterdam, will be the guest of honour, and, after dinner, will give a lecture on Holland with ancient and modern gardens, illustrated by lantern slides. The dinner commences at 7.30 p.m.

MAY 23RD.—NATIONAL TULIP SOCIETY.—Annual Exhibition in a marquee at Chelsea (near the Rose Tent).

MAY 23RD.—KEW GUILD.—The Annual General Meeting and Dinner will be held in the Clarendon Restaurant, 1, 3, and 5, Broadway, Hammersmith, W. 6.

Mr. W. Hales, A.L.S., the Chairman of Committee, will be in the chair at the meeting, which will begin at 6.30 p.m., whilst Mr. John Coutts, the President for 1929-30, will preside over the dinner, to commence at 7.30 p.m.

JUNE 5TH.—NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY'S MEETING.

JUNE 6TH AND 7TH.—THE IRIS SOCIETY.—The Third Annual Show in the new R.H.S. Hall, at which deputations will be present from the Continent and America.

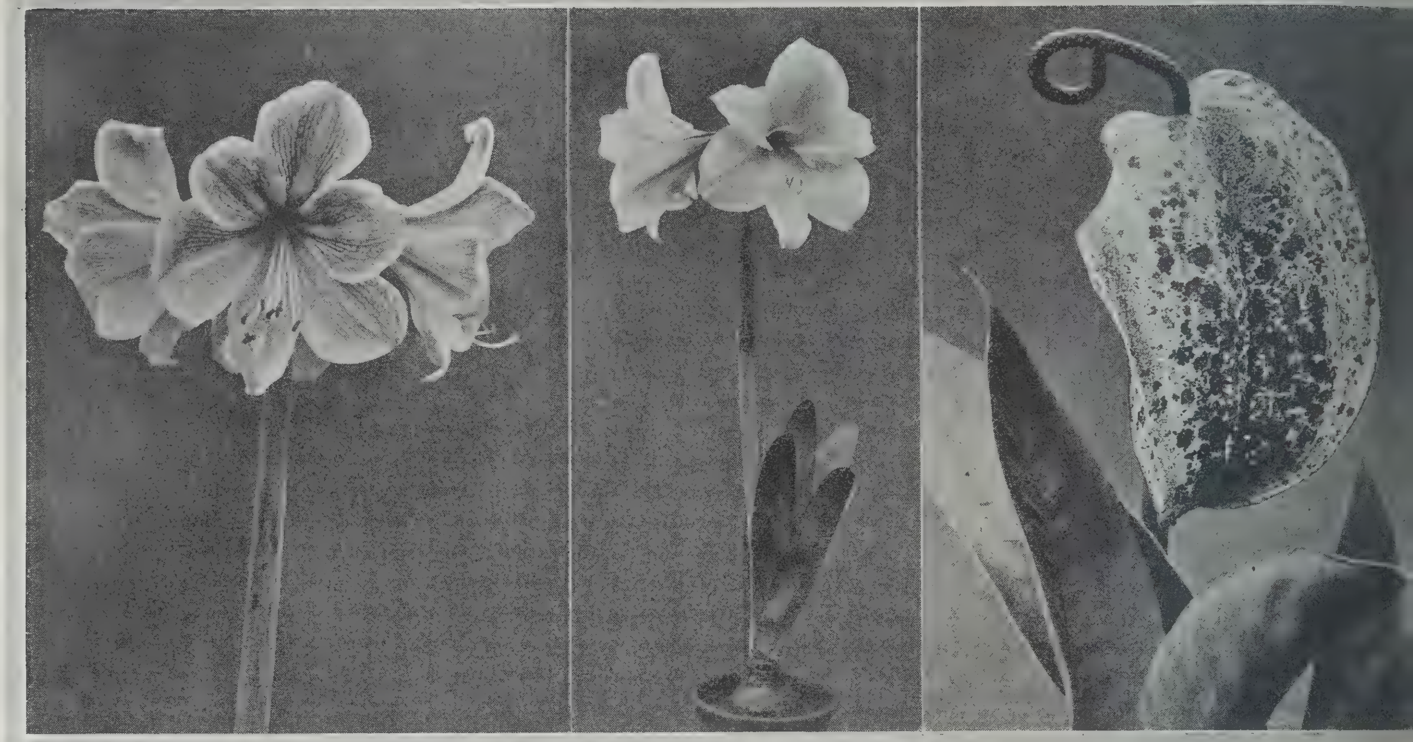
The Death Valley, with all its vivid theatrical grimness

Proposed Association of Garden Architects

Meeting at Chelsea on May 23rd

THE long hoped for and much needed association of garden architects has now been formed and will henceforth be known as the "British Association of Garden Architects," with its headquarters (for the time being, at least) at 9, Gower Street, Bedford Square, W.C. 1.

The formation of this Society has been made possible by the enthusiastic and determined efforts of capable younger members of the profession, who are not only anxious that the practice of garden design shall receive public recognition as a profession and worthy of the highest place in its affections, but that the whole trend of modern design shall be intelligently reviewed and discussed by its exponents, and the standard improved and exalted to a place with the fine arts.



Hippeastrum seedlings (coloured and white) and a new Anthurium with large, broad spathe mottled blood red

This is the aim and object of the Association, and to achieve this, the following agenda has been compiled :

The object of the Association is to organise all those engaged professionally as garden architects and to do all things possible to further their interests and those of the public, and to set up a standard of garden design to meet present day needs. To achieve these objects steps shall be taken :

(1) To organise all those engaged in the work.

(2) To arrange periodical meetings for the members for exchange of ideas and information.

(3) To arrange lectures for the benefit of members and others interested in the work of garden design.

(4) To judiciously survey all matter appearing in the Press, either daily or periodically, on the subject of garden design.

(5) To arrange periodical exhibits on garden design at various centres as agreed by the Committee.

(6) To take steps to secure that a training centre should be established where students can obtain the necessary knowledge of the principles of garden design in relation to horticulture.

(7) To found a circulating library for the use of Members.

(8) To prepare sets of lantern slides for use by members in lecture work and to loan suitable slides to Horticultural Societies in the country.

The consequent result of thus organising and collecting the resources of the profession would be a greater understanding and appreciation of the art of garden design, and ultimately the country would be the richer for the higher fulfilment of its practices.

The Association will hold a general meeting between 3 and 4 o'clock in the Conference Tent at the forthcoming Chelsea Flower Show on Thursday, May 23rd, for the purpose of discussing the policy of the Association, and for the election of members. All persons who desire to attend, and who, by reason of the work upon which they are engaged are virtually entitled to do so, are cordially invited. Would-be attendants are requested to apply for formal invitation to the Secretary, B.A.G.A., 9, Gower Street, Bedford Square, W.C.1, giving full name and address and occupation. Admission to the meeting will be by ticket only, and the Conference will commence at 3 o'clock sharp.

It is to be hoped that all who are professionally engaged in this work, whether architects, designers, or landscape gardeners, or principals, or employees, will give their whole-hearted support to this movement and will make every effort to attend the meeting, which is of the utmost importance to all so engaged, as well as to the art itself.

Remarkable floral groups in the New R.H.S. Hall

Progress due to cross-fertilisation—Evolution of the white Hippeastrum

A REMARKABLE group of Hippeastrums (Amaryllis) was exhibited on Tuesday, May 7th, at the Royal Horticultural Society's meeting by Mrs. Burns, North Mymms Park, Hatfield (gardener, Mr. Wright).

For many years past Hippeastrums have been popular plants, and deservedly so. The late Sir George Holford, Veitch and Bull, of Chelsea, and Kerr, of Liverpool, did much to popularise the plant, but on no previous occasion have so many white forms been collated, forms which rivalled the coloured in size and shape.

The whole centre and greater part of the group was composed of well-grown plants and well-shaped varieties, all with pure white segments, pure white from a distance, but on close scrutiny suspicions of green could be detected in a few and a vestige of pink in
others, while on the flanks were pla
number of coloured forms.

Present-day Hippeastrums are prac
all products of hybrid selections. The e
parents were such species as equestre a
variety major reticulatum, vittata, an
bably the allied species, aulicum, bea
as species, but hardly comparable wi
forms now cultivated, all of which hav
obtained by cross-fertilisation of the
hybrids and by further crossing of se
varieties so obtained.

The green of equestre and the red
of vittata can still be traced in man
gradually the perianth segments have
broadened and the colours have been i
fied until to-day we have a race of
which for size, symmetry, and depth of
entirely surpass the originals.

White has always been desired, b
difficulties in its production, that is,
elimination of colour, have been greate
those of increasing existing tints.

The evolution of the "whites"
Mymms Park collection was comn
over 20 years ago by Mr. Fielder, the
dener on the estate. Mr. Wright, th
sent head gardener, took them in hand
15 years ago, and, commencing wit
Fielder's base, has gradually develope
as shown. The original plant and
successive forms have been cast awa
narrow in their segments and too
colour to rank. Their work had been
but their blood is still present.

Selection still goes on, and several fo
the group had been marked by Mr.
to cross and re-cross in the hope o
further improvement.

On the whole, Amaryllis, to keep t
garden name, are of easy cultivation.
a number of seeds are obtained in eac
sule, and may be expected to flower
three years of sowing. Occasionall
cocious plants will flower in 21 m
Until the flowering stage is reached
tempt should be made to rest them. T
thus probably gained over Nature, bu
larger plants Mr. Wright's practice is t

a thorough rest, usually from Septem- d start them in batches from February ay March. The plants are potted every year and top-dressed in the inter- year, using a compost of loam, leaf- sharp sand, with a little bone-meal rcoal.

e possible gentle bottom heat may be start them into growth with a top ture of 55 degs., gradually increased, ion soon commences and flowers may cted in about two months.

flowering, when growth is strongest, ctions of liquid-manure may be ad- red.

other groups at the same meeting may cited as showing the progress due to rilisation.

Nemesias, shown by Sutton and Sons, ding, and the collection of Anthurium rianum by Sanders, of St. Albans.

e former, memory need not go so very k to realise the great improvement in flower, floriferousness, and the quite nts of colour produced. Grouped as nts were, they were a striking testi- as to their value for colour schemes rden decoration.

alise the advance made in Anthuriums must be made of the earlier forms of erzerianum grown half-a-century ago. t as they were, they are now quite in size and colour. All are deriva- om one species and its varieties. A. hildianum, distinguished by its crim- ottling on a white ground, was ob- etween the type and its white variety, in the imported species, the earlier were hardly comparable with those of

cherzerianum, varieties were shown pathes nearly orbicular, the colour from pure white, through pink and o deep crimson, while in Rothschild- forms were present with vivid mottling ashes of colour previously unknown. ral the spathes were as broad as long, all the improvement in size and colour e out of proportion to those who re- the originals. E. COOPER.

Prunus nana Firehill

enchanting little shrub, which was n Award of Merit at the last show of H.S., is a native of Roumania, and wild on the foothills of the Car- s. The buds are scarlet rather than nd this is when it is seen to the best ge. The flower is of a fine pink which makes the other pink double s look blue.

Roumanians say "the hills are on hen it is in bloom, and this is why I lled it Firehill. According to their ing, Ferdinand, who was a good , it is the wild Peach of Roumania, w says it is a fine form of Russian , or Prunus nana.

e not seen it taller than 2 feet in nia, where there is much lime in the a very hot sun in summer, but with rich, dark soil, the old plants are inches. It suckers very freely in a t suits it. Possibly the fact that it covered my ground with suckers as ative land (where it forms a carpet) de it run up a little taller.

erves to be in every garden, and, how- rd the winter, presents a mass of n spring. I hope to arrange for its tion. ALICE MARTINEAU.

Gardenias

he elegant stove evergreen shrubs, hining green leaves and beautiful, perfumed, white flowers, are very or hand or buttonhole bouquets, and are well worth growing wherever accommodation can be given them. The double forms of G. florida and G. f. Fortuneana are well known and the best to grow for the supply of flowers. Although they may be grown moderately well in a greenhouse, they really need stove temperature to do them justice.

Gardenias thrive in an open compost consisting chiefly of fibrous loam and peat, and should be re-potted annually until the plants reach a large size. Under good conditions of cultivation, plants may be grown to quite a large size in a season, but it is always wise to retain and grow on a few old plants, for while young plants produce the finest flowers, old plants yield a greater quantity of moderate sized flowers suitable for buttonholes. A moist atmosphere and frequent overhead syringings during the season of growth are essential details of cultivation, and the plants must be kept free from the attacks of mealy bug and scale. Gardenias are sometimes planted out in a central pit of a warm house, but while this system has the advantage of causing a more free growth and perhaps finer flowers, it is less easy to keep the plants clean, and culture in pots is to be recommended for general purposes.

Warwick. W. AUTON.

Sophro-Lælio Cattleya Yokohama, rosy orange, with deep ruby crimson lip

Shown by Baron Schroder. First Class Certificate on May 7th

Senecio abrotanifolius

This plant is not so much grown as it deserves to be. It is of easy culture, and the abundance of its showy, shaggy flower-heads renders it very attractive.

It is very suitable for the margins of borders or the rock garden. From the dense tuft of leaves it throws up numerous stems 6 inches to 8 inches high, on which orange-yellow blossoms form a conspicuous mass.

The plant is of a somewhat straggling habit, therefore it is best to give it room to spread, and to use it in positions where its full beauty may be seen to advantage, as, for example, a stoned-in pocket in a low position, somewhere below the level of the eye. It is a good plant for the upper parts of the moraine.

It may be exposed to the hottest sun, although it does well in shade, without perhaps flowering so freely. The plant is not fastidious as to soil. If the soil is too rich the plant bears long leaves of a rich freshness and the flowers are partly hidden, but planted in sandy, gritty soil it will never fail to bloom profusely.

Old plants should be top dressed with open material worked well in and about the plant in spring, and be divided every three or four years. As the shoots trail along the ground and root as they grow, it is increased with the greatest ease. It is perfectly hardy, and may be used with good effect near the lower flanks of rockwork, or the angles of steps in the rock garden.

H. STEVENS.

An out-of-the-way corner made beautiful

Rock Gardens: A Retrospect

THE Editor has asked me to say a few words about rock gardens, past and present. Fortunately, I am not able to give personal recollections on the subject for more than about thirty years, so shall look at two or three books and go back to earlier dates than the occasion seems to demand, in order to see where we stand now.

I have been told of a Japanese book with a title something like "The Making of Little Mountains and Hills," by Moronobu—an artist of some 300 years ago, I understand. I have asked to see a copy at the British Museum, but, after over an hour's hunt, none was forthcoming. He is the first rock gardener I have heard of giving enough importance to the subject to write on it—though somebody may dig up some Chinese or Persian MS. as time goes on.

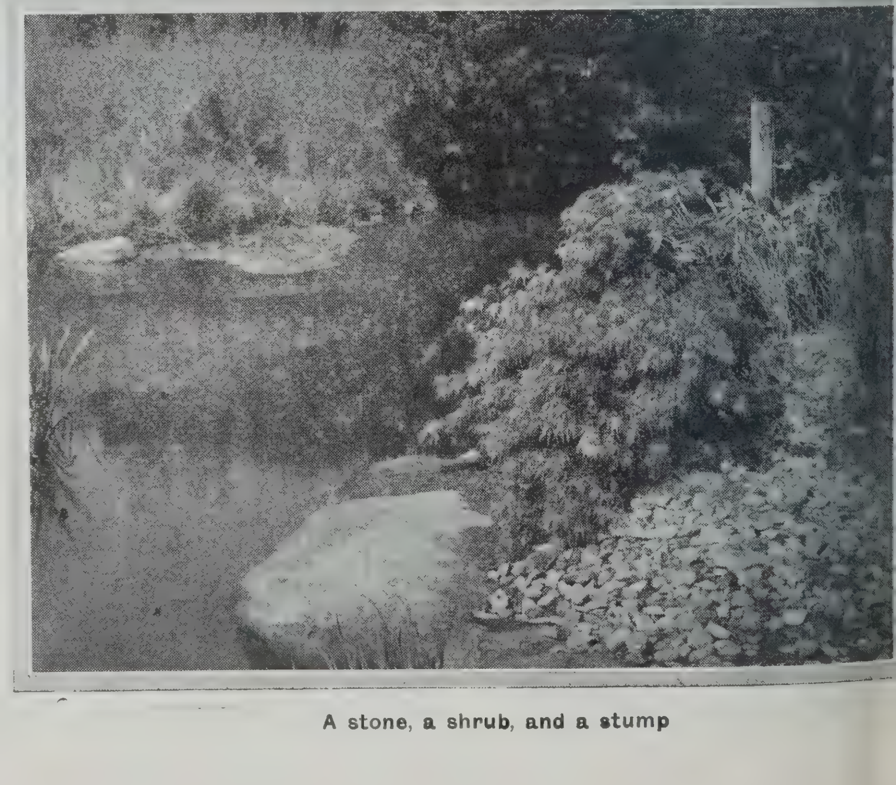
It is a long jump to Capability Brown and his semi-disciple, Repton, of the latter part of the 18th century, but that time was probably the first period of the rock garden, as such, in England. Repton ("*Observations on Landscape Gardening,*" *1803*) said: "The numerous class of rock plants should have beds of rugged stone provided, without the affectation of such stones being the natural production of the soil." This view seems to have been shared by a host of his followers, judging by the horrible erections which continued to be the vogue until the middle of that century. It shortly began to appear, however, that a rockery on natural lines would be more suitable to the growth of a big variety of plants, and probably people were getting tired of trying to grow things on the Doréesque grottoes, fearsome arches and punctated mounds of the early and mid Victorian days. A few of these are left—to mark the days of cheap labour and our easily-satisfied æsthetic senses—and to provide a home for the survivors of the fittest, *i.e.*, Aspidiums, Ground Ivy, and that magnificent but useless snail, the inedible escargot.

By the way, it might be noted that *all* countries were not at our sorry pass, for want of guidance, in this form of garden-craft. There are those delightful Japanese "sketch-books" (a more proper name would be "text-books") which are so much more explanatory of their beautiful designs in rock gardens than any plans could be. Where the customs of tradition have undoubtedly in many ways impeded human progress, the assiduous and reverential copying of their old masters in art has undoubtedly helped the Japanese nation to its high artistic credit of the present day. Even in their modern art, the Japanese make extensive use of old forms, and one can quite see that plentiful reference to their wonderful "sketch-books" can often determine the problem of a line,
path, or contour in the garden. A
copy is a better thing than a bad cre
though copying hardly leads to great m
advancement or initiative. And it ma
safely assumed that there is not now
form of modern craft in England that
not owe something to Japanese influen

Loudon (1834 to 1850) says rockwork
made or adorned by pieces of "congl
ated gravel, vitrified bricks and scoriæ,
shells, spar, or other earthy and hard m
bodies. Such works are, in general,
looked on more as scenes of culture th
design or picturesque beauty." On
picture Rudolph in the tight trousers
period kneeling on a couple of large
proposing to Anna, who is becoming
of the vitrified bricks underneath the
macassar, on which she is seated, i
"rock garden," the more "cultured"
of the premises. Loudon himself wa
doubtedly a man of most discrimi
taste; now and then a rather sarcastic
of his times, always truthful, and with
as much sense of humour as contem
readers could digest. He also says: "
works for effect of character require
consideration than most gardeners are
of. The first thing is to study the cha
of the country," etc., which shows th
heart, he was not in agreement
Repton's published opinions. In the
book (Loudon's "Gardening") is a
rock plants containing some species
sidered fairly showy even to-day.

Fifty years ago English intere
domestic gardening was beginning to
much greater power, and the second
of the last century sees us in a wond
advanced position. Nothing indicate
more plainly than our rock gardens.
have not, like the Arboretum, Orchid-
and large kitchen garden, become
names. Our knowledge of trees, O
and vegetables is greater than ever
but we do not cultivate the plants
used to do—the knowledge and the c
tion are in the heads and hands of spec

The rock gardens of round about fift
ago, really worthy of the name, are sti
seen in our larger gardens. Generally
ing, their preservation has been on acc
their undoubted artistic merit. Very



A stone, a shrub, and a stump

s's, even nowadays, such studied
s some of these beautifully "rocky"
rdens made of masses of quarried
Backhouses of York. Such large
ffects demanded suitably generous
ir schemes, so we had broad patches
erians, Sedums, Saxifragas, Campan-
ad Primulas—and many of them such
as we are glad to plant three or four
to a "patch."

dilation on old rock gardens may
very inconsistent with my previous
as to the "second jubilee . . . seeing
wonderfully advanced position." It
be remembered, however, that these
ckeries of 1880 were for the few who
uld and would afford them. There
ny distinctly *not* worthy of the name,
se must have far outnumbered the
It is only when one looks back on
four of the really fine ones, and their
l patches of Shortia galacifolia,
dium spectabile, Campanula Allionii,
pubescens and nivalis, and the like,
wonders if we, of this age of gar-
and rock construction, have much
talk. Inspiration there was too, and
f it. I often think one can get as
olid information and pleasure out of
e of an old author as from a chapter
sent-day writer. How inspiring were
ustrations, too! One of the later ones
s like—I think it is a frontispiece to
Flowers," by Wm. Robinson—a
of gentle slopes, with a number of
gns, each plant enjoying itself in its
ppy position. Mr. Robinson (the
of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED) has done
an can be measured to keep alive the
in our beautiful forms of outdoor
ng, and the scores of hardy plants
re now "making good" in our home
r.

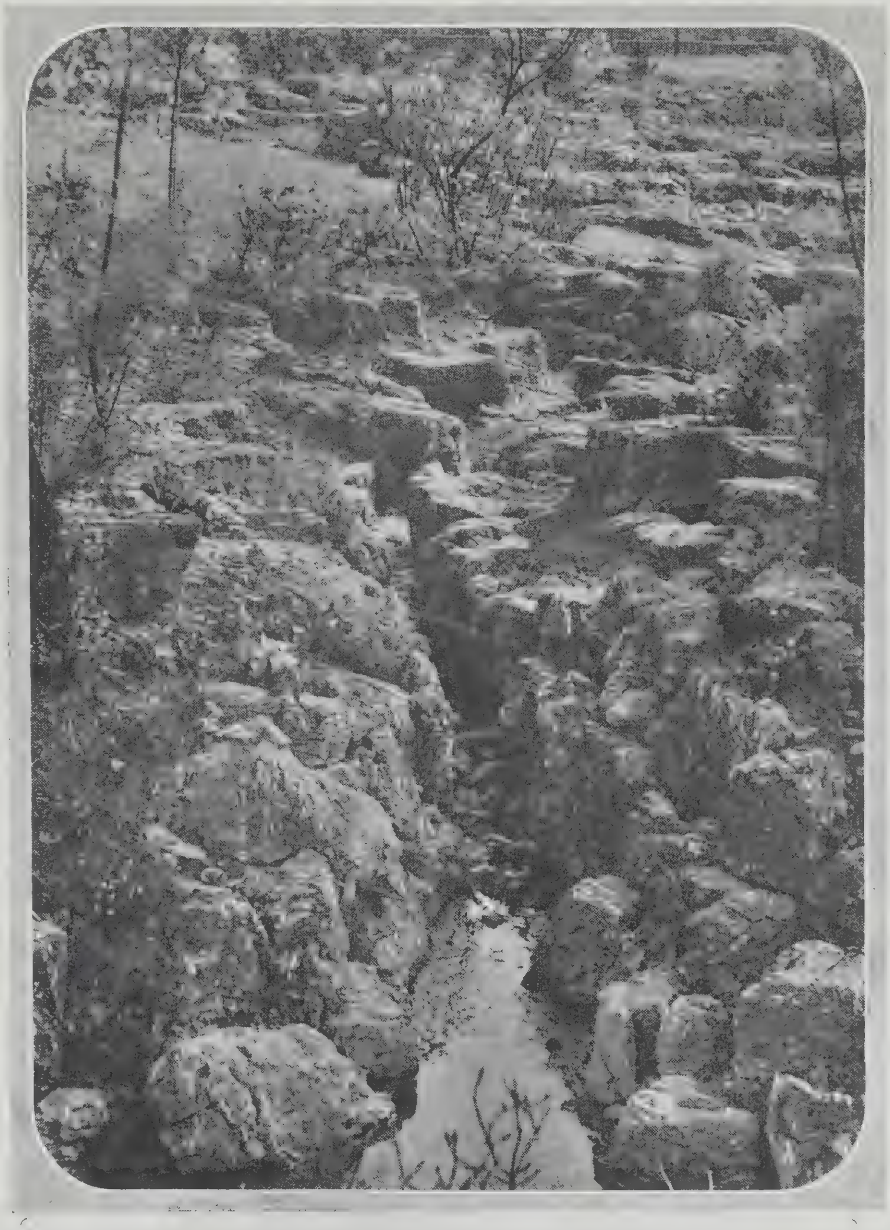
gardens will have a long run of
ty because they appeal to the many
and sides of the ordinary man's
I knew two gentlemen who, both in
ime, used to foregather every Tues-
Saturday night, each armed with a
ble quantity of written data in sup-
his arguments—just to discuss
vivums. These discussions were
heated, "proof" (*i.e.*, plants)
d every Sunday, and although the two
greed, yet any third party attempting
s referee invariably had a bad time—
always squashed forthwith. One of
ecialists died of ptomaine poisoning,
other shortly afterwards of a broken
I take this as only another example of
pelling way in which rock gardening
adays so engross a man's thought as
ively divorce his mind from the mere
etails of our everyday existence.

the Dawn of Beauty we pass on
the "plum-pudding" and the "false
periods, lingering somewhat, and far
in the "graveyard" or quartz age
90 or so, when people began using
ed stone in preference to the quarried.
red stone, in itself, suggests that we
t be so ambitious of mere height in
garden in order to get the desired
of effect as we are prompted to by
of quarried material. For we have
d a long good-bye to Repton, and the
demand in a rock garden is that it
definitely affect to be a natural out-
surrounding conditions, and not only
that it should assume the form of a
piece of natural scenery—alpine
s, stream, boggy patch, and moraine.
k garden is an adaptable quantity.
are even very discouraging town
, where neither grass nor border plants nor shrubs will flourish, which would still support a rockery and suitable plants. All that is needed is stone that will not blacken greatly nor become chalky, and plants which will put up a fair fight in spite of smoke and a possible lack of direct sunshine.

Probably 50 years hence our darkened squares will receive bright sunshine by means of reflectors, and we shall be able to grow Cistus and Calochortus in the depths of the "wells" formed by the walls of twenty-storied buildings. Speculation on the state of artistic development we are likely to arrive at by the end of the next 50 years makes me almost too excited to sit down and wait and see. Only last week I refused a flat with a "roof suitable for a rock garden." The cult of the alpine is becoming almost too hectic in town—though I do not see why roof gardens should not be made into rock gardens if we grow plenty of bulbs and plants not objecting to sun, wind, and drought, strictly avoiding all obviously impossible things.

J. WOOD.

[We are indebted to Mr. John Wood for the four delightful illustrations of rock and water gardens that accompany this article.—ED.]



An overflow ditch made interesting

Saxifraga crassifolia

This old Saxifraga, with its large cymes of light rose flowers in pendent masses, is useful for the rougher parts of the garden where a bold-leaved, vigorous-growing plant is required. The plants are most easy to propagate, simply lift and divide in early autumn when they become too large. An annual top-dressing of a little rotten manure is very beneficial. Although the typical plant is good and worth growing, there are numbers of varieties of this which deserve better and more prominent positions in the rock garden than can be given to vigorous-growing plants. S. crassifolia aureo-marginata, with its wonderful variegated foliage, is one of the best. Rubra has broad leaves, its deep rose flowers being thrown well above the foliage. Orbicularis is very good for a small rock garden. The leaves are of moderate size, the light rose-coloured flowers are most freely produced and thrown well above the foliage.

F. H.

Calanthes and How to Grow Them

AMONG winter-flowering plants few excel the deciduous Calanthes in beauty and utility. The name, derived from kalos = beautiful and anthos = flower, is peculiarly apt, particularly when applied to the section under mention.

The genus falls into two divisions—the evergreen and the deciduous.

Representatives of the evergreen forms are, unfortunately, rare under cultivation, though the purplish-flowered C. Masuca and the white-flowered C. veratrifolia were at one time comparatively common. Their flowers are set more closely together than those of the deciduous kinds, the inflorescence of which is an erect or arching spike, the upper portion carrying numerous flowers set clear of each other. All are characterised by a deeply cleft labellum, the fissures giving it the appearance of being four-lobed, while its base is attached to the edges of the column, forming, with the inner surface of that organ, a compressed, box-like, triangular cavity. The lip finishes in a slender, usually recurved, spur. The pseudo-bulbs of the persistent-leaved species are rather small and are sheathed by the leaf bases. In the others they are much larger, usually globosely pyramidal, and often with a central stricture.

A wild and wayward little stream joining forces with an older and more experienced one—on their way to the sea

The majority of the cultivated Calanthes are hybrids, and though 50 or more names have been applied to the different forms, but few species enter into their composition. Strictly speaking, many of the names must be regarded as synonyms, yet each form is distinct and has its own merits.

Probably no other Orchid exemplifies to the same extent the value of selecting and crossing different colour forms and varieties of the same or nearly allied species.

Practically all of them are derived from C. vestita and C. rosea, though two other allied species, rubens and labrosa, have also been used.

C. vestita is widely distributed, forms being found from India to Borneo. The flowers are white or creamy-white, with the cavity and basal portion of the lip varying from yellow to dark crimson.

C. Regnieri, from Cochin China, was at one time classed as a species, but is now placed under vestita. It differs from the type, in its stronger habit and its later flowering period. The spikes, too, are more erect, but the flower-carrying portion arches downward, and the flowers themselves are set more closely together, are slightly smaller, but more numerous, and usually flushed throughout with rose, darkest on the lip. As in the typical vestita, numerous forms occur which have received varietal and, in some cases, specific names.

Its stronger habit and slightly later flowering season have rendered it of value to the hybridist. Traces of it are seen in many of the present-day hybrids, and by its use the flowering season of Calanthes has been considerably prolonged, though this merit is possibly also partially due to a form of vestita known as gigantea.

C. rosea, labrosa, and rubens are less in habit and have smaller flowers than vestita. In each the flower-spike is erect and the prevailing colour is rose, rubens being the darkest.

C. Veitchii, the forerunner of Calanthe hybrids and still, perhaps, the most largely grown, was raised by Messrs. Veitch between rosea and vestita, and distributed as far back as 1860. It and the later hybrids may be said to have usurped the place of the species.

Derived from white and rose flowered species, Veitchii varies considerably and exhibits every gradation of rose.

Crossed again with one of its parents, vestita, C. Sedeni was produced by Messrs. Veitch in 1878. The original form is now probably lost sight of, as the parents, but in different varieties, have been used by several raisers.

Bella, Alexanderii, Halli, Harold, Mylesii, Oweniana, Phœbe, etc., are all forms of Sedeni, each differing in some respect, colour, size of flower, length of spike, duration, etc., and from a gardening point o
are worthy of distinguishing n
Harrisii is, perhaps, the best exa
Although it must be classed as a S
form, its distinct colour is rapidly bring
to the front. Naturally, most of the S
varieties resemble Veitchii in floral c
but Harrisii is usually pure white; occa
ally a slight flush is present, but it m
termed a white Calanthe, and, moreove
flowers are slightly larger and more sl
than in many of the other hybrids, so t
forms a most useful addition and contr
the usual colouring.

C. Bryan and William Murray, rais
the late Norman Cookson, Esq., are
derived from vestita and Regnieri, on
ing the reverse cross of the other.
flower slightly later than does Veitchii
for that reason, apart from their own d
tive value, are now largely grown.
pared with Veitchii the spikes are
taller. In Bryan the flowers are white,
a deep crimson eye. In Wm. Murray
are rose-flushed, the flush deepest on t

Butterfly, a hybrid of which the pare
has not been recorded, but which, ju
by its habit, was probably obtained fr
Regnieri form as one parent, flowers
later than C. Bryan and its variety.
sembles them in habit, but is even
stately, and as the sepals and peta
white, or nearly so, while the lip is
of a deep red, it contrasts with them,
when common, will probably be l
grown.

Among other good hybrids well
growing, but which at the present ar
very plentiful, are Ruby (Sedeni x ve
Chapmanii (Sedeni x Ruby), and A
(Chapmanii x Sedeni). A particularl
form of the latter, known as Bec
Variety, is, with the exception of a l
mark on the centre of the lip, wholly
deep crimson, so rich that one wo
knowing the species, how such deep c
ing can be evolved, though analogy is s
a few of the later Miltonia hybrids.

Given the requisite heat and head
Calanthes are by no means difficult to

The main facts to be remembered ar
when first potted—and Calanthes ne
potting every year—great care must be
with the watering until the root-act
well advanced.

The broad plicate leaves are en
when young, and during this state wa
moisture must not be allowed to lodge
growths or between the leaves. Ov
syringing should be avoided, at any
until the leaves are fully expanded.

A general compost can consist of
fibrous loam to which sand, crushe
brick, or crushed pots are added, m
less according to the retentive quality
loam. A little leaf-mould or chopped S
num Moss may also be included, bu
the compost and general treatment, pr
every successful grower has his own
ticular wrinkle or wrinkles, to whi
attributes much of his success. Wh
plants are in full growth and the pots
roots, manures in a liquid form may be
weak at first and occasionally, the st
and frequency being increased, parti
when comparatively small pots are us
the plants reach their maximum.

As the foliage turns yellow and fa
waterings must be made less and le
quently, but the bulbs must be kept p
After flowering the bulbs should be
in a dry place at a temperature near 6
Fahr. Stored in too cold a tempe
particularly when damp is present, th
often develop disease.

The bulbs may, with advantage, be
from their compost and placed on dr
in shallow boxes when stored. Th

P monaria confertum, a head of mauve flowers

Shown on May 7th

l looked over better, and at the first young growth in early spring re-

ch or 7-inch pot will usually accom- the largest bulb, the latest bulb being ed from the older one, which may potted and used for an increase of With careful growing spikes and are often produced but little inferior thrown by the new bulb.

E. Cooper.

ces from a Cornish garden

E plants, at any rate, of Primula eniana have survived being divided, are just showing, which leads me to iat the few fragments I sent to other en the autumn may be doing the same. tainly a surpassingly beautiful plant, igh authority wrote me the other day survival in cultivation depended on my efforts, so I am pleased, I wish it could be induced to set seed. writing the above I have heard that any rate, of the plants I sent to has survived, and that not the best am sure, for the other was sent to a

de Pompadour, the double crimson e, is looking better than it did last d is flowering sparsely, but another ust be tried for it, for evidently it is sued yet.

t to the spring flower show at Truro, ood show it was, despite the weather. Lord-Lieutenant's exhibit from s was, as usual, the best thing there, one wishes that the parentage of the seedling Rhododendrons had been stead of the non-committal " seed-" placed under most of them. There any beautiful things, and it is some- vidious to make a comparison, but ys which appealed most to me were hybrid of fastigiatum or impeditum blue Augustinii. This, so far as I er, has reached the height of 3 feet to 4 feet, and has lovely blue flowers intermediate in size between those of the parents. Besides this there were some very notable exhibits, Mr. Boscawen's flowering shrubs, Mr. P. D. Williams' hybrid Rhododendrons, Mr. Barclay Fox's species, and Miss Wingfield's spring flowers, to mention a few.

Miss Lavender Williams had a wonderful double purple Primrose and a beautiful old rose Anemone, which were both awarded a medal by the R.H.S. deputation.

The Warrington Park garden in North Cornwall was not represented, which was a pity, but its owner was busied with the election, and the other gardens in those parts had suffered badly from the frost and sent some lamentable exhibits.

The southern gardens, on the other hand, escaped almost scot free. I was staying in one of them, and had a pleasant couple of hours in another, and even the most tender plants were unspoilt. But even these were backward. No bloom of Rhododendron Aucklandii was shown, and only one bit of Embothrium coccineum, and that was not fully out.

Myosotidium nobile, the Chatham Island Forget-me-not, was well shown, and in the garden where I was staying there was a fine group of it with self-sown seedlings coming up round the old plants. It appears to appreciate a half-shady place with rich soil mixed with sea sand, and, if possible, Seaweed as a mulch. The other garden visited in the west really belongs more to the grand old gardener who has looked after it for more than 30 years than to its legal owner. The two hours I spent with him passed so quickly that it did not seem half the time, and I had to hurry back on my two-mile walk more rapidly than was pleasant to be in time for lunch. Not only did he know and love every plant in the garden, but he had the keenest artistic appreciation of the effect of light and shade, and of the place whence each shrub or tree showed at its best. He enjoyed the stem and bark of Laurus camphora, for instance, every bit as much as the magnificent bushes of Rhododendron, with which the place abounded.

A tree of Magnolia Campbellii, which had bloomed in February, was pointed out to me, and the fruiting Araucaria Bidwillii, but the latter was not really a good specimen, and if you wish to see it in perfect beauty it behoves you to go to the temperate-house at Kew. I am told that the cones contain no fertile seeds, and this may be so, but I should like to have examined one, for those of A. imbricata have, as a rule, a few good seeds among many bad ones, a characteristic, by the way, of Senecio clivorum. In my own garden there is a self-sown seedling of A. imbricata in a crack in the cliff of a quarry, where it has lived for many years without appreciably increasing in size. The seed must have fallen from one of a group of trees growing above.

On the same cliff there is a flourishing seedling of Thuya plicata and a number of Osmunda regalis, which, to say the least of it, is a curiosity as a rock plant.

On coming home I had to deal with some plants given me by kind friends, and this led to the weeding of a damp and shaded bed where but last year I had planted Meconopsis Baileyi and another Meconopsis from the Himalayas, probably paniculata. The former was growing well, but some of the latter had rotted at the crown. What a horrible thing is Acanthus mollis. A handsome plant, doubtless, with its large, glossy, lobed leaves and its curious inflorescence, but it is terribly invasive, and although I thought I had done away with it last year before planting the Meconopsis and Primula anisodora it was coming in on all sides. With the aid of a long-pronged fork I got up three large basketsful of its fleshy roots, but I should be an incurable optimist if I thought that it was finished with, for the aforesaid roots break easily and every bit appears to grow.

In spite of the frost this garden is very beautiful just now. Perhaps the most striking plants at the moment are a double pink Cherry almost in full flower and planted on a high bank overlooking the drive, whence one can look up at the blue sky through its flowers and delicate brownish leaves, and a bush of Rhododendron Dickson's Seedling, which, looked at across the valley, is very lovely. It is a Rhododendron I do not much admire in the hand, but isolated as it is and from a distance its great pink flowers make a beautiful picture.

" Peter the Hermit."

Eritrichium nanum, flowers cœruleum blue, extremely difficult to cultivate

The two choice Alpines illustrated on this page were shown by Mr. Roger Bevan, Crowsley Grange, Henley-on-Thames

Saxifraga oppositifolia

SAXIFRAGA OPPOSITIFOLIA is a native of this country, and one of which we are justly proud; for there are few Alpines which give a better display in the early spring months. We cannot claim all the credit, however, of fostering the Purple Saxifrage, for it is widely distributed; though many of the best forms have been found in the mountains of Scotland, Wales, Yorkshire, and the Lake District. It extends over the higher ranges of Europe and Asia (particularly the Alps), the Rocky Mountains, and the mountains of the Arctic Circle. Though occurring chiefly in the high alpine zone, where it reaches a height of 12,000 feet, it is occasionally found at a low level, as at Spitzbergen, where it grows at sea level. It appears first to have been described by Linnæus, who discovered it in the Lapland Alps in 1732.

One of the chief charms of S. oppositifolia is its prostrate habit and compact growth; and when once established, it forms a dense mat, which, in a good season, is quite obscured by a multitude of large, purple, cup-shaped flowers. Its much-branched stems are densely clothed with small, opposite, dark evergreen leaves, arranged in fours, each bearing a prominent chalk gland at its fleshy tip. The flowers are borne singly on stems, seldom, if ever, rising above 2 inches above the ground.

This is a most variable plant, and many distinct forms have been named, though some of the best are yet unnamed. In some districts many varieties are found, while one form may predominate over a large area A good white form has yet to be discovered. S. opp. var. alba is not outstanding, and its small, starry flowers, of a passable white, produced in great profusion, are easily spoiled by frost and rain.

The richest colour form is var. W. A. Clark, which has large, deep crimson flowers, arising from compact, rather upright branches. It is one of the latest to bloom, and has a strange habit of frequently producing four, or sometimes six, petals instead of five.

The rich purple flowers of var. coccinea are not red enough to justify its name. One of the largest-flowered forms is var. grandiflora, which is more vigorous than the type, and has elongated branches. Its flowers are a rosy-purple.

The typical form of the western and central Alps is var. Murithiana; the true plant has a weak and straggly habit, and does not flower freely; but a better form is sometimes sent out by nurseries under the name of var. pyrenaica. Between the true var. pyrenaica, however, and vars. major and maxima, there is little difference; all are robust growers, and have large crimson flowers. A rather erect form of pyrenaica, with very large rosy-lilac flowers, is known as var. pyrenaica superba, and comes from the Welsh mountains. A pale pink variety—var. pallida—was also discovered in Wales. Var. Rudolphiana is sufficiently distinct to be regarded as a separate species. One of the best forms is var. speciosa; of rather lax habit, its leaves are small, and its rich, rose flowers of exceptional size.

Another introduction from Wales is var. splendens, with bright, purple-crimson flowers, produced very freely. The Wetterhorn variety has a tight cushioned habit, while var. amphibia, in contrast, is a weak and straggly thing, and a feeble bloomer. Var. blepharophylla is very compact, with large, purple-rose flowers. Var. Northorstii varies from the type only in its leaves, which are arranged alternately, and thus has no right to a place in the species.

S. oppositifolia, with all its varieties, is easily cultivated. It is seen at its best in a mass on a sloping part of the rock garden, in partial shade, though it does well in full sun. The more compact varieties especially, are also seen to great advantage in the moraine. It is deep-rooting, and revels in a good depth of fairly light, gritty soil, with plenty of moisture (but never stagnant water) at the roots. In an over-rich soil, it tends to become coarse and elongated in growth, and so loses one of its essential charms. Its one drawback is an unfortunate tendency to die away in the centre when a clump has become nicely established; annual top-dressings of leaf soil and grit will counteract this to some extent; otherwise, the only remedy is to split up the clump into small pieces, and replant in fresh soil.

Propagation may be effected by division, seeds, and cuttings. An established plant resents disturbance and does not re-establish itself readily when split up unless divided into small pieces, which stand more chance of getting away. Cuttings may be taken in early summer, and seeds are best sown immediately they are ripe. Rooted cuttings and seedlings should be thoroughly established in pots before planting out in early spring.

E. K. LAWRENCE.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

How to arrange Violets

THESE charming little flowers are difficult to arrange. . . . Take an ordinary saucer and fill it with fresh Moss . . . previously well washed; build the Moss up in the form of a little mound in the saucer, keeping the fresh points of the Moss to the front, so as to make it look as fresh and velvet like as possible. The water should be well pressed out of the Moss, but enough moisture should be left in it to keep the flower stems placed in it fresh. Round the edge of the saucer Fern-fronds should be arranged, so as to hide the china, and for this purpose the tips of the common Brake Fern are best. Then take the Violet blooms and make them into bunches; say, eight or ten in each bunch; their stems should be then bound together with a piece of binding wire. The binding wire, besides keeping the stems together, makes them firm, and renders them capable of being bent into any position required. When as many of these little bunches are made as are considered to be sufficient, they should be dotted over the groundwork of green Moss. A few Snowdrops, if procurable, placed here and there amongst the Violets, produce a charming effect, and a mixture of white Violets also looks very well in an arrangement of this description. The addition of a few fronds of Maiden Hair Fern, too, tends to lighten the general effect. The Moss should be well damped every morning, and, if this be not forgotten, the Violets will keep fresh and emit their sweet perfume for many days.

The Mock Oranges

THE Mock Oranges or speci
varieties of Philadelphus are
the most beautiful of hardy
and are deservedly popular, being
rapid in growth, and beautiful in
The flowers, sometimes solitary or
a bunch, are of medium size, whi
some blotched with crimson, opening
and continuing until the end of July

There are numerous kinds, in
species, varieties, and hybrids, which
good deal in habit. Some attain m
dimensions, while others are dwarf
with rounded form; hence one may
claim that there are kinds suitable f
dens of all sizes and for almost
position in the garden. The small
growing varieties are excellent for t
garden, and even the larger types
utilised there when a bold mass is
for background.

It is essential in planting to forn
or moderately large masses of one
solitary plants in most instances los
of their beauty. Among the fuller
kinds the best-known is P. corona
Syringa. It is a native of S.E. Eur
Asia Minor, and hardy in all parts
British Isles. It forms a robust s
12 feet to 15 feet high, with slender,
stems, wreathed in early summe
yellowish white, fragrant flowers.
the most graceful is P. latifolius,
forms a large bush 15 feet to 20 feet hi
is one that may be planted as an
specimen. It has a slightly penden
its large blossoms being white,
powerfully scented. P. grandiflor
duces its white flowers in cluste
grows 10 feet to 12 feet high. Th
variety named laxus, which is of
habit than the type. It is not so
as some, but is notwithstanding a v
ful plant.

A newer and very beautiful speci
Delavayi, introduced a few years sin
China. It is graceful in flower an
reaches 10 feet high, and bears clu
fragrant white flowers.

P. microphyllus, a native of C
makes a densely branched, compa
from 3 feet to 4 feet high, an
solitary, white, fragrant flowers. T
duction of this species undoubtedly d
for the genus.

For the ancestor of our moderr
delphus we are indebted to M. Lem
Nancy, who experimented with th
and raised numerous varieties whi
his name. P. microphyllus and
narius are the varieties from whi
hybrids come, and are by far the n
portant class. There are single an
flowered forms in this genus. Th
flowered sort seems to be the
favourite. The blooms last longer,
I think they lack the elegance of th
forms. Amongst single flowered
there are Pavilion Blanc, Coup d
and Avalanche. P. purpureo-macu
a pretty shrub of medium size. T
blossoms are stained with crimson.
with double flowers include Rosac
d'Argent, and Virginal.

The Mock Oranges will grow in a
garden soil, best in full sunshine.
gross feeders a top dressing of rotted
will be helpful. The dwarf kinds s
pruned annually, the old wood be
away and the young growth thi
necessary. The vigorous kinds may
to shape when desired.

Cuttings put in during July, und
of a hand-light, usually give a g
centage of rooted plants. These sh

in open quarters the following when in about two years they should eat little flowering bushes.

H. Stevens.

ech and African Marigolds

ltivating the French Marigold, the l aim is to secure blooms of an evenly nature, this being essential where the ard is concerned. Many growers fail re this result because they plant on h a soil in the first instance, the ending to the production of flowers less brown in colour. In poor loam, the other extreme, *i.e.*, yellow flowers defined stripe, and so it follows that st strike a happy medium, and it is better to plant this type on compara- y oor, but well dug, soil. In this con- o, one of the best results we have seen ained on an old Strawberry bed. The ere trenched in and no manure was d but the soil contained a certain of mellow richness, from previous rry mulches, which seemed just right. st flowers from this treatment were inting, yellow predominating, but by feeding, week by week, they ced the desired stripe, and many first were gained by the owner in open tion from these plants.

African Marigold requires different nt, and a rich, medium, well drained For exhibition purposes, the plants stand 18 inches apart, and the height of growth, sufficient e must be given. This plant forms nasses of roots, which lie near the , so when watering is necessary it must thoroughly, so that it reaches the s. A check from dryness at the root is se of malformed blooms. To pro- rge, perfect blooms, not more than five stems should be allowed on each t disbudding also to one bud on each

the bud formation stage, a dose of quid manure, say once a week, will eneficial, this being varied between and inorganic manures. Frequent is also advisable, but we must not go r the plants.

D. McI.

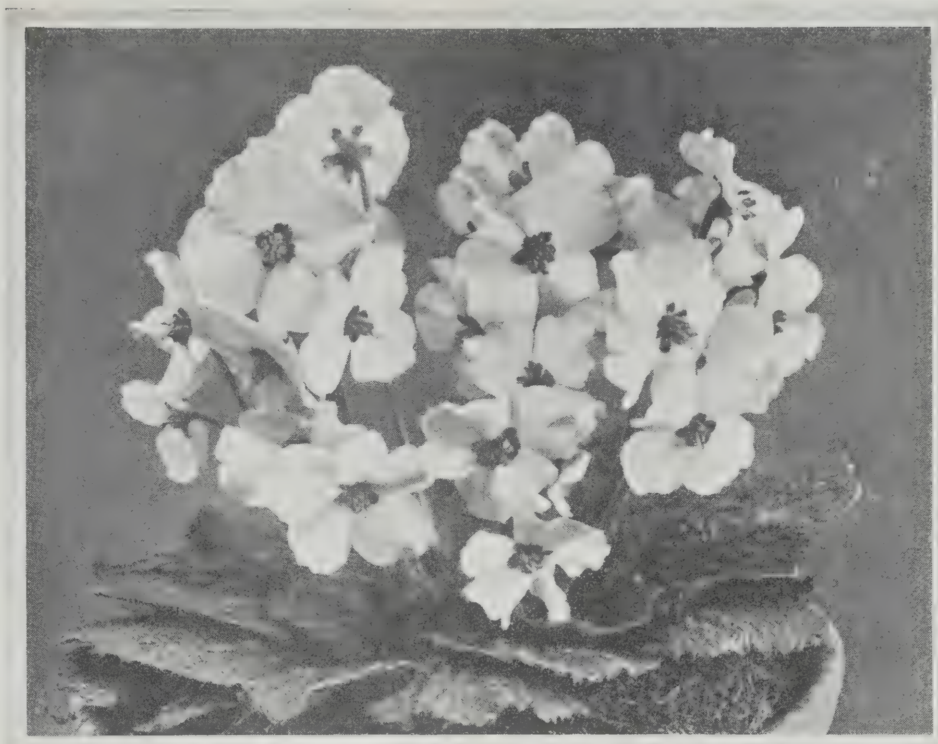
etunias for the garden

e large quantities of summer-flowering are required for beds or borders, the eautiful varieties of Petunia that are y raised from seed are most useful, of easy culture, of quick, luxuriant and most persistent bloomers. They equire comparatively little space glass. Seeds sown in pans or boxes, ced in an ordinary Cucumber frame ch, should, if the young plants be off and gradually hardened, be good l by the end of May. The purple and e varieties are very effective, and rosy are well adapted for back rows in ry borders or centres of large beds.

ms : Why they sometimes fail

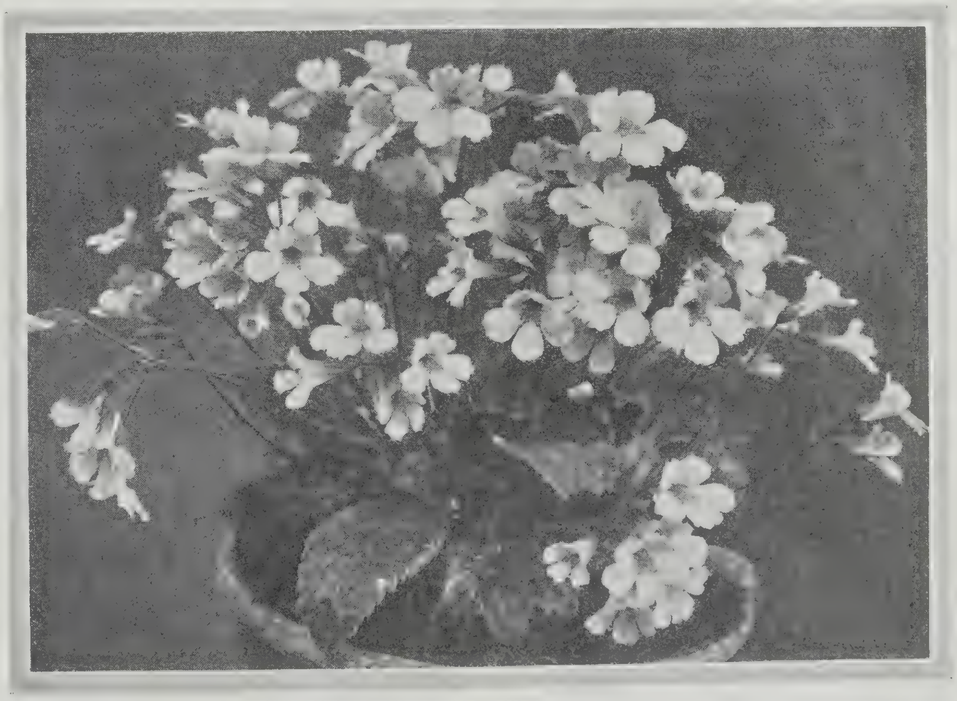
as are looked upon by many as half nnuals that may be planted out along hers during May. It would be more cor- t designate them tender annuals which genial conditions of temperature doors before consigning them to beds rders. They look robust from the ance of their foliage, when actually e not so, and should not be planted r final quarters until they have first radually inured to cooler conditions. evel in warmth and sunlight, and for this reason ought to be given place on a border where they can receive shelter from cold winds, which often play havoc among them should planting be done too early. The Zinnia is such a charming annual, however, blooming for a long time, and makes such a splendid show in a garden, that it is wise to defer putting them in the open ground until the last moment. Growing them for the first time, one does not appreciate that it is often better to put off planting outside until about the first week in June. We may be anxious to complete our planting arrangements, and get everything out of hand, but so far as these annuals are concerned it is policy to proceed with caution.

Leahurst.



Ramondia Nathaliæ (R. serbica) (Award of Merit)

A seedling shown in a 10-inch pan and carrying 12 inflorescences (others to follow), with expanded large mauve flowers. The leaves of this Serbian species are less hairy than those of the better known R. pyrenaica, and the flowers are larger



Haberlea Ferdinandi-Coburgi

A magnificent and well-flowered plant with about 30 inflorescences. Flowers Streptocarpus-like pale mauve, deeper hue on the outside of the corolla. The two Gesnerads illustrated on this page were shown by Mr. Mark Fenwick in the collection which gained for him the Sewell Medal awarded on May 7th for six pans of Alpine plants shown by an amateur

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENTS

A new cultivator

The Holt cultivator, which is claimed to take the drudgery out of gardening, is a patent scarifier having several advantages. It is extremely light and is made with either three or five prongs, which do not damage root fibres when in use. We learn that it is securing a good sale at various London stores. Particulars can be obtained from the patentee, Mr. W. G. Holt, 168, St. Albans Road, Watford.

Signalling sundial

A very novel sundial is offered by the John Holmes and Sun Timekeepers, of Manchester Street, Brighton. It is known as the "cannon sundial," and signals the hour by the sun firing a small cannon operated by the concentrated rays through a lens. It is very handsomely made with a 10-inch brass plate.

Graded lawn correctives

Baird and Tatlock, the well-known chemical apparatus manufacturers, are offering their services for the analysis and renovation of lawns. Their lawn correctives are specially graded, and they request a small specimen of the actual lawn with the first order. This piece of sod will be carefully analysed and a mixture supplied which is best adapted to that particular soil.

A new powder spray

Some special mention must be made of a newcomer to the XL All ranks—XL All Nicotine Dusting Powder. This is an impressively fine light powder, containing 3 per cent. nicotine, for use in ordinary sprayers. Besides the usual advantages of dry spraying—elimination of water haulage, speed, etc.—it is an exceptionally efficient insecticide.

Aids to seed raising

Chase Continuous Cloches, which have proved of the utmost value in raising early spring crops of all sorts, are of more particular interest at this time of year for summer and autumn sown crops of salads, vegetables, Sweet Peas, etc., sown in the open ground, protected with the cloches and thus carried safely over the winter. At Chelsea will be also shown Chase Alpine Clips and Chase Alpine Protectors, which have proved invaluable for protecting "miffy" rock plants from excessive wet in winter.

NEW CATALOGUE

Greenhouses

Sharp Bros. and Knight, Ltd., of Burton-on-Trent. Folder illustrating their horticultural buildings and framing. Sectional drawings of the various parts of greenhouses are included.

The Flame Flower

This is one of our showiest flowering Creepers; its innumerable vermilion flowers, surrounded by an exuberance of pale green foliage, always command attention. Many of those who have tried to grow it have been disappointed at the meagre results attained.

I have seen it stated that it cannot be grown in the west of England, but this is not correct, for I have come across several good specimens in this part, covering walls with long trailing shoots and flowers. In every case they were planted on an east wall and the borders had lime rubble worked into them, which the plant greatly likes. In colder localities and in Scotland it thrives wonderfully, growing with the freedom of a weed. F. H.

Sowing small seeds

Some flower seeds are very small, and in a general way they give the most trouble. The covering of soil must be very thin, consequently the seeds are more exposed to atmospheric fluctuations than when a thicker covering can be used. The difficulty is to preserve the compost in a uniform state of moisture without frequent waterings. In a general way seeds would germinate with certainty if the soil needed no moistening from the time of sowing. Every time seeds are watered there is a slight check. The pots should be well drained, but not to the extent of causing the moisture to pass away rapidly. As long as the compost remains open and sweet that is all that is needed. Fill with nice, free soil to within an inch of the rim and thoroughly moisten the compost. Surface this with very fine, sandy soil nearly up to the rim, press the seeds in with a flat piece of board, water gently, and cover with a slight sprinkling of very fine, well-sanded soil. On this put a piece of paper, and on this a pane of glass. Place under a handlight and shade from the sun. When young, plants appear remove the paper and give a little air, increasing this gradually until the seedlings are well up, when the glass can be removed. Care must now be taken lest the soil becomes dry, and hot sun must be kept off for a time. Progress will in a great measure depend on the care bestowed in the earliest stages of growth. J. CORNHILL.

Division of Hollyhock roots

The flowers produced by those plants that send up too great a number of spikes lack the vigour and appearance which usually characterises the blooms. In all such cases the old root should be lifted in spring, and with a sharp knife split down the middle, making two portions. In some cases, where there is abundance of both head and root, there may be three or more divisions made. The soil where these root portions are to be planted should previously have been well forked over and a little well-rotted manure worked in. Although the Hollyhock is a greedy feeder the manuring should not be overdone; it is better to give a liberal top-dressing during summer than to mix a large quantity with the soil, in contact with the roots. Large amounts of water must be given during summer, which will wash down the nutritious properties of the top-dressing to the roots. The result of this treatment of Hollyhock root divisions will be seen next year in fine, well-formed spikes. F. H.

Nicotiana affinis

This is easily grown, and will take care of itself where many other less useful plants would not. Seed should be sown early in the spring, and when placed in a warm house the young plants soon appear, requiring to be pricked off when they have made two or three good-sized leaves. For this purpose I prefer a frame, as if put in pots or boxes they are apt to get dry at a time when there are many other things wanting careful attention. They will grow in almost any soil, but a good, rich loam produces the best flowers and plenty of clean foliage.

This plant is called a half-hardy annual, but I prefer not to plant it in the borders till all danger of frost is over, unless ample protection can be given. If wanted to flower early a few of the strongest plants can be potted, placing three in a 24 pot. Grow them in a house till they begin to show the flower-spikes. They can then be removed to the conservatory, where they are not only very attractive, but the fragrance of the expanded flowers is much appreciated. They are also very useful for cutting for room decoration. They are not injured by packing, as flowers are, as they are folded up wher are cut early in the morning and open evening when they are most wanted.

"Copseham," Esher. JAMES A. PA

Jasminum primulinum

This beautiful shrub does not seem very successful outdoors in this countr is not, perhaps, unduly tender, but is bloomer, no doubt owing to lack of suf sun. All along the South of France it of the commonest of garden shrubs an rich yellow of its very large, semi-d flowers, in such striking contrast to the green foliage, there affords a remar effect throughout the later winter and s months. Occasionally it may be seen well in our more westerly counties, an spring it flowered at Bettws y Coed i late Mr. E. Charles Buxton's fine old ga

J. primulinum was introduced by M Veitch in 1900 and it bloomed for th time in this country a year later a Coombe Wood Nursery. But it was treated as a cold greenhouse shrub, a such it is doubtless a remarkably good Still, in the south or south-west it oug prove satisfactory against a really sunn or rock. Along the Mediterranean it well in both limy and siliceous soils. closely allied to our winter Jasmine (J. florum), but is larger in all its parts strong grower under congenial conditi

A. T. JOHNS

Addresses often wanted

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
F. R. DURHAM, C.B.E., M.C.,
tary), Vincent Square, Westmi
London, S.W. 1.

THE NATIONAL ROSE SOCIETY (Mr. COU
PAGE, *Secretary*), 28, Victoria
London, S.W. 1.

THE NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM S
(Mr. CHAS. H. CURTIS, *Secretar*
Tavistock Street, Covent Garden,
don, W.C. 2.

THE NATIONAL SWEET PEA SOCIETY
A. C. BARTLETT, *Secretary*), 19, B
Chambers, London, W.C. 2.

THE NATIONAL DAHLIA SOCIETY (Mr.
CHITTENDEN, *Secretary*), "Mer
Colborne Way, Worcester Park, S

THE BRITISH CARNATION SOCIETY (Mr.
Alesworth, *Secretary*), 17, Avenue
Isleworth, Middlesex.

THE IRIS SOCIETY (Mr. G. L. PILKIN
Secretary), Lower Lee Woolton,
Liverpool.

THE BRITISH GLADIOLUS SOCIETY (Mr.
AMOS, *Secretary*), 10, Bergholt
Colchester.

THE BRITISH FLORISTS' FEDERATION
CHAS. H. CURTIS, *Secretary*
Tavistock Street, Covent Garden,
don, W.C. 2.

THE NATIONAL CARNATION AND P
SOCIETY (Mr. A. E. AMOS, *Secretar*
Bergholt Road, Colchester.

THE GARDENERS' ROYAL BENEVOLEN
STITUTION (Mr. GEO. J. INGRAM,
tary), 92, Victoria Street, L
S.W. 1.

THE ROYAL GARDENERS' ORPHAN FUN
A. C. BARTLETT, *Secretary*), 19, B
Chambers, Covent Garden, L
W.C. 2.

THE UNITED HORTICULTURAL BENEFI
PROVIDENT SOCIETY (Mr. A. C.
Secretary), 35, Alexandra Road,
Kensington Park, London, W. 14.

Answers to Queries

—Queries and answers are inserted in ING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre- ts follow these rules: All communications e clearly written on one side of the paper id addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING TED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London,* 4. *Letters on business should be sent to the* R. *The name and address of the sender uired in addition to any designation he ire to be used in the paper. When more e query is sent, each should be on a piece of paper; the name and address dded to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FRUIT

marks on Peaches

.).—This appears to be a bad case of ing, and may have been caused by the which they are growing having been sed until too late in the morning. In stances the whole house and every- contains becomes coated with mois- d unless air is then admitted with caution, *i.e.*, a little at first and then adually, such a result is certain. We nown houses of Grapes to be abso- ruined from the same cause. The sult may arise through gross neglect the ventilators on a sunny day, and it also arise from an overdose of arti- manure. Syringing would not harm or their leaves, providing the house osed in the afternoon immediately it ne. Such syringing should not, how- carried out before 4 o'clock at the time.

ting Strawberries

.O.).—The Strawberry is a plant that r in normal weather fails to become e and so far as we are aware there are rtain" methods by which the process omplished. The male and female n are in the same flower, so that is, of one of the reasons why this plant as such a good record in the matter of ion.

Hambro Vine

.W. W.).—You do not say what area ine is intended to cover, so we will e that it is to be grown as a single m floor to top of house. To do this, ge the leading shoot to extend as far sible until the top of the house has ached. Sufficient shoots only should on each side of the rod, and opposite ther where possible, to give you a f about 2 feet from shoot to shoot, or e known as laterals. Thus you have nal rod with laterals on each side at apart, all buds between these laterals pulled off. Tie these laterals down ly and pinch their tips out at two eyond the bunch of fruit. Should no ow this year they must be pinched at rom the rod, all side shoots developing be stopped beyond the first leaf. Your ust be to create strong, fruiting s at regular intervals along the rod, sure of the lower ones first. When in winter shorten back the leading t to within 3 feet of the last pair of branches formed this year, otherwise l have bare lengths devoid of lateral s. The Hop manure you mention is good substitute for stable manure.

and Nectarine trouble

ein).—Your specimens are affected each Leaf Curl, which is caused by the Exoascus deformans. The disease is lesome one, especially to growers of s and Nectarines out of doors. The have a lot to do with the amount of Leaf Curl present in any one season; , wet seasons the disease is always more prevalent. There is only one method of control, and we are afraid that you are too late to adopt it for this season. You should spray the trees immediately before the buds begin to swell towards the end of February with Burgundy Mixture:—Copper sulphate, 2½ lbs.; sodium carbonate, 2¾ lbs.; water, 12 gallons. The copper sulphate and sodium carbonate should be dissolved in separate wooden vessels and mixed together when completely dissolved. A second spray should be given four or five days after the first. The whole tree should be coated with the Burgundy Mixture, not excluding the whole of the buds. You will find that the leaves produced later this season will be free from the disease, but the disease will reappear each spring unless spraying is carried out. Quassia and soft-soap spray has no effect on this disease.

Vine mildew

Is it possible to have a vinery "pre-disposed" to mildew? I have a cold house which has had the trouble for three years running, and last year very badly. This winter the Vine was peeled and scrubbed with Gishurst Compound, and at the moment the Vines are beautifully healthy. I shall be very glad if you will tell me of any further steps I can take to prevent the disease before it appears, or of the best plan to adopt should it show itself. I might add that the house was thoroughly cleaned and painted this winter.

"NIL DESPERANDUM."

[We do not think that a vinery can be "pre-disposed to mildew," but badly built houses often give rise to the right conditions to enable the fungus to spread rapidly if it appears. In the case of Vine mildew great care must be taken with the ventilation of the house. Air should be given early and gradually increased as the temperature rises; draughts must be avoided. With a cold house the trouble usually becomes epidemic during a period of dull, wet weather. If the house was heated fire-heat could be used to keep the atmosphere buoyant. You have cleared up the house well, and with care you should be able to keep it more or less free from mildew this year. You would be wise to anticipate the fungus and keep the foliage dusted over with one of the fine sulphur dusting powders by means of sulphurator. If the disease becomes really troublesome you should use a sulphur vaporiser apparatus, but caution is needed and the instructions issued with the apparatus should be carefully followed.]

Marie Louise Pear not fruiting

In February, 1927, I planted a three-year-old fan-trained Marie Louise Pear against a S.W. wall, and last year it put on a good growth, but there was no bloom. In December early of last year I mulched the base with stable manure, more as a protection through the winter after a dry spring and summer, and again this year it has grown considerably and is now full of foliage, but there is no trace of blossom anywhere. The soil is not too rich, as each side of it is a Jargonelle and Doyenne du Comice, both of which bore several fruits last season and are full of bloom again just now. Can you advise me what to do to remedy the trouble?

"SUSSEX DOWNS."

[This Pear is very unreliable as regards cropping and may miss two or three seasons, ultimately producing a crop of good fruit. You might apply a light dressing of superphosphate to your soil at intervals of five weeks. Keep the tree mulched during the summer months and exposed during winter, and you should ultimately be rewarded with a crop.]

Scale on Peach trees

(Anxious).—We have had no experience with the insecticide you mention at the temperature given. The best remedy we know is paraffin emulsion forcibly sprayed on all parts of the trees, especially the undersides of the leaves. The emulsion is more effectual if mixed with warm water at about 120 degs. Fahrenheit. Repeat the process every month until the trees are free of this pest. Do not spray when the sun is shining brightly, evening or early morning being the most suitable time. You could, if you specially desire, test the insecticide you mention on a section of one tree and watch results. The winter treatment was quite correct.

Gooseberry leaf Cluster Cup

(Merlin).—Your Gooseberries are affected with Cluster Cup. Please see reply *re* the same trouble on page 322 of our issue of May 11th.

ROSE GARDEN

Marechal Niel Rose unsatisfactory

(R. W. W.).—Your trouble appears to be due to the house having been kept at too high a temperature for the Rose, and possibly over-feeding. Keep the house as cool as possible, remembering that all you need do to grow Roses successfully is to keep out frost, water only when needed, and keep the plants clean. Roses grown in excessive heat are never satisfactory, but grown in a temperature averaging from 45 degs. to 50 degs. excellent flowers are obtained. Air should be admitted with great care and through the top ventilators only up to the middle of May, when a more generous airing may be given, and some shade should be given during hot weather.

FLOWER GARDEN

Plants for a north-west border

(C. R. Coppack).—Suitable plants for such a position would include the Plume Poppy (Bocconia cordata), Anchusa italica var. Pride of Dover, Bupthalmum speciosum, Pyrethrum uliginosum, Artemesia lactiflora, Campanula lactiflora, and C. latifolia alba, Michaelmas Daisies in variety, Torch Lilies of which C. M. Prichard, Mount Etna, and Russells Gold are excellent varieties, Lilium pardalinum and L. Henryi, Helianthus Miss Mellish, Aconitum Wilsoni, Senecio clivorum, Verbascums in variety, Lythrum salicaria Perry's Variety, and Œnothera lamarckiana at the rear of the border, the front being filled in with small groups of the following:—Mertensia virginica, Spiræas, such as palmata, Davidii, Queen Alexandra, etc., Lysimachia vulgaris, Lychnis chalcedonica, Herbaceous and Tree Pæonies, Iris sibirica in variety, Trollius Orange Globe, Lemon Queen, and sinensis, Thalictrum flavum glaucum, Funkias, Fortunei gigantea and subcordata grandiflora, Centaurea montana, Sedum spectabile, dwarf Campanulas, Tufted Pansies, Geums, Hemerocallis, Montbretias, Polemonium cœruleum, Œnothera missouriensis, Geum Mrs. Bradshaw, Pulmonaria azurea, Polygonum campanulatum, Acanthus mollis, Geranium armenum, G. ibericum, G. Endressi, Epimedium sulphureum, Camassia esculenta, Ranunculus acris fl.-pl., Solomon's Seal (Polygonatum officinale), Papaver orientale var. Goliath, King George, Marie Studholme, and Perry's White, Mimulus cardinalis, M. cupræus var. Dazzler, and some of the Lupins of the polyphyllus type might be tried. Yes, the Roses would form a very suitable background to the plants, and this would admit of a path being left against paling fence as you suggest. The following Roses would be found to succeed:—Alberic Barbier, Gloire de Dijon, Reve d'Or, Paul's Scarlet Climber, and Lady Waterlow.

Good fragrant perennials

(H. E.).—The following are all good border plants, and the flowers are more or less scented:—Asperula odorata (Woodruffs), has the scent of new-mown hay, will grow in shade—it has white flowers; Wallflowers in variety, Clematis Flammula, white, charming and rustic. The Honeysuckle and White Jasmine also should be included. Lily of the Valley indispensable; Daphne Cneorum, purplish-rose, a charming plant for a rockery; Pinks and Carnations in variety; Funkia grandiflora, white; Dictamnus Fraxinella, red and white; double white Rocket, Hyacinths in variety, Lavender, Rosemary, and Southernwood are charming in a garden where fragrance is sought. Lilies in variety, Lupinus polyphyllus, white and purple; Malva moschata, white; Musk, Monarda didyma, Narcissus in variety, Pæonies (some of the newer sorts are very fragrant), Phlox in variety, Primulas, Violets, Thyme. Then there are many annual flowers which ought to be included, especially Mignonette, Sweet Peas, Ten-week and Brompton Stocks, and the Night-scented Stock is very fragrant when the sun goes down. The scented Tobacco (Nicotiana affinis) gives off a pleasant perfume in the evening also. Roses also in variety should be included in a garden of this kind.

Peacock Iris

(Miss A. E. Ross).—Yes, plant out your bulbs in good soil now to permit of their making proper growth, and also to get ripened off. Lift and repot before severe weather sets in, as this plant is not really hardy in all districts. After planting, shade from the sun for some days to permit of the plants taking fresh root in the new soil.

Mother-of-Thousands

(P. G. Y.).—The plant, "Mother of Thousands," referred to in a recent issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, is Saxifraga sarmentosa, not Linaria cymbalaria, which is Kenilworth Ivy. Kenilworth Ivy is, however, sometimes referred to as "Mother of Thousands." This is one of the many instances of misleading popular names.

Hyacinths failing

I am sending with this note four Hyacinth bulbs for your opinion as to their failure to bloom. I planted a bed of 75 of the large bulbs, and nearly the whole of them have failed to produce roots and, of course, blooms. The small bulb is one of a number which also utterly failed. HENRY R. INMAN.

[It is difficult to account for the failure of the Hyacinth bulbs to make roots. We have examined the specimens and cannot find a trace of fungus likely to be the cause of the trouble. One of two causes may be at the base of the trouble. Some soil insect, such as cutworms or leather jackets, may have eaten the roots as they were produced, or some cultural error may be operating. If soil insect attack is responsible a good soil insecticide would probably help you, but it

(Continued on page 348)

Choice Trees and Shrubs in the Exeter Nurseries

WITH two hours to wait in Exeter how could time be better employed than in visiting the old-established nurseries of Robert Veitch and Son, Ltd.? The nurseries are situated within a few minutes' walk of the heart of the city of Exeter.

On entering the nursery gates large Magnolias were seen in flower on both sides of the main walk. These nurseries have long been noted for their Magnolias, and we shall always remember the pride with which the late Mr. Peter Veitch used to bring up cut blooms of Magnolias to the meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society. The Magnolias flowering so freely in the main walk were M. speciosa (white), Soulangeana (pink and purple veined), alba superba, salicifolia (white), and Lennei (rosy-purple). In a sheltered corner of this nursery stands a fine old tree of the early pink-flowering M. Campbelli. It is interesting to record that the Magnolia Veitchii which gained the F.C.C. R.H.S. in 1921 was raised in these nurseries. The flowers of the hybrid are of a lovely blush-pink and are produced with greater freedom than on Magnolia Campbelli, one of its parents. The collection of Magnolias at Exeter and at the branch nursery at Exminster is unique, no less than 35 species and varieties are grown, all of which are described in the useful catalogue of trees and shrubs issued by this firm.

The illustrations on the page opposite show some of the Magnolias in bloom and other interesting shrubs, as Viburnum Bitchinense, Osmanthus Delavayi, and Pieris (Andromeda) Taiwanensis, the latter growing in quantity in nursery rows with other peat-loving or lime-hating plants, as Clethras Vacciniums, Kalmias, and Gaultherias.

It was a busy time in the nursery. Rhododendrons were being grouped and packed for the Rhododendron Show, while other plants were returning from the Truro Spring Show, and Miss Veitch, who has charge of the nursery since her father's death, was supervising the work.

On entering the greenhouses we were greeted by many pleasant surprises. Here were to be seen a large batch of four or five year old seedlings of that rare and difficult plant, Telopea truncata. In another house was a large batch (imported) of Daphne Genkwa and groups of Illicium anisatum, Pentapterygium serpens, Lagerstrœmia indica, Diosmas, Theas or Tea plants, Grevillea puniceus in flower, and the hardier and very beautiful Grevillea oleoides. Dendromecon rigidum was flowering well in company with Eugenias, Pomaderris elliptica, P. phylicifolia, Olearia semi-dentata, and O. insignis. In another house we saw a group of that old-world plant, Geranium tricolor, with flowers red, black, and white in well-defined colours.

One house was full of Kurume and other Japanese Azaleas in full bloom. Here were seen the brilliant Hexe, Mikado, rosea, Hinodegiri, Hinomayo, japonica, Yodogawa (double, lavender), but the best of the bunch was Koran, with Hose-in-hose flowers of clear scarlet-pink.

One greenhouse wall was literally white with the fragrant flowers of Rhododendron Gibsoni, a tender Rhododendron that reminded us of the variety Lady Alice Fitzwilliam.

In these brief notes we have mentioned only a very few of the good plants that caught the eye on the occasion of a recent
pleasant visit to these renowned and int
ing nurseries. H.

Some homely flowers and their

Despite the frost penetrating many i
into the ground, self-sown Marigold
making their appearance in many c
gardens. The flower is bright, clear
attractive, and if the seedlings are
thinned to about 6 inches, nice bushy
are provided, continuing in flowe
through the season until autumn fros
is only of late years, however, so far a
district is concerned, that the flowers
been used for wine-making, a drink
seems decidedly popular. Another
used for a similar purpose in our part
county is Salvia Sclarea, known loca
Clary. Nasturtium, both dwarf and
ing, are as popular as the Marigolds
seed of these is generally saved be
although self-sown plants come up
they are more susceptible to frost, and
to be cut down if making a too early a
ance. Seeds of these are appreciated
pickled form, or as a substitute for C
The Cornflower is another welcome c
garden plant, and, if thinned out like
golds, makes a brave show in its dif
colours. There is a garden near here
Lilium candidum does remarkably wel
groups of Cornflowers interspersed w
have a very pleasing effect. The val
self-sown seedlings is shown this seaso
fine batch of Royal blue Forget-me-no
came up round a few plants that had
laid in in a sheltered spot. Not a
Wallflower was left after the long sp
frost was over, and so the Myosotis has
in very handy to associate with the
Polyanthus. E. BURR

Crocus tommasinianus

Crocus tommasinianus, like most
early flowers, was late this year, and i
it was in bloom nearly a month sooner.
a very charming Crocus with moderate
flowers of a beautiful shade of lav
sometimes called "sapphire-lavender,'
when open to the sun, is especially
There are said to be white varieties, b
far, none of these have come my way,
not appear to be in commerce. The
also purple varieties, and one good
named Whitewell Purple, but I confes
I prefer the typical one. This Crocus
from Dalmatia and Servia, and is repo
have been introduced in 1847. C. tom
ianus is quite hardy and looks deligh
the grass or in the rock garden or bord
good groups. It is not expensive.
afraid that mice might have destroye
corms which flowered with me last ye
some of these pests were seen from t
time near by, but I am glad to see tha
had evidently found something more t
mind and left the Crocuses alone, whic
remarkable, as they have a special liki
Crocus corms. S. ARN

Sow Calceolarias

The large-flowered herbaceous C
larias have still a number of admirers
are, indeed, handsome and showy whe
grown. Seed should be sown now a
pans set in a cold frame which occu
cool, shady position. Grow throu
under as cool conditions as possible
short of sharp frost, this plant cann
hurt by cold.

THE EXETER NURSERIES OF ROBERT VEITCH & SON, Ltd.

1. The large shrub (nearest camera) is Viburnum Bitchinense. The flower heads are smaller but it is more free flowering than V. Carlesii, to which it is closely allied and with which it is often confused.

2. The main walk in the Exeter nurseries.

3. Magnolia Soulangeana in the main walk.

4. Andromeda (Pieris) Taiwanensis well flowered in nursery rows.

5. The large shrub with white flowers on the rock bank is Osmanthus Delavayi.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES

(Continued from page 346)

would be more satisfactory if you could ascertain actually what insect did the damage. We have known the grub of Clay-coloured Weevil cause similar damage. The cultural error question is even more difficult because we do not know local conditions. Were the bulbs planted early enough? We think that if the bulbs were allowed to complete their growth and then were lifted and replanted in an odd corner of the garden they should in time recover, but you will appreciate that the bulbs will be considerably weakened.]

Birds destroying Polyanthus blooms

(F. M. W.).—Mice are not responsible for the damage to your Polyanthus. These are picked off by sparrows and other birds in search of something which they find at the base of each flower. In this practice they have been unusually annoying this year. A few strands of black cotton stretched over the plants would check them.

Cheiranthus Newark Park

Re correspondence (page 323) to Mr. R. Pearce. A year or two ago I obtained the above from Messrs. Bowell and Skarratt, Cemetery Road, Cheltenham, but cannot say if they still have it. I consider it identical with C. Allioni Miss King's Variety, obtained from Carter Page and Co., London Wall, E.C. Isaac Carr.

Poolemeade, Bath.

Lifting Anemones

I suppose Anemones Fulgens, Blanda, and Apennina can, without injury, be lifted when flowering is finished, dried, and put away before replanting in the autumn? Should they be dried in the sun? W. P. P.

[You cannot lift and dry off these Anemones while in growth, but must wait until the resting season. You can, however, lift and replant at once, immediately after flowering is over, if you carefully shade from the sun until the roots are again active.]

GREENHOUSE

Diseased Arum Lily

(E. J. E.).—Your Arum Lilies are affected with Soft Rot, which is caused by the bacterium Bacillus carotovorus. This disease usually shows itself about January. The first sign of attack is the withering of the leaf apex and a drying up of the entire margin. The diseased leaves die off early. If the roots are examined they are found to be more or less rotted, and the disease often spreads into the corms. Sometimes later in the season the foliage appears to recover, but it soon reverts to the diseased condition. The recovery is due to the production of new roots. After a time the new roots become infected and the leaves go under. When your plants have been dried off they should be shaken out of the pots and all soil removed. All the roots should be scraped off and decayed parts of the corm cut away. The corms should be well scrubbed with water and a hard brush. The corms are then steeped in a 2 per cent. solution of formalin for four hours. Care must be taken that the foliage, if any, be kept out of the formalin solution. After treatment the corm should be immediately potted in disease-free soil and sterilised pots. All soil in which the diseased plants are growing, together with the diseased portion scraped and cut away, should be burned and the pots sterilised because this disease attacks many other plants.

Carnations in cold house

(" Pat ").—It is seldom that the Malmaison Carnation is much good after about the second year. You should, therefore, have your plants layered, and grow on young, sturdy plants, these almost invariably flowering well. We do not quite know what is meant by " French " Carnations. Do you mean " tree " or " perpetual "? If so, these do not succeed very well in an ordinary mixed greenhouse. They are best when frequently propagated. It is past the time for taking the cuttings, November to January being the proper season. After these cuttings are rooted and are growing freely they should be placed in cold frames until October. Full details of culture would occupy too much space in this column, but there are frequently seasonable notes on this subject in our pages, which please see.

ALPINES

Rabbit-proof Alpine plants

(" Kincardine ").—There are very few plants that rabbits will not attack under certain conditions. We have known them devour Leeks, at times, although these are usually immune from attack. We do not remember ever having seen or heard of them touching the Mossy Saxifrages, Sedums, Perennial Candytuft, Dryas octopetala, Daffodils, Veronica juniperoides, St. John's Wort, Rhododendrons, Snowdrops, Wood Hyacinths, Anemone nemorosa, Aubrietia, Arabis, Geranium Lancastriense, Box, and Heuchera brizoides, but cannot guarantee even these to be always safe. Have you no way in which you could protect your plants by means of wire-netting?

TREES AND SHRUBS

Lonicera nitida, and propagating Forsythia suspensa and Border Carnations

(Mrs. Thrush).—There is no record of Lonicera nitida having caused injury to any living thing, and we do not think you need have cause for anxiety regarding either poultry or cattle feeding near it. As you are probably aware, it is only during recent years that this accommodating shrub has been used for hedging, but no complaint has so far been received regarding it. Forsythia suspensa is easily propagated by means of cuttings made of half-ripened shoots, which may be inserted in sandy soil and kept in a cool, closed frame at the end of August. The branches will also root freely if pegged firmly to the ground, slightly barked on the lower side, and covered with sandy soil. Carnations.—All the Border kinds should be layered early in August, and, if properly done, should be ready for transplanting early in October. Soil containing a percentage of sharp sand should be used for layering.

Shrub for name

(N. D. P., Perthshire).—Your shrub is Cydonia japonica. This Quince was introduced from China in 1796, and now there are many varieties of it grown in gardens. The type plant is the one you send, and this will make a large bush when grown in the open, but it is more often trained to a wall. It fruits freely in some districts. Little pruning is required, but if the plants are unshapely they may be safely cut back directly flowering is over. Most of the Quinces root fairly well from hard-wooded cuttings.

MISCELLANEOUS

Grubs for identification

(E. F. P., Penrith).—These are destructive pests known as leather jackets. This grub, which has no legs, becomes the Crane Fly or Daddy Long Legs. In some districts it is as great a pest as the wireworm is in others. It is particularly destructive to young plants of the Cabbage family and Lettuce, and to
Carnations and other bedding plants,
in herbaceous borders, etc. In addition,
quently causes injury to the grass of l
where large patches may often be
scratched about by birds in their effor
capture these grubs. It is particularly
sary to keep down weeds in the ga
especially grass weeds, as the eggs are
on these in the autumn. The best mea
exterminating leather jackets and wire
is frequent working of the ground.
may also be trapped by putting in th
pieces of Carrot or Potato, which shou
examined daily. Constant hoeing re
the numbers of these pests.

Where to obtain plants

(T. L.).—Lobelia cardinalis from M
Maurice Prichard, Ltd., Christchurch, H
Arabis Taplow Rose, Messrs. Barr and
The Nurseries, Taplow, near Maiden
Alyssum spinosum roseum (syn.
trichum), seeds of Messrs. Thompson
Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich, and plants
Messrs. W. Ingwersen, Ltd., Birch
Nursery, Sharpthorne, East Grin
Sussex.

Puss Moth

(R. Armstrong, Sheffield).—Your spe
is the chrysalis of a Puss Moth (C
vinula). The hard outer covering i
course, the chrysalis case. This mo
fairly common and can generally be
feeding on Poplar. The caterpillar is
green with purplish-brown markings o
back, and a red head. The caterpilla
two long, whip-like tail appendages wh
turns over on its back when annoy
frightened.

Queen wasps

I am writing to ask if queen wasp
more numerous this year, generally.
and Mrs. Crooks, my employers, caugh
destroyed 21 two weeks ago, and I
caught four since amongst the Goose
bushes. The 21 were caught in one mo
Perhaps you could insert this as a hi
others; and, by the way, we were not
troubled with them last year. I much
your paper, Gardening Illustrated,
I have taken regularly for 39 years.

Parkstone. H. Palm

[We had not noticed that queen
were more numerous than usual this s
but these creatures are, on occasion,
numerous in some years in certain loc
The destruction of queen wasps early
season is a good way of keeping wasps
control. We are glad to hear from su
old reader, and appreciate the compl
you pay us.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

R. G. Green.—1, Saxifraga dec
grandiflora; 2, S. d. pallida; 3, S. d.
grandiflora; 4, S. ajugæfolia.

Bee.—The Willow Oak (Quercus Ph

R. H. G.—1, Dwarf Almond (Amy
nana); 2, Amelanchier Botryapium; 3, S
arguta.

V. E.—The Snowy Muspilus (Amel
canadensis (see illustration, page 329).

CATALOGUE RECEIVED

Robert Lawrie, Begonia Nursery,
wath, Lanarkshire.—Begonias.

Trained Pears

Spray with Orchard Spray Fluid up
first signs of caterpillar and thus preve
figurement of both fruits and leaves in
infancy. Pinch the young shoots ba
within five buds of their base and thus
sun and light to the more important bu
conspicuous fruiting buds.

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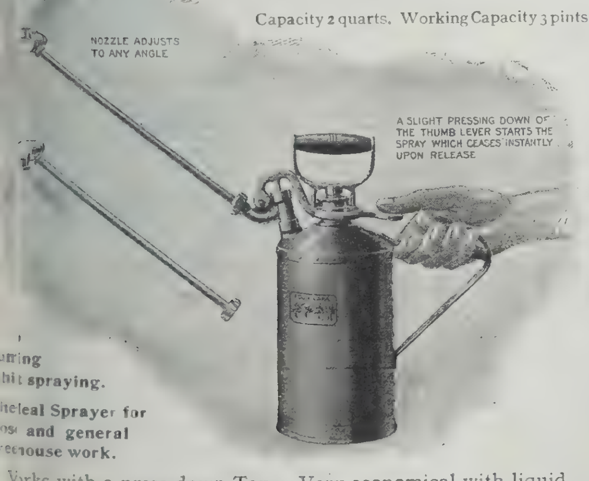
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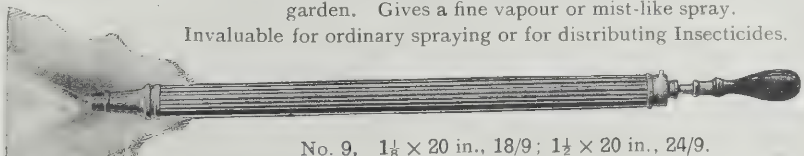

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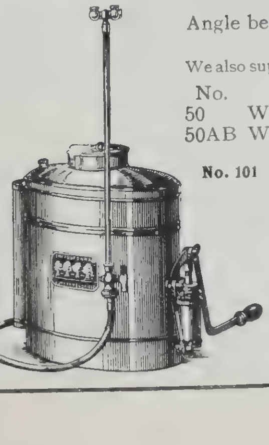

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REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Bedding plants

The majority of these may now be stood in the open to become thoroughly hardened, as there is little likelihood of any damaging frosts occurring after this date. Shelter from rough winds is, however, advisable until the plants have been exposed for some little time. Standard Heliotropes, Fuchsias, Plumbagos, Pelargoniums, and similar plants must be included in the above or they will suffer when planted out in the beds. As a precaution against hailstones damaging their leaves it is advisable to leave Begonias in cold frames with the lights off, but ready to be pushed over the plants in case of need. Some provision of the kind should be at hand in case of need for all large-leaved plants which otherwise might become seriously damaged.

Cold frames

Few keep their old Cyclamen plants from year to year, but, providing they are clean and healthy, it is a good plan to do so, as more flowers are produced from a single plant than from those of one year's growth. The cold frame is the place for these at the present time, and no better accommodation could be given to the young growing plants. The old plants should be permitted to gradually ripen their leaves so that the tubers may be repotted into fresh loam in a few weeks' time, but the young plants must be encouraged to grow freely by closing the frames at night and by dewing them overhead twice daily during hot weather.

Primulas

Both sinensis, stellata, obconica and its beautiful hybrids, also many other plants which are being grown on for next winter's blooming, will be found to be perfectly happy when growing in cold frames, and less subject to insect pests than when grown on hot, dry shelves in greenhouses. In order to provide a quantity of small plants which are to bloom in small pots successional sowings may still be made.

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine

This and the many beautiful fibrous-rooted varieties now available for winter flowering should be grown on in moist heat with a night temperature of 65 degs. If the house in which these are growing is shaded lightly during the day, very little air will be advisable at this stage of their growth. Pot on the plants in good time into a mixture of best maiden loam two parts, leaf-mould and rubbed peat one part, with the remainder made up of a little old lime-rubble, wood-ash, bone-meal, and sand.

Propagating spring-blooming plants

Cuttings must now be inserted of Arabis, Aubrietias, Alyssums, and other plants used for spring bedding. These should be about 3 inches in length and will strike most freely when dibbled firmly into boxes or borders of sandy soil, over which airtight frames can be placed. For those who do not possess frames for this purpose I advise the following method, which has served me well on many an occasion. As the plants are taken from the beds they should be laid in, in lines, across a spare piece of ground made firm and kept watered until growth is again active. About the second week in August each plant should be spread out in a circle. A good layer of sandy soil is then placed over the growths at 3 inches from their tips. The soil must be kept moist and, by the time they are required, good, strong-rooted plants will be available for any purpose.

Roses and Honeysuckle

These, which are addicted to Green Fly attacks, especially when growing on walls, must be watched and sprayed with an insecticide, such as Abol or Quassia and nicotine, immediately this pest is discovered, or the plants will not only be disfigured, but the flowers spoilt. The same applies to Roses in beds, which will also be improved by a constant stirring of the surface soil, even though a carpeting plant is employed.

Strawberries

Apply a light dressing of Peruvian guano to the beds before working the surface for the last time. The lines should then be mulched with clean straw to protect the oncoming fruits, and should the weather prove hot and dry generous watering must be indulged in. Dip in insecticide those plants which have been forced, and after reducing the balls of earth somewhat with a pointed stick, plant firmly on well-prepared ground, care being taken to prevent dryness at the root.

Peas, Kidney Beans, Spinach, and Salad plants

These may now be sown generously in order that abundant supplies will be forthcoming during the next few months.

Early sown crops

Onions, Parsnips, Carrots, etc., should be thinned out before the plants get too large, and where Onion and Carrot Fly is troublesome care should be taken to press the earth about the roots of the remaining plants in addition to running the hoe through the soil. A wineglassful of paraffin to 2 gallons of water poured over the rows will prove offensive to this fly. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
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Scotland

Potatoes

No other vegetable is so grateful for a constant stirring of the soil, so it is well to frequently ply hoe, digging-fork, or Bucco cultivator between the rows from the moment growth shows through the surface until it is time to earth the crop up. Besides greatly benefiting the Potatoes it also keeps down weeds and makes the earthing-up very easy.

The Asparagus beds

Another fair dressing of salt should now be given, which, besides benefiting the crop, assists in checking the growth of weeds. If available, an occasional soaking of liquid-manure proves very stimulating to this plant.

The Dutch hoe

This is the most valuable tool in the garden during the spring, summer, and autumn, and every available minute should be spent plying it vigorously between rows of vegetables and among plantations of Roses, herbaceous plants, fruit bushes, etc. Do not, of course, use this tool when the soil is sodden and sticky.

Raspberries

On dry, light soils this fruit is apt to suffer somewhat from dryness at the roots, so under such conditions a generous mulch of well-rotted manure, or even half-rotted leaves, will do a world of good, conserving the moisture in the ground by preventing undue evaporation, and also keeping the soil at the roots cool. Pull up all unwanted canes as they appear, and prevent weeds getting a foothold.

Strawberries

These will shortly be sending up flower-stems, so it is desirable to hav beds thoroughly weeded and the soil hoed. If a mulch of clean wheat stra then given, it is much easier to apply the berries set and bend down the stem also acts as partial protection against

Recently-planted Strawberries

It is unwise to permit beds plantec spring to carry fruit, for if they do plants are weakened and can never quently produce fine fruits. Remove, fore, all flower-stems as they appear also all runners unless it is desired to fresh plants from these in autumn. hoe the ground frequently and give an sional soaking of water should the we be dry.

Peaches on walls

These very soon begin to suffer from ness at the roots when planted, as they to be, against sunny walls. A thorough ing of water should, therefore, be unless the weather be very wet. If a ous mulch of manure be spread all ov roots shortly after a soaking of water benefit will result. Continue to disb intervals.

Bedding out

This is now a more leisurely business it was in the past, so many harc nearly hardy plants being used formerly only tender subjects were all By now quite a number of the hardier are already in their flowering quarters, the end of the month there will only r the really tender kinds to handle.

Pentstemons

If not already planted out, these stately, autumn-flowering plants shoul mediately be tackled. A fairly rich, tilled soil and a sunny position, she somewhat from rough winds, shou possible, be given them.

East Lothian Stocks

These, if not yet planted out, should immediate attention, as quite a long of growth is required to build up fine, s ing specimens.

Pricking off Primulas

The seedlings of P. obconica ar sinensis should, when fit to handl pricked off into boxes of light, rich while the earlier batches should be pla 3-inch pots, using a sweet, wholesome post and returning to the same tempe until well established, when they shou moved to shady, cold frames.

Tuberous-rooted Begonias

The late-started plants should no ready for their flowering-pots. A sound compost should be given, but great deal of sand. Seedlings of this should now be fit for 3-inch pots. Pot and place in a nice, genial atmos shading well from all sunshine.

Nerines

In most cases these have now com their growth, so water should be gra withheld. As soon as the foliage ch colour withhold water entirely and s pots on a sunny shelf for the summe a drop of water being given until the f stems begin to rise in autumn. C. BL

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

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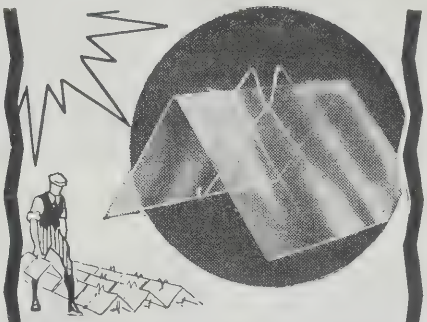

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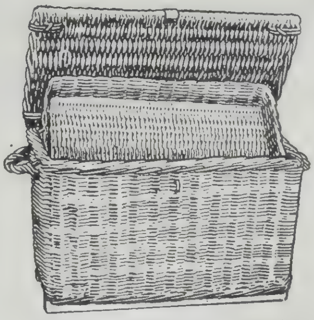

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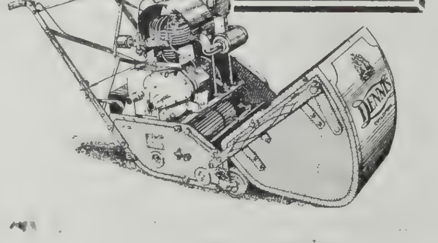

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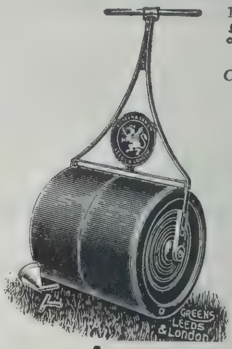

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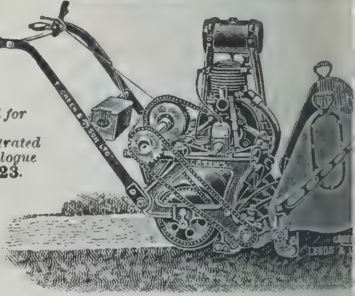

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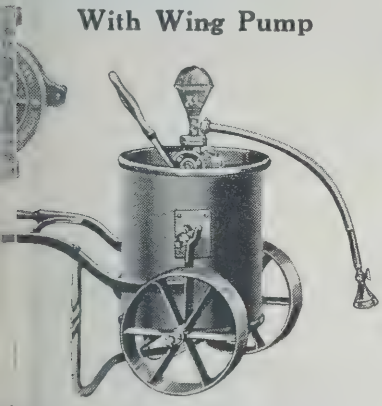

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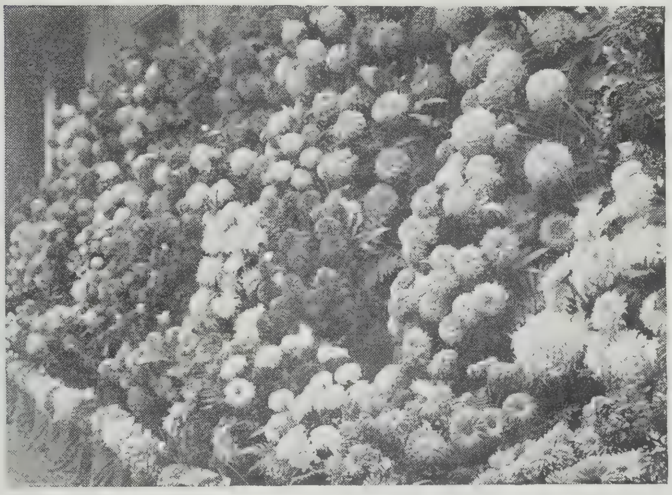

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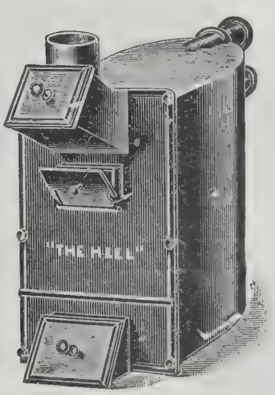

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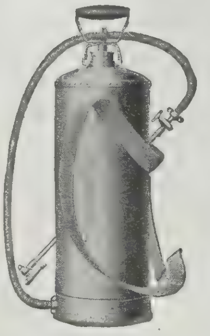

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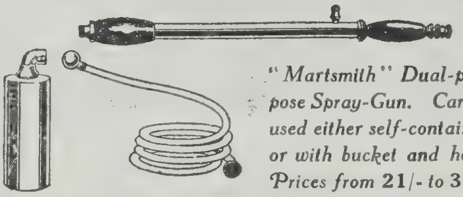

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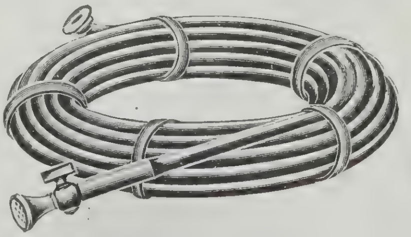

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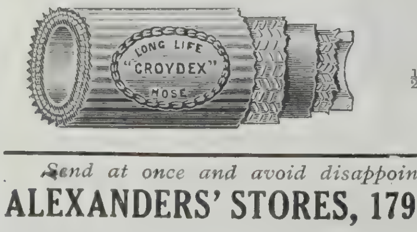

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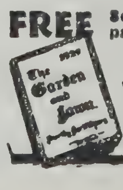

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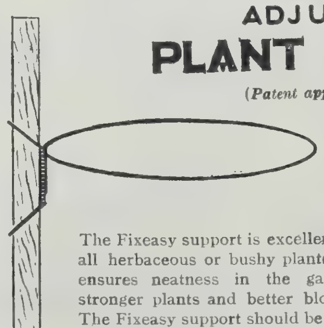

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Now is the Time to put Strawmats down

The Utmost advantage can only be obtained if "Strawmats" are put down now. Simply push the plant through the hole in the Strawmat, which then protects the plant against dirt and parasites and encourages rapid growth. The mats are quickly put down, are tidy and neat when down, and render rapid picking very much easier and simpler. Over half-a-million have been sold to date.
Secure MAGNA protection for your Strawberries and look forward with confidence to a good healthy **early** crop this year. Write to-day for TRIAL BALE (1 gross Carriage Paid) to Patentees.

MAGNA FRUIT CO. (14)
Marston, Yeovil, SOMERSET

Your Seedsman or Ironmonger can also supply.

Showing Mat (above) and (below) with plant in position.

FREE: "How to GROW BETTER STRAWBERRIES." For Coloured Booklet, Valuable Hints, & Testimonial Leaflets, send P.C.

PRICES:

2-3 yr. old Plants (7 in. hole)	**17/6** gross
1-yr. old Plants (5 in. hole)	**17/-** gross

Scotland 1/- grs. ext. Carr. pd.

MAGNA STRAWMATS

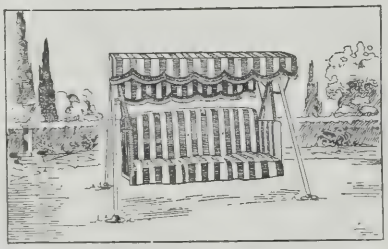
for BIGGER and BETTER STRAWBERRIES

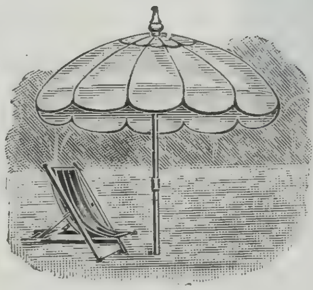
PIGGOTT BROTHERS & CO., Ltd.

THE BEDFORD COUCH HAMMOCK

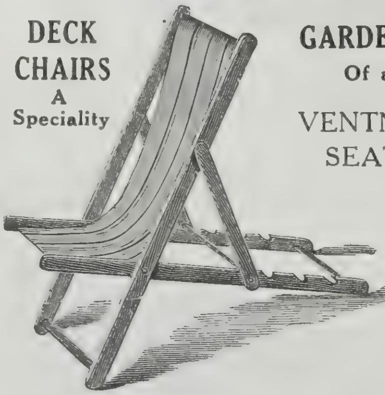
British made throughout

No. 1A	£7 17 6
No. 2	9 17 6
No. 3	10 12 6
No. 4	12 12 0





DECK CHAIRS
A Speciality



GARDEN FURNITURE
Of all Descriptions

VENTNOR GARDEN SEAT AWNINGS

UMBRELLA TENTS

Splendid Selection always in Stock.

Prices from **25/-** each.

MARQUEES AND TENTS
FOR HIRE OR PURCHASE

Write for Catalogues to

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'PHONE: BISHOPSGATE 4851.

CORRY & Co LTD
WEED-DEATH
NON POISONOUS POWDER
WEED KILLER
SHAD THAMES LONDON S.E.

SAFETY FIRST —for ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

Non-caustic; colourless; no smell; kills the roots; superior to arsenical compounds. TINS—

1/-	2/	3/6	6/6	12/-	27/6
for 4	12½	25	50	100	250 gals.

Highly Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.

HIGHLY COMMENDED ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WOODLICE AND ANT DEATH

CORRY'S NON-POISONOUS

SIMPLY REQUIRES SPRINKLING.
CAUSES DEATH IN 30 SECONDS TO ANTS, WOODLICE, EARWIGS, SNAILS, SLUGS, and kills or brings Mice, Rats, and Rabbits from their holes.

PRICES:
2 ozs. **1/-**, 4 ozs. **1/9**, ½ pt. **3/-**, 1 pt. **5/-**, 1 qt. **9/-**

FOR ORDERS BY POST SEND YOUR SEEDSMAN CASH AND POSTAGE.

LITTLE'S
WEED KILLERS
POISONOUS
AND
NON-POISONOUS
FOR PRICES ETC.
WRITE:—
MORRIS, LITTLE & SON, LTD
150, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON W

Cut down painting woo & putt

When you are building Glasshouses renewing your present houses, we the opportunity of tendering

"WIRE-TENSIO GREENHOUSE

Iron Frame. Flat Glass. No out roof painting. Phosphor Bronze C

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North Street, Bedminster
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See our Stand at Chelsea.

CORRY'S ID
LETHORION FUMIGAT

Certain destruction t in glasshouse

Only a match required f

No. 1.	For 1,000 cubi	
No. 2.	,, 1,500	,,
No. 3.	,, 2,500	,,

Effective, cheapest a

Medal 1912 R.H.S. I

GRAFTING W

"TENAX" is the finest Wax for al and Budding Purpose
Highly recommended by the Royal Horticultu

RDEN WALKS
ind LAWNS

keep them clean and free from weeds
by using

ME" WEED KILLER

: Dissolves quickly in cold water.

Tin makes 12½ gallons	.. ..	1/6
" " 25 "	.. ..	2/6
" " 50 "	.. ..	4 9
" " 150 "	.. ..	13/-

her sizes and prices on application.

d Strength, 1 gallon to 25 gallons.
1/11; 1 gal., 3/6; 2 gals., 6/-; 5 gals., 13/-.
Strength. 1 to 50 gallons of water.
3/6; 1 gal., 5/-; 2 gals., 10/-; 3 gals. 13/6;
20/-.

POISONOUS WEED KILLER.

Prices on application.

ME" LAWN SAND

Turf of Weeds and Moss, and at the same time the Grass. No other manure is necessary.

len Kegs—
28 lbs., 8/-; 56 lbs., 13/6; 1 cwt. 25/-.

rproof Bags—
28 lbs., 7/-; 56 lbs., 12/6; 1-cwt., 23/9.

ME" WORM KILLER

possible thing for cleaning Tennis Lawns, reens, Putting Greens, etc., of worm casts.
2lbs., 6/-; 56 lbs., 10/6; 1 cwt., 18/6.

Special Fertilisers

Roses, Sweet Peas, Chrysanthemums, etc.

INSECTICIDES, etc.

age paid on orders of 20/- for any one article or on a composite order.

r Price List of other Garden Requisites.

E CHEMICAL CO., Ltd.,
Tonbridge, Kent

TOOLS THAT TAKE THE DRUDGERY OUT OF GARDENING.
LARGER CROPS. NO WEEDS. NO WASTE GROUND.
3/9 HOLT CULTIVATORS. MADE TO LAST A LIFETIME.
CARRIAGE PAID. 2/8. PATENT.
INDISPENSABLE. MEET A LONG FELT WANT. 4/6
GEORGE HOLT. 168. ST. ALBANS RD. WATFORD. HERTS.

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND. SOILFUME. NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID

Only Address TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd LINCOLN.

"CRAMCO'S" GARDEN HOSE

60-FEET LENGTHS
½-INCH 3-LAP HOSE

12/-

RED or GREY

This new British made "CRAMCO" "CANTKINK" Hose can be obtained only from us. The method of combining the Canvas and Rubber prevents perishing, and gives additional flexibility and lasting strength. Do not confuse this hose with "cheap" lines.

Fitted with Heavy Brass Branch Pipe with Rose and Jet and Royles Pattern Tap Union **1/3** extra.

C.O.D., 6d. extra. Carr., 1/3 extra. Ideal for Garage Use.

ANY LENGTH SUPPLIED AT SAME RATE.
WRITTEN GUARANTEE WITH EVERY COIL.

HEAVY TWO-PLY RIBBED NON-KINKABLE HOSE.

Inside Diameter ..	½ in.	⅝ in.	¾ in	1 in.	ANY LENGTH CUT.
Price per foot ..	**5d.**	**7½d.**	**8½d.**	**1/-**	

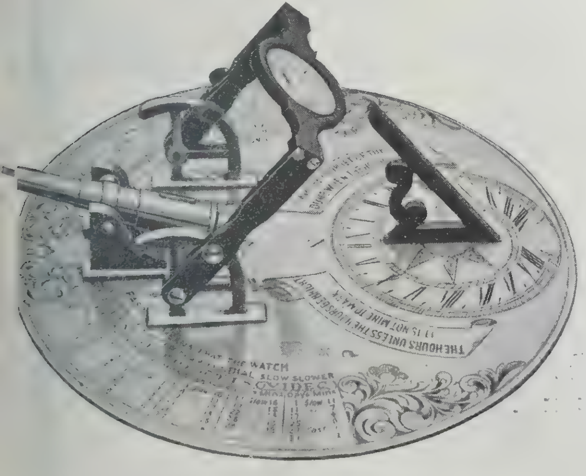
We Guarantee Satisfaction, Replacement or money refunded.

THE CITY RUBBER & MOTOR COMPANY (Dept. G.I.)

141, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C. 2. (Established 50 Years.)
'Phone: Bishopsgate 2284. *Adjoining Liverpool Street Station.*

HE TEST OF TIME

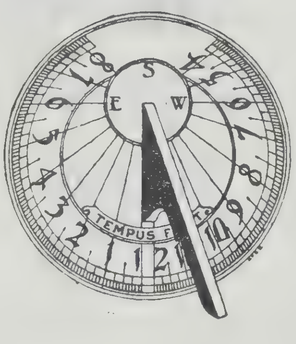
s proved the reliability of our Sundials gain and again, and the new lines illustrated e within the means of all Garden Lovers.


THE HOURS UNLESS THE SUN SHINES
THE WATCH

CANNON SUN-DIAL

gnals Noon by the Sun Firing the Small Cannon.
itted with Studs ready for fixing to Pedestal or Balustrade.
ounted on Stout, Handsomely Engraved Brass late, 10 ins. diam., consisting of Cannon, Burning Lens, Equation Table, and Motto:

£6 : 15 : 0

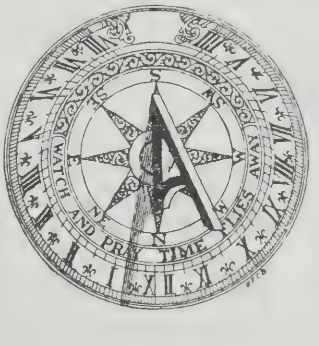


THE "NORFOLK"

ANTIQUE DESIGN.

Divided to 5 minutes.

8 inch Diameter - -	£3 0 0
9 " " - -	3 7 6
10 " " - -	3 12 0
12 " " - -	5 3 6


WATCH AND PRAY TIME FLIES AWAY
S
N

THE "SUFFOLK"

EXCLUSIVE DESIGN.

Divided to 5 minutes.

10 inch Diameter - -	£5 8 0
12 " " - -	6 15 0
15 " Divided to 1 min.	10 10 0
18 " " - -	14 5 0

THE JOHN HOLMES AND SUN TIMEKEEPERS,

4, MANCHESTER ST., BRIGHTON, SUSSEX

A. TURRELL & SONS

FOREST HILL (*Established 76 years*)

FOR EVERYTHING IN POR

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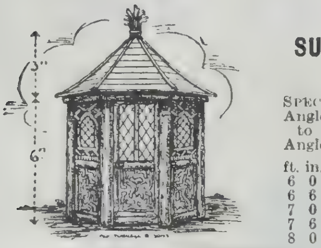
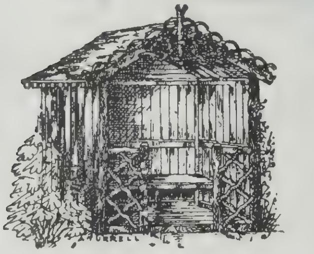


HEXAGON SUMMER HOUSE NO. 151

SPECIFICATION as No. 150

Angle to Angle	Back to Front	Height to Eaves	Price
ft. in.	ft. in	ft. in.	£ s. d.
6 0	5 6	6 0	17 10 0
6 6	5 11	6 0	19 10 0
7 0	6 5	6 6	21 17 6
7 6	6 11	6 6	28 0 0
8 0	7 4	6 6	24 10 0

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE No. 18

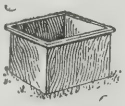


This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is barked off, stained and varnished. House fitted with hollow bottom seat at back. All stained and varnished inside and out. Roof Painted.

Supplied from stock in following sizes:—

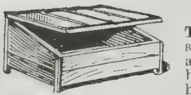
	£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5	10	0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6	10	0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9	0	0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11	10	0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14	0	0

GARDEN FLOWER BOXES



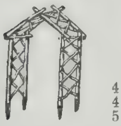
Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc. Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour. Inside measurements given.

12 in. square	4/9 each.	12 doz. only to clear.
15 in. square	5/6 ,,	7 doz. only to clear.
18 in. square	6/6 ,,	8 doz. only to clear.
21 in. square	8/6 ,,	3 doz. only to clear.
24 in. square	10/6 ,,	4 doz. only to clear.



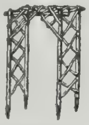
SEED FRAMES

These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. 150 to clear. Price **13/6**.



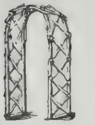
HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 feet.	Price.
4 ft. path	5/9
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9
5 ft. path	11/6



ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

No. 1. Special Offer 5,000 superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred. Height 8 feet.

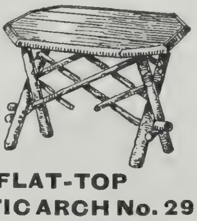


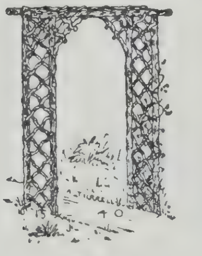
	Price.
3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6
4 ft. path	13 6
4 ft. 6 in. path	17/6
5 ft. path	22/6
5 ft. 6 in. path	28/6
6 ft. path	33/6

RUSTIC TABLE

Made from best Rustic Hardwood, bark off, stained and varnished.

2 ft. square	14 6 each
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6 each



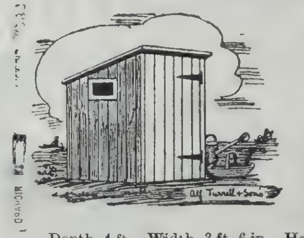


FLAT-TOP RUSTIC ARCH No. 29

With corner braces, as illustrated. Artistically made with heavy Rustic material. Bark taken off, stained and varnished.

	path	deep	
4 ft.	15 in.	deep	22/6
4 ft. 6 in.	16 in.	,,	25/6
4 ft. 6 in.	21 in.	,,	28/6
5 ft.	24 in.	,,	32/6
5 ft. 6 in.	24 in.	,,	36/0

TOOL HUT No. 47

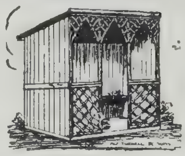


This hut is suitable for storage of tools, also useful on allotments and numerous other purposes, earth-closets, etc.

Complete in sections, constructed ⅝-in. tongued and grooved match boards on strong framing. *Window as shown*, glazed 21-oz. glass. Lock and key for door. Roof boarded and covered best Bitumen felt.

Depth, 4 ft. Width, 3 ft. 6 in. Height at front, 6 ft.; at back, 5 ft. Price £3 15 0.

THE "VILLA" RUSTIC SHELTER



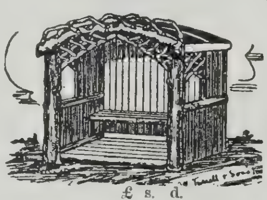
A very attractive and useful House at a low price. Constructed from planed, tongued and grooved boards, and substantial framing. Roof covered with best Bitumen felt, making same thoroughly waterproof. All rustic work of well-seasoned material.

The whole House stained and varnished inside and out, made in complete sections for easy erection.

PRICES WITH FLOOR.

Length.	Width.	To Eaves.	£	s.	d.
6 ft.	4 ft.	6 ft. 6 in.	4	5	0
7 ft.	4 ft. 6 in.	7 ft.	6	10	0

RUSTIC SHELTER No. 61



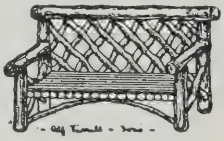
Constructed of tongued and grooved matching for walls. Window openings as illustrated. Fitted hollow-bottomed seat at back. Strong floor; roof covered matching and good felt. Simply bolts together on arrival. Bolts supplied.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft.	4	10	0	9 ft. x 6 ft.	9	5	0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	5	15	0	10 ft. x 6 ft.	10	15	0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7	0	0	12 ft. x 6 ft.	11	17	6

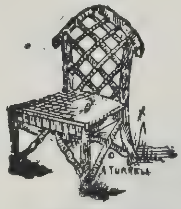
RUSTIC GARDEN SEAT

Well made from selected material. In natural wood, 4 ft., **9/6**; 5 ft., **14/6**; 6 ft., **18/6**.

If with bark taken off, stained and varnished. 4 ft., **14/6**; 5 ft., **18/6**; 6 ft., **24/-** each.



RUSTIC CHAIR

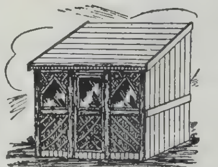


Well made from good materials.

Stained and varnished. With or without arms.

Price **10/6**

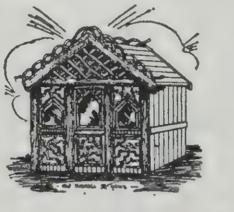
LEAN-TO RUSTIC HOUSE No. 152



SPECIFICATION as No. 150.

Price.	£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	10	10	0
6 ft. x 4 ft. 0 in.	11	5	0
7 ft. x 5 ft. 0 in.	14	10	0
8 ft. x 6 ft. 0 in.	17	5	0

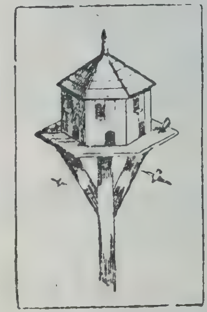
OBLONG RUSTIC HOUSE No. 150



This is a highly finished roomy House, fitted with lead light door and windows made to open, artistically decorated with best rustic material.

Bark off, oak stained and varnished inside and out.

Price.	£	s.	d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	17	10	0
8 ft. x 6 ft.	20	10	0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	22	15	0



RUSTIC ROSE PILLAR

Natural state, **4 9**

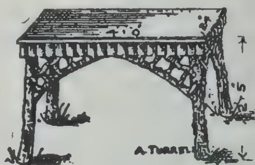
With bark off, stained and varnished, **7/3** each.

HEXAGON PIGEON COTE

Very ornamental in gardens. Well made from good materials, stained and varnished. Complete with rusticated pole. 50 only to clear at **£2 17 6** each.

RUSTIC OBLONG TABL

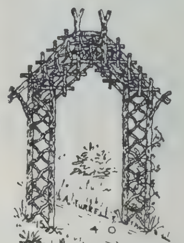
No.



Made from sp
Rustic materi
and varni

3 ft. x 1 ft
£1 15 0

4 ft. x
£2 5 0



RUSTIC AR

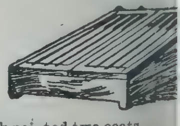
Gothic Patt

No. 31

Peeled wood. Well-made
material, stained and var
well-tarred, as above.

Path.	Deep.
4 ft.	1 ft. 3 in.
4 ft. 6 in.	1 ft. 6 in.
4 ft. 6 in.	1 ft. 9 in.
5 ft.	2 ft.
5 ft. 6 in.	2 ft.

GARDEN FRAMES



Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards; have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle, glazed with 21-oz. glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

	£	s.	d.	
4 x 3 ft...	1	5	6	12 x 6 ft...3 lights
6 x 4 ft...	1	17	6	16 x 6 ft...4 ,,
6 x 4 ft...2 lights..	2	6	6	20 x 6 ft...5 ,,
8 x 6 ft...2 ,,	3	7	6	24 x 6 ft...6 ,,

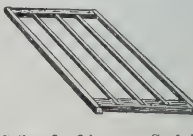
DO NOT PAY HIGH PRICE

for your frames made from 1¼-in. boards. We car
the following low prices. Frames made of 1¼-in. t
grooved best quality boards, complete as above.

	£	s.	d.	
4 x 3 ft...	1	10	0	12 x 6 ft...3 lights
6 x 4 ft...	2	2	0	16 x 6 ft...4 ,,
6 x 4 ft...2 lights..	2	14	0	20 x 6 ft...5 ,,
8 x 6 ft...2 ,,	4	7	6	24 x 6 ft...6 ,,

Compare these prices with other m

GARDEN L



These lights are w
good well-seasoned t
Stiles are 2 in. by 2 i
and pinned to tenon
fitted with 2-in.
Painted and glass s
superior oil putty
Strongly constructe

Stiles, 2 x 2 in. Sash bar, 2 x 1½ in. Botto
4 x 1¼ in. and 3 x 1¼ in.

UNGLAZED.

3 x 2 ft.	3/9 each.
4 x 3 ft.	4/9 ,,
5 x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9 ,,
6 x 4 ft.	7/9 ,,

GLAZE

21-oz. glass and

3 x 2 ft.
4 x 3 ft.
5 x 3 ft. 6 in.
6 x 4 ft.

'Phone: SYDENHAM 1268

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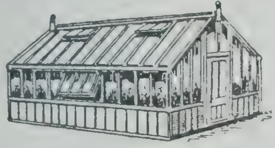
HIS ADVT.

And also in Our
1929 BARGAIN LIST

ıTEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE



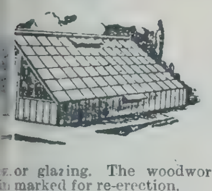
houses ecially , at a figure. ming ach of uire a not ex- acture. ted by n in a
The framework is substantially constructed of Red er part being filled in with good, sound tongued match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil

ith all necessary ironwork and stages for each
Complete with 21 oz. glass for glazing.

Hgt. Eaves		Price.		
t.	in.	£	s.	d.
	0	6	6	0
	0	7	2	6
	0	8	4	0
	6	9	18	0
	0	12	17	0

Lgh.	Wdh.	Hgt. to Eaves		Price		
ft.	ft.	ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
15	9	5	0	17	2	0
20	10	5	6	24	14	0
25	10	5	6	30	12	6
30	12	5	6	39	9	0

-OOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE

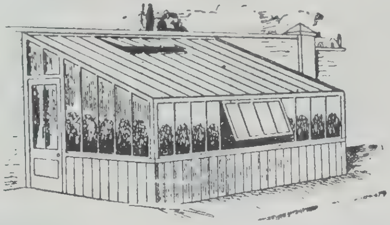


This is a cheap form of Growing House. It is well-made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for ventilators, with z. or glazing. The woodwork is painted one good n marked for re-erection.

d	Hgt.				
t.	ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
5	7	0	5	16	6
5	7	0	6	12	6
6	7	0	7	18	0
7	7	6	8	10	0
8	8	0	10	12	0

Lgh.	Wdh.	Hgt.				
ft.	ft.	ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
15	9	8	0	16	0	0
20	10	9	0	19	0	0
25	10	9	0	23	4	6
50	10	9	0	44	10	0

LEAN-TO GREENHOUSE

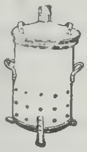


This illustration shows a Lean-to Greenhouse most suitable for amateurs. A very useful house at a small cost, answering in many cases as well as those costing several times the amount.

SPECIFICATION —Is well made of thoroughly well-seasoned Yellow Deal. The lower part is enclosed with good tongued and grooved boarding; door at one end, fitted with good lock and key, and brass furniture; ventilators in roof according to size of house, with all necessary ironwork for opening same; lattice stage for plants; painted one coat good oil colour; glass 21-oz., packed in boxes (no charge for packing). Is made in sections, and plainly marked before leaving our works, making them quite easy for erection.

Length.	Width.	Height.		To Eaves.		Price.		
ft.	ft.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
7	5	7	0	4	0	5	18	6
8	5	7	0	4	0	6	12	6
9	6	7	0	4	0	8	0	0
10	7	7	6	4	6	9	10	0
12	8	8	0	5	0	11	15	0
15	9	8	6	5	0	15	0	0
20	10	9	0	5	6	20	5	0
25	10	9	0	5	6	25	10	0
30	12	9	0	5	6	33	0	0

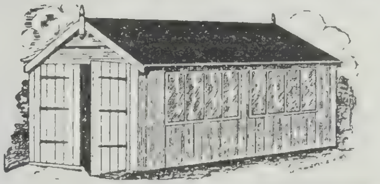
INCINERATOR



Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual Price .. .. 16 6 each.
Sale Price .. .. **12/6** each.

PORTABLE MOTOR GARAGE. No. 6m



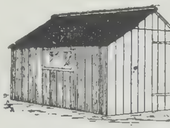
Best materials and workmanship. In complete sections, bolt supplied.

SPECIFICATION OF HOUSE. —*Sides, Ends, Walls, etc.*: Framing 3 in. by 2 in., and 2 in. by 2 in., covered $\frac{3}{4}$-in. tongued, grooved and beaded matching. *Roofing*: Purlins 3 in. by 2 in., covered T.G.B. Matching, and good quality Bitumen felt. *Windows*: As per illustration, almost the length of one side, fixed and glazed 21 oz glass. *Doors*: Double-framed and ledged, hung on strong garnets, complete lock and key, and tower bolts. *Wood Preservative*: Outside treated with special "Stop-rot." *General*: Holes are bored and bolts supplied for erection on arrival. Made in the following sizes –

Length.	Width.	Height to Eaves.		Height to Ridge.		Reduced Prices.		
ft.	ft.	ft.	in.	ft.	in	£	s.	d.
10	8	6	0	8	6	12	17	0
12	8	6	0	8	6	14	0	0
15	10	6	3	8	10	16	15	0
16	10	6	6	9	0	17	17	0
18	11	6	6	9	0	23	0	0
20	10	7	0	9	3	24	0	0
20	12	7	0	9	3	27	10	0
24	12	7	3	10	0	31	5	0

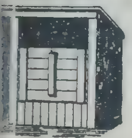
CHEAP SPAN ROOF SHED No. 27

Specifications as No. 7 but with $\frac{3}{4}$ in. floor and single door.
Fitted lock and key.



Size	Price		
	£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	3	18	0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	4	5	0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	5	10	0
8 ft. x 6 ft.	6	2	6
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9	5	0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12	5	0

(POULTRY
)USE



THE MOST RELIABLE HOUSE AND RUN IN THE WORLD

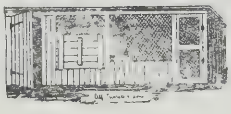
Constructed of best quality $\frac{5}{8}$-in. planed, tongued and grooved matching on strong frame. Fitted with up-and-down ventilating shutter over galvanised wire netting. Made in sections, easy for erection. Roof of tongued and grooved boards, covered with Bitumen felt. Outside painted Rot-proof.

Made in Complete Sections. Constructed of Strong Framing, Covered, Planed, Tongued and Grooved Boards.

Up-and-down sliding shutter as shown. Hen exit at side.
All Woodwork treated "Stop-rot."
Roof covered best quality Bitumen felt.

Wth	Height		Price.			Floor extra
	ft.	ins.	£	s.	d.	
	4	0	£1	8	6	7 6
	4	0	1	14	0	9/-
	4	6	2	16	0	14/-
	5	0	3	16	0	18 6

BANK POULTRY HOUSE AND RUN



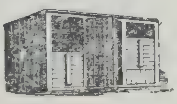
Length.	Width.	Height.		Price.			Floor to Pen extra
ft.	ft.	ft.	ins.	£	s.	d.	
10	3	4	0	3	1	6	7 6
12	4	4	0	3	11	6	9/6
12	5	4	6	4	14	0	14 -
12	6	5	0	6	8	6	18 6

E PERRY DUCK HOUSE

Strong and well made in sections to bolt together. All prices include floors All houses treated with "Stop-rot."

	Lgh.		Wdh.		Hgh.		Price.		
	ft.	in.	ft.	in	ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
No. 1	4	0	2	6	3	0	1	5	0
2	5	0	3	0	3	0	1	10	0
3	6	0	4	0	3	0	1	19	0

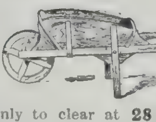
UURBIA POULTRY HOUSE



tof best quality $\frac{5}{8}$-in. ıgued and grooved g strong frame. Fitted n lown ventilating shut- g anised wire netting. se ons, easy for erection. ngued and grooved o ed with Bitumen felt. pated Rot-proof.

th.	Width.		Height.		Price.			Floor extra.
n.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	£	s.	d.	
0	4	0	4	0	1	18	6	10 -
0	5	0	4	0	3	3	0	15 -
0	6	0	5	0	4	5	0	20/-

GARDEN BARROWS

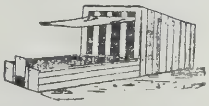


O or Ash Frame, El body. Size. 2 ft. t, 2 ft wide, 1 ft. iec Reliable 18-in ıh, $\frac{1}{2}$-in. iron tyre, clr at 23 6 each. ea make, large size, or arden Barrows, 250 only to clear at **28 6** each.
Tops for either of the above, **7/6** extra.

GARDEN EDGING

Plain. Price 5/- per 100 ft.
Treated. Price 6/- per 100 ft.

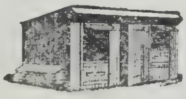
COMBINED COOP WITH RUN



Well-made highly finished Coop, fitted with shutter as illustration. This affords complete protection to birds against weather conditions and vermin. Size of Coop 23 in. wide, 21 in. deep, 22 in. high in front, 1 ft. at back. Length of run, 3 ft., with exit for chicks as shown.

Price .. .. **17 6** each.
Six for **£5 0 0**

INTENSIVE POULTRY HOUSE



A well-lighted and ventilated house. Made of best $\frac{3}{4}$-in. matching on strong framework. Roof framed with purlins and tongued and grooved boards with good felt to cover, making all weatherproof. Fitted with hinged glazed sashes and sliding shutters over wire netting. Complete with floor and strong joints, perches, dropping board, nest boxes, and door with lock and key.

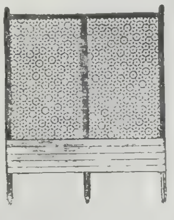
Length.	Width.	Height.	Price.		
ft.	ft.	ft.	£	s.	d.
7	5	7	5	17	0
9	6	7	7	5	0
10	7	8	10	15	0
12	8	8	15	0	0

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, Etc.

Size.	Price Per doz.	
	s.	d.
7 ft. x 2 in.	5	0
7 ft. x 2½ in.	6	0
8 ft. x 2½ in.	8	0
8 ft. x 3 in.	9	6
9 ft x 2½ in.	9	6
9 ft. x 3 in.	11	6
10 ft. x 2½ in.	10	6
10 ft. x 3 in.	13	6
12 ft. x 2½ in	12	0

Size.	Price Per doz.		
	£	s	d.
12 ft. x 3 in.	0	16	6
8 ft. x 4 in.	0	14	6
9 ft. x 4 in	0	16	6
10 ft. x 4 in.	0	18	6
8 ft. x 5 in.	1	0	0
9 ft. x 5 in.	1	4	0
10 ft. x 5 in.	1	6	0
12 ft. x 5 in.	1	8	6
14 ft. x 5 in.	1	10	0



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Gates for same, 5 ft. high, 2 ft. wide, complete with garnets for hanging.

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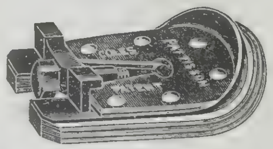

Fig. 1.—Pattern for Shod Horses.

Fig. 2.—No Welt Pattern.

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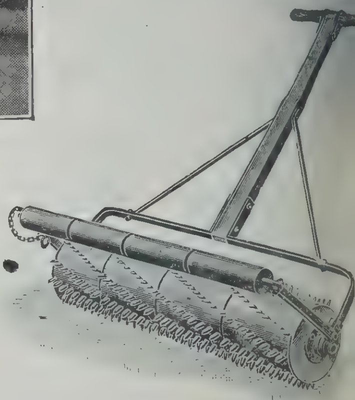
for

Aerating and Cultivating Turf on LAWNS



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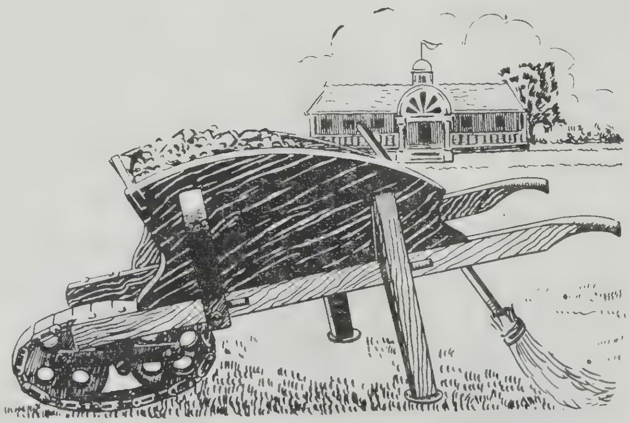

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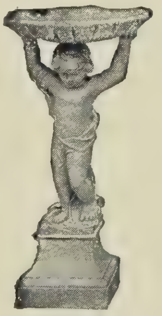

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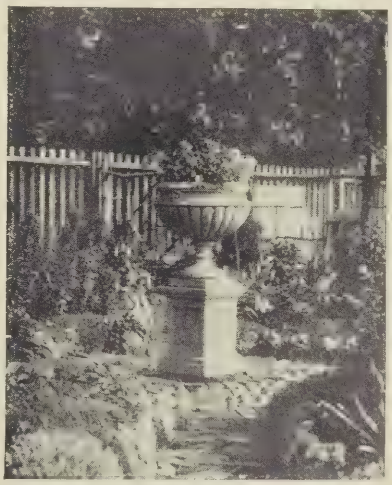

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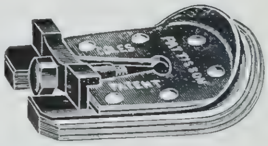
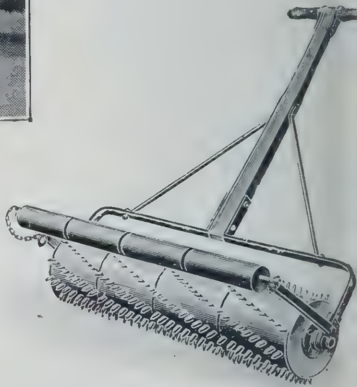


Fig. 1.—Pattern for Shod Horses.

Fig. 2.—No Welt Pattern.

THE SAREL PATEN SPIKED ROLLE for Aerating and Cultivating Fi Turf on LAWNS



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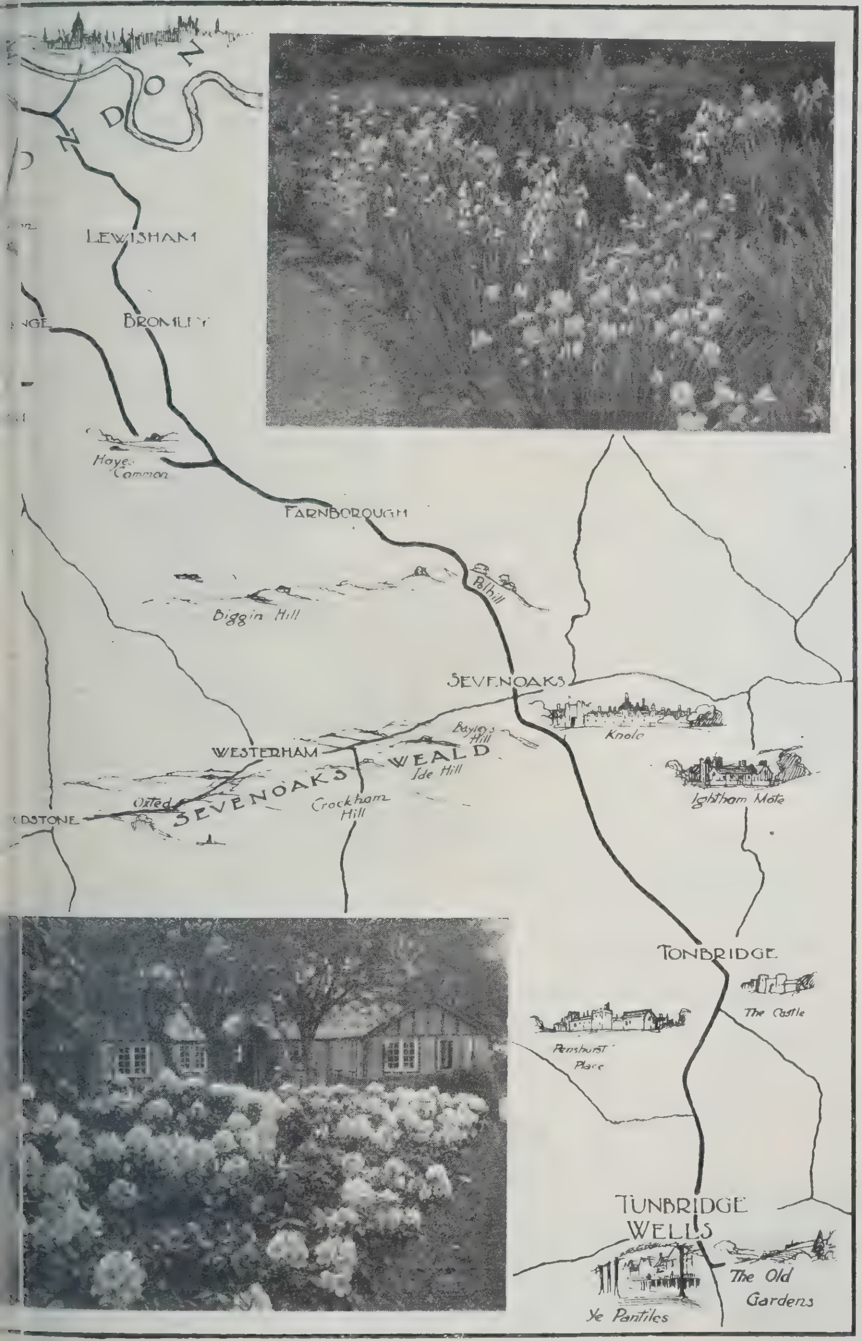
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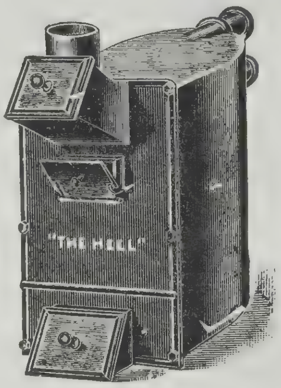

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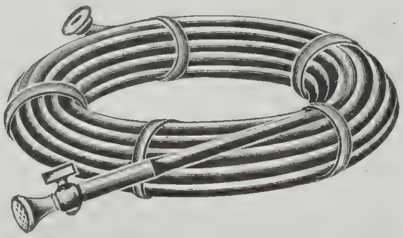

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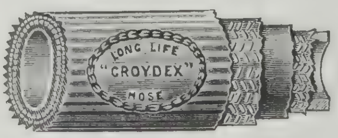

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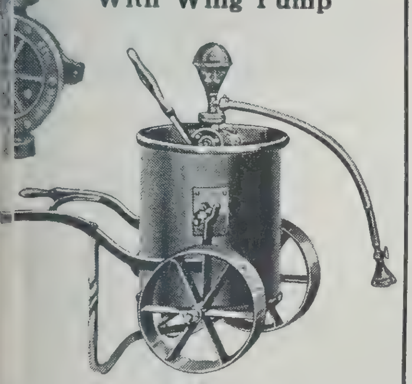

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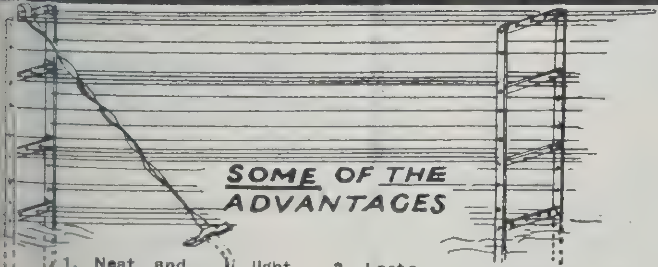

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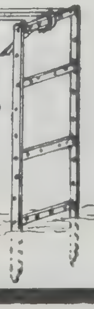

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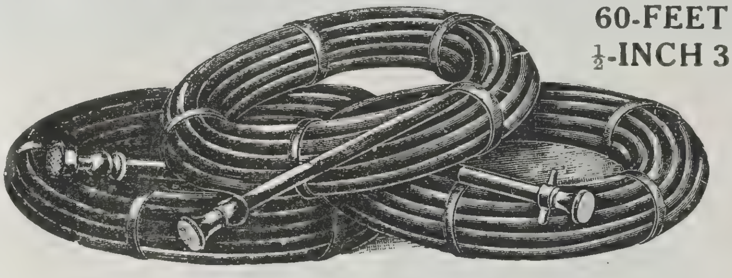

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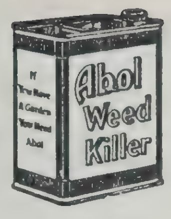

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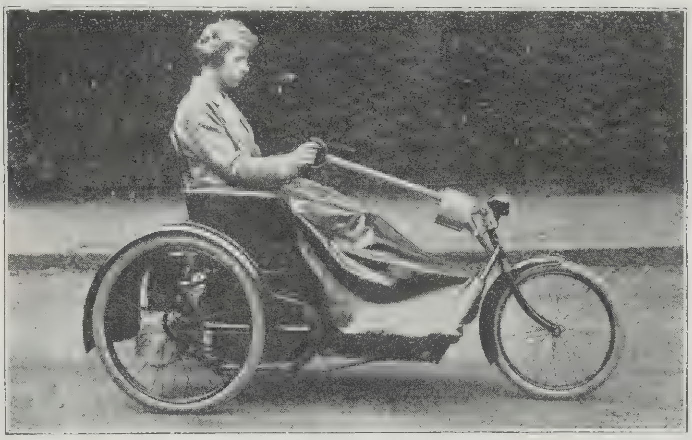

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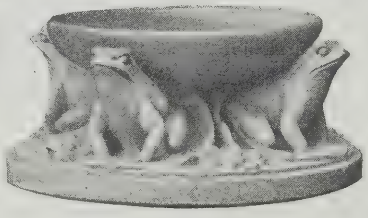

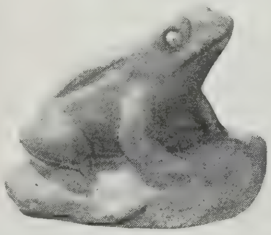

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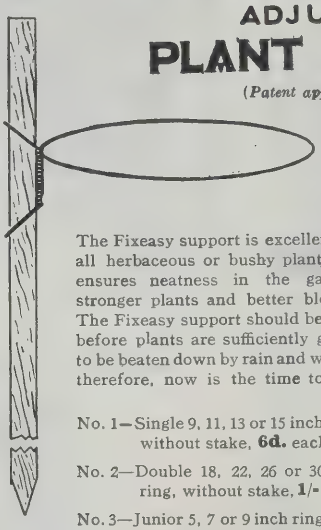

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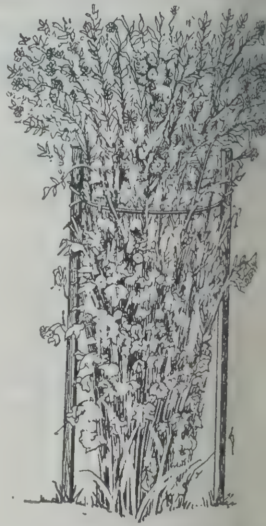

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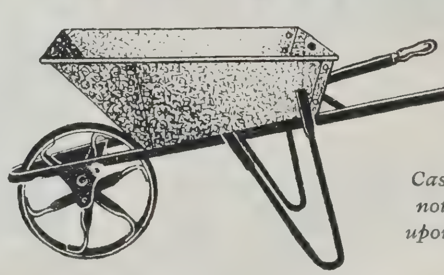

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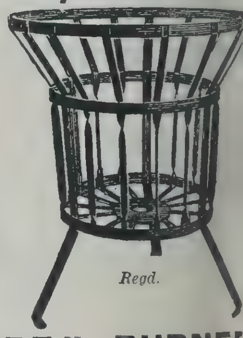

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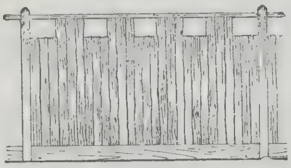

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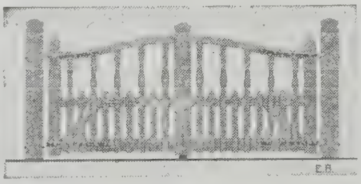

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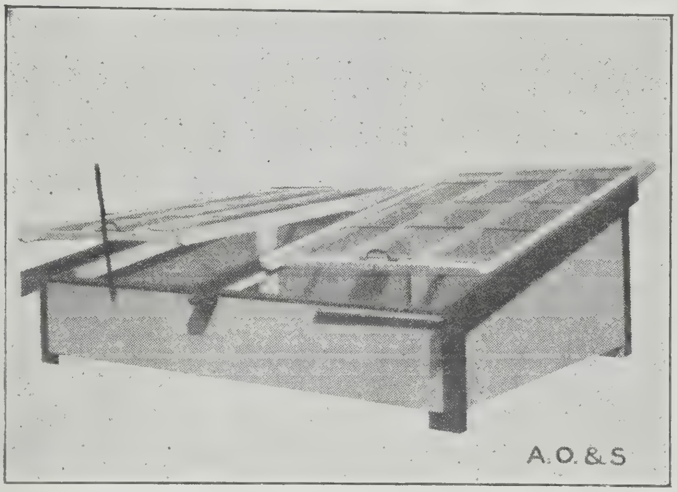

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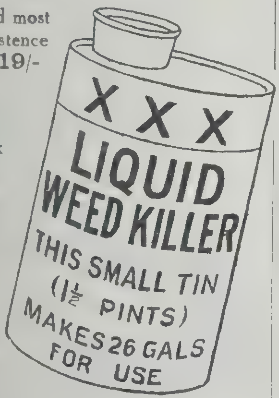

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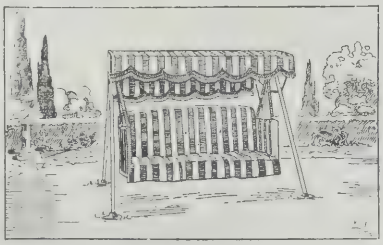

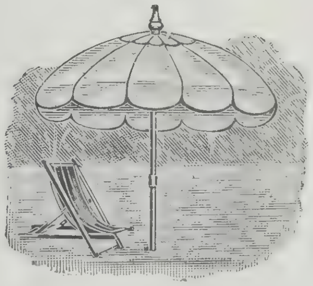

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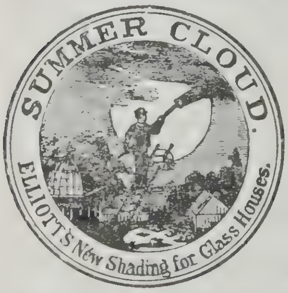

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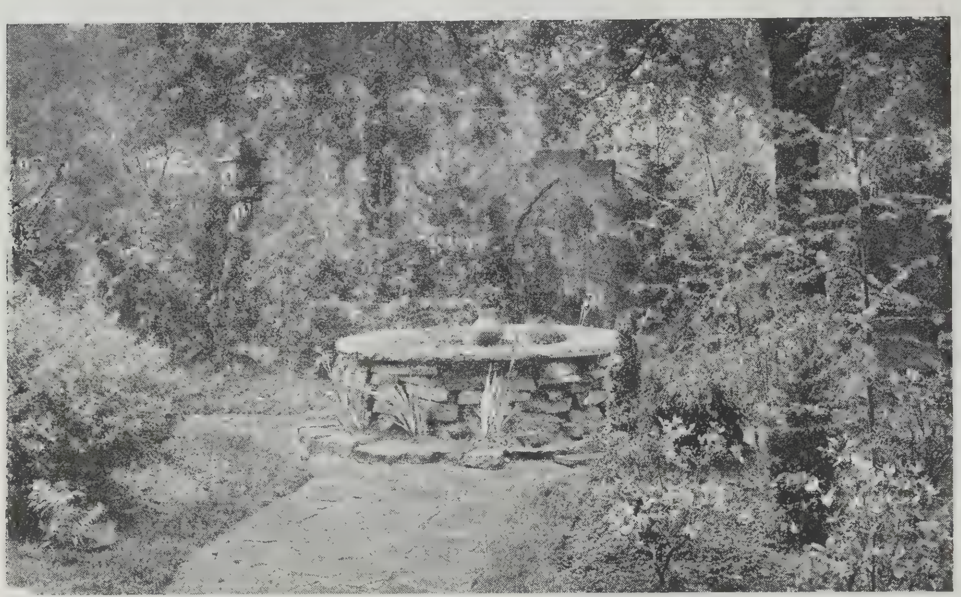

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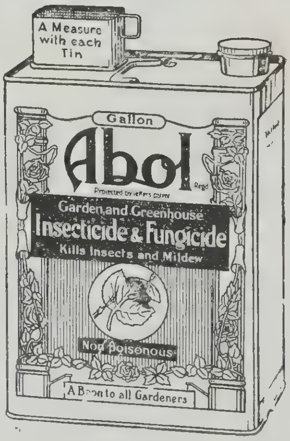

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20—VOL. LI. MAY 25, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World. 13/-

Fruit Blossom in the Garden

TER the enjoyment of several weeks of fruit blossom it is good to look back ar take stock of the trees which have r garden a fairyland of beauty. In q nce of the late season Apple blossom ll with us, and, indeed, at its best in M, while such late-flowering varieties yl Jubilee and Crawley Beauty will be n loom in June.

ely districts during a green winter ses occasionally certain varieties of s and Pears opening at the end of uary, but March, of course, is the al time for these to r, he several varieties of h arry on until April, Cherries follow in n and at the same time ar Pears. The sweet or rt Cherries blossom first, we at a later period by o or kitchen varieties Mello. May completes hi month of the fruit- r season, which, in a stoked garden of fruit the most beautiful o the year.

is oubtful if many people apreciate how beautiful rd freely planted with ees may be, and no rig shrub excels them in repect (excepting, per- yrus Aldenhamensis); d, very few produce that h f flower which a fruit a ies.

study our favourite rs our Roses, Carna- d know their points, mst varieties of fruits teir individuality and acrs which become the iteresting as we learn them better.

ui trees are usually planted for the sake he fruits. One naturally studies this ist, taking the beauty of their blossom a matter of course. Not so the bees, eve, and on a warm spring day the hum er adds charm to the scene.

akig them in the order of flowering, the ns which produce most blossom are rieties which also fruit more freely, r, Victoria, Pershore, Early Gis- , he Gages being rather less free- rig.

te Pears are beautiful, indeed, especially our favourite Louise Bonne of Jersey and Williams' Bon Chrêtien, but perhaps the most conspicuous of all is the blossom of Jargonelle, its large, bell-like flowers being unexcelled.

Of the Cherries there is little to choose between the dessert varieties, and some people also like the beautiful double-flowering sorts, the double French (white), Jas. H. Veitch and Hisakura (the two best pinks), but I want nothing more lovely than the late-flowering Morello.

The Apples are worth studying more than all. They have more individuality, last longer, and, flowering in the full heyday of spring, have a joy about them which is infectious.

A Cherry orchard in full bloom near Horsmonden, Kent

From a photograph taken on May 16th

We commence with the subdued blush-white Red Astrachan, the saucy rosy-pink Irish Peach; and then carry on with a plethora of laughing blossoms, such as the red-tipped buds of Lord Derby and Lane's Prince Albert (which never fails to produce garlands of flower), of the more sedate and formal Golden Spire, which, lasting for a considerable period until very late in the season, always sets its flowers in fruit.

If one likes a Peach-blossom pink the flowers of Brownlees Russet, Lord Suffield, and Darcy Spice are very bright, while among the almost white are Sops in Wine, Worcester Pearmain, and Red Juneating, all producing red-coloured fruit.

Of the finest of all Apples, Cox's Orange Pippin, one can only say that it blooms profusely in the same way as Jas. Grieve, and Mr. Gladstone, Bismarck, and Annie Elizabeth are flowers above the average in size.

Charles Ross carries us on until we come to Royal Jubilee and Crawley Beauty among the last of a great many of our spring flowers, thus carrying on the herald voices of spring until summer takes up the chorus in June.

There are over 200 varieties of Apples in cultivation, many with their own individuality, which make an interesting study, and England, where the Apple is so much at home, is one of the most beautiful lands of the earth when the Apple is freely planted.

LAURENCE J. COOK.

The Iris Society's Show and Programme

It is anticipated that the forthcoming Show will be the best in the annals of the Iris Society. Further interest to the Show is added by the deputations and exhibits from Iris growers on the Continent and in America. The show will be held in the Royal Horticultural Society's new hall, on Thursday and Friday, June 6th and 7th. This is the first occasion on which the Iris Society has attempted a two days' show, and every effort is being made to make it a success. The show will be opened at 12.30 p.m. on the first day by His Excellency the French Ambassador, and at 4.30 p.m., on the same day, the Iris Society, the Royal Horticultural Society, and the English Speaking Union will entertain members of the Garden Clubs of America to tea. At 11.30 a.m. on the second day, June 7th, there will be a discussion on "Garden Irises," to be opened by Mr. R.

W. Wallace, and at 3 p.m. Mr. P. R. Barr will deliver a lecture on "Iris Species for the Garden." Among the most important medals and trophies offered at this show are the Dykes Memorial Medal, to the best new seedling Iris; the Silver Medal of the American Iris Society, for the best twelve spikes of Bearded Irises of American origin or raising; the Iris Society's Challenge Cup (presented by Mrs. Philip Runciman), for the best exhibit of Irises staged by an amateur; the Gordon-Lennox Challenge Cup (presented by Lady Algernon Gordon-Lennox), for the best exhibit demonstrating the decorative value of Irises, on a space not exceeding 75 square feet (open to all); and the Christie-Miller Challenge Cup (presented by Mr. C. W. Christie-Miller), for the best collection of Iris species, arranged in a space not exceeding 30 square feet. The schedule may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary of the Society, Mr. G. L. Pilkington, Lower Lee, Woolton, Liverpool. Entry forms must be received not later than May 28th.

Tunbridge Wells Show

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Horticultural Society are holding their show on July 9th and 10th in the Calverley Grounds, which are opposite the Central Railway Station. Tunbridge Wells is a great centre for gardening, and the prize list, which is a particularly attractive one, is sure to secure good entries. There are both open trade displays and open classes, with the offer of several Challenge Cups in each of these sections. Ladies have opportunities of winning first class awards in the Table Decorations division. Mr. A. Heathfield, 42, Tunnel Road, Tunbridge Wells, is secretary of the society.

Gardens open to the public

By the courtesy of the owners, the following gardens will be open to the public during the coming week for the benefit of the Queen's Institute and District Nursing throughout England and Wales. A charge of 1s. is made for admission :—

SATURDAY, MAY 25th.

CHESHIRE.	
Alderley, Park, Chelford ..	.. The Lord and Lady Stanley of Alderley.
KENT.	
Swanley Horticultural College	Dr. Barratt.
MIDDLESEX.	
The Old Court House, Hampton Court. (Sir Christopher Wren's house. House shown, 1s. 6d.)	N. E. Lamplugh, Esq.
SURREY.	
Bury Hill, Dorking ..	.. Colonel R. W. Barclay.
Priest Hill, Limpsfield ..	.. W. Pye, Esq.
Titsey Place, Limpsfield	.. G. C. C. Leveson-Gower, Esq.
Westlands Farm, Burstow, Horley.	The Earl of Darnley.

SUNDAY, MAY 26th.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.	
Danesfield, Marlow ..	.. Mrs. Hornby Lewis.
Wittington, Marlow ..	.. The Rt. Hon. The Viscount Devonport, P.C.
CHESHIRE.	
Tirley Garth, near Tarporley ..	Mrs. Prestwich.
SURREY.	
Brooklands, Weybridge ..	.. Dame Ethel Locke King.
Kitlands, Holmwood ..	.. A. R. Heath, Esq.
EAST SUSSEX.	
Brede Place, Hastings ..	.. Lieut.-Commander O. M. Frewen.
Old Hall, Staplefield ..	.. Mrs. Foster Cunliffe.

MONDAY, MAY 27th.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.	
Batsford Park, Moreton-in-Marsh	Sir Gilbert A. Wills, Bart., O.B.E.
Sezincote, Moreton-in-Marsh ..	Colonel Arthur Dugdale, C.M.G., D.S.O.

TUESDAY, MAY 28th.

HAMPSHIRE.	
Basing Park, Alton ..	.. The Rt. Hon. W. G. Nicholson, M.P.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29th.

DEVONSHIRE.	
Haslewood, Kingsbridge	.. The Hon. Lady Peek.
HAMPSHIRE.	
Townhill Park, Bitterne, near Southampton.	The Lord Swaythbling.
KENT.	
Knowle, Sevenoaks (house 2s.)	The Lord Sackville.
SURREY.	
Alderbrook, Cranleigh ..	.. E. A. Chettle, Esq.
Crooksbury House, near Farnham	Commander W. Ginman.
Ham House, Petersham, Richmond	The Earl of Dysart.
Park Hatch, Godalming	.. J. Godman, Esq.
EAST SUSSEX.	
Chelwood Beacon, Chelwood Gate	The Earl of Donoughmore, K.P.
Newick Park, near Lewes	.. The Rt. Hon. Sir William Joynson-Hicks, Bart., P.C., M.P.
WEST SUSSEX.	
Cowdray, Midhurst ..	.. The Viscount Cowdray.
Warnham Court, Horsham	.. Captain C. E. Lucas.

THURSDAY, MAY 30th.

HEREFORDSHIRE.	
Foxley, Hereford .. .. (2 30 p.m.—6.30 p.m.)	.. Captain and Mrs. Hincks.
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.	
Holly Lodge, Oxton, Newark ..	Captain H. G. Sherbrook.
Oxton Hall, Newark ..	.. Mrs. Kyrle Smith.
SOMERSET.	
Wayford Manor, Crewkerne ..	L. Ingham Baker, Esq.
WEST SUSSEX.	
Compton's Brow, Horsham	.. Lieut.-Commander Millais.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1st.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.	
Chetwode Manor, Buckingham	Louis Fleischmann
Horwood House, Winslow	.. F. Denny, Esq.
CHESHIRE.	
The Holt House, Mobberley, Knutsford (11 a.m.—6 p.m.)	Mrs. Allen.
CORNWALL.	
Newton Ferrers, Callington (2—7 p.m.)	.. G. A. Burnett, Esq.
LANCASHIRE.	
Graythwaite Hall, Lakeside, Ulverstone (East Gate)	Major G. O. Sandys
SURREY.	
Peper Harow, Godalming	.. The Earl of Midlet
Sefton, St. George's Hill, Weybridge	Walter Shakespear
Winkworth Farm, Hascombe, near Godalming	Wilfred Fox, Esq.,
WARWICKSHIRE.	
Woodcote, Warwick ..	.. Sir Wathen Waller
YORKSHIRE (NORTH RIDING).	
Grey Towers, Nunthorpe	.. Sir Arthur J. Dorma

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

The African Blue Lily

One of the best-natured plants that can be grown in tubs for summer porch and terrace decoration is Agapanthus africanus (umbellatus), or African Blue Lily. The generic name, Agapanthus, is derived from the Greek and means "love flower." In June large umbels of clear blue flowers, resembling in form those of Clivia, are borne on stalks 2 feet or 3 feet high. When the plants are grown in conservatories or window gardens the foliage is evergreen and flowers appear in early spring, but the common practice is to rest the tubbed specimens over winter in a light, cool cellar where only enough water should be provided to keep the roots plump until spring, when growth may be started again. If the plants are crowded, they may be divided in spring and reset, preferably in tubs of sandy soil, as the heavy roots may burst clay pots. Dividing is made easier by first soaking the roots in water for a few hours. Heavy watering will be necessary during the blooming period. In addition to the type there is a white variety called albidus and one of dwarf habit and blue flowers named Mooreanus.

Agapanthus umbellatus (the African Blue Lily) in the grounds at Albury Park, near Guildford

Tulips producing many flowers o stem

I was interested to see in issue Ma page 322, that someone had been writ you about Tulips having several hea one stem. I had been thinking of w to you myself to ask if it was usual, as a large proportion of my Tulips have the same this year.

The main blooms have been speciall and now that they are going over th ones are coming on, which will prolo display for some time. They are cha little miniature flowers, hardly half th of the main blooms, but delightful for ing; and far from getting rid of my I shall do my best to encourage th supply a succession of blooms!

They are the real old-fashioned kind fragrant, which had been undisturbe generations, and we dug them all up a planted them about 2 years ago, whi certainly agreed with them.

L. E. Crof

Toberfechin Ballisodare,
Co. Sligo, Ireland.

——Having seen E. P. Silchester's *re* Tulips with as many as five buds, I like to say we have four beds of La Noire, and I find there are quite 35 pe of two, three, and four blooms on each this has not occurred in any other vari are growing. I have noticed a few i particular variety in other years.

Sussex. Holmestro

Effects of winter in North De

As far as can be seen, the effects most severe winter we have had sinc have, on balance, been good rather th in the garden. Of things killed outr can only find two or three of the br soft-leaved Veronicas and possibly on large old bush of yellow Calceolaria, may still sprout from the stump.

Of things killed at top and for som down, I note Ampelopsis sempervire some of the outdoor Fuchsias. So f shrubs, but of plants the Mesembry mums appear completely killed, and tions look very poor.

On the other hand, Roses, Flag Iri a host of plants that find our winte mild and damp are looking far bette usual.

Daffodils began the season very lat by early April had caught up to an a season, their stems (especially of the sorts) were rather short, but blooms good. Auriculas are now very goo

Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain, by water's edge at Newton Grange, Newbury, Berks

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rces, especially the early blues, suf- d more, I think, from the drought and wind than the actual frost.

verything coming on now seems extra uit blossom, Quince, Pyrus floridas Liliac, and all flowering shrubs. prolonged drought broke only about 14 s ago, but just in time to start grass, lins, etc. K. M. HINCHLIFF.

orrington House,
stow, N. Devon.

Tales of the great frost

o have read with interest the recent rts of others *re* the "great frost." I venture to send my observations here. This garden is very exposed—absolutely no shelter and within a few hundred yards of the Channel.

The only plants I have actually lost are:—Acacia Hanburyana, Leptospermums Boscaweni and multipetalus fl.-pl., many Mesembryanthemums, and Agathæa celeste.

Those cut severely but which are now breaking freely after cutting back are:—Acacia dealbata (30 feet), Calceolarias integrifolia and violacea, Fuchsias (many varieties), Ficus repens, Adiantum cap. ven., Solanum jasminoides, Metrosideros (perfect specimens, 3 feet to 6 feet), Ceratostigma Willmottiæ (5 feet bushes), Aloysia, Cassia corymbosa, Erica melanthera, Hypericum Œgypticum, Crinodendron Hookeri (perfect specimens, 8 feet through), Embothrium coccineum, Senecio rotundifolium, Clianthus puniceus and alba, Diplacus coccinea, Genista fragrans (perfect specimens, 10 feet through), Oleanders, Libonia floribunda, Eucalyptus globulus (70 feet high, stripped of leaves).

Others which have come through the ordeal very well are:—Mitraria coccinea, Damnacanthus, Sedum Barbatum, Punica granata, Acacia armata, Benthamia, Abutilons vitifolium and vexillarium, Carpentaria, Jasminum primulinum, Habrothamnus, Veronica Hulkeana (flowering grand), Daphne indica (covered with bloom since November). Other Daphnes unharmed are Cneorum blagayana and fioniana; Azaleas (indoor) in many varieties were not touched and are now in full bloom; also Kurume varieties, Lithospermums untouched, Drimys Winteri and Aromatica, Coronilla glauca, Gerberas, Ericas in many sorts; especially good are Australis and A. Mr. Robert Fabiana, Osmanthus Delavaya, Dracænas were unhurt, including red-leaved, Eucryphia pinnatifolia, Leptospermums Nicholi, scoparium, and Chapmani unhurt. All Cistus, the best being Silver Pink, Corypha australis, Grevilleas rosmarinifolia, thyrsiflora, and lutea, Teucrium latifolium (6 feet through), Edwardsia, Buddleia Colvillei, Escallonias in many sorts (Iveyi is the finest), all Abelias, Senecio Greyi (8 feet through), Clerodendrons, Fremontia Cal., Berberis Hyemalis, Viburnum Carlesi. H. L. WALL.

"Craigston," Exmouth, S. Devon.

Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

I HOPED someone would be kind enough to answer my query about the Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain, as one is always willing to cater for a lovely plant, but it needs must be discovered and understood. It seems evident that the Bartley Strain is not so universally easy as the crimson type. I cannot help thinking that they do not like a heavy, holding, cold soil, especially where we are, 420 feet above the sea, liable to 30 degs. of frost in winter.

I enclose a photograph if the Editor has room for it. [A very beautiful one, many thanks—ED.]

The question of drainage did not arise here as the plants were on a sloping bank to the stream, and the crimson plants grow to 10 tiers in the same place.

I was disappointed losing my own seedlings, as I generally find once I can get my own seed, plants are so much easier to establish. Perhaps Mr. Dalrymple has not such a cold climate. D. DES VŒUX.

Newbury.

Seedling Begonias

It is seldom that one can have these large enough for bedding-out purposes the first year, and to grow such large number in pots is hardly practicable. In this connection, a good plan is to make up a bed of good compost, under a cold frame, and plant the seedlings therein. In most cases, the plants will bloom well there and so permit of the finer forms and colours being marked for pot culture next year. Keep well shaded from all sunshine.

The Daffodil season of 1929

I HAVE seen some forty Daffodil seasons come and go, and I think that of 1929 has been the worst I ever remember! The poor things have had almost every kind of hard treatment that Nature could deal out to them—intense frost, bitter east winds, and no rain when they most needed it. The frost of mid-April, 14°, spoilt thousands of blooms, all but the late varieties and such as had extra strong stalks went down on their faces to the ground, never to rise again. Many of the flower stems were actually broken—not severed, but what the doctors call a " green stick fracture." Some good comes out of most misfortunes, and this frost did some good in proving which varieties were the best able to withstand severe frost. Florist's Delight took no notice at all, but all stood up as stiff as ramrods. King of May, a very late Yellow Trumpet, Beau Brummel, a Giant Yellow Incomp. Bulwark, and several other Trumpets held their heads up through it all; while others, such as King Alfred and Van Waveren's Giant, suffered very badly.

Here in the Midlands the flowering season was very late, and I was unable to take any flowers to the R.H.S. special Daffodil Show on April 16th. Even as these notes are being written there are still some flowers to look at, including Red Cups, late Barriis, such as Princess Miriam and Lady Moore, King of May, quite good, and quite a lot of Poets; in fact, the latest of these are yet to open.

Strange to say, in spite of the trying weather some few things have been better than usual this year. Fortune, Red Cross, Beau Brummel, Barbaric, Puritan Maiden, Sunset Glow, Advance Guard (early Yellow Trumpet), Princess Miriam, Van Waveren's Giant (2 years down), and Mr. Guy Wilson's King of May.

Fortunately, the long-looked-for rain came in time to help the growth of the foliage, and there is every prospect of a good crop of bulbs, though the flowers were, on the whole, far below the average. Some of the Poets produced very good blooms, John Masefield, Rupert Brooke, Horace, Acme, and Sarchedon in particular. As usual, the Poets which had been in for two years gave the best results, both as to quality of bloom and growth of the plants.

J. DUNCAN PEARSON.

Lowdham, Notts.

The beautiful Princess Miriam, a late Barrii

The bright orange-red corona is in marked contrast to the pure white perianth

Wake Up, Gardeners!

An appeal for gardeners' orphans

MR. SAMUEL WALLROCK presided at the annual festival in aid of the Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund at the Savoy Hotel on May 15th. It was one of the most successful gatherings in the history of this deserving fund. In proposing the toast " The Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund," the Chairman made a touching appeal on behalf of the fund, which is serving such an admirable purpose. The friends of the fund made a ready response to the Chairman's appeal, and by his personal efforts he added 191 new subscribers to the list. The response to the appeal, he said, was most gratifying, but he could not understand the lamentable support that the fund received from gardeners throughout the country. Comparatively few gardeners were keen in their support, others were lamentably slack. After all, gardeners should do something towards providing for their babies. Let this be our motto, he said : " Wake up, Gardeners." We agree with the expression by Mr. Wallrock, and the thanks of all gardeners are due to him for his generous efforts on behalf of the fund. We know only too well that gardeners, as a whole, are not able to contribute large sums—if they were, there would be little or no need for the orphan fund. We know, too, that many gardeners do not contribute direct to the fund, because the amount they could afford is very small! but no amount is too small, and we shall be only too happy to forward to this deserving cause any sums, however small they may be, sent to this office. Moreover, we shall be pleased to bring to the notice of the fund any deserving cases of gardeners' orphans whether from subscribers or not.

Mr. Edward Sherwood, the Hon. Treasurer of the fund, referred to another way in which gardeners may help, and that is by collecting boxes in gardens. He acknowledged with deep gratitude the good service by garden owners who throw their gardens open to the public and make a small charge for so doing on behalf of the fund. Those requiring collecting boxes may obtain them from the Secretary, Mr. A. C. Bartlett, 19, Bedford Chambers, Covent Garden, W.C.2.

To return to the festival gathering,

Supporting the Chairman were Mrs. Wallrock; Lord and Lady Monkswell; Sir Edward Mountain, Bart., J.P.; Sir Percy C. Simmons, K.C.V.O., J.P.; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Monro; Alderman and Mrs. F. H. Homan; Col. F. R. Durham (Secretary R.H.S.) and Mrs. Durham; Mr. Noel Sutton; Mr. Wm. Cuthbertson, V.M.H., J.P., and Mrs. Cuthbertson; Mr. and Mrs. E. Sherwood; Mr. Leonard Sutton; Lady Humphreys; Miss Edith Eckersley; Mr. George J. Nicholls; Mrs. Fincham
Owen Sebag Montefiore; Mrs. Cecil
Montefiore; Mr. F. A. Secrett; and th
Cannon Hewitt and Mrs. Hewitt.
stewards were Messrs. D. Ingamells,
McCleod, J. M. Bridgeford, G. H. Ba
A. C. Bartlett (Secretary).

A telegram was sent to H.M. the
at the commencement of dinner as an
sion of loyalty and wishes for H.
King's good progress and recovery
return to Windsor.

After the loyal toasts, including H.
Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wale
the members of the Royal Family, ha
honoured, Mr. Wallrock gave the t
the Fund. He had, he said, received
of apology for non-attendance from
distinguished people, most of who
sent contributions. They include
Gerald Loder (President R.H.S.
Marquis of Winchester; Lord Riddell
Waring; Lord Dewar; Lord Nelson
Bearsted; and many others. Many o
were new subscribers to the fund.
ing for support for the fund, Mr. W
asked his audience to picture a child
place of a young plant. One knew wh
pened to a young plant if it was not p
cared for, the same applied to childre
felt that 5s. a week was not sufficient
ance, it should be 10s. The Chairman
for more support for the fund
gardeners; a support which was rathe
ing at present. He coupled with th
the name of Mr. E. Sherwood
Treasurer of the fund).

Mr. Sherwood, responding, said th
was instituted in 1887; the first dinne
held a year later. The loss that th
had suffered during the War had,
glad to state, been made good; in fa
sum allowed per week had been incre
7s. 6d. since Easter, and the increa
been received with great gratitude.
had over 70 children on their books, an
year there were more coming on who
the allowance. The fund was
economically managed, the annual e
being only £300 to £400, the Comm
work being a labour of love. He wi
express gratitude to the Chairman
excellent work he had done in maki
increased allowance possible; to the
Associations throughout the countr
made collections for the fund in th
spective districts; to the Committee,
larly its Chairman, Mr. Ingamells,
Secretary, Mr. Bartlett. Mr. Sherwo
referred to the loss sustained in the
during the year, of Lord Lambourn
H. J. Jones, and Mr. C. Dixon.

Mr. Geo. Monro, proposing the
tors," deplored the old days when n
were present at these dinners. He w
to see present, not only many old
but numbers of new friends also.

Sir Edward Mountain, Bart., J.P.,
for the visitors.

The Chairman's health was propo
Sir Percy Simmons, who referred
Wallrock's great gardening interes
very fine garden. The toast was give
musical honours. The Chairman
shortly, after which Mr. A. C.
(Secretary) announced that donations
fund amounted to £1,442.

The last item of the evening
spontaneous tribute to the Secretary
George Nicholls proposed Mr. Ba
health, and it was given with
honours.

During the evening the compan
entertained by Miss Catherine Stewar
Pett Fraser, Messrs. Herbert Sim
Leonard Henry, and Ralph Norris.

arry Miles was again responsible for al decorations, and, as usual, the vere quickly denuded of flowers by esent at the end of the proceedings.

ubscription list included :—

nan's list.—The Chairman (Mr. Wallrock), 100 guineas; Mr. Wm. tson, £100; Messrs. Sutton and £50; Marquis of Winchester, 20 ; Lord Riddell, 10 guineas; Sir Mountain, Bt., 10 guineas; Sir Simmons, K.C.V.O., 10 guineas; utto, 10 guineas; Messrs. Barr and guineas; Mr. W. Wells, jun., 7 Messrs. Pulham and Son, 6 guineas; Duncan Tucker (Tottenham), Ltd., ias; Lord Dewar, 5 guineas; Lord , 5 guineas; Mrs. Wm. Cuthbert- ; The Knight of Kerry, £5.

hairman's personal stewards' list.—win Beckett, £40 (including Hon. Gibbs, £15 15s.); Mr. J. C. All- 22 6s. 6d. (including self, £5 5s.); H. Holloway, The Manor Gardens, e, £17 13s. 9d.; Mr. W. H. Lees, ncluding self, £5); Mr. Harold £9 1s. 6d. The Chairman's personal led £832 1s. 9d.

ss. Hurst and Son (per Mr. Edward d), 50 guineas; Messrs. Rothschild s, 25 guineas; Royal Horticultural 20 guineas; Mr. W. L. Bradbury, eas; Mr. W. T. Paulin, 10 guineas; Corry and Co., Ltd., 10 guineas; Stewart and Son, Ltd., 7 guineas; B. Leach, 6 guineas; Mr. E. T. is, guineas.

each.—Mrs. May Campbell, Mrs. hepherd, Mr. W. E. Churcher, Mr. shall, Mr. Noel Berridge, Messrs. and Sons, Ltd., Mr. W. F. Read, ed Dawkins, Mr. Charles Heidsieck, Waterer, Sons and Crisp, Ltd., W. H. Cutbush and Son, Ltd., the rt Flower Show Committee, the tural Trades' Association, the rners' Chronicle," and £5 10s. 6d. tig box.

ch.—Mrs. Edwin Tate, Lord Lever-, Sir Otto Beit, Bt., Mr. Gerald W. r, Mr. W. Michell.

ARDS' LISTS.

. M. Bridgeford (Messrs. Watkins npson) (75 guineas), including the ed Seed Growers, Inc., U.S.A., 50 Messrs. J. Bodger and Son, Los £5 5s.; Messrs. Watkins and Simp- Id., £5 5s.; Mr. Alfred Watkins, 5s. Mr. J. M. Bridgeford, £5 5s.; and A.H. Howard, £5 5s.

F. McLeod, £30 (including £5 D. B. Crane).

E. Dixon's list, £25.

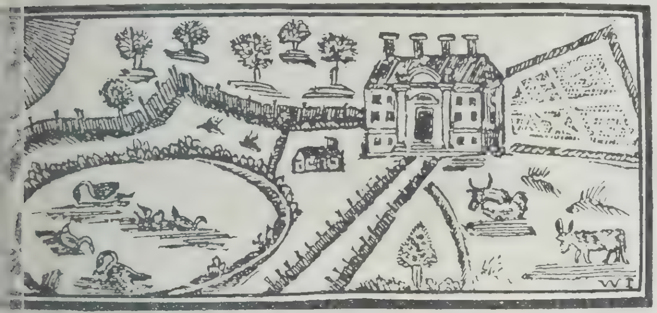
W. Metcalfe's list £13 13s.

T GARDEN LIST.

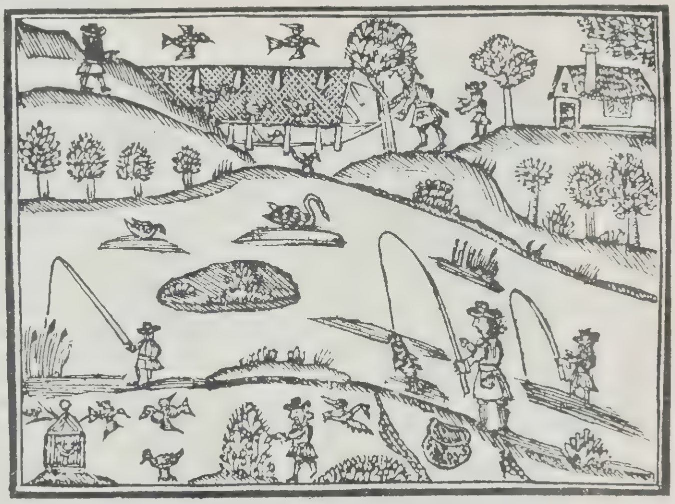
r. David Ingamells (total, £295 5s.), including Mr. George Monro, 20 guineas; Mr. F. A. Secrett, 20 guineas; and 10 guineas each from Messrs J. Poupart, David Ingamells, Harry Miles, J. L. Kinnell, John Cull, M. Larsen and A. C. Harris; Mr. H. F. Hannibal and Mr. Raymond Rochford, £7 7s. each; Mr. H. T. Bates, £6 6s.; £5 5s. each from Messrs. John Firmin, Mr. A. Dimmock, Mr. Walter Turner, Messrs. Walter T. Ware, Ltd., Mr. John Kirk, Mr. John Linford, Mr. R. A. Witty, Mr. A. H. Stevens, Mr. W. Maxwell, Mr. A. H. Maxwell, Mr. Frank Ladds, Mr. H. J. Jolis, Mr. W. Stevens, Mr. G. T. Woodstock, Mr. H. J. Edwards, Mr. Alfred Ward, Messrs. Charlesworth and Co., Ltd., Mr. W. A. Robins, Mr. N. Staddon, Mr. H. O. Larsen, Mr. Frank R. Ridley, Mr. A. Baibridge.

Studley Royal and a Forgotten Poet

AMONG the famed gardens of the eighteenth century, Studley Royal, near Ripon, took an honoured place. Horace Walpole intended to visit it in 1772. "You must be so good," he writes to the Rev. William Mason, "to tell me of my road and if there is anything in my way worth stopping to see—I mean, literally to see—for I do not like guessing whether a bump in the ground is Danish, British, or Saxon . . . . I shall go to Lord Strafford, and thence to make excursions to York, Beverley, Castle Howard, and Mr. Aislabie's."



View of Studley Royal (not to scale)



"Where patient anglers lure the finny tribe"

This last-named gentleman was the owner of Studley Royal, and Member of Parliament for Ripon, and it was the opinion of visitors that the house, with all its elegance, was far outshone by the splendour of the grounds. These gardens found their eulogist in a poet, Mr. Peter Aram, a name unknown to the authors of the Dictionary of National Biography, but one surely that deserves to be preserved in the annals of horticulture. His long, descriptive poem, in which he maintains, for no less than twenty pages, a lyric enthusiasm at a remarkably high temperature, should not be lost to posterity. Studley had, it seems, as every good garden of that century, its cool grots, its cascades, its airy eminences, and other modish ornaments. The artificial mountain :—

> "Where Michells Mount is eminently seen,
> Whose Summit flourishes with Ever-Green."

> "Mazes, like that of antient *Crete* deſign'd,
> 'Mongſt the thick Groves in ſpiral Allies wind.
> But, to my Taſte, the Maſter-Work of all!
> Superior ſhines the Walk of Wattle-Hall:
> Where every Grace and Excellence we find,
> To pleaſe the Fancy, and improve the Mind:
> Long thro' the Windings of the Courſe we ſtray,
> More ſweetly loſt in Pleaſure, than the Way;
> More Beauties riſe, than can with Words be nam'd;
> The more we look, the more we are inflam'd."

It is to be regretted that our poet was not, so far as can be deduced from his work, a serious botanist; he confines himself to genera in a rather suspicious manner, but how can we complain where knowledge is replaced by such enthusiasm ?

> "Dales, once ungraceful and perplext with Thorn,
> Now fragrant Myrtle and green Yew adorn.
> Various Boſcage each *Tumulus* does grace,
> Both the *Perennial*, and the Flow'ry Race;
> 'Mongſt which the Holly in rich Splendour ſhines,
> Adorn'd with Silver and with Golden Spines;
> And *Laurus* too, for which ſtout Gen'rals fight,
> For Whoſe green Wreaths immortal Poets write.
> Here Sucklings ſweet their feeble Branches twine
> Round the ſmooth Trunk of the aſpiring Lime;
> *Mizereon*, *Jeſſamin*, and *Roſes* there,
> With all the Fragrance of the youthful Year;
> The yellow *Primroſe* and the *Violet*,
> Confus'dly ſpring, by Nature's Order ſet;
> Whoſe graceful Odours, mingling with the Air,
> Diffuſe their Sweetneſs, and invite the Fair
> To walk abroad in Gardens, Groves and Fields,
> And view the Beauties which kind Nature yields."

It was, however, to be strictly understood that these shady groves were to be employed only by chaste and discreet lovers, though Aram fully realised the weakness of human nature.

> " Believe me nymphs, it will require
> Your utmost efforts to repress desire."

But Aram shows his greatness never more than in his introductory poem to Mr. William Fisher, the gardener and, one gathers, architect of all these delights.

Too often do we forget the real and " onlie begetters " of our beloved gardens, their work remains but their name passes into an undeserved oblivion. I cannot do better than quote, in conclusion, this precious witness to Mr. William Fisher. It may be that we have no more an Aram in our midst, but we in England know—who better ?—that the art of Fisher still lives and flourishes.

TO
MR. WILLIAM FISHER,
GARDENER in Chief
To the Right Honourable
JOHN AISLABIE, Efq;
At STUDLEY.

No meaner Art, and no inferior Toil,
Could give fuch Rules, or fo adorn the Soil.
'Tis juft that He, who did thefe Scenes contrive,
Should have his Memory preferv'd alive;
That future Ages by thefe Lines may know
What to ingenious FISHER's Name they owe;
(If fuch as thefe can Names immortal make,
And of ETERNITY a Share partake:)
Whofe happy Genius has in Planting fhown
Arts more polite, than to our Fathers known;
Adept in all the GARDEN Myfteries,
Of Herbs and Flow'rs, in Legumes, and in Trees;
Their various Qualities and Habits fhow,
How beft to plant, and when the Time to fow:
To each its proper Soil, and Afpect, give;
Tell where it will, and where it will not thrive:
Learn'd in Defign of quick inventive Thought,
That has this PARK to fuch Perfection brought:
Each Spot, being emulous to pleafe us moft,
May fome peculiar Grace and Beauty boaft.
The whole Compofure's of fo fine a Frame,
That Art can add no more, nor Envy blame.

Ye Pow'rs! who over Flow'rs and Trees prefide,
For Him a Wreath compos'd of each provide,
Of niceft Texture and delightful Hue,
Place on his Head, an Ornamental Shew:
There in full Luftre glitter on his Brow,
Thofe Plants and Flow'rs, which by his Hand did grow.

It is, perhaps, well to say that Aram's Poem is to be found in " The Ancient and Modern History of the Loyal Town of Rippon," by Mr. Thos. Gent, printer, York, 1733.

E. A. Bunyard.

Drimys Winteri, or Winter's Bark, now flowering in a Cornish garden

Flowers pale yellow with green carpels

This plant was brought home by Capt. Winter (after whom it was named) in one
Drake's ships from the Magellan Straits

Notes from a Cornish garden

(Continued from page 341.)

ONE thing I was shown in the other garden I visited down west which made me think, and that was a couple of scented Rhododendrons, which I was told had been in pots for 30 years. They were some 6 feet high and had been frequently cut back, but even then it seemed almost unbelievable. Some of my more tender hybrids are going back into pots as a consequence, but it is an undeniable risk, owing to the difference of conditions. In the case of the plants mentioned there is a first-class gardener in charge, who scarcely ever leaves them, whereas here they would be looked after by a mere amateur whom untoward circumstances occasionally takes away from home, and who has no one really efficient with whom to leave them. Nor is there here any room in the one greenhouse, and the big frame is but 4 feet high, so that they will soon grow out of it. And when they do, woe betide them, for a plant that has long been confined to a pot does not readily spread from its ball when it is put in the open ground.

The past winter has, of course, been a severe one, and certainly some plants have suffered badly even in Cornwall, yet there are remarkable exceptions. Rhododendron Lindleyi under a north wall here has 32 trusses on it, and, curiously enough, came out some days before another plant near the south wall, which had but 14. But that is probably to be accounted for by the absence of rain.

A hybrid, Lindleyi x bullatum, is also covered with flower under the north wall, and further afield I see that two large bushes of R. Aucklandii are promising well. The explanation appears to be that the frosts were continuous, did not begin very severely, and were not interrupted by warm spells that excited the plants into premature growth.

And now the fates have again taken me to the garden in the west, where I stayed for the Truro Flower Show, and there, during the intervals of justifying my existence by doing some potting and pricking out some seedlings for the head gardener, I have made the acquaintance of a good many
hitherto scarcely appreciated. There
instance, among many fine Conifers,
Pseudotsuga Douglasii, Thuya plic
the graceful Picea morinda, good s
of Pinus Montezumæ, Cunni
sinensis, and Sciadopity verticillata.

" It is obvious that you know
whatever about Bamboos," said a fri
owns one of the most interesting ga
these parts, after setting me a con
so I will not attempt to name th
luxuriating here. Arundinaria fal
nobilis, and A. Hookeri are certainl
ficent, and I noticed among others
common Phyllostachys Castillonis.
rate, they were all looking very pre
had suffered little from the winter.

Several great bushes of Rhod
Aucklandii are coming out, and its
Glory of Penjerrick, Gill's Trium
Trebah Gem, are in full flower. A
was a healthy bush of the tender R
dron Boothii tucked away down th
making a fine lot of new shoots, bu
less owing to its shaded situation.
Cornwall this species exists and s
flowers, but is apt to get cut in hard

The purple Prostanthera rotundi
come through with flying colours
blooming excellently, but Sollya
phylla, the delicate little " Bluebell
though showing some green leaves,
badly damaged.

Embothrium coccineum is beginn
is much later than usual, whilst
Winteri, some 25 feet high, is a
cream-coloured flowers from top to

Rhododendron Countess of Hadd
covered with its scented pink-tinted
and does not seem to have had
frosted as it usually does further no
the even sweeter Lady Alice Fitzwil
just opened its first bloom.

Some 3-foot seedlings of Rhod
Augustinii (4238 W.) have begun t
and I was glad to see that they ha
duced their parent's blue colour. T
ticular importation of seed seems
been the best, and though the origin
may very likely come through, it i

in a large garden that pollen from variety may have been introduced d a modification.

the features of the garden at the is a stream edged with literally hun- Primula helodoxa mingled with a ble number of P. pulverulenta and ds. Arum Lilies are among them, ot quite in bloom yet, and Japanese cupy a bed on one side, and the rops into a little Lily pond and so valley.

a Forrestii is happy in a masonry of P. chionantha remains only the ar as could be seen. Yet the situa- en for it looked promising, and its ay have been due to rabbits, which ently been scratching near by; or possibility is that drip from the trees e winter may have done the damage. siana is at home, so far, in a dry ear the house, and two of its great d flowers are just open. How long rvive in this damp climate remains n, but the roots of the creeper on will doubtless keep it fairly dry.

erops excelsa and several other known to me by name have reached size, and these, Cordyline australis æna indivisa, justify the appellation Cornish Riviera." One of the y the way, has a 3-foot Holly grow- f its stem about 6 feet up.

ias are going over, and a big bush iculata, the best of the lot, is, I fear, , as some branches are dead and oking sick; and it will have to be for it thrives down here, and not but something wrong at the root ve produced this state of things. I t yet succeeded with this in north , and it may be that it would do the open than against a wall, where to get too dry.

"PETER THE HERMIT."

Iris Lorteti

species, from South Lebanon, is seldom encountered, but is so amaz- lovely that when once seen it must ain an object of desire. The falls are creamy-yellow, overlaid with rich spots, then becoming confluent at e; the standards are white, faintly ith violet, a lovely design worthy of st inspection. The species is prone derable variation, and the above on may be accepted as fairly accurate erage specimen.

liage is similar to that of I. Susiana, a little longer and broader; and the s near to I Gatesii and I. Sari. g in late spring, I. Lorteti should be in a warm situation, in a light, il at the base of a south wall. After , the roots must be subjected to a ripening, and unless the summer and dry, it may be well to place a t or handlight over the plants, as roughly ripened roots will flower rily.

eti is not a new species; it flowered Michael Foster so long ago as is now offered, from time to time, lists. Many of the rarer and most bulbous and tuberous Irises are ommodated in pans, and when in ey are delightful ornaments for the nhouse or conservatory; this method e also assures a good ripening to the he plants should not be cramped for r should they be afforded too much ither extreme being an undoubted

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Manuring the Rose garden

Now that the Rose bushes are pruned, something in the way of food will have to be applied to their roots. Of course, newly planted Roses had some good fresh stuff placed about their roots when they were planted. This, with liquid when they are in full growth and the ground moist, will keep them going for a season. It is, however, quite different with established plants. They must have something good or the results will be poor. The Rose, like other plants, seems to prefer a change of food.

When the soil is of a retentive nature, decomposed cow manure carefully forked in about their roots serves the purpose very well, and eventually acts as a rooting medium. Burying the manure is an important operation, for if the digging fork is carelessly used among the roots much harm may be done. In Rose beds and borders, where the soil is not so retentive, bonemeal appears to act well as a food. Rose plants that have been fed with decomposed cow manure for a time relish a dose of bonemeal by way of a change. Wood ashes, when they are to be had, are also an excellent food for Rose plants.

During the growing season, if the soil is not moist with heavy showers, the hose-pipe should be used. Liquid manure is applied, and, failing liquid, "Roseate" Rose manure comes next; but the latter must be applied with care. A handful dissolved in a three-gallon canful of water is a fair amount for a start; as the season advances and the roots of the plants become more numerous, the quantity of either the liquid or Roseate may be increased.

JAMES A. PAICE.

"Copseham," Esher.

Daphne Cneorum (the Garland Flower)

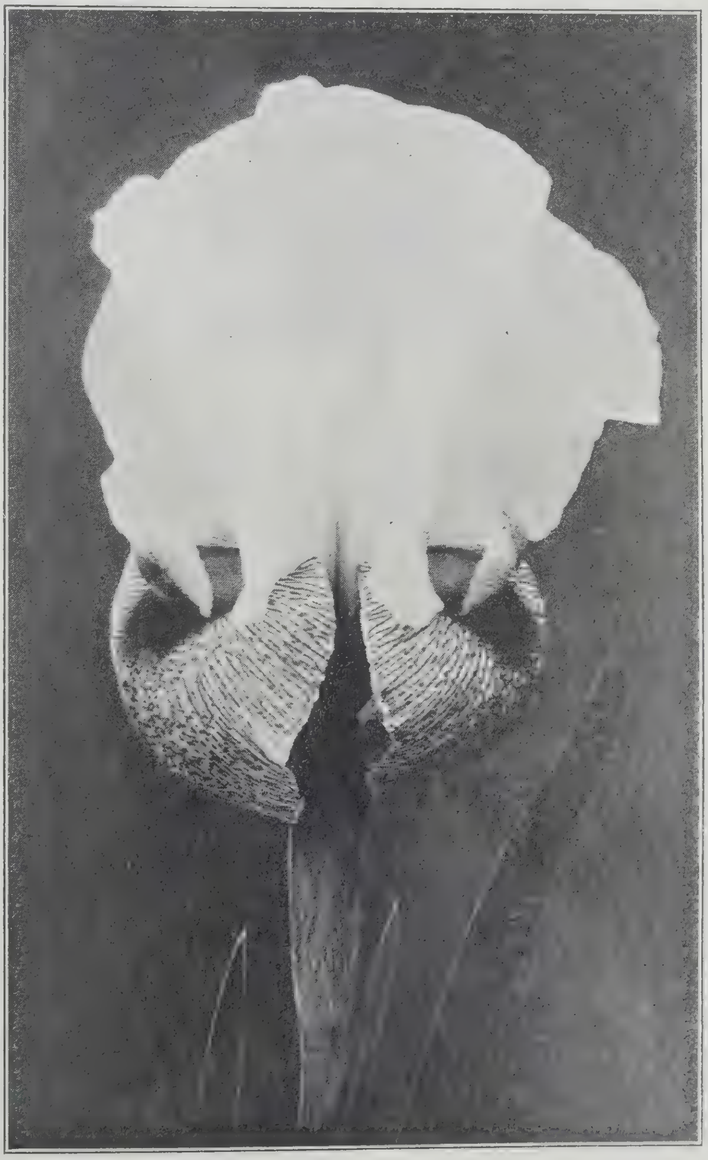
This beautiful shrub is indispensable in the rock garden. It has a nice dwarf spreading habit, is only 12 inches high, and produces rounded heads of vivid pink flowers, which are deliciously fragrant.

It commences to bloom in April, continuing well on until the end of May, looking like a large pink cushion, for it completely hides its evergreen foliage when in flower.

Daphne Cneorum is of easy cultivation provided it is planted in peaty soil and has good drainage. The flower heads should be cut off carefully when past their best to keep the shrub in vigour.

This species is best propagated by layers, also by cuttings of ripened wood in the autumn.

R. MOORE.



Iris Lorteti, a bulbous species with large, spreading standards

Rare and difficult to cultivate

-and so to Chelsea!

A Brilliant Pageant of Flowers — Many New Exhibitors — Magnificent Tulips

THE glorious weather of the Whitsun holiday continued to the opening day of the show and is reflected in the bright and brilliant pageant of Chelsea. Year after year a higher standard of excellency is reached at Chelsea, and this show is in many ways an advance on those that have gone before. Perhaps the greatest advance is seen in the formal, woodland, and water gardens seen outdoors in the main avenue. Some of these really beautiful gardens are illustrated in this report. When we compare these gardens with those of seven or eight years ago we must be impressed by the advance in design, construction, and planting that is taking place year after year. Greater imagination is still required—the modern garden, like the modern house, is undergoing a great change.

A good deal of forcing has been necessary to make this show a success. There is no need to remind readers of the cold and backward spring and the great difficulties that exhibitors have had to contend with. But difficulties, so far as nurserymen and seedsmen are concerned, are only made to be overcome. Never before have we seen Pæonies so well shown. These alone provide a triumph of the skill of present-day cultivation. The Irises again are extremely good, so are the Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Roses, Lilies, Carnations, Salpiglossis, Calceolarias, and Sweet Peas, while the Tulips are finer than ever. Barr's are showing the most magnificent collection of Tulips we ever remember seeing at Chelsea.

The Sherwood Cup, the blue riband of the gardening world, once more goes to Sutton and Sons for their magnificent collection of flowers and greenhouse plants from seed.

The Cain Cup for the best exhibit by an amateur is won by the owners of that famous garden at Bodnant for a most interesting collection of Meconopsis, Rhododendrons, Primulas, Cypripediums, and other treasures of a great garden.

One of the earliest visitors to the show was our founder, William Robinson. Princess Mary shook hands warmly with him when they met in the large tent before a group of Lilies in which he was so much interested.

The organisation and arrangements of this great show are better than they have ever been, and our thanks are due to Col. F. R. Durham, the genial Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society, and to Mr. Simmonds, the Assistant Secretary, without whose help we could not publish this report while the show is still in progress.

Among the new noteworthy plants are to be seen that rare Gesnerad, Jankæa Heldreichii, closely allied to Ramondia, the yellow-flowered Pæonia Mlokosewitschii, Campanula rupicola, Magnolia Brozzonii, and Rhododendron Vanessa, the two last gaining the coveted First-class Certificate.

A number of new Daffodils are sh
mostly Poets, and some receive the Aw
Merit.

THE FORMAL, WOODLAND, A WATER GARDENS

There are a larger number of fo
woodland, and water gardens shown
ever before, and they are more diversif
character. They are therefore more h
to those who wish to get some good ide
the layout of their own gardens, or ar
haps desirous of making some alteratio
additions to them.

Some of those shown give a beautifu
of how a small suburban plot migh
treated, while others seem more su
for the treatment of a small portion
large garden.

We always look forward to seeing the
of such a past master of the art as M
Wallace. Many readers of GARDENING I
TRATED and visitors to the Chelsea Sho
year will remember the charming inf
Japanese garden exhibited by him
This year he shows us how a plot of g
about the same size can be treated in a
tirely different way, and has given
beautiful formal garden with oblong c
pool, at the end of which an octagona
den-house stands, the high pointed ro
which is thatched with dark Heath.
gives a fine background to the beautiful
tarias which drape it. The end of the g

t in by large Yews and evergreen trees.
e right side of the garden-house a mag-
ht light pink Rhododendron stands, 15
height and 30 feet round. On the left
f the restful garden-house, and standing
st a background of Yew, a fine speci-
of the pink-flowered Magnolia Lennei is
. In the front of the beds surrounding
rden-house there is a charming edging
pumila in variety. On each side of
ool a long, straight walk runs, flanked
outer sides with a bank of Azaleas and
dendrons in infinite variety, inter-
d with Japanese Maples and small ever-
shrubs. These are again backed by
ones, and rare flowering trees such as
liphyllum Japonicum, a specimen plant
Erica arborea, 3 feet in height, at once
t notice. The whole garden is bright
d et restful.

ssrs. W. H. Gaze and Sons, Ltd., are
ng an old English flower garden, sur-
ed by a low retaining wall draped with
ring Roses well in blossom. In the
of the garden there is a spacious sunk
and a narrow border runs round it
d with Arabis, Aubrietia, Saxifrages,
d ow-growing trailing plants. Beneath
utside retaining walls on each side are
borders filled with old-fashioned flowers,
gst them being standard Fuchsias and
tropes. Beneath these are dwarf Helio-
s, Violas, and Pansies. At the end of
garden a graceful wrought-iron gate
, and the tall evergreen trees placed
le it give distance to the picture.

ssrs. The En-Tout-Cas Company, Ltd.,
ston, near Leicester (garden manager,
F. B. Pulham), are showing a formal
n of novel design. In the centre there
pacious sunk lawn, and at the end of it
ol of water is placed, fed by a jet of
spouting from a dolphin's head. Be-
the pool a flight of York stone steps
r which the water flows) leads to a ter-
An unobtrusive garden-house is quietly
d away into the corner. Opposite the
n-house there is a stone gateway with
ght-iron gate of graceful design. The
garden is surrounded with a Thuja
, in part of which are planted Azalea
in variety. On the right side of the
n Azalea mollis (J. C. Van Thol),
s Japanese Acers, and Cytisus præcox
laced. Four very fine lead vases stand
e flight of steps, in which are planted
aenas. A narrow stone edge under the
walls of the sunk lawn allows of easy
g of the turf and attention to the flower border without spoiling the appearance of the lawn.

"Garden Services" are exhibiting a formal garden with a garden-house of classical design the sides of which are draped with Wistaria. This garden is flanked with tall evergreen shrubs. A small pool is placed in the immediate foreground above which is a raised terrace and the low retaining wall above the pool is left undraped.

Mr. N. I. Baggesen, of Pembury, who gave us the charming monastery garden a year ago, is showing an old Devonshire garden, quite informal in character. In the centre a winding stream flows rippling down into a quiet pool of irregular outline, the rocky sides of which are festooned with dwarf-growing plants. At the far end of the garden stands a Heather-thatched garden-shelter, and in front of it stands an old pump. The overflow from it empties into a weather-worn stone trough. A quaint old-fashioned straw beehive and leaden pail of antique design, and in reality at least 500 years old, give an old-world character to the whole garden.

Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons have constructed a formal garden with a lawn in the centre, beyond which there is an imposing pergola of deep red brick, approached on each side by a short flight of steps. The pergola itself is draped with Wistaria, Vitis, and climbing Roses. The garden is surrounded by a Yew hedge, in front of which there is a herbaceous border. Between this and the lawn a broad path runs, paved with York stone, and in the centre of the path oblong beds are placed filled with dwarf Polyantha Roses. In the immediate foreground a fine bank of Rhododendrons and Azaleas is placed. Between the oblong Rose beds quaint specimens of topiary work in Yew break the somewhat severe outline of the long, straight path and beds.

Messrs. W. Cutbush and Son, Ltd., have constructed a "hill and water garden" in the Japanese style, but without any artificial or man-made ornaments of any kind.

From turf-clad hills a winding stream flows down, and the banks are clad with plants and shrubs suited to the situation. Rhododendrons appear at the edge of what we might imagine to be a forest and merge into Heaths. As the little torrent is approached a few Pine trees crop up, and in the boggy ground below them characteristic plants appear. At the edge of the pool and stream, among stones and shingle, and also in the turf, charming groups of Primula japonica are to be seen, while among the rocks above them are Japanese Azaleas and the smaller-flowered Rhododendrons. The garden is enclosed by a belt of wonderful flowering trees and shrubs, and on the right-hand side may be noted Pyrus floribunda atrosanguinea and P. f. Aldenhamensis.

The idea is a well-conceived one, but the hills are too much alike in form to appear natural, and the introduction of putting greens with their red flags mars the picture, and indeed appears out of place in close proximity to plants which are easily injured by golf balls.

William Wood and Son, Ltd., of Taplow, Bucks, have constructed a typical "Garden of Japan." On the sides of the central informal lake, with its low stone bridge, may be found "The Stone of Worship," "The Moon-gazing Stone," "Seat of Honour," and "Perfect View Stones." On the right-hand side of the Teak-wood tea-house there is a picturesque "Snow-viewing Stone Lantern," with its widespread flat top, and on the left of the lake there is a fine "Kasuga" stone lantern. A notable feature of the garden is a cascade, some 6 feet in height, from massive rocks. On the left-hand of the fall may be seen "The Guardian Stone," while a little further to the left the "Cave Stones" find a place. The tea-house is draped with Wistaria and Vitis. Among the masses of grey rock on the left side of it blue Hydrangeas and the deep orange Lilium umbellatum are to be seen. Beautiful groups of Japanese small-flowered Azaleas and white Lilies also find a fitting place. The garden is shut in on the left side by a range of turf-clad hills and tall-growing Cerasus Hizakura.

Mr. McDonald again exhibits one of his inimitable grass gardens. In the centre of a wonderful lawn a fountain stands, and from a bronze Cupid a fine single jet rises. At each corner of the lawn a square bed filled with golden Phleum aurea is placed, and all round the garden silver-toned grasses stand out against a background of Yew.

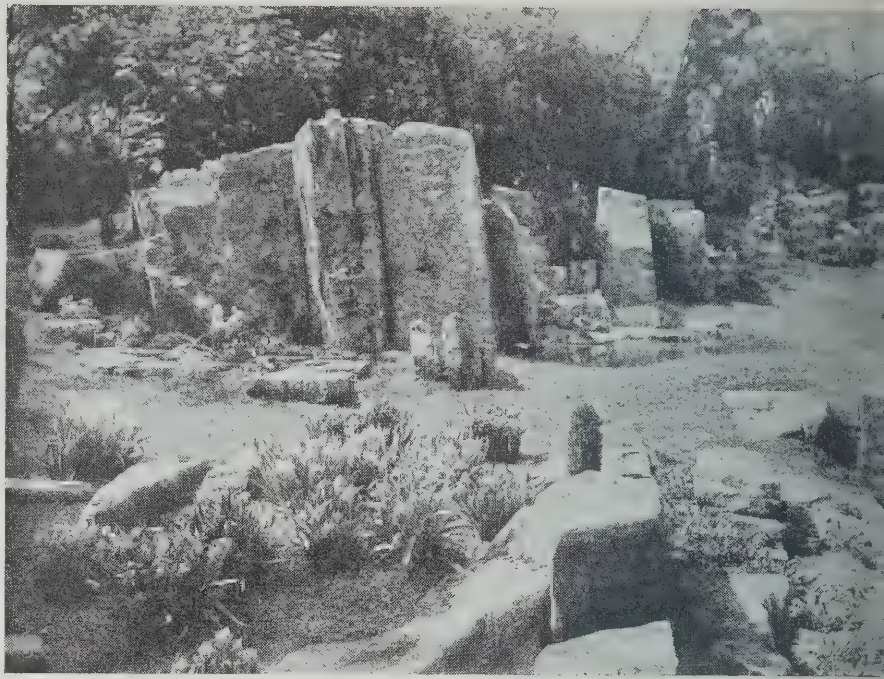
Ernest Dixon, of Putney, is showing a sunk garden of unique design, measuring only about 30 feet square. In the centre a charming bronze figure stands, and at each corner of the garden a circular-seated recess is placed. Between three of these recesses a flight of steps leads down into the garden, while on the fourth side the low retaining wall is draped with Alpine plants, and the bed above contains various herbaceous plants, backed by shrubs and small trees.

View of rock gardens on the eve of the Show

Rock gardens on the opening day

THE ROCK GARDENS

Some months since, the Council of the R.H.S. appealed for a change of material in the construction of the rock gardens. The fact that there are six out of the ten on the bank usually devoted to this class in grey limestone suggests that the appeal was not altogether successful. Be that as it may, we must say that if the four examples of rock gardens built with other stones are the best that can be produced then it is just as well all the exhibitors did not depart from their recent custom. There can be no shadow of doubt that the outstanding exhibits are those constructed with the grey limestone. On the whole, this section of the show presents a less attractive appearance than usual, despite the magnificent efforts made by two or three exhibitors. It would almost appear that during the past few years the limit of ingenuity has been reached and that we can look for no more advance. This is regrettable, and the more so because there is not the same uniformity of excellence throughout the exhibits as we have seen on some previous occasions.



A rock garden in surface weathered granite from the gigantic screes of the Snowdon range. Shown by Mr. Gavin Jones

There are two examples, side by side, that could be described by using exactly the same words for each, although to the close observer there is a wide distinctiveness in individual treatment. Messrs. Pulham and Mr. George Whitelegg have adopted very similar plans. Of the two Mr. Whitelegg's work is the bolder, and conforms in every way to the magnificence of effort we have grown to expect from him. It is so easy to criticise, and so difficult to realise all the difficulties an exhibitor has to contend with, but we think a little more restraint in the use of stone would have given greater prominence to the best work in this exhibit. As we studied it we felt we would like to wipe out a spot here and there with a brush if it were possible. At the same time, we must admit that the very incidents we would eliminate are individually examples of very fine work. It is only that just where they are they appear to be superfluous and do emphatically detract from other and more interesting formations. Nevertheless, the whole of this exhibit is worthy of close and studied inspection. Expert or novice will find many attractive little bits that are poems of beauty in themselves, and save for this one aspect of multiplying effects in a limited space the whole treatment is very successful and nobly conceived.

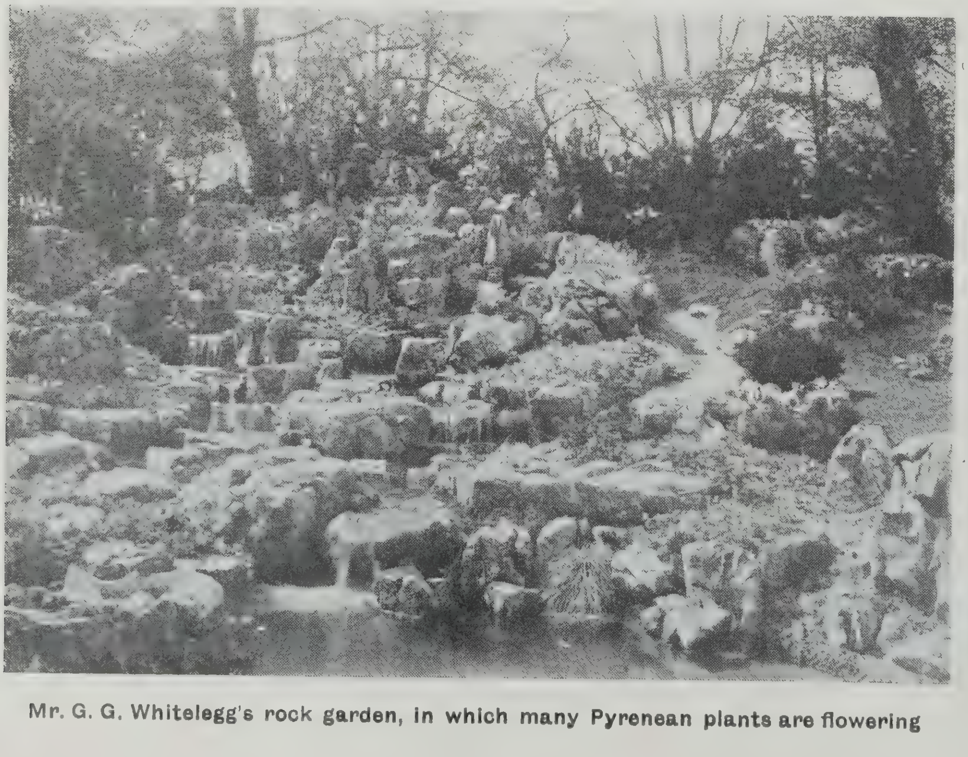
The torrent, for there is no other name for it, is cleverly managed and truly natural. The scheme as a whole is intelligible, and carries with it the conviction that here Nature has been idealised rather than slavishly copied. So far as planting is concerned the results are very satisfactory. There has been no effort at window-dressing; indeed, many of the choicest subjects have been so placed that it needs the eye of a connoisseur to detect them in their charming recesses. The collection of Alpine plants used is a tribute to a nurseryman's ingenuity after one of the worst seasons on record. In this exhibit the rock chosen is the Cheddar limestone.

Messrs. Pulham have preferred to use the Westmorland limestone, and have a
very successful results with it. Th
have a torrent; indeed, their effort
to have been made principally with t
of suggesting what water *can* do wit
They have succeeded admirably.
realistic portrait of water-worn ch
scarped and tumbled boulders, c
trickle beds is very clever. We think
ever, they have rather missed the p
scattering Alpine plants so lavishly o
whole area. A quieter background, a
concentration of colour in the foreg
and a lighter treatment of the midd
tance would have given depth to the
Nevertheless, the construction and a
ment generally is highly commendable

Mr. Gavin Jones has produced in
stone a work that can only be descri
gigantic. We admire the temerity
talented constructor in producing
magnificent replica of natural effect
horticultural show. It is a rock mas
which we should love to sit and pic
Wales, but how should we regard it
us every day in the garden?
tigers, and leopards are not things to
to the hearth, and there are some
magnificent types of rock formation th
better left on the hills, where they ar
at home. We think this effort is
them. It is Nature grand rather than
beautiful. Mr. Jones has achieved
ject and has done it thoroughly. Th
not a fault in his workmanship, but we
this year he has striven rather for im
than interpretation. Fifty times as lar
planted 50 times as boldly, his exhibit
be really magnificent.

Messrs. Hodson's exhibit, on a som
smaller scale, is decidedly attractive.
very much a rock garden, and little fau
be found with either conception or exe
We think this is one case of a firm
excelled their previous efforts.

Smaller still, but exceedingly pretty
what is more, interesting, is the achiev
of Messrs. Tucker. Of course, it is
than the large bolder constructions w
already noticed, but it has a simple
that will appeal to the client desiring a
rock garden.



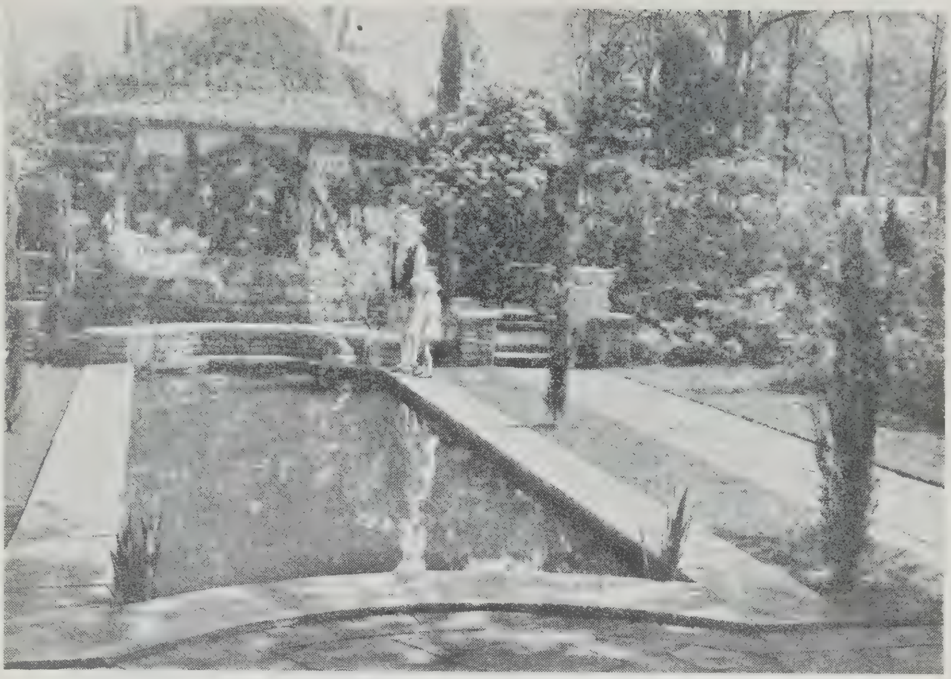
Mr. G. G. Whitelegg's rock garden, in which many Pyrenean plants are flowering

re are two newcomers in this class.
pington Nursery Co. have a pretty
ffort constructed with weathered sand-
rom the Forest of Dean. The material
t square and ledgy. It has very little
ter in it (what sandstone has?), but
ave certainly made the best possible use
It is essentially the rock garden for
n of modest means, and could be intro-
almost anywhere with the minimum of
al in the general garden arrangements.
t to this firm is Mr. Evans with a
h quarried stone from Wales. The
s correctly used, and from what we are
judge at the time of writing will be
vely planted by the time the show
We cannot, however, say the new-
nd rawness of the stone appeals to us
chibition purposes. Toned by age in the
it would undoubtedly prove attrac-
In this case the material does not do
to the work bestowed upon it.

Ernest Dixon has a little rock garden
end of the bank, very suitable for the
of a villa garden who desires to spend
either in excavation or material.

largest of the exhibits in rock other
he grey limestone is that of Messrs.
ce Elliott. It is bold, simple in out-
pleasing in colour, without much
ter in the individual stones, but quite
ive in general tone and shape. It
d very skilful handling to get the best
it. It encourages monotony, which
e people is another name for restful-
s. We can certainly never imagine any-
susceptibilities being violently upset by
whatever scale it might be used. The
so skilfully used—and Messrs. Elliott's
are always good and effectively placed
anonise delightfully with the stone, and
ks as if it would prove a happy and
ial home for them. Probably it is a
hat does not lend itself to emphatically
g construction. In any case this ex-
as a very prim, very goody-goody sort
pearance that should convert many
who resent the violence of some efforts
appreciation of a type of garden that
be quite manageable without deny-
eself the comforts of a chair in the
on of planting or weeding.

Ingwersen's little effort in sandstone
layers is quite the sort of thing to
many people.



Wallace's water garden, with Cypresses, Rhododendrons, and Wistarias

SWEET PEAS

The display of Sweet Peas of Mr. Robert Bolton, Birdwood, Essex, is a triumph of the floral decorator's art. It contains from 50 to 60 vases and stands of wonderfully well-grown flowers on stiff, erect flower-stalks, and the quality and colour of the flowers are superb. This group is set up on the east side of No. 2 Tent. The flowers are arranged very deftly so that they can be seen quite easily and their individual beauty fully appreciated. Special attention is merited by the following superb varieties:—Mrs. A. Searles (very distinct), Mammoth (orange-scarlet), Magnet (cream-pink), Jessie (cream-pink), Gold Crest (salmon-orange), R. F. Felton (still the best lavender), Royal Mauve (rich, bright mauve), Susan (blush-pink), What Joy (cream), Beatall (lovely rose-pink), and a host of other equally good things.

A well made grass lawn and formal garden by En-Tout-Cas Co., Ltd.

On the west side of No. 1 Tent Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Ltd., Edinburgh, have set up a pretty table group of Sweet Peas arranged in stands, vases, bowls, etc., in very pleasing manner. There appear to be about 40 different receptacles, artistically displaying these beautiful sweet-scented flowers. Varieties that call for special notice are the following:—Chieftain (light mauve), Daffodil (cream), Mary Rose (true rose-pink), Austin Frederick (improved lavender), Magnet, Pinkie (pink), Olympia (deep purplish-mauve), Blue Bird (soft lavender-blue), Constance Hinton (white), Flamingo (orange-scarlet), Powerscourt (soft lavender), Youth (white, with picotee edge), Matchless (cream), and Picture, still one of the most charming Sweet Peas.

Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons, Ltd., Belfast, in No. 2 Tent, also display the Sweet Pea in most noteworthy fashion. We are so glad to see they have got away from arranging the flowers in the formal manner they have observed in recent years. Their exhibit on this occasion represents the Sweet Pea in stands, baskets, and vases. The flowers are of splendid quality and represent many of the newer as well as standard sorts. We could not fail to make a note of the following sorts, all of which are worthy of inclusion in most collections:—Mammoth (orange-scarlet), Powerscourt (pale lavender), Wizard (orange), Hawlmark Mauve (rich mauve), Sunkist (cream Picotee), Hawlmark (salmon-pink), Mrs. A. Searles, and Supreme (soft pink on white ground).

Splendid quality characterises the display of well-grown Sweet Peas by Mr. J. Stevenson, Wimborne. This exhibitor sets up his handsome flowers in bowls most effectively. His Sweet Peas are some of the best in this show, and the 20 stands are arranged with skill and beauty. His finest varieties are Treasure (mauve), Charm (scarlet), Bullion (orange), Purity (white), Lustre (bright rose), and Honour (red).

CACTI AND SUCCULENTS

The quaint and curious plants are well shown by Mr. T. M. Endean, Laindon, Essex, on a table at the Chelsea Hospital end of Tent No. 2. The plants are well grown and represent many of the better Cacti at their best. Some of the varieties are represented by large plants in the pink of condition. There are about 150 kinds and varieties. We were much interested in the following varieties:—Echinocactus pilosus, E. Grusonii, E. cylindraceus, Mamillaria glauca, M. cirrhifera longispina, M. Fischeri, M. celsiana, M. Bockii, M. candida, M. bicolor var. Nivea, M. heeseana, M. spinossima var. sanguinea, Pilocereus senilis, P. Hoppenstedti, P. Houlletii.

CARNATIONS

Chelsea Show has been the scene of the finest displays of Carnations seen in the whole world, and those who follow the exhibits from year to year wonder whether anything better can be done than in the past. In Mr. C. Engelmann's magnificent display it is evident that progress is made from year to year in the matter of varieties. Among his novelties Sunny stands out as a colour which is wanted, being a bright shade of orange.

His novelty for next year—Wanda—is the next best thing, which, although a Perpetual, is as large as a Malmaison, of a deep, clove colour. His novelty, Zorro, of last season was looking as well as any in the mauve class, with a ray of pink. It is not so large as Circe, but much more free blooming. The whole display forms a huge floral trophy.

Messrs. Allwood Bros., of Haywards Heath, always aim to arrange in a different style to that seen at other times of the year. In the style and lay-out of a garden, with large and prominent stone vases containing masses of fine flowers, the effect is excellent. Their novelties, likewise, include a development in colour; the Maud Allwood, a deep orange with some flakes; Guy Allwood is a bright salmon. Their new Buttercup yellow is aptly named Buttercup. Realistic beds of Dianthus Allwoodii are very attractive, and this is undoubtedly the best way to show such a plant. Even the popular Alpine Pinks for rock gardens are well represented in beds to themselves.

Messrs. Stuart Low and Co.'s group of Carnations from their two places at Crowborough, Sussex, and Bush Hill Park, Enfield, was a display more of choice varieties of their own raising rather than in extent. Their novelty, Kathleen, is the deepest in the salmon class. Thomas Ives, cerise, has the largest petal found in any Carnation. R. A. Nicholson retains its bright scarlet shades as well now as in mid-winter.

New Carnation Guy Allwood (Award of Merit, May 7th)

Flowers of a lively pink, an improvement on the well-known variety Laddie

Countess of Harewood is a deep rose of
ticularly fine form. Ann Horton is a d
porcelain, white picoteed carmine. Bar
Schroder and Hilary are other noveltie
this season's introduction in the fancy
Messrs. Low are among the few nursery
who still grow Malmaisons, both perp
and the old type. Nothing excels them
course, for size, and in this respect the
Charlotte Knollys excels.

A fine quality, but smaller group of th
type of Border Carnation is arranged by
Jas. Douglas, who has flowers of exqu
finish. His Scent of Cloves—white, sal
pink, etc., are always popular.

Novelties, as well as such old favourit
Miss Schiffner and Lieut. Shackleton,
well represented in the beds of Border
ations arranged by Messrs. Lowe and Gi
Crawley Down. Messrs. Lowe and Gib
method of showing their Carnations is e
lent; all the side buds are left on the gro
plants. Old Lady Hermoine is still or
the best salmons. Grey Douglas, the
French grey mauve, and Rose Clove
also prominent.

In the Carnation section, Mr. C. Herb
display of Perpetual Pinks, which he br
from Acocks Green, Birmingham, are al
a unique lot. He continues to enlarge
range of colours, so that most of the sh
are now represented. Prince of Or
(scarlet), Delight (light salmon), Fa
(rose), are among his best.

Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.,
bridgeworth, arranged a group of Perp
Carnations of first-rate quality. Their
standing vases being the fragrant c
coloured Sir Philip Sassoon, and the b
salmon Eileen Low. The vivid scarlet
trum looked well in contrast to the de
scarlet Brilliant.

TUBEROUS-ROOTED BEGON

Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, T
ton Hill Nursery, Bath, well maintain
high reputation as exponents of the cul
tion of the Tuberous-rooted Begonia.
table group is set up on the east sid
No. 2 Tent, and is represented by a g
bank of well-grown double-flowered sor
superlatively fine condition. To have trav
so far without damage to the blooms
remarkable testimony to their method
packing these somewhat heavy, fr
flowers. A few of the more noteworthy
in this unique collection are the followin
Mrs. H. W. Allan (rich salmon), Lady
(terra-cotta salmon), Queen of the Belg
(frilled salmon), Sidney Robinson (ora
Lucy V. Toner (cerise), Mrs. D. B. C
(flesh-coloured), Albatross (pure white),
Langdon (rich flesh-pink), Princess Vic
Louise (flesh-salmon), C. E. Pearson
liant scarlet-crimson), John Mercer (ora
Mrs. J. Raeburn Mann (cerise-pink),
Mrs. H. Moncrieff (frilled pink). This be
ful group was interspersed with Ferns
edged with Panicum variegatum. There
nine stands of basket Begonias arrange
elegant stands most attractively.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons in their la
comprehensive group in Tent No. 1 also
a large mound of well-grown do
Begonias, illustrating the fine quality of
seed of the double-flowering kinds.

HYDRANGEAS

At the Embankment end of No. 1 Tent
H. J. Jones, Ryecroft Nursery, Lewis
S.E., has a large and comprehensive g
of Hydrangeas, consisting mainly of rec
introduced novelties and many choice see
varieties of his own raising. There are
many of the standard varieties of pr
merit. Some of the more noteworthy ar

l, Blue Prince, Goliath, Maréchal h and Florence Bolt. Superb novelties M Jones' own raising are D. B. Crane right), J. F. McLeod, David Ingamells, Mary, Duchess of York (deep rose), s Elizabeth, Lord Lambourne (deep e), and Adelaide. The group is lightly tistically arranged, and is attractively l with Ferns and foliage plants.

rs. John Peed and Son, West Nor- S.E., in their group of miscellaneous and greenhouse plants included an ting series of Hydrangeas.

OVE AND GREENHOUSE PLANTS

rs. James Carter and Co., Raynes S.W., have, as usual, one of their very ive and highly interesting exhibits, ing a very large area in No. 1 Tent, ing a series of popular greenhouse eng plants shown in excellent form and on. Some of the more noteworthy es are a fine lot of Carter's Invincible -wonderful markings and glorious Calceolaria Victoria Prize, Schizan- utterfly, is a beautiful branching form e flowers in many shades of colour- pecial attention must be called to the t colouring of some of the flowers. is a beautiful strain of Streptocarpus sing tones of new colours, choice Amaryllis, Cineraria stellata Cactus, intermediate type of Cineraria in and coral shades. We must not omit tion the splendid lot of Sweet Peas ively set up in bowls on standards. group is finished off in neat and g fashion.

eolarias as shown by Messrs. Dobbie o., Ltd., Edinburgh, create a floral that will not be easily forgotten. On st side of No. 1 Tent this firm exhibit of large, well-grown plants in the of condition, represented by large beautifully spotted and marked. The larias are interspersed with beautiful ums and a background of Palms.

e same tent Messrs. John Peed and Vest Norwood, S.E., display on the t ide a most interesting collection of and greenhouse foliage and flowering nt Stately Palms form a background, the group is a capital selection of ums, for which this firm is famous. rthy varieties are Triomphe de Comte, Sutcliffe, Dr. Friedleben, Tomasso, nsign, Fiery Cross, Mrs. C. Cooper, Dahle, Marquis of Camden, John Peed, urns, Mme. E. Pynaert, Reine Marie tugal, and Roupell Glory. Dracænas otons in variety are freely shown also. of the chaste Lilium longiflorum um and L. l. formosum are well dis- There are also a grand lot of Strep- s, Gloxinias, and Hydrangeas, all of combine to make a highly attractive autiful group.

o. 2 Tent cut Zonal Pelargoniums are by Mr. W. A. R. Clifton, Willingdon, The flowers are arranged in stands able and represent many well-known pular varieties, such as Jupiter, Olive D. Slade, P. R. Johnson, Hockey, , Pride of the West, and Pride of among the single-flowered kinds, and re many good double and semi-double d varieties.

e Chelsea Hospital end of No. 1 Tent Sutton and Sons, Reading, stage one very fine groups of flowering plants eed. The vastness of this group can- to impress visitors to this great show. re to be seen at their best wonderful ossis represented by large blooms in usses and beautiful colourings. The ous Calceolarias are very handsome, charmingly varied in colour, and the plants are wonderfully well grown. There is also a very good strain of Schizanthuses to be seen in this group, magnificent Begonias and Gloxinias, and a very handsome strain of Streptocarpus, represented by plants in ideal form and condition, and there is also a grand mound of Star Cinerarias. We noted some splendid specimens of the stately Clerodendron fallax and a grand lot of Begonia Lloydii suspended from the roof of the tent, as it were, from hanging baskets.

On the west side of the Chelsea Hospital entrance to No. 1 Tent Messrs. L. R. Russell, Ltd., Richmond, have a group of choice stove and greenhouse plants arranged in most artistic fashion in which full advantage is taken of the beauty of the many subjects set up. A background of Palms and Tree Ferns give this large group a light and airy appearance. The group consists of numerous well-grown plants, such as Croton Reidii, C. Warrenii, C. Eugene Draps, C. Emperor Alexander III., C. Golden Ring, and C. Prince of Wales. Dracænas are represented by such sorts as D. Victoria, Nonpareil, Jamesii, Admiral Beatty, and Eugene Andri. There are several excellent forms of the Alocasia, such as A. Watsoniana, A. crystallinum longifolium, A. crystallinum, A. argyrea, A. argentea, A. Mortefontaniensis (very distinct), A. Rhodigeania, and other good sorts. There is a plethora of beautiful subjects in this group in which the lover of exotics should revel.

A small group of Fuchsias are shown at the Embankment entrance to No. 2 Tent by Mr. H. A. Brown, South Chingford, London, E. 4. This exhibitor shows many plants in pots and a series of standards. Some of the better sorts are Fascination, Ballet Girl, Scarcity, The President, and Elsa.

Also in No. 2 Tent is a table group of cut Zonal and other Pelargoniums, shown by Mr. R. J. Case, Taunton. There are some very brilliant singles, of which the more striking are Exquisite, Drummer Boy, Paul Crampel, Somerset Lad, Tauntonian, Sensation, Mrs. R. J. Case, Orange King, J. C. White, and the beautiful Pride of the West. Good semi-double sorts are Chavarri, Hermanos, The Speaker, Genitrex, President Baillet, and Mme. Breton Duverney.

On the west side of No. 2 Tent Messrs. Stuart Low and Co., Enfield, Middlesex, stage a very interesting group of miscel-

Tropæolum azureum, flowers violet-purple, white centre (Award of Merit)

A remarkable climber from Chili, suitable for a cool greenhouse. Shown by Clarence Elliott laneous stove and greenhouse plants, all of which should be of great interest to the amateur. Among other subjects there are to be seen good examples of Calla elliotiana, Brugmansia Knightii, Gerbera hybrids, Aotus gracillima, Anthuriums, Ericas, and Azaleas.

A useful table group shown by Mr. W. E. T. Skilton, Bromley, Kent (gardener, Mr. W. Wiltshire), represents Spiræas, Herbaceous Calceolarias, Schizanthuses, and Cinerarias, together with foliage plants as an embellishment. The plants are beautifully fresh and clean, and tastefully arranged. We welcome this exhibit of a private grower.

On the east side of No. 1 Tent Messrs. Webb's, of Stourbridge, show Schizanthuses in grand form and condition. The centre of the group is filled with this subject flanked on either side with well-grown plants of Cineraria stellata and a grand lot of their superb strain of these plants. Herbaceous Calceolarias are also shown in good form. An exceptionally good strain of Primula obconica gigantea is a striking feature; so, too, are the Clarkias. Altogether it is a splendid effort, and does this well-known firm much credit.

Also in Tent No. 2 a pretty table group of well-grown Calceolarias is shown by Mr. H. P. Russell, Bexley Heath (gardener, Mr. G. Tyderman). The colours are pleasingly diverse, the plants well grown, and the strain good.

ROSES

Looking at the Roses at Chelsea old visitors who remember the Temple Show are reminded of the delightful displays seen there 30 years ago, when they were always among the best things in the show. A special tent is now occupied by the Queen of Flowers and is made the first place of call by many visitors. There can be no question that in a group of Roses standards grown in pots fill an important rôle. First-class flowers carried above the others on bush plants are irresistible. Messrs. B. R. Cant's display had wonderful flowers of their Mrs. Beatty, the sweetly scented yellow dwarf H.T. so much like Maréchal Niel and some points superior to their already popular Rev. Page Roberts. Lady Wakefield is an apricot sport of Padre. Nothing excels the perfume of Souv. d'Un Old Rose Garden.

No firm has done more to popularise the dwarf Polyantha Roses than Messrs. Cutbush and Son, who send from their Barnet nurseries their charming yellow Sunshine, which is quite reminiscent of W. A. Richardson in a dwarf form, with delicious scent. Arranged through the whole length of the tent and down the centre of it, with the layout of a Rose garden, it correctly represents what the Polyantha Rose can do. The brilliant orange-scarlet Mrs. A. Hudig is most effective for a dazzling effect.

Another scarlet Polyantha, Gloria Mundi, was shown by Messrs. Shedrecht, but enthusiastic rosarians may prefer to wait and see this grown in the open, as the flowers exhibited came from under glass, and the colour may not be quite the same in the open.

Messrs. Frank Cant's fine group contained many promising varieties. Particularly fine were his standards of Florence Izzard, the deep yellow, and C. P. Kilham with its bright orange-apricot centre and perfect shape. Maud is reminiscent of a large Los Angeles.

Chaplin's Pink Rambler, The Beacon (bright red), and Paul's Scarlet Climber were a feature of Messrs. Chaplin's group. Associated with such climbers are the dwarf Polyantha Else Poulsen, which bright rosy-pink variety can be included among the best half-dozen dwarf Polyanthas. Although a single, it is considered by many to be superior to the H.T. Dainty Bess (of the same shade) for bedding. White Echo is a good white Polyantha Rose.

Mr. Elisha Hicks brought from Twyford many climbing and rambler Roses. Those fine dwarf pink Polyantha Roses, Ellen Poulsen (double) and Else Poulsen (single), are very effective. Golden Gleam is a good bright yellow Hybrid Tea. Dame Edith Helen, one of the best of all rose-pinks, was also looking well on growing plants.

Mr. George Prince, Oxford, has in his group outstanding Coral Cluster, a pale variety, and Golden Salmon Polyantha varieties. The deep crimson "Daily Mail" scented Rose is well shown.

An old name in the Rose world which brings up many memories is that of Paul, of Cheshunt. Messrs. Paul, the successors of the old firm, are well represented by the ever-popular Mme. Butterfly, Roselandia, Lady Sylvia, a splendid pink sport of Butterfly and such fine Roses.

Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons, Newtownards, are represented by several of their novelties. Flamingo (brilliant orange-cerise) appears good in every way. Edith N. Perkins is a remarkable contrast in colours, pale coral-carmine outer petals, with vivid apricot-coral centre. Canary is bright yellow.

Pemberton's Roses from Havering are now a class to themselves. Vanity, an old rose semi-double decorative variety, is charming in the garden. It is doubtful if his variety, Ruth, has ever been appreciated as much as it deserves. Havering Rambler is a dainty type of coral-rose.

Mr. Walter Easlea has several varieties distinct from others, but outstanding as the best is C. P. Kilham, far superior to Lady Inchiquin.

Madresfield Court Gardens, Ltd., from Malvern, are represented by a neat group of Polyantha Roses of varieties already mentioned.

VIOLAS

Messrs. Chaplin, Waltham Cross, have a table group of Violas, individual plants being arranged in Cocoanut-fibre refuse effectively interspersed with small Ferns. Here are to be seen superb examples of such fine varieties as Fred Williams (mauve), Andrew Stevenson, Rosy Bell, Archibald Campbell, Mrs. M'Ewan, Eileen, John Adamson (yellow rayless self), Kathleen, Master Banks (query Lingii), Mrs. Fincham, Annie Hamilton, Dr. McFarlane, Arkwright Ruby, and Swan.

In the same tent Messrs. Jarman and Co., Chard, display baskets of cut Violas, embracing some of the larger varieties, such as Mrs. Fisher, Moseley Perfection, and quite a lot of varieties of the Gracilis type of flower, such as Wyndley Gem, Velvet Queen, Heavenly Blue, Golden Spur, and Viola Cornuta, Jersey Gem, C. alba, and C. Mauve Blue.

In Tent No. 2 Mr. H. Clarke, Taunton, shows some very large and handsome Violas, all giving evidence of good culture. The blooms are arranged in dainty green-painted baskets and are most effectively staged. A few of the better varieties are Lady Knox, Rowan Hood, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Beckett, Mrs. J. Mason, Annie Hamilton, Baron Newlands, and John Adamson. There is a pretty display of V. Bosnaica var. Crimson King in this stand.

Messrs. W. Keep and Co., Crews Hill, Enfield, in their table group of Alpines in No. 2 Tent have a pretty lot of bedding Violas in bunches. Popular varieties worthy of mention are:—Stanley Saul (mauve), Swan (white), Primrose Dame (primrose), Mauve Queen (mauve), Mrs. Allsop (deep mauve), Maggie Mott, Edina, Lingii, and Amy Barr.

Mr. F. Rich, Worcester, in the same
shows a good series of Violas and
Pansies. The flowers are wonderfully
grown, the better Violas being Master B
John Adamson, Mrs. A. Stevenson, A
Mrs. Fisher, and a good white sort,
McDonald. The Fancy Pansies repre
seedling strain of the raisers, and ther
many promising things amongst them.

At the Embankment entrance to No. 2
Mr. W. Yandell, Maidenhead, has set
charming display of Violas, mostly o
bedding varieties. We liked the follo
bedding kinds:—Lady Tennyson (w
Bridal Morn (mauve-blue), Mrs. Chich
(purple and white), Elsie (light ma
Kathleen (crimson and white fancy),
rose Dame (primrose), Gladys Finlay,
Knox, and Kitty Bell (lilac). Large-flow
kinds are well represented by Canary Q
Rebecca, Bessie Fergusson, Edith B
Moseley Perfection, and J. D. Cowan.
flowers are very fresh and clean.

ALPINE AND HARDY PLAN

The general impression of the hardy
alpine plants is that of well-grown and
tried favourites, for there are very few
plants and none of them are likely to
into instant popularity. Some plants hit
seldom seen are apparently beginning
appreciated. Silene Hookeri has succes
tempted the skill of the cultivator wit
enormous flowers of pure coral pink d
slashed in formal, Japanese fashion,
are nearly as large as the neat little c
of rosettes which carries them; it is n
easy plant, demanding, at least, a
drained scree, with a pane of glass in
winter, and is probably safer in the a
house. Erigeron leiomerus is a minute,
forming plant, suitable for scree or a
lawn, with neat flowers in clear, pi
lavender, pale and luminous. Viola
wright's Ruby is not very well named
it is a brilliant Wallflower red, a much
colour than that implied by "ruby," but
one of the most distinct of all the be
Pansies and well deserves its growing
larity.

Rhododendron calostrotum, shown
Messrs. Waterer, and Daphne tang
shown by Messrs. Bees, are two new
green shrubs for the rock garden, of w
the Rhododendron will certainly be pop
when it is better known, for it is very
pact and bears its astonishingly large
beautiful flowers very freely.

Particular attention should be given
those who are interested in rare plants, t
valleys of Messrs. Reuthe's mini
mountain range, for they contain a rem
able collection of unusual plants.
smallest Narcissus, N. juncifolius, look
though it had been designed by an illumin
of old manuscripts; the rare Tulip,
Batalini, in pale butter yellow, has,
expectedly, a powerful scent of oran
Geum triflorum, a subtle arrangement in
brownish pink and bluish green from
Zealand; Silene Hookeri, which deserve
care it demands for its relatively gig
flowers, in pure coral pink, strangely sla
and almost overshadowing its small, gr
rosettes. A large spiny clump of Erin
pungens from Spain is covered with lave
flowers, and showing itself to be a first
plant for those who have patience to wai
it to grow.

Messrs. Ingwersen's garden of flat terr
brooded over by two gnarled old Japa
Conifers, contains many rare and
plants, though the late winter has kept
some of the best of their stock. Notewo
are the odd green Saxifrage, S. luteo-vir
which is very happily associated with a la

awn and brick pergola in Cheals' garden—Azaleas in foreground, Roses on pergola

An old world Devonshire garden with stream and stepping stones by N. I. Baggesen

Cool and refreshing: Japanese water garden by Wm. Wood & Son, Ltd.

Rhododendron impeditum between rocks in Mr. W. E. Th. Ingwersen's alpine garden

A well flowered group of Waterer's Rhododendrons

Bunyard's Pæonies—a triumph of cultural skill low mound of Armeria cæspitosa, Ranunculus millefolius, a neat, pale yellow Buttercup; and the scarce, sealing-wax red Tulipa linifolia. A small, but healthy flowering plant of Eritrichium nanum is hiding, unworthily and unnaturally, in a bed of Moss.

John Scott and Co. strike an original note and rest the eye with a green garden; an admirable idea since, after all, green is a colour—even in the garden—and this exhibit makes the most of it, using all the many tones provided by the dwarf Conifers, from almost black to old silver and dull, greenish gold. It is lit up by a few touches of pink and blue in Lithospermum and Phlox, so that the effect, though restful, is anything but sombre.

Messrs. Gavin Jones crown the mountain spur of their exhibit with a sombre centenarian specimen of Pinus Thunbergii, which throws its shadow over a glittering carpet of good and rare plants: Viola megaceras, a fine, purple-violet from Tiflis; Gypsophila aretoides, which makes a tight cushion almost like one of the high alpine Androsaces; an extra pink form of Antennaria dioica rosea; Phyteuma Halleri; the dainty little Iris lacustris, the smallest of its race; and many others. Altogether a beautiful as well as an interesting exhibit.

Messrs. Cheal and Sons show a large clump of a particularly fine, deep-coloured form of Gentiana acaulis, which recalls Farrer's description of it as a "patch of midnight summer sky"; the sweet-scented Alpine Clover, Trifolium alpinum; Lewisia Howelli; and Iris christata.

The Marsden Hardy Plant Nursery make a bright show, under a Japanese Maple, of good, sound, and showy plants; Viola Arkwright's Ruby, now coming into deserved popularity; the uniquely coloured Viola, Apricot; Daphne Cneorum; Hypericum Colbyanum; and an interesting, very compact, and mossy dwarf Conifer, Retinosporum nana compressa.

Maxwell and Beale's exhibit blazes up with dwarf Azaleas and tones quietly down into the soft shades of Mossy Phloxes, Campanula Steveni nana, and the subtly-coloured Wood Sorrel, Oxalis Dippei, in its almost indescribable shade of faintly brownish old rose. The exhibit contains a good group of Primula vittata and P. secundiflora.

Messrs. Whitelegg's exhibit is brilliant, with sweeps of Daphne Cneorum, Phlox, and Mossy Saxifrages.

Messrs. Wells, Junior, make a fine, bold group by covering a miniature mountainside with Lithospermum Heavenly Blue, Veronica Hulkeana, a particularly fine and flowery patch of Gentiana verna, Potentilla fragiformis, Dianthus Alpinus, and Pentstemon Davidsonii, flanked with sombre outposts of the gigantic Sempervivum Comollei.

Messrs. Bees have a triangular bed of rich colour, of which the leading motive is supplied by the orange of Trollius, a fine strain of Polyanthus, and the new Geums Fire Opal and Dolly North. Besides these brilliances there is the distinguished newcomer, Daphne tangutica, a vigorous evergreen with sweetly-scented flowers in very pale lilac, with a deep, purple reverse, Roscoea cautlioides, originally introduced to gardens by this firm, which stands alone in the softly luminous quality of its pure, pale yellow, and the superb crimson and gold of Pæonia tenuifolia, which is far too seldom seen in gardens.

The neighbouring bed of Messrs. Wilson and Agar is delicate with the dawn colours of Lupins and pale Delphiniums; a very beautiful and thoughtfully arranged exhibit.

Maurice Prichard and Sons have blended some pale yellow and coppery coloured Mulleins with Lupins and Japanese Maples, and they show a fine hybrid of Pæonia officinalis, which looks like a great crimson Water Lily.

Messrs. Clarence Elliott's finely designed mountain range encloses a series of Alpine lawns studded with some of the good plants of which the firm has made a speciality—the delicate bells of Sisyrynchium filifolium and Oxalis enneaphylla rosea from the Falklands; the hybrid Primulas, the General, Eileen, and Argus. The higher slopes are crowned with Juniperus compressa nana and little gnarled trees of Daphne rupestris.

Messrs. Prichard, of Christchurch, show some very fine and well-grown plants in a glittering mosaic, in which a remarkably good specimen of Silene Hookeri stands out superbly; the iridescent Lithospermum intermedium; Cortusa pubens; Viola pedata and its bicolor form, Wahlenbergia serpyllifolia; two beautiful albinos, Ramondia pyrenaica alba and Haberlea virginalis.

Messrs. Harkness and Sons show the uncommon double orange scarlet Nasturtium, Hermann Gaesoff, blazing out among golden Trollius and Iceland Poppies.

Mr. Kirch exhibits well-grown pans of Androsace cylindrica, Eritrichium nanum (in flower and looking very healthy), and some florists' Auriculas.

Messrs. Tuckers' indoor rock garden, crowned with Meconopsis Baileyi and M. integrifolia, is particularly interesting for its rather subtle display of soft and delicate colours. Asperula suberosa is shown in a broad drift of pearl-pink and silver, shading into the delicate lavender of Polemonium repens; two good and rather uncommon plants, Geranium Farreri, with large blossoms of clear, pale pink and black anthers and Mertensia echioides, with glowing croziers of violet blue, are given a full opportunity of showing their distinction.

Wm. Wood and Son (Taplow) have a very decorative collection, in which the brilliant, strong blue of Omphalodes cappadocica combines effectively with the pale yellow of Anemone Magellanica and the delicate lavender of Pentstemon Bridgesi.

Kent Brydon and Haigh show the now rare Primula sino-plantaginea; Uvularia grandiflora, looking like a small Solomon's Seal hung with large, pale yellow bells; and Rubus arcticus, which is not often seen in gardens, though it makes an excellent ground-cover for dwarf Rhododendrons.

Mrs. Milford makes a miniature garden, containing the dwarf grey Willow Salix lanata Stuartii, which is beginning to be appreciated as it deserves in rock gardens; and the intensely sweet Columbine Aquilegia viriflora, strange and beautiful in green and black.

Messrs. G. Zambra show a collection of Violas, including Windward Sensation, a neat lavender seedling; Windward Purple, large and dusky; and a bright bedding Viola, Windward Amethyst, all raised by the firm.

L. Langridge and Co. have a little rock pool surrounded by Mossy Saxifrages, and the delicate, wavering stems of Primula chrysopa, overhung by Linum arboreum.

W. H. Rogers and Son have a fine, large patch of the minute Pink Dianthus Rumelicus and Iris christata, with a clump of Iris gracilipes hung with its delicate, hovering flowers; and a double cluster-headed Pink in a curious tone of dull cerise.

Messrs. Bowell and Skarrett have, as usual, a collection that is notable for rare and interesting plants. It includes a large-flowered form of Dianthus Freynii, in the palest possible soft pink; Polygonum viviparum, a rare native with spikes of pure,
clean white; Tanakea radicans, a
little Spiræa from Japan; a hybrid b
Geum triflorum and G. rivale; the dim
parasite Lathrea clandestina; A
Dilleni atropurpurea, a soft, crimso
which is a great improvement on the
and several interesting Lewisias.

Isaac House and Son, instead of s
their Scabious, which presumably hav
held back by the weather, give us a b
a good form of Pentstemon hetero
and that very good shapely Pink
Ladies.

H. Hemsley shows the very inte
hybrid Pink Cæsar's Mantle, an
shade of soft crimson; the brilliant
crimson cluster-headed Pink Pri
Wales; and the solid, rather stocky
panula nitida alba.

Backhouse, of York, have a neat lit
den with the minute Rose, R. R
growing happily under a dwarf Coni
the Viola Arkwright's Ruby, which i
ciated with the firm.

Messrs. Casburn and Welch have
and very interesting cliff of grey rock,
shows off the quality of a fine and
flowered plant of Erinacea pungens,
tall, magnified form of Campanula
which holds its relatively enormous
bury Bells up on 3-inch stems. The
tion includes the neat little R
Phyteuma pauciflorum, which is mucl
floriferous than its name implies; a
lovely but difficult Omphalodes Luci

John Waterer, Sons, and Crisp s
very red Aubrietia Bon Fire, the W
variety of Trollius pumilus, with
waved petals; the very distinguishe
Hoogiana; and the admirable little
dendron, R. Calostrotum, with its very
long-stemmed flowers, in a soft colou
suggests Raspberries and cream.

Messrs. Baker have a brilliant
crowned with the gigantic Primula flo
and lit up by the fierce scarlet of th
little Tulip, T. linifolia.

Messrs. G. and A. Clark give us
trum dipterocarpum, with its coo
flowers poised airily over the rich, tu
orange of Geum Fire Opal, and a m
Euphorbia pilosa major, the most dec
of the Spurges.

G. Gibson and Co.'s exhibit has a
like mass of an exceptionally brillia
land Poppy, Gibson's Giant Orange,
a quiet background of Conifers and the
old-fashioned double Ranunculus
folius, with the double Cuckoo-flow
cottage gardeners, Lychnis flos-cuculi

Amos Perry, whose nursery at En
the home of so many rare plants, sh
striking little Iris, I. hyacinthina, wit
lavender standards and white falls cu
pencilled into the effect of watered
very fine single pink hybrid of
Whittmaniana, and a pool of small
Lilies.

B. Ladhams and Co. exhibit the
blue double Forget-me-not Orion, w
pink and white counterpart all raised
firm, compact little plants that stay l
flower; baskets of the fragrant Vio
cornuta grandiflora; and the very
Erigeron B. Ladhams, which holds
upright instead of sprawling like the
the family; a fine show of that cha
little Doll's-house flower, the Daisy, D
China; and a quite permanent and pe
hybrid of Viola Bosniaca, Bosniaca B
and a very freely flowering hybrid o
wright's Ruby as brilliant as its par

R. V. Roger, of Pickering, shows b
of a fine, large butter-yellow bunch Pr
without an eye (Barrowby Gem).

The Studley College for women fills

ith an iridescent foam of Canterbury lsand large forms of Campanula persicia one of these named Donald Thurston, ic in effect is a very pale Telham Beauty, host translucent lavender, is distinct and nendable.

PRIMULAS

and Mrs. Kemmis, of Everston Grange, nigton, have a delightful group of parly well-grown plants, interspersed with Amongst the various species and is are P. helodoxa (a tall yellow), the Strain of P. pulverulenta, P. Japonica (a rosy terra-cotta), P. Japonica les Crimson (the deepest of all the a forms), P. Littoniana (giant form), brida Mrs. Kemmis (a rose pink, white stripes, evidently of Japonica P. vittata and P. secundiflora (very , with purplish nodding flowers), P. (with better foliage than flower, is a plant for dark, shady corners), P. (the most delightful of all the family, s delicate mauve sweet-scented flowers, nealy calyces and stems), P. hybrida not unlike the hybrid Sir George y, a very good flower). P. capitata purple flowers in round heads, with iealy calyces and stems), P. bulleyana 's variety is a paler form of the ordiecies), P. Wardii (with delicate mauve), P. microdonta alpicola (yellow and let and purple forms), P. Cockburnirilliant orange), P. Asthore seedlings, rious coloured hybrids of P. Bulleyana Beesiana.

Milford, of Chedworth, in her Alpine has P. Cockburniana, P. chrysopa te mauve), a very fine plant of P. onta alpicola, P. involucrata and P. ra (mauve), P. vittata and Meconop-Bileyi, and M. Prattii, with darker blue .

rs, of Wolverhampton, are showing magnificent plants of P. Florindæ in wer, also chionantha with large heads ite flowers, Wardii (mauve) and its cousin, involucrata, Veitchii (vivid ta), Lissadell hybrid, Red Hugh, riflora, and Microdonta violacea.

Oliver Hunter group, as usual, is full iterest. Among the Primulas are ipes (a dainty form of Sikkimensis), plants of P. chionantha, the giant form ioniana (the rare white form of Gerald-)P. lepta (of the Muscarioides section), opsis cetonicifolia (Baileyi) and M. folia, Lichiangensis var. hapala, Sikis helodoxa, and Japonica forms.

Aberconway and the Hon. H. en have a magnificent group of varints. Of the Primulas they are showtere are very fine plants of atricapilla deep mauve shade in close heads), a between helodoxa and anisodora P. hybrida anisodoxa (of a coppery-shade), secundiflora aurantiaca (a orange-yellow Candelabra), chrysopa nauve), grand plants of Chionantha veral forms of the nivalis section, the pulverulenta form, Brownie, from , Meconopsis betonicifolia integrifolia), K.W. 6862 (a pale blue), quintuia with a double-flowered form, s (a big flower of very deep blue).

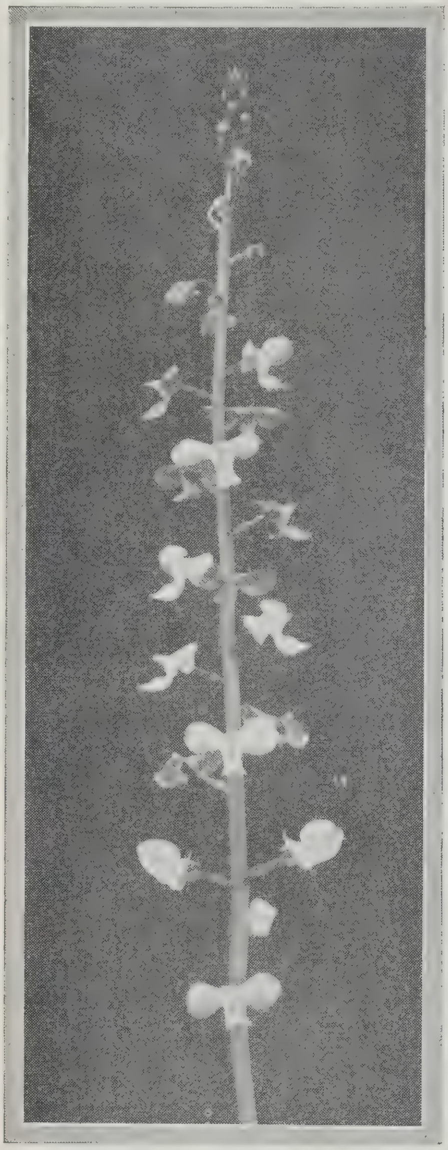
awell and Beale have in their Alpine a fine form of P. Sieboldii rubra clora. They are also showing involuta, ecundiflora, and chionantha.

es, Junr., of Merstham, have some plants of P. chrysopa and sibirica lverulenta in good form.

I. Dalrymple has a good group of mas adjoining his Lupins. The centre up of a big mass of his new hybrid, orge Thursby, a very big crimson of great constitution.

Others shown are Burmanica (purple, with yellow eye), helodoxa, vittata, involucrata (the lovely nutans, with sweet-scented, pale mauve flowers), microdonta alpicola and its forms, the Bartley forms of pulverulenta (of which Brownie is a new one), Forrestii capitata, Cockburniana, Bulleyana, and Ward's paler form of this series, chionantha, and the dwarf heucherifolia (with deep purplish-crimson flowers), Japonica Miller's Crimson, and Florindæ (though not in flower, is effective as a foliage plant).

P. Gardner, Addingham, have P. farinosa, the Bird's-Eye Primrose, Meconopsis quintuplinervia, the mauve Harebell Poppywort.



A rare Orchid of botanical interest—Lissochilis speciosus — shown by Mr. W. R. Lysaght

Ladhams, of Shirley, Southampton, have big masses of P. Sieboldii grandiflora and the hybrid La Lorraine (a deeper colour). Both these appear as if they might be tender, but they are quite hardy.

ORCHIDS

A tent is devoted to Orchids, and it is well filled with finely-grown plants, all sections being more or less represented. With one or two exceptions the staging is of the stereotyped style, viz., a bank sloping from the back to the front. This, however, if not too extended, gives the exhibitor an opportunity to show off his plants to advantage.

At the far end Messrs. Charlesworth, Haywards Heath, have a fine display, in which Odontoglossum are much in evidence, and it is pleasing to observe the very fine forms of the white type of O. crispum. A grouplet of O. Toreador varieties is also to be seen; these have flowers with a white ground, spotted more or less with red. Among the fine spotted Odontoglossums are Muralis, Colonius, Hercules, Endora, and Nubia (a very fine thing). Miltonias are there; also the yellow Brassocatlælia Africa, and the white Odontonia Thisbe.

The leading feature in the fine group staged by Messrs. Sanders, St. Albans, are the glorious Cymbidiums. Many grand specimens are on view; especially good are C. Ceres. Other hybrids are strongly in evidence, and several of the less showy species. Arranged on high pedestals are healthy plants of the white Phalænopsis Rimestadiana, which are most effective, and in pleasing contrast to other highly-coloured Orchids.

This firm also have a wonderful array of Miltonias and Lælio-Cattleyas; also some fine varieties of Cattleya Mendeli. Interesting and beautiful is Cœlogyne Lawrenceana, a rare and choice plant, with pale yellow sepals and petals with white lip and orange-red base, scarlet Odontiodas, the greenish-white Cypripedium Maudiæ, and the brilliant Brasso-Cattleya Shilliana are only a few of the many treasures to be seen in one of the best-arranged groups in the show.

H. G. Alexander, Ltd., Tetbury, Glos., fully maintain the Westonbirt tradition by displaying well-grown examples of high quality. Here can be seen good forms of Cattleva Mossiæ, the magnificent Brassocatlælia Ajax, with large mauve flowers and massive lips, which contains a yellow base.

Lælio-Cattleya Orange Gems are rather small but showy, and there are many good forms of Catt. Skinneri. Noteworthy are Cymbidium Joan Sander, the white Catt. Undine, and Lælio-Cattleya Imperatrix regina. Altogether a bright and effective group.

Quite unique is the small display of specimens of Dendrobiums put up by E. R. Ashton, Esq. (gardener, Mr. Kent). They embrace white D. nobile, the yellow D. Thwaitsii and Cooksonæ, and a pair of the rare D. atroviolacum, with its violet and green flowers. All bear evidence of good culture.

Messrs. S. Low, Enfield, have a nice and varied group, in which we see the rare yellow Cyrtopodium Andersonii in close proximity to Odontioda Saturn, a rich dark, port wine coloured variety. Cœlogyne Burfordense and the rich yellow L.-C. G. S. Ball is also noticeable, while the group is rich in Cattleyas and its allies, especially the dark L.-C. Hyenna. Another fine subject is Brasso-Cattleya Highlander, with its huge fringed mauve lips, with a yellow throat. The rose-coloured Sophro Catt. Joan is also in evidence.

Messrs. McBean place good examples of Dendrobium acuminatum in the centre of their fine group. Another choice and well-grown plant is the scarlet Epipronitis Veitchii. Many Miltonias are arranged to the best advantage, and these embrace Princess Elizabeth, G. D. Owen, the beautiful Charlesworthii, and the chaste white Bleuana virginalis. White Cattleyas are well to the fore, and Odontiodas in various shades of red are also strongly represented. Excellent varieties of Odontoglossum and the blue Dendrobium Victoria Regina are also on view. A group of more than average merit.

Sir J. Colman (gardener, Mr. Perfect) has a choice display which contains many plants unique in many respects. The grand varieties of Lycaste Skinneri are an exhibit in themselves, while the Miltonias occupy a high position in regard to quality. Several quaint Bulbophyllums, especially B. macrobulbum can be seen in this interesting group.

Linochilus speciosus is sent by W. R. Lysaght, Esq., Castleford, Chepstow (gardener, T. W. Briscoe). It has a strong single spike, bearing numerous yellow flowers 2 inches across. This plant attracts attention because it is rarely seen in cultivation.

J. J. Joicey, Esq., Witley (gardener, Mr. Mackay), has entered a group for the Challenge Cup. It contains many plants of more than average interest.

Mr. D. Dixon has a varied and pretty exhibit, in which we noted Dendrobium atroviolacum, the quaint Cymbidium Devonianum, and the greenish C. tigrinum. A fine form of Lycaste Skinneri, aptly named Rosy Gem, while the vermilion-scarlet Masdevallia Veitchiana adds a touch of gorgeous colour to the whole. Other seasonable Orchids are exhibited.

Cowan and Co., Southgate, arrange a well-displayed group of useful and choice plants, among which are the beautiful Odontioda Czarina var. Brilliant, a salmon shade, which is fairly new to the genus. Maxillaria Sanderiana is in fine form with its whitish flowers marked with light chocolate, and the green Cyp. Maudiæ is much in evidence. Miltonias are bright, and among them are several fine varieties. White Cattleya Waltersiana splendens is a richly-coloured Orchid of the first water.

Sutton Bros., Hassocks, Surrey, have a small group which contains seasonable plants such as Miltonias, Cymbidiums, and Odontiodas.

Armstrong and Brown, Tunbridge Wells, are represented by a small, but very choice group. Each plant is well displayed, and of first-rate quality. Miltonias are especially strong, and noteworthy is the beautiful M. Armstrongii. Odontioda Henryi scarlet and the dark O. Charlesworthii are also seen in fine condition.

Mansell and Hatcher, Rawden, Yorks.—In their excellent group the centre consists largely of Miltonias such as F. M. Ogilvie, with its large, central maroon blotch, and others of equal merit, and beneath the Miltonias nestle Cypripedium bellatulum, with their waxy, dark-spotted flowers. Masdevallia Houtteana is well flowered, and this remark applies to the quaint Selenepedium Mæwchilum, with its long tapering petals. Lycaste aromatica and many other seasonable plants are in this group.

The charming exhibit by Messrs. Black and Flory, Slough, is conspicuous for its brightness, and this is brought about by the numerous fine, highly-coloured Cattleyas and Lælio-Cattleyas it contains. Many of these are derived from a good variety of Catt. Tityus, and Catt. Canada in variety belongs to this group. A fine thing is C. Chelsea, and there are grand examples of Miltonia.

Tulipa orphanidea var. Whittali, flowers goblets of deep coppery crimson and gold
Shown by Mrs. W. R. Dykes

FRUIT

Apples in splendid condition are sh
Messrs. Geo. Bunyard and Co., Ltd.
stone. The exhibit is arranged in
form—quite new to Chelsea. Cor
with the dense black of the cubes the
are seen to great advantage. The
shown are:—William Crump, Cox's
Pippin, Newton Wonder, Lord
Mannington Pearmain, Belle of B
Wagener, John Standish, Rosemary
Orleans Reinette, Blenheim Orange
lington, Barnack Beauty, Smart's
Arthur, Court Pendu Plat, Crawley
and Adam's Pearmain. This exhibit
wonderful for so late in the season.

Messrs. Laxton Bros., Bedford, st
of their unsurpassed displays of
berries. The fruits are shown on
plants and in baskets most ten
arranged. It is a really splendid exhib
includes the following novelties:—
of York, very free-fruiting and of m
but very sweet, lasting, and a mid
Strawberry. The Duke and King Geo
superbly shown. These two varieties
doubtedly the two best sorts for forcin
are worth making a special note of
new variety, Acquisition, is a splendi
tion to the really outdoor mid-season
The berries are not large, but they a
even; quite large enough and of good
Maréchal Foch is also shown in
manner.

VEGETABLES

A very large and comprehensive g
vegetables is shown by the Hon.
Gibbs (gardener, Mr. Edwin Beckett),
ham House, Elstree, Herts. This q
markable group is arranged in semi-
form at the Embankment entrance
Tent. There are as many as approx
300 kinds and varieties staged in this
and, considering the lateness of the
and the difficulties attending cultiva
consequence, the result is extraor
Lattice-work background served to sh
to advantage the vegetables arranged
tabling in front of it, and here an art
been at work in the arrangement.
worthy examples of cultural skill w
following subjects:—Tomatoes: Peac
Perfection, Duke of York, March
Early Sunrise, and the yellow variet
beam. Cucumbers: Ideal, Matchless,
and Improved Telegraph. There ar
and Beans in great variety, grand Asp
Marrows, Cauliflowers, Radishes, L
Spinach, Mushrooms, Aubergines, Bee
bage, and a great array of some
choicer vegetables too numerous to me

The Messrs. Bides, of Farnham,
big lot of their new Tomato, N.C.O
fruits are of moderate size, of good for
are produced in the greatest freedom.
Tomato should have a good future.

GOLD MEDAL EXHIBIT

GOLD MEDALS are awarded to—
Clarence Elliott, Ltd., for Rock Garden.
Gavin Jones, for Rock Garden.
G. G. Whitelegg, for Rock Garden.
R. Bolton and Son, for Sweet Peas.
G. Bunyard and Co., Ltd., for Irises.
Barr and Sons, for Tulips.
Hon. Vicary Gibbs, for Vegetables.
H. G. Alexander, Ltd., for Orchids.
Charlesworth and Co., Ltd., for Orchids.
J. and A. McBean, for Orchids.
J. Carter and Co., for Sweet Peas and other Flowers.
R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., for Mixed Groups
Irises, Rhododendrons, and Hardy Plants.
Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. D. McL
Mixed Group of less common Plants.
C. Engelmann, Ltd., for Carnations.
Allwood Bros., for Carnations and Pinks.
R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., for Garden.
Sutton and Sons, for Greenhouse Plants.
R. and G. Cuthbert, Ltd., for Azaleas and other
Hillier and Sons, for Cherries, Crabs, and Shrub
G. Jackman and Son, for Clematis.
R. C. Notcutt, for Lilacs, Brooms, and other Sh
Mrs. A. Sherman Hoyt, for an exhibit of Ca
Desert Plants and a Californian Redwood Fores
with letter of appreciation from the Council.

**lia clusiana (My Lady Tulip) natur-
aled in the Mediterranean region**

How bulbs burrow

ring from California Carol Purdy : ' Such bulbs as those of the Tulip esily adjust themselves by going to a r epth in the soil if they are planted too o. For instance, if a bulb of Calo-tu were planted with barely enough soil or it, a white spongy ' stem-root ' de sent down and the new bulb would rmed at its end. The next year, if it ill too near the surface, it would go deeper. Yet, when bulbs are planted too hey cannot ascend.

lips very frequently send down bulbs h the Dutch call ' droppers.' I once a ed of the rare Tulipa Eichleri, and n summer I went to dig them they e gone. Next spring the full number es came up where I had planted the s, which I found had dropped to about cs.

Th bulbs of true Liliums also can ad-themselves, but not in just the same way. n these a shorter spongy ' stem-root ' rs the growing point of the bulb and the e forms a few inches lower. Since ol scales of a Lily bulb decay very ly it may be a few years before the e ulb is at the lower level.

In one very interesting instance Nature ts ' dropper ' habit to distribute bulb-me widely in the ground. Calochortus us estæ has several bulblets set at angles the stem below the ground. At the end he eason the stem above the mother bulb al each offset sends out a ' dropper,' dom but sidewise. These may move ra inches the first season and each in a ere direction. The second year they urther away and then become erect, re they stay to finish their natural life."

or ulture, U.S.A.

Tulip species

The brilliant varieties of bedding Tulips, the glorious Darwins, and others of this august race are well known and appreciated, and are planted in countless numbers every season: the species—of which there are about 50, inhabiting the Old World, more especially the Steppes of Central Asia—are, unfortunately, not to be found in every bulb catalogue; but perhaps those mentioned below, although not by any means a complete list, may serve as an indication of the great variety of beauty in the genus

THE genus Tulipa varies immensely, from dainty dwarfs suitable for the rock garden to blazing scarlet furnaces, on sturdy stems, so bright and splendid as to be almost painful to the eye when fully open in the sun. The leaves vary greatly, too; some are large, upstanding, and brightly glaucous; some are flaccid and dark green, but those of the majority of smaller species are very narrow, induplicately folded, with more or less wavy edges. Often a narrow line of dull red may be noticed round the very edge of the leaves.

The order of description is roughly that in which they open, but, of course, the times are dependent upon the season. This year they are particularly late.

The first to open is the dainty T. biflora, from the Caucasus; it may generally be expected toward the end of February. T. biflora has flowers of creamy white with yellow centres, tinged on the outside with greeny blue. Its relative T. turkestanica is more robust and has a smaller yellow centre to the creamy flowers.

A little later comes the well-known T. kaufmanniana, its upstanding, starry flowers of creamy white, with bright yellow centres, contrasting well with the soft glaucous green of the leaves. It is even more beautiful when closed, as the outer petals are flushed with pink or scarlet, or they may be tinted with grey-blue. That it is a very variable species may be testified still more by the variety Brilliant, which has flowers of a soft shade of salmon scarlet, with a brighter centre. The type is a native of Russian Turkestan.

It is soon after these have opened that the main mass of Tulip species launch out their fullest beauty—about the middle of April. T. præcox, from South Europe, is one of the tallest; stout brownish stems above large glaucous leaves carry a burden of peculiarly angular appearance, scarlet, with a black centre, softened outside by a creamy "bloom." A native of Bokhara, T. præstans, has roughly-glaucous leaves, with a distinct midrib, and branching stems with two or three light orange scarlet flowers; from Turkestan comes gorgeous T. greigi, of

A striking group of Tulipa saxatilis in the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge

blazing scarlet, the outer petals curving gracefully outwards from the bold, upright inner ones. Its leaves are characteristically striped and blotched with maroon, a distinction shared by its variety aurea, of deep gold and crimson. Even larger is T. Eichleri—a native of South Caucasian regions—of crimson scarlet, refreshed with clear cream outside, and with a yellow centre outlined with black; and then there is magnificent T. fosteriana, from Bokhara, the giant of all, with its enormous glaucous leaves and brilliant, dazzling scarlet, yellow-centred orbs.

For the rock garden there is the exquisite T. stellata, a dainty plant from the far-away Himalayas, with narrow, crinkled leaves and starry flowers of yellow with crimson flushes outside. T. Maximowiczii and T. linifolia are best described together, the only apparent difference being in the leaves, those of Maximowiczii being narrow, more or less straight, and able to stand by themselves, whereas those of linifolia lie close to the ground and are beautifully waved. Both have flowers of brightest crimson-scarlet, with a small black centre. They are natives of Eastern Bokhara and Central Asia respectively. A similar plant is T. Hageri, with narrow leaves and scarlet flowers tinged with green outside. It is a native of Attica, and flowers a week or more later than the two preceding species. T. Batalinii has united with linifolia and given some most beautiful hybrids, which vary in colour from the brilliant scarlet-crimson of linifolia through delightful intermediate shades of orange, salmon, and cream-pink, to the soft, pale butter-yellow of Batalinii. The leaves of the latter are extremely waved and crinkled—perhaps more so than any other species—and of a pale, glaucous green. Native of Asia Minor.

Tulipa Eichleri

Flowers deep scarlet. One of the finest Tulips from Turkestan

Far away from all this brilliant company must be placed the Lady Tulip, T. clusiana, now becoming rare in its adopted home of the Riviera—it is a native of Central Asia and North-West India. It is a plant eminently suited for the rock garden; above the narrow, straight leaves of dull, glaucous green stand the pointed buds, with a soft, crimson flush down each outer segment. Then comes the sun, and lo! a star of clearest white develops with a rich wine-purple zone in the centre.

T. dasystemon is a green-leaved species from Turkestan, very dwarf, with clusters of flowers of starry whiteness and large, yellow centres. Delicacy is again met in the Persian species T. polychroma, of soft lilac tinged with cream and olive green, the flower being almost like a Colchicum on its naked stem of 2 inches or 3 inches above the narrow leaves. T. pulchella—from the Cilician Taurus—has almost stemless flowers of richest madder crimson, with a dull white centre; in some forms the colour is a brilliant pink.

A Grecian species, T. orphanidea, may be expected a week or so later than the main mass. A good combination may be made by interplanting with T. silvestris, a reputed native of this country, whose graceful, drooping flowers of bright yellow, tinged with green, are similar in shape to those of orphanidea, but in the latter species they range from pale orange to rich mahogany crimson, all the forms being more or less tinged and veined with olive-green outside.

T. saxatilis has broad, shining, dark green leaves and glorious flowers of lilac, with a large, golden yellow area in the centre, giving a very startling effect. Native of Crete. T. ingens is of richest dark scarlet with a magnificent black base and glaucous leaves. It is a fairly tall Turkestan species.

By the third week in May most of these glories are over. Generally the latest to flower are T. montana, T. armena, and, last of all, T. sprengeri. The first two are deep crimson scarlet in colour; T. sprengeri is also scarlet, but of a lighter shade, with a soft brownish centre outlined in yellow.

It must be admitted that Tulip species require a little care and forethought in planting; but when good bulbs have been acquired, and their essential ripening is
understood, a great stride has been
toward successful cultivation. Perfect
age must always be ensured; especially
bulbs are to be left permanently
ground. The most suitable place to
them is on a bank of rich, light soil
sun, under the wing of some eve
shrub, which will help to absorb s
moisture in late summer and give pro
from frosts in spring. The base of a
wall—still better if it be the wall of a
house—is also an excellent place.

If, however, the bulbs are to be lifted
year and replanted, they should be sto
a dry place in sand until November,
they may be planted from 4 inches to 6
deep, according to the size of the bulb.
out doubt, this is the best way of growi
majority successfully, especially in
soils, as advantage may be taken to
their numbers and condition. It sho
borne in mind that mice are very fond
bulbs.

Most of them produce an abunda
seed which will flower from four to five
after sowing; all may be increased gra
by division, many species being pro
"droppers" (*i.e.*, small bulbs which
deep into the soil), such as T. præcox
some assist propagation by means of st
which may travel 6 inches before deve
into a baby bulb. G. S. Tho

Cambridge.

The Book of the Tulip*

At last we have the long-looked-for
on Tulips, and we have no hesitation i
ing that it is just what was wanted. It
fact, an example of what a good bo
Tulips should be. Not that all the
problems are solved, some of them nev
be. In this book the author, Sir
Hall, appeals to residents and travell
the Near East, Asiatic Turkey, Syria,
Persia, Turkestan, etc., for bulbs or
as the real history and affinities of the s
of Tulipa are still obscure and must r
so until much more collecting and e
mental work has been done. This adm
book brings together the main facts th
known about the Tulip, from the po
view of the gardener or lover of flower
desires to learn more of the scientific, a
as the cultural aspects of the flower.
species are described from the living
mens in the garden of the John
Horticultural Institution, and in most
derived from the collection of the lat
W. R. Dykes.

Tulip varieties, as well as species, p
astounding problems, and the chapt
"Breaking and other Sports," on
subject the author is the recognised a
ity, is dealt with in a most entert
manner. Another fascinating chap
devoted to the "History of the G
Tulip." The length of time a Tulip
asexually propagated is, we are told,
tain, and an example is given in K
kroon, the well-known red and yellow
Tulip, described in the Dutch catalogue
century and a half ago, which still sho
lack of vigour. We recommend read
get this book, to read it, and digest it a
leisure. It is impossible to do justice
work in a brief review or to speak too
of it; the text has been most carefull
pared, and there is an index of specie
varieties as well as a good general
It is a work to which constant referen
be made, filling, as it does, a lo
want; it is sure of a warm welcome
who cherish and cultivate the Tulip.

H.

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* By Sir A. Daniel Hall, K.C.B., LL.D., Sc.D.
Published by Martin Hopkinson, Ltd. Price 21s.
full-page plates.

Ten-week Stock

ks are deservedly favourite flowers in or small gardens, and we may enjoy over a very long period if we make the of the best varieties from the several ns into which they are divided. They ost easily grown, and only need a rich, soil in order to develop full and fine s.

strains of Ten-week varieties are ex- gly numerous, and represent the result at improvements made in comparatively years. There are strains selected for ness, others because of the dense, idal habit, others for their free, ing character, the side branches of the es forming this strain being most use- r cutting. A very pretty little Stock known under the name of Purity, it specially adapted for pot culture, as by l of a little warmth it can, in pots, be cly grown to flowering size long before tdoor Stocks are showing signs of It never grows more than 9 inches ght, but its flowers are large and , of the purest whiteness, and very ey scented. Three or four plants in a or 6-inch pot in spring are charming earance, and suffice to scent a green- s or a room. No other variety that I of comes into bloom so early. A pure- it Stock that is very effective and most for cutting is one known under the of Princess Alice. This makes a ful group in the bed or border, and it moderately tall, free-branching habit. Beauty is a kind selected from the idal strain, and is quite a distinct and beautiful Stock. When planted out it d rather close planting, owing to its habit, but the colour of the flowers is nique, being of a delicate mauve tint. in known as Bedding Stocks is one of t value, because the kinds have been d in clear, distinct colours, and the of the plant is good, being free and ing without growing too tall, as the es in this strain do not exceed 1 foot ght. Where masses of particular s are desired this strain is the very one w. The selection has been so careful ery plant comes true to its colour, and rcentage of double flowers is very This strain can be had in nearly a distinct shades of colour, and if one rew these one would get a good idea amazing variety and exceeding found among Stocks of the Ten-week lone. Then there are the Wallflower- varieties again selected, and obtain- clear, distinct colours, the particular of the strain being the Wallflower- aves its varieties produce—of a deep, glossy-green colour, and a charming t to the foliage of other kinds. It l be a pity, however, if, with all the riety above alluded to, the other types ains were neglected, because the Ten- k varieties are essentially summer , and although their season may be ged by early and late sowing, yet it to pay attention to kinds that come oom at other seasons, especially those as Intermediate Stocks. These are nal bloomers, and follow close upon n-week varieties. They are remarkable dense growth that they make as they into bushes, producing a large num- of free-flowering side-shoots. C. P.

Mentha Requieni

redly amongst the most delightfully t gems of our gardens is the modest entha Requieni, a minute plant which with Lichen-like closeness and forms y green carpet with its small leaves surmounted in summer with purple labiate flowers. In spite of its miniature stature, it is well able to maintain its position, and whether planted amongst stone in the rock garden, in the interstices of paved paths, to form a carpet for small bulbs, or even in some positions among the grass of the lawn, it spreads with remarkable persistency. Its peculiar charm of fragrance is a partially hidden one, as it is not until it is touched or trodden on that its delicious peppermint odour becomes strongly noticeable. A perennial plant, it is perfectly hardy, and once established in the garden it is seldom lost, as not only does it spread naturally from the planted root stock but it also seeds freely and perpetuates itself by this method.

W. AUTON.

An artistic flower pot

In the centre of the sunk garden at Walmsgate Hall, on the wolds of Lincolnshire, an Italian well-head stands in the midst of a small Water Lily pond, and forms a gigantic vase for a well-flowered Hydrangea. It gives a note of distinction to the whole garden, and is worthy of imitation, even by those who are unable to obtain so priceless a treasure as a well-head from sunny Italy.

The next best thing is a large, well-bound tub, painted with two or three coats of enamel paint, of a suitable colour, which can only be determined according to the situation and surroundings of the tub. In most cases a good green will be appropriate. It is desirable, however, that the tub should be raised on a stone platform, as in the Walmsgate example. It would make a garden ornament of which any gardener may well be proud.

This Hydrangea in an ancient well-head makes an effective centrepiece in a sunk garden

Primula viscosa var. Mrs. J. H. Wilson

This is one of the neatest and prettiest of the dwarf Primulas, the rosy flowers appearing in spring on slender stems only 2 inches high. The flowers are arranged in a loose cluster consisting of many individual flowers in various stages. For density of bloom it approaches the Auricula, but rarely equals it, while it has the advantage of being suitable for planting sideways in sunny chinks and thriving in sandy loam.

When planted on the level so as to form clumps, the plants have a charming effect. A few bits of rock placed among the plants if they are planted in groups or tufts will do good by preventing evaporation, and also act as a protection to the plant, which never outgrows its position. It may be grown well on fully exposed spots on the rock garden which is kept well moistened during the warm season. In common with its congeners, the plant is liable to become crowded and lanky, therefore a top-dressing of sandy loam is necessary once a year. It is easily propagated by side shoots or seeds under glass.

H. STEVENS.

Arranging cut flowers

In the course of an article by Elizabeth Riley in *Horticulture*, recently, some interesting comments were made on the art of cut-flower arrangement. The following rules, with which the article ended, were emphasised by the writer :—

" One—Choose receptacles with care. Pay due regard to size and colour. Undecorated ones are safest. Remember that heavy-headed, long-stemmed flowers demand tall generous vases, while the smaller tender-faced blossoms are satisfied with low, flat bowls."

" Two—Do not crowd your flowers. A few will go far if properly adapted to their environment. A glorious bouquet of garden flowers is often wasted when crammed into one huge jar. Distribute their sweetness through several rooms. Even when your garden is most prolific use your blossoms sparingly."

" Three—Separate your flowers. Keep certain varieties together (with rare exceptions), mixing the colours only when you are sure of harmonious blending. It is true that Nature's colours never clash, but artistic placing will increase their value."

Lupins from seed

Few plants contribute so much to the beauty of the spring garden as the Lupin. There are many kinds in cultivation, both annual and perennial, but the most important, at any rate from a garden point of view, are the hybrid perennials. When well placed in gardens the effect is superb, their profusion of bloom creating a fine mass of colour when most needed.

New varieties are rather expensive, but the keen lover of these plants will find no more interesting phase in their cultivation than the raising of an army of young plants from seeds. Not only can a vast number of plants be thus secured easily and quickly, but frequently they possess greater vigour and produce larger flower-spikes than those secured by the system of division. With the extra vigour that they possess these seedlings are better adapted for resisting the ravages of insect pests. Plants are easily raised from seed sown in boxes of light soil under cover of a hand-light, or in the open ground during May and June. When it is intended to adopt the method of sowing out of doors a bed should be prepared in some open spot where the plants can from the outset develop to the full a sturdy, robust specimen. If the soil is light no other preparation will be necessary beyond digging it deeply and breaking up the large lumps, but, on the other hand, if the soil is of a heavy nature, leaf-soil and sand should be dug in to make up a congenial rooting medium. Tread the whole moderately firm and draw drills about 10 inches apart and about ½ inch deep. Sow the seed thinly, just covering it with fine soil. When the seedlings are just coming through dust freely with lime to guard against the plundering slug.

The resultant plants may remain in the seed-bed until large enough for planting in their flowering quarters, or may be pricked out into rows in the open ground.

Seedlings usually flower the second year after sowing, but this is entirely determined by the health and vigour of the specimen.

H. Stevens.

White Dahlia and Japan Anemone

Bedding Violas

Violas are just the plants for amateurs. They are easy to grow, always do well except in a very hot season, and bloom throughout the summer and autumn. Plants in the border that have been left undisturbed are now nicely in flower, and, as these are in their second season, they will continue to do well.

Older plants should have been divided last month, but it is not too late if done at once. Cut the plants into portions, each with a bit of root, and they will soon make strong plants and produce large blooms. Rooted cuttings of all the best varieties may be purchased at a reasonable rate, and if cuttings are taken from these in autumn ther
be plenty of plants for next year.

The soil for violas must be deeply du
some good, well-rotted manure incorp
with it. If a dry period sets in put
mulch to keep the surface roots mois
well nourished. If there is no old m
spent Hops will be almost as good.
are a terrible pest and damage many b
therefore a watch must be kept for th

F.

Dahlias in the flower bord

THE good uses of Dahlias in the late
mer are many and various. At on
of a flower border there is a large
of the pink Japan Anemone; a
Dahlia comes pleasantly just beyon
Earlier in the year the pink of the An
is anticipated by a group plantin
Dicentra eximia. In another part of th
den there is a combination of tall
Dahlias with one of pale yellow colour
front, accompanied by yellow Snapdr
and white-striped Maize. The Maize is
low by having the tall main growth c
from the bottom when it is about 3 feet
the plant then forms two or three
growing shoots about 2 feet high, thus
viding a plant of handsome foliage
moderate height and good, compact
This hint may be commended to the att
of gardeners. Some yellow Gladioli
were in the same group are now over, b
yellow and white colouring is continu
the edge with the old Geranium,
Pollock, whose leaves have so much
in them that they tone in well with any
group. There is also the old Golden Fe
Feverfew, some of it with the bloom cu
showing the golden foliage only and
left to flower, and the variegated M
rotundifolia, mottled with yellowish-
The whole forms a pleasant picture of
and white harmony, a good preparatio
the stronger colouring that comes beyon

G.

Border Chrysanthemums fo May planting

AMONG border Chrysanthemums
are many varieties which have be
the fore a good number of years,
which are still deserving of a place i
garden, while the last three years have
many fine varieties placed at the dispos
the public, so many, in fact, that it is di
to limit a selection to a dozen names.

Amongst the white flowers, mention
be made of Mayford White on account
purity and the exquisite texture of the
When first introduced it found favour
both the Royal Horticultural Society an
National Chrysanthemum Society, in ad
to receiving a First Class Certificate fro
British Federation of Florists. Its ha
such that natural growth results in a
proportioned bush, while it responds eq
well to disbudding. In the case of rest
growth, quality and size of bloom leav
thing to be desired. In normal season
flowering period is quite early enoug
escape all damage by frost in most loca

Another attractive white variety is
Roots. Whilst Mayford White tend
build up a neatly reflexing bloom, the gl
ing petals of R. A. Roots are inclin
twist. Disbudded blooms of this v
are of good size and should prove an as
growers who aim at competing in
exhibitions. The plant is very vigoro
comparison with many outdoor kinds
often attains a height of over 4 feet b
commencing to flower mid-way th
September.

Modern yellow Chrysanthemums com

Dahlias yellow and warm white

White Star Dahlias

grup of many varying shades of colour. e very useful and attractive variety is ffil, claimed to be the equal of indoor ves so far as substance and finish are cned. Given good cultivation, this is taly no exaggeration, and the free and y abit of the plant classifies it as one ic serves a useful purpose whether grown ntural sprays or disbudded blooms.

rdom of growth also characterises d Dame, which, as it name implies, is a p golden yellow or flame colour. This ie is a seedling from Pink Delight and f milar habit. One important difference, ver, is the fact that Gold Dame commnces to bloom in August, a month or so lie than the parent variety. It is an exler all-round plant and suitable for all ris.

Ir James Scalley is a fine variety to grow secimen flowers. The plant attains a g of 3 feet and bears flowers of a pose-pink, the reverse of the petals be- sver. Grown as a bush it furnishes an nance of flowers, but is, perhaps, rather e in some localities, and hence preference gin to limiting the number of blooms orer to induce earliness. The lightness evn the larger blooms makes them very ef for decorative purposes. If slight protic can be given in unfavourable weather tal results are quite good; the plant is very suitable for transferring from the n o bloom in a cold greenhouse.

Anher pink flower of attractive shade is k which is also different from the preiin variety in the general build of the we Towards the centre the petals have irng tendencies, while the outer ones rlexed. The plant forms a good bush mmences to flower mid-way through ptember. If disbudded it gives full, deep wes carried on long, firm stems.

Alrante is a flower which has been popr r a number of years, but, unfortunateit ften proves too late to be relied upon ery year by many growers resident in stris which are subject to early frosts. is ifficulty has now been overcome, however, by the introduction of Glow. The we of this variety resemble those of the older favourite in colour, crimson with golden tips, but in other respects it is superior. The disbudded blooms are larger and ready for cutting fully a month before Almirante starts to bloom. Other good qualities are the fine build of the flower, the texture of the petal, and the length of stem in the case of both disbudded blooms and natural sprays.

As a deep and rich crimson self, Crimson Circle stands alone. The plant grows to a height of 3 feet, and the blooming period is from mid-August onwards. The sun does not exert any harmful influence on the richness of the colouring, and even after heavy rain the flowers look none the worse. It may be interesting to note in passing that Robin, one of this year's introductions, is a seedling from Crimson Circle, and if it possesses the qualities of the parent plant it should prove an asset, as it commences to flower towards the end of July.

Salmon Queen is a splendid variety for September blooming, suitable either for disbudding or growing in sprays. When limited to six or nine blooms per plant the flowers are extra large and full, and furnished with long pliable stems. The colour is a pleasing shade of salmon-bronze, entirely distinct from that of any other variety. Last year this particular variety was very fine in the border, and a number of later plants transferred to a cold house continued to provide excellent blooms until early November.

Bearing in mind these days when colour among flowers constitutes a subject of controversy, the Chrysanthemum grower is perhaps apt to transgress in connection with the purple flowers. The difficulty is that this word does not do full justice to some of the exquisite shades which are to be found among this class of flower. The only means of attaining an idea of the true colour is by actually seeing the flower. Purple Robe is a seedling from the popular Lichfield Purple, but is much lighter in colour and in several ways an improvement on the older variety. The rather difficult habit of the latter is entirely absent in Purple Robe, which makes a neat and compact bush of from 2½ feet to 3 feet high.

Jack Robbins is a flower of beautiful form and good size, borne on a bush of fine and vigorous habit. The colour is a clear shade of amber, and whether grown naturally or for disbudded blooms, the plant gives entire satisfaction. Where Bronze Early Buttercup has met with favour, this variety will also prove acceptable. It grows with the same freedom, commencing to bloom about the same time and continues to send up flowering-stems until cut down by frost.

Mrs. Phil Page is included in the list for several reasons. In the first place, like its parent plant, Mrs. Jack Pearson, it is amongst the earliest to bloom and therefore suitable for all districts. Again, to use a gardener's expression, it is a very easy doer, and gives either good-sized disbudded blooms or natural sprays on long stems. Furthermore, the colour, a shade of red-bronze, is one which seems to meet with general approval. A system of treatment to which the plant readily responds consists of two stoppings, after which the plant develops long stems which may be limited to one bloom each, or allowed to produce sprays according to individual taste.

A. E. Wright.

Lochend, Neasham Road,
Darlington.

Aster grandiflorus

Although this perennial Aster is as hardy as other members of this family, it has never been, in the true sense of the word, a popular garden flower. It is not sufficiently robust to thrive under rough-and-ready treatment, and, in my experience, is apt to suffer much in periods of very dry, hot weather. It needs a certain amount of culture, and is worth it. Those who need rather large plants for autumn decoration would find this Aster very useful. One way of growing it, is to put good-sized pieces in 8-in. pots in rather rich soil and care for them in the usual manner. An easier way is to plant out in good soil and pot the plants in September, putting them under cover in October, when they are potted. J. Cornhill.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Tulipa sylvestris

Many years ago I brought home some bulbs of Tulipa sylvestris from Italy, and for a long time it bloomed freely and became a large patch in my rock garden. For the last few springs there has been no bloom, only abundant foliage. Do you advise lifting and dividing its roots, which have a peculiarity of growth and self-propagation? I read that this Tulip is a native, but have never met with it in England. ELLEN E. STEVENSON.

[We advise you to lift and divide your Tulip bulbs, which have impoverished the soil, and after selecting the best of the bulbs transplant them in fresh and well-prepared soil, and preferably in a different position. They will most probably flower again in two years' time. The trouble you speak of is quite characteristic of this species. Tulipa sylvestris is considered by some botanists to be a distinct species, by others to have been distributed by man. It grows wild in the south of France and other countries in the south of Europe, and is found also in a wild state in chalk pits in England. You should read the history of Tulipa sylvestris in the recently published Book of the Tulip, by Sir A. Daniel Hall, published by Martin Hopkinson. (See review page 370.)]

Taking up and storing early Tulips

(E. W.).—If dug up carefully and immediately "heeled" in in the reserve garden, given some water, and afforded a little shade for a week or so, the bulbs will suffer but little. As soon as the foliage has died down lift the bulbs, lay in shallow boxes, and set in a dry, airy place until quite dry. The stems will part easily and the bulbs can then be placed in baskets, or other receptacles, and hung up in a cool shed until planting time. If the site is changed annually, the bulbs will continue to increase indefinitely, and if only the largest and soundest are planted good results will continue.

Plants for a granite trough sunk in a pond

(M. J. B.).—The following would thrive there:—Myosotis palustris semperflorens, Caltha Tyermanni, C. polypetala, Primulas rosea, pulverulenta, and helodoxa, Cyperus longus, Rodgersia podophylla, Spiræas Aruncus, S. palmata, Saxifraga peltata, the Bog Bean (Menyanthes trifoliata), Mimulus in variety, Trollius europeus Orange Princess, T. Lemon Queen, Tradescantia virginica, and Parochetus communis around the edge.

Raising Meconopsis from seed

(Sylvania).—The seed should be sown in pots or pans, well drained, and filled with light soil as soon as it is ripe, or by the end of August, at least. Cold frames are very suitable for the purpose, but it is advisable to cover the pans with a slate or similar object to prevent evaporation until the seeds have germinated, when they must be gradually exposed to light and sunshine. It will be necessary to prick off the seedlings, when large enough, into small pots of sandy and leafy soil, growing them on in a cold frame until June of the following year, when they should be planted out in a partially shaded position in the open. They may be grown in beds and borders in the open, but they are a great deal happier growing under conditions resembling that of a thin woodland, where large deciduous trees cast a gentle shade over them; light, however, is of importance, and such trees should be relieved of their lower branches in order that sufficient light may penetrate to the plants. If you cannot provide such a position, try and find one offering the nearest resemblance. A leafy soil is desirable, such as two parts decayed leaf-mould to two parts of good sandy loam. Some varieties prefer a little more sunshine, but the above conditions will be found acceptable to most of this attractive genus.

Anthemis tinctoria

(T. A.).—This fine Marguerite-like plant is best increased by means of cuttings inserted in boxes of sandy soil kept close in a frame—treating them, in fact, the same as those of the true Marguerites or Pentstemons. The plant is nearly or quite hardy, and the cuttings would be quite safe in a cold frame in any but the severest winters.

Planting Alstrœmerias

(E. J.).—These may be planted quite successfully in autumn or spring, provided the roots are in a dormant state. If more are purchased this spring plant them in open soil at a depth of not less than 9 inches, and mulch the ground above them either with cocoa-nut-fibre or light strawy manure. Few things are easier to grow than these, and once the plants are established they should be let alone, beyond annually mulching them, if necessary. Alstrœmerias are not always easy to establish, but if they are once fairly started they give no trouble afterwards, and should not be disturbed for years. They require to be planted in a warm, dry border, not less than 9 inches deep, to keep them safe from frost. If the soil is not naturally light and dry they will require some stones put below them.

Double white Daffodil

(J. M.).—The variety you require is probably The Pearl, a beautiful double-flowered Daffodil of delicate primrose colour passing off white. There is also the older double white Poeticus, snowy-white and sweetly scented, with Gardenia-like blossoms.

A dwarf Forget-me-Not

(Miss F. Mordaunt).—The plant you refer to is most probably Myosotis rupicola, a delightful but sometimes difficult plant. Yes, it comes fairly true from seed, and is offered by Messrs. Thompson and Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich. Plants could be obtained from Mr. Clarence Elliott, Six Hills Nursery, Stevenage, Herts.

Diseased Gladioli corms

(Puzzle).—The two affected corms have a rot which we understand is at present under investigation by research wo It is not yet established as to whether the fungus concerned is actually par It may be that the fungus only enters which are not in tip-top condition stored. After the fungus has, by some r or the other, entered the corm it makes progress and destroys the vascular bu with the result that the corm fails to When lifting the corms this autumn sure that they are dried well before st It speaks well for your harvesting season because you had only two affected; many growers of Gladioli many failures this season due to this trouble. The affected corms can be de before planting if all corms are peeled carefully examined. It would seem w do this because the fungus is really sitic. The planting of affected corms be liable to contaminate the soil.

Forcing Border Carnations

I am entering in a local show on July some Border Carnations. The earlie these to flower is a scarlet, which comm blooming about the end of July. Car suggest any way or treatment which c given to these Carnations to make flower from three weeks to a month ea Also a few hints on growing hardy B Carnations would be greatly appreciate R. HOLLOW

[It is usual for exhibitors at these shows to grow their plants in pots in a or cool greenhouse, but it is too late no you to do this. The only thing, ther we can suggest is that you place frames your plants, attending well in the way ing, and seeing that they never suffer dryness at the roots. Watch also for ve as under such conditions these are apt troublesome. Details of culture can h be given in reply to a question, but i watch our columns you will get, from ti time, helpful hints on this matter.]

Bulbs in Grass

I find that Daffodils and Fritillaria generate in grass. By the third year planting they bear no flowers. Can yo vise any treatment? The grass is a field cut for hay, light stony soil, and position. The bulbs are not under the of the fruit trees. R. F.

[Your soil is probably too dry for bulbs, and it is somewhat difficult to su anything likely to do much good. You the bulbs are not under the shade of trees. It would be better if they were Daffodil in particular thriving splen when planted under deciduous trees. haps a dressing of fine bone-meal, 2 oz 3 ozs. per square yard, might do some Is the hay cut before the foliage is ri off? If so, this of itself would caus trouble.]

Botrytis parasitica and Tulips

(J. G.).—The specimens when they re us were much withered, so that it is dif to determine exactly what is causing trouble. We think, however, that the point to that troublesome disease know "Fire" fungus (Botrytis parasitica). taken in time and the discoloured piece removed with a sharp knife the troub arrested. You would be well advised, ever, to root up and burn all the aff plants. Tulips should have a fresh site season.

Border Carnations too warm

I am sending a struck cutting o Allwood's Perpetual-flowering Carna You will note the leaves have lost their b and are withering badly in addition. you give me any hints as to how to

? All my cuttings are going like this te old plants are becoming affected too. ants are in a span-roof house which lve practically to themselves. There is d p ventilation and side ventilation also. oor of the house is three steps below -level, but it is paved and is not unduly and the plants are upon a staging feet from the ground, the apex of the ing about 7 feet above the top of the g. The plants are in 3½-inch pots.

C. C. M.

A you not keeping your Carnations in rm a house? These Allwoodiis are fely hardy and dislike much in the way rficial heat. We can discover no actual ea on the specimen sent, but part of the ns discoloured, which seems to point to nistake in the cultural details. A dose rficial manure would cause it, so would r-atering, as also would dryness at the ts The plants would be better in a frame y intend growing them in pots, but ul be better still planted in the open d.]

GREENHOUSE

p astrum treatment

ould be grateful for advice as to the treatment for my collection of Hipsum which my friend, the late Sir ore Holford, gave me many years ago. have been neglected, I fear, by my late rdner, and become seriously affected by, I pse, mealy bug, though scarcely any are it. Two years ago there were a lot of n showing streaks of red in the leaves ic have since failed to develop properly, d his year many of the flowers have no v at all or are misshapen and small. I ve been treating them with methylated ri applied with a fine brush, but it does em of much avail. H. A. PETO.

fd Manor, Bradford-on-Avon.

ur plants are certainly in a very bad y You should shake them free of all soil, ff all loose skin, remove any decaying t and repot in a sweet, fresh compost d up of the best procurable fibrous loam, k leaf-mould, not too old, and coarse, a sand. Before repotting examine each lb carefully and kill any bugs or their eggs uching with spirit of wine, using a m-hair brush. After potting set in a u having a genial warmth of 65 degs. to gs. While the soil should not be permitted to get really dry, water must only be ve to prevent this, but the bulbs and pots old be lightly sprayed over, two or three me a day with tepid water. It would also ell to dust the bulbs before repotting ith crushed charcoal and sulphur. By ang in this way the bulbs should recover, d f they make good growth by the end of ly nove them to a sunny stage or shelf in dinary greenhouse and so get them prorl ripened off. They should rest from tion till early spring.]

rcping of Aralia foliage

(alia).—You need not be unduly alarmed your Aralia foliage dropping off. It is e natural habit of the plant to cast off val leaves after a new crop of leaves is evoped at the growing point. The conqence of this is always that Aralia Sieol becomes leggy in course of time. You nlo nothing to prevent the leaves falling f, although a moist growing atmosphere ee; them in position longer than is the case nc dryer conditions.

ROSE GARDEN

Ro leaves dropping

(F.).—We have carefully examined ou Rose shoot and can find nothing present that would account for leaves dropping, but the specimen shoot arrived in such a dried-up condition that it was impossible to do much with it. Will you be kind enough to send us another specimen, together with some of the leaves that have actually dropped off, packed in a small tin box. Such material should arrive in a fairly fresh condition, and we should be in a better position to find out the cause of your trouble.

SUNNY TORQUAY

1. Silene maritima, a sea-coast form of the Bladder Campion, on the cliffs along the Marine Parade.
2. Thatcher Island and clump of Pine trees as seen from the Marine Parade.
3. Magnificent specimens of Cordyline australis (native of New Zealand), now at their best in the Tea Gardens by the front at Torquay.

ALPINES

Primula Lady Thursby dying

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—Your Primula was and is still badly attacked with wireworm, several being present among the roots submitted. As soon as their flowers are over lift the remainder, washing all the soil from among their roots, and transplant in sweet, fresh, moist ground, which has received a dressing of Vaporite. Should any of the plants wilt before flowering, cut out the flower spikes, which must be sacrificed this year, and transplant at once.

Primula maggot

(Middleham).—From your description we think that the maggot is probably that of the Clay-coloured Weevil (Otiorrhynchus picipes), but it would be more satisfactory to you and to us if you would be good enough to send us up some specimens. There are several soil creatures which could do the damage, and the control of these is somewhat different from that for Clay-coloured Weevil.

Primroses changing

I have a good collection of coloured Primroses (Acaulis). I find that about the second year the plants turn to Polyanthus. They throw up the long footstalk with the umbel of flowers. I have tried starving in poor soil, but even the common English Primrose changes. Our climate is cool. Seldom do we get any hot weather. The Primroses begin to bloom about November 1st and keep a constant succession of bloom till the end of April. Can you suggest any treatment to prevent the sporting? HUGH B. LOGAN.

Inverness, Marin County,
Calif., U.S.A.

[While it is not at all uncommon for the Primrose to develop the Polyanthus habit, we have never known this trait to be so universal as it is with you. We would suggest that you lift and divide the plants annually, replanting on a fresh site. You will understand that this plant prefers a shady situation, while moderately rich and moist soil gives best results.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Cutting-back double Gorse

When can this be safely cut back to prevent the plants growing straggly? Can it be done a little every year to small plants just now put in? Can old plants which have never been cut be safely shortened, and, if so, where? F. W.

[If this is done annually whilst the plants are young, then it may be carried out with perfect safety, such pruning being done immediately the flowers are over. It is a risky practice to cut back old specimens, but if it is done at the end of April a large percentage will again break into growth, even though wood 2 inches thick has to be cut through, and we would advise this treatment where old plants have become leggy and unsightly.]

Rhus Cotinus dying back

(H. L., New Zealand).—This handsome shrub is happiest when growing in poor soil, and we suggest as the reason for the behaviour of your shrub that the treatment you have been giving has been too generous, possibly the soil too rich. This would also keep the plant growing late, with the result that the unripened shoots are unable to withstand the winter. We can give no other reason for the dying back.

Diseased Azaleas

I am enclosing a diseased piece of Azalea Pontica (common yellow). The shrubs were planted about two years ago on a slope facing east, and this spring we notice that they are covered with fungus. I would be obliged if you could diagnose it and suggest a remedy.

M. E.

[The "fungus" present on your specimens is not a fungus at all, but is a lichen and has had nothing to do with the death of the bush. Lichens commonly occur on various trees and shrubs, especially when growing under fairly moist conditions. From the evidence we have, it is difficult to account for the death of the shrub; it is probably a victim of the great frost. A badly drained site might have killed the plant.]

FRUIT

Weak and shrivelled Vines

(Gardener).—Your Vine is certainly in a very bad way, but without considerably more information as to condition of soil in which it is growing and the cultural treatment given we cannot definitely say what has caused the trouble, nor, of course, what can cure it. Most likely, however, the roots have got away down into uncongenial soil, the remedy for this being to remake the border in autumn or early spring, using the best procurable fresh turfy loam. We will give you full details of how to proceed if you so desire. If the Vine is growing inside the house it may have been kept too dry at the roots, or again, it may have been given far too much water. You have not been dosing it with strong artificial manures, have you? This, too, would do the damage.

Thinning Peaches

(Inquirer).—If the crop is very heavy you can partly thin before the stoning period, but, generally speaking, it is safer to defer until this is over, as some usually drop during this critical time. You do not require to stop syringing. It is hardly possible to inform you as to the exact stage of growth the fruits begin to stone; nor yet the exact length of time they take to finish this process.

VEGETABLES

Carrot Fly

(C. E. B.).—The adult Carrot Fly appears in May and June, according to the season, and eggs are laid on the soil close to the Carrot crop. The maggots emerge from the egg about seven or eight days later. The tiny maggots work their way to the Carrot root and begin to feed. If the attack is early the maggot appears to work its way to the tap root and eats this through, but if the Carrot has attained a fair size the attack takes place higher, and the fleshy part of the Carrot is attacked. When the maggots have been feeding for about a month they leave the Carrot and get away into the soil nearby and pupate. Some of the chrysalids remain in that state until the following spring, but a number of them only remain as chrysalids for about 21 days and then emerge as adults and commence egg laying again. This second generation is the one that does the damage to a crop of Carrots nearly half grown. The first generation is responsible for Carrots going off in the final thinning stage. The best control is to keep the crop dusted with a mixture of creosote and fine, dry garden soil. Two tablespoonfuls of creosote should be well stirred into 3 lbs. of dry garden soil. This is done by weighing out the soil and placing in a bucket; make a hole in the centre of the soil and pour in the creosote; then stir well so that the creosote is thoroughly mixed. If convenient, the mixture should be made up a day before required for use, so that time is allowed for the creosote to permeate the whole of the soil. 3 lbs. of the mixture is sufficient for 30 sq. yds. of Carrot bed. A Carrot bed should be dressed with this mixture at fortnightly intervals from the appearance of the crop until mid-July. After the creosote and soil are mixed in the bucket, it should be covered until used. Any left over should be placed in an air-tight tin or thrown away, and a fresh lot mixed up each time it is required. Each time a Carrot bed is thinned, the soil should be firmed so that the adult flies cannot get into the cracks to deposit eggs. A mulch of lawn grass cuttings over the Carrot bed 1 inch in thickness often prevents an attack of Carrot Fly.

Bean Aphis

(T.B.).—This feeds by piercing the tissue of the plant and withdrawing the sap. If the growing points are removed and burned a good measure of control is generally obtained. We have, however, seen many gardeners pinch out the affected Bean tips and, instead of burning them, throw the tips down onto the soil by the sides of the plants. This is a great mistake, because Bean Aphis does not remain on a drying portion of a severed tip for long. As soon as the portion on which the aphises are feeding is picked, unless they are at once put into water, the aphises begin to leave it and to look about for another host plant. Sometimes when infected tips are thrown down under the plants the aphises crawl back up the stems and begin to feed again by attacking the pods. This is always the case if the pods are only just forming; if, however, the young pods are fairly well advanced, another host plant is generally looked for. Bean Aphis attacks many plants, *e.g.*, Rhubarb, Turnips, Mangolds, Beets, Nasturtiums, Larkspurs, Docks, Thistles, Poppies, also Runner and French Beans. This list is not by any means complete, but it will serve to show that Bean Aphis, when thrown down in a garden, has plenty of choice for another host plant. When the "pinching" method of control is used for Bean Aphis on Broad Beans, it is essential that the affected portions after removal are burned or otherwise destroyed. In the case of your Runner Beans, picking off the affected portions is out of the question, because the plants are generally attacked more or less all over, and to remove the affected portions would mean the destruction of the crop. We should advise you to spray your plants with a good nicotine wash, many of which you will find advertised in our columns. If you prefer to make your own, you should use $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. 98 per cent. nicotine, 1 lb. soft soap, and 10 gallons water. Dissolve the soft soap in a little hot water. When the solution is cold, add the $\frac{3}{4}$ oz. nicotine and then make up to 10 gallons with cold water. Soft water should always be used. When the spray is used pay special attention to the undersides of the leaves. The spraying should be repeated if necessary.

Leaf Curl in Tomatoes

(W. C.).—If it is only the ordinary Leaf Curl you need not worry, as this is quite a natural process. All Tomato plants, as they get well advanced in growth, produce such foliage, this being merely a phase in their development, ending in the leaves ripening off. By careful watering and careful, but abundant, ventilation, you may defer the coming of the curl, but will not prevent it.

MISCELLANEOUS

Where to obtain plants

(Miss G. M. Walpole).—You can procure both Valotta purpurea and white Foxgloves from Messrs. Barr and Sons, 11, 12, and 13, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

Use of pigeon manure

(Constant Reader).—Pigeon manure must be kept dry to be of any value. When thoroughly dry it crumbles into a fine powder and should then be scattered near the plants and hoed in. The plants that benefit most from this material are: Beans, Peas,
the Cabbage family, Turnips, Leeks
and Celery. If used as a liquid ma
peck to 80 gallons will be enough
benefit by the use of this manur
Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, Pen
etc., but it must be used very spari

Removing Pampas Grass

(O. P.).—This can easily and
removed, but the larger and older
men to be removed is, the greater th
of care needed and labour involved
it. It may be done either in au
spring with every prospect of suc
some cases, such as upon light
should prefer the autumn; but in co
ward districts, with heavy soil, it
advisable to wait till the early spring
We have moved and divided large
many pieces before replanting, and
grown.

Nettles in gardens

(N. G.).—The roots of Nettles ar
ficult to eradicate as those of Couc
and they spread in the same way.
mode of effectually ridding a garden
is to fork up the ground wher
Nettles are growing, and to pick
piece of root which can be seen.
course is conscientiously adopted, th
can soon be cleared.

Dipping garden nets

Can you please let me know
wanted for dipping nets, as I have
new boundary net that I would like
D

[We are publishing your letter in
that some of our readers may be
assist you. It is not usual to
boundary nets into any material,
they are usually treated by the manu
to render them weather-proof.
would probably answer the purpos
ping, which we doubt, is really nec

NAMES OF PLANTS

Mrs. M. F. Smith, Pa., U.S.A
Oxalis (Wood Sorrel), cannot s
variety without a flower; 2,
Hakeoides.

G. G. Baker Cresswell.—Cytisus

Mrs. E. B. Lacey.—Kerria
fl.-pl.

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(Continued on page 378)

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REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Fruit houses

With the removal of large bedding plants hitherto occupying the floors of these houses, one is able to pay closer attention to the condition of the borders, and whether occupied by Vine, Peach, or Fig, more light and air will now penetrate their surface, enabling such borders to dry out more rapidly, hence the necessity of more care in the matter of watering; airing, too, from this date must be on a more generous scale. A few plants, such as Indian Azaleas, Genistas, Acacias, etc., enjoy the partial shade of fruit houses and often recuperate rapidly from the unnatural treatment such plants receive during their occupation of dwelling houses, where they suffer from dark and overheated conditions. Thrips are, however, very troublesome among such plants and daily syringings must be given, otherwise this pest will spread to the trees overhead

Poinsettias and fibrous rooted Begonias

Continue to take cuttings of these, as they will be found valuable for blooming in small pots in mid-winter. A brisk temperature well charged with moisture is essential for quick, clean growth.

Plants for blooming next year

If seeds of the following are sown now, the plants will bloom next season and be found invaluable for the making of new, or filling up of old, borders. The borders in which they are sown should be well drained and the soil rendered to a fine tilth, shallow drills are then drawn out at 9 inches apart. The items include Aquilegia, Campanula pyramidalis and others; Canterbury Bells, the two latter kinds are excellent for potting-up to flower indoors during spring and summer; Brompton Stocks, Cheiranthus Allionii and C. linifolius, Delphiniums, Foxgloves, Honesty, Perennial Poppies, Anchusas, Gaillardia, Hollyhock, Coreopsis grandiflora, Wallflowers, Sweet William, Polyanthus, Chrysanthemum leucanthemum, and Forget-me-nots.

Newly made lawns

Those over which seed has been sown should not be mown with a machine the first time, it being far better for the grasses if the first cutting is done with a sharp scythe, and even this should not be permitted until the grass has attained 4 inches to 5 inches in height. Rolling of such lawns should be frequent during favourable weather, and when the mower is used for the first time avoid cutting low, or many of the roots will be drawn out.

Sweet Peas

The final staking must now be given to those planted out of pots; care must also be taken to avoid dryness at the root by applying a good, heavy mulch of litter alongside. Thin out late sowings to at least 1 foot apart and place small supporting twigs around them.

Annuals

The earliest sowings will now require thinning, such things as Lavateras, Bartonia, Cornflower, Larkspur, Hunnemannia, etc., requiring to be thinned to at least 1 foot apart, whereas Phacelia, Nemesia, Drummond Phlox, Rhodanthe, Viscaria, etc., need only 6 inches to 9 inches. Choice annuals may still be sown where they are to bloom, and often produce even finer results than those of an earlier sowing. The soil should be good, but not unduly rich.

Climbing plants

These are now making rapid growth, which must be trained into position week by week or a tangled mass, which cannot afterwards be separated, will result. Clematis are a case in point, but if these are taken in hand from the start, they may be trained to produce graceful effects.

Early Potatoes

The final earthing up should now be given, and if a sprinkling of Potato manure is applied between the rows at the present time it will be found most beneficial to growth.

Celery

The trenches having been prepared earlier in the month and the plants having been thoroughly hardened off, there need be no further delay in getting them out in their permanent quarters. A good ball of soil should be lifted with each plant and the latter made firm; for double rows a space of 6 inches—with the plants 1 foot apart in the rows—should be allowed. Water thoroughly and constantly should the weather prove hot and dry, especially during the first fortnight.

Vegetable Marrows and Ridge Cucumbers

These may now be planted out, they must, however, be sheltered from strong winds, and it may be necessary to protect them at night.

Runner Beans

Raised in boxes, these may now be planted out in prepared trenches, and others sown on rich ground. E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Latest Peas

A long experience in a lake upland district has taught me that to sow late Peas after the end of May is to waste time, space, and seed. Certainly, if one is content to use the inferior early varieties, these may be put in 10 days or a fortnight later, but by sowing Rearguard and the Gladstone during the last few days of May, good-flavoured produce can be had up till the end of October or even later.

Brussels Sprouts

This popular winter green cannot be depended on to produce good crops if sown out-of-doors in March, in some of our later districts, unless it is an exceptionally fine season. It is desirable, therefore, to plant out a good breadth of the plants raised in frame or greenhouse, these having a start of several weeks and so invariably doing well.

The Swede Turnip

This is now recognised as one of our most useful winter root vegetables, and should be grown in every garden. If sown early the bulbs are large and coarse, but by putting in the seeds during the last week in May, decent size and fine quality are usually secured. Fairly rich, well-worked ground gives the best results, while a good field variety is much better than most of the so-called garden Swedes. One of the very best for garden culture is the Bangholm Field Swede. Sow in shallow drills 18 inches apart and thin to 8 or 9 inches asunder as soon as fit to handle.

Parsley

A sowing made now will be in good condition for pricking into a frame towards the end of August to provide a supply for the winter and spring months. I find Myatt's Garnishing very suitable for t
pose. Plants raised under glass, if
ready in their permanent quarters, sh
got out at once. Always plant near
so that supplies can be easily got a
kinds of weather.

Bedding out

This is now occupying the major
the working day, and, providing the
is favourable, should be pushed forwa
all speed. All the hardier subjects
of course, be planted first, leaving su
der kinds as Begonias, Dahlias, N
Marigolds, Ageratum, Nasturtium
until the first week in June. All the
planted stuff should have the surface
soil between the plants stirred with th
hoe. This greatly helps the plants,
discouraging slugs and keeping down

Dahlias

One of the drawbacks to the cu
these grand plants, especially in th
districts, is the lateness of bloomi
frost cutting the plants down in some
before a flower had expanded. Thi
mainly to the old show and Cactus
The newer forms, such as the Collare
Decorative, bloom, as a rule, severa
earlier and give a far showier display
garden, besides being most valuable
ting. Then the dwarf Coltness Gem
varieties begin to flower in July even
localities. Do not over-manure any
or the flowers will be few and inferio

The Nemesias

One of the finest of all half-hardy a
this South African plant is not ne
widely grown as its merits demand.
the original large-flowered type i
beautiful and produces many wo
shades of colour, the dwarf hybrid
much better adapted for bedding pu
If planted in good soil and in a sunn
tion, the plants grow into ideal little
covered with a profusion of deli
varied small flowers. The colours ha
wonderfully improved of late years.
plant should be given a fresh site ever

Cannas for pot culture

A well-grown batch of this plant ha
effect in large conservatories or green
Good treatment is essential. Plants g
in 5-inch or 6-inch pots will now b
for a shift, good, substantial compos
used. A genial temperature should b
and if the foliage is well syringed
vermin will be less troublesome.

Young greenhouse plants

Where there is anything in the na
congestion in the greenhouse, it is
plan to move all young plants of Hel
Fuchsia, Pelargonium, Petunia, a
forth, to cold frames, where they sh
kept rather close for a few days, bu
wards given abundance of air. Atten
carefully with water; evaporation bei
rapid now.

Surplus bedding plants

Some of these, if potted up, set in
frame, and given a little care make ad
plants for greenhouse or window
ment. Suitable kinds are: Asters, Ne
Verbenas, dwarf Dahlias, Antirrh
Stocks, Ageratum, and Lobelia. K
frame rather close and shaded un
plants get a start, when all possible lig
air should be given so as to induce
healthy growth. C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgo

AZY PAVING
C·den Paths, also Rectangular Flags,
v, Walling, Steps and Wall Coping.
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DIRECT FROM OWN FELLS
Price 15/- per ton
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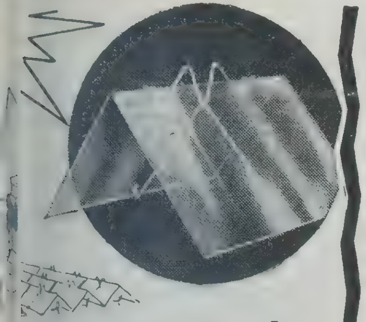

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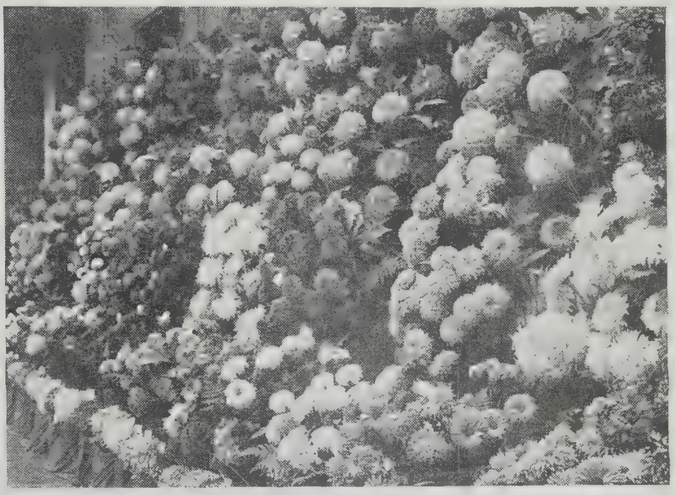

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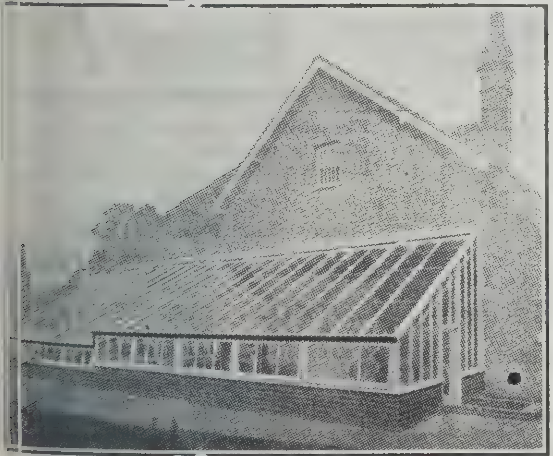

A Duncan Tucker glasshouse lasts a lifetime with no more attention than an occasional coat of paint. Whatever is the size or shape of the glasshouse you require—Duncan Tucker will build it for you at a price that will surprise you.

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No matter what "glass" you propose to buy—get Duncan Tucker to give you their price. Quality of work does not depend on the size of your order if Duncan Tucker make your glasshouse. Small garden frame or palatial conservatory—the same high-grade materials are used for both, the same care is expended on their design, and the same craftsmen spare no pains to make each a credit to themselves and to you.

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ESTABLISHED 1830.

GA 9034

GARDEN CLIPPERS

best English steel at
2/9 pair, post free,
for flower cutting, etc.

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"L.S.D" WIRE CAGES
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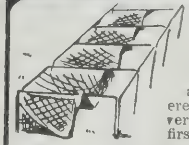

Protect your Seeds & Fruit against Birds

This simple tested device is absolutely efficient, is easy to erect, and can be extended either vertically or horizontally. Use first to protect your Seeds, then your Strawberries, then your Bush fruit. Packs into very small compass

Prices: To cover area 27½ ft. by 5½ ft., 22/-; or area 27½ ft. by 16½ ft. (also for 27½ ft. by 5½ ft. Bush Fruit), 44/-. Carr. pd. nearest station. Scotland, Ireland, and I.O.M., 1/- per set extra. Net not supplied.

MAGNA FRUIT Co. (19), Marston, Yeovil Somt

RENARDINE protects Trees and Shrubs from Rabbits

Keeps Rabbits off Flower Beds, Lawns, and Golf Greens. Keeps Cats from Seed Beds. Cures Club in Cabbages.

4/- per quart tin.
Carriage Paid.

Write for pamphlet giving full particulars.

Gilbertson & Page, Ltd.
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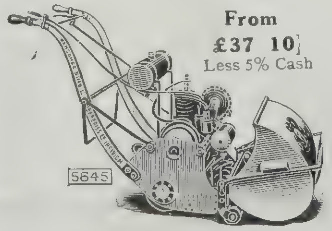
HERTFORD, HERTS.

By Appointment

Demonstrations

BEFORE purchasing a Motor Mower, let RANSOMES arrange a *Free Demonstration* on your own Lawn. Take the handles yourself—have a "trial run"—note the simple controls—easy adjustments—the evenness of the cut grass. You will then realise why Ransomes' Motor Mowers have been acclaimed "The Best in the World."

From
£37 10
Less 5% Cash



Several models are made, to meet every possible requirement, from the average Lawn to large Sports Grounds, Private and Public Parks.

Ransomes'
MOTOR MOWERS.

Not the cheapest but—The BEST

Ransomes, Sims, & Jefferies, Ltd.
Orwell Works, Ipswich

GREEN FLY ON ROSE TREES. Keating's Powder dusted on these plants will remove all trace of Green Fly and will not hurt the plant. Use dry; keep dry. Prices, **2d., 6d., 1/-.**

Use Keating's in Your Greenhouse

EUREKA WEED KILLER

LABOUR SAVERS. "EUREKA" LAWN SAND, SOILFUME, NICOTINE, INSECTICIDES, FUMERS, SPRAYS AND OTHER CHEMICALS AND SUNDRIES. SEE LIST. PLEASE ASK YOUR AGENT FOR THE EUREKA ARTICLES—THEY ARE ALWAYS SATISFACTORY. IF ANY DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING, WE SEND DIRECT, CARRIAGE PAID

Only Address: TOMLINSON & HAYWARD Ltd. LINCOLN.

SLUG-MORT

is wanted in EVERY garden

Slugs and Snails Exterminated

Easily, Cheaply, Quickly, Safely, and Completely

The Viscountess BYNG OF VIMY writes:—
"*I am glad to say that we have found Slug-Mort most efficacious, as the slugs have vanished*"

Directions and material sufficient to treat ¼, ½ and 1 acre, **1/6, 3/-** and **6/-**, carriage paid, from:—

The SLUG MORT CO., PENZANCE

GARDEN RAFF

Natural at 9d. per lb.,
5 lb. bundles, post free, 4s.,
for every garden purpose.
Coloured at 1/2 per lb.

DRYAD HANDICRAFTS, LEIC

LITTLE'S
WEED KILLER
POISONOUS
AND
NON-POISONOUS
FOR PRICES ETC.
WRITE:—
MORRIS, LITTLE & SON, L
150, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, LONDON

PEACH BASKET (in white with cane handle)
2 sizes: **4/6** and **6/6** each.

Durable and Artistic

BASKETS .·. HAMPE
WICKER CHAIRS, TABL
of Best Essex Grown Willow

Write for Catalogue to:—

ORSETT BASKET WORKS,
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GARDEN WALKS and LAWNS

You can keep them clean and free from weeds by using

"ACME" WEED KILLER

Powder. Dissolves quickly in cold water.

No. X	Tin makes	12½ gallons	1/6
No. 1	,, ,,	25 ,,	2/6
No. 2	,, ,,	50 ,,	4/9
No. 4	,, ,,	150 ,,	13/-

Other sizes and prices on application.

Liquid. Strength, 1 gallon to 25 gallons.
½ gal., **1/11**; 1 gal., **3/6**; 2 gals., **6/-**; 5 gals., **13/-**.

Double Strength. 1 to 50 gallons of water.
½ gal., **3/6**; 1 gal., **5/-**; 2 gals., **10/-**; 3 gals. **13/6**; 5 gals., **20/-**.

NON-POISONOUS WEED KILLER.
Prices on application.

"ACME" LAWN SAND

Cleans the Turf of Weeds and Moss, and at the same time fertilises the Grass. No other manure is necessary.

In Wooden Kegs—
28 lbs., **8/-**; 56 lbs., **13/6**; 1 cwt. **25/-**.

In Waterproof Bags—
28 lbs., **7/-**; 56 lbs., **12/6**; 1 cwt., **23/9**.

"ACME" WORM KILLER

The best possible thing for cleaning Tennis Lawns, Bowling Greens, Putting Greens, etc., of worm casts. 28 lbs., **6/-**; 56 lbs., **10/6**; 1 cwt., **18/6**.

Special Fertilisers

for Vines, Roses, Sweet Peas, Chrysanthemums, etc.

INSECTICIDES, etc.

☞ *Carriage paid on orders of 20/- for any one article or on a composite order.*

Send for Price List of other Garden Requisites.

ACME CHEMICAL CO., Ltd., Tonbridge, Kent

Gardeners w know!

Experienced gardeners who know what is required to produce st healthy growth, and profusion of bl apply

LANDON'S
GARDEN GRANU
AND
TOP DRESSIN

These granules supply perfectly balanced prop all garden purposes, of Nitrate, Phosphate, P "Limax." They do not WASH THROUGH T but gradually yield food to the plants throug growth. They are highly alkaline and neutralise They contain no waste products and are free from able smell—they are clean to handle, easily distr harmless to vegetable and animal life.

PACKED IN SEALED BAGS.	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 l
	3/6	**6/-**	**10/-**	**15**

Carriage paid for cash with order

LANDON'S GARDEN LI

THE UNFAILING REMEDY FOR

is insecticidal, fungicidal, and cures soil sourness. tones, sweetens, and brings out latent strength

KILLS SLUGS AND THEIR

Lightens heavy soil, consolidates light soil, b poisonous and perfectly harmless to human l domestic animals. Can be used on all edible

PACKED IN SEALED BAGS.	7 lbs.	14 lbs.	28 lbs.	56 l
	2/6	**4/-**	**6/6**	**10**

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LANDON'S GRANULATED FERT CO., LTD.
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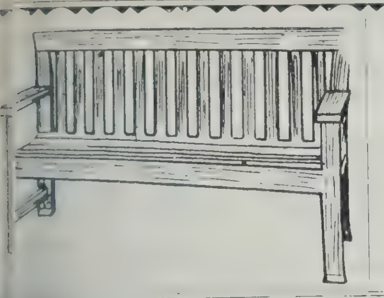
CHELSEA SHOW, Stand 61, Sundries



Three important advantages of buying

GARDEN FURNITURE

ıade by May & Butcher, Ltd.:—

(1) Genuine Battleship Teak only is used.
(2) Weather does not affect this wood.
(3) No paint or varnish required.

ınother reason—no less important -is the low prices charged!

Catalogues willingly forwarded on application.

IAY & BUTCHER, Ltd.,
Shipbreakers,
50, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex.

NEW DEVELOPMENT IN INSECTICIDES

XL ALL NICOTINE DUSTING POWDER

This fine, light powder makes Dry Spraying perfect. Penetrates curled leaves where liquids cannot. Can be used on plants whose foliage is damaged by liquids. Greater speed, no water haulage Kills Apple-Sucker, Aphis, Thrip, Mealy-Bug, Blight, Caterpillars, Red Spider. Get details now.

3% Nicotine *As shown at STAND 7, Sundries Avenue, CHELSEA*

G. H. RICHARDS LTD., 234, BOROUGH HIGH STREET, LONDON, S.E. 1

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D SPIDER

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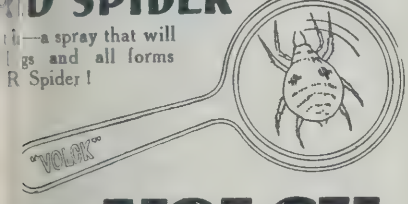
R Spider!



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Se your Seedsman or write:
EC MONRO, Ltd., Covent Garden London
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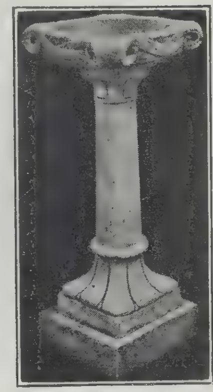

Sloane Bird Bath or Sundial.
Height 32 ins.
Price 37/6
Packing Cases 2/- extra.

SOLE MANUFACTURERS, Chelton Guaranteed GARDEN ORNAMENTS AWARDED GOLD MEDAL.

are a continual source of beauty to the eye, and will always gain the admiration of your friends.

Here is an opportunity to secure the Ornament that you have always wanted—have always felt would complete the beauty of your garden.

SPECIAL OFFER

Everlasting reconstructed Stone. The appearance of Portland Stone, but stronger and more durable.

Send for illustrated Catalogue to Sole Manufacturers:

BURTON HOLT, LTD.
(Horticultural Department),
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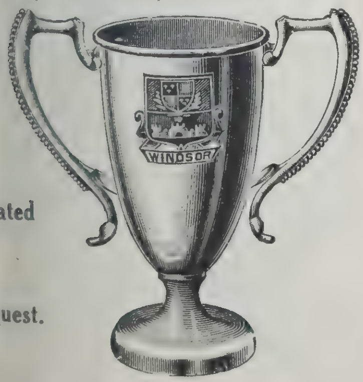
a Increase Competition by Offering

CHALLENGE CUPS, MEDALS, SHELDS, TROPHIES, VASES, SPONS, BADGES, &c., &c., in OLD, SILVER, & BRONZE.



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Aakers of the "G.I." Bronze Medal,
IVERY STREET, BIRMINGHAM

Brahes: LONDON—54, Charterhouse Chambers, Charterhouse Square, E.C. 1. BRADFORD—46, Westgate.

"Four Oaks" GOLD MEDAL Sprayers

COPYRIGHT REGISTERED TRADE MARK THE FOUR OAKS.

THE
"Streetley-De-Luxe" Hand Pneumatic Pattern

Capacity 2 quarts.
Working Capacity 3 pints.

No pumping whilst spraying.

The ideal Sprayer for Roses and general greenhouse work

Works with a press-down Tap.

Very economical with liquid.

Brass Alloy Container.

Price **£2 19 6**.

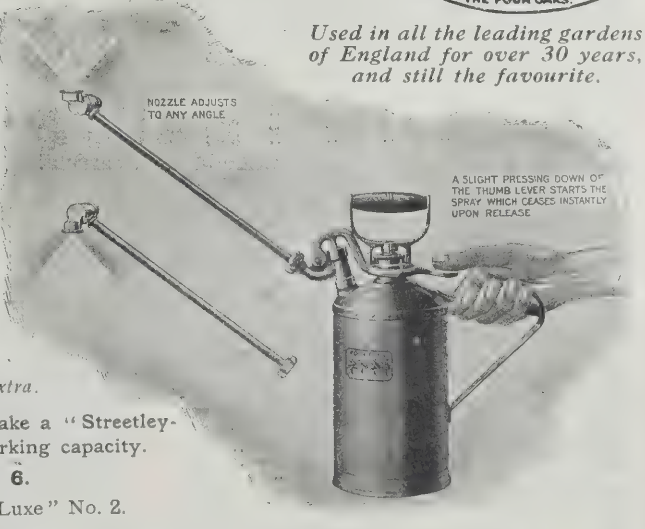
Spare parts outfit, Box O, **3**/- *extra.*

For Ladies' use we now make a "Streetley-de-Luxe" of 1½ pints working capacity.

Price **£1 19 6**.

Order as "Streetley-de-Luxe" No. 2.

Used in all the leading gardens of England for over 30 years, and still the favourite.


NOZZLE ADJUSTS TO ANY ANGLE
A SLIGHT PRESSING DOWN OF THE THUMB LEVER STARTS THE SPRAY WHICH CEASES INSTANTLY UPON RELEASE

Complete Catalogue of Sprayers, post free on application to—

THE FOUR OAKS SPRAYING MACHINE CO., Sutton Coldfield, BIRMINGHAM

A. TURRELL & SONS

FOREST HILL (*Established 76 years*)

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Special Offer to "Gardening Illustrated" Readers for 14 Days only

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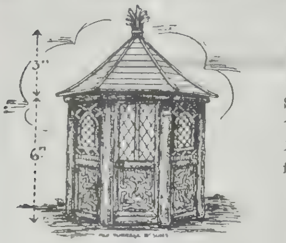


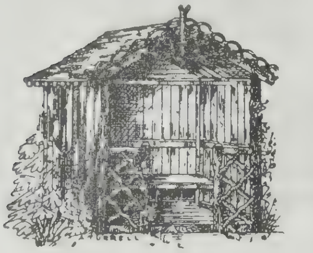
HEXACON SUMMER HOUSE
NO. 151

SPECIFICATION as No. 150

Angle Back to Angle Front	Height to Eaves	Price
ft. in.	ft. in	ft. in. £ s. d.

Angle Back to Angle Front ft. in.	Height ft. in	to Eaves ft. in.	£	s.	d.
6 0	5 6	6 0	17	10	0
6 6	5 11	6 0	19	10	0
7 0	6 5	6 6	21	17	6
7 6	6 11	6 6	28	0	0
8 0	7 4	6 6	24	10	0

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18

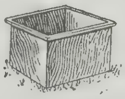


This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is barked off, stained and varnished. House fitted with hollow bottom seat at back. All stained and varnished inside and out. Roof Painted.

Supplied from stock in following sizes:—

	£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5	10	0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6	10	0
7 ft. x 5 ft	9	0	0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11	10	0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14	0	0

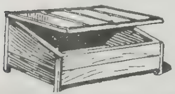
GARDEN FLOWER BOXES



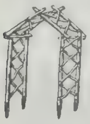
Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc. Strongly made Treated inside and out with stop-rot. nut-brown colour. Inside measurements given.

12 in square	4/9 each.	12 doz. only to clear.
15 in. square	5/6 ,,	7 doz. only to clear.
18 in. square	6/6 ,,	8 doz. only to clear.
21 in. square	8/6 ,,	3 doz. only to clear.
24 in. square	10/6 ,,	4 doz. only to clear.

SEED FRAMES

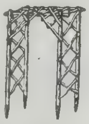


These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. 150 to clear. Price **13/6**.



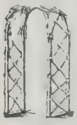
HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 feet.	Price.
4 ft. path	5/9
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9
5 ft. path	11/6



ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES

No. 1. Special Offer 5,000 superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred. Height 8 feet.

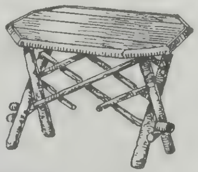


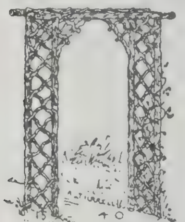
	Price.
3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6
4 ft. path	13/6
4 ft. 6 in. path	17/6
5 ft. path	22/6
5 ft. 6 in. path	26/6
6 ft. path	33/6

RUSTIC TABLE

Made from best Rustic Hardwood, bark off, stained and varnished.

2 ft. square	14/6 each
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6 each



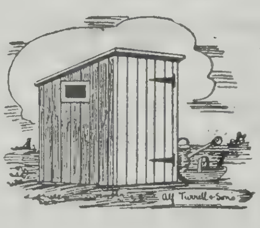


FLAT-TOP RUSTIC ARCH No. 29

With corner braces, as illustrated. Artistically made with heavy Rustic material. Bark taken off, stained and varnished.

4 ft.	path 15 in. deep		22/6
4 ft. 6 in.	,, 16 in.	,,	25/6
4 ft. 6 in.	,, 21 in.	,,	28/6
5 ft.	,, 24 in.	,,	32/6
5 ft. 6 in.	,, 24 in.	,,	36/0

TOOL HUT No. 47

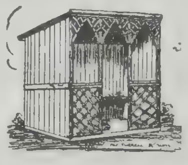


This hut is suitable for storage of tools, also useful on allotments and numerous other purposes, earth-closets, etc.

Complete in sections, constructed ⅝-in. tongued and grooved match boards on strong framing. *Window as shown*, glazed 21-oz. glass. Lock and key for door. Roof boarded and covered best Bitumen felt.

Depth, 4 ft. Width, 3 ft. 6 in. Height at front, 6 ft.; at back, 5 ft. Price **£3 15 0.**

THE "VILLA" RUSTIC SHELTER



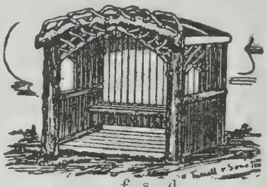
A very attractive and useful House at a low price. Constructed from planed, tongued and grooved boards, and substantial framing. Roof covered with best Bitumen felt, making same thoroughly waterproof. All rustic work of well-seasoned material.

The whole House stained and varnished inside and out, made in complete sections for easy erection.

PRICES WITH FLOOR.

Length.	Width.	To Eaves.	£	s.	d.
6 ft.	4 ft.	6 ft. 6 in.	4	5	0
7 ft.	4 ft. 6 in.	7 ft.	6	10	0

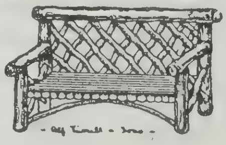
RUSTIC SHELTER No. 61



Constructed of tongued and grooved matching for walls. Window openings as illustrated. Fitted hollow - bottomed seat at back. Strong floor; roof covered matching and good felt. Simply bolts together on arrival. Bolts supplied.

	£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft.	4	10	0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	5	15	0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7	0	0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	9	5	0
10 ft. x 6 ft.	10	15	0
12 ft. x 6 ft.	11	17	6

RUSTIC GARDEN SEAT



Well made from selected material. In natural wood, 4 ft., **9/6**; 5 ft., **14/6**; 6 ft., **18/6**.

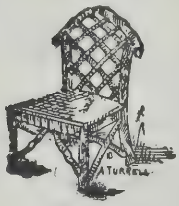
If with bark taken off, stained and varnished. 4 ft., **14/6**; 5 ft., **18/6**; 6 ft., **24/-** each.

RUSTIC CHAIR

Well made from good materials.

Stained and varnished. With or without arms.

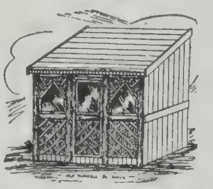
Price **10/6**



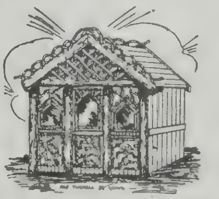
LEAN-TO RUSTIC HOUSE No. 152

SPECIFICATION as No. 150.

Price:	£	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	10	10	0
6 ft. x 4 ft. 0 in.	11	5	0
7 ft. x 5 ft. 0 in.	14	10	0
8 ft. x 6 ft. 0 in.	17	5	0



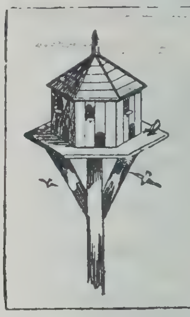
OBLONG RUSTIC HOUSE No. 150



This is a highly finished roomy House, fitted with lead light door and windows made to open, artistically decorated with best rustic material.

Bark off, oak stained and varnished inside and out.

Price.	£	s.	d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	17	10	0
8 ft. x 6 ft.	20	10	0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	22	15	0



RUSTIC ROSE PILLAR

Natural state, **4/9**

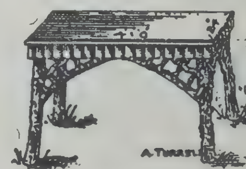
With bark off, stained and varnished, **7/3** each.

HEXACON PIGEON COTE

Very ornamental in gardens. Well made from good materials, stained and varnished. Complete with rusticated pole. 50 only to clear at

£2 17 6 each.

RUSTIC OBLONG TAB

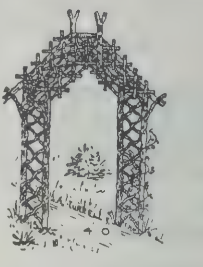


No.

Made from
Rustic mat
and va

3 ft. x l
£1 15

4 ft.
£2 5

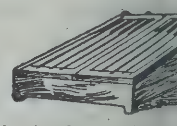


RUSTIC A
Gothic Pat
No. 31

Peeled wood. Well-ma
material, stained and v
well-tarred, as above.

Path.	Deep.
4 ft.	1 ft. 3 in.
4 ft. 6 in.	1 ft. 6 in.
4 ft. 6 in.	1 ft. 9 in.
5 ft.	2 ft.
5 ft. 6 in.	2 ft.

GARDEN FRAMES



Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards; have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle, glazed with 21-oz. glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

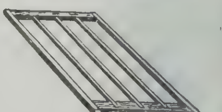
	£	s.	d.	
4 x 3 ft.	1	5	6	12 x 6 ft...3 lights
6 x 4 ft.	1	17	6	16 x 6 ft...4 ,,
6 x 4 ft...2 lights	2	6	6	20 x 6 ft...5 ,,
8 x 6 ft...2 ,,	3	7	6	24 x 6 ft...6 ,,

DO NOT PAY HIGH PRICE

for your frames made from 1¼-in. boards. We ca
the following low prices. Frames made of 1½-in. t
grooved best quality boards, complete as above.

	£	s.	d.	
4 x 3 ft.	1	10	0	12 x 6 ft...3 lights
6 x 4 ft.	2	2	0	16 x 6 ft...4 ,,
6 x 4 ft...2 lights	2	14	0	20 x 6 ft...5 ,,
8 x 6 ft...2 ,,	4	7	6	24 x 6 ft.. 6 ,,

Compare these prices with other m



GARDEN L

These lights are w
good well-seasoned
Stiles are 2 in. by 2 i
and pinned to tenon
fitted with 2-in.
Painted and glass s
superior oil putty
Strongly constructe

Stiles, 2 x 2 in, Sash bar, 2 x 1½ in. Botto
4 x 1¼ in. and 3 x 1¼ in.

UNGLAZED.		GLAZ 21-oz. glass and
3 x 2 ft.	3/9 each.	3 x 2 ft.
4 x 3 ft.	4/9 ,,	4 x 3 ft.
5 x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9 ,,	5 x 3 ft. 6 in.
6 x 4 ft.	7/9 ,,	6 x 4 ft.

'Phone: SYDENHAM 1268

Dept. G.I. FOREST HILL, S.E. 23

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SOUTHERN RAILW

NGS, GREENHOUSES & RUSTIC

with Other Makers

R-MILE LONG

A. TURRELL & SONS

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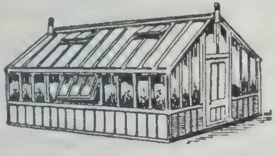
1929 BARGAIN LIST

MATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE



reenhouses
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coming
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o require a
ut not ex-
structure.
erected by
y man in a

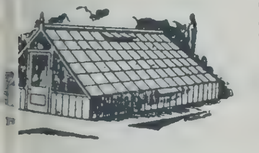
The framework is substantially constructed of Red
lower part being filled in with good, sound tongued
ved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil

d with all necessary ironwork and stages for each
ouse. Complete with 21 oz. glass for glazing.

Vdh.	Hgt. to Eaves ft.	in.	Price. £	s.	d.
	4	0	6	6	0
	4	0	7	2	6
	4	0	8	4	0
	4	6	9	18	0
	5	0	12	17	0

Lgh. ft.	Wdh. ft.	Hgt. to Eaves ft.	in.	Price £	s.	d.
15	9	5	0	17	2	0
20	10	5	6	24	14	0
25	10	5	6	30	12	6
30	12	5	6	39	9	0

N-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE

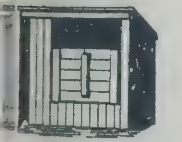


This is a cheap form of Growing House. It is well-made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for ventilators, with
oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good
inly marked for re-erection.

gh. ft.	Vdh. ft.	Hgt. ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
7	5	7	0	5	16	6
8	5	7	0	6	12	6
9	6	7	0	7	18	0
0	7	7	6	8	10	0
2	8	8	0	10	12	0

Lgh. ft.	Wdh. ft.	Hgt. ft.	in.	£	s.	d.
15	9	8	0	16	0	0
20	10	9	0	19	0	0
25	10	9	0	23	4	6
50	10	9	0	44	10	0

K POULTRY HOUSE



THE MOST RELIABLE HOUSE AND RUN IN THE WORLD

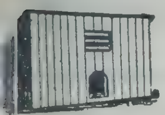
Constructed of best quality ⅝-in. planed, tongued and grooved matching on strong frame. Fitted with up-and-down ventilating shutter over galvanised wire netting. Made in sections, easy for erection. Roof of tongued and grooved boards, covered with Bitumen felt. Outside painted Rot-proof.

Made in Complete Sections. Constructed of Strong Framing, Covered, Planed, Tongued and Grooved Boards.

Up-and-down sliding shutter as shown. Hen exit at side.
All Woodwork treated "Stop-rot."
Roof covered best quality Bitumen felt.

gt ft.	Width ft.	Height ft.	ins.	Price. £	s.	d.	Floor extra
5	3	4	0	£1	8	6	7/6
	4	4	0	1	14	0	9/-
	5	4	6	2	16	0	14/-
	6	5	0	3	16	0	18/6

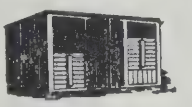
THE PERRY DUCK HOUSE



Strong and well made in sections to bolt together. All prices include floors. All houses treated with "Stop-rot."

	Lgh. ft.	in.	Wdh. ft.	in	Hgh. ft.	in.	Price. £	s.	d.
No. 1	4	0	2	6	3	0	1	5	0
2	5	0	3	0	3	0	1	10	0
3	6	0	4	0	3	0	1	19	0

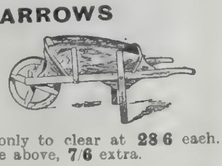
UBURBIA POULTRY HOUSE



cted of best quality ⅝-in.
tongued and grooved
g on strong frame. Fitted
-and-down ventilating shut-
r galvanised wire netting.
sections, easy for erection.
f tongued and grooved
covered with Bitumen felt.
painted Rot-proof.

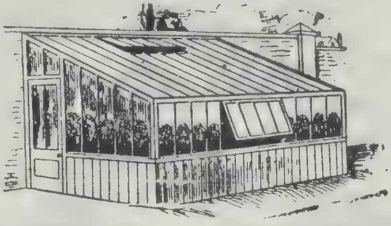
Length ft.	in.	Width. ft.	in.	Height. ft.	in.	Price. £	s.	d.	Floor extra.
6	0	4	0	4	0	1	18	6	10/-
7	0	5	0	4	0	3	3	0	15/-
8	0	6	0	5	0	4	5	0	20/-

GARDEN BARROWS



r Oak or Ash Frame,
Elm body. Size, 2 ft.
top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft.
n deep. Reliable 18-in
wheel, ½-in. iron tyre,
clear at **23/6** each.
xtr heavy make, large size,
b or Garden Barrows, 250 only to clear at **28/6** each.
Tops for either of the above, **7/6** extra.

LEAN-TO GREENHOUSE

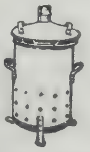


This illustration shows a Lean-to Greenhouse most suitable for amateurs. A very useful house at a small cost, answering in many cases as well as those costing several times the amount.

Specification.—Is well made of thoroughly well-seasoned Yellow Deal. The lower part is enclosed with good tongued and grooved boarding; door at one end, fitted with good lock and key, and brass furniture; ventilators in roof according to size of house, with all necessary ironwork for opening same; lattice stage for plants; painted one coat good oil colour; glass 21-oz., packed in boxes (no charge for packing). Is made in sections, and plainly marked before leaving our works, making them quite easy for erection.

Length. ft.	Width. ft.	Height. ft.	in.	To Eaves. ft.	in.	Price. £	s.	d.
7	5	7	0	4	0	5	18	6
8	5	7	0	4	0	6	12	6
9	6	7	0	4	0	8	0	0
10	7	7	6	4	6	9	10	0
12	8	8	0	5	0	11	15	0
15	9	8	6	5	0	15	0	0
20	10	9	0	5	6	20	5	0
25	10	9	0	5	6	25	10	0
30	12	9	0	5	6	33	0	0

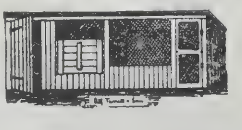
INCINERATOR



Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual Price .. .. **16/6** each.
Sale Price .. .. **12/6** each.

BANK POULTRY HOUSE AND RUN

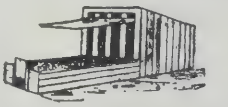


Length. ft.	Width. ft.	Height. ft.	ins.	Price. £	s.	d.	Floor to Pen extra
10	3	4	0	3	1	6	7/6
12	4	4	0	3	11	6	9/6
12	5	4	6	4	14	0	14/-
12	6	5	0	6	8	6	18/6

GARDEN EDGING

Plain. Price 5/- per 100 ft.
Treated. Price 6/- per 100 ft.

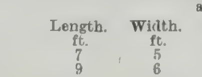
COMBINED COOP WITH RUN



Well-made highly finished Coop, fitted with shutter as illustration. This affords complete protection to birds against weather conditions and vermin. Size of Coop 23 in. wide, 21 in. deep, 22 in. high in front, 1 ft. at back. Length of run, 3 ft., with exit for chicks as shown.

Price .. .. **17/6** each.
Six for **£5 0 0**

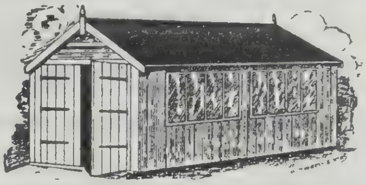
INTENSIVE POULTRY HOUSE



A well-lighted and ventilated house. Made of best ¾-in. matching on strong framework. Roof framed with purlins and tongued and grooved boards with good felt to cover, making all weatherproof. Fitted with hinged glazed sashes and sliding shutters over wire netting. Complete with floor and strong joints, perches, dropping board, nest boxes, and door with lock and key.

Length. ft.	Width. ft.	Height. ft.	Price. £	s	d.
7	5	7	5	17	0
9	6	7	7	5	0
10	7	8	10	15	0
12	8	8	15	0	0

PORTABLE MOTOR GARAGE. No. 6m



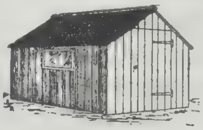
Best materials and workmanship. In complete sections, bolts supplied.

Specification of House.—*Sides, Ends, Walls, etc.* Framing 3 in. by 2 in., and 2 in. by 2 in., covered ¾-in. tongued, grooved and beaded matching. *Roofing:* Purlins 3 in. by 2 in., covered T.G.B. Matching, and good quality Bitumen felt. *Windows:* As per illustration, almost the length of one side, fixed and glazed 21 oz glass. *Doors:* Double-framed and ledged, hung on strong garnets, complete lock and key, and tower bolts. *Wood Preservative:* Outside treated with special "Stop-rot." *General:* Holes are bored and bolts supplied for erection on arrival. Made in the following sizes—

Length. ft.	Width. ft.	Height to Eaves. ft.	in.	Height to Ridge. ft.	in	Reduced Prices. £	s.	d.
10	8	6	0	8	6	12	17	0
12	8	6	0	8	6	14	0	0
15	10	6	3	8	10	16	15	0
16	10	6	6	9	0	17	17	0
18	11	6	6	9	0	23	0	0
20	10	7	0	9	3	24	0	0
20	12	7	0	9	3	27	10	0
24	12	7	3	10	0	31	5	0

CHEAP SPAN ROOF SHED No. 27

Specifications as No. 7 but with ¾ in. floor and single door. Fitted lock and key.



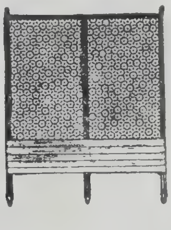
Size	Price £	s.	d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	3	18	0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	4	5	0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	5	10	0
8 ft. x 6 ft.	6	2	6
10 ft. x 7 ft	9	5	0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12	5	0

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, Etc.

Size.	Price Per doz. s.	d.
7 ft. x 2 in.	5	0
7 ft. x 2½ in.	6	0
8 ft. x 2½ in.	8	0
8 ft. x 3 in.	9	6
9 ft x 2½ in.	9	6
9 ft. x 3 in.	11	6
10 ft. x 2½ in.	10	6
10 ft. x 3 in.	13	6
12 ft. x 2½ in	12	0

Size.	Price Per doz. £	s.	d.
12 ft. x 3 in.	0	16	6
8 ft. x 4 in.	0	14	6
9 ft. x 4 in	0	16	6
10 ft. x 4 in	0	18	6
8 ft. x 5 in.	1	0	0
9 ft. x 5 in.	1	4	0
10 ft. x 5 in.	1	6	0
12 ft. x 5 in.	1	8	6
14 ft. x 5 in.	1	10	0



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6 ft. long, 6 ft. high, 2 ft. of boarding to form wind screen. Strongly made.

Price .. .. **8s. 6d.** each.

Gates for same, 5 ft. high, 2 ft. wide, complete with garnets for hanging.

Price .. .. **7s. 6d.** each.

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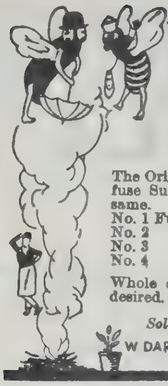

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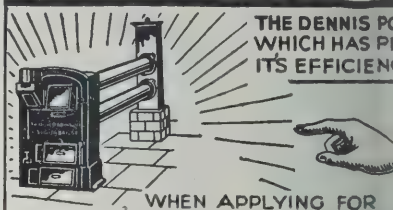

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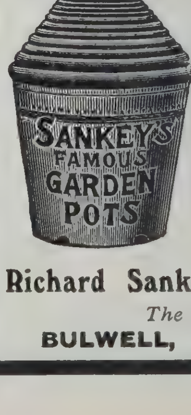

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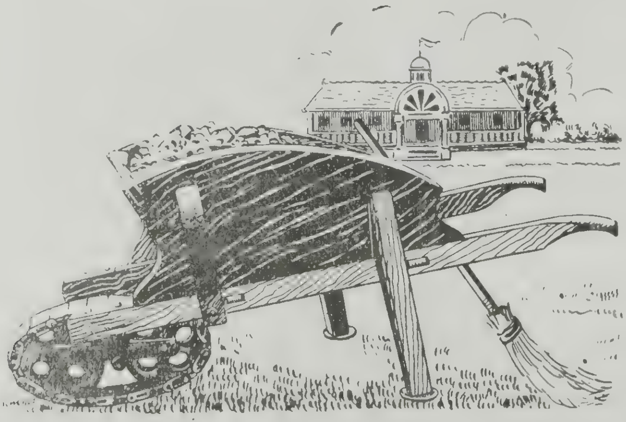

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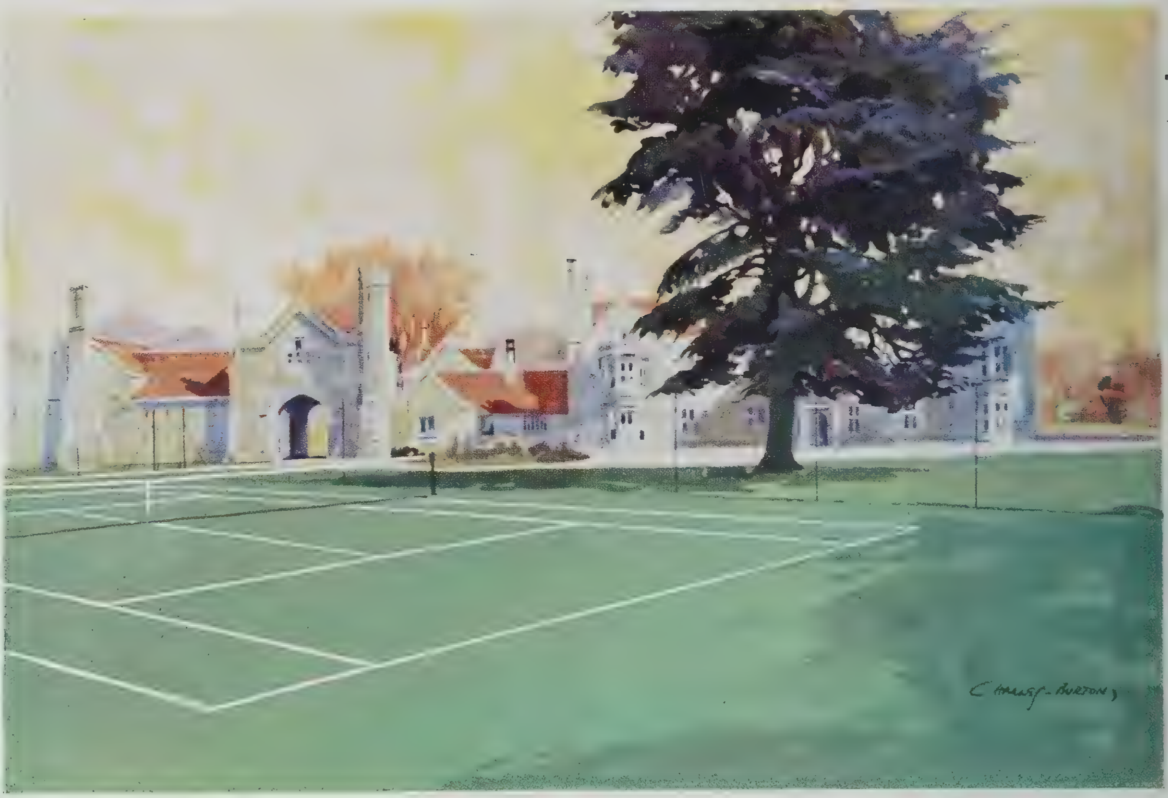

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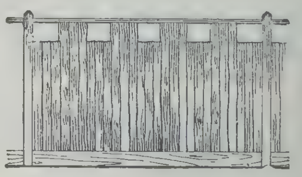

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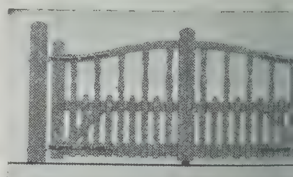

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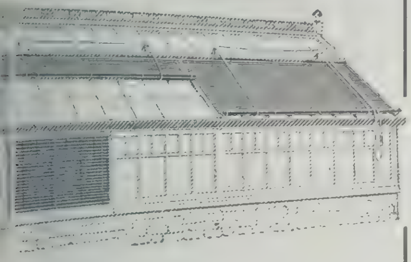

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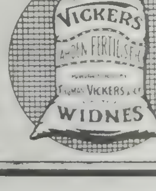

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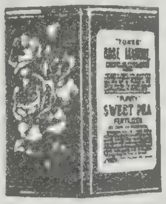

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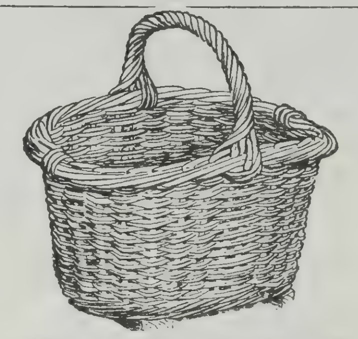

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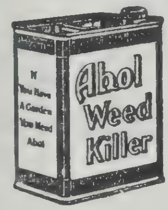

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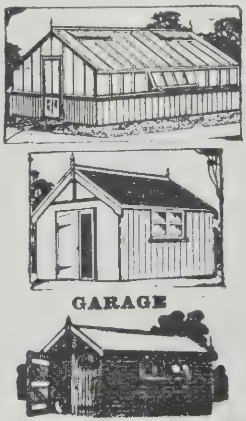

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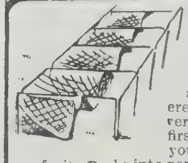

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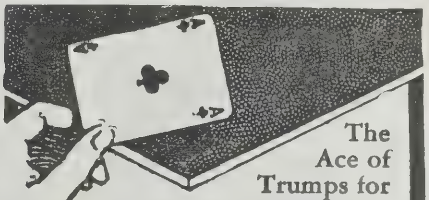

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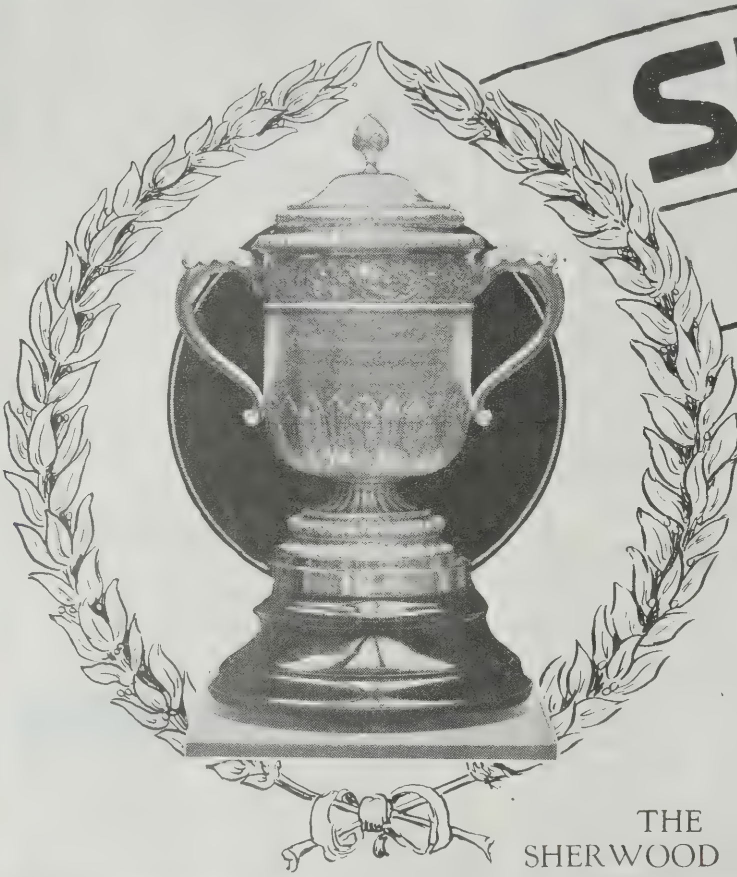

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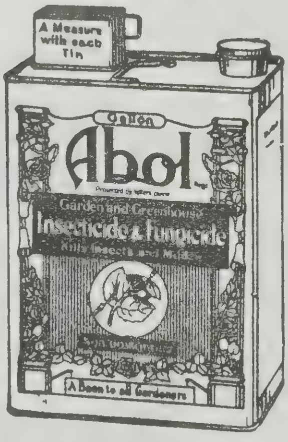

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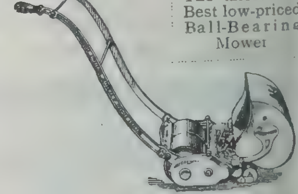

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Notes from a West Somerset Garden

E losses caused by the exceptional osts of the past winter (17 degrees and degrees on several nights) have rly been heavy. All the Acacias in my e were killed in March, 1928, with the on of several A. dealbata, but these ld also last February. Other fatalities Cantua dependens, Clianthus puni- , assia corymbosa (a large, old plant), heterophylla and S. Drummondii, mon speciosus, a large Olearia semi- , young plants of Cytisus fragrans, a megastigma (a big) large-flowered Abutilons, Buddleia asiatica. All as have been cut to the , but most (except F. cens) are starting to shoot he base. Several large of hybrid Veronicas were d outright, others severely . Nerium Oleander is the ground, but is not d A big plant of Calliste- lignus lost every leaf, but breaking right along the ces. Metrosideros lucidum ld little damage, only shoots being killed. Cal- a violacea was struggling over from the previous s damage, and has again ut to the ground. The n Myrtles are not seri- y hurt, but the African -leaved varieties are bad- rned. An old straggling of Cistus purpureus has illed, but younger bushes he Cistuses are otherwise ch hurt. It is good to he recently introduced a truncata absolutely d and uninjured.

surprising survival is bryanthemum agninum, the most fleshy and ten- king species; a fair- lant growing on the top y wall suffered no injury now in flower. M. crassulinum and operi, on the same wall, are also un- ed. The only protection they received thin pane of glass overhead to ward vy rain. Both Rhodostachys pitcairn- and R. andina have perished utterly former had stood six winters unhurt. gia nutans is severely damaged, but rvive. The most serious losses are a r of large Cordyline australis, whose crowns have rotted, and nothing re- but the tall, gaunt trunks. These may kely break from the base, but the noble stature of these stately Palms is completely lost. The broad-leaved Cordyline indivisa has also had the crown destroyed, but is showing growth from the roots. The Chusan Palm (Chamærops Fortunei) shows no sign of distress.

Fortunately the cold weather in January retarded growth, consequently when the severe frosts came in February, Hydrangeas, Tree Pæonies, and many other shrubs were so little developed that they escaped injury and now look exceptionally well. The sweet-scented Rhododendron, Lady Alice Fitzwilliam, not only survived the frosts, but is now a sheet of blossom which scents the garden. All Lilies have made good growth; and Alpines have undoubtedly benefited by the long enforced rest.

"Iris japonica Ledger's Variety has flowered with unusual freedom"

This is a bardy form of a tender species

Iris japonica (Ledger's Variety) has flowered with unusual freedom; I. Wattii suffered slightly and the flowering stems are shorter than usual. Lemon-scented Verbenas (Aloysia citriodora) are late in starting into growth, but are coming at last from the base and well up the main branches. Every plant of Leptospermum scoparium (type with white flowers) has been killed, but L. s. Nichollii and seedlings from that variety have pulled through. An old plant of Erica australis, fully exposed to the east, was destroyed early in the frost, and a good many branches of E. Veitchii have been badly split. A young plant of Adenocarpus Bacqui is quite uninjured; and it is good to find Cytisus proligerus only nipped at the tips of the shoots. C. supranabius is unhurt, as is C. monspessulanus.

Tricuspidaria lanceolata is very slightly injured here, but T. dependens has lost all its leaves. The broad-leaved form of Hoheria populnea is also leafless, but rapidly recovering; while the narrow-leaved form did not suffer.

Clematis Armandii (La Mortola form) has flowered splendidly on an old Apple tree, but C. indivisa has been nearly killed.

N. G. HADDEN.

West Porlock, Somerset.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

A silver cup for Pæonies

THE fourth of a series of cups presented by Mrs. Edward Harding is offered for award in 1929 for the best exhibit of three flowers of each of six varieties of Pæonies shown by an amateur. Banksian medals in silver-gilt and silver are offered by the Society as second and third prizes. The competition will take place at the fortnightly show at the Society's New Hall in Greycoat Street on June 25th, and all exhibits must be ready for judging by 11 a.m that day. Entries for the competition must be made on forms obtainable from the Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.1, by whom the completed forms must be received not later than by the first post on Monday, June 17th.

Aldenham House Gardens

By kind permission of the Hon. Vicary Gibbs, the gardens of Aldenham House will be open to the public on the Saturdays of July, August, and September, and August Bank Holiday, on the same conditions as before: (*a*) that dogs cannot be permitted, and (*b*) that children must be in the control of a grown-up person. One Saturday, July 20th, is excepted, this being the date allotted to the Elstree and District Horticultural Society for their Floral Fête, when admission is only by payment of the Society's charges at the gates, or by ticket.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Double white Lilac

PERHAPS this photograph of double white Lilac may interest readers. When it was taken the trees had been planted about 20 years, and, although in an exposed position on the east coast of Durham, had never failed to show a wealth of bloom every spring. SARAH ROBSON.

Iberis Little Gem

I was interested in Mr. S. Arnott's remarks on this miniature variety of Iberis sempervirens in the issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED for May 4th. As he truly says, Little Gem does seem to appeal with special force to the grower of rock plants. This small, neat sub-shrub, of compact habit of growth, has a charm and attraction entirely its own. Unfortunately for him, his plants appear to have come through the ordeal of the exceptionally severe winter rather badly, but, as a general rule, this little plant survives unscathed. In normal seasons it commences to flower in April, and, later on, the small, bushy plant is literally covered with its small white flowers and the new green leaves act as a pleasing foil, enhancing its beauty in no small degree. It is equally suited for growing on the rockery, in the crevices of a wall, or even on the flats, though it appears to better advantage in a slightly elevated position. J. L.

Birmingham.

Tulipa chrysantha

This is a most attractive little Tulip which has here reached a height of about 10 inches, this being rather more than that recorded in most works of reference. The flowers are of moderate size and of rather starry form, opening out practically flat and of a golden yellow. My bulbs of T. chrysantha were planted in autumn, and it was with some trepidation that I thought of them during the long Arctic spell we experienced last winter. I look upon T. chrysantha as a great acquisition to the choice border of hardy flowers or the rock garden. I believe these bulbs came from Kashmir, but T. chrysantha is recorded as being found also in Persia. Farrer calls it "a golden yellow T. montana from Afghanistan, with the added advantage that its bulbs are savoursome and nourishing as a chestnut." This is a Tulip which one would never desire to be without after having it in flower. S. ARNOTT.

Double-flowered white Lilac on the east coast of Durham

Double Bunch Primroses

I was very interested in the note by Rev. William Murdoch on double Primroses and double Polyanthus (issue May 18th, page 329), and am writing, not, I am afraid, that I can give the information required, but to suggest that it may be obtained from J. Stormonth, of Kirkbride, Carlisle, who at one time held a stock of Bon Accord Primroses raised by Cocker, of Aberdeen. F. A. H.

—— Your correspondent has got the Hybrid Double Primroses raised by Thomas Cocker at a nursery near Aberdeen; they are of the same type as A. de Moulin, *i.e.*, come in bunches on a stem sometimes. The true double Polyanthus grow on stiff stems, and, I think, Curiosity (pink and yellow), Rex Theodore (red and yellowish), Harlequin, Tortoiseshell, and Prince Silverwings (an old Irish laced purple), are the only examples left. There is a true double Polyanthus also raised by Cocker (red-purple), called The Gem. I have one plant of it. I would be glad to exchange some double Polyanthus or some double Primroses for some Claret margined white of your correspon fancy the Wallflower-red mentioned Bon Accord but Mme. Pompado these doubles are becoming more di find, and prices are high. I have many Marie Crousse which is ro margined white. The Black Pompado to be defunct. E. D.

Prospect House,
Bushy Park Road,
Dublin, Ireland.

A retrospect

Some three years ago, following in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED on the Nanny Apple, I received a letter fro friend whom I had not seen for ma (the late Mr. Will Tayler) offering to a small tree. The offer was g accepted, the tree arriving in due co was carefully planted. This year it ing flower, so I hope to renew my a ance with an Apple I have not seen for some 60 years. What makes it interesting is that the shoots from w tree was raised were obtained from orchard where, as a school-boy, helped to gather Apples. E. Bu

Queen wasps

The question of queen wasps h brought up several times recently DENING ILLUSTRATED.

I should like to add that I thin wasps are more numerous this year other year before.

I will not explain now my reasons why they are so numerous, but I an everything has been in their favour s autumn.

But I want to add that I have ki last six weeks, 49 queen wasps many I had killed before that, no doors, but inside amongst the Pea the Vines, and Melon-house.

Rhubarb leaves, I have discovered best means of trapping them.

Quite by chance I took cover fron my Peach-house whilst preparing and left the leaves behind for a da next day I killed 10, and since the been using Rhubarb leaves as traps.

I should like to know if other read noted such a number in one year.

By the way, I am still killing the

J. T. DISNEY,
Gardener to Col. E. R. C
Northmoor, Dulverton.

A chance colour effect

A lovely little "bit" was found b day in a somewhat neglected borde garden. This was a patch of li Gentiana acaulis in front of, and among, a quantity of the deep, pu Atriplex hortensis seedlings, self-so about 3 inches high.

The Gentiana has flowered better t before in black, peaty soil, though su a lime lover. I shall keep the Atrip pinched back, and I hope the combin colour will occur again when the Delphiniums flower at the back of t

Another "picture," just over, Mertensia virginica, planted next of the Chinese Rhododendrons, impeditum, fastigiatum, and hippop The exquisite, clear blue of the f Mertensia, with its pale emerald leav out against the purples and mauve spreading mass of little Rhododendr most telling and carefully planned effe tensia's fairy bells ring for me in su beauty, and even push their way white Heaths. For years they baff but now I try to believe I like the

llac (which I can't grow). Mertensias
week in water when cut, even in Lon-
vase of them mingled with Viburnum
is indeed a joy—one smells of Cow-
d the other of Daphne.

ALICE MARTINEAU.

Pomaderris elliptica

our issue of March 9th last, I was
ed to see mention and an illustration
his plant (Maori name Kumarahon),
d at the R.H.S. meeting on February
s I have not heard of it being shown
sly in England.

e not a showy plant, it is a shrub of
l foliage and growth, very prodigal
production of large terminal trusses
y, buff yellow bloom. North of Auck-
n the poor waste land from which
gum is dug, it is very plentiful, and is
known as Poverty Weed or Gum-
' Soap. It acquired the first name
to its liking for poor, dry, clay hills;
ond, because it is said the flowers con-
saponaceous quality producing a
and can be used for washing th

latter I have never tested, but ther
oubt it does best on poor land. I en-
photograph of a plant grown in my
, where I have had it at different
looming luxuriantly for two or three
nd then dying out. It is easily raised
eed.

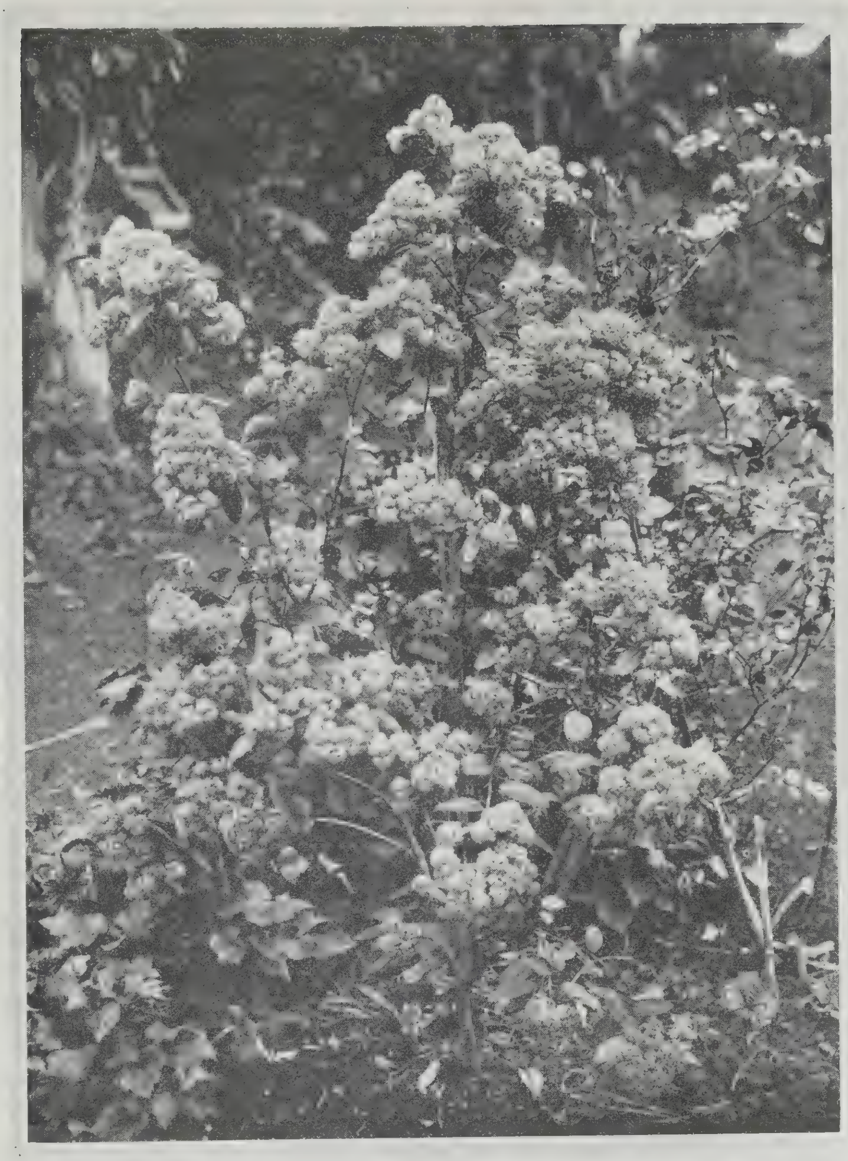
her variety of Pomaderris, first
ed by Hector as P. tainui, following
ori name, was stated by them to have
from green boughs brought to New
d in the "Tainui," one of the six
canoes in which the Maories came
heir ancestral home, Hawaiki, nearly
ars ago. This legend, however, lacks
nation, especially as Kirk later identi-
tainui as the Australian variety, P.
. It is rarer than elliptica, and local
anaki, west coast, I believe.

1559, A. E. GRINDROD.
uckland, N.Z.

Tulipa ingens

G. S. Thomas, in his most interesting
on "Tulip Species," mentions
ingens, which he describes as of
st dark scarlet." Definitions of
are apt to vary widely. I, however,
certainly not call "ingens," as I
t, of "richest dark scarlet"; mine is
tremely vivid vermilion-scarlet. The
are, as Mr. Thomas describes,
us. It is tall and early, and has an
ely striking and handsome flower. I
ever been absolutely certain as to its
ty. The bulbs were brought to a friend
me from the roof of a sacred temple in
and were given to her as "ingens."
e to Van Tubergen in the autumn for
of "ingens" to compare with mine,
told me that he was unable to supply
I should be much obliged if any of
eaders can kindly tell me where this
can be obtained. I have had the
s of my variety painted.

lin. H. M. WHITE.



Pomaderris elliptica (Kumarahon) in New Zealand

ng flowers in small gardens

complete collapse of Wallflowers in
te exceptional winter has been a loss
as we look to them to furnish a pleas-
splay during the spring months, and
the many different shades now avail-
ne can have a good variety of colour.
ver, there are other things that have
through safely, so that we are getting
ht and pleasing display. It would be
lt to find a more acceptable flower for this season than the double white Arabis, as it adapts itself so well to the companionship of other things, whether it be Forget-me-not or Silene in mats, or bulbs as Tulips, or Hyacinths dotted about it. I think, however, my most pleasing effect this year is where it is sparsely planted among some plants of a tall, dark seedling Polyanthus. The large heads of bloom are standing just above the white spikes which are bending and nodding about them. The secret in securing fine young seedling plants of Polyanthus is to sow early and transplant into good ground at an early date before the roots are likely to be damaged by removal. I thought we should have lost a considerable percentage of the Forget-me-not, but it has picked up wonderfully since the advent of milder weather. A great favourite a little later is the old London Pride (Saxifrage umbrosa); this, too, associates well with many other things. I have it on a small border with some clumps of Maggie Mott Viola, and the effect is decidedly pretty. Another old favourite now flowering with large heads of bloom, at some 2 feet from the ground, is Lunaria biennis (Honesty), the plants scattered over a small area with the dwarfer Forget-me-nots and Pulmonarias beneath; the foliage of Pulmonaria saccharata is decidedly pleasing and effective by the side of the Forget-me-not.

E. BURRELL.

Pentas carnea

Those who can command a winter temperature of 50 degs. will be able to grow this Pentas successfully. It is a useful plant, blooming at a time of year when variety is much needed. Young growths make roots freely, and the plants grown on in free, rather light soil, and stopped twice, will be ready for a final potting into 4-inch pots early in July. The following year, if cut back, they may be put into 6-inch and the strongest into 7-inch pots, repotting when the young growths are about an inch long. These will make strong specimens, which can be used for conservatory decoration or to furnish cut bloom. J. CORNHILL.

Staking herbaceous plants

This will be a constant source of occupation for the next few weeks, and I know of nothing so desirable for the purpose, or happy in their relation to the plants, than sprays of Hazel instead of the unsightly array of bare stakes we too often see. These become absorbed among the leafage of the plants in quite a short time, and, while filling their purpose admirably, are scarcely seen. It is better, in the case of frailer growing plants, to use small sprays as the first protection to prevent squatting, adding taller ones as the plants advance. E. M.

Rhododendron Vaseyi

ONE of the most beautiful things in the garden at the present time is this shrub from the Carolina Mountains, which, for some reason, appears to have been neglected in gardens generally.

This is difficult to understand, as apart from its charming and very desirable wealth of clear, pink flowers, it is one of the most distinct American species we have.

A large group of plants purchased—when not more than a foot in height—some few years ago from a famous Surrey nursery, and now about 6 feet high, is one delightful loose mass of bloom and conspicuously effective. The flowers appear at the end of April and are effective throughout the greater part of May, arriving in advance of the leaves. No more charming subject could be desired as a cut flower when the plants are growing freely and happy, sprays 2 feet in length being available; but when growing in stiff and unsatisfactory soil, growth is less open and free. As the buds expand, the colour is deep pink, paling slightly with age, and I notice that seedling plants vary slightly, though all are lovely.

Rhododendron (Azalea) Vaseyi, flowers clear pink

This species is remarkably hardy and has come through the past severe winter unscathed. The soil in which the above are growing is of a sandy nature, and the position full south, and I suspect that the hot days of the past summer have played their part in the production of this bountiful profusion of bloom. E. MARKHAM.

Sussex.

The ubiquitous Clematis

Opinions may differ as to the best time to plant Clematises out of doors, but my experience prompts me to say that it is work which may be undertaken almost at any time, having regard to the fact that they can always be purchased in pots. Clematises are easy to grow; they embrace many varieties, which are serviceable for many purposes, both for the dweller in the country and for those who may only have a small garden within the heart of a town; but to see them at their best it should be recognised that some preparation of the ground is essential. With this in view, it is well to dig out the place where the plants are to be planted to the depth of 3 feet, putting at the bottom broken bricks or pots to ensure proper drainage, without which success cannot be expected where soil is naturally of a heavy nature. Good loam and rotted manure ought to be provided, and some mortar rubble will help matters. If it is difficult to obtain manure, it will be found that these plants, contrary to general belief, will do very well in a compost in which rough leaf moul
substitute. Planting should be done
spreading out the roots carefully aft
ing plants out of pots.

The two principal sections of Cle
viz., Jackmani and lanuginosa, o
grower a wonderful choice. The
flower best on the wood produced in
rent year, and should, therefore, be
by February, cutting well back to
so from the ground, providing, at t
time, some means of support for the
such as fish netting pulled taut, until
reach the trellis. The lanuginos
bloom on wood made the previous
that, in their case, little more than
ing shoots the following spring is
For the guidance of the one who
have undertaken the culture of Cl
before, the following brief selection
from the two sections referred to:

Jackmani: Comtesse de Bouch
pink), Jackmani alba (white), J
(perhaps the most popular) (violet
Tunbridgensis (mauve), Madame
Andre (mulberry red), Mrs. Cholm
(light blue).

Lanuginosa: Marcel Moser (mau
with red bars), William Kennett (la
Enchantress (double white), Be
Worcester (bluish-violet), Henryi
white), Lanuginosa (pale lavender).

MIDL

Cercis Siliquastrum

The Judas Tree is absolutely
in the south and west and the low
land counties, and it withstands any
of frost and biting winds. In more
districts the shelter of a wall is advi
secure an annual display of blosso
Cercis thrives best in a light, op
sandy soil, to which has been add
wood ash. The most suitable aspec
facing south, but they also thrive an
profusely when planted in partial
The flowers, which appear before the
are produced in dense masses.
only one flower produced on each pedi
all are arrayed in fascicles. The
generally at its best about the middl
end of May, according to the season
appears as though the blossom will
this year. The bloom is of a vivid
purple colour and is very pleasing to
The foliage, which appears after th
has flowered, is singularly beautiful
and the shape and colouration is ou
common. The leaves are simple,
and glabrous, and are of a bluis
colour, changing in autumn to a
red colour. There are forms of C.
strum with pink and also with white
but they are not so desirable as t
Another variety of Cercis sometime
met with is C. canadensis, which
little, except in having red instead o
flowers. The Cercis belongs to t
Leguminosæ, and it is therefore wel
that the surface soil above its roots
loose so as to allow of the free pen
of air, so essential to the well-bein
tree. The Cercis can be easily pro
from seed or by layering, the forme
the best results. A.

Reigate.

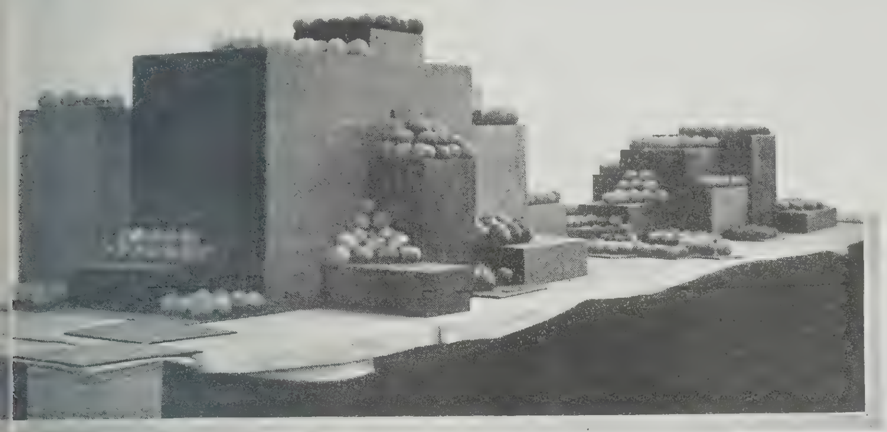
Prunus nana Firehill

Mrs. Philip Martineau begs to t
those who have written to ask wh
may be obtained. Arrangements
quite completed, but in October re
GARDENING ILLUSTRATED will rece
desired information.

OMMENTS ON THE CHELSEA SHOW

Chelsea next year

I show at Chelsea is, in general,
' much like the last, and this great
pome of English floriculture grows
nan changes; year by year the Glox-
t a little larger and the Delphiniums
taller. But this year there are, at
o variations from type that seem to



e arrangement of Bunyard's Apples is a distinct breakaway from the basket or dish
thod, and the whole scheme is evidently influenced by the cubist movement. Vast
bes of black tower one above the other rather in the manner of New York's skyscrapers,
d the fruit is piled on these without baskets or dishes. The gold and red of the Apples
ow admirably on such sombre backgrounds. and the whole represents an attempt to
break away from the stereotyped methods of showing fruit

hdow changes to come. One is Mr.
d's display of Apples and the other
alley of Death.

Apples will catch everyone's eye. In-
f nestling in quiet harmony, as here-
e on beds of russet leaves in wicker
e, they are set out on geometrically
black blocks, with which they con-
bruptly in shape and colour. Some
are saying that this arrangement is
nyard's allusive way of announcing
se by his firm next year of the square
which has been so long demanded by
king trade. But there is nothing in
rmour; the arrangement is simply an
tion of the principle of contrast,
is new to a Chelsea long wedded to
ny. We have become used to groups
ins blending with one another like
ice-creams of many flavours, and to
e Peas harmonised into fountains of
nt foam; but if Mr. Bunyard's ges-
kes effect, we may expect to see next
e new Lupins rising, like Aphrodite
on the shores of Cypress, from
r blocks of white marble or black
, and the Sweet Peas attended by the
features of the less prepossessing

h Valley of Death fulfils, sooner than
ected, the desert gardens that we fore-
st year as a feature of the Chelsea
ifty years hence. No doubt it will be
ed; for, to the many who live in
s, there is a charm in trackless wastes
, quite naturally, not shared by those
ave to track across them. Next year
y hope to see a reproduction of the
Desert, with its sun-bitten Xerophytes,
ng bones, and authentic remains of an
tion which took the wrong turning.

all want what we have not; hence
pularity of rock gardens among people
se surroundings rocks are as rare as
In this respect, the perfect rock
is a garden made of rock and not
ed by flowers, an ideal to which Mr. Gavin Jones has strained a little nearer this year in his rock garden, which, except for a slight efflorescence of Violas, stands up stark in austere and naked beauty. It is said to have shocked the judges, who turned with relief to the neighbouring rock gardens which were hiding their bareness modestly in the usual chiffon of Phlox Vivid and Aubrietia. Next year, perhaps, we shall see the pure rock graden, "austere, unflowered, unalloyed," with no other decoration than a faint patina of ancient lichens.

All gardeners since Adam, the first gardener (to whom we owe so much), have yearned after what we have not got. I remember seeing a gardener in Herzegovina making a garden by blasting away the rocks with oaths and little sticks of dynamite, and I said to him, very foolishly, that in my country we put rocks into our gardens and paid people for doing so; but he only looked at me strangely and crossed himself.

F. A. H.

Sink gardens at Chelsea, and other things

In the avenue of the Formal Gardens, on my way to the exhibit of Sink Gardens, I was glad, very glad, that there was humour to temper the envy of these gardens of peace.

Half way along was the garden of Rebecca, complete with well and pitcher, but the English village atmosphere had been superimposed by an ancient, cast-iron pump, so ancient that the maker's name on a large plate was the most striking feature on its comely proportions. Instinctively one's thoughts flew to the parallel of those Eastern antiquities which first see the light of day in the Ladywood Road, Birmingham. Then there was a Japanese garden possessed of many stones full of religious significance. Distributed in odd corners of this quaint slice of Japan were large, round flints. "Perfect view stones" or "cave stones," perhaps, which may have come from the pot-holes of Yorkshire. Near a bed of Hydrangeas was a rotund mother cave-stone as large as a football, with a brood of healthy flintlings as big as croquet balls playing round her like a litter of pigs.

Then in any odd corner were other round-faced flints disporting on the banks and browsing under Japanese Maples; altogether very quaint, but, of course, it was not a common or garden Japanese garden which one saw at Chelsea. No, it was a bowling green of the first Ming dynasty, complete with flint woods. I still keep wondering how much the inscrutable designer paid his children to collect those flints. No boy under sixteen could have tackled the football-sized flint, and it

One corner of Sutton and Sons' group awarded the Sherwood Cup as the most meritorious exhibit at Chelsea

Within this comprehensive display were large and superb groups of Nemesias, Calceolarias, Gloxinias, Streptocarpus, Cinerarias, Salpiglossis, and Tuberous Begonias—a brilliant collection beautifully arranged was worth, at least, two Saturdays' pocket money.

Arrived at the Sink Gardens there were, as one was to expect, sinks to suit all pockets. When I say "all pockets" I mean that a bow-fronted Queen Anne or a small, early Victorian subsidy sink was priced at, perhaps, seven guineas—*guineas*, as in tailoring—though the prince of sinks, which was not really one at all, but slabs of slate giving a miniature garden some 9 feet or so in length, was ticketed at £50. I felt quite grieved it was not 50 guineas. Here we had a miniature pond, complete with goldfish, and Mr. Clarence Elliott assured me that these were included in the price, though I saw no packet of ants' eggs. Here I was reminded that, walking through Blythe Bridge a month ago, I saw a still larger sink in a stone-mason's yard, but turned it down as something altogether too large. It would have required a pond, some perch, and a punt to give proportion.

The lesson of the sink gardens, which it was worth anyone's while to visit, and learn, if interested in this fascinating form of gardening, was one which I have tried to stress on several occasions in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. It was, not to be afraid of using plenty of stone in the construction. Here some of the outcrops rose nearly 2 feet above the sink sides, and, perhaps, in sinks originally weighing 1 cwt., twice its weight of rock had been employed to make the outcrop. Compare this with many of the photographs reproduced of sink gardens, and picture the entirely different effect procured. Here one could see the peculiar beauty of Saxifraga Baldensis for this form of miniature garden, and the glory of Viola Bertolonii, the china-blue Pansy from Corsica, when occupying a cranny at the base of a rock.

"Viola pedata offered at the modest price of ninepence . . . is a very tempting addition to the sink garden"

But the purpose of my journey to Chelsea was to discover likely new plants for trying out in sink gardens, and for those who are interested are passed on these notes.

First for the Dianthus family, to which there is an ever-increasing collection of small hybrids. The untidily tidy Dianthus neglectus was conspicuous by its absence, the species having apparently suffered severe losses last winter; and plants of its glorious hybrid, D. Roysii, exhibited to such effect at the autumn show, were very scarce. Both these plants can be wonderful in a stone trough.

Messrs. Bowell and Skarratt had a flesh-coloured D. Freynii named pallida, though the name is probably not authentic. This plant would be a useful addition to the type which does well on a miniature outcrop.

This season D. microlepis rumelius was flowered well by several firms, and will, no doubt, have tempted many purchasers, who will, alas! find it a shy bloomer in average seasons. There is a new little hybrid, D. Ivy (rather like D. Enid), cherry pink in colour, and probably a cross between D. neglectus and D. deltoides; also D. Prince of Wales, a brilliant crimson, originally raised by Messrs. Prichard, and again making its appearance. There are many improvements on our old friend, D. Cæsius, among which may be mentioned D. Icomb Hybrid; and all of these are good for a trial in a sink garden where Dianthuses are so signally at home.

I rather think that Erinus Dr. Hanele is not proving so hardy as one would like. It has died on me twice, and the specimens were small and very limited this show.

Aster Mount Everest, reminiscent of Erigeron leiomerus, but with flowers as big and similar to Aster alpinus, must surely have a place in the Alpine lawn. Messrs. Tucker had some beautiful little plants of Saxifraga diapensioides primulinum in flower. This plant has done very well in my sink gardens, and has the added attraction of being rare. A Saxifrage new to me was S. muscoides pygmæa, just what was wanted for the lowest slopes of the sink garden to cover the choicest little Narcissus bulbs—a great acquisition shown by Mr. Wells, of Merstham.

Viola pedata was offered at the modest price of ninepence, and however intractable, like Anthyllis Dilleni atrococcinea, newly arrived from the Pyrenees, is a very tempting addition to the sink garden.

Wadded in a northerly, vertical crevice, Ramondia pyrenaica will flourish in a trough; and now we once more have R. serbica stocked by several firms,
added attraction of being smaller an
shallow basin instead of reflexed flo
the several Androsaces which hav
successful for our purpose, such as
one is tempted to add A. villosa,
I know, and a bit fluffy-leaved, but
be worth a piece of glass in winte
there is Calceolaria Darwini, a n
from Patagonia, described as "a n
sational hardy species." If one li
ceolarias (personally I think the
acquired taste like French poodles)
something new for a choice an
corner.

If I were not afraid of being
satisfy their needs, and so lose a s
tune, I should most certainly inves
new dwarf Rhododendrons, R. in
and R. fastigiatum, and under thei
would be planted the dwarfest and
little bulbs and Cyclamens.

Edraianthus serpyllifolius major
usual, in full flower, but now I re
there is E. s. *Major* and E. s.
In one case the flowers were fully
across, a glorious sight (once agai
have to write Messrs. Casburn and
ask how they do it); but in sever
although the plants were ob
myriad blooms, the individual flow
have been little, if any, bigger than
before Farrer's chance and great dis
the major form.

Lastly, there were many exhibits
Douglasi, which, I am glad to say,
several colour breaks. In my humbl
this, even in the most select sink g
the most outstanding acquisition
years. It covers itself with lavender
remains dwarf, and trails down the s
For wealth of colour and distinctio
miniature garden, it must rank with
four, Dianthus neglectus, Ed
serpyllifolius major, and Saxifraga
folia splendens being its fellows.

To those who do not yet kno
Douglasi in a sink garden, my advic
right in right now and invest an odd

So much for sink gardens and Che
I am still horribly intrigued a
Japanese bowling green. F. H. F
Chester.

New Brooms

The collection of Brooms at Chels
by Wm. Watson and Sons, Ltd.,
varieties Lady Moore, Lord La
Dorothy Walpole, C. E. Pearson
number of new and old favourites,
Dallimorei, præcox, Cornish Cream,
(raised at Kew), Andreanus, Dona
ling, and some varieties which are
useful in the rock garden owing to t
or less prostrate growth, such as
trate form of the common yellow B
Cytisus purpureus roseus.

Judging at Chelsea

It is known that the judges at the
Show take themselves very seriou
haps more seriously than the exhibi
public do; but if they are to work i
ance with British ideas of impartia
should refrain from visiting the sho
the exhibits are ready. It is a rule o
judging, whether in law or in sport,
judge should come to his work with
mind. If he visits the show before it
he will see exhibits with their
features, perhaps, covered up, or at
complete, and he cannot help
opinions which will influence him
he goes further and allows himself t
the various exhibits with interested
he is rendering himself unfit for h
and if he cannot resist this tempt

design his position as a judge. Some e idges this year allowed themselves to lk round exhibits here and there by ners and have the principal features id to them! This is, surely, out of

EXHIBITOR.

ock gardens at Chelsea

our issue of March 30th, I found sh to inveigh against the clamour for stone at Chelsea, remarking that the ousiness was a confession of artistic ess, or else gigantic egoism. The work u so-called rock artists at this year's xonerates them from the latter charge cost of fixing the first upon them.

e are varieties of stone enough for any- aste—or distaste. But there are only chibits of outstanding merit.

r Geo G. Whitelegg's rock garden s description. When I saw his Sher- up show in 1927, I said that it could .be improved upon; but this year's ts grander, more imaginative, than any s work by the same artist. It occu- e central site on the rock bank, and it d to be the centre of attraction also. he work of an artist of outstanding it and, as I said in my former letter, man will achieve outstanding effects t changing his medium.

h other exhibit referred to is that c Gavin Jones. Here is a man who has scovered the best medium for his par- style of work. He did right to change ne. His work has always possessed a a rigid severity; he has a penchant for sing Nature angularly. He is a faith- dent of geology, and his work has a ey and a certain sombre beauty all its . Its balance is perfect. All the same, ot the type of rock garden with a uni- appeal. It leaves little room for it is eminently unsuitable for small is, and its severity of line will tell it it with many people.

other rock gardens are puny attempts id these two. Hodson's, however, have aly improved on last year's show, and onotony of line is gone from their work. hm's, too, have given up their well- style, and have executed a restful of unambitious character.

lence Elliott must be judged by his and not his rock-work, for the latter en the joke of the show for years— tentional joke, as many think. Mr rsen, too, is obviously exhibiting plants

Orpington Nurseries have a really e little garden, showing a grassy hollow in the mountains flooded by recent heavy rains. The planting is quietly suggestive.

C. PENROSE.

Taplow.

The trout stream and pool by Hodsons, Ltd., had many admirers

—— *Re* the report on the Chelsea Show rock gardens (page 360 in your last number), I would very much like to call attention to one paragraph—that regarding the exhibit of Mr. Gavin Jones.

The whole paragraph reads as though the writer were labouring under a prejudice in favour of mountain limestone. Firstly, I would use the word "magnificent" or "splendid" rather than "gigantic"—because the exhibit is much more than gigantic. To cast a doubt upon the value of this piece of work in the garden, I regard as criminal—unless one means the small garden of a small semi-detached villa residence. In other words, the exhibit would be quite as much at home as any other in a garden of the right size. I say this, quite apart from the fact that there are people from the north or mountainous countries, generally (generally also lovers of Beethoven), with thoughts deep enough to appreciate the depths of the note sounded by this piece of work. I wish your writer had said "Nature pretty" instead of "Nature beautiful," but, of course, he would have defeated his own purpose. The only fault I had to find with this exhibit was its planting—which I thought rather too pretty. I think other plants should have been used on the lower strata to preserve the note of spiritual and artistic unity. It was, if I may say so, rather like dressing Sir Oliver Lodge in Oxford bags and a Fair Isle jumper.

At this show, I think, the wisdom of the appeal by the R.H.S. for a change of material has been vindicated. At the same time, I think Messrs. Hodson's have given a very bright example, especially in their *design* of the effect of a complete garden in the old north-country mountain limestone. The grass is in good-sized stretches, making it easy to keep in order. So, sir, art critics will always be brow-beaten and defeated by those who do the work.

JOHN WOOD.

Big bud in Black Currants

It was comforting to learn from the lecturer at the East Malling exhibit at Chelsea that a cure and preventative has been found for this. The patient man answered everyone's questions on every subject, and this was his answer to mine: "Spray with lime-sulphur wash in spring when leaves are about an inch across." Spray both infected trees and clean trees—the Big Bud will have no further terrors for you.

ALICE MARTINEAU.

The higher standard at Chelsea

May I, a garden lover who sometimes works in his own garden, suggest that the speech of the President of the R.H.S. delivered at the Society's luncheon on Tuesday last week would have better reflected public opinion if it had suffered slight alteration?

His pontifical utterance ran thus:—"Year after year we set our exhibitors a higher standard, up to which, I am glad to note, they are able to live." He would have found many more to agree with him if he had said: "Year after year the exhibitors set us (the Council) a higher standard up to which we are not able to live."

The Council do not radiate effulgence by virtue of wearing distinctive badges at their flower shows, they can only claim importance in horticulture in ratio to their efficiency. At present their claim seems to be growing in inverse ratio to it.

GARDEN OWNER.

[We were present at the speech in question, and we do not agree with the construction that "Garden Owner" has placed upon its meaning. The President was speaking of the higher standard of exhibits. It is, therefore, the exhibitors (not necessarily the Council) who set a higher standard at Chelsea year after year, up to which they are able to live.—ED.]

The lower part of the stream garden by Pulham and Son, with boulders of Cumberland stone

Irises at Chelsea

IT was to be expected that the late season would affect the Iris exhibits. The result is that certain sections that have never been fully represented at a Chelsea Show before, were present in force. In the rock gardens, as well as in groups in the tents, Iris primula, in many varieties, were in perfect condition. They ought to have been over weeks ago. When one looked for the varieties that are usually found at Chelsea, they were hard to find. R. Wallace and Co. evidently found difficulty in getting together enough that were sufficiently advanced to make a presentable show, but their Lilies were superb. Barr and Sons had a general collection including Primulas and some May flowering varieties. We noticed here also a fine group of the pretty little Iris cristata (see illustration), and a dainty group of the lovely I. Hoogiana. In fact, their collection of species and varieties was by far the most comprehensive in the show, and included representatives of almost every section. The Orpington Nursery Co. grouped a number of the late Bearded Irises among Silver Birches; amongst them being Wedgwood, a good yellow of moderate height called Gold Imperial, Shekinah, and some good blooms of Majestic. Near by Mr. Geo. Whitelegg had a group of various Irises, not named at the time we saw them. They were, however, mostly May flowering varieties, with a liberal sprinkling of bulbous varieties that were obviously forced.

When we turn from the exhibits of these specialists, all of whom are able, in happier seasons, to give us a good display at Chelsea, we were amazed at the success achieved by G. Bunyard and Co. in producing what was probably the finest collection of Tall Bearded Irises ever seen at Chelsea. Clean, well-grown, pure and clear in colour, with foliage betraying rude health, in wonderful variety, and effectively arranged; this firm produced three bold groups that were probably as near perfection as is ever likely to be obtained. All the favourites were there, and many others. Susan Bliss, which, under canvas, is a really beautiful pink, Sirius (a late purple bicolor), Magnifica (wonderfully grown), a pretty, fawn coloured flower with cold blue in the standards called Mira, Ambassadeur, Duke of Bedford, Luna, Morning Splendour, Marian Cran, Wayland Cowley, and many others. One bold flower attracted attention, Merope, a novelty, with Ambassadeur and Dominion blood in it apparently. The colouring is not vastly different from Ambassadeur, but the texture of the falls is velvety, the well formed standards are erect, and there is a firm, graceful poise about the standards that is absent in Ambassadeur; three flowers were open on one spike, and all in perfect condition. To those who want Ambassadeur colouring, with improved form, this Iris will appeal very strongly. We must compliment Messrs. Bunyard on overcoming the well-known difficulties of the season so magnificently and really rising above the occasion. Their exhibit was an example of how experience and courage can triumph over the most adverse conditions.

"Fairy Fern"

It was in the churchyard at Laleham, the last resting place of Matthew Arnold, that I first saw Helxine used to "keep memory green." This plant, which some call "Fairy Fern," grows very rapidly, and a tiny piece will quickly cover the soil of a large pot with delicate filigree work. Strangely enough, when it was used in the old Westminster Aquarium in 1906, at an exhibition, there was only one among the gardeners who knew it. Since then it has spread to thousands of homes throughout the country. If grown out of doors it will die back in the winter, but usually recovers in the spring unless the winter has been very severe. A moist, well-drained soil and a half-shady position are its modest requirements.—*Guild Gardener.*

Herbaceous Calceolarias

THERE are many more difficult plants than these to manage, which are overcome by our ardent amateurs. The month of June will see the majority of the plants on the wane, and as it takes nearly ten months to produce a flowering specimen seed should at once be sown; to hurry the plant is to court failure in whatever stage it may be practised, so that it behoves the cultivator to give them the coolest treatment possible, from the seedling state right up to the time they cease to be decorative. The hardier the plants are grown the better they withstand the winter frosts, a few degrees doing them no harm; fire heat and cold draughts should be avoided as much as possible, but abundance of fresh air on every favourable occasion is of vital importance to its welfare.

Iris cristata, a dainty species for the rock garden, with amethyst blue flow
shown by Barr and Sons

Pans not too shallow, as the compost is liable to dry up quickly at this date, is the best for the reception of the seed, carefully crocked and all well-washed previously, over these a thin layer of flaky leaf-soil or very thin turf, eventually filling to within ½ inch with about equal parts loam and leaf-mould, all passed through a ¼-inch sieve. Add enough rather fine sand to obtain porosity to the whole, pressing moderately firm with a level surface, and water a few times with a fine rose-can so that the compost gets uniformly moist throughout. In a couple of hours distribute the minute seed evenly over the surface, finishing off with a mere dusting of fine silver or river sand, finally covering the pan with a large slate or sheet of glass. Stand in a cool pit or frame, or even in the open at the foot of a north wall; in any event, the sun should not be allowed to play any part in the germination of the seeds or drying up the compost. When the tiny seedlings are seen to be coming through, gradually remove the covering to prevent
or elongation, and when water is
it is best to stand the pan in a bat
with a few inches of water, so that
may percolate from the bottom—
water from a can often disturbs
plants. See that slugs do not get a lo
they will quickly devour them. A be
ash frequently dusted with fre
should keep them at bay. As
fit to handle, prick out into sim
and pans, or shallow boxes, 2 i
3 inches asunder, taking every p
not to bruise the tender seedling
them to the same position, and keep
a few days after watering in; an
plants show progress admit abundan
day and night, frequently sprinkling
syringe in the daytime, a dry air n
conducive to their welfare. Should G
put in an appearance lightly fun
couple of times, allowing two or th
to intervene between the applicatio
also applies to later stages of the p
unless this pest is kept under, th
quickly become useless, while a dry,
atmosphere encourages an equally de
pest, Thrip.

When the leaves meet each other,
lift each plant with as much soil as
and transfer into 3-inch and 4-in
respectively, according to size, using a
but a trifle coarser, compost as before,
as position, watering in with a r
Immediately the fine roots are e
the crocks, transfer each plant into p
sizes larger, potting moderately fir
keeping them in pits or frames until
weather threatens, when remove to a
house front stage or shelf within 2
the glass roof, rejecting fire heat
severe frost is imminent. Before they
pot-bound, put them into pots 7 inc
8 inches in diameter, using a litt
decayed manure in the compost. At th
a moist ash or shingle base to stand o
best for them from February onwar
as the flowering shoots extend, tie t
quite thin hazel or bamboo canes; th
plant, when finished, should pre
symmetrical appearance from the rim

pards. As the sun gains power in thin shade becomes necessary, but permanent character, and the plants have a final fumigation ere the egin to expand; a light dew over- m the syringe twice daily in bright is very beneficial even when in full

M.

rot Begonias, Gloxinias, and Dahlias from seed

g flowers specially admired by the st, the above are firm favourites, like to dabble in raising seedlings of , but how many have the facilities? ow that Begonias, Gloxinias, and must all be raised in a heated green- he seed sown in January for the first d February for the other, if we want bloom in the first season. If one red to wait longer, the following is satisfactory: Some time during ent month the seeds may be sown in alf-full of small crocks, a layer of t above the drainage, and then about s of fine leaf mould, loam, and sand l parts. The Begonia and Gloxinia minute, water the surface of the he pan first, and after the water has away, scatter the seed evenly over st surface. To facilitate even distri- first mix the seed with a pinch of ersand and sow together; no covering from this is permissible. In sowing hlias, do not water the soil previously. kin the seed at 1 inch spaces all over n, and cover with about ½ inch of fine en water through a fine rose in the way.

seed pans may now be placed close eter in a frame, having a hard ash , and all covered with a square of sand opaque paper, in addition to the ight covering. In order to keep the rature as even as possible, the frame be matted up on cold nights. Watch ns closely, as on no account must the allowed to become dry. If, and when, is required, supply it by immersing the n a bucket of water, and when the e is seen damp all over, take out the pan very slowly to prevent suction and replace in the frame as before.

As soon as the plants appear—the Dahlias will come first—remove the glass and shade the frame from direct sun until the plants gain in strength, and when large enough to handle, prick them out in ordinary seed boxes, 2 inches apart for the Begonias and Gloxinias, and 3 inches for the Dahlias, using an ordinary mixture of loam, leaf mould, and sand, but rather rougher than that which was used for sowing. After pricking off, keep the plants close for a few days until they start growing away, and then admit a little air from the back of the frame, increasing this from time to time as growth proceeds.

The object is not to secure quick, but steady, strong growth, and for this reason the boxes may be propped up on inverted pots so that they will stand about 6 inches below the glass light of the frame. During the summer the lights may be removed altogether, and no further attention is required beyond seeing that moisture is supplied as necessary.

In the autumn allow the plants to die down in the boxes naturally, and we now have a stock of small tubers which can be stored away for the winter in sand, restarted easily in spring, and be assured of a brilliant display of colour throughout the following season.

TWO GOLD MEDAL GROUPS AT CHELSEA

Bunyard's Irises
Wallace's Lilies

Eranthemum pulchellum

The genus Eranthemum contains many gems well worthy of cultivation in the stove, but the above-mentioned species is considered one of the best for winter flowering. Eranthemum pulchellum may be termed a soft-wooded stove shrub. The flowers are borne in spike-like clusters of a bright, rich blue. Cuttings strike readily if taken in the spring and inserted singly in small 60-sized pots containing a sandy compost, and placed in a propagating case in a warm house. When these have become well rooted, pot on into 48's, using a compost of loam and leaf soil, with a free admixture of sharp silver sand. Place these in a temperature of from 60 degs. to 65 degs. on a bed of moist ashes, keeping the ashes well damped between the pots when showing signs of dryness. As these plants advance in size, and when the pots become well filled with roots, pot on finallly into 24's, using a similar compost, with a little well-decayed horse manure added. When well established in these pots, feed liberally with manure water, giving the pots an occasional dusting of Clay's Fertiliser about once a week, discontinuing this when the flowers begin to expand. After flowering, gradually withhold water, giving the plants a slight rest. Having been rested, they may be pruned back and repotted and grown on as large specimens for another year. I have known these plants to attain 15 inches to 20 inches in height, producing a wealth of rich blue flowers in winter, and often into spring.

E. B.

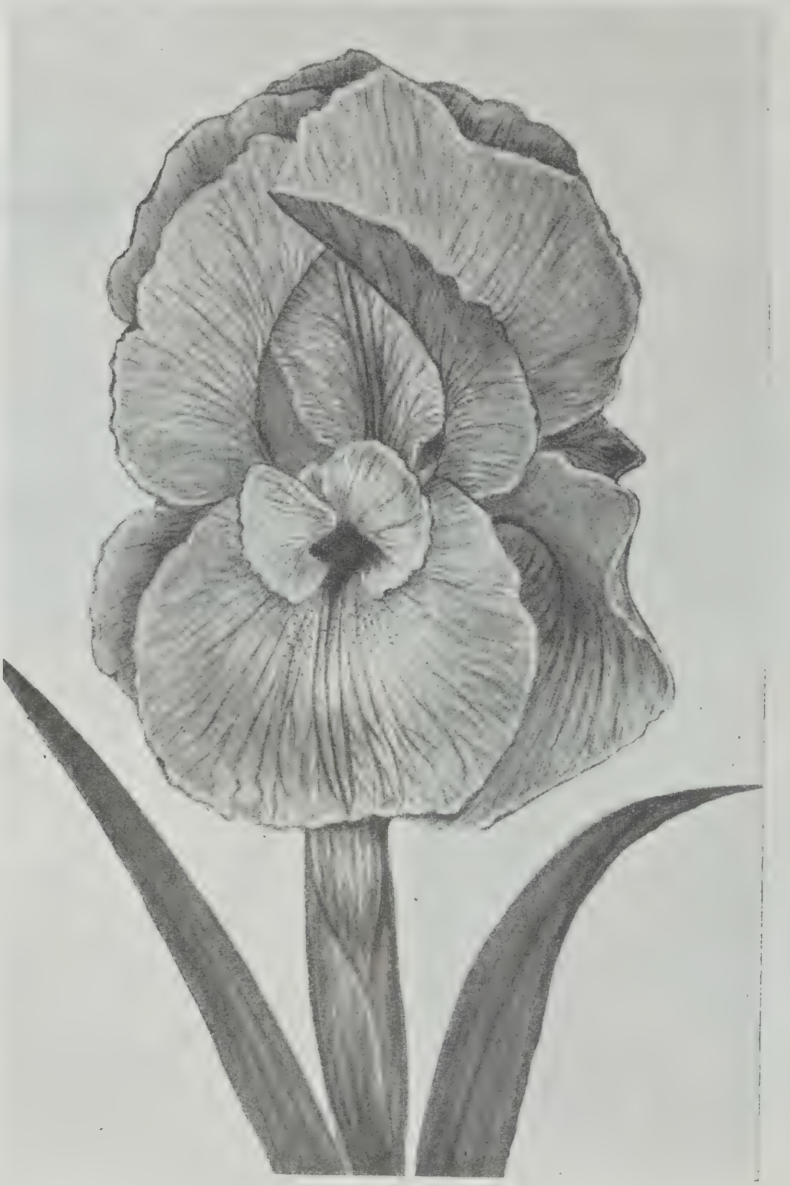
Waldsteinia trifolia

This is an admirable plant for shady parts of the rock garden in places where plant life is difficult to establish, or for the less important surfaces of the rock garden where a dense, spreading, sea-green carpet of leaves is desired. It will thrive with a modicum of soil, and even this need be only of the poorest character. It is also at home at the base of an old wall or by the margins of borders. The plant is unfit for prominent positions as it runs very quickly, but is useful as a carpet plant under trees, where its shoots may be conveniently shortened. It roots on the surface with great rapidity and may, therefore, be speedily propagated. Very small pieces put in the soil in spring soon form a rich verdure not more than 2 inches high.

H. Stevens.

The Cultivation of Asiatic Irises

IN "The Book of the Iris," by R. Irwin Lynch, for many years the curator of the University Botanic Gardens, Cambridge, there is a most useful and interesting chapter on the Oncocyclus section of Irises, especially contributed by the Rev. Henry Ewbank, who grew them with so much success at Ryde.



Iris Gatesii

He writes : "There are some things which you only have to stick in the ground and the rest follows with the utmost regularity—bud, blossom, fruit, are mere matters of course—the end may be taken for granted from the beginning, but this cannot be said with any truthfulness at all about the subject of these remarks." I would advise no one to waste time or money on these Irises who lives in a low-lying, wettish locality. A point to be insisted on is that these Irises should be grown in frames, or, at any rate, have shelter of some sort—not during the winter, but rather in the summer months. The reason for this is that soon after they have flowered, and much too soon for their own good, they will grow again. They come from hot, dry regions of the earth, and when they die down they are baked hard by the burning rays of the sun, and for long weeks and months together all chance of growth is denied to them. But this is the very thing which is best and most suitable to their case, for perfect root is enforced. Let us contrast this with what might happen in any ordinary year. Some passing thunderstorm and rain, which is so frequent in the summer, may flood the whole country round and through, soon afterwards the land may be dried up again—the Irises have began to grow and great harm is done to them. It is therefore necessary to put some covering over their heads soon after they have bloomed. I do not like the taking up system. Anyone who has seen the blossoms of these Irises which have come from plants that have been long seated in one place and others which have been taken from such as have been regularly moved would say at once : "I will never be contented with a make-shift and half-hearted sort of success. I will find out how to do the thing properly or will leave it alone." He quotes Sir Michael Foster, the greatest authority on the cultivation of these Irises, who states that "if the Oncocyclus are taken up and replanted somewhat early, the stimulus of the warm autumnal soil goads them into active growth so that t make up for lost time while they greenhouse shelf, and soon the co bruises and spoils them ; or, if pl the hand of winter is upon them have had time to anchor themsel roots, and frost thrusts them ground ; but if grown in frames t must be very good and ample given. I never, by any chance, d of a full current of air, but the protected from any torrents of rai

Mr. Ewbank continues : "Anot I follow in making these beds ve firm. When the compost for the been prepared it is thrown into and then beaten down with spac the force at our command, an should not be enough, the whole the beds is covered with thick bo get men to stamp on them and in compress the soil as much as poss we have done, the whole interior o is as hard and solid as a rock. which make their way in it are ir of being shifted. They have a anchorage as could be desired. what these creatures like, and le forgotten the rhizomes should neve covered. I say, again and agair only to be conquered by attentic things.

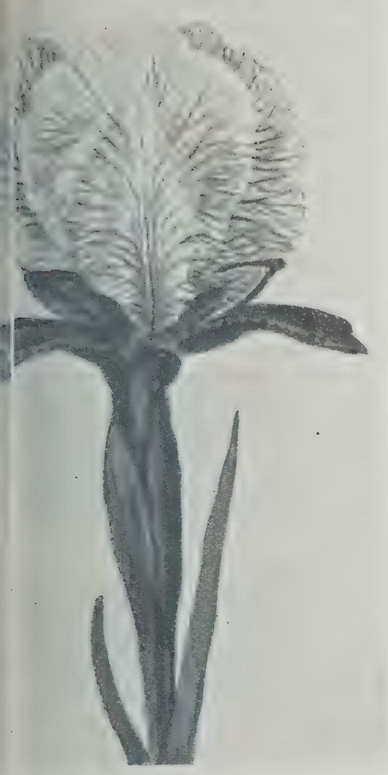
"And now to the turning poin thing—the question of soil which lately, thought to be of very triflin A friend of mine took into his he Oncocyclus Irises, and, as he about the difficulties of the task, first soil that came to his hand— was adding a wing to his house ar mortar and such-like were lying which he freely availed himself. flowering time came, I noted he succeeded and his Irises gave bet than mine with much less care. revelation indeed. I accordingly large sack of bone-meal and distr lbs. to the frame, which were 12 3 feet to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and had a feet. The bone-meal was thoroug with the loam and the Irises plan autumn. During the following spring there were no sudden failure sequent disappearances.

"One year a terrible catastr pened. I was told that weak ma was highly beneficial. I repeated gardener and I do not quite know did, but I soon found Iris after Iri and my whole collection wiped out

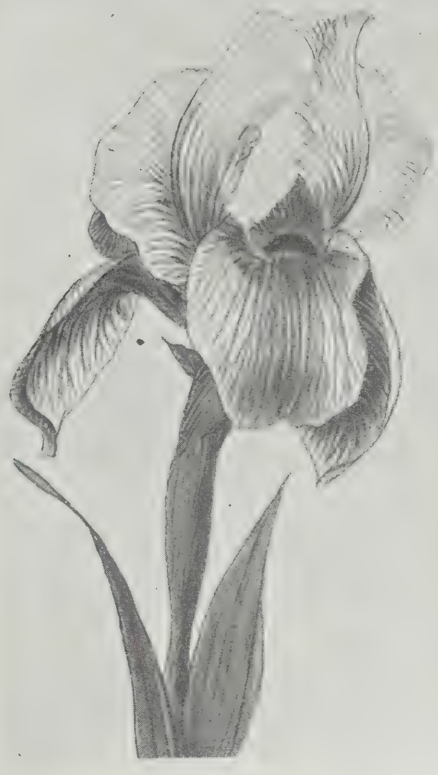
"I felt I must give it all up, bu came to the point, Iris Lorteti, Ib Gatesii had thrown their spell ove set to work again as though no occurred ; and I can point to my pla are at this moment as strong and plants can be. This is the way in great change for good came about, I am concerned." Thus writes kindly and persistent of garden Henry Ewbank.

He tells us that for beauty h "these flowers distanced anythin had ever known," and goes on to r he was once on a Continental ra his wife : they arrived one evenin mecca of gardeners, Baden-Baden, permission to visit the Garden which was willingly granted magician" in charge (Herr Max Early the next morning our friend to the enclosure, which, he says, more floral treasures than any othe in Europe, and there found a very som of Iris Lorteti in the zenith of it

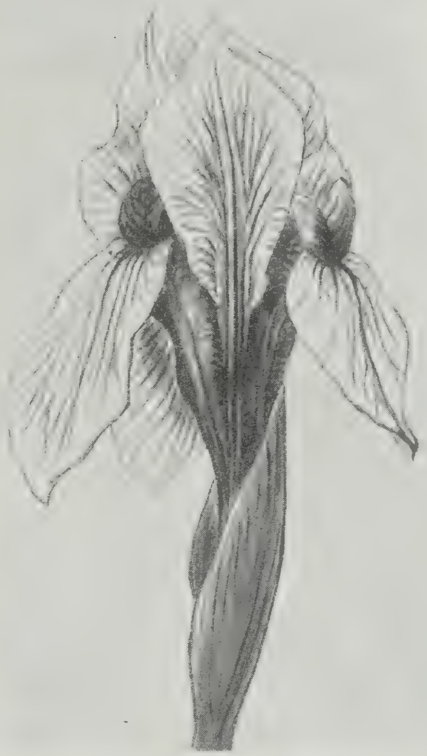
"I left the garden at once," h "and fetched my wife from the ho



Onoocyclus paradoxa



Hybrid regelio-cyclus



Regelia Korolkowi

tfore she had been able to breakfast—n accident or unlooked for occurrence d leprive her of the sight which she t never see again; these Oncocyclus s nade such a deep impression on me I lmost registered a vow that I would ave them alone while the smallest ce remained to me of doing them well." is we know he succeeded in doing, but o d be said that he "possessed and e in a garden which was a veritable ra," to use his own words.

prers have been performed by Sir a Foster in crossing such Oncocyclus s .s paradoxa, Iberica, Susiana, and s with Iris Korolkowi and others of the li group; and the hybrids thus raised i the less difficult character of the lls as regards cultivation, with much e Oncocyclus appearance in many cases. e f these Hybrids which the present r had the pleasure of sending to South a have, to his delight, done extremely i that sunny land.

H. H. Warner.

(erodendron trichotomum

is fine deciduous shrub was introduced apan so long ago as 1800, and even i is somewhat uncommon in gardens. isily procurable, and makes a neat-te open shrub of some 6 feet or 7 feet eint, well furnished with large, hand-eaves, and covered, in September, rge, loose clusters of flowers, with ll white and the calyces a shade of red. When crushed the leaves emit tlr powerful, pleasant, and distinctive t. C. trichotomum is tolerably hardy, i effective as an isolated specimen or n grouped on the lawn or in the shrub The general appearance of the plant ledly handsome, a well-grown speci-aching 6 feet to 7 feet in height and g s much through. It grows well in a ained loamy soil.

Ralph E. Arnold.

Cyclamens from Seed

AMONGST the most beautiful flowering plants for small greenhouses are Cyclamens, and once their culture is understood they present no very great difficulty to the amateur with his small house and limited space. The most satisfactory way for a beginner to proceed is to regard them as subjects which should have about eighteen months' growth before blooming. In other words, to treat them almost as one does a biennial, by sowing seed in June for flowering in the winter of the following year. This is far better than attempting to hurry plants along in heat, which too frequently ends in failure.

Pans or boxes may be selected, being well crocked to ensure drainage and filled with a compost made up of old friable loam, two parts to one part of finely-sifted leaf-mould and coarse silver sand, the whole being thoroughly mixed. This should be made firm in the pan, and seeds sown 1 inch apart and covered about a quarter-of-an-inch with the compost or dibbled in. When this has been done, it is an advantage to place over the soil a thin layer of Cocoanut fibre to keep it moist. The pans may either be put within the propagator or in a warm part of the greenhouse where a heat of from 55 degs. to 65 degs. can be maintained. On seedlings appearing water must be administered carefully, just sufficient being given to ensure moisture, otherwise damping off of seedlings may take place. As soon as seedlings are well on the way, transplanting can be done; this may be into other pans or into small pots, using similar compost. Starting them off in separate small pots is, I think, the better way, but there is always a fear lest while in these small pots they should suffer from dryness at the roots and so receive a check. To guard against this, it is a good plan to deposit the pots in trays of finely sifted ashes or grit, which can be lifted on to shelves near the glass, a position it is desirable to give them, taking care, at the same time, that the young plants are shaded from bright sunshine. The first roots of Cyclamens are very thin and thread-like, and, unless great care is taken in shifting young plants, they are likely to be injured. The second roots, which are pushed from the base of the miniature tubers, are tougher, and so if transplanting is deferred for a time it is all to the good. Whilst the practised grower relies on sowing seed for his main stock of plants in the autumn, the beginner will find it more advantageous to make his sowing in June.

An even temperature in the neighbourhood of 60 degs., with a humid atmosphere, should be aimed at and maintained. Another point the tyro needs to watch is that, whenever Cyclamens are repotted, care must be taken not to cover the crowns, but to leave them quite clear of soil, otherwise damping off inevitably occurs. From a June sowing plants by the autumn will be ready for removal into $4\frac{1}{2}$-inch pots, and after this their winter quarters ought to be on a shelf not too far removed from the glass, or somewhere in the house where they will be unshaded by taller plants. Extremes of temperature must be avoided, and whilst air is needful, it should be given without exposing plants to cold currents of air, as from roof ventilators for example. By June or July of the following year, when frame quarters must be found for them, their final shift can take place. This may be into 5-inch or 6-inch pots for the most promising plants, and when established in these pots, occasional helps with weak liquid manure will improve both size and colour of flowers.

Though sowing has been suggested as being the best for the beginner, seed may be sown at almost any time of the year, so that in capable hands, one may have a show of flowers from September to May from successional sowings.

W. F.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

ALPINES

Abnormal Primrose

(C. H. Scoble).—It is possible that one, or more, of the seedlings would throw blooms similar to the parent plant, but if the plant is merely a sport, as you seem to think, the odds are in favour of all the progeny reverting to the original colour and form.

Primrose and Primula seeds and time of sowing

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—Seeds of the former are offered by Messrs. Thompson and Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich, who also offer a fine selection of Primulas. Mr. G. H. Dalrymple, Bartley Nurseries, Southampton, also makes a speciality of the latter and could probably supply what you require. The seed of both should be sown as soon as ripe, and this is generally about the end of June.

Dividing Primroses and Primulas

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—These are best divided immediately they have ceased to bloom, as better crowns are then developed for next season's blooms. They may, nevertheless, be divided in autumn if this is inconvenient, but the results are never so good. If you decide to divide your plants now, it will be advisable to see that they do not suffer from lack of moisture for the first few weeks following transplanting.

Auriculas

(F. Smith).—1, Yes, Auriculas are Primulas; 2, yes, Auriculas are Alpines.

FLOWER GARDEN

Pæonies not flowering

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—The Pæony loves a deep, rich and rather heavy soil which has been deeply dug or trenched and well enriched with manure, and this should be followed every autumn with a mulch of well-rotted manure. We suspect impoverishment as the cause of your plants not flowering, and suggest that you lift and, if necessary, divide those which fail to bloom either at the end of September or early in October—this being the best time to transplant Pæonies—preparing your land as above. It sometimes happens that a plant requires division after several years in one spot, and if properly done amply repays the trouble of doing it.

Tulips failing

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—Your trouble is due to some pests with which your soil is infested. Lift and dry off the bulbs when the foliage begins to turn yellow, afterwards sorting out the best only for next year's planting. When dried and cleaned, dip the bulbs in a solution of permanganate of potash, and before replanting give your soil a dressing of Vaporite. Also we advise you to apply a dressing of fresh, slaked lime to your soil occasionally.

Double white Narcissus

(Mrs. M. Lane).—(1) This double form of the Poet's Narcissus loves abundant moisture and gentle shade, such as that furnished by thin summer-leafing trees, but not swampy, stagnant moisture. Every third or fourth year the bulbs should be lifted (that is on cultivated land, in the grass this is rarely necessary). This should be done in July, the bulbs being ripened in the sun, and later cleaned and sorted. The largest and best should then be planted on fresh, moist land, or any time before the end of September, planting them at 6 inches apart. It is quite a common occurrence for a percentage of this variety to come blind. (2) Either J. Waterer, Sons, and Crisp, Twyford, Berks; or Pearson and Sons, Lowdham, Notts, would supply you.

Lily of the Valley

(A. E. P.).—From the few faded and dried up stems sent, we are unable to give any opinion as to the cause of the trouble. You should have sent a whole plant—flowers, leaves, and roots—packed in damp Moss and enclosed in a tin box; and if you care to yet do this, we will be pleased to try and fix the cause of the unsatisfactory behaviour of this Lily of the Valley bed.

Heuchera Richardsonii

I shall be much obliged if you will kindly tell me the name of the enclosed flower and if it is quite hardy. It came up as a chance seedling amongst some Nemesias, I think, in a seed pan in the spring of 1927. The little leaves looked so pretty and interesting that I grew it on until it was finally potted in a 7-inch half pot, where it has lived ever since. In the winter the leaves turn reddish with the first cold weather, and during this last severe winter, when everything in my cold greenhouse froze solid in spite of oil lamps, and when everything like Geraniums, Fuchsias, Ferns, etc., perished entirely, this plant came through all right, only losing more of its leaves than it did last winter. I enclose two of last year's leaves, most of them are now dying, hanging round the sides of the pot, smothered by the luxuriant growth of new foliage.

There are about seven spikes of flowers, all except these two being well over a foot in height and having about 15 to 24 little blooms on each, rather widely spaced, as you will notice on those sent you. It makes a pretty and somewhat distinguished-looking pot plant, though the flowers are so quiet in colouring. A. C. B.

Stratford.

[The name of your plant is Heuchera Richardsonii. It is herbaceous and perfectly hardy. In the open, the tall spires of flowers are a reddish shade, and being about 2 feet in height, lend a graceful aspect to the plant. Its greatest beauty, however, is seen in autumn, when the large tufts of foliage turn a rich bronze shade.]

Sweet Peas and rotation

I saw in a recent issue that Sweet Peas should not be grown on the same ground over a number of years. I have a long, narrow border on purpose for them. (1) Is there any treatment which makes it possible to grow
them there continuously? (2) Wha
grow there, if not? I mean, woul
dwarf or runner, be all right? Or mu
non-leguminous plant? (3) For ho
years may Sweet Peas be grown,
many years should elapse before
them again? R

[(1) If it is imperative to have t
Peas on the same site, have the top
depth of 18 inches removed, and rep
fresh soil from one of the vegetable
where none of the Pea or Bean fan
been recently grown. (2) Any of the
family, Turnips, Lettuce, Beet,
Celery, Leeks, Onions, or Parsnips
is not desirable to grow Sweet Pea
than two years in succession in the s
While three years, at least, shoul
before they are again grown there.

Planting out Nemesias

(C. R.).—This annual flower is a
South Africa and requires an ope
situation. It is usually raised in ge
and planted out in May or early Jun
may also be sown in open borders du
and June.

Lilac and Phlox unhealthy

(Constant Reader, Colchester).—
Lilac trouble is due to the shrub hav
injured when transplanted in autumn
should say this has been aggravate
ness at the roots of late. Remove a
buds, and, after soaking with clea
mulch the roots with a litter of so
(2) Phlox.—Wireworm is respons
this, and your only remedy is to re
damaged shoots at once and fork
Vaporite into the soil about the pl
autumn lift the plants, wash every
of soil from the roots, and replant
soil which has previously received a
of Vaporite or other soil fumigant.

GREENHOUSE

Fuchsias and Diplacus dying

(D. A. L.).—There is nothing wha
the plants to cause the distress amo
and we should attribute the trouble
poisonous substance contained in the
with which the plants were top-dres
any case, something of a burning na
reached the plants; and we have
same thing occur after an overdose
ficial manure. Had the leaf-mould be
from walks where weed killer had b
during the summer?

Growing Strelitzias

(A. M. T., Bewdley).—Strelitzias
the temperature of a warm greenho
succeed well in a mixture made u
lows:—Four parts loam, two parts
part decayed manure, one part sand.
supplies of water are needed for est
plants during the summer, but the
be kept on the dry side during wint
have not noticed that Strelitzias
flower well in pots, but we can imag
if the plants were grown in pots t
for them they would not flower satis

Potting Azaleas

("Scottish Gardener").—The
most suitable for the Azalea is c
mainly of peat. A good formula
parts fibrous peat, one part turfy lo
enough coarse silver sand to ensure
Pot very firmly and set in a temper
about 55 degrees until well establishe
plants, after potting, should be syring
head daily. After they have ma
growth, say about the middle of J
outside on the north side of a wall, bu
to an airy greenhouse before frost ap
autumn. Winter temperature ab

No pruning required, in a general
a shoot may be removed should it
g the shape of the bush. We pre-
mean the greenhouse varieties of
a They thrive in a mixture of two-
m, two-parts peat, one-part leaf
d one-part coarse sand. Pot firmly.
s mainly the trimming of the plant
pt a good shape. This can be done
flowering. The Genistas may, with
e, be set out-of-doors during sum-

TREES AND SHRUBS

trouble

rron).—Please see reply to James
Douglas Pine, on page 307 of our
May 4th. Your trouble is due to the
ct pest. If the tree is too large to
are afraid that nothing else can be
he insect has not yet spread to the
owths, hence their clean appearance.
ave any other Firs growing near
e not yet attacked, it would be wise
the affected one by fire if the tree
too large to spray.

FRUIT

ves

e").—We have carefully examined
s sent, but can find nothing on these
t cause the berries not to swell. The
e of good size, thick, and healthy-
g except for slight discoloration, to
is variety is not infrequently subject.
think of nothing likely to improve
if all is well with the roots.

d Orange trees

. W.).—By "Tangerine" we pre-
u mean Orange? If you can place
in a genial temperature of about
es, and spray them overhead with
ter twice a day, they may recover.
is often attacked by scale, and it is
le just to say under what conditions
is most likely to put in an appear-
lowever, with care, it should never
state in which you found your trees,
e appears to have been considerable
by someone.

liage

Acre).—There is no fungus present on
cimens, and we are inclined to think
wind is the cause of your foliage be-
blackened. You are certainly doing
by picking off the foliage. As a
d against Pear Scab, you should
pre-blossom spray with Bordeaux
and this should be repeated so soon
he petals have dropped from the
The fact that your trees are pro-
magnificent fruit shows that nothing
ails the trees. Young pear foliage
damaged by cold wind and frost,
sequent foliage remains healthy.

ildew

ood and Nil Desperandum).—After
eful examination of the specimens
, we can find no trace of Vine
The white spots present appear to
deposit left after syringing or after
as dropped on to the foliage and
rted. We found traces of a fungus
ine Sclerotina, which at times is
ome. This fungus attacks all parts
Vine, but can usually be kept under
by giving early morning ventilation,
ing this, leaving a crack of air on the
ll night. Give the Vines a thorough
with sulphate of iron during winter.
antity of water required is made hot
sulphate added until no more will
; the solution is then applied with a paint brush to the whole aerial portions. If Mildew does appear, use sulphur applied by means of a "Sulphurator."

Peach Shot-Hole

(West Riding).—Your Peaches are attacked by the so-called Shot-Hole Fungus. This fungus attacks the foliage of many fruits, and forms small patches of discoloured tissue which bear spores. After a time, the diseased patches become dry and fall away from the tree, leaving the leaves with the appearance of having been riddled with shot. The wood and fruits are attacked at times. If your fruit is at the ripening stage you can do nothing for the moment, but as soon as you have cleared the fruit you might spray the tree with lime-sulphur solution at summer strength. Next winter, just before the buds begin to move, give a thorough spraying with Bordeaux Mixture, and when the leaves are expanding use a spray of dilute lime-sulphur, say, 1 pint added to 12 galls. of water. Repeat this at intervals. You say that, some time ago, the foliage began to drop. Now it is only in very severe cases of the above fungus that leaf drop occurs, and we suspect that some other organisms are the real cause of the leaf drop. Some of the leaves you send are badly infested with Red Spider, and this pest is a likely cause of the leaf drop. Keep plenty of water about the house and syringe the trees freely with water as soon as you have the fruit off. If you kept a crack of air on your house all night, it should help you to get over the difficulty of one end of the house getting too warm.

Apple trouble

(P. H., Guildford).—We have examined your specimens and can find no fungus present that would account for the failure of the flowers to develop. As a matter of fact, the trouble you describe is a very common one this season in certain districts, especially with Bramley's Seedling, and the cause in each case we have been able to investigate, is late frost. The form of damage seems to follow very closely the state of development in which the trees were when the frost occurred. If the trees were in the stage of unfolding the leaves around the fruit buds when the frost came, the fruit buds did not develop and eventually dropped off. If the trees had reached the pink bud stage when the frost came the stigmas were blackened, but the flowers opened normally and then dropped. Bramley's Seedling is, in all cases, rather slow to come into bearing, and this may account for the trees failing to produce fruit; this year frost is the cause.

Silver Leaf

(X. Y. Z.).—Yes, the trouble is Silver Leaf, and as you say the trees are young we should be inclined to leave them in position for a season to see if they recover. Keep a sharp look out for all dead wood, which should be removed and burnt. Give the trees a dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per sq. yard, and well water it in.

VEGETABLES

Cucumber failing

(A. M. T. Bewdley).—Your specimens arrived in a very dried up condition, but as far as we could ascertain, your trouble is due to a bad attack of Red Spider. Such a severe attack is usually due to cultural error, such as trying to grow the plants in too dry an atmosphere. If all your plants are in the condition of the one sent, you should fumigate the house with naphthalene and afterwards burn all the plants, and then make a fresh start. You would probably find "Commercial Cucumber Growing," by the Lea Valley correspondent of "The Fruit-Grower," obtainable from this office at 2s. 6d., postage 3d., helpful. If you require directions as to using naphthalene for fumigation please write us again.

MISCELLANEOUS

Couch Grass

(E. Williams).—We have no experience of the machine you mention, but doubt very much its efficacy in the case of the weed you call "Scutch Grass." We presume you refer to Couch Grass. This is one of the very worst weeds to control or eradicate. Probably the most certain procedure would be to dig out and remove the soil as far as the weeds extend and to the depth of a foot, or so, replacing with fresh, clean soil and clean turf, or sowing down with lawn grass seed. This, if the weeds have extended any considerable distance into the lawns, is rather a big job, but is really the only effective method for dealing with this trouble.

Use of lime sulphur

(Constant Reader).—We cannot be of much assistance to you because lime sulphur in powder form varies somewhat in composition, and it would be wise for you to get into touch with the firm who supplied the material and ask them for directions. The firm concerned will, no doubt, be pleased to assist you as to making up the material. It will now be too late to apply the material for a pre-blossom spray, but you should endeavour to get the spray on the trees so soon as the majority of the petals have dropped. If you delay spraying you will certainly get scabby fruits.

Stimulant for Asparagus, Aspidistra, Fern, and Palm

(S. O. A.).—(1) If given in moderation, sulphate of ammonia will benefit the plants named. (2) and (3) As the Asparagus rather likes lime, you need not be afraid to use the sulphate, and the Aspidistra is never in the least fastidious as to what the soil contains.

Lime-loving plants

(B.).—There is no hard and fast rule by which one can determine whether or no plants are lime-loving or not. Gardeners throughout many decades have made observations on the subject, and it is known definitely that some plants will not grow well in a soil which does not contain chalk. Nearly all the legumes are cases in point. Pinks, Carnations, Clematis, Lily of the Valley, Dogwood, Wayfaring Tree, and many others, are plants never happy away from chalk, but, of course, it is possible to grow all chalk-loving plants in a soil that is naturally devoid of lime by adding chalk or quicklime to the site prior to planting. There is another group of plants which do well on some chalk soil but not on others, but moisture is, in this case, the determining factor. Chalk soils are usually dry soils, and in districts of low rainfall many plants fail to obtain the necessary amount of water for growth, *e.g.*, Salix alba, Hypericum pulchrum, Stellaria holostea, and Galium saxatile grow freely upon the Vosges, where the soil is fairly retentive of moisture, but the plants are absent from the calcareous Jura mountains. Under garden conditions it is possible to grow moisture-loving plants upon chalk soils by adding organic matter to dry chalk soils so that moisture is retained. A third group of plants is known to gardeners, which detest lime and will not grow if chalk is present—Heaths, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, are examples. When it is desired to grow this class of plant on chalk soils, peat beds are made for the reception of the lime-haters. Broadly speaking, the separation of plants into lime-lovers and haters is fairly easy, but there are, of course, difficulties, *e.g.*, Liliums. Some Lilies are very tolerant of chalk, others will not grow if it is present.

NAMES OF PLANTS

E. Williamson, Leicester.—The Barren Strawberry (Waldsteinia trifoliata).

H. A. Collins, Dublin.—1, Spiræa arguta; 2, Rhodotypos kerrioides; 3, Pyrus halliana; 4, Prunus serrulata (Japanese Cherry).

G. F. S., Berks.—1, Melittis Melissophyllum album; 2, Epimedium alpinum; 3, Alyssum saxatile citrinum; 4, Primula Juliæ.

Meiktila.—1, Androsace sarmentosa; 2, Asperula tuberosa.

W. Ray.—The Tulip flower had fallen to pieces when it reached us and the petals had all become discoloured, so that is is impossible for us to even aim at the name.

W. R. Y., R. K. S.—1, Viburnum Carlesi; 2, Syringa vulgaris (Common Lilac).

Reigate.— Staphylea colchica (Colchican Bladder Nut).

L. G. G.—Jacobinia magnifica syn. Justicia carnea.

R. G.—Weigela (Diervilla) hybrida Eva Rathke.

V. B.—1, Kilmarnock Weeping Willow (Salix caprea pendula); 2, American Weeping Willow (Salix purpurea pendula).

E. F., Hereford.—1, Erodium corsicum; 2, Saxifraga decipiens grandiflora; 3, Saxifraga maweana.

An Anxious Reader.—Juniperus horizontalis (syn J. sabina var. prostrata).

W. A. W.—1, Tricuspidaria lanceolata; 2, Leptospermum Nicholli.

G., Dublin.—1, Libertia formosa; 2, Lonicera flava; 3, Ceanothus dentatus; 4, Rose, Single Yellow Banksian; 5, Rose, Yellow Banksian; 6, Asphodelus luteus; 7, Rosa rugosa alba; 8, Rose, Single Banksian; 9, flowers withered (probably R. rugosa); 10, Polemonium cœruleum; 11, Ribes cereum (probably); 12, Syringa Marie Legraye.

A. A. S., Dorset.—Clematis montana.

B., Devon.—1, Cercis Silquastrum (Judas Tree) (see note page 382); 2, Tulipa chrysantha (see note page 380).

Table Iris

In an article under the above heading, Mrs. E. A. S. Peckham tells us in the American Iris Society's Bulletin for April that Miss Sturtevant "has a set of really charming plants she is playing with that will come right into line for table decoration."

Also that Mr. Williamson, too, has a group, which, for cutting and arranging on the table, will be ideal.

The English Society's Schedule includes a class for "an exhibit to demonstrate the decorative value of Irises." As this class allows the exhibitor full scope as to bowls, vases, or baskets, and that the flowers need not be grown by the exhibitor, one will expect to see quite a number of exhibits for the Gordon-Lennox Challenge Trophy at the Show on Thursday of next week

Anemones at Truro

I see in your paper of May 18th, page 341, an article by "Peter the Hermit." I, too, was at Truro Show, and, although I know neither of the exhibitors, I think, in fairness to Mrs. Henderson-Bull, I would like to state the beautiful Anemones were exhibited by her and not by Miss L. Williams. MRS. D. M. YONGE.

In the time of Roses

"He who would have beautiful Roses in his garden must have beautiful Roses in his heart. He must love them well and always. He is loyal and devoted ever, in storm-fraught or in sunny days, not only the first on a summer's morning to gaze admiringly on golden charms, but the first when leaves fall and winds are chill to protect against cruel frost."

These words of the late Dean Hole, the doyen of the Rose-world of his day, are as true as when they were first penned. Never before has such interest been shown in this typical flower of an English garden; never were there more growers or more attention paid to its culture by all sorts and conditions of people. One wonders sometimes what the Dean would have said of the glorious varieties which are ours to-day, in comparison to the limited varieties of his time. How he would have revelled in the Hybrid Teas of modern introduction, while keeping a warm corner in his heart for varieties that have served us well, and are still regarded with favour. It will be within the recollection of some old Rose-growers that fifty years ago Teas were grown under glass in pots, and treated as too tender for outside culture, but the Dean upset that theory by growing Tea Roses out-of-doors at Caunton Manor. Those were the days when one heard more about Hybrid Perpetuals than one does now; when old-timers like John Hopper, Charles Lefebvre, Victor Verdier, Jules Margottin, and Baroness Rothschild figured on exhibition tables. The last, a big pink, was practically scentless, but its size gained for it a place at almost every show. To-day we have entered into a goodly heritage in Hybrid Teas, the colours of which are so delightful, and are more constant in their flowering than ever the old H.P.'s were. As I look at my Rose trees, I cannot help but think of the debt we owe to the old raisers for varieties which are valued in our time, such, for instance, as La France, Caroline Testout, noted for their vigour and free flowering. Very few of the varieties considered the cream in Dean Hole's days, however, are known now, but from some of them, no doubt, not a few of the present day varieties emanated. It is seldom, except in the southern counties of England, one comes across Marechal Niel grown out-of-doors, but as an indoor yellow, when well-grown, it has not an equal in point of colour and rich fragrance. Not only are we blessed with beautiful tinted varieties among Hybrid Teas, but what is of equal importance, modern raisers have given, and are giving, thought and consideration in the raising of new varieties that shall possess that other attribute, fragrance, without which the finest Rose is incomplete. In white Roses, would there be any to compare to Frau Karl Druschki, with its peerless purity, did it only possess the one thing which it lacks—scent? I think not. It is not surprising that the singles are gaining in popularity this year. One may use them in different ways in a garden, for bedding, for pillars, and pergolas and walls, and also for cutting for table decoration. W. F.

Capt. F. Kingdon Ward

Up to the time of going to press, no fresh news has been received of Capt. Kingdon Ward. About a week ago news was received that he was lying helplessly ill in a remote spot at Muong-Sing, Laus, Tonkin, with no Europeans within hundreds of miles.

Mrs. Kingdon Ward proposes to leave Croydon on June 4th by India air mail to join her husband.

Mr. Kingdon Ward was invited
Cambodia expedition organised
Roosevelt brothers. He reache
(China), turned south alone
bearers, and penetrated into difficu
tually unknown country. On
Muong-Sing he fell ill, and news
was brought through Burma.

It was Mr. Kingdon Ward who,
Cawdor on a Tibetan expedition
that the great Tibetan river and
maputra were one and the same
found and brought to England
plants, including Meconopsis,
Himalayan Rhododendrons, and ot
which have been introduced int
gardens. He has made many exp
Tibet.

Blue Poppies at Grav

Against a dark background of
Firs and under a spreading
phalanx after phalanx of blue P
raising their lovely faces to smil
the wonderment and joy in o
True azure, "the colour of the
rain," as the Chinaman describe
blue, they are a miracle of beau
tense colour of their translucent
different from their rather wan a
sisters we have seen under canvas

They are beautifully placed in
loving shadows, the tender green
leaves above them, and flecks of lig
the sombre firs behind; at their f
Primula Aileen Aroon, turning up
apricot face in adoration to t
people above her.

I have seen in gardens lately sm
of this lovely Bailey Poppy, bu
Gravetye the wealth of luxuriou
plants, bearing hundreds of flow
one's breath away, and one fee
that God's in His Heaven—all's
the world. MAUDE HAWORTH

Royal Horticultural Society trials

The following awards have been
the undermentioned vegetables by t
of the Royal Horticultural Society
at Wisley:—

DWARF FRENCH BEANS UNDER

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE.	
*Canadian Wonder Improved (Flageolet Rouge)	Sent by Mes Simpson.
AWARD OF MERIT.	
Bounteous	Sent by Messrs Simpson.
*Early Prolific	Sent by Messrs
*Fifty Days	" "
HIGHLY COMMENDED.	
Perpetual	Sent by Messrs
Monster Negro	Sent by Mes Simpson.
Earliest of All	Sent by Messrs
Early Warwick (or Early Prolific)	" "
Helmingham Early Prolific	" Mr. C.
COMMENDED.	
Saxa	Sent by Messrs van der Mole
Ne Plus Ultra	Sent by Messrs.
Langport Wonder	" "

* Award recommended for earliest forc

Rhododendrons at Che

The illustration of a well-flowered
Rhododendrons at Chelsea (issue
page 365) is from a photograph
Walter Charles Slocock's group
Embankment end of No. 2 tent
Waterer's Rhododendrons as state

NEW CATALOGUES

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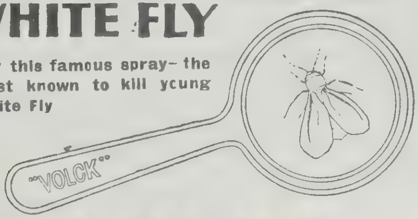

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The Spray that is Different (Award of Merit, R.H.S.)
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"PRINCE"
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Green's latest model, fitted with ball bearings on 6-knife cylinder and on drum shaft, gear drive in enclosed oil-case.

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£6	£6 : 10	£7 : 10

Less 5% for cash.
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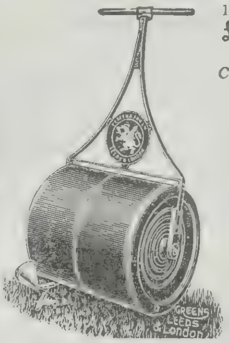

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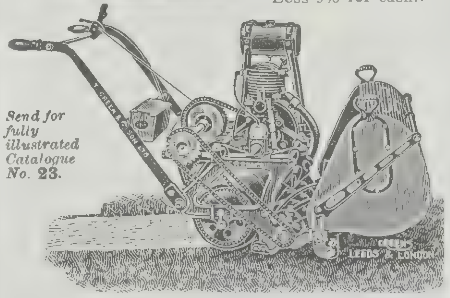

LIGHT MOTOR MOWER fitted with Reversible, Self-sharpening Cylinder and Kick-starter, is eminently suited for use on private gardens, sports grounds, doing fine work and reducing upkeep costs.

16 in.	20 in.	24 in.	30 in.
£37 : 10	£52 : 10	£67 : 10	£85

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World-Renowned
LAWN MOWERS, MOTOR MOWERS,
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THOS. GREEN & SON, LTD., Smithfield Ironworks LEEDS
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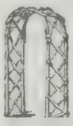
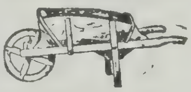
No 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.



		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. 6 in. ,,	17/6	16 -
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. ,,	22/6	20/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,,	26/6	24/-
8 ft. ,,	6 ft. ,,	33/6	30/-

GARDEN BARROWS

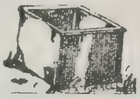
Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ¼ in. iron tyre.



	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23 6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

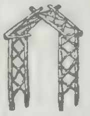
GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.



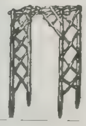
	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. ,,	5/6	5/- ,,
18 in. ,,	6/6	5/9 ,,
21 in. ,,	8/6	7/- ,,
24 in. ,,	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

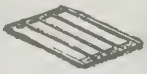


Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

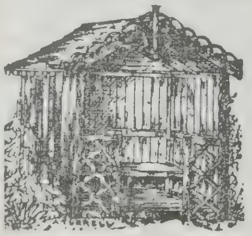


GARDEN LIGHTS



Size	Unglazed. Usual	Unglazed. Sale	Glazed & Painted. Usual	Glazed & Painted. Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4/9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

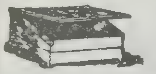
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

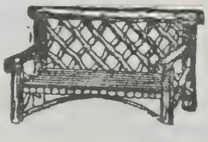
SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS

Well made from selected material. In natural wood. Bark on.

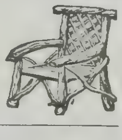


	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

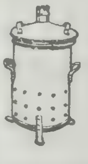
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

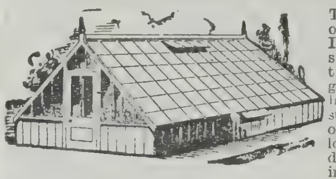
INCINERATOR



Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

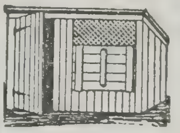
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

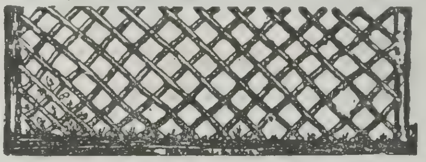


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Floor. Usual.	Floor. Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	Reduced Prices. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9 6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	21/6	25/-

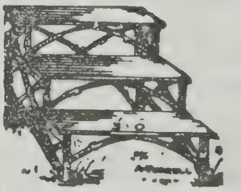
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

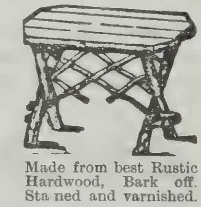
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

GARDEN EDGING

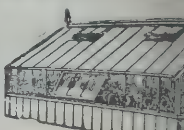
Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENH

These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateur figure, thereby coming within the reach of those w strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.



Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 1
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 1
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6		

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

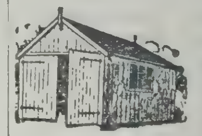
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	U £
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9

Do not pay high prices for your frames mad boards. We can supply at the following low pri made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	U £
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10

Compare these prices with other maker

No. 7 PORT MOTOR HO

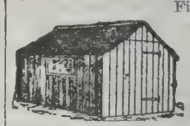


Constructed of strong fra with ⅝-in. tongued and gr roof bo rded and felted, for floor and strong joist fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass on strong butts and fitte and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED,

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTE

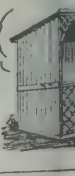
A very attractive and useful house. Constructed tongued and grooved boards and substantial fr covered best quality bitumen felt, making same qui All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Remo back. The whole stained and varnished inside an in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0



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Gardening ILLUSTRATED

FLOWERS · FRUIT · VEGETABLES · BEES · GARDEN DESIGN
TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

.—No. 2622 Saturday, June 8, 1929 TWOPENCE

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GE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY USE, FACTORIES, FARMS, etc. No emptying s; no solids; no open filter beds; everything under- and automatic; a perfect fertiliser obtainable.— M BEATTIE & CO., 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, ter, London, S.W. 1.

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IC FENCING of Superior make.— LWISHAM TIMBER CO., LTD., S.E. 13.

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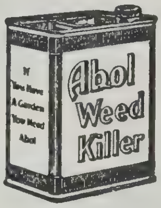

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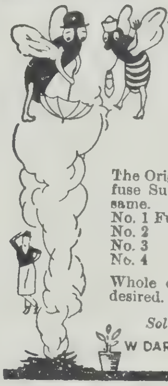

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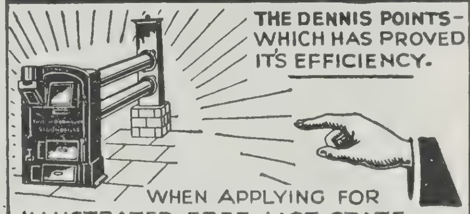

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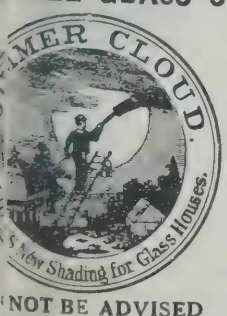

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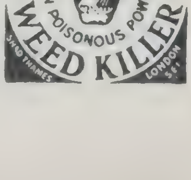

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8-5-29.

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About four years ago I had a circular left here referring to your "SANITAS POWDER" as a good thing to use in the Garden, and so thought to give it a trial as we were pestered with sparrows and insects, eating and destroying the peas and small seeds. As an experiment I tried the various rows with it, and alternately without it, and I felt I must write you (after three successive years trial) to say, it is the best thing I have come across, and can assure you I would not be without it. I have recommended it to every garden holder I know ; and I may say I live in the midst of hundreds of allotments, and after trial I have been thanked over again, many times, some stating it has been worth its weight in gold, a statement (from personal use) I can endorse, I use it on nearly every seed and plant, roses included. Results always satisfactory You can refer anyone to me and I can assure you, they will be advised by me to try it, and they, if local, can see the results in my garden.

Yours, in grateful remembrance of circular,
(sd) S.T.A. "

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622—Vol. LI. JUNE 8, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13 -

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Sweet Peas

Planting out, staking, and training

s many years since I have known et Pea plants to be so backward. se set out six weeks ago made little y until the last few days, since we ad a general soaking of warm rain. be a long time before the spring of 1929 otten; even in the warmest and most ed gardens unlimited damage has been It seems quite likely that the spring- plants will overtake those raised in this season. I usually cut my first about May 24th, but at the present e can do nothing lp them along han keep the soil erated by the use hoe between the

s quite possible nany seeds that own in the open February and have perished in il, and in those it would be ad- to purchase a r of plants at from a reliable and set them inches apart if arden decoration foot if required hibition or fine ms for cutting.

n planting out Peas it is essen- shake all the soil he roots and get heir whole length into the soil, if a g-pin has to be d to, as it is im- that the anchor in roots have a downward . Do not plant deeper than the collar, ess the soil well around them, after- giving a good watering to settle them r new quarters, and protect from slugs little old soot or lime.

e plants have not already been stopped them now and place a twiggy stick or round each. Many plants, no doubt, ere planted out early have damped off collar. There is no cure for this, and ants should be pulled up and burnt. I found this to happen in many cases the plants have been grown several in the same trench. This is bad policy ever leads to good results unless the r part at least, is changed each year. Sour soil and that deficient in lime also leads to this trouble.

Staking and after-treatment.—Staking is one matter which must be attended to when the plants have become established, and if these are being grown for garden decoration only. Hazel, Beech, or other ordinary Pea stakes will answer the purpose well, but these should be bushy and 6 feet to 8 feet in height. Place them close enough together to accommodate all lateral growths without crowding, and allow a little space at the top for the circulation of air.

If grown for large blooms a little more time and care is necessary, and there is nothing better than tapering Bamboo canes 8 feet or 10 feet in height. A strong post should be placed at either end of the rows on which cross-pieces should be fixed on which to fasten wires to keep the canes in position. These should be tied firmly with tarred twine. When fixing the cross-pieces it is best to allow the top one to be 6 inches or so shorter than the bottom one. A great many Sweet Pea growers now prefer to use special Pea netting in place of Bamboos, wire, and twine.

Tying the shoots to the canes should be commenced when large enough in the case of those trained on what is known as the cordon system. This must be done carefully without strangling the fragile shoots. Several side shoots will appear from the plants that have been stopped, and robust growers may have two or three taken up, whilst the weaker growers, such as many of the salmon and orange colours, should only have one. Choose the strongest as near the base as possible. When the plants are making good headway mulch them after a good soaking of rain. Do not use any form of stimulants until after the first blooms have opened, and do not give the plants dribblings of water. Spraying is an advantage after a hot day. W. E. Wright.

Tregarth Gardens,
Creigiau, near
Cardiff.

Powerscourt, one of the best of the lavender-coloured Sweet Peas

Notes of the Week

Gladioli from seed

A very interesting way of obtaining a collection of this glorious plant is to raise it from seed, but they will not flower until the following season. It is a system I can strongly recommend to amateurs, and if they obtain a good strain of seed some delightful surprises await them. More often than not, the finest spikes of flowers are obtained from seedlings.

Sow the seed thinly in well-drained 6-inch pots filled with equal parts of leaf-mould and loam with a little sand, and cover with a quarter of an inch of soil. If the pots are sunk to their rims in a slight hot-bed germination will be quick, but in the absence of a hot-bed place in the greenhouse. Carefully water and ventilate as soon as the seed germinates, and as the season advances remove the lights entirely. Throughout the season give liberal supplies of water, and as the foliage begins to ripen lessen the supplies gradually until finally withheld altogether.

The corms by the end of the season will be the size of Peas. Store the pots away in a cool, frost proof place until early April, when they should be sorted out and planted in a way similar as for older corms.

F. H.

Dryas octopetala

Dryas octopetala, the Mountain Avens, is a charming evergreen Alpine, neither new nor rare as a plant, but is rarely seen at its best, with its lovely Oak-like foliage spreading into a carpet several feet across and surmounted with a wealth of small, white, Strawberry-like flowers. A native plant, found occasionally in the limestone mountains of the North of England and more abundantly in Scotland, it likes a cool situation and is very partial to a chalk or limestone soil. Under cultivation it does not always get these essentials, and those planting it should choose a position amongst stone where a cool rooting medium is assured, and supply lime by adding lime-rubble to the compost if lime deficiency is suspected.

W. Auton.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Veronica (Hebe) Allani

A low, shrubby, and floriferous species from New Zealand, with grey leaves and white flowers. A pot plant of great beauty shown by Dr. A. H. Williams, Horsham, Sussex

The higher standard at Chelsea

YOUR correspondent "Garden Owner" (issue June 1st, page 385) has, perhaps, been somewhat severe in his criticism of the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society, but there is a stratum of truth underlying his rather too scathing remarks.

I am acquainted with many of the Society's exhibitors, both great and small, and have discussed things with them other than plants, and there is a feeling of irritation against the Council, particularly the amateur members, whom they say attend shows as if they were squires attending a village function. The staff are quick to reflect this attitude which results in tactlessness. If this were merely leading to the reprimand or dismissal of an official here and there it would be a matter of small moment, but it is giving birth to a more serious undercurrent of thought. There is a feeling amongst trade exhibitors that they would like to have a show of their own run by one of their own organisations. The idea is, as far as I can gather, still nebulous, but should it ever take concrete form enough to learn its own strength and possibilities the R.H.S. will have set up a serious rival to itself.

To-day we are all glad to see the increasing prosperity of the Society. To-morrow—the near or distant to-morrow—if it has such a serious rival as a trade combination it might find its star on the wane, for let it be remembered that R.H.S. prosperity is founded on the success of the Chelsea Show, and the Chelsea Show shorn of many of the best efforts of the horicultural trade would be a very different thing to the Chelsea of to-day when it has their willing, if sometimes resentful, co-operation.

This can be put right quite easily with the exercise of a tact that is not foreign to our race. The amateur members of the Council may be squires in their own villages, but in London they are small fry, and to "put on side," as the schoolboy would express it, causes irritation. It would not be amiss for the influential members of the Council to acquaint themselves with the outlook of the salaried executive towards trade members. It is always a mistake to offend men who know they can make or mar one's prosperity.

John Bull with a Trowel.

Tropæolum speciosum

Since sending you the note on the above, Mr. H. F. Smale, of the Castle Gardens, Warwick, informs me that plants growing in these gardens make growth 20 feet in length, and flower freely each season. The plants are growing in sandy loam and leaf-soil under clumps of Rhododendrons, hence the roots are in dense shade, the shoots c all over the plants. They are pla both east and south aspects, where ceive partial shade from nearby tree best roots were planted in 1900, sinc time they have gradually increased.

He concludes by saying that he thi secret why they flourish so well ther cause they are not disturbed and th receive ample supplies of moisture.

The last time I saw these plant three years ago (end of July), the covered in bloom, making a glorious against the dark green foliage of the dendrons.

Cæsalpinia japonica

The flowering of this beautiful an esting shrub is, unfortunately, a so rare treat unless it is in a few favoured with a mild climate and mu shine. It is quite hardy, but appar quires warmth and sunshine before set forth its racemes of canary-yell soms, each with a charming cluste anthers. These racemes are of La like form, but grow erect, and are in harmony with the bright green Ac leaves which are often 10 inches to in length. I retain pleasant memor fine specimen wreathing a west summer a mass of exquisite colour pregnant with interest. The shru loose, rambling habit, and produc shoots armed with formidable hoo spines. A well-drained loam soil w its requirements. C. japonica is cessfully placed upon a warm, sunn where, allowed to roam at will, i create a garden picture of great ch of unusual interest. Ralph E. A

Rose Rust

I am anxious to collect as much possible concerning the disease kn Rose Rust that is becoming rather amongst Roses. It usually makes pearance about the end of June, and the foliage on the underside. It ca be identified by its browny red an sooty spots, which have the effect of the leaf to die and fall. I shall b any of your readers who may hav attacked with the disease during t mer would be good enough to send men leaves. It would be very help if they would state, if possible, the which the Rose is budded, or w plants were obtained.

Courtney Page,
Hon. Sec., National Rose S
28, *Victoria Street, S.W.* 1.

Wanted: A Gladiolus gui

On looking through one or two ca I find that the variety described by (issue May 18th, page 328) might Orchid. Its description is given as ful Orchid, laciniated." The mail two ago brought the Prize Schedu 20th Annual Exhibition of the Gladiolus Society, and also the Gladiolus Society's "Bulletin" for 19 contain a suggested colour classifica the former "The Orchid" is descr lavender Primulinus grandiflorus, a latter the colour is given as light m

The colour sections in the Cana number 34 and in the American 1 the former separate sections are those varieties which have a co dark blotch. In the American list sence of significant throat marking cated by + or −."

Unfortunately, very few British appear in either list.

ula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

eply to Mrs. Des Vœux's letter on
53, I may say that here we registered
n 30 degs. of frost. My soil is cold,
clay, with a thin layer of loam on top.
ve in a holding, heavy soil, provided it
ned. I do not think for one moment
rost has been the sole cause of the
the Primulas of the two cases reported
RDENING ILLUSTRATED. Has Mrs. Des
had her soil analysed or any dead
dug up and the roots examined under
oscope? Not knowing her garden, I
of course, give no opinion—and her
ents appear conclusive—but my own
ence of this plant here and what I have
lsewhere leave me no option but to
e "killed by frost." I was at a garden
aturday—another on Sunday—where
s of these Primulas were growing and
ing for two or three years respectively
it any trouble; and from Perthshire,
I supplied a big lot of plants, not one
en lost. At Chelsea Show I had many
s of absolute success. My plants here
dry time for nearly three-and-a-half
s last year after being planted, and
January 1st have had about the worst
they could probably have had. Yet,
te of this, and especially the drought,
re making a good show.

m the illustration of Mrs. Des Vœux's
growing by the water, it strikes me as
le that the drainage might be poor.
vater in the pond might hold up that
ng into it from the banks and the slow
ation might set up stagnation very
There is much to be written about
re and drainage, and the likes and dis-
of the genus Primula, but I have not
to go into this now. I only wish Mr.
Puddle, of Bodnant Gardens, could
an article on this subject. One has only
k at one of his exhibits to realise what
and knowledge, such as his, can do.

G. H. DALYRYMPLE.

Nurseries, Bartley.

Queen Wasps

h regard to your correspondent's letter
een Wasps, there seems to be a plague
se this year far above the normal num-
A lady in this neighbourhod has already caught 134 (June 1st) using a small butterfly net.

I find they are very fond of Cotoneaster flowers, also of an aphis infested Thorn hedge.

D.

New Forest.

Exochorda grandiflora

ENCLOSED is a photograph of a bush of Exochorda grandiflora growing in South Devon. It was planted four years ago, when it was about 2 feet high. The picture does small justice to the beauty of the plant.

HARRY G. YOUNGER.

Bishopsteignton, South Devon.

A fine bush of Exoohorda grandiflora in a South Devon garden

This shrub, which is a native of North China, is now flowering in great freedom in many gardens

A succession of colour

It may interest some of your readers to hear of the happy effect of planting a long, narrow bed 20 feet by 2½ feet so as to produce blooms through the spring till the end of autumn, and requiring the minimum of trouble and attention. First, 12 good yellow Roses were planted, and between them good seedlings of varied Oriental Poppies. In the spaces remaining, double pink Tulips in groups of three were put in and the bed bordered with semi-dwarf Forget-me-nots. During April and May the Fern-like foliage of the Poppies made a perfect setting and support for the heavy heads of the Tulips, as big as Pæonies, and now they are over, the Poppies are bursting into bloom and the Rose trees are full of bud. In mid-April I filled the vacant spaces with Lobelia cardinalis and Border Carnations, which should carry on plenty of colour till the end of October. From time to time I remove a few of the lowest leaves of the Poppies to give light and air to the Rose trees and smaller plants, and give an occasional soaking in dry weather.

F. MORDAUNT.

Bournemouth West.

An old Elm, Hardwick Green, Bucks

THERE are some very fine Elms in different parts of England, and the patriarch in the photograph must in its prime have ranked among them. I am unable to state its age, for the oldest inhabitant does not recall any appreciative difference in its girth or its original height, as it snapped off in a gale some 30 years ago. But from the information received as to the distance reached in the fall it must have been close on 100 feet. There is still plenty of life in the old shell (for it is practically little else), as seen by the mass of frithy growth. It is just over 19 feet in girth at 3 feet from the ground.

E. B.

e ancient Elm at Hardwick Green, Bucks

Rose Mildew

This disease causes much trouble to Rose growers, especially to those who only grow a few plants. The fungus starts by forming greyish or whitish patches, generally on the undersides of the leaves. These spots of mildew gradually spread until all the young parts of the plant are diseased. Rose Mildew, if taken in time, is an easy fungus to kill, because the whole of the disease runs on the surface of the plant attacked, and it is therefore fairly easy to prepare a fungicide which will kill the fungus without injury to the host plant. Many fungi which cause plant disease live within their host plants, and then spraying can only be of use to prevent the spread of spores.

Most people fail to control mildew because they start too late. They forget that the amount of mildew present on the trees up to midsummer is so small that it is generally overlooked. After midsummer the amount of mildew shows considerable increase; it is then much more easily seen than killed. If Rose trees are sprayed with a protective wash as soon as the first sign of mildew appears, control is easy. The small powdery patches should be continually looked for, and, when detected, the Rose trees should be sprayed with the following:—Soft-soap, 3 ozs.; liver of sulphur, 1 oz.; water, 3 gallons. Stir the soft-soap into a little boiling water, and when dissolved add the liver of sulphur to the hot solution; stir well until the lumps are dissolved and then make up the mixture to 2 gallons with cold, soft water. The spraying should be repeated again 10 days later, and afterwards when necessary. Diseases cannot, as a rule, be stamped out by spraying once.

J.

Make your window sills brighter

Have you ever walked down a street in a busy town where some of the householders take a pride in the adornment of their window-sills with flowering and foliage plants, and noticed what an air of cheerfulness there is about them in comparison to houses where no such interest has been shown? That this phase of gardening is on the increase there is no doubt, and it is a healthy sign. I sometimes think that folk who show this interest in their homes give immense pleasure to garden-lovers who pass their doors. The outlay is really very trifling. Anyone can procure, or put together, a box to fit a window-ledge for a few pence and fill it with loam and a little leaf-mould and sand—a compost which suits most things—and the furnishing is not an expensive item either, supposing you cannot grow the plants yourself. Think of the plants which trail, like Ivy-leaved Geraniums, Campanulas, Nasturtiums, which bring masses of colour in the summer, of foliage plants like the golden netted Japanese Honeysuckle, and the white and green Nepeta Glechoma with its long, trailing shoots, or even for the season a plant of Asparagus Sprengeri, which does very well in a sunny aspect outside. Then one may have annuals like Mignonette, Candytuft, Virginian Stock, or a few plants of Snapdragons will set the sill ablaze with colour.

W. F.

"Chelsea" Show in 1950

TO those of us who have passed middle age nothing is more amusing than the exchange of remembrances as we walk around the show which we older gardeners still think of as "Chelsea." Though for 10 years it has been held in Hyde Park we cannot forget those days when we were content to struggle round the tented field at Chelsea in an atmosphere sometimes cold and often suffocating. How droll this now seems, our contented acceptance of weather conditions, dark tents, and packed humanity.

The great move was made by the Government's recognition of horticulture as one of the most stabilising elements of our national life and the passing of the Royal Parks Act of 1948.

Too long had our parks been regarded merely as "lungs" where fresh air might be inhaled and political air harmlessly expired. The great renaissance of floral beauty which from 1925 onwards swept forward at so great a pace led to the conception of parks as gardens, and finally public opinion brushed aside the inept limitations and established the Spring Show at Hyde Park as an event of greater importance than even the Academy, and gave the artist in flower creation an opportunity equal to his brother of the brush and easel.

The discovery of flexible glass soon put the dusky fabric of the tent into the past and enabled the flowers to be seen in a clear light which the adoption of sun-ray lamps placed a variable lighting at the disposal of exhibitors.

The public supply of fresh air drawn from the Surrey commons and delivered, cool or warmed, to the Metropolis as freely as the warm and cold water municipally supplied, made the temperature easily controllable. No longer did our Roses flag after a hot day and need replenishment, nor did our Orchid growers fear to bring their choicest plants to London under any weather conditions. In place of the disfiguring poles and ropes so necessary for the old-fashioned tent a light metal frame supported the flexible glass, and, thanks to Sprotfield's researches on the aluminium alloys, a girder of 50 feet in length weighed hardly as many pounds, and enabled the construction to be so light as to give an impression almost of open air.

Under such circumstances the crowded benches of Chelsea passed away and the garden aspect of the show was emphasised. No longer are exhibitors, like the builders of New York, obliged to pile their masses higher and higher for lack of ground space, all flowers are now seen as Nature intended, and we no longer look at Carnations and Roses rising in massive spires and arches far above our heads, nor see the dwarf Azaleas impossibly scale the walls or hang inverted from the ceilings.

One feature of the old Chelsea, the rock gardens, are no longer to be seen as after the fatal affray in 1946, when three Gold Medal artist designers were drowned in their own pools and the subsequent disappearance from the country of the Bronze Medal winners, this competition was cancelled for lack of entries. Fortunately, the veteran Superintendent of the Royal Parks, still mercifully spared to us, met the occasion by building the marvellous rockery in Kensington Gardens, where glens and vales of all kinds of stone, from the Jurassian to the lesser Oolite, now form a permanent memorial at once to his surpassing skill and to the memory of the ill-fated horticultural martyrs. To him also we owe the system of flexible and movable freezing pipes which in winter cover the Alpine parts of the rock garden, ensuring a winter covering of snow and the consequent success of Androsaces and other so-called "difficult" plants in the heart of London. Many rare plants, entirely collected from their native Alps, are now to be found flourishing in London, thanks to the pure air and matchless skill of their cultivators.

Perhaps nothing strikes us to-day so much as the naive satisfaction of the horticulturists of 20 years ago as to their progress in plant-raising. To read the journals of that day one cannot but detect an undercurrent of self-congratulation, a sense almost as of final achievement.

The Rhododendron specialists, for instance, spoke of their recent introductions as an accomplishment, but to us they seem but an unrealised beginning. What would the raisers of those days have thought of that magnificent series of hybrids between the Kurume Azaleas and the occidentalis group, which now light up every rock garden with golden fire? Or that wonderful series of late-flowering seedlings from R. discolor raised by Probst of Moldavia, which enrich our gardens in the summer and autumn months.

The Lilies, too, in 1930 had hardly been touched by the hybridist and the wonderful Superbum-Regale crosses from America and the lovely seedlings raised by Spirella, of Buenos Ayres, were unthought of by our forebears.

Again, the Japanese Quinces, which since their early introduction were but little worked upon, have in the last few years produced hundreds of new and marvellous improvements.

The Japanese Cherries retain their favoured position as spring-flowerin but their nomenclature still remains ject of controversy, as no plant has frequently made the subject of Mono

But among all the marvellous adv the last 30 years nothing is more than the increased art exercised in tural displays.

No longer do we see plants so crow the natural beauty of the flower an plant as a whole is sacrificed to a criminating mass of colour. The da 10-foot Delphinium is, happily, gone too, are the vast trumpets of the Da 1930. A new sense of balance, a line has replaced the rather gross tions of our fathers.

A finer sense of form and line has all spheres of art and the dusky hun the garden cubists, and the flicke decisions of the impressionists have their little day and passed into the bad jokes, forgotten and unsung.

In all this great advance the Min Horticulture has played a great part.

After the abandonment of armame the handing over of the World's Air to the League of Nations, the War O placed at the disposal of the new of Horticulture, and it was not long justified its existence. Gathering the greatest experts available it rapid the vacant rooms with its staff of D and Assistants, and the great accun of records is now the envy of the wh Service. It is even said the Dire Orchid Hybrid Records is pressing removal to the country for lack of sp with the Admiralty offices still va trust that this extreme step may be or at least postponed.

There are, of course, a few who reg horticulture should have become a ment of the State with the unavoidab duction of party politics that this n entails. They deprecate the free dist of seeds which has now become a lished practice. The Idealist party, offers of the latest Bi-generic Orch to its supporters, endeavour to out Realists with their wart-free Potat everyone over the age of 12.

Such objections raise a smile in u quarters, and the older among us member the much worse features days, when grants of actual cash we without any compulsion as to their d

The answer to all such cavillers magnificent show at Hyde Park. but the amazing energy and resourc Civil Service could have produced horticultural festival, and to its or and State-aided exhibitors must be g guerdon of praise and appreciation.

S

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Flower gardens for children

IT is desirable, on many accounts, that children should cultivate flowers rather than fruits or vegetables. Most children are fond of flowers, and all can be taught to love them, and the hardier and commoner sorts, at least, do not tax the energies so heavily in cultivation as either fruits or vegetables. As children acquire strength and skill, they may gradually be entrusted with the care of vegetables or fruits, but they must be taught to use the products of their little gardens as a means of conferring happiness on others. But of all the lessons to be learned in a garden the most valuable is the art of observing; for so varied, so delicate, so minute, and yet so unerring are the operations of Nature, that though the closest study must fail to fathom her mysteries, the rewards of such study are so rich and so surprising that even the student of tender years is perpetually stimulated to fresh researches. This interest in natural objects, once awakened, will prove an inexhaustible source of pleasure. Flowers, however, form not the only study to be pursued in a garden. The sun, air, wind, rain and dew, birds, insects, the peculiarities of soil, all may be studied from Nature's ever-open, but too often unheeded, page.—March 22nd, 1879.

Primula chionantha

This beautiful Primrose is a n mountain pastures of the Chungtien in Yunnan, at an altitude of 12, above sea-level. This is the re anisodora comes from, but P. ch grows at a greater altitude than P. a at about 19,000 feet above sea level.

This is probably the most easily g the Nivalis section, and has long, leaves about 8 inches long, powdere lower surface with pale yellow me flower-stem is 12 inches to 18 inches is also covered with yellow mea creamy-white flowers are arranged i three whorls and, being borne on fa stalks, they have a dangling appeara thrives best in good fibrous loam an a shady, well-drained spot. This p biennial, but produces seed in gr fusion.

GAVIN B

THREE NEW INTERMEDIATE IRISES

›eam, one of the best of all pale yellow-flowering Irises

A small Bruno (russet red), provisionally named Grenato

Starlight, a green-toned sulphur yellow' a beautiful clear and almost luminous colour

New Intermediate Irises

ЭМ the Orpington Nurseries we have
ıceived cut spikes of their new May-
ŀwering or Intermediate Irises, for
c there is, unquestionably, a great
ı. We have on previous occasions
ı attention to two of the best, viz.,
›eam and Sunbeam. From particulars
supplied by Mrs. Murrell these varie-
'ere raised from a cross made in May,
parentage, Dejazet x Pumila Orange
eı. Mrs. Murrell states that over 30
l germinated during 1925 and 1926.
ee out of the 30 flowered yellow in
ıg shades, some clear and some muddy.
›f these two were selected, Moonbeam
unbeam, which were sent out in 1927.
cbeam compares favourably in form and
to Miss Sturtevant's Yellow Moon,
is one of the best June-flowering
Irises. Sunbeam is not so tall, but
lour is particularly bright and rich.

variety Storm was sent out in 1928,
ı richly coloured browny-red one pro-
cally named Grenato (the Italian for
t) will go out this year.

irlight, says Mrs. Murrell, is the result
other cross altogether, and was made
25; a tall lavender-coloured seedling
ıh was never named and is now
ıed) x pumila excelsa. This un-
rd seedling, however, had a very fine
r.ge and form, and its choice as a parent
een justified because, in addition to the
ıiful clear, almost luminous colour of
ıght, the form is quite outstanding and
n-kable. All were in flower from May
June 1st last year.

On giving and receiving plants

SOME time ago I was walking with a friend in her garden. To do that is one of the best pleasures in life, even if the garden is only an ordinary one; and this one claimed no special notice because of its modest pretensions. Naming a relation, my friend said: "——has what she calls a LOVE garden." The ring of an ecstatic note in her remark was sufficient to give an old bachelor reason to think furiously. In the pause which my friend might have filled with some explanation, my own mind pictured a sort of earthly paradise: joy and peace embowered in floral arbours; shaded walks beneath the spring verdure of various trees; grass under foot, and birds singing overhead. Quickly dismissing such vision of the setting appropriate for an amorous couple, I could only reply in the monosyllable "Why?" The answer was: "Because she devotes it entirely to plants given to her by friends." Another and very different vision came to mind—over which I will draw a veil. But I was led thus to think of the particular merit —or demerit—attaching to gifts of plants.

Considering the giver first: often many of us have had opportunity to know him well. In the progress of his gardening he comes across plants which have either done their duty to him or failed to do so, probably through no fault of their own. "Ah!" says Donor, "I will send these to old Hortus; he will be glad to have them, but if not, he can pass them on to his neighbour, Cultor." Well, this may be or may not be so. Delicacy of feeling may operate against the parcel being thrown onto the rubbish heap when it arrives, or the contents may include some much desired seedling or plant which, in new surroundings and under proper treatment, may flourish to the extent of making Donor say to himself on seeing it afterwards: "I was a fool to give that away." Yet Donor never gives of his best, of course. Do not blame him for that; to do so would display notable ignorance of human nature. But do not be too hard upon Donor. He, too, has to suffer and endure. Imagine him in his large and interesting garden showing, with pardonable pride, an uncommon variety of rock plants; attractive herbaceous borders and other rare and valued treasures, which give an equal pleasure to show or to see, upon which one or more of his guests—the "enthusiastic" are the most troublesome—will exclaim: "Oh! How lovely! Do give me a 'bit' of this—or that!"; a request repeated half a dozen times during the inspection. Poor Donor! He is thus bothered into giving or refusing to reduce his possession of much-prized plants or to part with "just a few of those bulbs." To comply might mean pulling about a symmetrical and well-grown drift or clump to gratify one who neither could, nor would, bestow proper treatment upon the gift. That has often happened. Of course, cuttings taken at the proper time need not involve a depreciation of beauty. (An expression of Donor's inmost feelings would be deleted by the Editor's blue pencil.) However, here is the counsel of perfection in the matter of giving worthily to a worthy recipient. (It may not be out of place to say that I have practised what I preach.) Make a note of the request, and if a present of the seed does not meet the case, as often

In the Cottian Alps

By Henry Correvon, of Geneva.

THE Cottian Range of the Alps is situated on the west side of Piedmont and forms the boundary between Italy and France, with the Monte Viso (10,000 feet high) as the highest peak. They go from the Col du Mont Cenis in the north to the Col d'Argentera in the south, and were famous in the time of Virgil for their herds of wild boars. The flora of the different valleys and of the rocks, pastures, and moraines of these Alps is very rich.

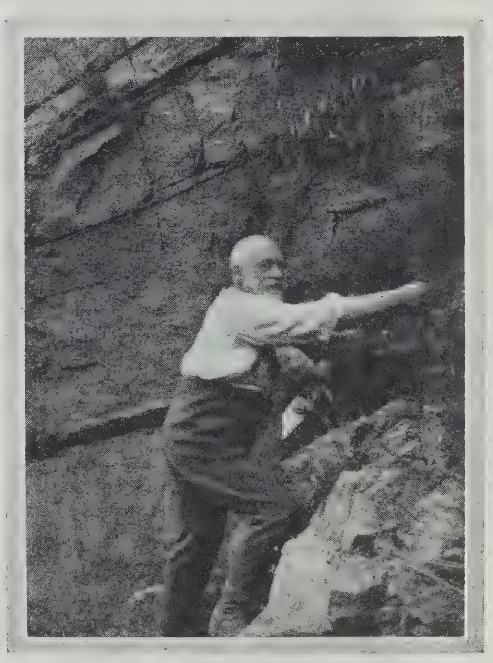
On the Italian side is the only place in Italy where the population is Protestant, and there the people speak French. The botanist, Dr. Rostan, in the last century studied the plants and published them through my countryman, E. Boissier. In my youth I made some interesting trips in that rich country with Rostan, and have published a monograph of these Alps in the Annual of the Swiss Alpine Club (1).

The most striking thing for gardeners is the sight of the Campanula Elatines on all the hard granitic rocks and walls, and spreading its branches against the wall, covering it very closely. It is the most exquisite of the rock Campanulas. Its long, spreading, brittle arms run out from the fat stock, bearing small Ivy, sharp-pointed leaves, gay green, sometimes downy, sometimes perfectly smooth. "The branches hug the rock and are set all over with a profusion of big, flat stars in a very deep tone of clear violet-blue," so speaks Farrer after having seen them near Torre Pellice. He says this species is far more elegant in growth and less leafy than its relative, C. garganica, and has larger and brilliantly coloured flowers carried on finer and daintier stems. Its nearer cousin is C. elatinoides, which I formerly found in the Bergamasc Alps, where it grows on chalk, always hidden in holes and under rocks, where the sun can reach it. This one is easier for us to grow here because of the lime of our water and soil. Another treasure of these Cottian Alps is the very curious and fine Campanula stenocodon, which is relatively easy to collect along the crest separating the Queyras Valley from the Piedmont, along the Col de la Croix both sides of the boundary, 3,000 feet to 4,500 feet in altitude. It is a strange little plant, with two or three very narrow hanging flowers in a deep violet-blue tube, in shape something between C. excisa and Waldsteiniana. Farrer, who saw it in the Roya Valley, says: "It is a fine thing, vigorous and elegant, having all the heartiness of the family and delighting in moraine."

Campanula Allionii is very abundant on the limestone débris and all over the crest. I once found, near the Lac Foréant, on the French side of the Monte Viso, the pure white form of it and brought it home. Transported in the garden, "Linnæa," near the Grand Saint Bernard Hospice, it grew well and gave us nice big flowers. Then came the war. I was unable to care for this garden, which I founded in 1889, and I gave it in 1917 to the University of Geneva, who created there a botanic garden institute and a laboratory, and the plant has been lost. Two years ago I went there in order to find the plant again, but could not find the place where I had left more than half of the tuft.

I spent then a few days in that Cottian country in order to pay a visit to my dear old Alpine garden, "The Rostania," situated at 3,000 feet elevation, above Torre Pellice. There, on a picturesque slope covered with Heath, Gentians, Dianthus neglectus, Seguieri, and sylvestris, Rhododendrons, Nigritella, etc., we consecrated in 1900 a nicely situated piece of ground, well watered and half wooded, as a botanic garden in honour of Dr. Rostan. There was a nice garden house and numerous rockeries planted according to the geographical distribution of plants. The war brought an end to the zeal of the professors and botanists of Pinerolo and Torre Pellice, and for 12 long years it was neglected. I was asked to pay a visit in order to restore the ruin. Some plants resisted the hard trial well, but the greater part died or were impeded by weeds. Curiously enough the Caucasian things resisted better than the other plants. We found some of them quite naturalised on the ground, while large tufts of Androsace sarmentosa, of Himalaya, had invaded the rocks.

This garden shall be restored, and we hope to have there a real collection of the local plants.



Henry Correvon seed collecting in the Alps

We went one day to the rock walls over the Germanasca, and found there carpets of Primula Cottia (Widmer). This plant is a cousin of Pr. villosa, of the East and the South Tyrol. It differs from its relative slightly. It seems to be intermediate between villosa and commutata, but the most curious thing is the far-separated habitat of the two, one being only found on the far east Alps and the other only here in the Cottian Alps. The leaves are covered with a brown down, and slightly dentate only on their top, which is round and very seldom acute. The teeth are large and obtuse; flowers 2-11 together on a glandular scape (10-25 in our garden in the Alps!), exceeding 1 inch diameter, bright pink with a tube much exceeding the calyx.

We then ascended the Col de la Croix, where the rare Saxifraga valdensis grows abundantly and looks very luxuriant. However, I never would root up any because this is its extreme south-east limit and the plant is rather common in the Mont Cenis regions. The Alsine lanceolata covers the hard limestone rocks and the Draba pyrenaica flowers and seeds richly on them. Sedum alsinæfolium, Arabis pedemontana,
neglectus, tener and sylvestris
Valdensium, Achillea Herba-Rota,
germanicum, and the rare Artemi
with its curious multifid leaves
moraines and débris. The very
Col is carpeted with Alyssum alpe
fraga oppositifolia, Campanula All
big flowers here), Phyteuma pa
Primula marginata (in the crevic
rocks), Draba pyrenaica, Silene
etc.

Then in the little sphagnoid m
the top we found the rare, intere
beautiful Gentiana Rostani, which
presentative of G. bavarica in th
Alps. We found it all over these
but specially nearer the Monte Vi
the strand of the Lac Foréant. By
to Abries (first French village with
Bourgades higher up on the Guil
found the slopes covered and richl
with all kinds of beauties—Andro
liana and Brigantiaca, Dianthus ne
all forms and shades, Campanula s
Senecio incanus, Astragalus arista
pervivum of many kinds, Colchicum
Linaria italica, Phaca astragalina,

The other day we went to L'E
last little bourgade of Abries.
borders are carpeted with the delicio
cenisia with its innumerable pink
flowers and with Sempervivum
noideum. From L'Echalp we w
foot of the Monte Viso, and there,
road, more like a path than a road,
"La Crême de la Crême." Wha
marvels all over! The big shrub
galus alopecuroides, the marvellous
alpina alternating with the deep
Senecio (Cineraria) aurantiacus, th
able Delphinium montanum, fath
perennial Delphinium, Astragalus
lanus, hanging from the rocks, tog
enormous clumps of Primula margi
variety crenata (Lam.). The mo
teristic plant, giving the landscape
liar aspect, is the Polygonum alpin
its large panicles of white flowers
from the pasturages everywher
there are myriads of Fritillaria de
growing in the damp slopes with H
tanacetifolia, Orchis globosa,
alpina, A. narcissiflora, Plantago
(a rare thing), and the famous an
Isatis alpina. That plant has it
trional limit here, being of apenni
and has large colonies of blue glauco
bearing masses of yellow flowers
panicles. Its seeds are largely wi
here is the best means of knowin
sight that very rare species wh
botanic gardens offer, but few sen
name. Here is the classic Alpine s
it, and the botanists come there
alpina and Astragalus alopecuroid
are the best treasures of this coun
flora in the high Guil Valley,
dominated by the magnificent pea
Monte Viso, as imposing as our Swi
horn, is specially rich and luxuriant
on the pastures where sheep are
We found Anemone alpina 2½ feet
narcissiflora 1½ feet, some Polygo
Hugueninia as high as man, Lyc
Jovis 2 feet, etc.

Another day we went to the Lac
where I formerly found the white C
Allionii, and we spent a whole day s
without any result. But what a r
seeds we brought from there!
Anemone Halleri just ripe, of Isat
of Linum alpinum, Gentiana Ros
then, in the rocks or moraines,
Herba Rota, Phaca astragalina
elongata (bryoides), Rhodiola ros
tropis Halleri, all kinds of Sempe

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(1) Annuaire du S.A.C., 47e. année " H. Correvon, Alpes Cottiennes et Vallées vaudoises du Piedmont."

Lithospermum Gastoni (flowers
ative of Eastern Pyrenees, now
g on a dry ledge in Mr. G. P.
rock garden near Sevenoaks, Kent

very richly represented), and then,
there, large colonies of the curious
m exaltatum, which is twice, if not
es, as big as obscurum. Higher up,
Véran, in some damp meadows,
rare Primula longiflora. From St.
good road brings us to Villevieille in
e of the Queyras Valley, where there
slope haunted by the most curious of
Alpine plants, Astragalus alope-
That shrub species, 3 feet to 5 feet
th its curious golden-yellow flowers
cylindrical, fox-brush bunches, at
of the fine green leaves, composed
30 oval leaflets, is one of the rarest
the Alps. It has a singular dis-
area, being found in Spain in the
Valley and near Gap, then in the
'Aosta (Italy), and nowhere else till
ear the Volga and Saratow, and even
as South Siberia. Here, at Ville-
t grows on the slopes of Lavender
ula delphinensis) and makes a grand
the blue frame. The Viola pinnata
ere, as it generally does, under the
Juniperus Sabina), and the Satureya
begins to haunt the rocks; the very
Blitum virgatum, with its Straw-
e fruits, is along the road. One of
shrubs of Europa is growing in the
f the Queyras, Ononis fruticosa, and
opes are a beautiful sight covered
t delicious plant. It is from 2 feet
in height, and bears its bright pink,
flower-clusters at the bases of the
een and shining, elegant leaves.
its septentrional limit. In England
it wants much sun.

rom Château-Queyras, instead of
down the Valley to Guillestre and
return to Grenoble through the Col
l, Briançon, and the Lautaret, we can
other grand journey for botany. At
d'Isoard we find Gentiana angulosa,
a Saliunca, Carlina acanthifolia,
a patens (aixoides x cæsia) between
Daphne Verloti and the curious
a subacaulis, one of the most striking
positæ, growing in limestone fields.
nous and rare Æthionema Thomas-
which was confined to the Val de
Aosta Valley) has been found recently
vicinity of Cervières near the Col
l according to a recent Bulletin de la
tanique de France.

a. HENRY CORREVON.

Lysichitum camtschatcense

LYSICHITUM CAMTSCHATCENSE is a native of N.E. Asia and N.W. America. In Asia it inhabits Eastern Siberia and the Kurile Islands southward to Central Japan, and in America it ranges from Alaska southward to California.

It is a mono-typic genus, a quite hardy plant, somewhat resembling the Skunk Cabbage (Symplocarpus fœtidus). It belongs to the Natural Order Araceæ.

Lysichitum camtschatcense is a stout glabrous, marsh herb with a creeping rootstock. The leaves are erect, 1 foot to 2½ feet long, sub-sessile, narrowing into a very stout, concave petiole. The spathe is from 4 inches to 6 inches long, erect, and is deeply boat-shaped, being pale yellow with dark spots marked regular over the inner surface, the spadix being stipulate and 4 inches to 6 inches long by ½ inch to ¾ inch in diameter, with a round top covered with green, dense flowers blooming from the base upwards.

The flowers are all fertile, and its scarlet fruit in its native habitat is said to be a favourite food of bears.

It is an excellent plant for growing in the marsh garden, where its bright yellow flowers stand out conspicuous during April and May before the leaves appear, the handsome leaves afterwards giving something of a tropical appearance. It grows freely from seed, which should not be allowed to become too dry, but are best sown at once in a moist position, and seedlings are generally freely produced around the old plant.

GEORGE H. PRESTON.

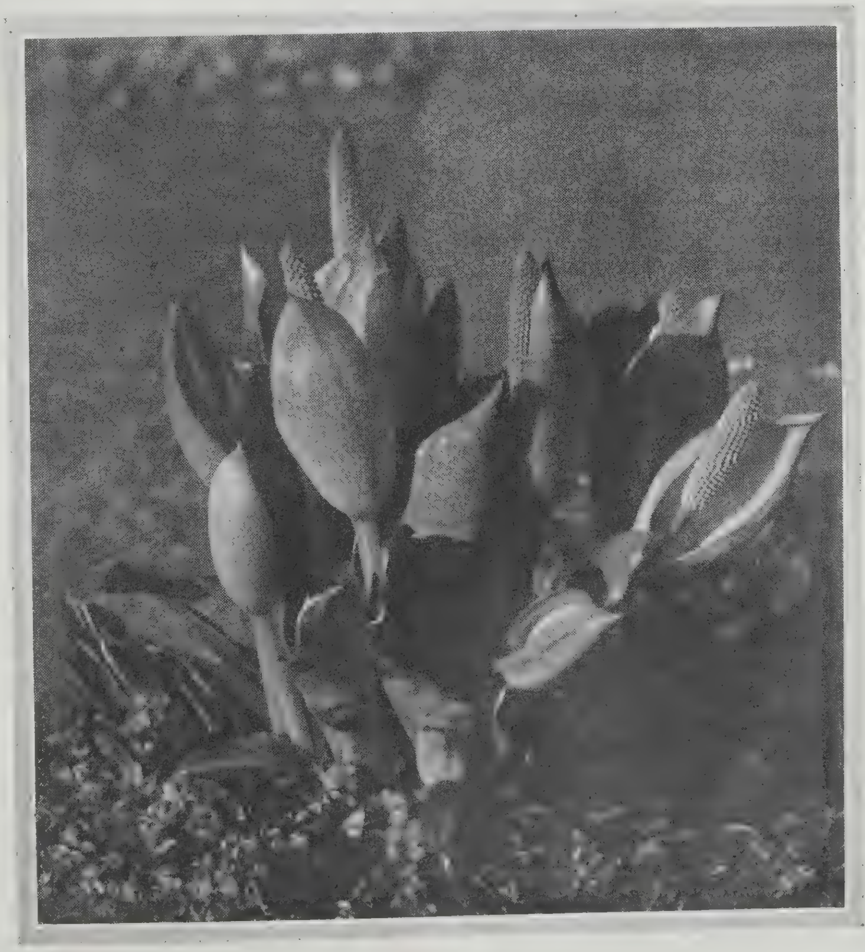
University Botanic Garden,
Cambridge.

Gunnera magellanica

A good many gardeners who know the giant Gunnera manicata or the lesser, but still tall and imposing, G. scabra or its variety major, are unaware of the existence of several miniature species, which deserve notice because of their singularly curious appearance. Those who have rock gardens with cool, moist, sheltered corners will appreciate the little Gunnera magellanica. There are some seven or eight other dwarf Gunneras, if not more, but few of these are in the market, and G. magellanica is offered by some hardy plant dealers. It is most useful for covering a bare spot with rounded, glossy leaves, with curious inflorescences of a ruddy brown which come in early summer. A sheltered spot is recommended, as, although it comes from the Island of Magellan, G. magellanica has not proved able to stand the vicissitudes of our climate in all districts of these islands. It transplants easily, and may still be planted. S. A.

Onosma albo-roseum

This pretty and distinctive plant is quite happy if placed upon a sun-kissed ledge with its roots in a deep and very gritty or stony loam. The hoary foliage is always attractive, while the drooping blossoms are ivory-white tipped with rose. The flowers appear in May and June, and last well. O. albo-roseum is easily increased by cuttings procured with a heel and inserted during summer in sandy soil in an unheated propagating case. The better-known O. tauricum, the Golden Drop, is a delightful plant for the rock garden or for the top of a dry wall. Its charms are better displayed when the plant is well elevated. RALPH E. ARNOLD.



Lysichitum camtschatcense in the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Perpetual-flowering Carnations

The young stock are now ready for a shift into their flowering-pots. Providing they have been gradually hardened off they may be stood on a bed of ashes in the open or in cold frames, the lights of which should be left off unless rainy weather should prove continuous, in which case it will be advisable to place the lights over the plants temporarily, as too sodden a state of the soil is undesirable. Stopping occasional shoots will be necessary from time to time during the present month.

Zonal Pelargoniums

The young plants which have been prepared for the furnishing of winter bloom must also be shifted into 5-inch and 6-inch pots, which should be well drained, clean, and sound. The compost should consist of turfy loam three parts to one part made up of seasoned leaf-mould, lime-rubble, and sand. The potting must be firm, and no artificial manure should be used at this stage. A cool frame will be found most suitable for these at present, the lights being drawn off during the daytime. Keep a sharp look-out for grubs.

Melons

As the ripening fruits are removed from the earliest house the latter should be washed down, walls lime-washed, and borders renewed in readiness for another batch of plants already prepared. The new borders should, however, be allowed to get thoroughly warm before the next batch is put out. Fertilise the flowers daily on those growing in cool houses and frames, and pay regular attention to the stopping, training, and thinning of the shoots.

Cucumbers

Do not allow Cucumbers to become overcrowded with growth or permit too heavy cropping unless the latter is to be of short duration. Brisk, moist temperatures are most essential to the welfare of both, and unless these conditions are maintained Red Spider and allied pests will prove troublesome and the crop suffer accordingly.

Ferns under glass

These very beautiful and desirable plants are now making growth freely, but no growth of any plant known to me is so quickly damaged if neglected, therefore maintain a warm and moist atmosphere, shade from bright sunshine until late afternoon, avoid dryness at the root at any time, and air the house cautiously whilst the growth is at this tender stage. If the paths and stages can be damped down in the evening after the sun's power has gone the colour of all will be greatly improved.

Bedding plants

Harden off late batches which for any reason have been delayed, and even fleshy-leaved Begonias and similar subjects which have been held back on account of hailstorms must now be planted out. Watering newly planted subjects will have to be a daily occupation until these have taken hold of the new soil, and this must be performed either in the late afternoon or early morning.

Dahlias

Slugs are very troublesome among these, and must be checked either by hand-picking or by frequent dustings of Slugicide or soot. Stakes should be fixed early and the shoots thinned to the desired number when 4 inches high. Young plants in pots should be planted out without delay, otherwise they will be late before coming into bloom. These must be protected from slugs for the first few weeks.

Potatoes

It is not advisable to earth up maincrop varieties until growth is strong and good, as hoeing is advisable for a time, and this must cease with the final earthing-up. Before the latter is carried out—especially on poor, light land—a dressing of Potato manure should be scattered over the surface.

Brussels Sprouts, Cauliflower, and Summer Cabbage

These sown in April are ready for planting out in large batches. The ground must be in good heart, although it is advisable not to overdo it with manure for the former, as this tends to rankness and consequent loss should the winter prove at all severe. Express is a splendid summer Cabbage of excellent quality, shape, and rapid maturity, and even with Peas and Beans in season is always a welcome dish.

Lettuces

Make use of the Celery ridges by sowing thereon lines of Lettuce in succession, and another crop which may be sown on such ridges is Endive, one line only along the centre, as it will not then be in the way when moulding up commences.

Growing crops

Keep the hoe going constantly among these as, by so doing, weeds are kept down, tracks of slugs and worms are broken, evaporation is prevented, and growth is vastly encouraged. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The herbaceous borders

Growth is now very rapid among these hardy perennial plants and a considerable amount of time must be spent in staking and tying. It is always so much easier to carry out such work if it is attended to before the shoots get bent over.

Finish up bedding out

Even the most tender of the plants used in our flower-beds during the summer should now be quite safe if planted in their flowering positions. If the matter be unduly delayed the plants are apt to suffer from starvation in the pots or boxes, and these, when eventually planted out, very often refuse to take kindly to the soil.

When bedding is finished

There is always a considerable amount of débris left lying about after the annual bedding-out spurt, and until this is all cleared away it can hardly be said that the bedding is really finished. It is, of course, always wise to retain a number of plants of each kind in case of losses among the occupants of the beds. Having secured these, all pots, boxes, etc., should be collected and the boxes emptied, scraped, and set out to dry previous to storing under cover. Pots should be stacked ready for washing during bad weather, and all loose soil collected together and laid aside for future use, it being of value for mixing with fresh soil when the autumn propagation begins.

Dividing Polyanthuses

While it is, usually, better to raise these charming plants from seed, it sometimes happens that a few of the old plants may have produced flowers of extra
form, or pleasing colour, so the o
increase such is by means of di
Polyanthus seldom coming any
true from seed. Lift the plants
pull to pieces with the hands.
having a crown with a few root
will, if set out in fresh soil, event
into quite a decent plant. Always
to find a fresh site, for the Primr
quickly resent having to occupy
ground for any length of time. I
spot must be again occupied th
should be dug out to the depth of
be replaced with fresh soil from
vegetable quarters. This is a litt
some, but it is well worth the time
expended.

Brussels Sprouts

As I have frequently pointed ou
notes, in the later districts this
Tweed it is almost useless to
winter supplies on the plants rai
doors in spring, although in the
tered spots quite good results are
these, especially for late supplies.

Cauliflowers

Good breadths of early, mid-se
late varieties should be planted a
the plants attain a fair size. Goo
soil is desirable for the productio
firm heads. Allow 18 inches each
tween the plants of early varieties,
to 24 inches for the mid-season so
inches for the latest varieties.

Plant Kales for late use

The homely "Curlie" has still it
by reason of its hardiness it is o
able in spring, when few others are
Probably the best flavoured of
greens is Carter's Russian Kal
some resemblance to the old
Jack," but is of greatly superior f
is as hardy as the ordinary curled
is fit for use from November to Apr

The Cabbage

In some kitchens the deman
homely Cabbage ceases the mom
Cauliflowers, Beans, etc., are ava
in many more it is never really
out of season, so a suitable quant
now be planted to carry on the su
the Savoys are ready. Besides th
early varieties a number of the fi
Winningstadt should be planted,
very hardy and will remain in se
Christmas if the weather is not too

Maincrop Celery

If the plants are of good size and
properly hardened off they can
vantage be set out in their matur
ters. Drought is the chief enem
Celery, so care must always be ta
that the soil is at no time permit
dry. Water copiously the day p
planting out, and again in the eve
planting is finished.

Mulching Strawberries

If not yet done it is advisable to
matter attended to at once, for
the trusses of fruit fall down with
weight, the time and trouble ne
carry out the work properly is
doubled. The best mulch is lo
wheat straw, oat straw coming
barley straw emits a disagreeable
settles on the berries and spoils the
long grass may be used at a pinch,
mowings from the lawns. C.

Preston House Gardens, Linlith

n condition of horticultural
crops on May 30th

VEGETABLES.

us.—Good crop now being cut.
Broad.—Autumn sown patchy;
wn growing well.
Kidney and Runner).—Germina-

ermination good generally.
.—Germination fairly good.
Sprouts.—Early plants backward;
low growth.
(spring sown).—Backward, but
ing fair progress.
e (autumn sown).—Late; crop has
recently and good cuttings are be-
in places.
.—Germinating well. Good plant.
wer.—Backward; growth slow.
—Planting out in progress; rain

bers (under glass).—Good average

—Young plants fair.
.—Backward; growth slow.
.—Young plants backward.
s.—Germination good, but progress
enerally.
Backward but improving; early
now flowering.
b.—Average supplies available.
—Germination fairly good gene-

n.—Good crop in places.
es (under glass).—Still late, but
ble improvement recently; fruit is
ell and prospects are good.
es (outdoor).—Planting out in

s.—Fair generally; much flea

FRUIT.

(culinary).—Appear to have set
in most places prospects are cer-
to average. Early Victoria, Annie
n, Lane's Prince Albert, and Grena-
d; Bramley's Seedling damaged by
several places.
(dessert).—Promising generally.
r Pearmain, James Grieve, Cox's
Pippin, and Beauty of Bath good;
Orange fair.
res (culinary).—Morellos show good

res (dessert).—Prospect of fairly good
Kent and Middlesex, where most of
rries are grown. Elsewhere very
wing to frost damage. Dropping
from some districts.
nts, Black.—Frost damage in some
ut generally there is prospect of a
rage crop. Rain is required.
nts, Red.—Prospects of a fair aver-
in most districts.
erries.—In many places crops have
nned by severe weather, but, on the
he set has been fairly good. In Kent
ing of early fruits has started.
r—Appear to have set well generally
spects are fair. Conference good;
fair to good.
(ordinary).—Variable; but in most
here has been a good set. Czar,
and Victoria good generally, though
r will be light in some districts owing
damage. River's Early Prolific and
eedling fair to good.
(Damsons).—Setting fairly well
y.
erries.—Canes have recovered from
ts of frost; flowering is very late.
berries.—Good show of blossom.
looms in frost areas have been
ned" and crops will probably be

"A debatable advance"

THAT the present enthusiasm in rock gardening is sufficiently widespread to be impressive is obvious; that it has by no means reached its zenith is equally clear; that it represents the most rapid rise in popularity of any "new" branch of horticulture is no exaggeration.

To describe the movement as a "fashion," akin, say, to "carpet bedding" or "crazy paving," is beside the mark and hardly to give it its due. Whereas a "fashion," horticulturally speaking, entails merely a fresh use of material already so familiar as to be almost stereotyped in application, rock gardening indicates the introduction to our gardens of a feature at once novel, educative, artistic, and experimental. As such, the prevailing enthusiasm is wholly to be commended.

Large trusses of bloom on Rhododendrons

Many readers record trusses of unusual size on Rhododendrons this year. The above illustration shows Pink Pearl among other varieties in the Rhododendron dell at Northwyke, Rustball, near Tunbridge Wells

One result which might legitimately be expected from this ever-increasing popularity is that it should be accompanied by a real and general advance in knowledge, and more especially in its practical application.

To the casual observer, no doubt, it is, There are rockeries and rock gardens everywhere. As compared with the "Almond cakes" and "dogs' graveyards" of earlier days they are delightful. Everyone is growing, or trying to grow, under conditions more or less approximately natural, plants they have never grown before, and to these additions are continually being made. Our gardens display masses of bloom and colour of which at one time we never dreamed. An interest has been awakened which is quite new to our experience; to the casual observer, indeed, the prevalent enthusiasm is contemporary with an advance which is altogether satisfactory.

But a more intimate acquaintance with rock gardens in general may well lead one to ask whether this is wholly true. The season when so many alterations to existing gardens and the construction of new ones are contemplated brings one up abruptly against the question.

As one who has abundant opportunity for close observation, the writer doubts whether this popular movement is always attended by the best results, whether the enthusiasm itself is not the cause of certain misdirections which render the advance less real than apparent. If a large number of rock gardens and rockeries are excellent in conception, construction and cultural results, at least an equal number are distinctly disappointing.

It can hardly be denied that, in the case of the majority, the really small rock gardens, all too often is there evidence of discretion being quite secondary to impulse. Were this not so such outstanding defects as utter unsuitability of site, incongruity to surroundings, superabundance of stone, and such misguided essays as the attempt to construct, say, a towering cliff from insignificant material, with all their attendant and eventual disappointments and failures, would be far less common than they are.

How often do rock gardens of all sizes betray most obviously the fact that it is the stonework which matters first and foremost, not so much as regards correct and natural placing of the individual stone, but as regards chiefly the effort to produce something of which the stonework is pre-eminently beautiful, of paramount importance, and calculated to be the leading feature. No doubt much of the work of experts, as seen at the great shows and in extensive gardens, is in every way admirable. But should this be the point which leaves, as it frequently does, the first and most lasting impression upon the general enthusiast? There seems to be but little regard shown by both teacher and pupil, expert and novice, for the simple but fundamental truth that Nature in this direction errs always on the side of modesty, and that the *primary function* of rock gardening is *not* the production of a striking and ornate edifice of stone, however natural, *but* the provision of suitable and congenial conditions for the plants, approximating as nearly as possible to those of their natural habitats. The result of this misconception is that the enthusiast is led to erect something which eventually takes him further from, rather than nearer to, Nature, to overlook the plain truth that nothing is ornamental which is not natural, and to devise and construct something of which the predominant and all-important feature is stone.

Apart from the necessary and quite legitimate element of competition there would appear to be at least two other outstanding purposes of the exhibition of " model " or ideal rock gardens at our great shows, viz., the demonstration of what can be done and how to do it. Such exhibitions have, as it were, a missionary responsibility, and to succeed in this they must cater for all classes. Can it be said, however, that the average small rock gardener or prospective enthusiast who attends the shows in his thousands is able really to gain much help from what he sees? Are not the " small " enthusiasts, at least, rather more likely to be led astray, not so much in ideals as in the presentation of them, and to retrogression rather than true advance by what is set before them? This is suggested most clearly, perhaps, by the fact that, in nine out of ten small rock gardens, the conception is far too ambitious for the scope and space available. An elaborate representation, in detail, of a whole landscape in miniature may be admirable in design and construction where space and scope are adequate, but it must be both futile and incongruous in the limits of the really small rock garden and rockery of the majority. May not one suggest, therefore, that a step in the right direction would be the inclusion in the schedules of our leading shows of a class in which the experts might demonstrate what can be done and how it should be done in the way of really small rock gardens and simple rockeries? Such a step could hardly fail to be mutually profitable.

Another most noticeable defect in numerous rock gardens of modest dimensions is the incongruity of the work to the immediate surroundings. Granted that, frequently, space available leaves little choice, yet in not a few instances the best site in this regard, and which is available, is overlooked, while in others this important point seems to be given no attention whatsoever. Here, again, the otherwise magnificent examples of the rock gardener's art fail when it comes to the point of being in any great degree practically helpful to those contemplating construction, in that such exhibits are, and must of necessity be, detached from particular environment, or, rather, are staged wich no environment at all. The more practised observer, of course, allows for this in forming his estimate of them, but the novice merely becomes obsessed with their superlative excellence in their isolated detachment, and concludes that they have only to be transported to one's garden for its further adornment, whereas if the truth were realised, many such exhibits would lose tremendously in effect and success unless placed in the environment their character exactly required. In passing, one might reasonably suggest that, were it possible, a far more equitable and satisfactory judgment in making awards for such exhibits might be obtained if the competition were confined to rock gardens actually constructed by the respective firms or individuals for their customers during a previous fixed period, say, 12 months. The importance of environment would thus be demonstrated and taken into consideration in deciding upon comparative merits.

There may be said to be two groups of " teachers " of this horticultural art, the expert and practical, represented by owners, designers, and constructors of rock gardens, and the theoretical, which latter may well include all who write upon the subject. It is probable that many more prospective enthusiasts are directed and influenced by them than by the former. The text-book and the periodical are the modest gardener's usual guide, and no doubt much that he gleans from this source is right and good. But to the writer it has always appeared that a great deal of the help thus proffered to deners is negatived by the fact tha the chapters, and articles on this particular, habitually and considera *estimate the skill and patience ne* such work. How often, for exam taken for granted that anyone, aft the advice given, may, with no trou more ado, construct a garden o forthwith, when the truth is that t of horticulture calls for more skill, ingenuity, and practice than any oth an assumption is aggravated ra alleviated by the further error of as is generally so in writings on th that small rock gardens and simple are equally as easy, if not easier, to to build than the most ambitious prehensive. One only needs a f and a heap of earth, and the thin so to speak. But anyone who has hand will soon discover that the g space and scope, the easier will be and construction, and that, the s design, the more the skill and ing manded. While one may, indeed, excellent miniature rockery capable wonderful results in a corner of the den, such an undertaking is not th a moment, or of a moment's tho demands a degree of skill out of a tion to its extent.

Rock gardening to-day has, for a of its rapid rise in popularity, to " small " man, the enthusiast o means and scope. It is, very large thusiasm which warrants the " which, to the casual observer, is so But, in view of the results of this en often unsuccessful, sometimes un rarely ideal, it is debatable whethe vance is so real, so unqualified as i In the writer's considered opinio sponsibility for this sense of false sa so to speak, lies fairly equally betw whose business and desire it is to those whose zeal is to learn. Until readjustment on such points as h noticed the " small " man must, to extent, remain " out in the cold," to himself, his efforts unworthy o tense enthusiasm which is their imp

J

Answers to Queries

***Queries**—Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in a date, queries cannot always be replied issue immediately following their receip not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish be named should send fair examples of stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets and points of shoots are useless.) Not four plants should be sent in any one w same correspondent. Where more than is sent they should be numbered. Of co cones should always be sent.*

FRUIT

Pear trees not fruiting

(J. A. W., Bristol).—It would have been of assistance in tracing the reason of the refusal of the Pear trees to fruit had you said whether they are on the Quince stock or on the Free stock. If they are on the latter the trees will be late in coming into profit—if on the Quince they ought now to be bearing. As you say they are in good health and growing well, the chances are that your trees are on the Free (that is, the Wild Pear) stock, and you may have to exercise patience yet a year or two—remembering the old saw which was common before the Quince was generally used for a stock for Pear trees: " He who plants Pears, plants for his heirs." In your western climate the varieties you name ought to succeed; but they reliable when they can be given w Please write again at a later date cate how, or if, you prune the tree the same remarks apply to your Ap It appears to be the case that they a Crab stock, and, on this stock, the slow to come into profit. But wh begin to bear it will continue to b after trees on the Paradise stock ar exhausted. Patience and contin treatment are also likely, in this cas results—probably very soon.

Nectarine fruiting

(A. D. J.).—So far as we can dis fruits show no sign of disease, cracked, and this points to some m the treatment. The Nectarine will

the roots, and it appears possible
have permitted the soil to get too
en given a large quantity of water,
nay have been a check caused by
else. As they have not yet stoned,
d not remove even the damaged
l this process is complete, or the
ay be intensified.

ree not fruiting

D.).—In time your tree will fruit
ther grafting or budding, but if you
xperiment you require a citron or
plant for a stock, while there is no
ne for doing this. The Orange can
opagated by means of cuttings in-
sand and plunged in brisk, bottom
this while the tree is at rest.

ette system of pruning

anxious to experiment with the
t" system of pruning as applied to
ples. As I understand the method,
s of nipping back the current
side shoots to about three leaves,
gh to enable these again to throw
spurs. Am I right, and, if so, ap-
ly at what date during the summer
is be done? C. D. P.
Lynn.

orette system consists of pruning
trees during the summer months till
r, after which they are left till the
April. All woody shoots to the
of a pencil are pinched back to 1
½ inches above the base, and those
ich are not to this measurement are
ched till they attain the pencil size.
ystem small shoots or darts appear
e of the pruned shoots, which turn
ds, then knobs, which, in turn, be-
whole series of fruit buds for the
The trees must be well manured in
d during the growing period, for
t not be allowed to get dried out.
res of the trees should be exposed
light and air possible. These are
e chief points regarding this system
g, which makes neat, well-shaped
small gardens, producing the fruit
he main branches. The system is
should be studied, for the results
will compensate the pruner by pro-
quantity of flower buds and fruit—
ly Pears, which are difficult to pro-
his country. If our correspondent
r more information "The Lorette
f Pruning," by Louis Lorette, trans-
W. R. Dykes, M.A.L.ésL., pub-
artin Hopkinson and Co., Ltd., 14,
Street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2, at
will give him full particulars.]

seedling Apple

).—The damage to your Bramley is
ost, the young flowers having been
st after the surrounding leaves un-
Please see reply to P. H. Guildford
sue of June 1st, page 393.

oots

wson).—Your Apple shoots are free
goid trouble. There is a lot of
r about the shoots, mainly that of
er Moth, but we fail to find any sign
Sucker. The cause of your flowers
develop is due to frost, which has
e tissue concerned and arrested
ent. You can, of course, do no-
revent frost damage. Is it possible
grease bands on the trees next
It would help you with the cater-
e of your trouble. Are your trees
or on cultivated land? What
have you applied during the last few
If you gave us this information
we could suggest a manurial pro-
which would give you better results.

Vine Red Spider

(J. E. S.).—The presence of Red Spider on Vines is an indication that water for damping down has not been used in sufficient quantities. Apart from the control of Red Spider, Vines do not do well in a dry atmosphere; it seems to us likely that the dry conditions of house, border, and the attack of Red Spider have all contributed to make your Vine foliage turn yellow. "Volck" is a very efficient pest control. We advise you to try the material and also to ensure the atmosphere of the house is kept humid, giving the outside border a good soaking if it is necessary. We are incubating your Antirrhinum material and will reply in an early issue.

Pear trouble

(G. B. M.).—Your Pear is affected with Pear Leaf Blister Mite, Eriophyes pyri. The mites spend the winter under the outer scales of the buds. In spring they pass to the leaves and burrow under the surface and blisters are formed. The females lay eggs beneath the blisters and the young feed there for a time, but later they eat their way out and burrow in a new position. Before leaf fall occurs they move to their winter quarters. At Wye, Prof. Theobald found that a lime sulphur-caustic soda wash applied in November and February gave a good control; his formula was lime sulphur made up according to the maker's directions, plus 1 lb. of caustic soda and 1 lb. of soft soap to each 10 galls. of wash.

VEGETABLES

Peas dying when about 3 inches high

(E. F. Paulii).—As we cannot trace anything either upon leaves or roots of those sent we suspect the Pea seed Weevil as being reponsible for your present trouble. This pest feeds on the seeds and roots of Peas during their sojourn in the ground, and when they emerge as perfect beetles transfer their attentions to the leaves, which, in bad cases, they eat right away to the midribs. Good, deep, and rich cultivation in the early stages of the crop is helpful as this pushes the plants past the stage at which they are generally attacked more rapidly. Frequent damping down of the plants and dustings of soot and lime will also act as a preventative; but, in future, any land which you intend to devote to Pea growing should receive a dressing of gas lime during the winter, this will account for any larvæ left in the soil.

Mushrooms in frame

(Inquirer).—It would certainly be possible to grow Mushrooms in a frame during summer, but the details of culture are numerous. The old manure would be of little use for this purpose. Might we suggest that you procure a practical little treatise on the subject of Mushroom-growing, entitled "Mushroom Culture," by W. J. May. It may be had post free for 1s. 9d. from Messrs. Barr and Sons, King Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

ALPINES

Reducing the size of rock plants

I have large clumps of Alyssum, Mossy Saxifraga, and Dianthus on my rockery, and I want to reduce them in size. What is the best time of year to do this? Would it be better to dig them all up and buy new plants in the autumn? At present they are smothering plants of smaller growth.

AMATEUR.

[As the plants are already smothering others of smaller growth it would probably be advisable to pull them up altogether and replace with young stock in the autumn. If you care to do so, however, you could cut both the Alyssum and Dianthus hard back immediately after flowering to within a few inches of their base. Young shoots would then develop and the plants could be moved in October with safety. If you have room to do so open out the centre of the Saxifrage, even by removing a portion of the central growth, and fill in with sharp, gritty soil, bringing the latter well up towards the ends of the growths and making it tolerably firm. A large portion of the shoots will take root and can be transplanted in autumn.]

Wireworm in rock garden

Our garden here was old grass land and we are having a terrible time in the rock garden from the ravages of wireworms. Before the garden was planted we dug in a quantity of naphthalene; in fact, the soil smells of it. Unfortunately this is not effective and we are losing our plants wholesale. We are setting traps, Carrots, etc., but, of course, this is a slow process.

Can you suggest a cure? It does not matter if the places dressed have to lie fallow for a month or so. W. E. P.

[It is very difficult to clear badly-infested ground, and there does not appear to be any swift and certain method for getting rid of the pests. Frequently forking the soil to a depth of several inches will bring many wireworms to the surface, where birds will find and devour them. It is said that to sow land with mustard, digging in the crop when 6 inches or 7 inches high, is distasteful to these pests. If one could do without the ground for some months, a generous dressing of salt destroys numbers of them.]

ROSES

Rose suckers

Among some Roses which I bought early this year one, a bush of Hadley, is behaving rather strangely. It was cut to within 2 inches of the ground at pruning time, and from one of the stumps, but well above the soil, has appeared an obvious sucker with pale green leaves each with seven leaflets. The young growth of Hadley is red. I have rubbed out the sucker, but should like to know how I can prevent further suckers growing from the same stump. Is it not unusual for suckers to appear above the junction of the stock and scion? N. L. C.

[The sucker cannot really have sprung above the union unless the stock has not been cut back properly, and a dormant eye on that has sprung to life. Examine the plant closely, and if it is as we imagine you can cut away that part of the stock that is causing the trouble.]

Rose shoots

(A. E. Cook).—Your Rose bush is evidently dying, but what the cause is it is difficult to say without fuller knowledge of its condition when planted and its treatment since. It is possible that the roots have been in contact with some strong manure, the Rose, although a gross feeder, greatly resenting having this material near the roots at planting time. Dryness, too, might be accountable, or the roots may have been damaged when being lifted.

Rose Black Spot

(Joseph Priest).—Your Rose is affected with Black Spot caused by the fungus Actinonema rosæ. The leaves attacked show black or purplish areas, and in mild cases the disease does not progress beyond this stage. The fungus usually invades the whole leaf and the attacked leaves drop off early and the plant is weakened by the early defoliation. In addition to the leaves the young wood is often attacked. All leaves should be collected from the ground and burned both during the summer and at leaf fall; all diseased wood should be cut away. After the tree begins to break, a weak solution of sulphide of potassium should be used occasionally as a preventative. We do not feel easy that the Black Spot is the cause of the flowers being of poor quality. The leaves you sent are badly attacked with Red Spider, and it is probable that this pest is the cause of most of your trouble. You should keep plenty of water about the house and the Rose should be syringed on all favourable occasions. The potassium sulphide spray will help you with the control of spider.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Euonymus cuttings

(" Euonymus Only ").—There are at least two golden varieties, E. japonicus aureus-marginatus and E. j. latifolius-aureus. E. j. radicans is a dwarf shrub with several sub-varieties having variegated foliage. Cuttings should be inserted in early autumn in very sandy soil on a shady border. We cannot discover any nurseryman who offers cuttings of these shrubs, but any dealers would most probably be able to procure them for you. We are unable to say how the authorities at Kew would view an application for these.

Rhododendron leaves damaged

(G. Esdailo).—The shoots sent have been damaged by the late hard winter, but they do not appear to be thriving too well. A mulch of leaf-mould and manure over the roots would help matters, most probably. The Rhododendron, as a rule, requires no pruning, but any straggly branch that may be destroying the balance of the bush can be cut back. Probably " Rhododendrons for Amateurs," by E. H. M. Cox, would suit your requirements. It may be had post free for 5s. 4d. from Foyles, Ltd., 121, Charing Cross Road, W.C. 2.

Oak growth

(W. A. Cannon).—The growth you send for examination is that of the so-called " Cotton Gall " which is caused by the larval stage of a Hymenopterous Fly, namely Andricus ramuli. The gall is not uncommon in the South of England. The adult flies appear in July and are reddish yellow. In the male the upper part of the abdomen is black, but is brown in the female. Andricus ramuli, like many other of the gall forming insects, has alternating generations. The form you send, as noted above, gives rise to males and females in July. The females lay eggs later on the Oak, and galls are formed which are quite different to the Cotton Gall. The Autumn Galls are round with a depression at the apex; the gall is fully grown in October and falls to the ground. The larvæ remain within the gall for about eighteen months. At the end of this period the flies emerge and are all females. Eggs by this generation produce the Cotton Gall.

Transplanting trees

I have purchased two Copper Beech and one Cedrus atlantica glauca (all the same age, about 20 years old). The conditions are that I move them and take all risks. It is not a nurseryman that I have purchased them from. Will you advise me, please, if I shall be correct with all three in digging a trench round now, so as to cut some of the roots, and filling up again; and whether I transplant the Cedar as well as the Beech in the autumn? G. KIPLING.

[We think it would be very unwise to begin tinkering about the roots of trees of that size during the height of summer. Had you done so in February, it would have been all right. We suppose you will understand that trees of that age should be lifted with a large ball of earth attached to the roots? It would be better to defer moving the Cedar till February.]

Blue colouring of Hydrangeas

(O., Southport).—The particular blue shade which is sought after is not natural to the Hydrangea, and therefore must be artificially developed. Ammoniated alum is sometimes used at the rate of 1 oz. to a gallon of water, the plants being watered with this mixture. A more reliable method is to use Hydrangea Colorant at the rate of 2 lbs. to each barrowload of soil when potting the plants, and watering throughout the growing season (at least once each week) with the same Colorant, using 3 ozs. dissolved in 2 gallons of water. Hydrangea Colorant is offered by Messrs. J. Bentley, Barrow-on-Humber, Lincolnshire, and is sold in 3-lb. packets, sufficient to make 32 gallons, the price being 3s.

FLOWER GARDEN

Diseased Iris

(Hornchurch).—From your description we think that your Iris are affected with Soft Rot which is caused by a bacterium. Your best plan would be to take up the whole of your affected plants and cut away and burn all the diseased portions. Pay special attention to scraping away all dead rootlets. The rhizomes should then be steeped in a 2 per cent. solution of formalin for four hours and then replanted in fresh soil. It would be a wise precaution to prepare the new site by sterilizing the soil with a 2 per cent. solution of formalin 14 days prior to planting. The soil should be well forked over to allow the fumes of the formalin to escape before the rhizomes are planted. As soon as the replanted Iris get away nicely give a soaking with Cheshunt Compound.

Iris not flowering

I have a small clump of Iris named Iris King. The plants look healthy and continue to spread, but never have any flowers. Do they need any particular treatment, as I have had them four or five years now? They are in full sun. CLAY.

[Iris King belongs to the variegata section of Flag Irises and must have a good amount of lime in the soil. It is also benefited in spring by having a dressing of superphosphate of lime. Use at the rate of two ounces per square yard. These Irises dislike stable manure, so this material must not be used in their culture. Deep planting is, at times, the cause of non-flowering.]

Phloxes curling up

The Phloxes in my garden are attacked each year in the same way, shoots curling up and withering, and stem swollen. I am told it is due to an eelworm, but no one suggests a remedy. Can you recommend anything? Are any Phloxes immune from the disease? R. F. S.

[It is not very easy to get rid of these pests while plants are on the ground. Probably the best thing to do would be, even yet, to lift the plants, replanting on fresh ground that has been given a good dressing of lime, while the place vacated should have a good dressing of one of the soil fumigants dug into it at once. After replanting, the Phloxes should be well watered and some method of shading them from the sun adopted until they get established.]

Will Scarlett Daffodil

(M. E. M. Wilson).—We have examined the specimen bulb sent and can find nothing that indicates that it is in any way diseased, and we have concluded that the early ripening of the foliage is due to the dry season. It is not wise to leave the seed pods on Daffodils unless seed is desired because the formation of seed takes a good deal out of the bulbs and this alone causes early ripening of the foliage. We do not think you have anything to worry about. Please note that
reply to queries through the post.

Bulbs after flowering

(" Novice ").—It would be better
bulbs, immediately the foliage is
well dry them off by placing in shal
in a cool, airy shed. Do not expose
to the sun during the drying proc
plant about the middle of August,
the best of the bulbs; the smaller
unlikely to flower the first year.

Diseased Tulips

(C. Hills and L. J. D.).—Your
are affected with the so-called T
a disease which is caused by th
Botrytis Tulipæ. This fungus at
foliage and flowers of the Tulip
always most prevalent in a col
Spores are produced from the d
areas and are carried about by air
These spores serve to spread the tro
one plant to another. Later in t
the fungus produces a resting sta
sclerotia. These are small, har
bodies about the size of a pin's hea
are formed on the brown scales
nose of the bulbs, and, if allowed,
that position until the following
fected bulbs are planted, and fo
after, the bulb and sclerotia remain
About the time the bulb commences
so also do the black sclerotia begin
Mycelium is produced, which a
growing point of the Tulip as
through the soil. Sometimes the
of the growing point is so bad tha
fails to appear above ground. No
now be done to control the disea
that all plants badly diseased should
up and burned, especially those
stunted in growth. When the ot
completed their growth they should
and stored, but before planting,
must be examined for the blac
bodies of the fungus. Any bulb
present should be destroyed. The
healthy bulbs should then be plante
new sites, and, when growth appe
of disease should be looked for.
failing to appear should be search
destroyed. The positions from
bulbs are removed should be so
Cheshunt Compound. Plants whic
diseased foliage should also be ren
destroyed. The disease is a comm
all countries where the Tulip is cult
that the disease must always be l
even when buying new bulbs.

GREENHOUSE

Ipomea rubro cœrulea wanted

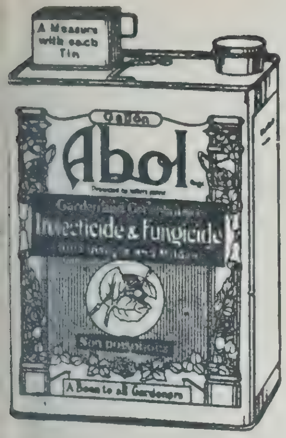
(Mrs. Pearce Brown).—You
Messrs. Clibran and Sons, The
Altrincham, or Messrs. Russell,
Nurseries, Surrey, but we very m
your being able to purchase plan
lovely climber, as we have searc
lists for it unsuccessfully. It i
raised from seeds, and we advise y
cure a packet and sow at once ir
house, where it would soon make
Seeds are offered by most of our
but it is important to secure the
cœrulea.

CHRYSANTHEMUM

Chrysanthemum leaves

(A. E. Cook).—It looks as if t
anthemums have been attacked
Fly, or else been standing under ot
suffering from these pests, for th
sign of disease. Your best plan
remove the worst of the leaves
spray the plants with some good p
like XL All liquid insecticide.

(Continued on page 410.)



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MISCELLANEOUS

Fruit, cut blooms, salad, and cost of production

(Chichester).—It may prove of valuable assistance if you read the various reports, especially relating to glasshouse crops, published by the Ministry of Agriculture, even though they do not include the "cost of production." Practically, there is no reliable data obtainable on this important matter, a matter that has been brought to the front only within the past five years. Widely discussed as it has been, nothing definite has happened, probably because no common line has been agreed upon on which a practical thesis can be constructed. The adverse opinion, unfavourably comparing the growing industry with War bonds as a safe investment, might equally apply to any other media, and though it might apply easily to past conditions we are on safe ground when we say that the industry is now on safer and more scientific lines, both in the growing and marketing of produce, and though the question of profit must depend upon skill, intelligence, and activity, there is a gratifying margin of profit for the right men. There is much technical detail to be considered, that the best advice we can give you is that you consult some expert (quite independent), and go over the ground involved. We can put you in touch with such an expert if you agree that such a course would be advisable.

Clay Coloured Weevil

(Clay).—The specimens you send for identification are Clay Coloured Weevil, Otiorrhychus picipes. This weevil is wingless and feeds at night upon a wide range of plants, attacking leaves, shoots, and bark. During the summer, eggs are deposited in the soil and the resulting grubs feed upon the roots of plants until the following spring. A brief period is spent as pupæ and then the new batch of adults appear. Spraying appears to be useless against this weevil and the best method of control is to trap and collect the adults. Pieces of old sacking placed near the attacked plants will make suitable traps. The grubs can be killed by applying crude naphthalene to the soil at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard. This is best applied in winter and forked in 4 inches deep.

Millepedes

(E. S. Smith).—Yes, the specimens are Millepedes, Julus sp. If your garden is fully cropped you can do little now except to trap the millepedes by using pieces of potato buried 2 inches deep in the soil. During the winter you should use a good soil insecticide. Both naphthalene and calcium cyanide are good for the purpose of millepede control. Under garden conditions, dusting seed drills with superphosphate prior to sowing the seed has given good results especially with Peas and Beans.

Book and Pyrus wanted

(M. R. M., Bath).—(1) "Rock Gardens and Alpine Plants," by T. W. Sanders, with chapters on Water, Bog, and Moraine Garden, profusely illustrated, price 8s., or "Wall and Water Gardens," by Gertrude Jekyll, with 133 illustrations, price 15s. 9d. Either of the above would help you to solve your difficulty. (2) Pyrus floribunda. Messrs. Waterer, Sons, and Crisp, The Nurseries, Twyford, Berks.

Names of plants and reason for dying at leaf tips

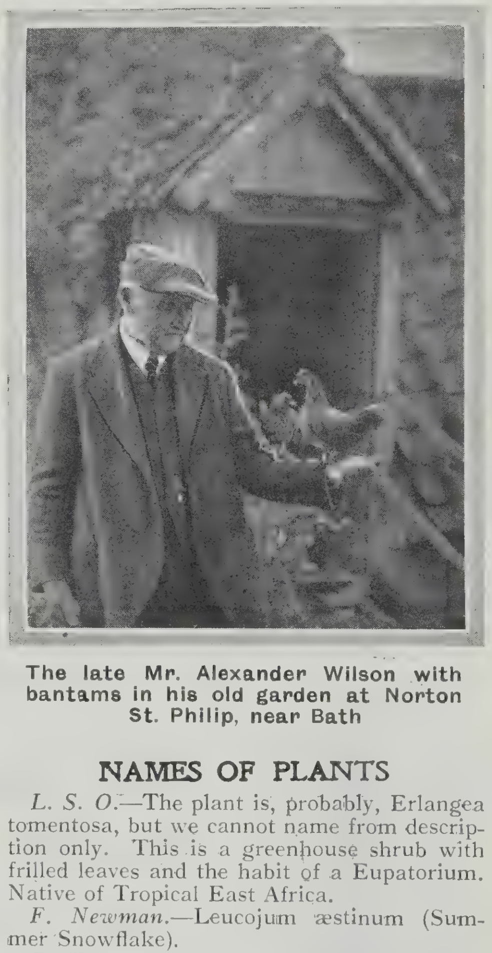
(G. S.).—It is almost impossible to name such things from a mere leaf. Flowers should be sent, and, if possible, some little description of the plant. No. 1 is, probably, Dietes Huttoni, and the damage to the leaves is caused by the cold of winter, when the tips are usually resting on the soil. No. 2 may be Dianella Tasmanica, and the damage to the leaf is due to the same cause as No. 1.

Manure from poultry runs

(H. B.).—Yes, fowl manure is of much the same value as pigeon manure, and should be treated and used in the same way. It is excellent for Sweet Peas, but must be used in great moderation.

Diseased Goldfish

(H. C.).—The fungus trouble on your Goldfish is a fairly common one, especially with fish in a confined pool such as yours. There is no cure once the attack has taken a hold. We think you would be well advised to destroy the fish and not to restock the pond for a time. When you start again do not put in so many fish. The water should be changed frequently, or rather a little fresh water should be poured in often and the water so displaced allowed to run away through the overflow.



The late Mr. Alexander Wilson with bantams in his old garden at Norton St. Philip, near Bath

NAMES OF PLANTS

L. S. O.—The plant is, probably, Erlangea tomentosa, but we cannot name from description only. This is a greenhouse shrub with frilled leaves and the habit of a Eupatorium. Native of Tropical East Africa.

F. Newman.—Leucojum æstinum (Summer Snowflake).

D. Y. H., Royston.—Acer Negundo.

J. O.—The Pearl Bush (Exochorda grandiflora). See note, page 397.)

A. M. A. H. R.—1, Spiræa confusa; 2, Berberis vulgaris.

Lostock.—The Bird Cherry (Prunus padus).

Carnholme.—1, Berberis dictophylla; 2, Corokea Cotoneaster; 3, Syringa villosa, a native of North China. This shrub requires very little pruning, just merely the removal of dead or weak wood and the old flower-trusses. The pruning or thinning should be done either in February or March.

W. H. Ward.—1, Deutzia longifolia; 2, Abelia grandiflora; 3, Exochorda Alberti.

C. S. Wills.—The Cuban Lily (Scilla peruviana).

Wotton-under-Edge.—Heuchera Richardsoni (satin leaf).

Mrs. D. M. Yonge.—Kniphofia Tuckii; Geum Borisii (single scarlet); Ge
reichii (deep orange). Will you, ple
ber flowers when sending again.

S. R. Cookson.—Akebia quinata

R. L. F.—1, White flower, Spir
bergii; 2, blue flower, Anchusa
flora.

G.—1, Syringa Emodi; 2, S. Ch
3, S. Mme. Lemoine; 4, Rosa ru
atropurpurea; 5, Spiræa cana;
ledifolia; 7, withered beyond recog
Rheum palmatum; 9, Rose
Yellow.

OBITUARY

ALEXANDER WILSON

IT is with deepest regret that
the death of our esteemed co
Mr. Alexander Wilson, who
brought sunshine to the lives of
his delightful articles in these p
in "The Garden." He had a grea
to publicity, and his articles wer
signed "Somers," "Alpha," and
"A. W." His contributions on
land plants, Daffodils, Shirley Po
a host of other subjects were enjo
readers. He was at one time edi
"New Zealand Times," and for m
after his retirement he lived at "
tage," Norton St. Philip, Nr. Bat
years ago he moved to Norwood,
where he died. He was buried at
May 27th.

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natural fertiliser can, therefore,
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into the ground and the ring slip
the foliage and hooked together.
tying with raffia is done away wi
cealed in the foliage the support
make an obvious and unsightly ad
plant.

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The old cumbersome method o
Peas by the "stick and string"
being slowly but surely supersede
more convenient Pea netting. On
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would go back to the older support
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suitable for planting out, and the
reason, they are got into their
quarters the better the future crops
to be.

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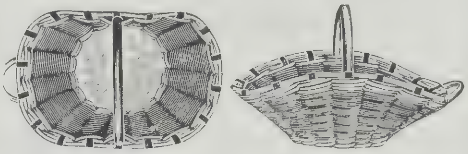

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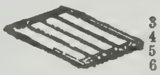

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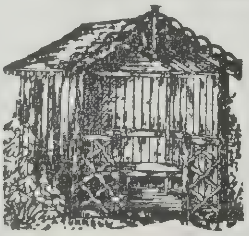
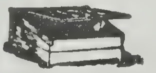
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS

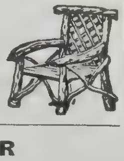
Well made from selected material.
In natural wood. Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



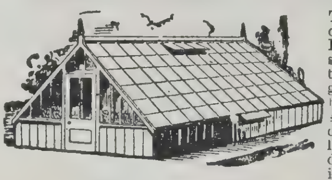
	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

INCINERATOR

Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

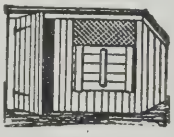
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

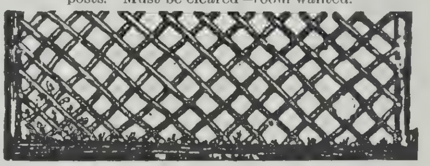


500 in stock ready for immediate despatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6 6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	REDUCED PRICES. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9 6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	24/6	25/-

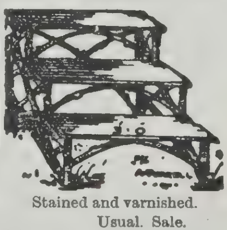
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

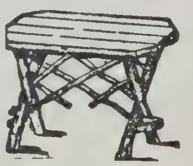
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

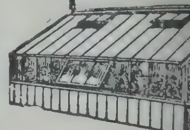
GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENH



These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateur figure, thereby coming within the reach of those w strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.	Size.	Us Pri £ s
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 1
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 1
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6		

GARDEN FRAMES

Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	U £
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9

Do not pay high prices for your frames mad boards. We can supply at the following low pri made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	U £
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10

Compare these prices with other maker

No. 7 PORT
MOTOR HO

Constructed of strong fra with ⅝-in. tongued and gr roof boarded and felted, for floor and strong jois fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass on strong butts and fitted and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5

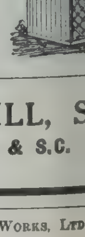
CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED,

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and Fitted lock and key.

ft.		ft. in.	Usual.
5	x	3 6	£3 18 0
6	x	4 0	£4 5 0
7	x	5 0	£5 10 0
8	x	6 0	£6 2 6
10	x	7 0	£9 5 0
12	x	8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTE

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed tongued and grooved boards and substantial fr covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quit All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Remov back. The whole stained and varnished inside an in sections for easy transit and erection.



Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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(2 minutes Forest Hill Station, L.B. & S.C.

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Gardening
ILLUSTRATED

FLOWERS · FRUIT · VEGETABLES · BEES · GARDEN DESIGN
TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

I.—No. 2623 Saturday, June 15, 1929 TWOPENCE

ENING ILLUSTRATED" is regis- ut the General Post Office as a News- The Offices are at Bouverie House, Street, London, E.C. 4.

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GE DISPOSAL FOR COUNTRY SE, FACTORIES, FARMS, etc. No emptying s; no solids; no open filter beds; everything under- d automatic; a perfect fertiliser obtainable.— BEATTIE & CO., 8, Lower Grosvenor Place, ner, London, S.W. 1.

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IC FENCING of Superior make.— FISHAM TIMBER CO., LTD., S.E. 13.

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GARDEN NETS.—Best tanned small mesh, 25 yds. by 1 yd., 2s. ; 25 by 2, 4s. ; 25 by 3, 6s. ; 25 by 4, 8s. Carr. paid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Tennis Nets from 10s. Special lined Tennis Boundary Nets, Pea Training Nets. Lists and Samples free.—G. JARRETT, Netmaker, Rye.

TANNED GARDEN NETTING, birdproof, good, strong, small mesh, well cured. Satisfaction or cash returned. 50 yds. long by 1 yd. wide, 3s. 6d. ; 25 by 2 yds., 3s. 6d. ; 25 by 3, 5s. 3d. ; 25 by 4, 7s. ; 25 by 5, 8s. 9d. ; 25 by 6, 10s. 6d. ; 25 by 8, 14s. ; 25 by 10, 17s., carriage paid. Nets sent by return.—TICKNER & CO., Net Works, Rye.

BUY OF ACTUAL MANUFACTURERS.—Any length and width supplied Corded all round. New netting square mesh guaranteed cover area when stretched ; stout ¾ in. mesh, 5½d. ; medium, 4½d. ; 1 in. stout, 5d. ; medium, 4½d. sq. yard. NEW TENNIS BOUNDARY NETS, steam tarred, bound with cords, from 3d. sq. yd. ; selected repaired, 2½d. sq. yd. NEW PEA NETTING, hand made, tanned, 5 in. sq. mesh, 3 ft., 2½d. ; 6 ft., 5d. run yards. DIAMOND NETS, mesh closed, heavy quality, 25 x 2 yds., 4s. ; or 4 yds., 8s. ; or 8 yds., 16s. ; lighter, 25 x 2 yds., 3s. 6d. ; or 4 yds., 7s. ; or 8 yds., 14s. each, carr. paid, passenger train, receipt order. List samples free. Satisfaction guaranteed.—W. OLIVER ALLEN & SONS, Net Manufacturers, Porthleven, Cornwall. Telegrams: Oliver Allen, Porthleven.

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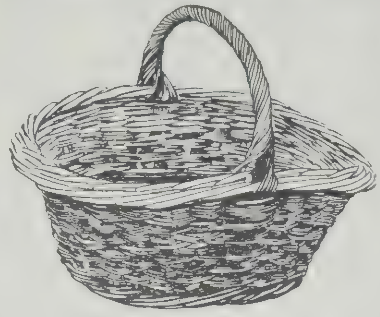

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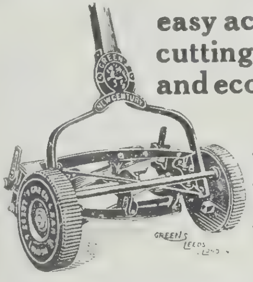

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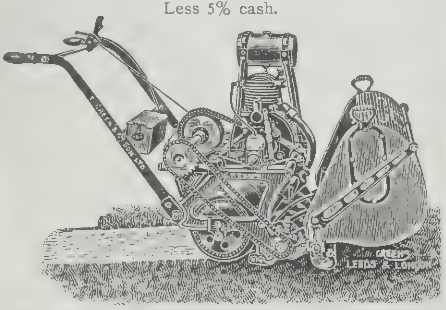

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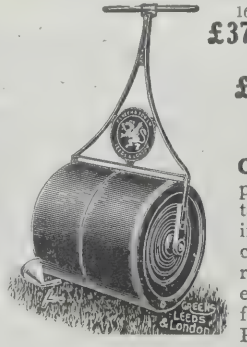

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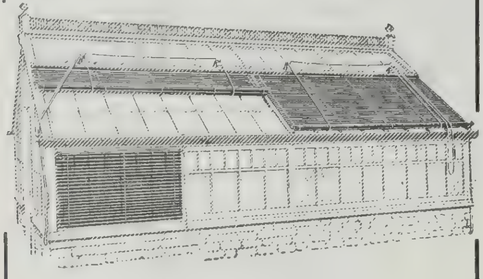

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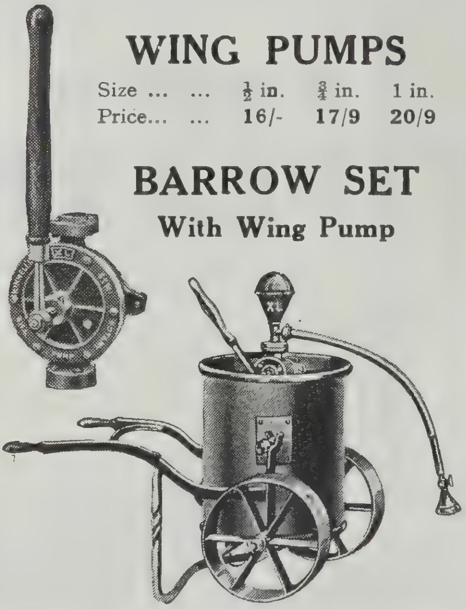

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When the Leaves are Greenest

E have left the high noon of springtime, and summer stands like a gracious and welcome guest at our hreshold. It is the hour of dawn n of a June morning, with a ne in the eastern sky of a day of golden our. In the quiet of a little-frequented y lane, away from the beaten track, unds disturb, save a troop of chatter- jys, unseen overhead among the now unt leafage. A solitary thrush on the st bough of a tall Elm is singing the st of lyrics to nte in a neigh- ig coppice as she ly guards her brood. The murmur of falling over e in the brook is tive of rest and s. An old Willow as fallen across ream and im- sor a moment its ow. In a hole artly submerged a water-rail has o covert. The cattle is heard meadows be- as they stand the dew and . In this soli- spot there are when one may without meet- soul. A tor- road—an old path at its best, ed by pack- so tradition when centuries ad mines were l in the vicinity. it is impossible torists to nego- , as the notice at its entrance ter of a mile or more away indicates. ruts made at one time by farmers' re now grown over with grass. Paths her side of the lane are full of the rst of Mosses and tender grey-green of en, which intermingle with deeper leaves of Sloe and Bramble.

ist Recesses.

he coolest recesses near the margin of seam, white panicles rise from out soft leaves of Cow-Parsley and pale fronds ns. Whiter are the flowers of Stitch- emerging from tufted grass. In the dim twilight of the woodland hard by, where the path is greenest of all, the richest of pink Campions are broadening into beauty still. Birch and Beech and stately Oaks spread their long arms without let or hindrance, no woodcutter having plied his trade in this secluded place for many a day. As here and there the sun breaks in between the trees it reveals a sylvan scene, a perfect vista of loveliness in the freshest of young leafage—the magic of imminent summer. Now it is the bronzed fans of newly opened Sycamores, the winsomeness of a Silver Birch, or the grace of a Lime, but what impresses one most of all is the utter lavishness of green in varying tints in these enchanted leafy aisles. From out of the deeper confines of the woodland a cuckoo is calling, but less frequently than he did a month ago. Now there is a faltering in his notes—a break in the melody, a sure presage of his limited stay. A few weeks hence and his familiar voice will be heard no longer. He will obey that strange mysterious impulse—the migratory call, and journey southward to a far distant land.

When the leaves are greenest: Gunnera manicata, with large handsome foliage, by a woodland stream in Albury Park, Surrey

Old World Lane.

There is a sense of quiet and seclusion about this old world lane, making it a very sanctuary for birds and timid creatures of the field. In the brook, creamy plumes of Meadow Sweet are in their prime. Yellow Flag Irises thrive here. Flowers of the water Forget-me-not, screened from the sun under the shade of the trees, are in greatest abundance in brightest blue. Patches of Orchis in the rank herbage, where the stream has overflowed, stand out resplendent in their purple dress. Near what was once a clearing in this lane are remains of a tumble-down cottage, the roof of which has long since fallen in. Some of the decayed rafters lie strewn about the stone floor. On the hearth where the family once gathered, weeds abound, and Cuckoo Pints spread their shiny leaves; clusters of wild Thyme sprawling amid broken flags are full of buds almost ready to burst into bloom. Here the Deadly Nightshade thrives in crevices in what was once the kitchen. A robin has built her nest in a corner of the dismantled fireplace, and a wren has taken up her quarters close by the chimney breast. Bats cling between crevices of stones and bricks, only to sally forth under the curtain of night. A rabbit scampers out of a hole near the remains of an oaken door. Part of the lintel, black with age, is left, and over it in riotous freedom the slender draperies of Travellers' Joy entwine. All round this old derelict homestead are Nettles and Docks, a veritable wilderness of ruin and neglect.

> "Man trespassed here; but Nature lost
> No right of her domain;
> She waited, and she brought the old
> Wild beauty back again."

Through the flag-stones which once

The golden smile of June with bloom and sun in every place

The dell at Hillside, Kippington, Sevenoaks, where Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Meconopsis, Spiræas, and Primulas are now flowerin

formed the garden path, Gorse has sprung up into huge bushes, which flame at every point like burnished gold. Foxgloves are gay among tangled undergrowth, where a generation or two ago was a cultivated garden. Here, once, were borders full of old-time flowers tended by hands long since still. Here grew brilliant Pæonies, Columbines and Larkspurs, and in the autumn Golden Rod and stately Hollyhocks bloomed. Sweet smelling herbs of Lavender, Rosemary, and Balm were given a place. Here, too, colonies of Teazels have multiplied, their tall stems being full of green and purplish bracts, a rendezvous for innumerable linnets. Under an old gnarled tree there is still to be seen a portion of a rough seat, where the owner of this one-time paradise of flowers took his ease as he surveyed his favourites. A scent as of new mown hay tells where dying flowers of Woodruff lie amid their bed of fading green leaves. In this quiet spot, in shady nooks, snow-white flowers of Hawthorn linger late. Masses of Roses clambering on hedges in lavish beauty of delicate pink betray their presence by the sweet fragrance of their breath.

DELICIOUS INCENSE.

Sweeter still, from thousands of clusters, swaying in canopies from hedge and tree, the Woodbine diffuses its delicious incense in the air, proclaiming that summer days are nigh.

The fickleness of our climate, especially when adverse weather lingers on into spring, as was the case this year, has ever been a favourite theme for the satirist, but, after all, when in her rightful mood, what is there that can compare to our English countryside, or what can rival a flower-bespangled meadow under "the grace, the golden smile of June, with bloom and sun in every place"?

Never are the hedge-rows more attractive to the Nature-lover than in this royal month.

Never are the lanes more alluri
full of fresh young life.

Never are the fields more fair, u
as yet by the scythe of the mower.

Never are the woodlands seen in
trancing garb than in this their time
wealth of green-leaf beauty and of

W. F

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

San Diego in May

ALTHOUGH winter rains in Southern California this year were woefully light, the back country of San Diego County was in May a glorious wild flower garden.

Creamy spikes of Yucca Whipplei pierced the soft chaparral-covered hillsides. The Mimulus most in evidence was Diplacus puniceus. It is characteristic of this region and has rich brick-red (light or dark) flowers. Pentstemon antirrhinoides, often reaching a height of 5 feet, was gay with bright yellow blossoms, with red streaked, widely gaping corollas. Dicentra chrysantha, 5 feet and 6 feet tall, was just pushing into bloom. Dendromecon rigidum (Tree Poppy) bushes were one mass of buttercup-yellow. Pentstemon spectabilis covered the dry, gravelly hillsides and flat sandy places with a pink-lavender and blue glow, and in some parts rose to a height of 6 feet.

Nature was doing her best to cover the many burnt areas that are the result of last autumn's forest fires. These bla
were gay with proverbial fire foll
the region: Phacelia brachyloba (w
yellow centred), Phacelia Parry
purple), yellow Mimulus brevipes,
menanthe penduliflora (Whispering
looked in vain for that much desire
of burnt places, Papaver heterophy
hope to find it further north.

One of the greatest treats of the
a tall patch of the true gentian blue
minor var. campanularia growi
parched canyon of rock and sand
desert. But the flora of the deser
is another story. LESTER ROW

Carmel, California, U.S.A.

Lathyrus splendens

A May trip through the back c
San Diego County, California, tha
lous hunting ground for the wild flo
has impressed upon me again the
Lathyrus splendens. The beauty
superb Pea cannot be too highly ex

rge plant of it in full bloom, enthroned al splendour on some shrub of the ral (Rhus laurina seems to be its pre-) is absolutely breath taking. The lambers to a height of 8 feet or 10 nd showers down the superb flower s which rest upon the exterior branches supporter, and by their tropical splen- arrest the passer by and compel tion.

e of these pendant clusters are com- of as many as 12 individual flowers. fully developed flower is 2 inches or long. The banner leans back against em, making, with the keel, a long und curve.

were I to send a photograph (which I I cannot do) it would in no way con- e beauty of the plant, for its glory is colouring. The bud is pale salmon- the full bloom a rich and brilliant rimson. The older flowers are a deep n of velvety texture, with almost crimson grooves on the keel.

yrus splendens is a thing of rare ess, and well deserves the name, e of California."

LESTER ROWNTREE.

mel, California, U.S.A.

Celmisia coriacea

EW ZEALAND has one of the most emarkable known floras; but in spite f this there are few who have any lea of its beauty and variety. It, how- stands alone in the universe for its rful variety of Veronicas and Cel- . Readers at home know quite well a Veronica is, because it is fairly easy cure as shipments of plants are re- tly sent from New Zealand. But not h Celmisias, as here you have a plant is not easily procurable. One can pro- eseed from various sources, but it is ary to understand that seed has to have l treatment to get results. Many New d seeds are of the same nature as the nsia, and to be successful it is neces- o set the same as a Gerbera, viz., put of seed only into soil. I would also the same as other Alpine seeds, viz., e box of planted seeds lie out in frost sow and then put box into a heated house, and this method should be suc- l. The Celmisia is very distinct from ry flowers and plants. The foliage very much in different varieties, and C. coriacea one sees the perfect plant, still greater, a wonderful pure white flower, and as one looks into its it is most difficult to believe it is an ry flower. The petals are of a dif- nature to an ordinary flower head, ne would think it was an exquisite ial material of lace. The flowers in the sation were 3 inches across. This plant s home in the Alpine regions of New nd, but some parts suit its conditions . In Arthurs Pass and Otira it is seen its beauty, and you will find it grow- every open spot in thousands, some- in open spaces exposed to sun and at other times at the foot of some waterfall, with spray splashing over whole time.

leaves are Iris-like, only beautiful grey; the lower side is covered with k silvery felt of hairs. As they grow however, the tomentum of the upper become woven into a thin skin that lies to the surface of the leaf, and under- t lies the two layered epidermis used for storage. The plant as illustrated was thousands in bloom during January at rs Pass,* where wild flowers blossom greatest profusion, forming a garden whose beauty might easily put to shame the stately flower ranks and geometrical foliage beds of many a prized garden.

Nelson, N.Z. A. WILKINSON.

Chelsea comments

It is not often one meets with a bit of more delicate and subtle irony than that on page 383. The comments so very true on the receptacles for Apples, the Death Valley, and the rock garden, were beautifully veiled; many have doubtless thought the same, but few could hide their disapproval so well.

E. BURRELL.

Saxifraga canis dalmatica

With all due deference to the bestower of the name upon this Saxifrage, which is understood to be a hybrid, it seems an unfortunate title to give to a good flower, while the trivial name of "Spotted Dog" is even less likely to commend this handsome Silver Saxifrage to students of catalogues. The plant is supposed to have possibly been derived from S. Aizoon and S. Cotyledon. It grows about 18 inches high at the most, and has handsome spires of bloom of a good white ground, but more heavily spotted with crimson than any other of its class. This is responsible for the name, but one more euphonious and pleasing might have been chosen for such a charming plant. This crimson spotting is so dense that it gives an impression of the blooms being zoned with crimson. It originated, I am led to understand, in the famous Six Hills Nursery of Messrs. Clarence Elliott, Ltd. S. canis dalmatica is as easily grown as any other plant of its section.

S. ARNOTT.

Celmisia coriacea in Arthur's Pass, New Zealand

Plants which require lime

Referring to an article in your paper on plants which require lime or chalk, it may interest readers to know that in my garden, where there is no lime or chalk, but red sandstone, Lilies of the Valley grow most luxuriantly; in fact, they overrun the ground like weeds, and are very large and bloom profusely. Clematis montana covers the roof of a building, and var. rubra grows over a large portion of the house, together with C. Flammula. Dogwood, too, is a weed; also Wayfaring tree. Lilies of the Valley also grow and bloom well in Jersey, and there is no lime in the island.

S. T.

Chew Magna, Somerset.

Two fine Japanese Cherries

Two of the best flowering Cherries are Shirofugen and Miyako. The former is also known as albo rosea and the latter as Okumiyako and longipes. Both are late flowering. The former has leaves often of a decidedly rounded appearance. The flowers, which are in corymbs, long stemmed and hanging down, are pink in the bud, pass to almost white, and back to pink before they fall. They have two leafy carpels in the centre. The latter is somewhat similar in habit. Its foliage is of a paler green and the flowers purer white when fully expanded. The habit and formation of the flowers are the same. Both are in flower now, June 3rd, and this is a very late season. Neither of these two varieties are very common, and the true plants seem difficult to get, and owing to the muddle in the names of the Japanese Cherries, it is difficult to get plants true to name. E. H. Wilson in his "Cherries of Japan" uses the names albo rosea and Miyako respectively. Mr. Collingwood Ingram uses Shirofugen and Oku-miyako. E. H. Wilson's book was published in 1916. So that, I suppose, Mr. Ingram now supersedes him as an authority on this subject.

CHERRY BLOSSOM.

Wisley, orange and rose

Many a time one walks about the gardens of one's friends amongst the trim Rose bed and orderly herbaceous borders, and there is no uplift of the heart and none of the joy that floods one's being at the sight of the beautiful. But yesterday at Wisley I walked in the woods among the rose-red Primulas and orange Poppies, and all around me the raindrops splashed and the Primulas' flounced skirts danced in return for so much kindliness, lovely drifts of rosy colour receding into shade, flooded here and there with glowing orange patches of the Welsh Poppy.

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m "Plants of New Zealand," by Mr. B. M. Laing.

What happy gardener thought of that, I wonder? And betwixt them my adorable friends the big Lilies were unfolding their fat leaves and forming their heaven-born flowers, for here, in a week or two, is another wonderful joy awaiting all who care to see and whose eyes are open. And then I hied me to the rock garden and hugged to my heart the pure colour of Pentstemon roselli and Dianthus Sewell, and wondered how deeply my pocket would be affected to possess these treasures of light, and on to the pool hugged by the ragged blue of the Siberian Iris and where the gentle pitter-patter of the rain danced between the Lily leaves. Sonorous names and labels affected me not, catalogues and trials had no part; it was just the sheer beauty that God and man had made together. MAUDE HAWORTH-BOOTH.

Meconopsis Baileyi

FEW plants of recent introduction seem to have created so much well-merited interest as the above, and it may be helpful, therefore, to give an account of an amateur's first experience in its cultivation.

Seed was sown in leaf-mould and sand in July, 1927, and in June, 1928, small plants, to the number of 28, were put out in the borders. The soil of the latter is a sandy loam, to which has been added from time to time decayed leaves and a little stable manure; it is well drained, but fairly moist; the plants are in partial shade, but some get a considerable amount of sun. Of the above number, 21 have thrown up flower stems, mostly two to the plant, and these have attained an average height of over 3 feet, several are over 4 feet, and each stem has produced 12 flower buds. The accompanying photograph gives an idea of the appearance of one of the groups.

The plants are now, June 3rd, in full bloom, the top bloom being the first to open; the flowers are large—4 inches to 5 inches in diameter—and vary in colour from a Cambridge to a rather darker shade of blue. In all cases the colour is full, pure and striking, well set off by the golden anthers. In a few plants the flowers are light blue shot with a delicate mauve; both colours clean and bright and in no sense washy. Only one of the whole batch deserves the too severe strictures of "Clay" in your issue of January 12th and of "J. R. K." in that of January 26th last. In this case the colour is a dull and uninteresting mauve and the plant is small and miffy.

To the apparent ease of cultivation of this Poppy in suitable situations, its impressive size and glorious colour, must be added the fact that the flowers last long in beauty—5 to 7 days being their average life—do not fade with age, and are not easily damaged by wind. My information tends to show that it is truly perennial, and altogether we appear to have in Meconopsis Baileyi an acquisition to our gardens which is absolutely first-class in every respect.

In the letter alluded to above, "J. R. K." makes the astonishing assertion that it is "a wash-out in five plants or five gardens out of six." This suggests that "J. R. K.'s" experience of the plant has been either limited or unfortunate, neither case justifying such sweeping condemnation. I have seen it in three gardens besides my own, and my observation amply confirms the high opinion expressed of it in your issue of February 2nd last by such an authority as Mr. F. C. Puddle. A. E. FARRELL.

—— I read with interest your correspondent's account of "Blue Poppies at Gravetye."

In May of last year I bought two plants from a Scottish nurseryman. They did not flower, but, with only the protection of a few Ribes branches stuck round them, they came safely through the severe winter and are now in bloom. One plant has two stems, both flowering (June 5th).

Their disposition must be as serene and lovely as their azure faces, for our garden is in West Hartlepool, on the Durham coast, and they have had no special treatment. One plant is slightly shaded and has flowered first; the other, full in the sun, looks equally healthy and is now opening its top bud (June 7th).

The flowers, which apparently open one at a time, are 4 inches across and last each about a week. At first they close up at night and droop to the stem, later they remain widely open and are seen to best advantage facing a south walk or path.

Shelter is absolutely necessary. Six buds coming in a group at the top and opening first make the plant slightly top-heavy, and the softest band chafes the stem unless passed over a leaf. The three stems carry, respectively, 12, eight, and six buds.

Meconopsis Baileyi at Crowthorne, Berkshire

When better known this attractive and beautiful Poppy will be given a warm welcome by town gardeners. SARAH ROBSON.

Diseased Iris

I read the note on the treatment of soft rot in the Flag Irises with special interest, and shall certainly give the 2 per cent. solution of formalin as advised in your issue of June 8th. With regard to the cause of the disease, it is, I think, certain that the bacteria flourish in a damp soil and not to any great extent in a dry one. I have always adopted shallow planting for the Flag Irises, but this year as the rhizomes were showing above the soil and were subjected to frost, I threw some spadefuls of earth over them for protection. The clumps most deeply covered were the old Florentina and the Pallida Dalmatica, and these were the two which suffered. The disease did not make itself known until the flower buds could just be distinguished, and they did not, of course, reach maturity. They were planted near the top of a small rock garden with good drainage and the soil with ample lime in it, but they were growing close to small rocks supporting a higher ledge of earth. The spring season was an u
dry one, and, therefore, when the
became warmer I gave the Irises
which no doubt added to the troub
did not directly cause it. As preve
better than cure, I write this as a
to other amateur growers. The
taught me this: Shallow planting
drained soil and no artificial wa
Deep planting seems not only to be t
of non-flowering, but positively da
Severe frost is dangerous, too, but t
affected were deeper in the soil tha
that escaped injury. H.

Brighton.

Tulips with many flowers on

I have observed the inquiries y
received relative to several-headed f
Tulips and your replies. May it not
the theory of the Scientific Committe
Royal Horticultural Society pro
when Mons. Bony sent over from
flowers of a Tulip carrying four to
even seven, on a stem, is confirmed,
degree at least. You will remembe
suggested that it must be due to the
of the flower forming tissues at a ve
stage of the flower's development.

Conditions have prevailed this pa
spring—I refer to the prolonged ver
weather—which would have the effect
pletely holding up the growth of t
for that time; and when the weath
became conducive to growth, of caus
start off, probably abruptly, and mo
with exactly the same effect as w
trated in the Tulips shown before the
in 1909—the breaking up of the flow
ing issues. The variety Mons. Bo
was said to be fixed, as indeed it p
be, for to this very day the variety,
still known as "Mons. S. Mottet,"
Mottet," may be found offered in
Dutch catalogues, but generally tuck
as it were, at least, without any not
tinction, among the late flowering
Whether the breaks of the past sea
news of them come from widely
parts of the country, are steadfast
would have to be proved. But in t
ing, verification might be obtained
was suggested now 20 years ago, an
from general observation of other
rooted plants under circumstances
tion of functioning, so to speak, do
in a manner quite contrary to the
course of the particular subject, an
same time in a manner eccentri
phenomenal. I think the incidents
up to six and even more flowers o
this season might be explained in
more than in any other. The subje
seem to be worthy of more attention
been given it. WM. H.

Crumpsall, Lancs.

Boronia megastigma

The chief characteristic of this pl
delicious scent, one small plant perf
greenhouse. It is what is termed
wooded plant, a native of Australi
growth is upright and slender, and
yellow-brown flowers are borne in g
fusion. The best compost is one of
a sixth part of sharp silver sand an
charcoal. The pots must be quite
well drained, and, like all fine-root
wooded plants, the Boronia requir
firmly potted. At all times water
carefully given, taking care to avo
tremes of wet and drought, which
After flowering, shorten the slender
to about two-thirds of their annual
and repot if required, but guard aga
potting.

ragrance of Clematis montana

MATIS MONTANA has many attri- es of the highest merit, but its de- lious fragrance is not often alluded to. ent of certain plants is such a fugitive ion that it is more than probable C. na may be practically odourless under conditions. However, a large mass lovely C. m. rubens, which has com- enveloped an old tree stump with its of blossoms, has this year been one most powerfully-scented shrubs in the . Their extraordinary fragrance has xtinguished that of some Azaleas close has, especially towards evening, filled room of the house, and is almost too nd sweet for any respectably middle- iver.

ve been trying to define this peculiarly ating odour, but it evades the net like butterfly. Does it recall the incensed ick of some Oriental temple, or those s of sacrifice which rise from the alters of Grasse? I asked an amiable ntleman whose nose I respect, and he ed, " Macaroons," and passed on. I a slip of a girl—" one of the new " who ought to know—and she said, yes! Boiling toffee!" I asked my " poor wretch "), and she, unwilling mit herself, said, " Those people who here yesterday said it smelt like ne Snee-awrum mixed up with a hairdressing establishment '." , I put the problem to one cunning dark secrets of flowers, but he only cated matters by saying, " New hot and steamy." So mystery still s the spicy aroma, cloying, sultry, and with which those rosy blossoms are ng the garden to the fall of the last led sepal. A. T. JOHNSON.

Cuphea platycentra

ong the many interesting plants used flower garden during the summer s may be included the above Cuphea, only known as the Cigar plant. Quite gificant in its individual flowers, it is retty and effective in the mass, and h plants put out at the beginning of June ly grow into a dense carpet, which may lieved by occasional taller plants of li rope, the lemon scented Eucalyptus, or ariegated form of Fuchsia gracilis.

Th fragrant Clematis montana rubens

Any of these combinations produce a quiet but pleasing effect. A few old plants re-potted on through the winter will produce an abundance of cuttings which strike readily.

E. BURRELL.

Herbaceous Calceolarias

PERHAPS because they are too little understood these greenhouse plants do not appeal to the average amateur. Most amateurs' glass consists of one heated house and a frame or two, in which they try to grow a variety of subjects and find that all plants do not succeed under the same treatment. Still, it is possible under these conditions to have good results by going the right way to work and studying the needs of these plants.

Amateurs should purchase the best seed possible from a firm that makes a speciality of the plant. Herbaceous Calceolarias may be propagated from either seeds or cuttings, but the seed is by far the better means, as the plants possess a more vigorous constitution than those raised from cuttings.

Some growers sow the seed the second or third week in July, but according to my experience I find the first or second week in June the most suitable time. Starting about a month earlier strong plants of a good size are secured by autumn, with fewer failures during winter. Take a perfectly clean seed-pan and place at the bottom an inch of small crocks, covering these with a layer of Moss or flaky leaf-mould, then fill up the pan with finely sifted soil composed of two parts loam, one part leaf-mould and silver sand, pressing it down firmly and making the surface quite level. Moisten the soil with a fine rose can, avoiding the necessity of applying water after the seed is sown.

The seed is extremely fine, therefore great care should be taken to sow thinly and evenly, and only the very slightest covering of fine silver sand put on. Place a sheet of glass over the pan and turn this each day to remove moisture, and place the whole in a cool house or pit and keep well shaded from sun. In about 10 days the seedlings will begin to appear, when at once remove the glass from the pan. When the second leaves show, the plants will be fit to handle, and no time must be lost in pricking off the young plants into pans, using a similar compost as before. There is great advantage in putting them into pans, as when taken from the seed-pan and placed in pots there is always the risk of the soil turning sour before the pots are filled with roots. Dibble them in about an inch apart each way, and as each pan is finished give a slight sprinkling of water to settle the soil about them, and place in the pit or frame, where they must be kept close until new roots are formed. In bright weather it will be necessary to give shade. When it is seen they are growing freely give a little air by tilting the light at the back, increasing this as the plants gain strength. Air is necessary from an early stage, as soon as the plants are strong enough. The plants must not be subjected to a check at any stage of their growth, therefore pot them off singly into 3-inch pots as soon as their leaves touch each other. Care must be taken lest they become dry at the roots, and they should have dewings or sprinklings of tepid water from a fine-rosed can. They must remain in the 3-inch pots until they have filled them with roots, when shift them on into 5-inch pots, using a leaf-mould, one part well-rotted cow manure, one part silver sand, and to every bushel of the compost add half a pint of soot, taking care to mix the whole thoroughly as soot is a powerful manure. No further shift will be necessary until February, when they must be placed in their flowering pots. These may be 6 inches or 8 inches in diameter, according to the size of the plant.

Clematis montana rubens on an old tree stump

By the end of September arrangements must be made to transfer the plants to the greenhouse near the glass, where fire-heat may be turned on in frosty weather, a temperature of 40 degs. to 50 degs. being quite sufficient. During winter watering must be very moderate, but when making their growth in autumn and spring liberal supplies of water will be required. As the sun gains power in March a little shade will be necessary on bright days, but it must be removed directly it is no longer required.

The only training required is to tie out the flower-stems as they rise, so as to obtain a level surface of bloom. When the pots are full of roots and the buds forming, the trusses will be much improved if the plants are given an occasional application of weak soot-water. If Green Fly attack the plants vaporise with nicotine. Remove all decaying foliage as soon as seen. Do not pack the plants close together, having regard to the tenderness of the leaves, and as the flowering season approaches give them plenty of head-room.

F. H.

Verbenas

Once used very extensively in the flower garden, Verbenas seem to have gone out of favour, though if not wanted for formal beds a few batches will be found useful in filling up spare ground on borders. Seedlings make nice bushy stuff by planting-out time if pricked out into boxes as soon as they can be handled, pinched early, and grown along quickly. One is thereby saved the trouble of keeping plants through the winter, which, with fluctuations of temperature, are often very subject to mildew. In bygone days, where special colours were required, I made a point of growing a number of seedlings annually and selecting required colours in order to secure a healthier stock. In this way I secured a white of strong, sturdy growth, with a large pure truss and very free. This was used freely for several years when a dwarf white flower was required. To get anything of equally robust constitution among the seedlings of blue shades was not an easy matter.

E. BURRELL.

Single-flowered Fuchsia Swanley Gem, tube and sepals glowing red, corolla pure white and cupped

Standard Fuchsias

THERE is something very attractive about a well-grown standard Fuchsia when in bloom, as it rises above other plants on a greenhouse stage or in a conservatory. To grow standards involves time and patience and a determination to sacrifice blooms for a season or so until the desired height has been reached, when the head can be encouraged to form. One may make a start in February or March by inserting cuttings singly in small pots of light loam, leaf-mould, and a good proportion of coarse sand, and plunging these in a propagator, or in a warm corner of the greenhouse to ensure rapid growth, potting the plants on as soon as it is seen they need a shift. Flower buds will not be long in forming, but these must be eliminated, the idea, of course, being to secure plants at a given height—anything from 2 feet to 4 feet—before any stopping is done. It will be an advantage if the stem is tied loosely to a thin stake to keep it straight. When the requisite height is reached the centre shoot should be pinched out, in order to encourage the formation of three or four shoots which will make a good head. Every encouragement should be given standards the first year or so by potting on and affording weak stimulants so that they can be built up into shapely plants. In selecting cuttings only the most vigorous should be chosen, and no side shoots should be allowed to appear to interfere in the growth, once rooting has taken place. It is a good plan when the shoots at the head commence to push out to arrange for cross pieces of wire or thin stakes to which the shoots can be tied and so support them. These need not protrude far and the foliage soon hides them.

During the winter months Fuchsias should not be subjected to much heat, in order that the plants can rest, though care must be taken that at no time are they allowed to get very dry. Amateurs who have not attempted the growing of standard Fuchsias will not find them difficult. Beyond Green Fly they have few enemies, and this pest can be got rid of by syringing and avoiding the plants getting dry. Fuchsias propagate easily from cuttings, and the veriest tyro in gardening can be successful with them if they are treated rationally.

The following sorts have long been acknowledged as being specially good for growing on for standards, and it is within the
scope of anyone with a greenhouse t
cure struck cuttings in spring with a v
start them on their way:—Singles: Sv
Gem; Amy Lye, corolla reddish sa
Monarch, large flowers, bright red; Bea
Trowbridge, pink corolla, white tub
sepals; Rose of Castile Improved,
purple corolla; Covent Garden White,
tube and sepals, pink corolla; Marink
mon. Doubles: Phenomenal, very
corolla violet, sepals red; Emily Wil
rosy pink corolla; Heron, purple
corolla, tube and sepals carmine; E
Beaconsfield, brilliant orange; Ballet
tube and sepals coral red, corolla whit
France, dark blue, sepals bright red.

LEAHU

Hedysarum multijugum

By far the greater proportion o
flowering shrubs have their season of d
during the early spring months, hence
that flower during the summer and
autumn months are of particular valu
maintaining the interest of the shru
Hedysarum multijugum usually begi
flower at the end of June and continue
remarkable freedom until Septembe
native of the drier regions of Eastern
it succeeds best in a well-drained soil a
an open, sunny position. It is a deci
shrub of somewhat straggling habit,
ing a height of 3 feet or 4 feet, and s
thus be given a position towards the fr
the shrubbery. The deep, rose-col
flowers are produced from the axil of
leaf in compact racemes as the shoot g
thus accounting for its long period of di

W. AUT

Standard Fuchsias are exceedingly handsome in the flower garden when covered with their graceful blooms

ranium Farreri, a choice plant for the rock garden

f neat, tufted habit about 3 inches high,
s like big soft pink Apple blossoms with
black anthers

axifraga granulata fl. pl.

eadows and pastures in different parts
ountry the meadow Saxifrage is occa-
to be met with growing quite in-
sly in colonies in the damp grass,
e the Common Buttercup. It is the
form, however, which should be given
ce in gardens, for although the two
together, the double one is a thing of
reater beauty as well as of substance.
olony effect should certainly be repro-
he best situation being a moist Alpine
damp pocket on the rock garden, or
stretch behind a sheet of Kingcups
at the water's edge. The soil need
as moist as for the double Lady's
but at the same time the two go well
r, and with the Kingcups are almost
t to complete an April display round
d.
lowers are pure white and bell-shaped,
n hairy stems 6 inches to 18 inches in
the leaves, which spring chiefly from
e, are kidney-shaped and distinctly
A curious characteristic by which the
ay readily be recognised is that it
ttle brown bulbs, or, more correctly,
about the size of a Pea, among the
t the base of the stem both above and
e ground-level. Young plants can be
rom these, as well as from seed and
ion of the old clumps.

F. C. S. R.

Azalea rosæflora

arely that we can have the full beauty
reenhouse plant in the rock garden,
ough there are many who prefer the
charm of the true Alpine for its own
t the beauty and the colours of such
s the double forms of Azalea indica
always be worth having, if only by
contrast. It is no exaggeration to say
get them both in Azalea rosæflora,
is is really only a dwarf form of the
use shrub. It is prostrate and rarely
ore than 8 inches or 10 inches high,
preserves the lovely, crinkly, double
on a slightly smaller scale, of its
own relative, and at the same time
s as rich a salmon colour as any of
nhouse varieties. Its correct botani-
e is Rhododendron indicum var.
næflorum, since the Azaleas are now
rated in the genus Rhododendron.
ves are about an inch long and $\frac{1}{8}$ in.
enerally oval, glossy green on the
urface, grey beneath, and bristly on
both sides, the flowers being borne singly or in pairs at the ends of the previous year's twigs.

It has lived out-of-doors for many years at Kew, and may be considered hardy in the Midlands and the south of England, although it would certainly be happiest near the south or west coast. It shares with the rest of the family their characteristic intolerance of lime, but if these two fads are kept in mind it is not a difficult plant to cultivate. When seen flourishing in a pocket of soil and covering the surface of a boulder, as it is in the rock garden at Wisley, it possesses a soft but irresistible charm worthy of any trouble that may be found necessary to make it at home.

F. R.

Ramondia serbica and R. Nathaliæ in flower together in vertical rock crevices in Mr. G. P. Baker's rock garden at Kippington, Sevenoaks

Arisarum probiscideum

This is an inconspicuous little plant belonging to the Araceæ and hailing from Southern Europe. Inconspicuous because the flowers are generally hidden by the big, shining, green leaves, which are very sagittate in shape, quite like those of the common Cuckoo-pint or Lords-and-Ladies in fact, and 3 inches or 4 inches long. Even when the flowers are hunted out, however, from under their canopy of foliage they prove to be anything but beautiful, their chief claim to cultivation lying in their grotesque form, and they are odd enough to recommend themselves to any lover of the unusual in flowers. The tip of the spathe is drawn out into a thin flexible tube several inches in length and resembling nothing so much as a mouse's tail.

There is another plant, strangely enough, whose flowers, though botanically remote from the Mousetail, yet produce a somewhat similar effect—Phyteuma comosum. This belongs to the Campanula family, but is very different from other members of it in outward appearance, for the flowers are borne in large heads or umbels, and in each one the corolla bulges out at the base and is then drawn in again at the top, looking like an inflated paper bag ready to be burst. The likeness of the bag to the cowl of the Mousetail, however, is heightened by the protrusion of the style at the neck, forming a distinct tail. Arisarum likes a deep, rich, moist soil, and is at home in partial shade in a rock garden, while it also makes an excellent carpet of rich, glossy, green in the bog garden. It spreads rapidly, making little white, lumpy, oblong tubers, which afford a ready means of propagation.

F. C. S. Robinson.

Dianthus Freynii and D. microlepis

Though Dianthus Freynii and its near ally, D. microlepis, do not appeal to those who seek for bold and showy effects in their rock gardens, to those who admire the more miniature yet perfect beauty of the dwarfer flowers, both give true delight.

It is impossible to overpraise these two miniature Pinks, which are seen at their best in a moraine, with their exquisite little cushions of blue-green or more vivid emerald spangled over with the miniature yet perfect rose or white flowers. There is little difference between the two, and, for that matter, from a garden standpoint they might be classed together. D. Freynii is more of a blue-green than D. microlepis, but the latter's foliage hues vary considerably. All of them, however, present the same close cushion of tiny leaves, with the charming flowers sitting almost on the surface of the cushion. These Dianthuses may be grown in the rock garden in very free and gritty soil and in sun, but they appear happier in the moraine, where they form lovely cushions or mats only a few inches across, and where they increase by self-sown seeds. Propagation may be effected by seeds or cuttings.

So far as I have observed, these Dianthuses appear to have no preference as regards lime in the soil. S. Arnott.

Patrinea palmata

This lovely plant is charming for the rock garden, where it usually thrives in soils of an open nature. In general appearance the flower is that of our native Centaury, with its abundance of flowers; but instead of pink clusters of flowers, it bears showy, yellow blossoms, gracefully set off in its handsome, glossy leaves. It bears a loose head of flowers about 9 inches high, which last a considerable time, and will withstand full exposure to the sun if given plenty of water at the roots. Not the least attractive feature about the plant is its mild fragrance. It is particularly useful in consequence of coming into bloom during July, when other bright colours are fading away.

It should be grown in broad masses in positions where a rich, summer effect is desired. I grow it in loam and leaf-mould, mixed with small stones, and in a position where it can have plenty of water and sunshine. It may be grown on fully exposed spots, but in too dry a position it is apt to become stunted with the droughts of early summer; when placed in some moist cranny, however, it soon expands into tufts of the loveliest rich yellow and continues in flower for a long time.

It is of such remarkable beauty and grace that it may be used with good effect on the lower flanks of the rock garden where the rock is suggested rather than exposed. Plants may be purchased in pots at any season.

H. Stevens.

Hippocrepis comosa

This is one of the prettiest of our native plants and well worthy of cultivation on walls or some arid position on the rock garden where a plant of trailing habit is required. It is a neat plant with a prostrate habit, forming a dense mass of wiry shoots that freely trail along the ground, bearing a profusion of bright yellow blossoms in Coronilla-like heads on slender stems well above the foliage. The unopened flowers are drooping in the bud, which adds greatly to their charm.

The plant is quite perennial, but on some cold soils perishes in winter. Where it does so it should be raised annually from cuttings. It will thrive in any soil, and may be used with the best effect as a drooping plant over the face of a large rock. H. Stevens.

The plague of weeds

In all the language of gardening there is no truer saying than the old adage, "One year's seeding, seven years' weeding." Personally, I have good cause to realise the truth of this saying. I had the misfortune three years ago to take possession of a garden which, owing to its having been for some time tenantless, became literally overrun with weeds. This will be my third year of weeding, and I look forward, if I am spared, to the full quota of years allocated by the originator of the famous saying. Each spring a fresh batch of dormant seed is brought to the surface of the soil to await its development in seasonable course. And herein, of course, lies the truth of the adage. It is quite impossible in a year or two, even with the most rigorous weeding, to exterminate the produce of one year's seeding. Many seeds fail to germinate the first year or so because in the ordinary course of cultivation they get buried in the soil. It is quite true that a proportion of the seeds which are buried in the soil rot and become harmless, but it is equally true that many retai
germination powers for some years and
brought to the surface, soon sta
growth. This is why the results of ne
cultivation are not always apparent
and why the sins of a former tenant
visited on his unfortunate successor.

The curse of weeds may, of cour
many other gardening adversities,
garded as one of the preventable trou
the gardener, but, unfortunately, this
of the cases where the innocent mus
for the guilty. The tidy and indu
cultivator has too often to cope with
of weeds which have sprung from see
duced by a careless and negligent nei
The harm done by careless gardeners
confined to the production and dissem
of weeds alone. By his omission
with insect and fungus pests he may
considerable damage to the crops in
bouring gardens. The remedy agai
invasion of weed seeds from the gar
those who are indifferent to their gr
not easy to suggest. In some cases
ance is the cause of this indifference.

There is no doubt that all those w
anxious to secure a clean soil should
the hoe as their best friend. There
greater check on the growth of weed
the constant plying of that valuable
ment, and in the operation of keeping
weed growth the gardener is incidenta
creasing the fertility of his soil. It i
known to all gardeners that hoeing n
conserves the moisture of the soil by l
ing evaporation, but it aids in the int
tion of oxygen, which is so necess
healthy root action. In conclusion, a
of caution is offered to those who are
habit of hoeing up their weeds and l
them on the surface of the soil. In h
weather there is no harm in doing thi
vided the weeds are not about to bear
but in showery weather the weeds wi
quickly take root again and grow as
ously as before. H. Grea

JUNE-FLOWERING IRISES

Bird's-eye views of the seedling I
in Mrs. Dykes' garden at Bobbingc
near Woking, Surrey

wonderful achievement

he midst of the gardens at Alton ers, once the home of the Earls of wsbury and Talbot, there stands an Choragic Temple, brought from in which has been placed a statue of eenth Earl of that noble house.

ill be seen from the illustration, it beautiful garden ornament, but it more than that. It is a permanent al of one of the most remarkable tural achievements that this country r known.

we take into consideration the fact fore the Earl set to work to create beauty now to be seen around his ent, the vale of the Churnet was a retch of moorland, untamed by the man, a scene of wild grandeur, al-eeless, with gorse, and bracken, and as its main produce. It was a an task to undertake, but he made a vow that he would win a garden from d, and make it bud and blossom like .

ceaseless toil the work went forward, und was cleared, gorse and bracken d, trees were planted, including one finest collections of Cedars in this , and a number of rare exotics which urished in that sheltered vale. Lakes ade, waterfalls began to make music tumbled down the shelving banks valley; and winding paths were con-, and, eventually, one of the most e gardens was laid out, the final re-ausing quite a flutter in the tural dovecotes.

ontent with the beauty of flower and e noble Earl, who had a highly artis-e, searched the world for ornaments uld enhance the beauty, and give a g touch to his work.

brought Chinese Temples, and s, from far-away China, a Roman om Italy, statuary from the ateliers ent sculptors, the Choragic Temple illustrates this note from Athens, s of various kinds, and other artistic that add their quota of beauty to the

e midst of the gardens, too, arose that e palace, known as Alton Towers. de for the Earl who loved all that utiful in Nature and Art. And now, urn of the wheel of Fortune the are open for the enjoyment of the and large numbers flock there dur-spring and summer months and their beauty and fragrance. It is pped that everyone who passes by the c Temple will raise the hat in hom-the noble Earl who wrought so ous a transformation, and, as the ion on his statue states,

ADE THE DESERT SMILE.

HENRY WALKER.

on le Marsh,
Alford, Lincs.

An Athenian Choragic Temple in the gardens at Alton Towers

boxes for summer flowers

v bright flowers in tubs or boxes are ceptable through the summer months urban gardens where there is little or beds or borders. Oak tubs with are the best, but they are expensive ond the reach of limited incomes, and erefore, welcomes the New Zealand gentine butter-boxes, which are re-or a few pence. Made of stout Pine inch in thickness and 12 inches each nside measurement), they will, with st three seasons. If the bottom is in ece a few holes should be bored for drainage and a couple of slips screwed on two sides to keep it clear of the ground. Also the boxes should have an exterior coat of paint of a nice green shade or of Oak varnish. Pelargoniums like Paul Crampel, King of Denmark, and La Cygne; Fuchsias General Roberts and Ballet Girl; Salvia Pride of Zurich and Heliotrope The Speaker are a few of the older things that can be relied on to flower freely and continuously until the advent of frost. Two or three boxes of Frankoa ramosa are also welcome. The long, feathery spikes are a pleasing break from the dwarfer things. There are, of course, many hardy flowers that can be used for a similar purpose, as Funkias, Œnotheras, early Phloxes, and Starworts of the Amellus and Cordifolius type, but their flowering season is not so long sustained as that of the tender plant above noted.

In preparing soil for and filling boxes avoid too much drainage, and place over the crocks a layer of dry cow manure. This is better than leaves or Moss, as it acts as a good stimulant to the plants when the roots penetrate to that depth; also some of the same thoroughly broken up and rendered fine can be mixed with the soil, three parts loam and one of leaf-soil. I used to find no better compost than that from a heap of good road-sidings, but it is risky in these days with a lot of tar on the roads, also there is a lack of anything in the way of manure incorporated with the road-siding. Petrol is strongly in evidence, but very few horse-droppings. It may be well to add a special note in connection with this box gardening, that it is not advisable to make a start with it if the householder contemplates an absence from home for some two or three weeks through the summer months and has no one on whom he can rely to attend to the plants during his absence. I fear he would find them sorry objects on his return if the weather had proved hot and dry. E. BURRELL.

Lavatera (Mallow)

Although the Mallows, generally speaking, do not rank very high amongst the more important border plants, they include several which are very showy, free-flowering subjects, especially when planted in positions where comparatively tall plants are in request. They are, moreover, particularly useful for indoor decoration. Some of the more modern varieties are very good, the flowers being rich in colour, and deserving of extended cultivation. One of the foremost varieties among the hardy annual Lavateras is rosea splendens; this variety possesses excellent qualities as a garden plant, besides being very useful for cutting, the blooms lasting in good condition for a considerable time. Growing about 3 feet high, with large, brilliant rosy-pink flowers, it is very effective. Another form of splendens, called Sunset, has deep rose-pink flowers and grows about 2½ feet high. Loveliness, a form of rosea splendens, bears flowers of a much richer colour, with foliage of a bronzy hue. As a contrast to the foregoing, the variety known as alba splendens has large, glossy, white flowers; this variety grows about 3 feet high. L. trimestris, a South European annual, of similar height to the preceding, bears large, pale rose coloured flowers, and very useful as a border subject. There is also a white form of the above. The annual Mallows transplant rather badly, therefore seed is best sown where they are intended to flower. They thrive in rich and somewhat light soil, which should be well prepared before sowing the seed. Plenty of space should be given the plants for development, the height being indicative of the distance to allow.

One of the best among the perennial species is L. Olbia. This forms a neat, pyramidal bush 4 feet to 5 feet high, with sprays of clear, rose-pink flowers freely produced. It makes a bold and effective subject for the flower border or in the shrubbery. Small plants grown in pots are employed very largely for indoor decoration, for which purpose it is extremely useful. The Tree Mallow, L. arborea, attains a height of nearly 10 feet in the more favoured counties. There is also a variegated form of the latter, L. a. variegata, with red flowers and yellow, mottled leaves. J. L.

Herbaceous Calceolarias

The seeds of these handsome plants should now be sown in pans of sandy and leafy soil all passed through a fine meshed sieve. Water the pans a few hours before sowing the very fine seed, which should be sprinkled thinly over the surface and dusted over lightly with fine soil or sand. Stand the receptacles on a cool bed of ashes, cover with a sheet of glass, and shade from sunshine; cool, moist conditions being necessary for their welfare.

THE IRIS SHOW

THE Iris Society—a young and very active body—is to be heartily congratulated upon the success of the show held in the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall on June 6th and 7th.

It was unquestionably the finest show of Irises ever held in this country, and the arrangements for the exhibition left nothing to be desired. The Society is fortunate in having an enthusiastic Hon. Secretary in Mr. G. L. Pilkington, assisted by many willing helpers. A special vote of thanks is due to Mr. George Dillistone for the planning and organisation of this exhibition, and to Major George Churcher, the Hon. Treasurer.

The show was opened by the French Ambassador, introduced by Sir William Lawrence, the President of the Iris Society. In the afternoon lady members of the Garden Clubs of America were entertained to tea, when Mr. Gerald Loder, President of the Royal Horticultural Society, made a speech of welcome to the visitors that gladdened the hearts of all present.

The centre of the hall was filled with large groups of Irises by nurserymen.

Here were to be seen the exhibits of the well-known Iris growers, Wallace and Co., G. Bunyard and Co., The Orpington Nurseries, W. Wells, Junr., Waterer, Sons, and Crisp, Barr and Sons, George Whitelegg, Amos Perry, Mrs. W. R. Dykes, Daniels Bros., Lowe and Gibson, and Gavin Jones.

Competitive exhibits from amateurs, together with collections of Iris paintings, were arranged round the sides of the hall.

Competition was good in the amateur classes, and there were about 180 entries. In passing, it may be interesting to record that the attendance at the show was as follows:—First day, 2,681; second day, 2,282; total, 4,963.

Looking back upon the show, varieties of special merit that stand out clearly in this vast array of Irises were Mme. Cecile Bouscault (mauve-pink), shown by G. L. Pinkington, Mrs. Valerie West, Lent A. Williamson, Shekinah, Misa, Bruno, Zoano, Duke of Bedford, John Waterer, Grace Sturtevant, Tenebrae, Seminole, Goldcrest, Moonlight, Ed. Michel, Aphrodite, Lord of June, Marjory Tinley, Ann Page, Amber, Corrida, Magnifica, Louis Bel (the darkest purple in the hall—almost black), Dominion, Souv. de Mme. Gaudichau.

In the opinion of Mr. George Yeld, that fine old variety, Crusader, raised by Sir Michael Foster, is still in the front rank among bearded Irises.

The leading amateur exhibitors and prize winners were:—G. L. Pilkington, B. R. Long, Mr. C. W. Christie Miller, E. W. Meyerstein, Rev. Rollo Meyer, G. P. Baker, Sir William Lawrence, Sutcliffe Pyman, Lady Elphinstone, George Yeld, Mrs. S. M. Garnett, Mrs. Fitz-Hugh, Miss Pesel, F. Wynn Hellings, F. W. Tomalin, E. C. Levett, and G. H. Furness.

In addition to many other prizes, Mr. G. L. Pilkington won the Silver Medal of the American Iris Society and the Challenge Cup presented by Mrs. Philip Runciman for the best exhibit by an amateur. This exhibit was one of the features of the show. The Gordon-Lennox Challenge Cup was won by London Gardens, Ltd., for a decorative exhibit.

Collections of Iris paintings were of exceptional interest, and included the work of W. J. Caparne, Frank Galsworthy, and Champion Jones, the paintings by the last named being kindly lent by Miss Willmott.

NEW SEEDLINGS

The classes for new seedlings were keenly contested, and the following awards made: Silver gilt medal, Carfax (red-purple), of tall branching habit, shown by Mr. A. J. Bliss, Tavistock.

Silver medal: Trigo (tall, dark purple), shown by Miss Insole and recommended for the Dykes Memorial Medal.

Mrs. George Whitelegg, a neat, medium-sized flower, standards amber, with dark brown reticulations on falls, shown by George Whitelegg.

A silver medal for new seedlings was also awarded to Mr. Amos Perry for Joan Curtis, an improved Flaming Sword. The Certificate of Merit for new seedlings was awarded to G. L. Pilkington for Yukon, a very light blue, and for unnamed seedlings shown by Miss Insole, Frank Burton, Mrs. Hamilton Rowan, and Amos Perry. H. C.

The Luncheon

Sir William Lawrence presided at the Iris Society's luncheon, and among the guests were Continental growers of the Iris and members of the Garden Club of America.

The toast of "The Iris Society" was proposed by Mr. Raymond E. Cox, of the United States Embassy.

The President, proposing the toast of "The Guests," pleaded for free trade between the nations in flowers and plants. Restrictions on the importation, he said, were imposed by Ministers of Agriculture ostensibly as safeguards against the introduction of diseases affecting flowers and plants. That was all right, but he often had his doubts as to the motive. Ladies of the Garden Club of America who visited his gardens at Burford, Dorking, had asked him where they could get some of the plants which they admired, and he told them that they were to be had from growers in this country or on the Continent. He was then informed that plants imported into America had to be baked on their arrival before delivery so as to destroy insects. Plants were, therefore, chiefly obtained from Japan, because the journey across the Pacific was shorter and because such plants did not have to be baked. He was not going to put any blame on America, but he felt that such regulations, having been started with the most laudable of motives, tended to degenerate into protection.

Mrs. Lloyd, of the American Iris Society, spoke highly of the English raised varieties Dominion and Lord of June, and said that as Mr. Hoover had promised that the Department of Agriculture was to be reorganised, they had hopes in America that all the beautiful flowers they had seen at the show would be allowed to come in.

Mdlle. Yvonne Salmon, University of Reading, and Mr. Hoog, Holland, also replied.

Iris Show; Riviera jottings

By ED. H. WOODALL.

WHAT a wonderful show of Irises was to be seen in the New Hall! The masses of bloom and the number of named varieties were such that every Iris enthusiast needed to be there if only to determine for himself or herself which flower should be his or her choice. It must be said that there are *too many names,* and only personal observation can decide what choice one will make out of so many. But when all are beautiful how difficult it is to choose! Having recently returned from the South of France, where these June-flowering Irises enjoy the most robust
health, I can at least compare the be
-of some varieties, and it is very sati
to say that many very beautiful form
good, if not better, in England than
south.

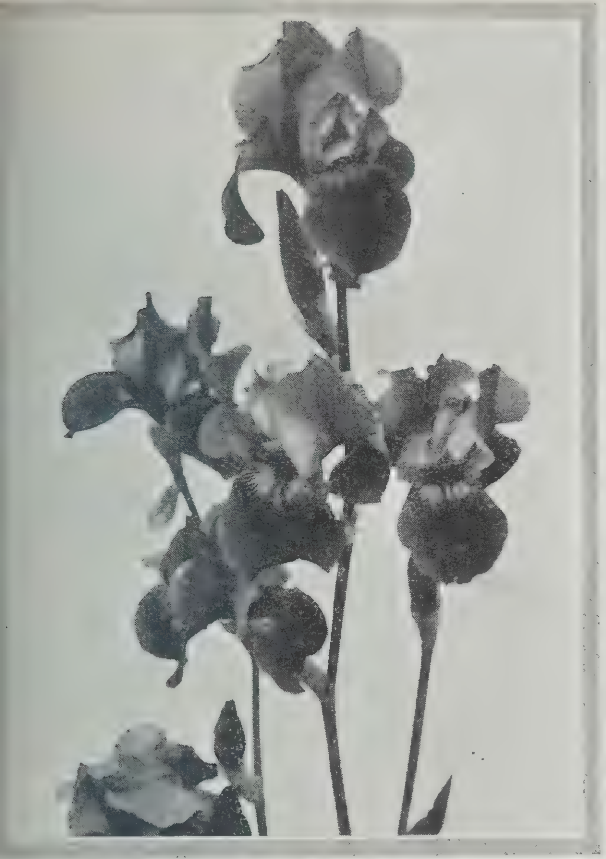
For instance, I can freely assert th
flowers as the richly coloured Alca
striking Aphrodite, the beautifu
Ballerine, the ruddy Evadne, the
Magnifica, the pale but lovely
Schwartz, the golden Flaming Swo
deep blue Duke of Bedford, and the cl
tones of Lent A. Williamson all come
fection in England, even in a late an
season like that which now afflicts
all may venture on such robust and b
varieties.

But it must, I fear, be owned by the
grow Irises in the South of Fran
there are varieties which rarely, if e
themselves justice in a northern clima
by that very fact are all the more desi
the eye of the enthusiast. For i
Dream (most exquisite of all), Rom
Titan (two giants in size and
Duchess Sarah, Souvenir de Mme.
chau, Mons. Cornuault, Mme.
Bouscault, and a good many other
are so immeasurably more beautifu
southern climate that it pains a ga
heart to see them so unworthily ex
Perhaps in some seasons and situatio
may be better than those shown to-d
would not prevent enthusiasts growin
though I would urge more easy-going
leave them alone, despite their great
Two or three novelties struck me
desirable when they can be put on the

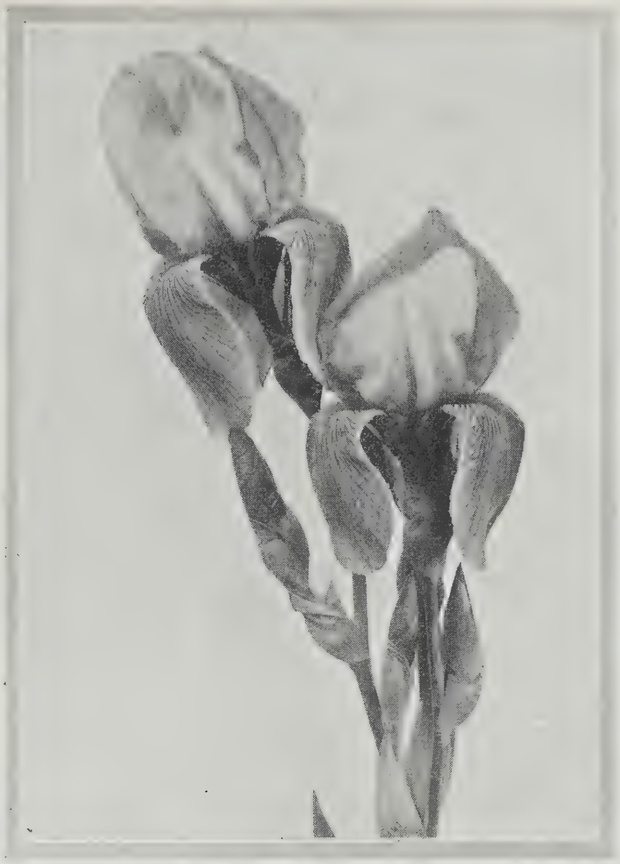
ED. H. WOO

A beautiful exhibit

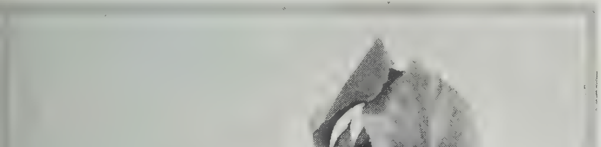
Interesting as the exhibition wa
whole, it was left for Mrs. W. R. D
Bobbingcourt, Mayford, Woking,
play these beautiful hardy flowers
artistic manner. We came to this co
after a survey of the whole show.
with a sense of relief that we cam
this truly beautiful display, as an
the desert. Mrs. Dykes' conception
playing her many beautiful seedlin
other named varieties was ideal. The
in all some three dozen receptacle
unique character. They consisted m
large jam and pickle jars painted a de
tone of green, shading into yello
mauve, with touches of blue, all ha
ing charmingly with the flowers and
of this beautiful subject. The vase
arranged in two tiers of tabling, cover
black velvet, and the disposition of
ferent varieties left nothing to be
The varieties exhibited were mostly n
and seedlings raised by either the l
Dykes or by Mrs. Dykes herself. W
mention just a few of the more strikin
These were: Akbar (dusky violet, sha
bronze), Britoness (primrose-yellow
with an orange beard, a large
Cupavo (an enormous flower, sta
reddish-lilac, with deeper velvety fall
conspicuous violet reticulations on a
ground), Zaharoon (a most dis
bearded Iris that has won the Iris S
silver-gilt medal in a class for one se
the colour is soft buff, overlaid with
of pale violet, with bronze reticulatio
an orange beard). Superbly fine were
a variety that has gained many hono
may be described as a pure deep yello
with a prominent reddish-gold bea
really handsome sort is Aphrodite, wh
been described as the pinkest of th
Irises. A grand vase of this variety
conspicuous feature of this fine display.
mony was excellent. The spikes of th
variety invariably carry four fully
blooms of splendid quality. D. F



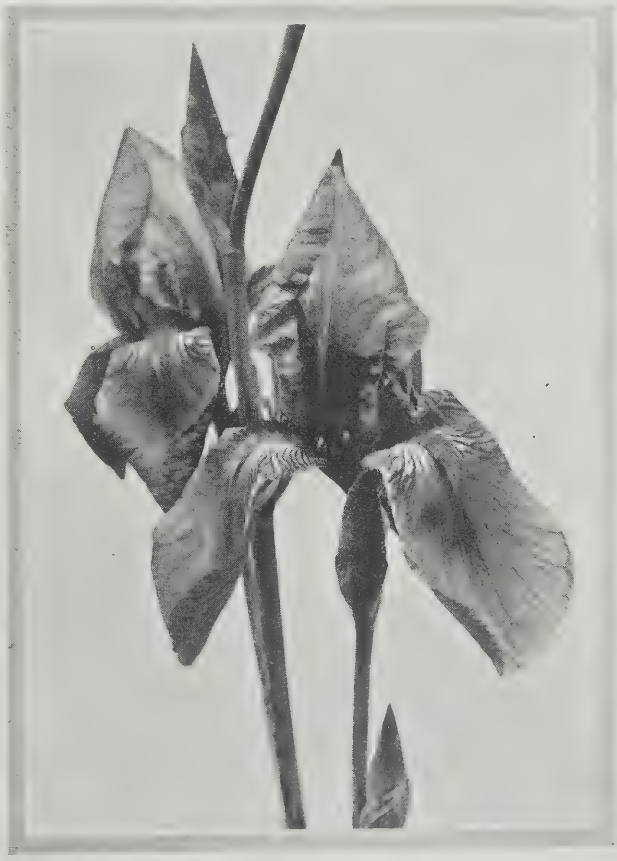
Carfax, a single spike with six expanded flowers and many buds. tall, branching habit, standards red-purple, falls dark crimson-rple. Silver Gilt Medal. Shown by Mr. A. J. Bliss, Morwell-m, Tavistock, Devon.



Mrs. George Whitelegg, a neat and medium-sized flower with shot amber standards and dark brown reticulations on the falls—a well shaped and distinct novelty that attracted great attention. Silver Medal. Shown by Mr. G. Whitelegg.



Louis Bel, the darkest variety in the Show. Flowers small, andards dark purple, falls almost black. Raised by Denis. own by G. L. Pilkington.



Crusader, an old variety that holds its own, raised by the late Sir Michael Foster, 1913. Remarkable for the clear blue of its broad petalled flowers and sharp pointed buds. Shown by Rev. Rollo Meyer.

SEEN AT THE IRIS SHOW

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Tomatoes

Assist the swelling fruits with a weekly application of manure water, care being taken to see that the plants are not unduly dry when applying the latter, otherwise scorching of the foliage will result. All ripe fruits should be removed as there is a tendency for such to split when permitted to remain upon the plants in a hot, moist atmosphere. An occasional spraying of the plants will then do no harm; indeed, it will assist in maintaining the plants in a clean and vigorous condition. Remove all side shoots at regular intervals, as these congest the plants, shut out air, and tend to encourage attacks of White Fly. Should the latter put in an appearance, cyaniding must be resorted to immediately, and repeated every ten days, until this pest is stamped out.

Onions

Those sown in March should be thinned out to a few inches apart, according to requirements, many preferring medium-sized bulbs to those of a large size. If, however, the latter are required, then a foot between the plants is advised. Immediately thinning has taken place, the hoe should be run through the soil and the latter pressed firmly around the base of the plants as a guard against Onion Fly, which has become a menace in many gardens. Should the latter make its appearance, mix a wine-glass full of paraffin with a pint of boiling water, adding the latter to 3 gallons of soft water, and rose this along each drill, applying it during the evening.

Winter vegetables

All varieties of Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Borekoles, Cabbage, Leeks, Savoys, Coleworts, etc., must now be planted out in quantity, and although the most satisfactory results are obtained when clear ground is available, it frequently happens that, in gardens of limited dimensions, one is compelled to plant between rows of early Potatoes; in such instances allowance should be made by leaving a little more space between the plants. Should the weather at the time prove hot and dry, water must be frequently applied until the plants are established.

Asparagus

Cutting should cease after this date in order to give the plants a chance to build up good crowns for next year's supply. Apply a dressing of agricultural salt to the beds, and when growth is advanced feed the beds liberally; the drainage from farmyards, when diluted, being excellent for this purpose. Keep the surface stirred with the hoe.

Late vineries

Admit air freely and feed liberally if the crop is a good one, as a great deal of moisture will be absorbed by the rapid growth and swelling fruit. It is often possible to dispense with fire heat altogether from this date, except during temporary spells of dull, rainy weather, when a gentle circulation of warmth through the pipes during the night is advisable. Such houses usually contain a variety of kinds, and immediately the earliest of these commence to colour, little air should be left on the top of the house during the night, so long as the temperature is not permitted to fall unduly.

Strawberries

No time must be lost in getting the plants mulched with clean straw if the fruits are to be gathered clean, but straw is almost unobtainable in some districts and resort must be made to bracken, or even grass cut before going to seed. I have seen the latter used with satisfactory results.

Autumn fruiting Raspberries

These always produce a quantity of surplus growths at their base, and before such are permitted to sap the vitality of the plants they should be removed, it being possible to judge which are the best to retain when the shoots are a foot in height, and those remaining must be encouraged by frequent applications of water. Those carrying crops of swelling fruits should receive a weekly dose of liquid manure

Fruit trees

A good wash for the destruction of the numerous caterpillars now devouring the leaves of fruit trees is "Katakilla," which kills whenever it comes in contact, and is very safe to use. Some sprays, while perfectly safe to use on certain varieties of Apples, are dangerous on others, causing the trees to shed their leaves, and thus care is needed in selecting a wash. Whatever is used, it is essential to drive it with force into all parts of the trees.

Roses

Even where carpets of dwarf plants are used to beds of Roses, the latter are improved by a frequent stirring of the surface soil; Green Fly and Caterpillar are present and must be destroyed by spraying. Quassia and nicotine is a very effective remedy and is offered already mixed, as here given, by various horticultural sundriesmen.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Maincrop Leeks

If the plants have attained a decent size they should now be planted on very rich and deeply-worked soil in an open position. Drills 3 inches deep and 15 inches to 18 inches apart should be drawn with a hoe, and the Leeks planted in the bottoms of these, allowing from 6 inches to 9 inches from plant to plant in the rows. By planting in drills, the length of blanch is extended, the soil being worked in with the Dutch hoe as growth advances.

Russian Kale

This is probably the best of all the Kales as regards pleasant flavour, so it is rather curious that it is so much neglected in gardens. It is quite as hardy as any of the Borecoles, and is in use from November till April. In appearance it somewhat resembles the old Ragged Jack, but is in every way superior. The treatment usually afforded the ordinary Kales suits it admirably.

Winningstadt Cabbage

For use in autumn and early winter no other Cabbage can compare with this variety. It is very hardy and much superior in table quality to the early Savoys. Planted on rich but firm soil, it attains a fair size, while in flavour it is always pleasant and agreeable. Allow about 21 inches between the plants each way.

Kidney Beans

Another sowing should now be got in, this being probably the most important batch of the lot. It is always desirable to sow more than one variety at this time, and I can recommend Sutton's Masterpiece, Sutton's Evergreen, and, of course, a good strain of the old Canadian Wonder, which for general excellence is still unsurpassed. Rich, well-tilled soil and an open, sunny posi
necessary for best results.

Savoys

If the above Cabbage be grown, t
very little use for the early varieties;
use after Christmas such varieties as
son's Omega and Ormskirk are most
being very hardy and of good quality.
these 2 feet from plant to plant, eac
and plant on fairly rich ground.

Cucumbers

During the height of summer, Thr
Red Spider are apt to be very troub
unless the plants are vigorously sy
daily and the beds and paths fre
damped down. A dry, hot atmosphe
dryness at the roots are specially
guarded against, as these are the con
in which these pests thrive and m
Well thin out the shoots and afford
shade over the glass.

Salading plants

Frequent small sowings of Lettu
Radish are necessary in preference t
quantities being put in at long int
while Mustard and Cress should be
every four or five days, according to d

Tomatoes

Generous supplies of water are
necessary, especially for plants grow
pots or in boxes, but, at the same tin
soil must not be kept constantly sat
As the plants are now carrying
quantities of fruit, feeding must
neglected, although care should be ex
as too strong doses may easily do
harm.

Grape thinning

If possible have this very necessa
rather tedious, job undertaken during
wet days, for when the sun is shining
glass it is impossible to perform it i
thing like comfort.

Outdoor Peaches

Dryness at the roots is the worst
the Peach has to contend with. Being
always planted against a south wall
seldom possible in summer and
autumn to do without hand waterin
however, a generous layer of old mar
spread all over the surface as far
roots are likely to extend, much less w
will be necessary, the mulch helping w
fully to conserve moisture, besides k
the roots nice and cool.

Strawberry beds

If not yet done, get the rows "
down" with clean straw, or long,
grass, to prevent the fruits being sp
with mud. Before doing so, howev
move all weeds and "runners," an
hoe the surface. In the case of nev
laid down in spring, continue to r
flower-stems as they appear, and
"runners," unless the latter are requ
furnish plants in autumn. If the w
continues dry, a thorough soaking of
will greatly help the swelling berries

Thin hardy annuals

Continue to thin out these plants a
become fit to handle. It is best, whe
sible, to go over the beds twice at an i
of two or three weeks. At the first th
leave the little plants about 2 inches
and, at the final look-over, increase the
between each considerably, for it is o
giving these useful subjects abundant
that they give of their best.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgo

go, a very large flower seen for the first time with dark purple
falls. Shown by Miss Insole. Awarded Silver Medal and
nended for the Dykes Memorial Medal.

Mme. Cecile Bouscault, the large mauve pink Riccardi, difficult to grow, but shown in quantity and in splendid form by Mr. G. L. Pilkington.

Answers to Queries

es—*Queries and answers are inserted in*
NG ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre-*
ts *follow these rules: All communications*
be *clearly written on one side of the paper*
nd *addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING
TED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London,*
Letters on business should be sent to the
ER. *The name and address of the sender*
uired *in addition to any designation he*
sire *to be used in the paper. When more*
ne *query is sent, each should be on a*
piece of paper; the name and address
dded *to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

s

A.).—Pæonies of all kinds greatly
disturbance at the roots, so if you
oved your plants recently, that fully
s for their failing to bloom. If this
the cause, we would require some
information concerning the treat-
e plants received before we could give
inite opinion on the matter.

the Valley

. P.).—Frankly, we are puzzled to
for the conduct of your Lily of the
for we have seldom seen healthier and stronger foliage, and there is certainly nothing wrong with the roots. Have you been spraying fruit trees or bushes near to the Lily bed? The flowers look as if they had had some strong chemical sprayed over them, or else fumes from some chemical work, should such a thing be near, would account for the trouble. Sorry we cannot elucidate the matter further.

Diseased Irises

(W. J. O.).—No, your Irises are not affected with Botrytis disease, but with an Iris Leaf Spot caused by Heterosporium gracile. This disease affects several kinds of plants, *e.g.*, Iris, Hemerocallis, Freesia, etc. Your best plan will be to go over the affected foliage and cut away and burn the affected portions. Spray the healthy portions with a solution of sulphide of potassium at the rate of 1 oz. to 3 gallons of water. Repeat this treatment as often as is necessary to obtain control. Just as growth commences next year give the plants a thorough soaking with Cheshunt compound.

Tulip Fire

(Doubtful).—Your Tulips are infected with the disease called Tulip Fire. This disease carries itself over from one season to another by means of small black bodies which form towards the end of the season in the scales surrounding the bulb. You should collect and burn all the affected foliage, and when growth is complete in the rest of the bulbs, the whole should be lifted. Sort the bulbs over carefully before replanting and destroy those showing signs of the disease. The bulbs should be planted in another site next year.

Tulip dying off

(F. Sherwood Taylor).—The jar containing soil and Tulip bulbs has been examined and the creatures present are millepedes, Julus sp., but we are very doubtful as to whether or no they are the sole cause of the trouble. From the appearance of the bulbs we think that some other soil insect has been at work, probably wireworm. In either case your best plan will be to lift all the bulbs so soon as they have completed their growth, examine the bulbs carefully and burn any that show extensive signs of decay. Before planting back, the soil should receive a dressing of a good soil insecticide applied according to the makers' directions. Throughout the summer you could reduce the numbers of millepedes and wireworm by placing Potato traps in your soil. Take a Potato and cut into two, obtain some pointed sticks about 3 inches long and insert the point into the Potato, then bury the trap, leaving about 2 inches of stick out of the ground. Examine the trap once a week and destroy the collected pests.

Iris and Agapanthus foliage

(N. Jackson).—Your Irises are affected with a Leaf Spot caused by Heterosporium gracile. Please see reply to "W. J. O." as to control measures. We have carefully examined the Agapanthus foliage and can find nothing that would account for the trouble. It is possible that the spots are caused by the sun scalding through spots of water collected on the foliage. If so, moving the position of the tubs may put the matter right. Please note that we do not reply to queries through the post.

Diseased Antirrhinums

(J. E. S.).—Your Antirrhinums are affected with a Leaf Spot caused by a species of Cerospora. As only a few plants are affected it would appear that your best plan would be to spray the diseased plants with a weak solution of liver of sulphur, potassium sulphide, using 1 oz. of the chemical in 4 gallons of water. Dissolve the material in a little hot water and make up to 4 gallons with cold, soft water. Repeat the spray at intervals of a few days if necessary. When spraying, pay more attention to the plants that are near those affected; the spray fluid should prevent the spread of the trouble.

Diseased Lupin

(H. V.).—We have incubated the material sent and can find no trace of a fungus present which would account for the plants failing. It is probable that the real cause of the trouble is either "foot rot" or eelworm, either of which would be situated in the root stock, and, therefore, absent in the portion of plant sent. The severe winter has no doubt weakened many herbaceous plants, and we receive complaints by almost each post to this effect. You can do nothing except take up affected plants and burn them. Woodlice will, of course, aggravate the trouble; this pest could be trapped by loosely filling flower pots with hay that has been steeped in boiling water. The flower pots should be inverted and placed where the woodlice are most plentiful; examine each morning and kill the woodlice collected.

Delphiniums dying

(A. E. H.).—We have examined your specimens and can find no trace of an organism which could cause the death of the plant. It appears to us likely that some of the plants were killed by the severe winter, and that those that grew a little and then went off were so weakened by the weather that they failed to survive. Did you give any sort of protection over the crowns of the plants during winter? A little dry ash from a garden fire would be a good material to use for this purpose. The vaporite has had nothing to do with the trouble.

Lupin dropping flowers

(R. Sutton).—It is impossible to say the cause of the Lupins dropping their flowers without a complete plant for examination. It is quite possible that the cold weather has had something to do with it, but on the other hand we rather suspect root trouble. Take up a plant and see if the root system is in good condition. If not, send it along and we can examine it for you and report in due course.

Increasing Lupins by means of cuttings

(W. B. Clark).—You do not say to which species you refer, so we deal with both. Cuttings of Tree Lupins torn off with a heel attached and inserted in sandy soil in a cool frame about the second week in August will root freely. The cuttings should not exceed 4 inches in length, they must be shaded for a time from bright sunshine, and sprayed lightly over in the evening following hot, sunny days, but on no account kept in a constantly wet condition. Herbaceous Lupins: side shoots may be torn off these, both in spring and after flowering, and if treated as recommended for Tree Lupins will root readily. We have also rooted these plants in sandy soil at the rear of a north wall in the open in late summer, when shoots 6 inches in length may be used.

Time to sow the seed of Meconopsis Baileyi and other species

(W. B. Clark).—From the end of July to the beginning of September is the best time to sow the seed of Meconopsis Baileyi and all the other species which bloom at the same time. Later flowering kinds, such as Wallacei, should be sown immediately the seeds are ripe, preferably before the second week in September. If sown in pots or pans of fine sandy and leafy soil and kept in a cool closed frame, germination will soon take place. Shade from bright sunshine is necessary, and a slate or tile placed over the pots will prevent evaporation. Expose the young seedlings to light and sunshine very gradually.

GREENHOUSE

Dracæna indivisa damaged by frost

(C. E. Hoyland).—It depends on what sort of a plant you desire. If you require one with a single stem, reduce the young shoots to three when about 2 inches long, and in about a fortnight's time retain the most promising of the three and remove the remainder. But if you prefer two or three stems from the base, leave the three, as very handsome specimens are often seen with several stems, but if elegance is desirable retain one only. You did quite right in cutting the old stem down and dressing the wound.

Seedling Nerines

(E. B.).—None of the Nerines are really hardy in this country. The seedlings should remain in the seed pan in which they were raised for a couple of years and be then potted off singly into 3-inch pots, in which they should be kept until they flower. The time taken to reach the flowering state varies considerably, but is seldom under four years, and until they are large enough to bloom it is desirable to keep them growing slowly, so water must be given all the year. The soil that suits this plant well is a mixture of 2 parts best fibrous loam, 1 part leaf-mould, and enough clean, sharp sand to ensure porosity.

Strelitzia Regina

(W. R. J.).—The Bird of Paradise Flower (for such it is often called) is a cool greenhouse plant, and we doubt whether you will be able to do much with it in a living-room window. We advise you to keep it on the
dry side whilst in a small state, an
into a larger pot when it is seen th
roots are travelling well round the
one. A compost consisting of 3 part
and 1 part made up of leaf-mould, pe
sand will suit it admirably. Water wi
and give all the sunshine possible.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Douglas Fir

(A. W.).—While the Douglas Fir, af
coming properly established, is pe
hardy, in the young state, and esp
when recently planted, it is apt to be h
hard frost, and even if it escaped th
very dry spring must have been very
to these young trees. We would be i
to defer the planting of this tree
February.

Japanese Maples

(M. L. W.).—(1) You would probab
that budding rather than grafting wou
suit your purpose. Do this in Augu
is hardly possible to give every detail
process in the space at disposal, but
know how Roses are budded you will h
trouble in carrying this out. (2) Th
can be propagated by seeds sown imme
they are ripe, by cuttings in autumn,
layering during late summer. (3) Th
mon Maple is used as a stock, and "
grafting in spring is the usual meth
ployed.

Wistaria not flowering

(Mrs. A.).—Without knowing your
of culture of the Wistaria we have di
in helping you to determine the reas
the non-blooming of your plants. If a
to grow unchecked this plant does not
produce many flowers, especially whe
young, vigorous state. The side
should be shortened back during sum
much the same manner employed fo
fruit trees, while in winter these same
are cut further back, and thus encoura
production of flower-buds.

Diseased Scotch Fir

(I. S. Turnbull).—The specimen of
Fir sent in for examination is affecte
Pine Cluster Cup, which is caus
Coleosporium senecionis. This fungus
which grows in different plants during
ing periods of its life-history. One k
spores is produced on Pines, and this
spore germinates on various plants
Senecio genus, such as Groundsel, Ra
and also cultivated Cinerarias, and pro
rust. We frequently get the rust sent
office causing trouble on Cinerarias.
plantation is a young one you should b
to control the disease by clearing o
weeds that are in the Natural Order
positæ and using a spray fluid su
Bordeaux Mixture on the affected trees
fungus is perennial in the tissues of th
foliage, and therefore you should kee
trees sprayed at intervals until all the a
foliage drops. All affected needles sho
raked up and burned. If the above s
tions are practical you should be able
trol the disease.

Name of shrub

(W. R. Y.).—Lonicera pileata, a pe
hardy Chinese shrub of dwarf and co
growth, excellent for clothing a sunny
where its bright purple berries are of u
interest. It seems curious that such a
subject, when grown as a bush, sho
capable of reaching several feet in
when trained to a wall in a green
There is, however, no doubt whatever
its name, as a similar piece sent for iden
tion from the same locality last year ha
struck and grown into a nice bush.

FRUIT

tmaston Duchess

ennington).—While it would be ad- thin the fruits somewhat we would se reducing to but one to a truss. here are three or four, reduce to two, think that a tree of that age will ' these nicely.

ed Peaches

W. Yates).—The Peach leaves sent nination are badly attacked by Red nd this pest is the cause of the leaves To keep the foliage of Peaches it is essential that the trees are twice daily, morning and afternoon, hen the trees are in flower and when is ripening. If this is done Red an be kept under control, and a bad f Spider shows that syringing has glected or that the work has been one. With a tree in the condition yours appears to be you had better supply of " Volck," details of which find in our advertisement columns. , of course, use the material accord- e makers' directions. In addition to " syringe with plenty of water on rable occasions.

owers dropping

ben).—We have examined your pecimens and there is no trace of in- ungus trouble, and we can only con- at frost is the cause of your trouble. Todleben Pear has the reputation of free cropper. Does your garden lie hat late spring frosts are a feature ing? If so, it would explain the dropping each year. Try giving the ressing of sulphate of potash now at of 1 oz. per square yard, and follow y giving an equal mixture of kainit slag next winter at the rate of 6 ozs. re yard. This treatment may help s to set a crop, but if frost is the othing can be done.

Caterpillars

urtmore).—If you will send us along the caterpillar concerned, together ew specimens of the weevil, we could them for you and be in a better posi- advise. Your grease-bands and the wash should have controlled Winter terpillar, but it may be that some oth is the cause of the trouble. the trees with a solution containing enate would kill the caterpillar and weevil from eating any more of the If you do not care to use lead you could use a non-poisonous wash, Abol Insecticide.

Aphis

. Howell).—Your specimens arrived ttered condition, which makes ex- n difficult, but the trouble is un- y due to aphis. Which aphid it is unable to say, because we could not ving specimen. From your descrip- think it is Woolly Aphis. You can- better than to carry on with your wash, especially in August and Sep- or if the trees are carrying fruit, im- y the fruit is picked. Any aphis the white, fluffy material that are on al wood of the tree should be painted equal mixture of methylated spirits ter. Try using a tar oil wash in n addition.

opping their fruits

., Wilts.).—This is probably due to s having been kept in too dry a con- arlier in the season when the fruits un swelling. Figs are very fond of lime in the soil, and if this is not present we advise you to apply a light sprinkling when watering the trees, and in winter work in a quantity of old lime-rubble with the soil of the border. Of course, a severe check in temperature will bring about the same trouble, but we presume this has not occurred. Give abundant supplies of water during the growing season, and if the trees are carrying a good crop the manure you mention may be applied fortnightly with advantage.

VEGETABLES

Dolphin and Broad Beans

(Curious).—Black Dolphin, or Black Fly (Aphis rumicis), is a pest which clusters in the tops of plants, and, if undisturbed, soon forms a solid black mass. The attack is begun by a few wingless female insects which produce living young without the intervention of eggs. Winged females are yielded among this brood, and eventually the egg-laying female is produced towards autumn which lays the eggs from which the spring generation of living young producers is hatched. This pest is invariably referred to by gardeners and farmers as Dolphin, Black Dolphin, etc.

Diseased Tomato

(R. R., Durham).—From the material you sent it is impossible to determine the real cause of your trouble. If you can send us a complete fruit truss, together with a portion of the main stem of the plant, we could examine it and report later. Please pack the specimens in a tin box.

MISCELLANEOUS

"Flannel Weed" in pond

(T. E. G.).—Copper sulphate is used at the rate of 2½ ozs. per 10,000 gallons of water, and at this strength should not injure Water Lilies and other established plants, and it is also stated that fish, other than trout, are not affected by the copper. To calculate the cubic contents of the pond multiply together the length, breadth, and average depth and then multiply the result by six. The figure so obtained is the approximate number of gallons contained in the pond.

Weeds in leaf-mould

(A. M. M.).—We know of nothing that would destroy either seeds or roots of weeds in your leaf-mould but what would make it unfit for use. Strong heat would, of course, be effective, but if you tried to burn the mould the whole thing would be consumed. If you could treat the whole with water at the boiling point that would certainly destroy both seeds and roots, but this would be a costly item. We have heard of a steriliser for soil, the process being to force steam through large masses of earth, but have not seen this in operation, so would hardly care to recommend it.

Plant for name

(A. W. B.).—Your plant is the Yellow Goat's Beard (Tragopogon pratensis). This plant has a perennial tap root and obtains its common name from the supposed resemblance of its fluffy seed-ball to a goat's beard. We think you were misinformed when you were told that the plant is poisonous,

From
Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Sprays for the hair

THAT natural flowers in the hair have a far more pleasing effect than artificial ones is almost too well-known for me to draw attention to. They would be much oftener employed, I have no doubt, were they not apt to flag when not mounted properly, and so the general idea is that they last but a short time fresh when placed in the hair. If however, a little care be taken with the mounting, they will look quite as fresh at the close as at the beginning of the evening. . . .

The shape of the sprays change, of course, according to those formed of artificial flowers; but I always like them best of rather a long form, and as light and graceful as possible. At this season some of the best flowers for this purpose are obtainable; as, for example, Orchids, Camellias, Eucharis, Cyclamens, Lily of the Valley, Roses, Spiræas, Stephanotis, Azaleas, and many others which space will not allow me to enumerate.

I saw two sprays a few days ago which I admired very much at the time. . . . One was composed of a Eucharis, pink Hyacinth pips, blooms of Stephanotis mounted singly, pink Heaths, Lilies of the Valley, and foliage; the other of a white Camellia, scarlet Pelargonium pips, Snowdrops, and very small sprays of white Lilac and Ferns. The flowers in these sprays, save the Eucharis, Lily of the Valley, and the Pelargoniums, could not be obtained during the summer months; but there are many others then to take their places, such as Roses, Jasmine, Gardenias, Stephanotis, etc. . . .—May 31st, 1879.

either to humans or cattle. The tapering tap root was formerly eaten as we now eat Parsnip, and the young growths used to be cut up into lengths and boiled as we now treat Asparagus. The plant does not figure in the Ministry of Agriculture's Book on Poisonous Plants. We think, perhaps, the plant has been confused with some other plant. An allied species, Tragopogon porrifolius, is Salsify, or Vegetable Oyster.

Pronunciation of plant names

Would you kindly give me the correct pronunciation of the following plant names: 1, Aristolochia; 2, Daphne; 3, Erigeron; 4, Geum; 5, Gypsophila; 6, (Prim.) Malacoides; 7, Œnothera; 8, (Betty) Uprichard?

J. Dunn.

[The proper pronunciation of many plant names is a stumbling block to a considerable number of gardeners and amateurs. Some names are derived from the Latin language, others from the Greek, and as in different countries (in Scotland and in England, for example) the accepted pronunciation of Latin and of Greek varies, it is difficult to be dogmatic on the question. "Much depends on the taste and fancy of the pronouncer," slightly to parody Mr. S. Weller. Aristolochia is pronounced "Aristolo'chia"—the "ch" having the value of the same two letters in the Scottish word "loch." Daphne is pronounced "Dap'hne"—phonetically "Daff'nay." Erigeron is "Eri'geron" with the "g" hard, as in got. Geum is "Ge'um," also with the "g" hard. Gypsophyla is "Gypso'phyla," likewise with the "g" hard—phonetically "Gipso'filla." "Malacoides," in P. malacoides, is "malacoi'des"; many pronounce the word "malacoi'dees," and not incorrectly. Œnothera is usually pronounced "N'othera," the diphthong melting into the succeeding letter. [illegible]richard, in Betty Uprichard, is "Up richard"; the name is a Welsh one, signifying "son of Richard," and "Up" has the same value as the Scottish "Mac" or the Irish "O'." "Uprichard" is exactly the same as "Pritchard."]

Fish pond

I believe it is unsafe to put fish into a newly cemented pond unless the cement has been treated in some manner.

F. E. Grattan.

[We have never heard that a new cement tank required any special treatment before placing in fish, but we are publishing your letter in the hope that some of our readers may be able to give you the details of any treatment if such be required. You will, of course, get some water plants established in the pond before introducing the fish, otherwise the fish will not live long, unless the water be frequently changed, and even by changing the water keeping the fish alive is not an easy matter unless the tank is very large and the number of fish small.]

Calcium carbide

(Winton).—The refuse from calcium carbide is calcium carbonate, *i.e.*, chalk, and could be used for any purpose for which chalk is required. The drawbacks to the use of the material are twofold. (1) As the material comes from the generator it is usually very wet, and on drying becomes very hard and lumpy, which makes even distribution almost impossible. Lumpy samples of this material are useless in the soil, but if crushed before application this objection is surmounted. (2) When the material comes from the generator there usually remains some acetylene in the refuse. It is therefore wise to leave the material for some time to air before it is used. The material could do no harm if allowed to dry, crushed, and then added to the manure heap, but we are doubtful if the material is worth the labour involved.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Northerner.—Lonicera Morrowi.

M. Teesdale.—Viola munbyana.

E. F. Hereford.—1, Mimulus Burnetti; 2, Veronica gentianoides; 3, Piptanthus nepalensis; 4, Corydalis cheilanthifolia.

H. B., Sheffield.—A variety of Nerium (Oleander).

W. G. C.—1, Potentilla fruticosa; 2, Coronilla emerus; 3, not recognised, please send when in bloom, and fruits if possible; 4, this is a Veronica, but which we cannot say without flowers.

H. Simons.—1, Iris Albert Victor; 2, I. gagus; 3, Achillea Herba rota.

Inquirer.—1, Cotoneaster Simonsii; 2, Euonymus japonicus; 3, Rhamnus alaternus.

Albert E. Greene.—Primula cortusoides.

The Salisbury Gardeners' Society visit Clarendon Park

On Monday evening, June 3rd, at the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Christie-Miller, over 100 members and friends of the Salisbury Gardeners' Society, accompanied by their Vice-President, A. C. Jonas, Esq., Mr. S. W. Tucker, Chairman, and Mr. W. F. Gullick, Secretary, spent a delightful time in the grounds and gardens [illegible]ndon Park.

[illegible] me of Christie-Miller is so closely con[illegible] with [illegible]rticulture, that rarities were an[illegible] even the most sanguine of the par[illegible] expected to view so great a variety of [illegible] hs, and [illegible]nts amid such a glorio[illegible]

[illegible] and Mrs. Christie-Miller, [illegible] gardener, Mr. G. Perryman, met the [illegible] on arrival, and [illegible] conducted them on a tour of inspection [illegible] wood-land and winding pathways, where mas[illegible] of hybrid Rhododendrons and bold [illegible]ings of Viburnum tomentosum and V. Mareisii, with occasional rich red Maples, were to be seen, to the dell and wild garden, which less than 12 months since were banks of Nettles, and now a veritable paradise. Cunning water-ways and miniature lakes, banked with thousands of Primula japonica, pulverulenta, and Bulleyana, with here and there masses of Primula Aileen Aroon, helodoxa, and Bartley's Pink, portrayed a feast of colour. Here, too, hundreds of heads of the rare Iris lævigata were to be seen casting their beautiful reflection in the clear water, while high up on the banks, grand specimens of Cytisus Donard's Seedling, Weigelia Eva Rathke, just coming into flower, and arching sprays of Tamarix, Berberis, and Gunnera, combined with a setting ordained by Nature, made a picture which will live in the memory of those present.

Reluctantly leaving this enchanting spot, attention was drawn to splashes of colour in the distance, which were found, on nearer approach, to be large specimen Rhododendrons: Rhododendron Corona, Mrs. Stirling, Goldsworth Yellow, Doncaster, etc., and a number of species, including a fine plant of Falconeri, all in beautiful condition.

Proceeding across the terrace front, still gay with Wallflowers, to a wide border of choice shrubs, we noticed fine specimens of Rhododendrons Cinnabarinum and Loderi just passing out of flower, and the finest specimen Azalea coccinea speciosa it has ever been our privilege to see. This plant, backed by a giant Rhododendron ponticum, produced a wonderful effect, startling, yet beautiful in its conception.

From here to the Iris garden, although less than 12 months old, w with many choice varieties. Beautiful of Iris Majestic, the lovely pink Aphrodite, and the deep violet-purple de Mme. Gaudichau were in splendid Other outstanding varieties were: E Dream, Alcazar, Lord of June, and group of the maroon and yellow Iris K

Through a gateway in a wall, herbaceous borders, which a little lat undoubtedly look resplendent with thei plantings of Delphiniums, Papavers, etc., Lupins were making a brave Never have we seen Downer's Delight to better advantage.

The kitchen garden is by no me prominent feature at Clarendon Parl even here, under the skilful managem Mr. Perryman, who undoubtedly belie good cultivation, are some excellent coming along.

Judging from the healthy batch of se Lilies in the frames, including a num the rare Lilium centifolium, we imagi a few years hence the woodland wa Clarendon Park will not only contain Rhododendrons, but groups of Lilies. tainly a more delightful spot for g them to perfection it would be imposs find.

The gardens did not curry any f during the Great Frost. Effects of the age were apparent in many choice s A giant Magnolia salicifolia (probably the finest in England) is completely dest while one large Abutilon vitifolium ha killed and another specimen is just br at the base. Pittosporums have als fered, but with a gorgeous display of so beautiful shrubs and plants, these loss hardly noticeable to the visitor.

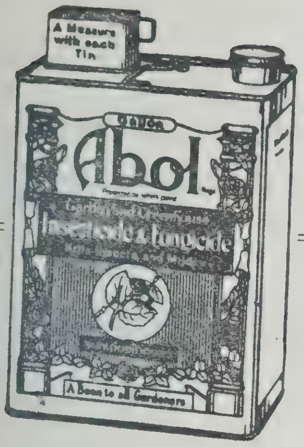
The thanks of the Society were co Mr. and Mrs. Christie-Miller and [illegible] Mr. Perryman, through Mr. [illegible] and Mr. W. F. Gullick, for a most [illegible]

The Jones-Bateman Cup for Re in Fruit-growing

In 1920, Miss L. Jones-Bateman, Glass, Abergele, presented to the Horticultural Society a valuable sil replica of the Warwick Vase to be us the encouragement of fruit production accordingly decided to offer it triennia researches in the growing of hardy Figs, Grapes, and Peaches in the o under glass, and it is available for aw 1929. Candidates should submit accou their work by October 31st. The work with must have been carried out by the date in the United Kingdom mainly the past five years. The cup will b for three years by the successful can who must give a bond for its safe retur when the cup is relinquished the hold receive a commemorative gold medal. holder will be eligible to compete on th or any succeeding occasion. The As will be three, two appointed by the Horticultural Society and one by the N Farmers' Union, and they will report Council of the Royal Horticultural upon the originality and comparative tial value to the fruit-growing indus the work of the candidates.

Peaches ripening

A little air should be left on at the houses containing these, both night an and the atmosphere kept a little drier th late. Any foliage which tends to obscu fruits from sunshine must either be tie or removed.


A Measure with each Tin
Abol
A Boon to all Gardeners

Abol Non-poisonous Insecticide

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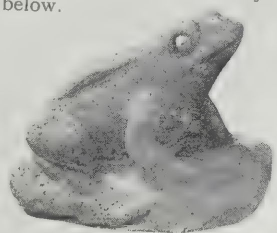

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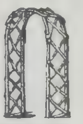
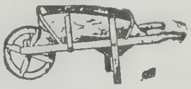
ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES



No 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.

		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. 6 in. ,,	17/6	16 -
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. ,,	22/6	20/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,,	26/6	24/-
8 ft. ,,	6 ft. ,,	33/6	30/-

GARDEN BARROWS

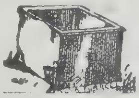


Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body. Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ½ in. iron tyre.

	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23 6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc. Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.



	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. ,,	5/6	5/- ,,
18 in. ,,	6/6	5/9 ,,
21 in. ,,	8/6	7/- ,,
24 in. ,,	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

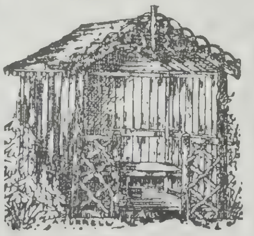
Height 8 ft.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

GARDEN LIGHTS

	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/-

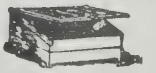
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

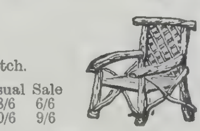
	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft. x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS



Well made from selected material.

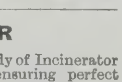
In natural wood. Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

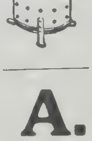
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

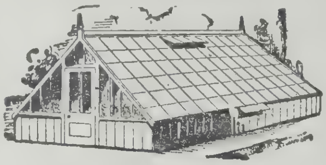
INCINERATOR



Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

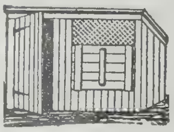
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

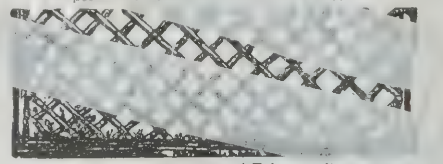


500 in stock ready for immediate despatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Floor. Usual.	Floor. Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft.	3 16 0	3 8 0	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of [illegible] or Rustic Fencing, complete with posts [illegible] room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	REDUCED PRICES. Price per Panel.	Gate 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9/6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	24/6	25/-

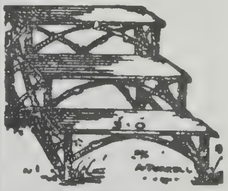
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

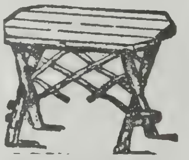
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

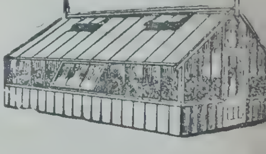
GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

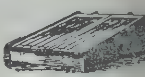
AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE



These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at nomin figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who require strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. Complete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s. d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0	14 5
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0	19 10
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6	25 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0	36 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6			

GARDEN FRAMES



Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale £ s.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0	4 10
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0	5 13
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0	6 15
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6	8 3

Do not pay high prices for your frames made from 1¼-in. boards. We can supply at the following low prices. Frames made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality boards, complete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale £ s.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0	4 9
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0	6 10
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0	7 11
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6	9 2

Compare these prices with other makers'.

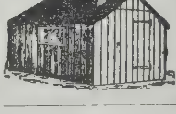
No. 7 PORTABLE MOTOR HOUSE

Constructed of strong framing covered with ⅝-in. [illegible] and lock [illegible]

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.	
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0	
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6	7 1
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0	10 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0	12 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0	14 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0	15 5
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6	18 10
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0	20 10
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0	24 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0	28 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0	32 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No. 2

Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and single d Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.	Sal
5 x	3 6	£3 18 0	£3 1
6 x	4 0	£4 5 0	£3 1
7 x	5 0	£5 10 0	£4 1
8 x	6 0	£6 2 6	£5 1
10 x	7 0	£9 5 0	£8
12 x	8 0	£12 5 0	£11

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

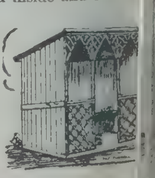
A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from plan tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing. covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite waterpr All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable sea back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out. M in sections for easy transit and erection.

Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0



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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

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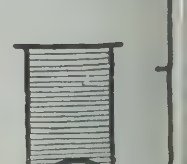

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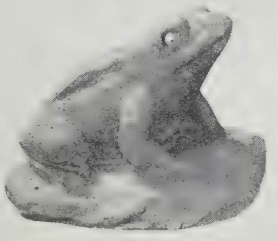

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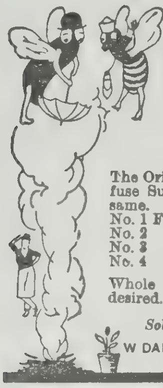

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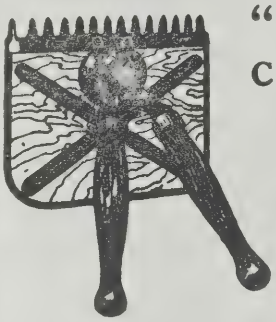

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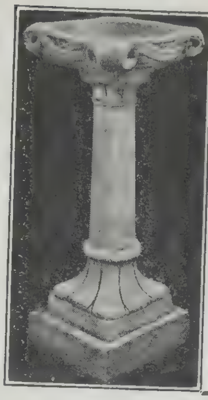

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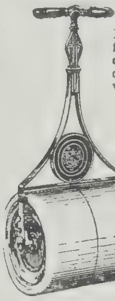

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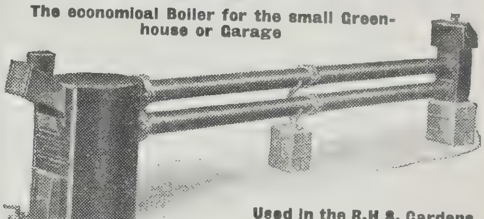

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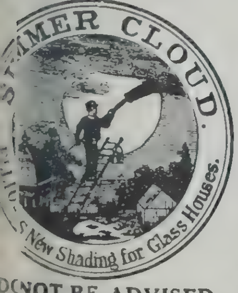

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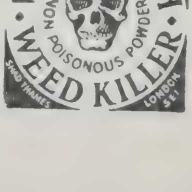

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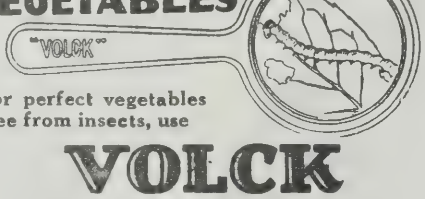

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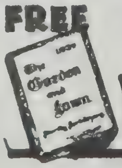

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Notes from the West

IT is extraordinary how certain plants become popular in some districts whilst they are comparatively ignored in others. The tility of Cheiranthus Allionii for massing is vell understood here. In some gardens this howy orange-flowered plant has been making gorgeous displays for several weeks. The iberian Wallflower, as this plant is popuarly called, should always be grown where rilliant splashes of colour are desired. It as remarkable freeowering qualities, nd the flowering eriod may be conderably extended by utting away the ooms before they un to seed; moreover, it can be grown uccessfully in most dinary garden soils. ow is a good time sow seeds for next ar's display, and the edlings can be ised in the same ay as the common allflower. Another cellent plant for assing is Nepeta ussini. A large und bed on a sunny wn filled with this nt is making a utiful display in a ghbour's garden t now, and in other garden there some fine groups vering abundantly he shade of trees, ch goes to show ht this Catmint is fastidious as to re it is planted. colour of the ers — a pleasing le of lavender-, is a most deble shade for ssing. As an edging to large borders N. isini is also much appreciated. The stock be increased by taking cuttings during t summer. These will strike readily in ary beds in a shady border outdoors or in d frame.

ses are full of promise, and I have never e the foliage looking so glossy and green ree from pests, in spite of dry conditions. ythrum blooms have been very small herects owing to the dry weather, but the er rooting perennials look more promisg. May-flowering Pæonies have been doing bravely, and in another 10 days or so the June-flowering varieties should be at their best. These plants can stand any amount of drought, provided they are planted in a generously manured and deeply dug soil.

A striking show in the garden this week is made by the Anchusa Dropmore. This plant yields its rich blue flowers profusely in dry weather, as the roots delve deep in search of moisture. I notice many gardeners omit to stake their plants, and the first strong wind quite spoils their beauty for a season. I always put pea sticks in between the branches. These do not show, and they make an admirable support. I always find that plants in partial shade last much longer in bloom than those in full sunshine.

My garden note-book in the summer consists largely of notes of the various colour effects I see in my own and in other folks' gardens, and I commend this habit to any novice who should read these random remarks. So many amateur gardeners plan their colour effects from catalogue description perused by the fireside during winter, and that is why their best laid schemes "go aft agley." Beds and borders are often ruined by careless arrangement as regards colour. Another point to be observed in colour scheming is to study lighting effects. For example, some flowers, like Kniphofias, generally give the best effects when they are placed so that the rays of the westering sun falls across the flower spikes, whilst the beautiful pale yellow of the Œnotheras usually look most charming when seen in the shade. Finally, when assessing the value of any colour it is generally advisable to form your judgments in the evening when the strong sunlight is not playing on the blossoms. Most colours are seen at their best in a subdued light. H. G.

Eremurus, a noble group of hardy plants

These graceful flower spikes are from 6 feet to 10 feet high

Eremurus, or the Fox-tail Lily

NO sheltered garden is complete without a group—large or small—of these early summer flowers. The noble graceful spikes, from 6 feet to 10 feet high, are certain to arrest attention. The colours, too, are delightful, some of the newer hybrids in soft shades of pink and yellow harmonise beautifully with many of the paler colour tones in early summer flowers. Eremurus robustus, the best known and one of the finest, has pale rosy pink flowers which are seen to advantage against a background of trees or shrubs. All of them revel in deep, rich loam. Autumn is the best time for planting.

Horticultural Club outing

Arrangements have been made for an outing of the Club on Friday, July 5th. By the kindness of Messrs. J. Cheal & Sons a visit will be paid to their nurseries at Crawley, and after lunch the party will proceed to Nymans, the residence of Lieut.-Colonel Messel, to inspect his beautiful gardens.

On arrival at Crawley, Messrs. Cheal will kindly provide refreshments, and lunch will be served at the George Hotel, Crawley. Lieut.-Colonel Messel has kindly offered to give us an alfresco tea on the lawn at Nymans.

The journey will be made by motor coaches from Bush House, Aldwych, at 9.45 a.m., and the return journey will be made about 7 p.m.

Application for tickets, price 10s. 6d. each, should be made not later than June 30th.

Geo. F. Tinley,
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Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

A proposed Rock Garden Society

THE success of the Rose Society, the Rhododendron Association, the Iris Society, and their delightful shows makes me wonder whether the time has not arrived to organise a Rock Garden Society.

Now that all the world gardens, the interest taken in small hardy plants is immense, and people bring them back in great numbers after their holidays.

I can envisage the show of the Rock Gardens Society in the New Hall. The nave would be filled with rock gardens constructed on correct lines by the trade, whilst the aisle could be devoted to amateur exhibits—six pots or pans of Kabschia Saxifrages, six pots of Aizoon Saxifrages, groups, new plants, etc. Other activities would comprise a nomenclature classification committee, advice as to collecting grounds, lectures, exchange of plants and of seeds. All these matters would be dealt with in bulletins.

I hope the Editor will bless my suggestion and that the readers of Gardening Illustrated will prosecute actively the proposal.

William Lawrence.

[A capital idea. Such a show is bound to be a success. We welcome expression of opinion from others on this suggestion.—Ed.]

An early purple bicolor Iris on a sunny bank

Azalea Mollis

Two acres of them; literally a sheet of bloom! This does not convey my astonishment and admiration for an unexpected treat I experienced on June 9th. At the instigation of a high official of the County of Norfolk, I betook myself to the woodland garden at Stody Lodge, Norfolk. Unannounced I opened one of the drive gates and took my car along a beautifully kept plantation of Fir trees, bordered with Rhododendrons. Suddenly I saw a notice board: "To the Water Garden." Here, thought I, must be the place I am seeking. Descending a winding path, a vista opened before me which I shall never forget.

In an open place of two or more acres of undulating land, intersected with small streams in the wood, the owner, R. E. Horsfall, Esq., has established such a plantation of Azaleas as I very much question if a better display could have been found anywhere in the British Isles.

A riot of colour, yet seemingly all in perfect blending, embodying all the latest introductions and self fertilized seedlings.

Thousands of *flowers!* Yes; thousands of *trusses*, and, I think, taking individual flowers, one might safely say millions of flowers.

Self sown seedlings come up all over the place in profusion. Of these, certain reserve plantations are made year by year, and as Mr. Horsfall was a former President of the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (in which he takes a keen interest, although a slight affliction prevents him taking an active part), when the plants reach a fair flowering size they are sold for the benefit of that institution.

In my walk round the garden I came across the owner and talked with him on the glories of the flowers. He told me he is pleased for visitors who are interested to come and see them upon a request, and exercising due respect to the place. He introduces the "newest out" from any source year by year, and thus keeps up to date in varieties. My one regret was, Mr. Editor, that I could not foresee such a wonderful picture of flowers and reflections conveyed in colour to your readers in other parts.

Aytch Pea.

Positions for Iris

"H. H. W.'s" experience (issue of Jun 15th, p. 414) differs from mine. Th Irises about which I wrote are grow on a made sloping bank. I made it up tw years ago. Fibrous loam about two parts, on part burnt earth and ballast, and one par mortar rubble and sand. This would b about 3 feet deep at back and 2 feet i front, banked up with thick turves. Th whole bed, about 35 feet, slopes sharply t a pond. There is no question of this becoming damp, the difficulty is to get it thoroughl saturated. All plants affected (which I du up and burnt) were of the older type, Fr Maori King, etc. Similar symptoms ar showing in Sunshine, which I propose t treat with the 2 per cent. formalin solutio

I think the cause of the trouble w weakening of my stocks. When I moved this house I brought a lorry load of variou plants, and they had to take pot luck un I prepared beds. These Irises formed par The trouble commenced the spring followi planting in permanent position. Later pu chases, as Ambassadeur, Archeveque, et have formed fine clumps and gave a glorio show of flower.

By the way, I have lost one clump of Kæmpferi and one clump of I. Sibirica dying. The symptons appear to me ve similar to those of the aforemention These are growing in a properly made b by the pond verge.

I shall try the formalin treatment on and hope to get these most beautiful flowers back to normal health.

Hornchurch. H. J. Hastings

Iris germanica

This type of Irises seems to be me profuse than ever this year in sending p flowers. Is it due to the extra retardat they received in the severe winter or baking they received in the dry autumn? It was my pleasure to inspect one of the choicest small collections of a private gro in Norfolk a few days ago in the garder of Frank Neave, Esq., Lingwood. I need not dilate a long list of names, suffice it to they were the pick of the latest English American varieties.

But Mr. Neave is never so happy as when he can show one plants in flower hybrid and raised by himself. He stood me be some plants of extra robustness carr spikes a yard high, with flowers of imm size and splendid combinations of colo purple and lavender predominated. Mo these will be heard later when a stock as been worked up.

H.

Norwich.

Polyanthus

Having produced such wonderful hy from Juliæ as Lingwood Beauty,

e clump of Pæonia Mlokosewitschii in Dr. Hampton's garden at Chesham Bois
scovered in the Central Caucasus by Mlokosewitsch, and unfortunately named after him

Neave, and now the large-flowering Neave, I found that Mr. Frank Neave, od, is extending his sphere to produce e designates Art colours in these . I saw a bed of seedlings when they full flower in April, and really the e already made were wonderful. Deep ,terra-cotta brown, and other colours these are already an established fact. e the flowers at all miffy in size or nts weak of constitution.

only the best that Mr. Neave gives o in his garden. Some day in the ture I anticipate a call from many s for the Art shade flowers.

AYTCH PEA.

Conandron ramondioides

i pretty little plant is but rarely grown, it would add not a little to the interest auty of the rock garden. The some- ucculent, wrinkled leaves are arranged tufts and are coloured an attractive of pale, fresh green. The erect flower- s are about 6 inches high and each several mauve or mauve-purple . Flowering in late spring and early r this little Japanese plant will re- to treatment similar to that accorded mondias and Haberleas, and will ad- ly display its charms from the crevice ock or from a cool pocket in a half- e position on the rock garden. The is tolerably hardy, but during very r weather it may be wise to afford it a rotection, such as a piece of glass or a handlight. A good depth of moist soil ing some leaf-soil or peat, and a cool, situation are the chief factors in the ful cultivation of this quaintly pretty lant. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

incester, Glos.

Multiple flowered Tulips

e autumns ago I planted a bed of 25 Sultan. The two seasons following g quite 25 per cent. produced three to wers per stem. I did not notice any ay. H. J. H.

ising, Hornchurch.

Pæonia Mlokosewitschii

PÆONIA MLOKOSEWITSCHII, the fine yellow Pæony that received an Award of Merit at Chelsea this summer, is not altogether a new plant, for it was figured and described in 1908 in the "Botanical Magazine" (No. 8,173), where we learn that it was discovered at Lagodekhi in the eastern part of the Central Caucasus by Mlokosewitsch, and, unfortunately, named after him.

It is a pity that it is not seen in gardens more often, for it is a finer plant than the better known and more pronounceable Pæonia Wittmanniana, from which it differs in the clearer yellow of its sulphur-coloured flowers and in the absence of the brownish-red which stains the base of the stamens in Wittmanniana. It seems to be quite vigorous and hardy, for a plant here, though it is within reach of the hungry roots of a Laurel hedge, is now, in its fifth year, about a yard across and carrying 13 or 14 flowers.

The flowers have the disadvantage, common to most large, single flowers, of being rather short-lived, and the hydridists would be doing us a good turn if they could add another row of petals without impairing the natural grace of the species. Such an addition would improve the pleasant, clove-like scent of the flower, for this, according to the general habit of Pæonies, is produced only by the petals and tends to be marred by the coarse, poppy-like smell of the anthers.

Although the flowers are rather fleeting, the ample, pale green foliage is very handsome, and when the seed pods split open the black, fertile seeds are usually decoratively mixed with infertile red ones, as they are in the closely related P. corallina.

Chesham Bois. F. A. HAMPTON.

Meconopsis Baileyi

I fully agree with the remarks of "Sarah Robson" (issue June 15th, p. 414) *re* M. Baileyi. "Glorious" is the only adjective by which to describe its charm. A clear Cambridge blue with me, not a trace of mauve, and as for looking the "wash-out" of "J. R. K."—well, I wish I had a bed *full* of such. True, I have only tried with three (one died last summer), but I sincerely hope these will give me fertile seed that I may work up a good stock. They were planted at the edge of a bed of Liliums and Azaleas; no shade at all. I gave a top dressing of clean gravel, and later, mulches of lawn mowings. A shovelful of leaves over the crown in autumn completed all the cultivation given. I have no doubt with a more generous treatment far better results will be obtained, as they are only 2½ feet to 3 feet in height. H. J. H.

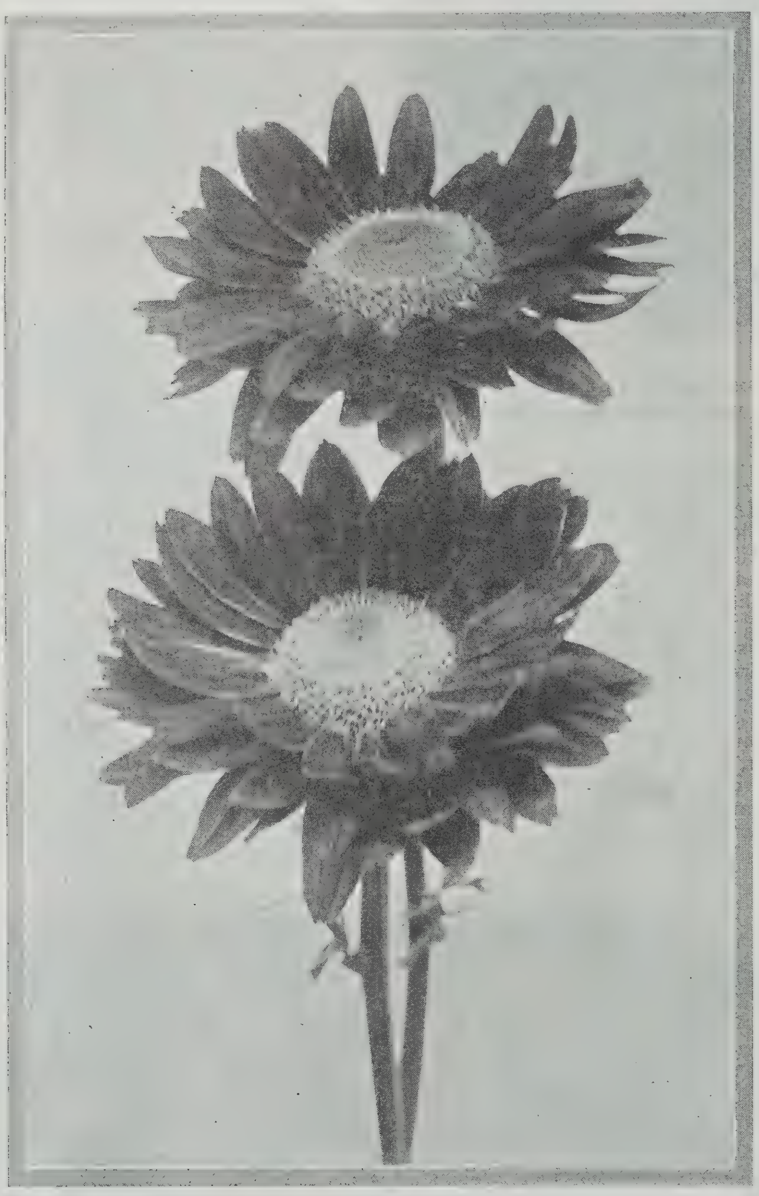
Hornchurch.

—— Having read "Clay's" and "J. R. K.'s" letters on this plant, which should be known as M. betonicifolia (but can we forget "Baileyi"?) I was anxious to see how the plants would fare with me. I have

A nearer view of Pæonia Mlokosewitschii
The flowers are clear sulphur-yellow with pleasant clove-like scent

between 500 and 600 plants in flower now. I do not think a single plant was lost during the winter, and they had no protection whatever. They are planted in slightly raised beds, partly in the shade, and others in sun for the greater part of the day.

The beds were trenched two spits deep, the plants put in last June or beginning of July. The first lot of plants were planted without any leaf-mould in the soil, and it was only after these were in that I found it had been omitted. I then had plenty of leaf-mould added and dug in; this part stands in the sun for the greater part of the day.



Red Emperor, a new large, bold, single Pyrethrum, shown at the last meeting of the R.H.S. by Mr. Herbert Robinson, of Hinckley, and selected for trial at Wisley

A very robust grower, the broad ray florets are of brilliant velvety crimson colour

The plants to-day in this part stand up to 4 feet 6 inches in full bloom, 99 per cent. pure colour, and this in spite of a very dry season ever since the New Year. Those in the shadier parts from the same seed that had no leaf-mould are decidedly inferior. Obviously a matter of position and cultivation. I think this shows that colour is largely a matter of good cultivation in congenial surroundings. The plants in shade do not exceed 3 feet 6 inches, and show less vigour all round. One might describe it as a case of anæmia and lack of sunshine and food at the roots. Elsewhere I have a few plants which get a great deal of sun during the day, and though they were very small and late, being put in during the latter part of August, yet they have flowered perfect in colour. I am quite convinced that any lack of uniformity in colour here is due to conditions of cultivation. I am only sorry that "Clay" and "J. R. K." have been so unfortunate with such a glorious plant. Possibly some readers may have seen my plants and can endorse what I say. I had not tried them as cut flowers, but I cut two or three spikes and gave them to a friend to paint. He put them at once into water and took them home—a motor drive of two hours or more. He wrote and told me that the heads flagged more and more, and I concluded that there would be a quick end to them, but a week or more later I had a letter from him saying they had revived, and that, as he wrote, they were as good as when I cut them. G. H. Dalrymple.

Hants.

A new colour chart

Some correspondence has appeared recently in these columns on the subject of colour, with regard to colour descriptions in catalogues, and the necessity of a standard colour chart to regularise the same. I would, therefore, like to bring to the notice
of those readers interested in this s
new publication, "Colours: Chart
Catalogued," by E. Fellowes, whic
all the qualifications required of a s
colour chart.

As such, it stands in a pre-eminent
It contains 400 hues of a scientific ex
never attained before, even by C
Maxwell, or Ridgway. They are b
an exact system of figures, and Lo
tintometer has been employed in wh
glasses—red, blue, yellow—are gradu
strength and numbered. Beneath e
are the numbers of the glasses used i
or all of the three colours. For i
beneath terra cotta appear the n
8·30—2—4·70, which represent the n
of the red, blue, and yellow glasses
produce this hue. Such a system o
ducing a hue at will with complete ex
is, of course, a necessity where an
national standard of colour is concer
further degree of accuracy is obtained
measurement of 25 per cent. of the
the scientific terms of wave length
white light.

The arrangement of the hues is inte
There are 30 charts, 10 containing
the remainder 12 hues each; No.
starts with vermilion and its 15 weak
stronger hues, and following charts
hues through orange, yellow, green
violet, purple, finishing up with crims
scarlet, thus making a pigmental c
colour very easy for reference purpose

A point of importance to those int
in garden colour schemes is that all th
plementary colours have been provid
the 400 hues with scientific exactnes
a reference to an Appendix will instant
one the complementary colour to any
400 hues shown.

Nor is this all. Each hue has been
a definite name which serves the pur
describing that hue in non-technica
simple terms. Many of the old term
been retained, but such indefinite te
rose-pink, blush, red, green, blue, and
have been omitted. Many of the new
sound strange, but infinite care mus
been given to their selection, and the
of some are given in an appendix.

Each volume is bound on the loo
system, enabling any chart to be ex
from the binder and replaced as and
required. It is published by "Geogra
Ltd., at £1 1s., and is not expensive
price.

The means of isolating individual h
reference purposes ought to have bee
plied with the volume. This is, howe
oversight that can easily be remedied
publishers.

Next year the question of a standard
chart is to be again discussed at the
national Horticultural Congress, to
in London. Is it too much to hope t
R.H.S. will examine the publicati
scribed with a view to placing it bef
Congress for their discussion or ado

Percy E. Chap

A request

I have one point to urge, and that
contributors should give an indication
locality from which they send their
When we read of someone succeed
growing a difficult plant in a certain
it is of importance to know wheth
writer hails from Aberdeen or Cornwa
an anonymous correspondent can be
to give an idea of what climate he
without revealing his anonymity: a
help to ignorant and struggling gar
I know most of your correspondents
address, but a few do not. H.

South Devon.

Dove Orchids

AT the R.H.S. meeting of June 11th a ood example of the old, but now un- ommon, Dove Orchid was staged by . Thurgood, Orchid grower to S. G. on, Esq., of Shepperton.

isteria elata was first introduced in 1826. ently at that time, and for many years e it was fairly common in its home— anama district—but is now said to be e and becoming more so as larger c of country are brought into cultivation.

A rt from its flowers, the species is able for its stately habit, tall plicate s, often over 2 feet in height, surmount- a globosely conical pseudo-bulb, often hes in diameter. The erect scapes ex- the leaves by 1 foot or 2 feet, and carry 15 blooms.

e flowers themselves are 2 inches, some- more, sometimes less, in diameter. The s overlap the slightly smaller petals.

are of thick, wax-like texture, concave eir inner surfaces, so giving the whole r a broadly campanulate or globular a; cream or ivory-white in colour.

e lip may be likened to a short, but very l, tongue, reflexed at the tip, slightly the sides, and with a thickened convex surface. The front portion resembles epals and petals in colour, but the base otted with purple. The organ is cap- of slight movement.

e name Peristeria—a dove—is given to genus on account of the shape of the nn. All members of the genus are alike is respect, but in elata its resemblance e upper part of a dove is most marked. head and beak imitated by the column is slightly down-bent. From the base e column rise two wing-like lobes, white, ly spotted with purple, the "dove" unspotted.

e illustration shows the dove and its s nestling, as it were, in the centre of lower.

ewing a flower from the front, one can ily understand how the name was ed, and why the early Spanish settlers adventurers termed the plant El Spiritu o, or Holy Ghost plant.

additional attraction is found in the ptible fragrance emanating from the r.

regards culture, the plant is not exi- . Coming from Panama, it naturally ires a warm house, particularly during growing season, but an ordinary stove e where Codiæums (Crotons), coloured ænas, etc., are grown has a sufficiently temperature.

the species is strong rooting, a fairly pot may be used, and the compost ld consist chiefly of good fibrous loam, sufficient Osmunda fibre and Sphagnum s to soften same and keep it open.

with Calanthes, avoid syringing the t while the young leaves are enfolded. r growth is matured, water need only ccasionally given, but sufficiently often event the pseudo-bulbs from shrivelling; act, the treatment may be said to be a ified form of that given Calanthes, gh the plants should remain in the warm se throughout the year and need not be tted every spring.

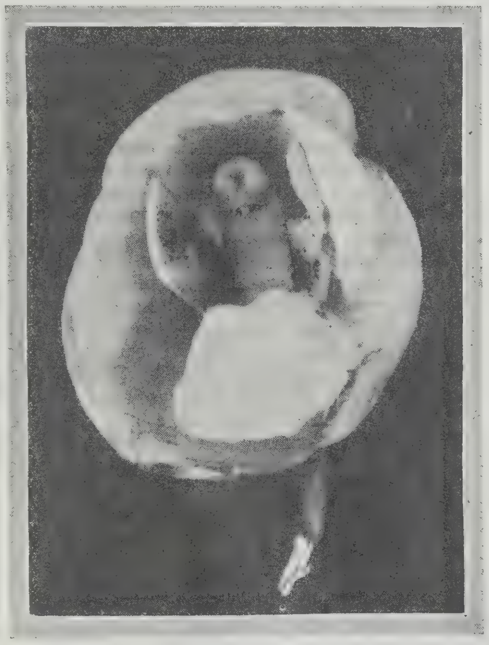
quite a different genus—Masdevallia— und another Orchid, to which the name risteria" has been applied, though in case as a specific, not as a generic, name, again from the same reason: the strong mblance to a dove seen in the flower.

he species has a tufted habit, with fleshy es, attaining a height of 5 inches or 6 es. The scapes are about the same length and produce a single flower, large for a Masdevallia. The basal portions of the three sepals are formed into a bell-shaped tube, but each develops into a yellow tail an inch long or more, and reflexed, so giving a good view of the top of the column, on either side of which appear the petals, acting as wings. In Peristeria the wings are parts of the labellum. In colour the flowers of the Masdevallia, though not brilliant, are more ornate than those of the Peristeria. The outer surface of the tube is green, shading into yellow, while purple spots are present below the tails, and the lip is thickly studded with amethyst asperities.

Other than the general structure common to all Orchids and the fancied resemblance to a dove, there is little affinity between the two plants, and the Masdevallia must be accommodated in a cool house and never allowed to get dry.

The Flying Dove Orchid

An old-time Orchid still occasionally met with is Oncidium candidum, in earlier days better known as Palumbina candida, and also as the Flying Dove Orchid.



The Dove Orchid (Peristeria elata)
Note the dove with wings nestling, as it were, in the centre of the flower

The habit is that of the average small Oncidium, but it differs from other members of that genus in that the lateral sepals are connate and, at a first glance, hidden by the lip, that organ being the largest of the segments. The slender wing peduncle bears six or seven flowers, rather more than an inch in diameter, white or faintly rose-flushed in colour. The petals, representing the outspread wings of the dove, are carried at right-angles to the small dorsal sepal and larger, bluntly triangular lip.

The comparison of the inflorescence to a flight of doves is not inapt.

Like the Masdevallia, it must be grown in a cool house, but succeeds better when hung near the glass, and though it does not appreciate the drastic rest necessary to some Oncidiums, it should be carefully watered in the winter and the compost never allowed to become water-logged.

Yet another Orchid, again from a different genus, may be included here, though the vernacular in this instance is the Pigeon Orchid, Dendrobium crumenatum, a species widely distributed throughout the East from Burma to Java.

In certain, if not all, localities it is said to flower with such regularity that the week, if not the actual date, may be told by the appearance of its blossoms. Crumenatum = pouch stemmed, the plant having its pseudo-bulbs swollen for the first few inches. They then elongate into a reed-like extension often 2 feet or more long, and branched. On these slender prolongations the flowers are carried, great quantities being produced in their native haunts. They are greater in length than in breadth; soft white or flushed with rose is the usual colour, but yellowish forms have been reported.

The resemblance of a single flower, to me, is nearer to that of a bird in the act of settling, or rising, rather than to one in flight.

Though it is said to flower so freely abroad, so much so that the jungle is quite coloured by the number of flowers, under cultivation, it cannot be termed a first class Dendrobium, a few flowers only being produced at a time, very few to what one would expect from the length of the pseudo-bulbs. This paucity of flowers, added to their ephemeral life, renders the species useless to be grown in quantity, though attractions are to be found in the shape, colour, and fragrance of the blooms. E. COOPER.

Suckers on Rose trees

Quite seasonably, one reads frequently in horticultural periodicals, about this time, instructions and exhortations for the prompt removal of suckers, with notes on the best means of distinguishing them.

But it is somewhat strange to notice that in nearly every case one is told that these suckers should be "cut off." I have noticed it more frequently this year than ever.

To "cut off" a sucker amounts, broadly speaking, to no more than a hard pruning of the stock, the result being largely futile as regards the suppression of the tree's tendency to produce them. However often and diligently suckers be removed by cutting off, more, and more vigorous, will appear. This is true of fruit as well as Roses.

The correct procedure is, of course, to trace the sucker to its source and pull it off (or rather should it not be *out*?). In the case of standards, where the suckers appear above ground, they should be *rubbed out* when quite small. Has no one ever cut off or broken a side-shoot on a Tomato and found another come in its place, whereas, if gently rubbed out the treatment is quite efficacious?

It has struck me that so frequently have these instructions to "cut off" suckers appeared lately, it may save some novices, at least, trouble and disappointment in dealing with growths, which in some soils and seasons are a persistent evil, to have the correct procedure stated for their benefit.

J. R. K.

Window box soil

This should be well drained by a layer of stones and pieces of crock in the bottom. Then a layer of heavy loam to hold the moisture in hot weather, then the balance in loamy soil enriched with bone-meal or leaf-mould. Soil should be porous so water will not stand on top, but do not allow it to dry out.

Dead blooms

Immediately they are over remove these from Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Lilacs, and other subjects which seed freely, and so divert the plant's strength to the production of next year's wood instead of allowing them to become exhausted in maturing a crop of unwanted seeds.

Raising Wallflowers

OTHER flowers may be popular for a time, and then—subject to caprice of fashion—lose favour, but this stands alone without danger of being supplanted, revealing its beauty to us at the high noon of springtime. As is known, it is a biennial of easy culture, thriving in any fairly good soil, without the aid of manure, but needing rather a longer time for growth in some districts than is generally supposed. They never look better than when planted in groups of one colour, and it is true to say that they make the most unpretentious garden an attraction, bringing about a veritable transformation at a comparatively small cost. Like some other old-time garden flowering plants, Wallflowers have been considerably improved during the last 20 years or so, and much of this is due, not to the work of any individual person so much as the enterprise of certain firms.

It is important in selecting ground for the sowing of seeds of Wallflowers that it should be in an open, sunny situation, and free from any recent manure. If possible, it should be a spot clear of hedge or trees likely to shade, avoiding any soil that may have become impoverished by winter greens. Let the soil be well dug, and after having been brought to a fine surface by raking, seed can be sown. This is best done from the middle of May until the end of June in drills 9 inches apart, planting the seedlings out when large enough, 6 inches or so apart. It may be needful to afford these young plants water for a day or two, or even be necessary to "puddle" plants into nursery beds.

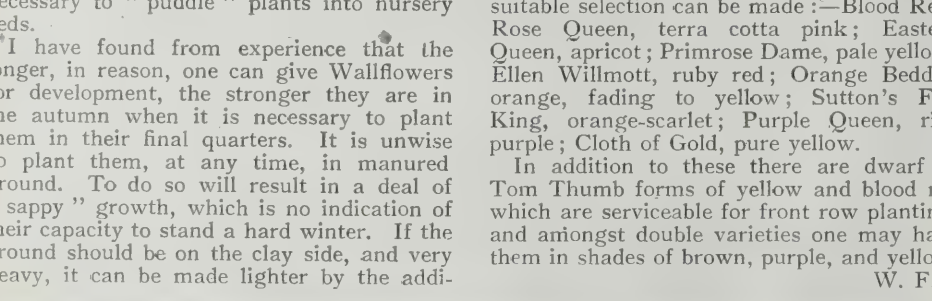
I have found from experience that the longer, in reason, one can give Wallflowers for development, the stronger they are in the autumn when it is necessary to plant them in their final quarters. It is unwise to plant them, at any time, in manured ground. To do so will result in a deal of "sappy" growth, which is no indication of their capacity to stand a hard winter. If the ground should be on the clay side, and very heavy, it can be made lighter by the addition of gritty material. It is often an advantage to give Wallflowers two shifts before transferring them to their quarters for spring flowering, one when pricking out as seedlings, and the other after a couple of months have elapsed, but it is mostly a question of opportunity, and space, which each one must decide.

The single varieties are generally chosen because of their greater variety of colour, their good habit, and free blooming qualities, but the doubles are not without charm. The advantage of sowing each variety to itself enables one to follow any plan of planting out in colour groups desired, and in the opinion of many it is the more effective way. The question is sometimes asked whether old plants cannot remain in the ground to do duty another spring. It seems to me that there are several objections to such a course: (1) Because it is not always convenient to allow old plants to occupy the same ground for so long a time without disturbance; (2) old plants have not the same vitality as young seedlings; and (3) it not infrequently happens when old plants are kept for blooming two years in succession that they do not come either true to colour or equal in quality of flowers, inasmuch as bees and other insects have distributed pollen, with the result that flowers are "flecked" and untrue.

In the circumstances it is always the best to start with seed procured from a firm who make it their business to grow for seed, and who, therefore, can be relied upon to sell only that which is pure. From the following a suitable selection can be made:—Blood Red; Rose Queen, terra cotta pink; Eastern Queen, apricot; Primrose Dame, pale yellow; Ellen Willmott, ruby red; Orange Bedder, orange, fading to yellow; Sutton's Fire King, orange-scarlet; Purple Queen, rich purple; Cloth of Gold, pure yellow.

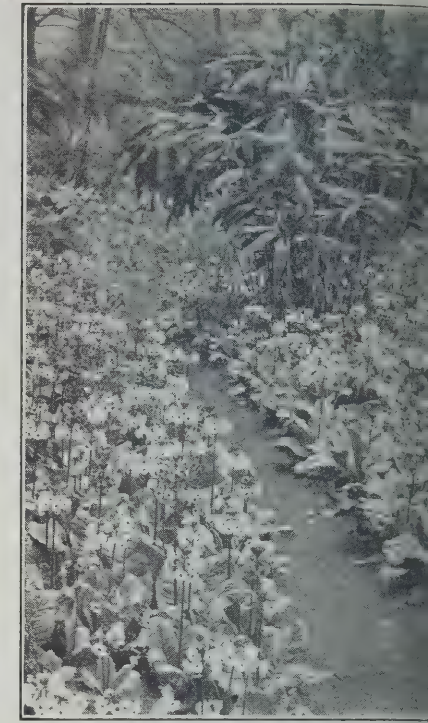
In addition to these there are dwarf or Tom Thumb forms of yellow and blood red which are serviceable for front row planting, and amongst double varieties one may have them in shades of brown, purple, and yellow.

W. F.



Primula denticulata

The large flower heads are bright purple



Primula japonica in moist woodl
at Wisley

Sidalceas

This is a handsome perennial of
habit, and very seldom requires st
There are so many beautiful forms tha
who want a border of them may choo
kind and colours they like best. The c
tion of the plants does not call for any
skill or treatment.

These flowers are so useful for so
purposes that they should find a ho
every garden. There are advantages i
ing them from seed. Not only can
army of plants be thus secured quickl
frequently some of the seedlings
greater vigour and produce larger
spikes than those secured by division.

The end of June is a good time t
seeds. Seed may be sown in boxes c
and raised in a cold frame. These m
well drained and filled with soil of a
nature, or they may be sown in the
ground. When large enough to h
prick out singly into rows 1 foot apart,
ing a distance of 6 inches between the
in the row. In early spring the plant
either be planted in permanent quart
remain where they are to weed out a
less specimens or mark any that
superior colouring.

H. STEV

Pyrola asarifolia var. incarn

Opening its flowers now, this species
winter green is worth all the time it
to get it well established. It has oval,
ing leaves, while the flowers are not
spikes of Lily of the Valley, and are
colour. Belonging to the Heath fam
dislikes lime in any form. We plant
old leaf-mould with sand and a
peat, putting in this compost to a de
2 feet, making sure it will never reac
sour subsoil. It likes to be sheltered
the sun and wind in a fairly moist
Pyrolas are best propagated by carefu
division in the spring as growth is com
ing. We have never been successful
seed, which is like powder. This plan
native of North America.

R. Moo

cultivation of Asiatic Primulas in a sunny rock garden

IERE must be many lovers of these ıscinating plants who, because their vailable ground has a southern aspect, :ause the soil is too dry or sandy, fear tempt their cultivation. Being well inted with a garden wherein many s of Primula grow and flower well, ıgh facing south and with a subsoil of ınd beneath, the methods of cultivation ed may prove of use to others.

ıy of the Primulas being natives of and or stream-sides, the chief necessi- ıre shade and moisture at the roots, protection from cutting spring winds ntial.

shade in this garden was obtained by ng small-growing shrubs on the rock n, beneath and around which grew the ılas. The actual shrubs used were icum Androsæmum, Artemisia abro- ı, Cytisus Daisy Hill, Cistus salvifolius, C. florentinus, various Helianthemums, Cotoneaster microphylla glacialis. Be- these, many others, such as Berberis næ, B. subcaulialata, Rhododendron osum, R. ferrugineum, Genista ıica, Euonymus nanus, Spiræa bullata, . Anthony Waterer, would prove effec-

se shrubs are, of course, a partial from the east wind, but a surrounding was most valuable in this respect.

obtain moist conditions at the roots g the summer months, when the plants full growth, thorough preparation of round is the greatest aid to success. hing should be carried out 2 feet deep st or to the subsoil, which should then ked over, but not turned up into the oil. At the bottom of each trench a layer of broken bricks, slates, clinkers, all stones must be spread, so that the ılas may have that proper drainage g the winter which is so necessary for

ve this place a layer of rotten leaves or ed vegetable matter of some kind to le a water-storing material for the days—the drier the soil conditions the this layer should be. Do not use rank re on any account or the result will be h at the expense of flower quality, and will also render the plants less able to withstand the attacks of wind, damp, and slugs.

Primula pulverulenta with an edging of Saxifraga umbrosa at Bodnant
The large Rhododendron in the centre is Rh. calophytum

The surface soil may now be replaced, but with it should be mixed some form of humus, such as old peat litter, which will prevent the surface from baking hard in the summer.

All these materials should be obtainable largely from the various rubbish-heaps in the garden. The peat litter in the original came from a disused hen-shed.

The soil must then be allowed some little time in which to settle down before planting any Primulas. After this has been carried out a thick layer of coarse sand should be scattered round each plant, partly to ward off slugs and partly to protect the neck from excessive moisture, a particularly deadly form of attack to many species. Subject to weather conditions I would suggest late August or early September as the most suitable time for preparation and planting.

Primulas should always be planted so that their roots run beneath a stone, thereby keeping them cool and moist in the summer months. This may be achieved in two ways—first, by excavating a suitable hole under rocks already in position and planting the Primula therein, taking care to break up the soil as far back as possible; and secondly, by first planting and then surrounding the Primula with suitable stones, which should have a flat base and be placed as near to the crown as possible. In either case be careful to keep the plant on the north side of the stone or otherwise the stone will merely reflect the sun's heat on to the Primula. P. Forrestii and many European species are exceptions to this rule.

xed colony of Primulas japonica, helodoxa and Lady Thursby in the woodland at Bodnant, N. Wales.

In the early summer, about June, many of the stronger species will appreciate—and often need—a top-dressing composed of such material as well-rotted leaves or peat litter mixed with the best available soil. This will act both as a mulch and also as a stimulant to the surface roots.

Winter treatment, particularly in the damp parts of the country, should consist in removal of all decaying leaves and in regular applications of sand around the necks of those species above ground. P. capitata and its relatives will need careful attention after frosts or heavy rain, as they are apt to lift gradually out of the soil. In this case they should be gently pressed back and given a good top-dressing.

In the garden under notice the following species proved most successful:—cashmeriana, denticulata and its variety alba, frondosa, Florindæ, glycyosma, helodoxa, lichiangensis, oblanceolata, Mooreana, pulverulenta, and Wardii. P. frondosa in particular excelled, making very large, floriferous clumps and seeding around.

Those species which have proved difficult include Cockburniana and its hybrid Red Hugh, Littoniana, rosea, saxatilis, and secundiflora; however, fresh seedlings have been raised of the last-named species and promise better results.

In conclusion, remember that the finest plants may be raised from home-saved seed sown as soon as it is ripe and *not* in the following spring.

B. O. M.

Primula chionantha

IN your issue of June 8th your correspondent says that this is a biennial but produces seed in great profusion.

I had a seedling of this given me in 1925. It flowered for the first time last year, 1928, throwing up two fine spikes, but gave no seed. This year the same root has again thrown up two spikes, with three whorls of the creamy white flowers, and, I hope, presently may ripen seed.

G. G. BAKER CRESSWELL.

Preston Tower, Northumberland.

Primula microdonta alpicola

The charming Primula microdonta is a most variable species in the colour of its blooms, and the writer has had the pleasure of seeing a number of various colours and shades selected from very many plants and forming in themselves quite an attractive collection of delightful flowers. For the average reader it is sufficient, perhaps, to speak of the charming P. microdonta alpicola, which comes from Southern Tibet, at a height of from 13,000 feet to 14,000 feet above sea level. The form which received the Award of Merit of the Royal Horticultural Society in 1927, when it was shown by Oliver and Hunter, of Moniaive, is about 18 inches high, and from June onwards gives whorls of lovely drooping flowers of pale Primrose, and very fragrant. It is a delightful plant indeed, and in my garden is much admired, although it has as its near companions such flamboyant Primulas as Cockburniana, Burmanica, Red Hugh, and others. Good loam and peat or leaf-soil will suit this lovely plant, but it must have plenty of water when in growth. It frequents shady bogs and the margins of streams in its native country. Increased by seed or division.

S. ARNOTT.

Why one should grow hardy Primulas

I think the man or woman who loves flowers and who has omitted to make the acquaintance of some of the hardy forms of Primulas misses a very great deal of beauty in the early year when everything that blooms is welcome in a garden. That is why I am keen in growing Primulas, known to be hardy, that are little affected by the winter. Just now is the time when seed can be sown in boxes of light soil and placed in a partly shaded place in the garden. It is also the right time when plants can be literally pulled to pieces, and every bit of rootlet planted out 6 inches apart in firm ground and made rich with a little old manure, or at least some old vegetable refuse or spent hops to supply a little humus to the soil. You meet with the complaint so frequently, " My garden gets little sun." That is just the place where hardy Primulas thrive the best, the spot they love. I have some hundreds of plants of Primula Wanda (purple), Juliæ (rose), and others that have been a real delight this spring. If you had seen them in the first weeks in March, when night after night sharp frosts came with regularity, you would not have begged them. There was not a vestige of foliage to be seen, only tufts of brown, withered leaves. In April the leaves began slowly to unfold. In May they were miracles of beauty, as full of flowers as any woodland Primroses. I have not lost more than two or three clumps, and they were old ones which had not been divided. All the young ones which were transplanted last June made nice-sized roots and came through their winter ordeal unscathed. Never before have I seen quicker development; never before have they responded to the influence of rain and milder conditions more than this spring, and those on the coldest part of the garden have flowered the best. Two or three decent-sized clumps split up now will bring, probably, a score or more plants, because every bit with a rootlet will grow within a year into a flowering specimen.

LEAHURST.

Staking Hollyhocks

If arrangements have not already been made to stake Hollyhocks it should be done forthwith, avoiding the use of Bamboo canes, that for strong-growing plants are unserviceable and afford no support in a time of rough wind and rain. A good wooden stake about 1 inch or 1¼ inches square I find the best, and these should be painted green. Tie with twine or cord in preference to raffia, which sometimes gives way when the stems are full of flowers. Should it happen that the plants have been grown from offsets or are old clumps of a previous year the grower should watch very carefully for any sign of fungus disease appearing on the leaves. As a rule, spotted leaves are found near the base of the plants, but not always, as quite young leaves may be attacked; but whenever they show they ought to be at once picked off and burnt. If it is found the disease is confined to one or two plants and begins to spread it is the better policy to uproot such plants and destroy them, as nothing spreads quicker than the rust complaint, which disfigures plants regarded as healthy, in a few days. There is no half-measure once the disease has got hold of a plant, and it is therefore best to destroy it.

WOODBASTWICK.

The beautiful Primula chionantha from the alpine meadows of Western Yunnan

Summer treatment of Arum

What is the best thing to do wit
Lilies after they have done flo
Should they be kept in the same p
placed in some corner of the greenh
enable them to ripen, or ought the po
stood out of doors for the rest of the s
These are questions which crop u
year, and upon which there is som
sion of opinion. Why keep them in
all after blooming, when they can be
out in the open ground and better re
achieved?

Much stress is often laid upon the
roots having a chance to ripen suff
but I have noticed that when they a
dry in pots, though repotted in early a
the spathes are never so fine as from
which have enjoyed cooler treatme
greater freedom at the roots. Besid
there is always the possibility when
disturbed for the purpose of ripening,
may be overdone to the extent that t
sometimes forgotten and get dried u
plan is to turn them out of pots i
plant them in a trench in the ga
which no manure has been worked,
open, sunny situation. Plants by the
are much stronger and healthier in eve
On more than one occasion I hav
Arums turned on their sides in a garde
the sun baking on the pots. I coul
see the advantage to be derived from t
tinuance of such treatment. We kn
when in full growth these plants
abundance of water, and though the
be something to be said in favour o
them a resting period, I think it can
longed too far.

It is, I find, best to shake the plan
of the soil, and pull the largest to pi
fore planting in the open ground,
them about a foot apart. No ma
needed, nor is it desirable, as it is co
to rank growth. An ideal place is
manured for a crop the previous year
spot previously occupied by Celery a
Taking of Arums up for potting shou
the second or third week in Septembe
is unsafe to go much beyond that tim
much as the foliage is tender and
stand a breath of frost without injury
well drained, sufficiently large to h
roots without crushing, and good loa
enough sharp sand to keep it open, w
their requirements. A good soaking o
should follow, and when brought in
greenhouse they should have abundan
lation, and be shaded from bright s
is best, when it can be conveniently ar
to stand Arums on the floor of the ho
if on a stage, on trays of ashes or grit,
keeps the roots cool and greatly less
labour of watering. But this devic
not be as a substitute for water, a
plants when in growth take a great
water. In an average winter a temp
in the neighbourhood of 50 degs.
Weak liquid manure and soot water
alternately, after the plants have
established in pots, helps them.

LEAH

The Rocket (Hesperis matro

Passing by an old flower garden,
dered from whence came the stro
pleasing scent, until closer inspection r
some half-a-dozen clumps of the single
of this old favourite. It was quite a
in its quarters, for the clumps were
3 feet in height and nearly as much
meter, and were flowering profusely.
a fine old plant, well worthy of a p
any garden, and its flowering season is
than that of many more showy flower

E

Notes from a Cornish Garden

OME again to find Primula chionantha
in full flower and P. cyanantha in
various stages and sizes. The former
ndeniably a beautiful thing, a mass of
rs on a tall stem, white with a mauve
; but it does not compare with P.
iana, nor, I think, is it any easier.
cyanantha, of the Muscarioid section, is
ightful little plant, and individual plants
much in size. One, for instance, in the
ula frame has a stem as thick as a slate
l and a lovely conical dome of dark
le flowers, which are a joy to look at.
I prefer P. Menziesiana, which, alas!
gone out with me, and I must try to get
seed from somewhere. P. suffrutescens
owing one or two of its rounded pink
rs in the frame, and a few survived the
r out-of-doors, but they do not look very
y. I have just planted out 25 small P.
stii in various cracks in the terrace
, and if this beneficent weather con-
s they should get established and go
d like some of the older plants, one of
h, by the way, is already showing the
depicted in Mr. Forrest's wonderful
graph, and exhibiting quite a long
d rootstock with the boss of leaves and
rs at the end.
vittata has just opened in a north border,
I was glad to see it, for most of the
s here over-ate themselves, grew like
ges, and died. But these survivors had
uch rich soil and should provide seed for
uture. It is a pretty thing, but not, per-
, of outstanding merit. Serrated Prim-
leaves and a double scape of flowers on
inch stem, crimson-purple, and hanging
ther long pedicels; and both these and
alyx are lightly powdered with farina.
calyx especially is conspicuous in that
apparently divided into segments of
a and very dark unfarinaceous epider-
And herein, as no botanist, but a mere
ener, I risk the mockery of the initiated
alking about things of which I am
ant; yet mayhap the description will
y something to those who are in the
predicament. And the Rhododendrons
quite wonderful this year. Never have
n so many flowers on the big Aucklandii
re must be over 200, though I have not
to count them. And this afternoon, toil-
p to plant a Rhododendron at the top
e wood, I was amazed at the sight
. cinnabarinum x Keysii covered with
w and red flowers to such an extent that
leaves were hardly visible. The in-
ual bells are rather like those of Keysii,
good deal larger and more open at the
h. And what a lovely flower is Souliei
wense; wide open after the fashion
uliei, some 3 inches across, 11 to a big
led truss, and of the most delicate blush,
r deeper in bud. Would that I knew
has happened to the other plants of it—
n one of the woods, probably, and I
have a look for them; that is, if time
its, which it probably will not. It is
f the flowers which are entirely satisfy-
n the hand as well as on the bush, for it
one of the coarseness or appearance of
nce, which to some of us, at any rate,
s the charm of many of the most
us hybrids. As usual, R. Countess of
lington was frosted in bud here and has
ew flowers, but Lady Alice Fitzwilliam
gnificent, and one or two of the Edge-
hii are good. The majority of these,
almost all the bullatums, suffer from
rowding and drought, and should be
d. One Dalhousiæ is flowering, but
Scottianum, megacalyx, ciliicalyx, or
nubium, and it looks as if these were
r softer than the first named.

R. carneum, too, has failed, as it usually does, even on a south wall, but R. Lyi is very fine indeed and is quite the hardiest of that phylum.

One of the Californian Irises is flowering again, which is pleasant, for two years ago I divided it, perhaps at the wrong time, and it resented the process. Which it is I am not certain. Probably I. Purdyi, but it may be bracteata. Anyhow, it is a pretty flower, pale cream in colour, with numerous crimson lines on a yellowish ground, becoming paler as they extend from the centre.

Iris tuberosa, "The Mourning Widow," flowered earlier and is now showing its remarkable seed pods, which bend downwards from the stem in a manner quite peculiar to itself. Lastly, there is a little Iris which came to me from a friend as Iris Verna. Of this name I can find no record, but imagine that it may possibly be I. lacustris. It was in a pot in one of the cold frames, and noticing that it meant to flower I removed it to the greenhouse to avoid the slugs. Mercifully I looked in the hole at the bottom of the pot and there found a large one ensconced ready to begin operations as soon as the flower showed beyond its sheath.

The little-known Iris verna

Flowers clear lavender blue, with deep orange-yellow splash at the haft. Height 4 inches

It is a charming little plant, 3 inches to 4 inches high, and lavender-blue, with a broad streak of orange-yellow on the falls; and I am tempted to plant it out, but am very doubtful how it will stand the onslaught of the West Country slug, which, delighting in the damp climate, is quite super-voracious.

PETER THE HERMIT.

Herbaceous Phloxes

In the family of hardy herbaceous subjects there are few more beautiful for early autumn blooming in a garden than the Phloxes, but to have the best from them one must be prepared to give them a deep, rich soil, with plenty of room for development. In so far as position is concerned, we should suggest a sunny one, but it does not follow that these plants will not do well grown on a partially shaded border. It is when they are planted in a shallow, impoverished soil, with little or no shade, that failures occur. Whilst the early blooming Phloxes belonging to the Suffruticosa group, which yield their blossoms in summer, are very charming, by far the most popular section is the Decussata, which flower and light up the borders in autumn. Phloxes deserve a word of praise for the town and suburban gardener, as in them he will find repayment for his trouble, and if at the outset he will provide the clumps with congenial soil made up of loam and rotted leaves or old manure, he may count on his garden being gay in September. Planting may be done in late autumn, weather permitting, or in spring, and it is advisable to give them 3 feet or so apart. Personally, I prefer autumn planting if it can be arranged, as one gains time by their becoming established, and so a better chance of their blooming the first season; especially if a dry summer follows.

As intimated, Phloxes increase rapidly, and every two years it is well to examine them as to their need for division. The common method is to increase their numbers by dividing the roots, but if this is not carefully done, shoots are likely to be cut through or damaged. Another method is by propagation from cuttings, and though this does not commend itself to many, as involving more trouble, it is a plan which should not be lost sight of, as plants from cuttings often make the best clumps. Cuttings can be taken in July and August from the base of the plants; these should be inserted in pots of sand and loam and kept in a cold frame shaded from bright sun until rooting takes place. There is a wonderful diversity of colour in modern Phloxes, a great improvement on some of the early variety, both in the size of the individual flowers and their tints. The following are a few suitable varieties: W. W. Jacobs, bright carmine; Mrs. A. A. Smith, deep mauve with purple centre; Miss Mary Radford, delicate pink; Aldenham Pride, magenta; F. A. Buchner, pure white; La Vague, lilac, centre cherry red; G. A. Strohlein, scarlet-orange; Summer Cloud, pale flesh; Mrs. Rutgers, rosy lilac. W. F.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Vineries without fire heat

Excellent Black Hamburgh Grapes may be grown in unheated houses, especially when the borders are inside, and I have matured very nice bunches of the white Foster's Seedling under the same conditions. To carry this out successfully, however, airing, syringing, and watering must be thoroughly understood, and, given this, success is almost certain. Air must be gradually admitted when the temperature has reached 70 degs. in the morning, gradually increasing with the heat of the day until all the ventilators are fully open, the floors having been damped down early each morning when the day promises to be sunny. Early closing is essential, and this, on warm days, may take place from 4 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., the whole of the Vines, woodwork, and floors being syringed down, following which the temperature may rise to 80 degs. or 90 degs. without the slightest harm. Under these conditions growth will be clean and vigorous, and this treatment may be continued until colouring commences, when a little air should be left on all night.

Malmaison Carnations

These are not grown to the same extent as they were before the advent of perpetual-flowering kinds, although we find them still represented in many good gardens. The earliest of them will now be passing out of bloom, and a survey of these must be made, selecting the cleanest and healthiest of those growing in 5-inch and 6-inch pots for potting on into larger sizes. All such should be stood out on a cool bed of ashes (preferably in a cold frame with the lights off) for a fortnight to become hard, potting being taken in hand a little later. Select with the same care those it is intended to layer and treat likewise, syringing them overhead in the evening following hot, sunny days, as this will check Red Spider.

Chrysanthemums

Whether these are being grown to produce a few large blooms or large bush plants they should now be stood out in lines on a bottom of coal ashes, where watering may be carefully attended to and the plants syringed daily, in the cool of the evening for preference. Tying in of the shoots will be constant from this date.

Water Lilies and other aquatics

Do not permit weeds to get the upper hand or cleaning will be a difficult matter. Where the many pond weeds cannot be removed by hand I find a sharp hook similar to a swap hook with a long handle, and in larger and deeper water a scythe, very satisfactory for cutting through the weeds, as this enables one to cut them down close to the bed of lake or pond. Such weeds will then drift to the sides and may be collected by a punt and removed. A certain amount of hand-pulling must, however, be done near the water's edge to keep, not only weeds, but some of the more rampant plants within reasonable bounds.

Staking herbaceous flowers

This important task is best when accomplished early, and calls for a little taste on the part of those engaged upon it. The aim must always be unseen support, the stakes being there, but enveloped in the foliage. This is sometimes a little difficult, but much can be done with the right material and the right method of using it. I know of nothing better than simple Hazel or other sprays, whether for Pinks, Carnations, Campanulas, Poppies, or Delphiniums. On sandy soils constant watering will be necessary for the welfare of herbaceous flowers, Roses, Clematis, and the great variety of smaller subjects which adorn the ground between them, especially Violas, and where water is scarce a light mulch of Cocoa fibre will not only look well, but prove a boon to the plants.

Apples

Where caterpillar is troublesome continue to spray with one of the well-known washes advertised for this purpose, and if scab is frequent I recommend Orchard Spray Fluid. Keep the growths stopped at five eyes from their base on trained trees and keep the latter well supplied with water.

Peas

It is now too late to sow maincrop varieties, and where constant supplies are necessary the early varieties must again be resorted to, such as The Pilot, Primo, Peter Pan, etc., which will not fail to mature a nice crop in late autumn.

Sweet Corn, Celery, Leeks in trenches, and Scarlet Runner Beans

These are all growing freely, but must not be permitted to suffer from lack of moisture at any time, and dewings overhead will assist them considerably. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Grape thinning

Continue this tedious but necessary job as opportunity offers. Full advantage should be taken of dull days to push it on, as twice the speed can be attained during the comparative coolness of a sunless day. It is always best to thin Grapes while the berries are small, even if one has later on to remove an odd berry where there is crowding.

Melons

When the fruits have attained to full size water must not be given too lavishly or the flavour may be injuriously affected. At the same time anything like dryness either at the roots or in the atmosphere of the house or pit must be strictly guarded against until just close on ripening, or a serious attack of vermin is almost certain.

Tomatoes

The feeding of these must have attention, but must not be given indiscriminately or harm rather than good will result. Plants growing in boxes or pots can be kept going nicely by top-dressing with fresh, rich soil augmented by a moderate dressing of some good artificial fertiliser like Thomson's Vine and Plant Manure. Given occasionally in small dressings very fine results will follow, but a heavy dose followed by a copious watering will cause many of the fruits to crack.

Latest Peaches

After these have "stoned" thin out the fruits where necessary, doing this gradually so as not to cause an undue check. The soil must never be permitted to get dry, nor should syringing of the foliage be neglected if the trees are to escape the attention of Red Spider and Thrip. Tie in the young shoots as becomes necessary.

Fruit trees on walls

In a dry season like the present one vermin very quickly become troublesome, especially in the case of Peaches, Plums, and Cherries. The moment the pests appear get the syringe or garden engine at work. Vigorous syringing with clean water is very useful, the enemy has gained a footing som proved insecticide must be brought int It is very good practice to mulch all ov roots of Peaches with farmyard man even half-rotted leaves. This greatl serves moisture in the soil and also the roots nice and cool.

Asparagus

Stop cutting this in good time c crowns for next season will be weal A further dressing of salt, while bein beneficial to the plants, also kills verm weeds, and is, indeed, almost a necess Asparagus beds.

Late Potatoes

The more the soil between rows of toes is worked the better is likely to crop. This, of course, applies only t as are not yet earthed up. If the soil stiff nature use a digging-fork at inte because the Dutch hoe, valuable as does not loosen the soil deeply enough Potatoes. Do not unduly delay the ear up, and see that this is carried out whi soil is nice and moist, for to draw up of dry soil is to preclude the possibil rain ever really moistening such soil.

Sow more Dwarf Beans

The principal batch of this vegetabl now be sown on rich, well-cultivated g in an open, sunny position. It is a goo to sow about three approved varieties time, making the old Canadian Wond of them, this variety being still one very best croppers and entirely relia every way.

Turnips

Small sowings every few weeks nice, tender, and well-flavoured bulbs i of the large, bitter, and coarse spec that one must be content with shoul large sowing be made to serve throu the whole season. Although it is g late, if sown at once the Swede varietie succeed all right, even if the bulbs ar quite so large as those from earlier sow

Maincrop Leeks

As soon as ever the plants are large e have them transferred to their perm positions. Very rich, well-tilled groun necessity if really good produce is de The old Scotch Musselburgh is probab best all-round variety for general use, of decent size and good flavour, whi other will stand the winter better.

Spring Broccoli

It will be well to plant out these they get too big. The ground must n made rich or the plants will be too sof flabby to stand the winter. Excellent r are had by planting on the site re vacated by Leeks, the ground being n cleaned and levelled, and not dug. It of course, be somewhat difficult to ge dibber thrust into the ground, but i work is carried out immediately after rain it is comparatively easy to manage.

Thin crops in good time

All vegetable crops, such as Beet, Let Turnip, etc., should be carefully thinne mediately the little plants are fit to ha If the work can be carried out d showery weather not only will it be easier done, but the crop will in every be of better quality. Beetroot and Le transplant quite readily, but Turnips the exception of Swedes), Carrots, Pars Radishes, etc., will not respond to process. C. BLA

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Sussex County Show

IE Sussex Agricultural Show was held t Preston Park, Brighton, on June 12th nd 13th. The Horticultural Section was rerfully well represented, including a tn for forestry, where there were de- rtrations to be seen of hurdle making, te making, baskets, lobster pots, and o. The floral exhibits filled three large t and contained perhaps the finest display f summer flowers ever seen in Brighton e district, and in the majority of cases r arranged with the greatest skill and

attendance broke all previous records t long history of the county shows, and ig the two days in which it was held, 122,000 people passed through the turn- the increase in the number of visitors r, no doubt, helped by the greatly im- d means of travel, both by rail and yet there was no overcrowding and the ng was well managed in the capable s of Mr. Morley.

e Barnham Nurseries Company con- bed a large group of Alpines, arranged as gh growing amongst rocks. The Edel- i, Daphne Cneorum, Erinus alpinus, m lydium, Primula Sikkimensis were ell shown and admired. The group was ded the Silver Medal. Messrs. Allwood d a fine exhibit of their well-known Per- l Carnations, the large Malmaisons, a charming group of their Allwoodii, the stinted Freda being a double variety, ara, a scarlet, and Pat, a light ver- ln, being double also. Another group a formed of the Border Carnations, onea, Mrs. G. D. Murray, and Border ow being amongst the best; the last d had flowers of perfect form. Another y group was made up of the new race lpines, shown as though growing ngst rocks. Titana, a wonderful carmine, dy, a puce rose, and Oberon, a beauti- i frilled pink, were particularly pleasing. ers. J. Cheal and Sons showed a beautiful p of herbaceous and Alpine flowers. ngst the former were some superb ns. Apricot, Chocolate Soldier, Roseus, Ruby King, a deep mauve, were amongst est. There were also some fine Geums Pyrethrums. Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons e also showing a small garden with cen- a fountain pool in the open, for which e were awarded a Gold Medal. The e of the tent was filled by a magnificent p of vegetables from Lord Leconfield (re- i scent of Mr. Edwin Becket at his best). h were grown at Petworth by Mr. ter. Messrs. Lowe and Gibson had a superb group of Flag Irises. Hilda, a white with picotee edge and almost white fall; Rhoda, a soft lilac; Afterglow, a light bronze pink; Susan Bliss, a fine pink; Dimity, with white falls and soft pale mauve standards; Crusader, a deep rich mauve; the incomparable yellow pallida Shekinah, Marsh Marigold, much like Iris King but far richer in colour, especially in the standards; Eldorado, a fine copper, were amongst the most striking in a grand collection. Messrs. Sutton Brothers were showing a fine group of Orchids. A very fine plant of Dendrobium Dalhousianum formed a striking centre to the group. Thunia Marshallianum, the rich orange B.-L. Cattleya Rowena; Dendrobium Chrysosticum; the Snake Orchid, Pholidota imbricata; and Brassia varicosa, the grasshopper Orchid, were all very striking. There were also some superb Brasso Cattleyas.

Alton Towers, Uttoxeter, Staffordshire

The magnificent grounds, rose garden, and beautiful lakes are open daily

Mr. W. Wells, Junior, contributed a superb collection of herbaceous plants. Oriental Poppies, Lupins, and Pyrethrums made a blaze of colour. The Lupin, Princess Elizabeth, is certainly the purest and finest deep rose coloured variety yet raised. The exhibit won the Gold Medal. Messrs. Toogood and Sons also had a fine group of Lupins, and beneath them were good vases of Sweet Peas and Dutch Irises. Seen against a background of black velvet the whole exhibit had a fine effect.

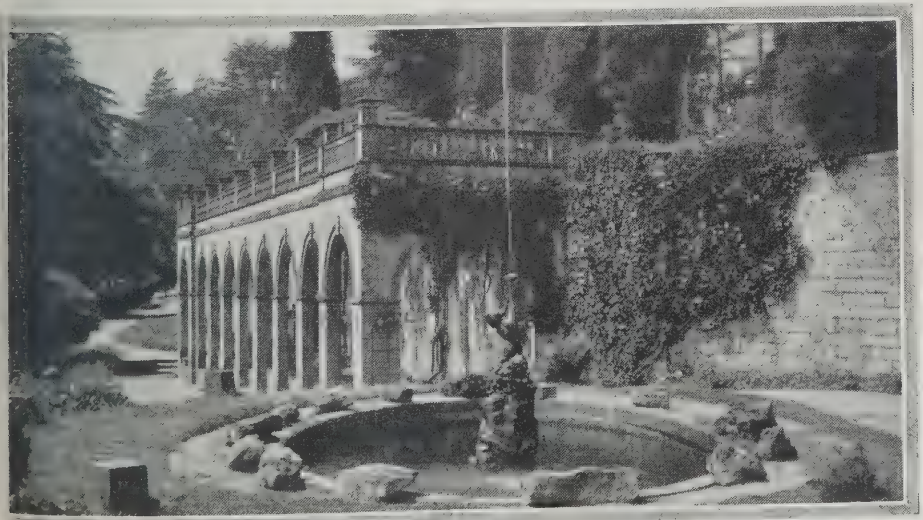
Amongst the competitive groups in the next tent Mr. W. Dadswell, of Uckfield, took first prize for a finely grown collection of Sweet Peas. The whole end of the tent was taken up by a wonderful group of herbaceous plants, for which Mr. Frank Woollard, of Lewes Road, Brighton, was awarded the Gold Medal. In this group there were no less than 40 varieties of Pyrethrums. The whole exhibit was edged with Violas and Pansies.

The centre of the tent was decorated with a non-competitive group of foliage plants and Palms, with a central mound of white Lilies, by Messrs. W. Balchin, of Brighton and Hove. The Premier Seed Company, of Brighton, put up a good non-competitive exhibit of vegetables.

The Southern end of the tent was occupied by a group of finely grown Hydrangeas, white Lilies, and Pelargoniums, seen against a background of Palms. The exhibit reflected the greatest credit on Messrs. W. Miles and Co., of Hove, who were awarded the Gold Medal. The centre of the third marquee was taken up by a great group of florists' flowers by Mr. H. Anscombe, of Brighton. The effect would have been far better had more attention been given to the arrangement of colours. Pelargonium King of Denmark, seen next to bright orange Marigolds, and scarlet and pink Pelargoniums, in close proximity with pink Roses in the centre, and a border of blue Nemesia against magenta Petunias certainly left much to be desired, though the flowers themselves were superbly grown and deserved a better setting. The Chez-Nous Nurseries had a rock-surrounded pool, but the plants placed round it were of various characters and seem to have got into the wrong picture. They were awarded a Silver Medal, but the plants could not possibly have been grown as placed.

Mr. W. G. Bright, of Hove, arranged a beautiful group of greenhouse plants, flowers, and foliage in very good taste. There were some very fine Metrosideros floribunda rising from slender foliage and large-leaved Begonias in the exhibit. A Gold Medal was awarded to Mr. H. Hemsley for Alpines well arranged amongst weather-worn grey limestone on the bench, and he showed another group composed of the newest Lupins. Miss Winifred Walker received the Gold Medal for a selection of her water-colour drawings of flowers.

In the fruit and vegetable section Mr. Harry West, of Worthing, took first prize for Cucumbers; Mr. James Brehoup, of Worthing, first for French Beans; and



Alton Towers: Roman Bath and Loggia

Messrs. Dutton Brothers, of Worthing, first for vegetable Marrows. Mr. A. V. Stewart was awarded first prize for three (shallow) baskets of black Grapes. Mushrooms and Tomatoes were also well shown.

There were very few examples of table decoration shown, but the first prize was awarded to a very charming one in which flesh-coloured and pale cream Tea Roses were arranged with deep red Japanese Maple by Mrs. A. M. Swann, of Warninglid, Sussex.

FRUIT GARDEN

The Morello Cherry

THIS valuable late Cherry is, perhaps, more cultivated than any other variety. It may be grown in three different ways, all of which prove successful. For furnishing a north wall few other fruits are so well adapted. I have noticed certain varieties of Plums, Pears, and Apricots are recommended for this position by certain growers, but according to my experience there has been no permanent success with them on a north wall. The Morello Cherry will also succeed in any description of soil. I have had only one instance of its failing, and this was when a tree was planted in clayey loam with a heavy clay subsoil. Afterwards, however, it was found defective drainage was the cause of this. It is, therefore, necessary that the drainage be effective, more especially as a border under a north wall receives very little, if any, sun.

Wall-trained Morello Cherries require rather different treatment as regards pruning and training from that accorded to other fruit trees. All their fruit is produced from the young wood of the previous year, and a little management is required to cover the wall in a regular way with bearing wood, especially when the trees become old. Lay in the young wood rather more thickly than is usual with other sorts of Cherries, but at the same time do not crowd the shoots too closely together.

Unfortunately, all Cherries are liable to attacks of Black Aphis on the young growing shoots, and as it causes the leaves to curl it is very difficult to dislodge it. Keep a careful watch for its appearance, and before the leaves curl, syringe the trees with force with water in which soft-soap has been dissolved. In cases where the pest has become firmly established the only way to get rid of it is to take the shoot in one hand and brush the leaves over with a brush which has been dipped in the soft-soap solution. I still find the old Gishurst Compound (3 ozs. to the gallon of water) the most effective remedy.

Pyramid trees of the Morello Cherry, when worked on the Mahaleb stock, bear very abundantly, and I have found trees trained in this way are not so liable to attacks of insect pests as wall trees. In the early stages the treatment of pyramid trees, say, up to about six years from the bud, is very simple, merely training the tree to a central leader and pinching the young growing shoots twice in the season. But here comes in a little management as the trees are apt to become too crowded with wood, excluding light and air from the centre of the trees. In all such cases thinning of the branches is necessary. After about six years old it will be found unnecessary to pinch the young shoots. If it has been properly trained, when it reaches this age a very little attention as to thinning and regulating the shoots will be required. When the fruit commences to ripen it is most necessary to net the trees, or the birds will soon strip the trees of the fruit.

The espalier form is another convenient form of growing this fruit. For this I used iron hurdles, and with the aid of sticks trained the shoots along them. The trees bear good crops nearly every year. Summer treatment consists in allowing the trees to grow much in their own way, and in autumn or winter removing some of the old wood and tying in the young bearing wood in its place.

F. H.

Raspberries

Of all the berries the Raspberry is one of the most delicious and useful. Provided they are planted in deep and well prepared soil and proper attention is given to them, both in summer and winter, they will succeed in the same position as long as any other crop.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Aquaria

THERE are several ponds upon Mitcham Common abounding in animal life suitable for the aquarium. In one adjacent to the railway station, beetles, larvæ of the dragonfly, newts, and water snails are to be found. In another pond on the road to Croydon the screech beetles can be seen on sunshiny days whirling around quite merrily. The ditches contain frogs of all sizes, and Willow Moss can be gathered from the stream at the end of Beddington Lane. Keep your weeds, etc., in a small waterproof bag; it will be found more convenient than a bottle. A glass bottle is more useful when collecting animalculæ. Sunshiny days are preferable for collecting aquatic insects, as they come up to the surface. Beetles can be caught in a small net. The easiest way to collect them is to drag out the weeds, and when the large beetles can be seen swimming about in the water a quick movement of the net should secure your quarry.

How to save Strawberry seed

Procure some good blotting-paper, on which mash your berries. The juice will be absorbed and the pulp and seeds will remain on the surface of the paper. Place the latter in a dry, sunny place, and in 10 or 12 days your seeds will be perfectly dry and ripe. Then sow them very shallow in a nicely prepared bed which must be kept moist. In from two to four weeks your plants will be up, when, as soon as large enough, they can be transplanted.—June 21st, 1879.

Many years ago, when I was in Hertfordshire, I remember a garden where there was a bed of Raspberries that was known to be over 40 years old, and better crops of fruit I have never seen. In summer a forest of young shoots clustered around the stools and these were thinned out when 6 inches high, instead of being left, as they so often are, to form a dense thicket to be thinned out in winter. The ground between the rows was lightly picked over with the fork, and manure and a slight sprinkling of soil were spread on the surface annually. These old stocks responded wonderfully to this treatment, producing stout canes 6 feet in length.

But though Raspberries receivin
cultural attention may occupy the
profitably for many years, I still con
prudent in making a new plantation t
ground that has been occupied wit
other crop. It is by allowing the
growths to be greatly crowded duri
summer and damaging the roots b
digging during the winter that mal
ground what some growers term "
berry Sick." The Raspberries, howev
not sick of the ground, but of the un
treatment to which they are subjected

Let me advise every amateur and c
who has ground space at his disposal t
Raspberries, and if he has no stakes a
to support the canes they may be left
port themselves. It is the lack of st
am afraid, that is the great impedin
the cottager of growing Raspberries;
I question if there are not more pr
without the aid of stakes and wires tha
them. Provided the young growt
timely and sufficiently thinned out
early summer, the canes become suffi
strong and sturdy to carry all the fru
will produce, and to resist the effect of
winds. Three fine varieties are Pyne's
The Devon, and Superlative. Lloyd
is a fine autumn fruiter.

F

The Plum crop

Growers who are fortunate to have
on walls or as cordons on trellis, wher
would be protected alike from the atta
birds in the winter and from frost in
are doubtless congratulating themsel
a fair crop. In the open, however, al
standard, bush, and pyramid trees, th
look is very poor, for the birds took
toll of the buds during the long winte
we had sharp frosts with us on severa
sions during the time the trees were in
"Six of the best" is a good rule for
as well as other fruits, although if
tinuous supply is required from July
until the last pickings of Golden Dro
Ickworth Imperatrice, possibly a few
varieties would have to be included.
different forms of Gage, however, of
selves cover a long season, but I sho
inclined to include Ickworth, which
grand reaper and of excellent quality; i
I have heard connoisseurs of Plums
nounce it when in a slightly shrivellin
dition as "an absolute sweetm
Growers in this district are bewailin
loss of their Victorias and Damsons, th
for its value for all culinary purposes a
Damson as a grand saleable fruit, esp
the Prune Damson. This is, however, n
on account of its size, as its adheren
the stone renders it hardly so acceptal
the smaller kind, and it certainly is n
good a cropper. Few fruits have held
own in popularity as has the Plum
toria, or Alderton as it was first known.
troduced nearly 90 years ago, it is s
general favourite.

E. BURRE

Apple Gravenstein

It is regrettable that such an exc
Apple as the above should be a very
ferent cropper, and so when one has
space for a few of the best it can hard
included. Otherwise my choice for pers
eating, in their respective seasons, wou
Irish Peach, Gravenstein, Cox's or Rib
and Cornish Gilliflower; but the last n
has, unfortunately, the same failin
Gravenstein. Perfect examples of al
above will, however, from a quality st
point, always rank among the best frui
earth to the Apple lover.

E. BURREL

Turnips for winter

time has now arrived to make pre-
ions for the winter crops, and it is de-
e that the ground should be in a
ughly fertile state. Manure in its rotten
holds moisture, and this is what is
d to assist in seed germination and also
pporting the young plants. A dressing
e would be an advantage to old gar-
rich in humus through years of manur-
Burned refuse is also an assistance, but
this well into the surface, not scatter-
along the drills. Salt is also a capital
lant for Turnips. Not much is re-
l, just a mere sprinkling, it being
d to the surface before the latter is
n down. For early winter use Snow-
s a good Turnip. Red Globe is valu-
or succession and keeps well, but for
se the Orange Jelly and Chirk Castle
stone are invaluable; 15 inches apart is
enough for the rows of the latter and
ball, allowing an extra 3 inches for Red
on account of its larger leafage. Be-
ven the young seedlings appear dust
urface over with soot every morning,
is if the weather should be dry, as a
uard against Fly. If one sowing fails,
up quickly with another. Timely hoe-
nd also thinning must be strictly
led to before the seedlings become
led.

Late Peas

ere it is desired to grow Peas for a late
sowings should be made now without
The rows ought to run north and
, and 6 feet space should be left be-
each. Should it happen that a dry
ensues about the time of sowing, it is
ble, after the ground has been pre-
, to give it a soaking of water before
g in the seed. In sowing it is well to
in mind that anything like overcrowd-
ght to be avoided, as air and sun must
a chance in the perfecting of growth.
ll be found a better paying proposition
y on dwarf varieties rather than risk an
n crop from a tall variety, however
and reliable it may be for an early crop.
is always that factor—the weather—
ntend with in the autumn, and while
can secure good baskets from dwarf
ies, the taller kinds are longer in de-
ng.

LEAHURST.

he Stump Rooted Parsnip

is is a very useful vegetable for small
ns. Those I have grown usually are
the size and shape of a fair sized root
hl Rabi, with a small taproot about the
of a pencil. They are of excellent
ty, with a minimum of core, and are
me in a class of excellent vegetables
include such things as the Stump
d Carrot, Turnip Rooted Beet, and
iac. In the case of Beet, I have noticed
there are several varieties now avail-
which for splendid colour and perfect
will compare favourably with any
ties in the long section.

E. BURRELL.

Gardens in Essex.

following gardens in Essex are open in aid of the Essex County Nursing Association and
local nursing services Admission 1s.

Date.	By kind Permission of	Address.	Hours.	Nearest Station.
ay, June 22nd	Major Upton	Coptfold Hall, Margaretting	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Ingatestone.
ay, June 22nd..	Mrs. Hanbury	Hylands, Chelmsford	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Chelmsford.
ay, June 22nd..	W. S. Argent, Esq. ..	Grange Court, Chigwell	11 a.m.—8 p.m.	Chigwell.
y, June 24th ..	Rt. Hon. Lord Blyth ..	Blythwood, Stansted	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Stansted.
y, June 24th ..	L. D. Gosling, Esq. ..	Bentfield Place, Stansted..	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Stansted.
ay, June 29th ..	Mrs. Sherwood	Prested Hall, Kelvedon	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Kelvedon.
ay, June 29th ..	Mrs. Calverley	Down Hall, Harlow..	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Harlow.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

ROSES

Pruning climbing Rose in cool house

I should be much obliged if you would tell me how far, and when, Roses should be cut back. I planted Climbing Lady Hillingdon, Gen. McArthur, etc., in November and cut them back the next spring to about 2 feet. They have made rampant growth this spring, but had very little bloom. E. C. H.

[Seeing your plants are growing so vigorously do not prune much at them, but just cut away all the weaker shoots and train in the strong growths, taking care not to overcrowd these. You can remove the soft points and the plants will send out fresh side shoots and bloom again later on if you keep them clear of vermin. Give abundance of air day and night, but try to avoid draughts. Syringe the trees well in the evenings of fine days. The trees can be pruned again in spring just when growth is starting, when some of the older branches can be removed if there are sufficient strong young growths to take their place.]

Roses withering

(" Beginner ").—Your Roses are certainly in a very poor state. As the season has been so dry throughout, it seems rather as if drought had something to do with the trouble. Copious drenchings of clean water might, therefore, help, and will quickly show whether or not that dryness at the roots has caused the bushes to behave in this way. It is also possible, of course, that the " horse litter " may have come in contact with the roots—a thing to be avoided. Manure for Roses should be well rotted before being used, and even when in this state none of it must come near the roots at planting time. If the bushes refuse to grow away strongly this summer you had best procure fresh, healthy plants in November.

GREENHOUSE

Conservatory

(" Torbay ").—If you mean that the centre bed of your conservatory is planted with Roses and Lily of the Valley we would be inclined to clear the whole of these away, for there is great difficulty in successfully cultivating Roses under glass when not in pots, especially by a novice. By clearing these out and having a stage in place you could have a succession of flowering plants that would keep the house gay most of the year. These to include Hyacinths, Daffodils, Tulips, Primulas, Cinerarias, Calceolarias, Schizanthus, Pelargoniums, Chrysanthemums, and many others. In a house of the size named a pond would hardly be suitable, as it would have to be quite small if room was to be left for plants of various kinds. The Palms may be set on the floor or on a stage as desired.

FLOWER GARDEN

Phlox not blooming

(M. M.).—We think that the main reason for your Phlox subulata not blooming is that your soil is too rich. This plant blooms best when planted in rather poor, sandy soil in a sunny position. Much the same applies to the Cerastium.

Border Carnations

(Mrs. A.).—We have carefully examined the specimens sent, and can find no trace of wireworms, maggots, or other vermin to account for the Carnation plants going off in the way they are doing. Ground, of course, gets "Carnation sick," so if you have been growing your plants on the same site for more than two years, that in itself would explain the matter. Drought is also a rather likely cause in a dry season like the present.

What to sow

May I ask your advice as to what to sow now to get plants for spring bedding with Tulips? I would like my beds to be filled with Tulips and bedded beneath with plants to give best effect. Please suggest suitable colours of Darwins or May-flowering Tulips and carpeting plants—that is, Wallflowers, Myosotis, etc.; anything to give a good effect and blend in colour. I have large patches in herbaceous border to fill in next year. Also would it be suitable to fill in the patches with Wallflowers, etc., and plant Tulips between? WEST SOMERSET TULIP.

[There are not a great number of plants suitable for your purpose that you can sow so late in the season. Wallflowers and Myosotis ought to have been sown a month ago to give them time to attain a decent size, while Polyanthuses, Saxifrages, Violas, Daisies, etc., should have been raised the previous year so that you could be certain as to the colours, most of these not coming absolutely true from seed. You might manage the Myosotis yet by sowing in a box and setting this in a frame. This makes a good carpet for most Tulips; at least, for crimson, pink, pale yellow, and white. Clara Butt Tulip is fine with yellow Wallflowers, while a carpet of white Mossy Saxifrage may be dotted with any coloured Tulip. Blood-red or Vulcan Wallflowers may be dotted with Inglescombe yellow Tulip, while Primrose Monarch Wallflower makes a fine carpet for Inglescombe Pink Tulip.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Pruning Pyrus japonica

(F. K. W., Surrey).—Although Pyrus (Cydonia) japonica will flower on young shoots, so, too, will many varieties of Apple and Pear, so the pruning of the former is practically the same as that meted out to the others. The young growths are shortened back in late summer and then further cut back in winter, and will then produce abundance of flower-buds on short spurs. When grown in the open less pruning is required.

Rhododendrons from cuttings

(G. H. S.).—While with care Rhododendrons can be raised from cuttings, this method is seldom satisfactory, and is, therefore, seldom resorted to. If you still think of trying it, the best time is when the base of the young shoot has become fairly firm. Insert in silver sand and set in a frame.

Pyrus japonica not flowering

(M. M. R.).—It would seem that you over-manure your Pyrus japonica, thus sending it all to growth instead of flower. Under these conditions, pruning can have little effect. Under ordinary treatment, which includes shortening the current season's shoots in August, and in winter further reducing the length of these, this plant blooms profusely every year. We would suggest the withholding of all manure and the pruning of the trees as above suggested, allowing, however, the trees to extend their size, providing there is space for them to do so; that is to say, all the leading shoots should be left and trained to the wall, merely snipping off the soft points to induce the formation of side shoots.

Carpenteria californica

AM I right in supposing that the enclosed lovely flower is Carpenteria californica? —[Yes.—Ed.] It is a low-growing shrub, growing in a south aspect bed, and when we came here two years ago was almost smothered by a Jasmine and only had one flower last year. This year it is flowering finely and is beautiful.

Mrs. E. Robinson.

Clevedon, Somerset.

[This very fine shrub may be effectively used out-of-doors in favoured districts. Some years ago I saw some very fine examples in the Thames Valley, not very far from London. These were beginning to expand their blossoms at the time of my visit—during the last week in June—and I was assured that the plants were there quite hardy. In our northern and somewhat fickle climate, with its late frosts, it is, perhaps, better to use C. californica as a greenhouse shrub. It is well adapted for planting on the wall of a greenhouse or in an unheated corridor, where it will flower freely early in April. The blooms are pure white, approximately 3 inches across, each having a bold group of yellow stamens. The foliage, too, is attractive, and the shrub succeeds to perfection in a rather sandy loam, which must be well drained. A most desirable shrub.—W. McG.]

Magnolia-like tree in China

As a new reader of Gardening Illustrated, I venture to ask if you can assist me in identifying an Evergreen tree that grows in China, bearing cream coloured Pear-shaped buds, strongly scented like "pear-drops," of a waxy texture like a Magnolia. The leaves are of a shiny dark green, similar to those of a Magnolia grandiflora. Both flowers and leaves are about 2 inches long, the buds, before they show colour, are enclosed in a velvety sheath, again similar to the Magnolia. I am anxious to procure a specimen of this, but do not know to whom to apply.

G. V. L.

Essex.

[The plant which you describe is probably Michelia fuscata syn. "Magnolia fuscata." It is fairly hardy in sheltered districts of the West Coast, but is best grown in a cool greenhouse. If planted in the border against a wall or pillar it makes a fine bush about 10 feet high and is free flowering. It is also amenable to pot culture, and under this system its deliciously scented flowers are borne on quite small plants. Plants may be obtained from Messrs. R. Veitch & Sons, Exeter, or any nursery specialising in the more tender Magnolias.]

FRUIT

Silver Leaf

(F. K. W., Surrey).—"Silver Leaf" is one of the notifiable diseases, so you should advise your local authority or the Ministry of Agriculture of the fact of its being present in your garden. While we do not think there is very much fear of a healthy Apple or Pear tree being infected, we could not say that there is no danger. However, if you burn every scrap of the Plum and spray the wall with a strong fungicide it might be worth the small risk. We can hardly see how the Larch pole could be responsible for the infection unless it had been in contact with a diseased Plum, Peach, or other tree subject to this trouble.

Carpenteria californica

Sulphur and Vines

(W. J. E.).—If you are merely dusting a little sulphur on the foliage it will do no harm, but if placed on hot-water pipes considerable damage is likely.

Almond tree fruiting

(Miss F. B. Smith).—It is rather unusual for the Almond to fruit in the British Isles, not because of its not being hardy, but mainly because the flowers open so early in the year, that these are almost always prevented by frost or cold winds from setting. In a few of the more favoured districts they have a better chance, as seems the case with your tree this year.

Budding Cherries and Plums

(M. McClintock).—(1) Yes, buds from the current season's wood should be selected, preferably near the middle of the shoot, and these are inserted not far from the ground. It would be impossible, with the space at command, to give full details of how to bud fruit trees, but if you know how Roses are budded, proceed in exactly the same way, the best time being in August. (2) It would probably be better to graft these large,
growing trees rather than bud them, a
it would not be impossible to carry
latter. (3) We would not advise the
from the neglected Plum trees bei
as stocks without their being prope
pared. To do so as they are wou
result in a great number of other
springing up all round them, while t
or grafts would have a poor chance
ceed. Cherries and Plums are fr
grafted, but budding nowadays i
favoured.

VEGETABLES

Mint

("East Berks").—The Mint gro
boggy ground can be quite safely u
cooking purposes.

Seakale

(C. M. T.).—There is no possible
which Seakale can be produced in
short time. Probably the fastest wa
means of root cuttings secured in Ma
inserted in pots of light soil and s
greenhouse, these being later on plan
in rich soil, but even by this method
a year must elapse before the roots
for forcing. Seed sown in April n
good management, produce forcin
within two years.

MISCELLANEOUS

Aspidistras and Orange trees

(M. McClintock).—Your plants n
infested with vermin of some kind,
standing under other plants that are,
have sooty deposits on the leaves.
sional sponging with soap and water, f
by a vigorous syringing with clean w
the only cure.

Rabbits in the garden

("Rabbits").—If you attempt to
the vermin you may find yourself in
so think twice before resorting to th
novice can do little with traps or
There is a preparation, sold by most n
men, called "Reynardine," that is
scare away rabbits, but we have
perience of this. Although, perhaps
to begin with, there is really noth
effective and lasting as wire nettin
properly put up it will last for years
an effectual protection all the time.

Flannel weed on pond

(M. A. Young).—To destroy this ob
able substance you must first calcul
cubic contents by multiplying togeth
length, breadth, and average depth
then multiply the result by six, whi
give approximately the number of ga
water in the pond. For each 10,000
put 2½ ozs. of copper sulphate into a
bag and pull it backwards and fo
through the water until all is dissolved
will not damage the Water Lilies nor
any fish other than trout. We find it ad
to repeat this treatment a second tim
one month's interval when water is n
less stationary, but where a stron
exists it is rarely necessary.]

Slugs and other pests damaging Lilies

(Mrs. Gartside Tippings).—The po
be all right for the first year, but
Water Lilies thrive as they should do,
be advisable to smash their sides ear
season in order to admit of their roots
ing freely about the base of the pon
which a foot of good turfy loam an
rotted manure should be placed, as
Lilies are voracious feeders. For t

(Continued on page 442)

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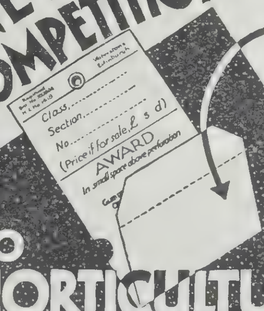
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struction of the jelly-like substance you mention, see our reply to M. A. Young in this issue, and for the slugs and sticklebacks, we recommend you use a few drops of a mixture of three parts of colza to one of paraffin, which should be either sprayed or dropped into the water and encouraged to spread over the surface. If you do not mind losing the fish, a little lime would prove beneficial.

Pruning

(C. M. T.).—(1) Yes, prune Jasminum primulinum after flowering. (2) The Syringa (Philadelphus) should only have worn-out wood removed and an odd shoot here and there should there be overcrowding. Much the same treatment suits the Weigela.

Strawson sprayer

(R. Angell).—The address you want is the Strawson Chemical Co., Ltd., 79, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 4. Your best plan would be to get the sprayer overhauled locally, and the firm doing the job would write to the above firm to obtain any new part that is required. You do not state the age of the sprayer. If it is a very old pattern it may be best to scrap it altogether. However, let someone have a look at it who knows something about spraying machines and they should be able to advise you. If the machine is fairly recent the cost of putting it right should not be excessive. Please note that we do not reply to inquiries through the post.

Voles

(Worried).—You do not state which vole is causing you trouble. This is important because the bank vole, Evotomys glareolus, is trapped very easily by means of a box mouse-trap, but the short-tailed field vole, Microtis agrestis, is shy of traps and is rarely caught. The natural enemies of the vole should be encouraged, and of these perhaps the most important is the owl. Kites, hawks, jays, magpies, weasels, stoats, and even the despised cat are useful in keeping down voles. If your pest is the short-tailed vole, the only traps likely to be successful are: (1) Vessels narrow at the top, wide at the base, should be buried in the soil, the top of the vessel should be well greased; the voles will fall into the vessel and can then be destroyed. (2) Holes dug fairly deep, wide at base and narrow at top, will trap voles.

NAMES OF PLANTS

T. L.—Muscari comosum plumosum syn. monstrosum (the Feather Hyacinth).

R. B. Carter.—1, Greater Stitchwort (Stellaria holostea); 2, Veronica verna; 3, not recognised (this was completely withered up).

R. L.—Calceolaria scabiosæfolia.

S. Wales.—The Passion Flower (Passiflora cœrulea).

H. Windsor.—1, Æthionema Warley Hybrid; 2, Veronica gentianoides.

M. Neilson.—1, Ilex Aquifolium; 2, Aucuba japonica maculata.

A. S. L.—2, Erigeron philadelphicus, a good plant for growing in a wall.

South County Dublin Show

Dun Laoghaire is the leading township in Ireland, and a flower show worthy of this premier position will be held by the Horticultural Society at People's Park, Dun Laoghaire on Wednesday and Thursday, July 31st and August 1st. A very complete and attractive prize list has been prepared, which should appeal to all types of gardeners. The Organising Secretary is Mr. F. H. Meade, Park Lodge, Castlepark Road, Sandycove, Co. Dublin.

LATE REPLIES

Apple caterpillars

(C. B. B.).—From your description and the nature of the damage to the specimens we think the trouble is due to the caterpillar of Winter Moth. Caustic soda wash in winter is useless against this pest, but you will find that a $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. solution of a tar-oil wash will give you a fair measure of control. In addition, all your trees should be grease-banded in October to trap the female "Winter Moths" as they ascend the trees to deposit their eggs. Spraying the trees with a solution containing nicotine will kill the caterpillars when young, and one containing lead arsenate will kill the caterpillars at any stage.

Raspberries and Mosaic

(T. Lane).—The specimen Raspberry shoot is affected with Mosaic disease of Raspberry. If the canes are all affected and the disease is affecting the cropping powers of the canes the only control is to take up and burn and replant some new canes in another part of the garden. Some varieties of Raspberries are very prone to Mosaic and should be avoided in districts where the disease is prevalent. Try the variety Lloyd George, as this variety is not very susceptible.

Diseased Iris

(R. F. Skelton).—You do not state what disease has affected your Iris. If it is Soft Rot, lifting and replanting should be successful in dealing with the trouble. Take up the rhizomes and carefully cut away all the soft portions. Steep the sound portions in 2 per cent. formalin solution for several hours; replant in a new situation. The more lime you add to the soil the more likely is Soft Rot to trouble you, because the bacterium responsible flourishes in an alkaline medium. If you burn the diseased material you will get no trouble with flying spores.

Diseased Walnut

(Juglans).—We are incubating the material, and as this process takes a few days before any definite result is obtained we shall be obliged to hold over your reply until an early issue.

Gooseberry Cluster Cup

(M. G. Norris).—Your Gooseberry trouble is the fungus-causing Gooseberry Cluster Cup. To control this you should pick off and burn all diseased wood, leaves, and fruit, afterwards spraying with a fungicide such as lime sulphur or liver of sulphur. Sedges should be destroyed if near the garden, because the winter stage of this disease is passed on these plants.

Crab Apple diseased

(E. Angell).—If you will send us specimens of the Crab Apple branches that are failing we should be pleased to examine them for you and report in due course. From your description it is impossible for us to advise you. Half-a-dozen diseases might cause the trouble, and as the control is different with each disease we would rather wait for the specimens. Pack your specimens in a small tin box.

Diseased Lilies

(H. L. W.).—Your Lilies are affected with a trouble known as "The Lily Disease," which is caused by one of the Botrytis fungi. The disease attacks all the aerial portions of the plant, but the bulb generally remains sound. The spread of the Botrytis is always most rapid during spells of cold north-easterly winds. Any check to the plant will cause a very rapid spread of the trouble. All diseased portions should be cut or pulled
away and burned. This treatme
naturally weaken the bulbs considera
it seems to be the only remedy. In
where this disease is troublesom
should be planted in sheltered p
facing south, and all north-easterly
should be avoided by giving the ne
shelter.

Gladioli Rotting

(W. C. L.).—Your Gladioli are
with a rot which occurs during storag
cause of this rot is at present unknow
should take up and burn all the cor
did not start into growth, together wit
that started but are now weakly.
material should be burned. After lift
healthy corms in the autumn you
take care to store them under good
tions. Before planting in spring all
should be peeled and carefully exa
Those showing any sign of stora
should be destroyed. If this treatm
systematically carried out you shoul
no difficulty in obtaining control.

GARDENING APPOINTME

Mr. E. Coombes, formerly of Cr
House Gardens, Cullompton, Devo
of Slewton House Gardens, W
Devon.

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the death
William Seabrook, founder and chair
Messrs. W. Seabrook and Sons,
Chelmsford, nurserymen and fruit g
Mr. Seabrook, who was in his 80t
had been ill for several months, a
from heart failure on Tuesday morni
The funeral takes place this af
(Saturday) at Boreham.

LATE NOTES

Trials at Wisley

The Royal Horticultural Society w
duct trials of autumn-sown Cabbag
Onions in its gardens at Wisley dur
coming season. Varieties for trial
packet of each variety) should be
reach the Director, R.H.S. Gardens,
Ripley, Surrey, by July 15th, 1929.

The necessary application forms
obtained from the Director, Mr. F
Chittenden.

Holland House Gardens

The gardens at Holland House, K
ton, will be opened to the public, by per
of Mary, Countess of Ilchester, on Sat
June 29th, and July 6th and 13th, in
the West London Hospital and the
Boys' Home, from 2 to 8, on paymen
each at the gates. Entrance in Ken
Road. 'Buses 9, 33, 73, 27, 127, 17
28, 31, 49 stop at the gates.

National Sweet Pea Society

The Annual Outing to inspect the S
Trials of Novelty Sweet Peas will
on Wednesday, June 26th next.

Messrs. Robert Bolton and Son, w
conducting the trials at Birdbrook, Ha
Essex, have most kindly invited the
bers to lunch. It is hoped that
tickets from London will be available
duced fares, and if so, they will be
near the barrier at Liverpool Street S
In order that the necessary arrang
may be made for the lunch and tickets,
bers who intend joining the outing
sired to notify the Secretary not late
Monday, June 24th.

A. C. Bartlett,
Secret

19, *Bedford Chambers, London, W.*

JULY HORTICULTURAL SHOWS

igton, Hove, and Sussex Hort. Society

ROSE, SWEET PEA, & CARNATION SHOW
Dome and Corn Exchange, Brighton
JULY 3rd and 4th
Bingham, Secretary, 128, Queen's Park Road,
ghton.
utumn Show, November 12th, 13th, and 14th

CITY OF STOKE-ON-TRENT
31st HORTICULTURAL SHOW

will be held on
ay, Friday & Saturday, July 4th, 5th & 6th, 1929
in the
HANLEY PARK
To be Opened by
GRACE THE DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND
ules and full particulars from Wm. Poulson, Town
anley.

MBY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Established 1888
ed with the National Rose and National Sweet Pea Societies)
INUAL FLOWER SHOW
n SATURDAY, JULY 6th, 1929
culars and Schedules from Hon. Sec., W. J. Jones,
swood," King's Road, Formby.

on and Heybridge Horticultural Society

14th EXHIBITION
will be held on
IE PROMENADE, MALDON
on SATURDAY, JULY 6th, 1929
Medals, and many other Prizes for Varied
ses. Gold, Silver, and Bronze Medals for
ade Exhibits in Hardy Annuals, Sweet
Peas, Carnations, and Roses.
edules from Hon. Sec., E. C. Dines, "Uplyme,"
Road, Maldon.

REAT PROVINCIAL SHOW
ford and West of England Rose Society and National Rose Society

T SHOW—CASTLE GREEN, HEREFORD
July 10th and 11th
ENTRIES CLOSE JULY 4th
articulars from Hon. Sec., Rev. C. H. Stoker,
Vicarage, Hereford.

RIDGESHIRE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SUMMER SHOW
held in the grounds of **TRINITY COLLEGE**
By kind permission of the Master and Fellows)
On THURSDAY, JULY 11th, 1929
ses for Cottagers and Allotment Holders
rade Exhibitors Particularly Invited
Many Valuable Prizes
edules may be obtained from Hon. Sec., Sidney
18, Trinity Street, Cambridge.

s Brook and District Allotment, Cottage
d Amateur Gardeners' Association

TH ANNUAL SUMMER EXHIBITION
will be held on
Thursday, July 11th, 1929
the Memorial Hall, Jarvis Brook
No Entrance Fees
edules and further particulars from Secretary, Mr. S.
12, Farningham Road, Jarvis Brook.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW

of the
lale Horticultural & Fanciers' Society
will be held on
SATURDAY, JULY 13th, 1929
IZES OVER £150 IN VALUE
dules and full particulars from Hon. Sec., John
sley, 25, Station Road, Ainsdale, Southport.

WINDSOR ROSE SHOW

SATURDAY, JULY 13th

Harding, Hon. Sec., 1, Sheet Street, Windsor.

LONDON AND SOUTH OF ENGLAND VIOLA AND PANSY SOCIETY

THIRD ANNUAL SHOW
at the
HALL, GREYCOAT ST., WESTMINSTER
Tuesday, July 16th, 1929
es for all Sections—BEDDING AND ROCK
VIOLAS AND VIOLETTAS
n H. Little, "Brent Tor," Brentwood Road, Romford,
ssex. Subscription, 2s. 6d. (minimum) per annum.

LEEDS FLOWER SHOW, ROUNDHAY

JULY 16th and 17th, 1929
The Roundhay (Leeds) Horticultural Society's
ANNUAL FLORAL EXHIBITION
Of Roses, Sweet Peas, Carnations, Rock Gardens,
Herbaceous Plants, etc., will be held in
ROUNDHAY PARK (Sports Arena), LEEDS
For Schedules apply the Secretary, W. F. Kitchingman
(Room No. 12), 8, York Place, Leeds.

Gravesend and District Rose, Carnation, and Sweet Pea Society

ANNUAL EXHIBITION
JULY 17th, 1929
Entries Close July 13th
For Schedules apply to Joint Hon. Secretaries, 11,
Whitehall Road, Gravesend.

Guildford and District Gardeners' Association

SEVENTH ANNUAL SHOW
WEDNESDAY, JULY 17th
STOKE PARK, GUILDFORD
Schedules from Percy Pettit, 20, Ennismore Avenue,
Guildford, Hon. Show Secretary.

RINGLES CROSS AND UCKFIELD DISTRICT SWEET PEA SOCIETY

16th ANNUAL OPEN SHOW
will be held at **RINGLES CROSS** on
WEDNESDAY, JULY 17th, 1929
Schedules from Hon. Sec., A. L. Leach, 3, Ringles
Cross, Uckfield.

LIVERPOOL HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

GRAND SUMMER SHOW
Of Roses Sweet Peas, Carnations, Herbaceous Flowers, Fruit, and Vegetables
On Wednesday and Thursday, July 17th and 18th
Schedules may be had from W. D. Skinner, Brooklands,
Waterloo Park, near Liverpool.

Grantham & Dist. Agricultural Association

HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION
will be held at
ARNOLDFIELD, NORTH PARADE
on THURSDAY, JULY 18th. 1929
Challenge Cups and Many Other Prizes
Schedules from Hon. Sec., J. R. Casburn, The Guildhall, Grantham.

HULL AND EAST RIDING ROSE SOCIETY

(Affiliated to the National Rose Society)
3rd ANNUAL EXHIBITION
will be held in the
CENTRAL HALL AND ANNEXE, PRYME STREET
(by kind permission of Messrs. J. Tall & Co.)
on THURSDAY, JULY 18th 1929
Challenge Cups, Medals, and many other Prizes
Schedules may be obtained from the Hon. Sec., W. F.
Procter, 38, Tavistock Street, Hull.

LOUGHTON ALLOTMENTS & HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
will be held on
THURSDAY, JULY 18th, 1929
at Messrs. GOULD'S FIELD, THE DRIVE
CLASSES FOR FLOWERS, FRUIT, VEGETABLES & PRESERVES
Schedules and full particulars from Hon. Sec., J. Lloyd,
Elm House, High Road, Loughton.

WIDCOMBE (BATH)
SWEET PEA SHOW

Open Cup Classes for Sweet Peas, Roses, etc.
JULY 18th, 1929
Schedules on application, G. T. Short, 16, Pulteney
Gardens, Bath.

THE PEOPLE'S PALACE and EAST LONDON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL SUMMER SHOW
will be held in the
QUEEN'S HALL, PEOPLE'S PALACE, MILE END ROAD, E.
on FRI. and SAT., JULY 19th and 20th, 1929
Hon. Secs.: R. H. West, "Laxfield," Hermon Hill,
Snaresbrook, Essex; H. W. M. Long, 37, Disraeli Road,
Forest Gate, E. 7.

BIRMINGHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
FLORAL FETE & EXHIBITION

will be held in **HANDSWORTH PARK**
(By kind permission of the Parks Committee)
on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, JULY 19th and 20th, 1929
Silver Cups, Gold, Silver Gilt, and Bronze Medals
to the value of upwards of £800.
Schedules from Sec., L. W. Webster, F.R.H.S., The
Oaklands, 130, Albert Road, Stechford, Birmingham.

Sundridge & Brasted Horticultural Society

35th ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
LITTLE COMBE BANK, SUNDRIDGE, SEVENOAKS
on SATURDAY, JULY 20th. 1929
16 Open Challenge Cups Increased Cash Prizes
Staging by 11 30 a.m.
Schedule from Hon. Show Secretary, H. Burgess, Judge's
Cottage, Sundridge, Sevenoaks.

Virginia Water Horticultural Association

will ho'd its 7th ANNUAL
FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW
on
SATURDAY, JULY 20th, 1929
Schedules from P. A. Frisby, "Cloon Eavin," Virginia
Water.

Cannock and District Horticultural and Agricultural Society, Ltd.

The 31st ANNUAL EXHIBITION
of Flowers, Fruit, Plants, Vegetables, Honey, etc.
will be held on
Monday and Tuesday, JULY 22nd and 23rd, 1929
CHALLENGE CUPS, MEDALS, and Good Cash Prizes
Schedules from Sec., John Bird, "Ribé," Stafford Road,
Cannock.

WATFORD AND HOME COUNTIES HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL SHOW, Cassiobury Park, WATFORD
JULY 23rd and 24th
Valuable Cups and Prizes in Open Classes for Trade, Amateur and Cottage Growers
Schedules free from Hon. Sec., A. J. Copeland, 132, High
Street, Watford.

Liskeard Flower, Vegetable, & Honey Show

will be held in the
PUBLIC HALL
On JULY 24th, 1929
No Doubt the Finest in Cornwall
Schedules on application to the Hon. Secs., J. S.
Parkhouse and W. J. Lawton, 5, Portland Terrace,
Liskeard, Cornwall.

GORING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL SHOW
WILL BE HELD IN
AVEBURY MEADOW, on
WEDNESDAY, JULY 24th, 1929
Schedules may be obtained from Hon. Sec., A. M. Dodd,
The Hut, Goring-on-Thames.

TIBSHELF FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

(Affiliated to the National Rose and Sweet Pea Society)
THE 39th EXHIBITION
OF FLOWERS, FRUIT and VEGETABLES
will be held on the
TIBSHELF COLLIERY CRICKET GROUND
On WEDNESDAY, July 24th, 1929
Schedules and particulars from G. C. Woodhead,
1, Alfreton Road, Tibshelf, near Alfreton.

ORPINGTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
SUMMER SHOW

will be held on
THURSDAY, JULY 25th, 1929
Classes for Flowers, Fruit, and Vegetables
Open Division to all residents within 10
miles radius (in Kent) of Orpington Station
Schedules may be obtained from Hon. Sec., E. G. Livermore, Bank House, Orpington.

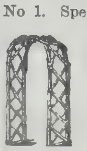
FALKIRK and DISTRICT ROSE SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF ROSES, SWEET PEAS, PANSIES, & CARNATIONS
on SATURDAY, JULY 27th, 1929
In Town Hall, Falkirk
Schedules on application to Wm. Short, Secretary,
31, Albert Road, Falkirk.

SALE! GREATLY REDUCED PRICES SALE

Select from the following Exceptionally Low-Priced Offers for Immediate Despatch

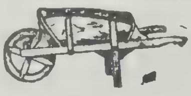
ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES



No 1. Special Offer superior make Round Top Rustic Arches, made in two sections to bolt together at top, bottoms of posts tarred.

		Usual	Sale
8 ft. high	3 ft. 6 in. path	10/6	9/6
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. ,,	13/6	12/-
8 ft. ,,	4 ft. 6 in. ,,	17/6	16/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. ,,	22/6	20/-
8 ft. ,,	5 ft. 6 in. ,,	26/6	24/-
8 ft. ,,	6 ft. ,,	33/6	30/-

GARDEN BARROWS

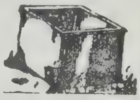


Strong Oak or Ash Frame, planed elm body Size 2 ft. 9 in. at top, 2 ft. wide, 1 ft. 2 in. deep. Reliable 18 in. wood wheel, ½ in. iron tyre.

	Usual	Sale
250 only to clear	23 6	20/-
50 only to clear	28/6	25/-
Tops for either of the above	7/6	6/6

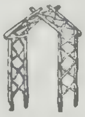
GARDEN FLOWER BOXES

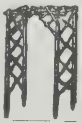
Very useful for plants, shrubs, etc. Strongly made. Treated inside and out with stop-rot, nut-brown colour.



	Usual	Sale
12 in. square	4/9	4/3 each
15 in. ,,	5/6	5/- ,,
18 in. ,,	6/6	5/9 ,,
21 in. ,,	8/6	7/- ,,
24 in. ,,	10/6	9/- ,,

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

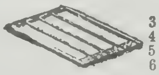




Height 8 ft.

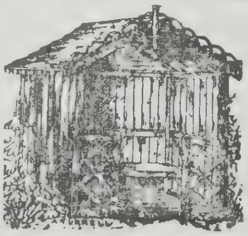
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. path	5/9	5/- each
4 ft. 6 in. path	8/9	7/9 ,,
5 ft. path	11/6	10/- ,,

GARDEN LIGHTS



	Unglazed.		Glazed & Painted.	
Size	Usual	Sale	Usual	Sale
3 ft. x 2 ft.	3/9	3/- each	7/6	5/6 each
4 ft. x 3 ft.	4 9	4/- ,,	9/6	8/- ,,
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	6/9	6/- ,,	13/6	12/- ,,
6 ft. x 4 ft.	7/9	6/6 ,,	15/6	14/- ,,

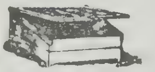
RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSE
No. 18



This House is very roomy and attractive in appearance. All Rustic material is peeled. Back fitted with hollow bottom seat. All stained and varnished inside and out. Supplied from stock in following sizes:

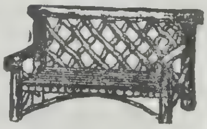
	Usual £ s. d.	Sale £ s. d.
5 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in.	5 10 0	5 0 0
6 ft x 4 ft.	6 10 0	5 15 0
7 ft. x 5 ft.	9 0 0	8 0 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	11 10 0	9 10 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	14 0 0	12 0 0

SEED FRAMES



These Frames are very useful for preserving seeds and bulbs against frost; are made of tongued and grooved boards and very warm. The light is hung at back, and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-oz. glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. Usual price, 13/6. Sale price, 10/-.

RUSTIC GARDEN SEATS



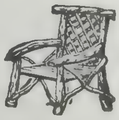
Well made from selected material. In natural wood. Bark on.

	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	9/6	9/-
5 ft. ,,	14/6	13/6
6 ft. ,,	18/6	17.6

Bark off, stained and varnished.

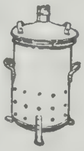
	Usual	Sale
4 ft. long	14/6	13/6
5 ft. ,,	18/6	17/6
6 ft. ,,	24/-	22/6

RUSTIC ARMCHAIRS to match.



	Usual	Sale
Bark on	8/6	6/6
Bark off, stained and varnished	10/6	9/6

INCINERATOR

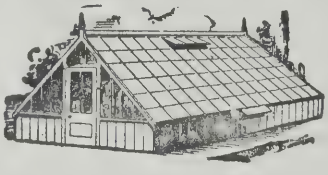


Made from Mild Steel Sheets. Body of Incinerator is raised on strong iron feet, ensuring perfect draught. Loose-fitting lid and chimney. Easily cleaned. The cheapest and best Incinerator on the market.

Usual price	16/6 each
Sale price	12/6 ,,

BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE

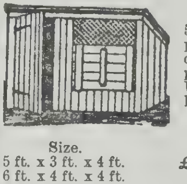
SPAN-ROOF GROWING OR FORCING HOUSE



This is a cheap form of growing House. It is well made in sections, good tongued and grooved boards on base, flat lattice staging on each side of doorway, good lock and key for door, all necessary ironwork for Ventilators, with glass 21 oz. for glazing. The woodwork is painted one good coat, plainly marked for re-erection.

Lgh. Wdth.	Height.	Usual Price.	Sale Price.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	£5 16 6	£5 5 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	6 12 6	5 17 6
9 ft. x 6 ft.	7 ft. 0 in.	7 18 0	7 0 0
10 ft. x 7 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	8 10 0	7 10 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	10 12 0	9 10 0
15 ft. x 9 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	16 0 0	14 0 0
20 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	19 0 0	17 0 0
25 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	23 4 6	20 10 0
50 ft. x 10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	44 10 0	39 10 0

BANK POULTRY HOUSE

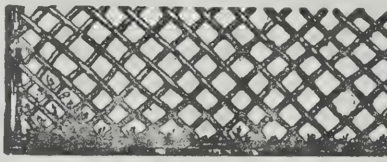


500 in stock ready for immediate dispatch. Made in complete sections constructed of strong framing, covered planed, tongued and grooved boards. Up and down sliding shutter as shown, hen exit at side.

			Floor.	
Size.	Usual.	Sale.	Usual.	Sale.
5 ft. x 3 ft. x 4 ft.	£1 8 6	£1 5 0	7/6	6/6 ex.
6 ft. x 4 ft. x 4 ft.	1 14 0	1 10 0	9/-	8/- ex.
7 ft. x 5 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	2 16 0	2 10 0	14/-	12/- ex.
8 ft. x 6 ft. x 5 ft. -	3 16 0	3 8 0.	18/6	15/- ex.

RUSTIC FENCING

Special Offer of Panels of Rustic Fencing, complete with posts. Must be cleared—room wanted.



Panels.	Length.	Height.	REDUCED PRICES. Price per Panel.	Gates to match, 3 ft. wide, complete with fittings.
210	8 ft.	2 ft.	5/6	9 6
150	8 ft.	3 ft.	9/6	12 6
180	8 ft.	4 ft.	14/-	16/-
100	8 ft.	5 ft.	19/6	20 -
160	8 ft.	6 ft.	24/6	25/-

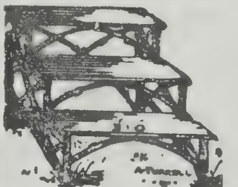
We strongly advise you to order this line early, as same cannot be repeated when stock is cleared.

RUSTIC POLES

Suitable for Pergolas, Fencing, Tree Stakes, etc.

Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.	Long.	Butt.	Usual.	Sale.
7 ft.	2 in.	5/-	4/6 doz.	12 ft.	3 in.	16/6	14/9 doz.
7 ft.	2½ in.	6/-	5/3 ,,	8 ft.	4 in.	14/6	12/9 ,,
8 ft.	2½ in.	8/-	7/3 ,,	9 ft.	4 in.	16/6	14/9 ,,
8 ft.	3 in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	10 ft.	4 in.	18/6	16/6 ,
9 ft.	2½ in.	9/6	7/6 ,,	8 ft.	5 in.	20/-	18/- ,,
9 ft.	3 in.	11/6	10/3 ,,	9 ft.	5 in.	24/-	21/9 ,,
10 ft.	2½ in.	10/6	9/6 ,,	10 ft.	5 in.	26/-	23/6 ,,
10 ft.	3 in.	13/6	12/- ,,	12 ft.	5 in.	28/6	26/- ,,
12 ft.	2½ in.	12/-	10/9 ,,	14 ft.	5 in.	30/-	27/6 ,,

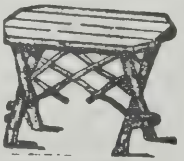
RUSTIC FLOWER STAND



Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
3 ft. long	17/6	12/6 each.
4 ft. long	21/6	15/6 each.

RUSTIC TABLE



Made from best Rustic Hardwood, Bark off. Stained and varnished.

	Usual.	Sale.
2 ft. square	14/6	12/6 ea.
3 ft. x 2 ft.	18/6	16/- ea.

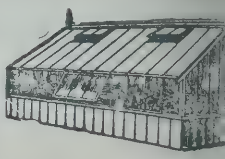
GARDEN EDGING

Size, 4 in. by ¾ in.

	Usual.	Sale.
Plain	5/- per 100	4/6 per 100 ft.
Treated	6/- ,,	5/6 ,,

Pegs for fixing, treated, plus 2/6 per dozen.

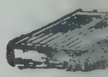
AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUS



These Greenhouses are made specially for Amateurs, at figure, thereby coming within the reach of those who re strong but not expensive structure, can be erected by any handy man in a few hours. The framework is substantially constructed of Red Deal, the lower part being filled in with good sound tongued and grooved match-boarding, painted one coat of good oil-colour. Supplied with all necessary ironwork and stages for each side of house. plete with 21-oz. glass for glazing.

Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.	Sale Price. £ s d.	Size.	Usual Price. £ s. d.
7 ft. x 5 ft.	6 6 0	5 5 0	15 ft. x 9 ft.	17 2 0
8 ft. x 5 ft.	7 2 6	5 15 0	20 ft. x 10 ft.	24 14 0
9 ft. x 6 ft.	8 4 0	7 5 0	25 ft. x 10 ft.	30 12 6
10 ft. x 7 ft.	9 18 0	8 15 0	30 ft. x 12 ft.	39 9 0
12 ft. x 8 ft.	12 17 0	10 17 6		

GARDEN FRAMES



Made of best 1-in. tongued and grooved boards, have necessary parting pieces and runners for Lights, which are 2 in. by 2 in. and fitted with iron handle. Glazed with 21-oz. Glass and all woodwork painted two coats.

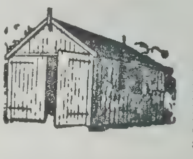
Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 5 6	1 2 9	12 x 6 3 Light	5 0 0
6 x 4	1 17 6	1 14 3	16 x 6 4 ,,	6 6 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 6 6	2 2 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	7 10 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	3 7 6	3 1 0	24 x 6 6 ,,	9 2 6

Do not pay high prices for your frames made fro boards. We can supply at the following low prices. made of 1¼-in. tongued and grooved best quality board plete as above.

Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.	Sale. £ s. d.	Size ft.	Usual. £ s. d.
4 x 3	1 10 0	1 7 0	12 x 6 3 Light	5 10 0
6 x 4	2 2 0	1 18 0	16 x 6 4 ,,	7 5 0
6 x 4 2 Light	2 14 0	2 9 0	20 x 6 5 ,,	8 8 0
8 x 6 2 ,,	4 7 6	3 18 6	24 x 6 6 ,,	10 2 6

Compare these prices with other makers'.

No. 7 PORTABL MOTOR HOUS

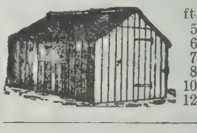


Constructed of strong framing c with ⅝-in. tongued and grooved roof boarded and felted, 1-in. for floor and strong joists. W fixed, glazed 21-oz. glass, doors on strong butts and fitted Towe and lock and key.

Length.	Width.	Height.	Usual.
8 ft.	6 ft.	7 ft. 6 in.	£6 5 0
9 ft.	7 ft.	8 ft. 0 in.	8 17 6
10 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	11 5 0
12 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 4 in.	14 0 0
14 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	16 10 0
15 ft.	8 ft.	8 ft. 7 in.	18 5 0
16 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	20 12 6
18 ft.	9 ft.	8 ft. 9 in.	22 15 0
20 ft.	10 ft.	9 ft. 0 in.	26 10 0
20 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	31 5 0
24 ft.	12 ft.	9 ft. 4 in.	35 5 0

CHEAP SPAN-ROOF SHED, No.

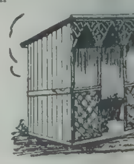
Specification as No. 7, but with ¾-in. floor and single Fitted lock and key.



ft.	ft. in.	Usual.
5	x 3 6	£3 18 0
6	x 4 0	£4 5 0
7	x 5 0	£5 10 0
8	x 6 0	£6 2 6
10	x 7 0	£9 5 0
12	x 8 0	£12 5 0

VILLA RUSTIC SHELTER

A very attractive and useful house. Constructed from p tongued and grooved boards and substantial framing. covered best quality bitumen felt, making same quite water All rustic work of well-seasoned material. Removable s back. The whole stained and varnished inside and out. in sections for easy transit and erection.



Usual prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£4 5 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£6 10 0

Sale prices.

6 ft. x 4 ft.	£3 10 0
7 ft. x 4 ft. 6 in.	£5 0 0

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

—No. 2625 Saturday, June 29, 1929 TWOPENCE

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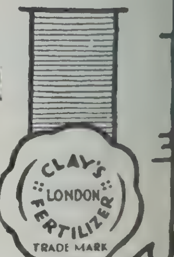

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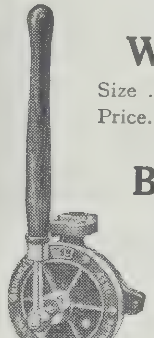

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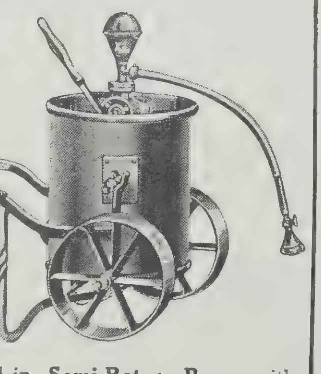

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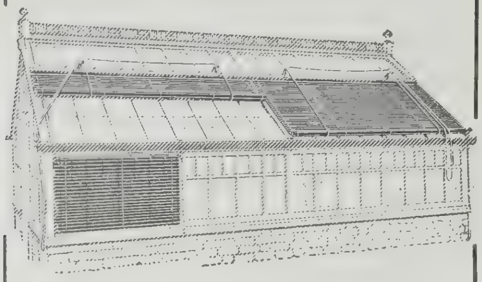

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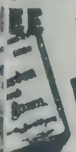

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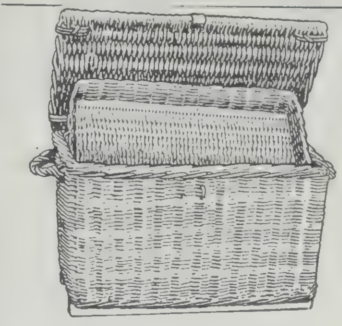

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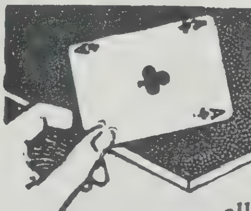

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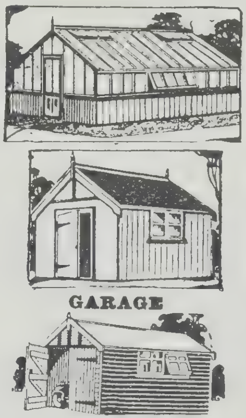

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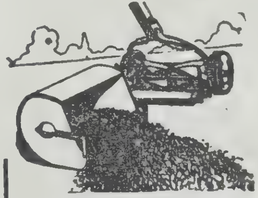

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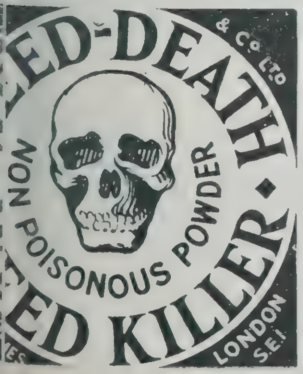

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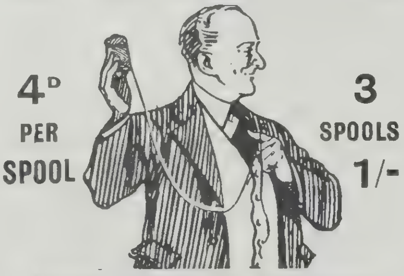

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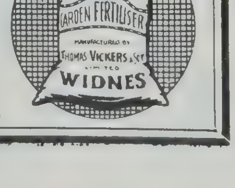

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The Rock Gardens at Llandudno

DENERS who remember the Happy lley at Llandudno only as a bare slope nning down to the sea between two of the Great Orme, made merry by nter of Nigger minstrels, would be tly surprised by the rock gardens that rung up during the last few years and nbrace over half a mile of pathway on pes overlooking one of the most ul bays in Great Britain, sometimes, s blue sea, described as the Naples of rth.

Great Orme has long been the haunt anists, as here, alone in our islands, the rare Cotoneaster vulgaris, while rse-shoe Vetch procepis s a), with its te sheet of flowers, and la calcarea, tle blue Milk- may be found the limestone s, and high the town on cipitous slopes be seen fields alerian (Cen- us ruber), pink ood-red, light- p the grey An interest- gend (legends ways interest- ven if histori- correct) has it ueen Elizabeth uced the red n to Conway and that the ave been scat- in the vicinity wind. Cer- the habitat is and the effect, stance, on the of the railway running through the grounds most vivid.

ugh there is still a very great amount nstruction to undertake in the arrangement of the actual rocks to bring them into with the massive crags of the Great at their back, and although one may t the artificial effect at present obtain- e mass effect in this terraced rock is wonderful, and, thanks to the r, Mr. W. G. Robertson, and a tem- climate, where, except in the last fear- winter, the average maximum frost es 5 degs., the colours are rare and .

t from Aubrietia, Rock Roses, and Catmint (Nepeta mussini), which assumes a brilliant lavender generally unapproachable in our climate, the large splashes of colour are provided by plants seldom enjoyable in masses. Onosma taurica, with its golden drop flowers, becomes a bush overhanging the sunniest ledges; Linum flavum and its hardier brother, L. arboreum, form wide sheets of yellow; Pentstemon azureus, with its purple-blue clouds, gives a most uncommon effect. Dianthus hybridus roseus (an improvement on D. Napoleon III. and D. Emile Pare) and D. hybridus Salmonæ form masses of colour visible far out in the bay like some giant coastguard's flag, and D. multiflorus roseus, with beds of the pink Æthionema Warley Hybrid, lend strength to the illusion. Another mass effect is obtained by the rare china-blue starred annual, Sedum cœruleum, all too seldom offered in seed catalogues, and often all too difficult to raise when obtained, though here, in the Happy Valley, it seeds itself, and, after flowering, becomes a glory in bronze.

Llandudno Bay and the Little Orme from the rock gardens

But the keen gardener will also find plants to interest him, and constant letters are received by the Curator from America and the Continent asking for advice on the plants which are to be found detailed in the handbook issued by the Llandudno Town Improvement Association. In the moraine, among some interesting little plants is to be found Raoulia australis, named in Australia, if the writer remembers rightly, the "sheep plant," and here also it has assumed the proportions of a reclining sheep. Dianthus neglectus grows in foot-wide patches to the envy and annoyance, perhaps, of less successful gardeners, and surrounding the new water garden many Asiatic Primulas are making their appearance.

Despite the limestone, Meconopsis, including M. Bayleyi, M. Prattii, M. integrifolia, and M. simplicifolia, are flowering well, but it is in the spacious pockets throughout the gardens that many find most enjoyment. Here, with pencil and notebook, may be seen gardeners enjoying masses of Asperula Gussonnii, Androsace lanuginosa, Campanula Laurii, Sedum amplexicaule, Cotyledon simplicifolia, Erinacea pungens, Gypsophila cerastoides, and many other glories, while along the lower terraces some 150 species of shrubs have been established to satisfy the increasing interest now taken in this form of gardening.

After 15 hours' sunshine on the June day these notes were pencilled the slopes to the summit of the Great Orme were climbed. Snowdon could be seen in the rays of the setting sun. Snowdon, which mounts guard over the rarest wild flowers of Wales and holds safe in its Devil's Kitchen several true Alpine plants with the beloved Gentiana Pneumonanthe and Wahlenbergia hederacea haunting the marshes at its base, while hidden near the sleeping villages between lay two gardens whose owners are known to every reader of the pages of Gardening Illustrated.

The Happy Valley is a spot for the garden-lover to visit. Its colours form one of those milestones of memory which we recollect as having reached with a cheerful heart.

F. H. Fisher.

Chester.

The rock gardens at Llandudno
The path up the valley towards the Great Orme

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

A proposed Rock Garden Society

THE suggestion advanced by Sir William Lawrence in your issue of the 22nd inst. is an excellent one, and I trust it will see early fruition.

There is a very sound reason for the increasing popularity of rock gardens. It seems to me that the whole interest and purpose of a garden is to give to its possessor a sense of mental rest by observation and interest in subjects which, apart from, or perhaps because of, their natural beauty, afford a complete mental change and relaxation from the stress of household, social, or business concerns.

Every modern house possesses its garden, but these latter tend to become smaller as costs increase and leisure becomes less. The garden in miniature—a complete rock garden, mountain and forest, stream and plain—can be accomplished in little, in the most limited space imaginable, and a thousand plant subjects are available, among which the mind of the possessor may revel and find repose equally with the owner of broad acres. One may accomplish oceans of enjoyment in the contents of a mere stone sink, while a few square yards of scientifically placed and planted rockwork will afford enjoyment from one year's end to the next.

In addition to other forms of satisfaction the possessors of rock gardens in the area of townships enjoy an almost complete immunity from the depredations of cats.

Undoubtedly rock gardens well merit their increasing popularity and a Society to encourage and develop the interest now taken in them. HERBERT G. LONGFORD.

Abingdon, Berks.

—— The idea of forming a Rock Garden Society is a splendid one. Its appeal would be much wider than that of an Iris or Delphinium Society. There is no subject on which there is more disagreement, but there is room for everlasting happy discussion and initiative in the wide field, which includes flower-lovers, collectors, and lovers of landscape pure and simple. If the principles which appeal to the various temperaments were understandingly discussed and pictured there would be less acrimony, more enjoyment, and much progress.

Merriott, Somerset. HUGH E. SEATON.

Rock gardens at Chelsea

I want to take you to task on the subject of rock gardens. You, together with your contemporaries and the Chelsea Flower Show judges, are blindly misleading public opinion; none of you yet seem able to move out of the Victorian rut. I have suspicions that you all have gardens bedded out with Geraniums and Lobelia, and a rockery in the corner of Ferns and tree-stumps.

Whoever wrote your report of the Chelsea Show must, I am sure, favour this time-honoured style, judging from his views of the rock gardens exhibited there. The object of his admiration was as full of artistic and technical faults as a picture on an expensive chocolate box.

Happily the public are not entirely led away, and there is a volume of opinion demanding something better in rock garden construction than just piles of expensive rock without meaning. There are at present three outstanding exponents of rock garden construction—Gavin Jones, Symons Jeune, and John Wood—and it is to these men we are looking to lift us out of the "ordinaire." They each have a style of their own, and it is hard to say which leads, but it is they, and they alone, who seem able to combine boldness with restraint, and it is they who seem capable of taking stones from the hillside and building them to look like live rocks. It is they, and they alone, who seem able to make a well-balanced picture. Do your judges and reporters ever get at a distance from the exhibits and examine them as pictures? I am sure they do not or they would not fall into such error. Your reporter with
the Victorian leanings would do well t
the work of these men if he wants tc
public opinion in his writing. Let hi
up his collection of Ferns and tree-
and plant Lilies of the Valley to grov
place till enlightenment comes to him.
he can start again with changed idea
S.

Geranium grandiflorum alpin

In discussing Geranium grandiflo
his "English Rock Garden," Far
marks that "It has a specially lovely c
form, G. g. alpinum, from the upper
Turkestan." This is in bloom in m
garden as this is written, in mid-Ju
has been in flower for a week or tv
will continue for some time. It is
desirable plant, much superior to the o
G. grandiflorum, especially for the ro
den. Its dwarfer habit renders it nea
more suitable for the smaller as well
large rock garden, while its large pur
flowers are borne in great numbers.
Turkestan variety is as hardy as the o
one, and, although not equal in refine
such charming Crane's-bills as G. arge
G. Traversii, and others of their class,
a valuable flowering plant much appr
by those who possess it. It is of ve
culture in ordinary loam. S. AR

Meconopsis Baileyi: Its beauty cultivation

Well-grown colonies of this superb
Poppy are a revelation, even to enth
who meet with them for the first tim
ing in numbers and at the height o
beauty. I have before me as I write a
of over 80 handsome plants which are
ing between small Camellia bushes on
moist ground, and beneath the gentl
of a huge Oak tree. Many of the
measure 4 feet 8 inches in height,
many as 30 handsome saucer-like
have been borne from a single plan
of the most wonderful blue and with
tuft of golden stamens.

Light and shade vary the imposing e
these delightful flowers every few m
of the day, their intense colour deepe
otherwise with the passing shadows.

All lovers of gardens owe a debt o
tude to Captain Kingdon Ward for
troduction of this extraordinary Poppy

It is a woodland species, and I
advise all who wish to see this ex
flower at its best to grow it under su
ditions, when its rich, glaucous green
and stems will develop perfect healt
the plants give very little trouble on
are safely planted out. When pla
wind and sun and drier situations, n
do the leaves assume a brown, sc
appearance, but, here at least, the sp
bloom, pretty though they are, will n
comparison with those growing in
shade.

I was first introduced to this fine
and the way to succeed with it, by a
gardener near Horsham, Sussex, wh
sesses a famous woodland garden, an
grows this and other species to perf
and who is at great pains to see t
dowdy purple shades remain long in
pany with those of his best true clea
Rogues, however, will appear among a
of seedlings, and should be marke
mediately if the strain is to be kept pu

The seeds of Meconopsis Baileyi sho
sown in pans of light soil as soon a
and raised in a cool, closed frame,
from bright sunshine, the end of Jun
ing July, or early August being suitabl
for sowing.

When large enough to handle, prick
small pots filled with equal parts o

mind leaf-soil to which a little sand has
dded and continue to grow on in a cold
where they may remain until the
of April of the following year.
y should then be planted out at 18
apart where they are intended to
very little after-care being needed.
deep woodland soil possessing a fair
tion of decayed leaf-mould will suit
admirably, and a fairly moist, but not
nt, position will prove an excellent
by when the plants are developing their
spikes. The partial shade of one of
mmer leafing trees is also most bene-
indeed, I consider such shade indis-
ble to their well-being. Plants should
ly be established in their flowering
rs by the middle of June.

vetye. E. MARKHAM.

he scent of Clematis montana

OUR correspondent's (Mr. A. T.
ohnson) letter in your issue of June
5th on the above delightful plant
ts me to send you the enclosed "snap"
same as growing here.

ill not attempt to compete with his
ng definition of its furtive odour, and
ly say that I have had the same ex-
ces. I do venture to claim, however,
y specimen is fully worthy of its posi-
and where it shows to better advantage
amouflaging an old tree stump.

J. SUTCLIFFE PYMAN.

sebury, Sutton Scotney.

Mr. A. T. Johnson's interesting note
scent of Clematis montana in the June
umber of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, em-
ses the difficulty of describing smells,
is, therefore, with considerable diffi-
that I venture to suggest that the com-
ns for the scent which he quotes,
y, macaroons, newly baked bread, and
ig toffee, may perhaps have in common
ture of vanilla and bitter Almond.

illa occurs very widely in the vegetable
om, and is often fairly evident in the
of bran and Potato skins, and it is, I
just perceptible in newly baked bread.
croons are flavoured with bitter
nds, and vanilla would come into the
of boiling toffee, if only by association.
ave not had the opportunity of smelling
atis montana this year, but my recollec-
f its scent is that of a mixture of vanilla
a little bitter Almond and a trace of
arine (*i.e.*, of Woodruff or Tonka Bean),
some honey-scented substance, and
ps a dash of Hawthorn. This descrip-
sounds rather complicated, but so, I
, is the scent. The Clematis has, no
, its own good reasons (perhaps not
nected with flies) for suggesting the
sphere of a confectioner's shop; but I
with Mr. Johnson's friends in awarding
re marks for ingenuity than fragrance.

F. A. HAMPTON.

Ixiolirion tataricum

s delightful bulbous plant is deserving
neral cultivation; the blue colouring of
wers is so clear and pure and the plant
easily grown in a sunny border, planted
ep, sandy loam. The grass-like foliage
des a splendid foil to the rich blue
rs, which are borne in profusion on stiff,
stems. Flowering in May and
I. tataricum, sometimes called I.
ii, proffers a welcome supply of good
material for cut purposes, and the de-
ive effect of a colony in the border or
e rock garden is considerable. The
are tolerably hardy, but a little winter
tion is advisable, especially in the colder
cts. The bulbs may be lifted, dried, and
ted in the autumn, but I prefer to allow them to remain undisturbed until congestion, with a risk of its attendant weakness, compels attention. The species hails from Tartary, and although introduced many years ago, it is only during recent years that its undoubted merits have been recognised.

I. montanum is but rarely met with; it is similar to the better known plant, flowering a little later, and with a prominent spike inflorescence, whereas the flowers of I. tataricum are arranged at the top of the scape. I. montanum was introduced from Syria in 1844, and is one of the several plants reputed to be the "Lily of the Field." Seeds and offsets afford ready means of increase for both species. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Cirencester, Glos.

Colour descriptions

Some kind person, unknown, sent me your number of January 5th, and I promptly became a subscriber, only regretting not having known your excellent paper sooner.

Clematis montana rubens at Norsebury, Sutton Scotney

The letters of Major Chappell and others on colour descriptions is a most interesting field, but there are clearly two groups to be considered. On one side are experts, with spectrums and elaborate colour charts (Ridgeway's, Benary's, or the Répertoire des Couleurs), and on the other are plain people, who, in the midst of planting, with time and weather pressing, hastily turn to their favourite catalogues for a description of colour. It takes time and patience to match a flower to a colour chart. This spring I had a friend who is a fine artist, and two of the best professional horticulturists in Italy, all busy with Iris and Benary's chart, and all agreed it was not very useful as a help to planning for general colour effect in the garden.

Here are some descriptions of Iris according to Ridgeway's chart: 1, "Standards Massicot yellow shading into amber-yellow at base. Falls horizontal; ochre-red in region at end of beard, followed by a central area of bishop's purple, which shades out at once to the margin through light Lobelia violet to pale Lobelia violet. It is a variety admired by some and detested by others." That one can well believe after such a description. 2, "Standards . . . violet-purple shaded to copper at claw, maroon veined. Falls flaring; Cotinga purple with . . . maroon veining; beard yellow. Style branches yellow, centre and crests pale Amparo purple. General effect of flower in mass, rich, dark red of one tone, but a bicolor, due to the heavy velvety falls."

Who would have guessed the effect to be red from the above names? And is it not a confession of inadequacy to have to add on this translation, as it were? I, for one, had to refrain from ordering any Iris from this list in sheer ignorance of what the colour effect of each flower was.

This happens with Tulips, Roses, Asters, Dahlias, and almost every flower. I humbly contend that for everyday work some 25 to 35 colour terms should be used. Everyone knows, more or less, what is meant by primrose-yellow, gentian blue, old rose, emerald green, sky-blue, blood-red, russet-red, lemon-yellow, gold-yellow, coral, and shrimp-pink. Those who grow Roses, Dahlias, and Antirrhinums have found the dressmaker's "tango" describes exactly a certain coral-orange shade.

St. Egwin is to me a pink Aster. So is Lady Lloyd, Namur, and Lutelia. But Barr's Pink is magenta, in the line of Lil Fardel and Edna Mercia.

Souv. de Claudius Pernet is a lemon-yellow Rose, and Golden Emblem is golden.

Isis and Harry Veitch are blood-red Tulips, and the International, Ouida, and Lord Byron are crimson-red. And so forth. Everyone makes their own "colour charts," and are helped by some catalogues which give the general colour effect of a flower.

Villa Senni, Italy. COUNTESS GIULIO.

Verbenas as pot plants

As Mr. Burrell says, on page 415, issue June 15th, the Verbena has gone out of favour as a bedding plant nowadays; but there is one way in which some find it very useful. That is as a pot plant. My own procedure is this: Cuttings are taken in September, put thickly in a 10-inch seed pan, and placed in a cool house during the winter months. Early in the year the young plants are potted off singly into 3-inch pots and given a rise of temperature. With the lengthening day they make rapid progress and are soon ready for transferring into 5-inch pots. At this stage the tips of the growths are pinched occasionally to induce a bushy habit. Finally, and before becoming root bound, they are moved into 7-inch pots, in which they bloom. Pieces carrying from 30 to 40 blooms on neatly staked shoots are most attractive in late April and May in the conservatory; and they are a change from the rather over-done Schizanthus, Clarkia, and so on. The variety Miss Willmott is unrivalled for this purpose, and plants last well in rooms or corridors in the house.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Papaver caucasicum

This fine Poppy seems to be rare in cultivation (but I see that, according to Pritzel, it was figured in the "Botanical Magazine," No. 1,675), and I do not remember its name in catalogues before it was listed, a year or two ago, by Mr. Ingwersen; but it deserves, I think, to be better known. It is handsome, even before it flowers, for it forms a flat rosette of much-divided grey leaves, which looks like a piece of silver filigree work when it is jewelled with dew on a sunny morning.

Olearia semidentata, 6 feet through

Now it is in full bloom and has sent up a great sheaf, some 2½ feet high, of many-branched stems bearing a few grey Dandelion leaves and a multitude of flowers. These are about 2½ inches across, pale pinkish-apricot in colour (it is difficult to describe the shade exactly), and so delicate in texture that they are almost transparent. They have a pleasant and quite powerful scent, like that of ripe Greengages, but rather sweeter.

The plant is monocarpic, but promises to set seed as plentifully as most of its family, and it is quite hardy, for it passed the trial of last winter in the open without injury.

F. A. Hampton.

The Boronias

The note by "F. H.," page 414, issue June 15th, concerning Boronia megastigma, reminds me that this species, by reason of its exquisite fragrance, rather overshadows other members of the family. A very desirable form is B. heterophylla, which is not so difficult to grow satisfactorily as B. megastigma, and if its brightly coloured flowers be not so fragrant as those of the latter they have, nevertheless, a very pleasing perfume. It is necessary to say, however, that the leaves of B. heterophylla ought not to be rubbed or agitated, as they have rather a heavy and, to some people, disagreeable odour. Other useful forms include B. elatior and B. serrulata, both of which flower at a later date than the others. All will thrive under the treatment recommended by "F. H." It may be added that the Boronias appreciate shade when in flower, and these remain fresh and effective for a long time if protected from the direct rays of the sun.

W. McG.

Saxifraga canis dalmatica

Referring to the note by Mr. S. Arnott in your issue of 15th inst., this Saxifrage which originated in my garden here as a self-sown seedling is, in my opinion, a cross between Saxifraga Cotyledon and S. Aizoon balcana, appearing as it did close to these two plants, and bearing as it does some characteristics of each, and until the name "Spotted Dog" was suggested by Mr. Clarence Elliott—and I do not find any fault with the name—I had always given it away to anyone interested as Saxifraga Cotyledon x balcana. If your correspondent, Mr. Arnott, has not got it I shall be very pleased to give him some.

John Grimes.

Avondale, Tydraw Road, Cardiff.

Savoy Early Ulm

I bear witness to the value of this fine little Savoy. It is sometimes said that there is little or no need for early Savoys, but my opinion is that, toward the end of the season, a tender young Savoy is more to the purpose than a Cabbage which has seen its best days. The variety under notice is quite small. It is not objectionably strong like some other Savoys—that is, it is not so strongly flavoured, hearts in quickly, and may be planted as thickly as Cos Lettuces. Served whole or in halves, and braised instead of boiled, I guarantee that this Savoy will find favour from the epicure. Plants may be put out now.

A Scottish Gardener.

Coast Hydrangeas

The blue Hydrangea is the show flower of the Atlantic coast from Virginia to New York. It might also be called a shore flower, for the same intense blue cannot be obtained very far inland. Visitors, enchanted by its blue masses against foundations and forming hedges, endeavour to learn the colour secret.

"Old horse-shoes planted at the roots" or "blueing water applied every Monday morning" are as good explanations as any, for the florists do not know themselves. A more poetic one is that it takes on the blue of sea and sky. The salt air is generally held responsible, but that theory cannot be relied upon either, for this lovely flower is not always "true blue." Some seasons its blooms are pink! Nor can the colour be forecast.

There are pink Hydrangeas also along these shores that are planted pink and pink remain. Both pink and blue produce heads of bloom of mammoth size which frequently measure a foot across.

Not so usual or so showy is the single Hydrangea, which is also naturalised on these shores, but it is very beautiful. It is flat in shape, with a tufted centre edged by a single row of flat petals. It sometimes deepens rose in colour. When planted alongside the blue and pink double ones an exquisite colour combination is produced.

Emma Dabney.

Olearia semidentata

THE accompanying photograph of
semidentata may interest some
readers. This shrub is not g
acknowledged to be hardy, even in
and when it was planted here wise h
clared it would stand no frost. It
eight years old, it is 5½ feet high an
through, and it withstood 20 degs.
which was registered here in April
and again this winter when 20 de
again recorded. The photograph wa
in 1928, and the shrub is once more
with flowers. Near it stands anot
chathamica, supposed to be much m
cate, with larger flowers and longer
and this, too, appears to be perfectl
and shows no signs of the severe wea

Shankill, Dublin. R.

A gazebo

Recently we visited a wonderful ga
Goring, Sussex, owned by Major Ste
has turned the chalk pit into a gar
chalk-loving flowers. At the top of
he has built a gazebo. I have th
"Diary of an Eighteenth Century G
and in it it says: "I did sit for a wh
gazebo I have caused to be made in
corner of my south wall. It is ma
those Oak planks I bought when the
down Birdew's Cottage to enlarge th
Market. I can come to it by an eas
way, and have a table and two chai
and a jar of tobacco. From this snu
like to view the people comi
market. . . ."

Sussex.

Iris verna

"Peter the Hermit" will find Iri
fully described in Irwin Lynch's "
the Iris." It is quite distinct f
lacustris, a plant which I shall be
to send him if he cares for it. I b
plant or two of Iris verna from Mr. P
of Christchurch, in the spring of 19
planted them in the front of a Rhodo
bed, partially shaded by some old App
Here they have done very well, comi

The show flower of the Atlantic c

IRISES IN ITALY

Souvenir de Lœtitia Michaud, over 4 feet high

Iris Lady Foster or Paragon rejoicing in partial shade along a pergola, not shown

Regelio-cyclus Iris Mars. Tulips in foreground

through the last two terrible winters protection of any kind. C. P.
gbourne.

Irises at Villa Senni

UR January 5th number referred to cardi Iris growing well in Southern ance and Rome. This year an unnted spring drought made the flowers and shorter than usual, but even so (the type) was 1.30 metres high. ad very hard frosts for over a month, g 13 degs. Fahrenheit, but no plants

ay be the climate, or my choice of s, but, with some admirable excephe newer French Iris seem finer than glish or American varieties; they have ness of outline and a distinction of which is outstanding. Souv. de Michaud, Ballerine, Mme. C. nt, Floridor, Alliés, M. Cornuault, Arsace, Mdlle. Schwartz, and er all stood out to a marked degree. nglish Paragon and Lady Foster are est light blues, much better than a (which grows like a weed) or Lord e or Princess Beatrice. The many of your paper who may live , in dry countries, would be rewarded tried Iris gardens. It is true that e months or more there is nothing but us green leaves, but it is also someo have a garden which requires a rare g and no other care; not a drop of in summer, no spraying, no fertilising a little lime, and which for 2 or 2½ s is a blaze of beauty. The Primulas e Regelio cyclus begin in early March, nbassadeur generally closes the season d of May. Some of the very dark o cyclus Irises, like Clotho and Isis, he pinkish ones like Eunice and is, and the ruby ones like Hera, are ge from the usual grey and violet.

A ROMAN READER.

ula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

t all but one plant this year. At first prepared to blame the hoe, but since g Mr. Des Vœux's note in your issue 25th ult., and the fact that I had had s losses, I am forced to the conclusion ese plants do not like a heavy, holdld soil. G. C.
ex.

Carpenteria californica

In reference to Mrs. Robinson's and "W. McG.'s" note on Carpenteria californica, it is, I think, much more hardy than is generally supposed. Planted here under a south wall it was only very slightly singed in the winter of 1927-8, and quite untouched last winter. Apart from its position, it had no protection. C. PRENTIS.

Posiers, Borden,
Near Sittingbourne.

Border Carnation raising

One of the most important items in the treatment of Border Carnations is to see that the shoots are secured to stakes. The ties must not be too taut, otherwise the shoot will become crippled. The rings are excellent for the purpose as they can easily be drawn up the stake as necessary. The thin tips of Bamboos are the best to use, are not expensive, and will last for a number of years. Older clumps are best staked by applying some slight twiggy sticks, and several should be placed around each plant, connecting them together with some soft twine, such as tar twist or green twist. Disbudding is another item to consider, especially if the blooms are required for exhibition.

The side shoots should be rubbed out when large enough to pinch with the thumb and finger. It is a mistaken idea that the Carnation requires a great deal of water and food to get good results, as, like most grey-leaved plants, it will stand a good deal of drought, providing the bed is well prepared before planting. Whilst the roots do not require a deal of artificial moisture the foliage receives much benefit if sprayed each evening after very hot days. A pinch of salt in the water can also be recommended.

If the beds were dressed with bone-meal in their preparation this will now be doing good work, and to supplement it at the present there is nothing better than a good dusting of old soot. The bed should be blackened over, afterwards working it lightly into the soil with the hoe or hand-fork. This may be either watered in with a rosed can or be applied just before rain. If the soil is on the poor side and did not have bone-meal when made I find Ichthemic guano a reliable food to give now.

There are three pests in particular to beware of that are partial to Carnations, viz., Red Spider, Green Aphis, and "Cuckoo's Spit." The former usually attacks the plants during hot, dry weather, but if the plants are regularly syringed in the evening there should be little trouble. The Green Aphis is a pest that does a good deal of injury to the young shoots by sucking out the sap. Spraying with Abol Insecticide never fails as a remedy if properly applied. Dipping the tips of the roots in a basin of soapy water to which a little paraffin has been added is used by many with success, whilst others use the Aphis brushes. Whatever method is adopted should be done as soon as the pest is detected. The froghopper is another insect that does a lot of damage if left to their own resources. It takes a good deal of force to dislodge them with the syringe, and really the best way is to crush them between the thumb and finger. There is no need to wait until the blooms are over before the plants are layered, or at least the young shoots which have not flowered, as the sooner they are done the better when long enough to bend down to the ground. Allow 3 inches or 4 inches to stand above when pegged. A compost should be prepared by mixing some loamy soil and sand together, and passing it through a ½-inch sieve, and a top-dressing of 2 inches to 3 inches should be placed around each plant which is to be layered. Enough should be placed around each to accommodate the roots of each layer.

W. E. WRIGHT.

Drying Everlasting Flowers

The best way to dry Everlasting Flowers generally is to tie them in small bunches and hang them with their heads downwards in a rather dry room, where there is not much fire used, and they are kept a good distance from it. They should be tied in bunches with not more than a dozen flowers in a bunch, and be tied near the end of the stalk. In this way they will keep quite straight and must be allowed to become thoroughly dry before removal. They will keep stiff and can be worked up in bouquets or be packed in boxes for future use. They will last for years if put in a moderately dry place and the dust is kept from them. To preserve them nicely they should be covered with a glass shade. The Helichrysums, Xeranthemums, and Rhodanthes are best treated in this way. All Everlastings should be gathered before they are fully open or they show their eye too much when finished.

The Raising of Hybrid Asiatic Primulas

In this, the largest portion of the genus Primula, there are comparatively few hybrids, and these do not always possess that constitution which is vital to a good garden plant. Many of the enthusiastic cultivators of this family should therefore be encouraged to endeavour to raise improved stocks of known varieties, or by crossing selected species to produce a novelty of real merit. It is a fascinating work, not only in the actual hybridising of the plants concerned, but even more so in the possible results.

As regards crossing, do not merely use any two species or varieties and trust to luck that a good seedling will result. Rather hybridise in such a way that two desirable characters may be united in one plant, or that the vigour of a certain species may be imparted to another which lacks it. The section Candelabra has been used more than any other for this purpose; probably because it has a greater number and variety in cultivation than other sections; the flowers are also large, and the parts easily manipulated.

P. pulverulenta x P. Cockburniana has produced Red Hugh, Unique, Aileen Aroon, Lissadell Hybrid, Sir Frederick Moore, and Lady Moore—all of varying shades of flame, scarlet, or vermilion. Unique crossed again with P. Cockburniana gave Excelsior, of a rich cherry-red, and in habit resembling the latter parent. P. pulverulenta x Red Hugh was shown at Chelsea in 1928, but the only noticeable difference from the former was a slight toning-down in colour. The pink-flowered strain of P. pulverulenta is not, of course, of hybrid origin, but arose from a sport. P. Cockburniana undoubtedly lacks stamina—it is usually biennial in gardens—and as a parent it has now been superseded by P. chungensis. A hybrid between P. chungensis and P. pulverulenta has been shown in which the flowers are of a salmon-pink shade, while the vigour of the plants is remarkable. Introduced by Captain Kingdon Ward, this is a perennial species of undoubted vigour, flowering in late April and early May; in colour it is a shade lighter orange than P. Cockburniana, the outside of the petals being tinted scarlet.

P. Bulleyana and P. pulverulenta were the parents of Inverleith, a deep salmon-coloured hybrid; the reverse cross, having P. pulverulenta as the seed parent, produced Ladybird, of a deep rose shade, with a dark eye. P. Bulleyana has also been mated with P. Beesiana, resulting in a series of colours from orange-red and apricot to rose and lilac. Edina is a salmon-flowered variety from this cross. The former species is a good grower, and for introducing such tones is undoubtedly useful; one factor which nearly always shows
in the progeny of P. Bulleyana is the
tinge on the midrib of the leaf. P. B
x P. pulverulenta exists, but, as I ha
it, is an ugly shade of washy rose, a
tainly no ornament to a garden; it
that the colour of P. Beesiana prec
from being a successful parent, and
it may be the same with P. burmanic

P. japonica is usually rather averse
ing with other species, but I have seen
which were undoubtedly spontaneous
between that species and P. pulver
the stems were somewhat mealy, a
flowers rose-pink in colour. P. "Sir
Thursby" is a crimson-flowered seed
P. japonica and Lissadell Hybrid, and
an Award of Merit at Chelsea Show.
view at Chelsea was P. anisodoxa, a
hybrid between P. anisodora and P. he
The former is a dark crimson-flowere
delabra, having small individual bloon
a yellow eye. P. helodoxa is pure
yellow in colour, and usually refuses
good seed when pollinated by any
species. The hybrid also seems to be
and I have failed to secure seed from i
from pollen of P. helodoxa, of P. Wi
near ally of P. anisodora), or by self
ation. The possibilities in this group
seem to lie in P. aurantiaca, P. chur
P. pulverulenta, and P. helodoxa (if it
ness can be overcome). Perhaps if I
soni could be successfully mated with
doxa a decorative race of late-flo
Candelabras might result.

In the section Sikkimensis, the nex
portance in gardens, a pink-flowered
P. Florindæ has been raised; this is pr
to be a hybrid of that species and P.
—the latter being rich claret-red in sha
Florindæ will doubtless prove a mos
parent, and a series of hybrids bet
and P. Waltoni, or its sub-species P. p
—which bears small, dull maroon-c
blossoms, with a powdered throat-
probably eventually provide as much
as the P. Bulleyana x P. pulverulenta
besides prolonging the flowering perio
race. In the same way P. sikkimensi
be crossed with P. secundiflora.

Those grouped around P. microdo
very fine as they are, and it would su
gilding the Lily to attempt to cross t
any way; their colour variation sh
sufficient for even the most ardent ent
The suggestion of a natural hybrid
P. microdonta alpicola and P. Flor
scouted by their introducer, and ther
no evidence in seedlings to support
theory.

Among the remaining sections of
Primulas, hybrids seem few and far b
P. cortusoides and P. Veitchii are the
of La Lorraine, which bears large p
rose flowers, with a yellow eye. B
should not the giant form of P. Litton
crossed with the other Muscarioides, o
disation take place between such
Nivalids as are in cultivation—P. chio
P. melanops, P. sino-purpurea, etc.?
is surely room for experiment in many

The process of crossing two Primu
quires little actual skill, but a certain
of care—and patience. The plant
for the seed parent must be emasculate
the anthers removed—before the polle
free. This may be carried out in t
stage, about two days before the flower
One side of the petals should be slit by
of a needle, taking care that it only
trates the tube of the flower, and d
damage the style or ovary. Then with
of small tweezers the anthers should
tached from the tube wall by means
filaments; the anther itself should
touched for fear of releasing ripe
There are two forms of Primula flo

Guelder Rose trained to a wall

ed, in which the anthers are situated
own in the tube, and the style projects;
rum-eyed, where the anthers are set at
outh. The latter is to be preferred if
is available, owing to the greater ease
rking.
flower-stem, if a Candelabra, should
nited to two whorls of flowers—the re-
ler being cut off. If the whorls are
y set with blossoms they should be
ed to six or seven in each. In the case
ner sections than Candelabra the thin-
should be proportionate. Nothing is to
ined by endeavouring to cross large
ers of flowers, and a dozen well-filled
les will be ample.
stem should be staked securely, par-
rly if in the open, and a bag of fine
n slipped over the remaining flowers
ied securely round the stem, to avoid
pollination by insects or other means.
arly, another bag should be secured
the flowers of the pollen parent. When
irst flowers of the seed parent have
d their petals (which may be slightly
ted), the pollen can be brought by re-
ng a flower or two from the male parent,
hing an opened anther, and gently pres-
a few pollen grains on to the stigma.
must be carried out during several days,
e flowers become successively ready for
ation. The muslin cover should
ys be carefully re-fastened afterwards,
nay eventually be removed when all the
as have shrivelled.
e swelling of the ovary is no guarantee
und seeds. Varieties such as P. helo-
and P. japonica often do this, and yet
o seed; it seems to be due to the growth
e placenta and not the ovules. When
capsule commences to turn brown the
of ripening is approaching, and at the
sign of the top cracking—the manner of
so varies with the different sections—
ndividual capsule should be cut off and
on a sheet of paper in a dry room, where
eeds may be shed in safety; the remain-
eing added as they, too, mature.
e seed should be sown as soon as it is
horoughly ripened; *never* wait until the
spring to do so, or the germination will
ery much slower, and probably reduced
umber. Sow thinly, either in pots, pans,
e, or even in a bed outside. If under
, the compost should consist of approxi-
ly two parts each of loam and old leaf-
to one part silver sand; drainage should
fill the pot; barely cover the seeds, then
erse the pot to soil level in a bucket of
r, until thoroughly damp at the surface.
the seedlings are above ground they
ld be given every encouragement, in the
of light, air, and just sufficient moisture
heir well-being. Prick out into boxes or
ame when the first true leaf has been
e, using almost the same compost, but
less sand. Grow them on during the
mer in a cool position, and in early Sep-
er plant out into their flowering quar-
where they will bloom the next spring.
he seeds are to be sown outside, a shady,
h aspect should be chosen. The bed
ld be raised a few inches above ground
, and made up with the above compost;
n, drainage must be perfect. Watering
depend entirely on weather conditions,
if the soil is damp when sowing takes
, it is unlikely that water will be neces-
before germination, which should take
in a fortnight. Slugs should be dis-
aged by surrounding the bed with a layer
shes; while the seedlings may be assisted
top-dressing of fine sandy soil. In a
re winter overhead shelter may be neces-
; but good drainage, combined with a
al supply of sand on the surface, will
healthy seedlings through most weather

conditions. Of course, it should be understood that outside sowing is only for those who have not the necessary accommodation under glass, but at the same time it can be very successfully accomplished.

One other point: remember that the second generation of plants from a hybrid origin will in all probability show considerable variation; and from this point onwards seed selection from the most vigorous and promising plants should begin.

B. O. M.

Guelder Rose: A snowstorm in June

Guelder Rose: A snowstorm in June

THOUGH the recent winter was hard and long it has had no bad effect on the blooming of the ordinary flowering shrubs; in fact, some of them have been more than usually bountiful of bloom. Never was such a mass of flower on the Guelder Roses. The camera was nearly a week too late to catch them at their best, but has faithfully recorded the effect when the bloom was half fallen, for it shows the ground below the bush and the near seat looking as if a heavy fall of snow had come upon them. Guelder Rose is a bush or small tree for many uses. There are wall spaces in cool aspects where, if it is trained to the wall and only allowed to grow a little way forward, it forms a capital covering, and if a Clematis montana is trained to run through it the two flower together with pleasant effect. As is generally known, the round white ball of the garden Guelder Rose is formed by a kind of doubling. The little tree Viburnum opulus in its wild form is a native, but with a flat flower that is not showy. It has a ring of sterile florets on the outer side and a disc filled with fertile bloom. It is, none the less, a desirable thing in the garden, for the flat bloom turns into a mass of berries that have the size and translucency of Red Currants, and an even brighter colour—beautiful in September when the foliage has also turned to a reddish colour. In the garden Guelder Rose the fertile parts of the flowers are absent, their whole place being taken by the showier sterile, so forming the white ball.

G. J.

Fabiana imbricata (the False Heath)

This is a charming hard-wooded evergreen little shrub of moderately vigorous habit, and can be relied upon to do well in warm, open soil. In general appearance it resembles a Heath in the arrangement of its tiny leaves and fox-brush like growth, which is terminated by a pyramidal cluster of white tubular flowers, nestling in the pale green foliage with which the stem is furnished. The plant is hardier than some people imagine, as it flowers and thrives here in the open without much protection. It may be used in various ways in the rock garden as a specimen plant, or in masses regulated by cutting, or associated with other flowering shrubs. In either case, perfect drainage is essential. The plant forms compact, well-proportioned specimens 3 feet to 5 feet high, but may be cut back to symmetrical form if desired.

A few years ago I saw this subject employed as a wall plant. I wondered, walking on a distant pathway, what that sunlit flower could be, and, on approaching it, there was this old favourite, a perfect sea of blossoms, fully 5 feet high. Fabiana should not be employed as a wall plant where a close-fitting subject is required, as it is seen to the best advantage when the principal branches are secured to the wall and the shoots are afterwards allowed to grow at will. By this mode of treatment the slender branches dispose themselves in a graceful manner.

It is of facile increase; every cutting pressed firmly into sandy soil during September, under cover of a handlight, will root and produce a nice, bushy plant, which may flower the following spring.

H. Stevens.

Hardy Heaths

As the species pass out of bloom remove the seed-bearing growths, cutting them at different levels in order to avoid a shorn appearance. Many, indeed most of the Heaths, derive considerable benefit from a good cutting back, providing this is done immediately their flowering period is over.

An Alpine Nursery at Llandudno

AN enthusiastic hardy plantsman was so impressed by a recent visit to Mr. Statham's nursery, Queen's Road, Craig-y-don, that he was inspired to write as follows:—

Provided with the beautiful limestone rock of the Ormes, than which no better material exists, Mr. A. L. Statham has created a rock garden which is admirably suited for the accommodation of plants and the display of their individual charms. In the construction of this rock garden the visitor who is on the look-out for hints will find much that is really helpful. Practical knowledge and intuition for artistic design, coupled with that inborn skill which marks the good plantsman, have together produced a garden of infinite delight; and when one knows how easy it would have been to make that old Cabbage patch a few years ago more akin to a stone quarry than a rock garden one's admiration for its founder is warmed with a certain sense of gratitude.

Statham's rock garden, Llandudno

And so to the plants. At the time of my visit, towards the end of May, the place was a riot of colour. Predominating in every conceivable shade of purple, violet, and pink were the Aubrietias which Mr. Statham grows to a rare perfection. Indeed, in size and quantity of blossom I have seldom seen these equalled anywhere. All the good old sorts, the blushing Bridesmaid, the violet Dr. Mules, Lloyd Edwards in royal purple, and the incomparable Lavender, were massed in splendid mounds of colour. But not less striking than these were some of the newcomers—the wonderful Gloriosa (a superb variety in clear, rich rose), Russell's Crimson, the brilliant crimson Magician, and Bonfire. To these novelties must be added Miss Statham, a variety (raised at this nursery) with very large flowers in a rich soft lavender, a lovely plant of great promise.

The next group to grip my attention were the Saxifrages. These were also in unusual vigour, and here again Mr. Statham had proved his determination to be up-to-date by having on view fine patches of the most recent novelties. I was particularly taken with some of the Mosses, a trio of superb whites being James Bremner, bathoniensis alba, and Miss Willmott, whilst among the most striking of the crimsons were Wenlock Best of All, Marshal Joffre, and Pompadour. Again in this section was noted a variety labelled Miss Statham, a very neat, close grower with clear rose flowers rather later than the rest. Nestling in the limestone crevices were many of the choicest of the encrusted Saxifrages, delightful things with foliage like silver filigree and airy flights of white or rosy blossoms. In these I "spotted" Dr. Ramsay, which caused a sensation at Chelsea a few years ago, that priceless treasure Cochlearis minor, and conspicuous in another section was that exquisite dwarf London Pride, Elliott's Variety (found in the Pyrenees), and one of the best rock plants ever introduced.

Mr. Statham has a keen enthusiasm for Sedums and Sempervivums, and of these he has gathered a really representative collection, numbering over 50 species and varieties. These include all the well-tried, as well as some of the rarer sorts, and even in this difficult genus, as elsewhere, I noticed an accuracy in nomenclature, which is none too common in the nursery world.

The Bellflowers ring their individual praises with no uncertain sound in these rock gardens, and it is some time since I ran across such a tempting lot of these indispensable summer bloomers. Here again were over 50 sorts, all of the choicest. To name but a few, there was the incomparable Campanula Miranda in silver grey, the rare C. allioni, Profusion with its subtle blend of pale blue and gold, that brace of beauties, Steveni nana and Stansfieldii, pulla in royal purple, the violet-starred arvatica, and a whole nest of those fairy-bells of the Pusilla household. Dianthuses were equally well represented, not only in numbers, but in such gems as neglectus, alpinus, and the best of the Cheddar pinks. Here also were some of the most famous of the old and new hybrids, notably Fettes Mount and Gladys Cranfield. Coming into flower with these, and even excelling them in the brilliance of their colour and infinite variety, were the Sun Roses, and it is a long while since I have been tempted by such an array as these. Helianthemum carneum and Chamæcistus still unrivalled in their own colour, and the rich wine-red E. T. Bowell were in especially good form. In rock garden Veronicas there was a wide selection, both shrubby and otherwise. The beautiful Grecian Violet, inimitable in its grace, was represented by some lovely patches, and a well-filled notebook records the presence of that wallflower-red marvel,
Viola Arkwright's Ruby, as well as
other notable kinds, not forgetting the
Pansies, in which Mr. Statham ha
specialised.

In concluding these expressions I mu
omit to allude to one or two well-gro
dividual plants. I was just in time
some "topping" specimens of the d
Gentiana verna, whose secrets Mr. St
has evidently discovered. Another
Alpine, Soldanella montana, had also
flowered freely, and there were some
filled pots of a waistcoat-pocket Stachy
Corsica, which is a certain bait for an
of tiny plants. Among many fr
Thymes was Annie Hall, which deser
be better known, and a fine collect
Primulas was enriched by the ne
Florindæ, perhaps the noblest specie
brought from the "Eaves of the W
Here, too, was the winsome little Pam
enchanting of all the Juliæ family.
Phloxes included such admirable so
Vivid, Nelsoni, and Douglasi, these
having been excelled in their dainty
whilst among the rock garden Pentst
I saw a magnificent plant of the laven
Scouleri, and that amazingly brilliant
fellow, P. Davidsoni, shouting its own
dours with megaphones of ruby-cri
The sensational blue Poppy of Tibet w
served in well-established pots. Lith
mums and Hypericums, matchless in
blue and burnished gold, were in
variety. The new Alpine Erinus,
Hanele, again reminded me that one ne
go beyond Llandudno for the latest of
ties. Among several other Achilleas we
beautiful A. Kellereri and A. Lewisi,
plants having won high honour in
places. There were in full flower
strong pots of the new scarlet B
Dorothy Walpole, Fulgens, and other
ties straight from the mint, and I mig
a column about a host of other thin
irresistible attraction to gardeners
grades. But, conscious as I am of a hu
omissions—including bedding plants,
flowers, rock shrubs, greenhouse su
and a whole menagerie of those
reptilian creatures generally known as
—these notes must be switched off.
will have served their purpose if they
duce a few readers to a garden of abs
interest and charm.

Sobralia macrantha

Even when not in bloom this Orchid
a certain extent ornamental. The ree
growth renders it distinct from other
bers of this interesting family, and wh
the case of highly developed specimens
attain a height of 4 feet and are covered
well-developed blooms, this Sobralia is
impressive. Young plants should be s
on until they come into large pans,
should be filled one-fourth full of drainag
compost to consist of peat and Spha
Moss in equal parts, with a liberal ad
of broken crocks. Water must be given
during the growing time, but from Oc
to April no more must be applied than
maintain the soil in a moist condition.
like many members of this family,
Sobralia does not require special ac
modation; it will thrive among a
collection of plants that need a winter
perature of 50 degs., and a moisture-
atmosphere during the growing time.

J. CORNH

Tidy the rock garden

The great bulk of the occupants of
rock garden are now well out of bloom,
endeavour should be made to have all wi
ing flower stems neatly removed, all
pulled up, and the soil, where it ca
reached, gently stirred with a hand fo

Lord Anson's Pea, Lathyrus magellanicus

lowers dark violet-purple, of medium size, borne on handsome, rect spikes. Native of the Argentine. Shown recently by Lt.-Col. L. C. R. Messel. Award of Merit

A twining annual: Scyphanthus elegans (syn. Grammatocarpus volubilis)

Attractive hardy annual collected by Clarence Elliott in Chile. Flowers bright yellow, petals bluntly spurred, and chocolate-coloured anthers; leaves deeply divided. Recently shown by Major Harrison, King's Waldenbury, Hitchin. Award of Merit

Greenhouse Creeping and Twining Plants

ERE is something arresting about the oof of a greenhouse covered with eeping and twining plants, from which s depend, and provided they are not ed to unduly shade the house, little ion can be raised. A judicious use of ers is rather an advantage than other- as it serves a twofold purpose in just ting enough shade to act as a screen the sun. In a general way, plants in- d for covering rafters are best grown ts or tubs, as, should necessity arise, can the more readily be removed out ors, a decided gain in the case of some cts. In considering what may be grown is purpose, it is well to observe that rowding ought to be avoided, and in a of moderate dimensions one or two s at the most will be ample. Wires n under the rafters and secured, leaving of about 9 inches or 12 inches to the so as to prevent the foliage touching the will be necessary. For a house where is kept up during winter and early g only, one may select creepers that will l much beauty, once they have become ished. Among suitable plants are :—

pagerias rosea and alba. These are iful tubular shaped flowers, borne under e of pleasing green. Blossoms are rose white respectively. It needs a compost up of three parts peat to one of loam, sand and charcoal added, and good age. Lapagerias dislike a dry, hot at- here, and do best when planted in a e which gets partly shaded in the day, or the glass is obscured during the hottest weather by a "wash."

Tecomas, of which capensis, with orange-red flowers, and T. Smithii, yellow, are handsome climbers for a house. A similar compost to the foregoing is required, and while standing the sun, they must have plenty of air in the summer months.

Clianthus, the Glory Pea, C. Dampieri (red), and C. puniceus (crimson) are handsome flowering plants. The former may be raised from seed sown in peat and sand in the warmth of a greenhouse in spring. They are suitable for planting in 8-inch pots in a compost of peaty turf and sand. C. puniceus is much stronger in growth than C. Dampieri, needs to be syringed frequently in the summer, and must not be allowed to suffer for water at the roots.

Jasminum primulinum has pale yellow flowers. Plants need a warmer temperature in winter than the usual run of greenhouse subjects in that they should be kept in an atmosphere which does not fall below 50 degrees. Leaf-mould, loam, rotted dung, and sand incorporated forms a fitting compost. Syringing during summer is beneficial in their case also.

Clematises of the Lanuginosa or Jackmanni group may be grown in a cold house the year round. In the first named section such varieties as Alba magna, a pure white with broad sepals; Enchantress, double white, flushed rose; and Marcel Moser, mauve-violet, make handsome roof climbers. In the Jackmanni group, Star of India, reddish plum; and Jackmanni alba, white, are two charming kinds. The variety Indivisa lobata is essentially a greenhouse plant and yields quantities of white blossoms. A compost of loam, leaf-mould, rotted manure, with ample drainage, should be provided.

Tropæolums of the tuberous rooted section make handsome flowering creepers for the house. One old variety, T. lobbianum, has bright red flowers, and yields them during winter and early spring months in a house kept moderately warm. They grow very quickly, and can be propagated from cuttings planted in pots of sandy soil and dibbled in the warm bed of a propagator. A light soil of loam and leaf-mould suits this variety, and it may be grown in comparatively small-sized pots—6 inches. It flowers better when in a cramped-at-the-roots state, provided it is not starved for water, and is given weak liquid manure as it is approaching its blooming time.

W. F.

Saving delayed nursery stock

Writing in a recent issue of an American contemporary, M. G. Kains has some interesting points to make on the procedure when nursery stock, delayed en route, arrives dry and shrivelled. This is often no fault of the nurseryman, or of anyone else, but causes much trouble, often litigation. The writer gives instances of making the best of the matter, as follows: "One shipment of trees and one of berry plants arrived with the buds started, and even with leaves formed. The roots were dry also. As the ground was moist, they were planted the day after receipt, having been drenched the night previous with several buckets of water. Two other shipments, one of Nut trees and one of Grapes and bush fruits, arrived so dry that many of the plants in the latter were brittle. As it was impossible to plant the trees for several days they were buried in wet, light 'chip dirt' in a cold shed. The berries and Grapes were plunged in tubs full of water and kept there 24 to 48 hours—in some cases even longer.

"In planting them only a few holes were made at a time so the earth would not become dry, and as each Vine was set the soil was tramped down hard with the heels. A layer of half an inch or so of loose earth was then spread over the packed soil to check evaporation. Finally the plants were cut back severely. Fortunately a rain had preceded the berry and Grape planting, and another followed in a few days. As soon as the ground dried after the latter, the surface crust was hoed to establish the looseness again. Cultivation followed in a few days.

"Seventy per cent. each of Currant and Raspberry and slightly more than 50 per cent. of the Blackberry plants grew. Only three out of 176 Grape Vines failed. Of the dozen Nut trees four failed."

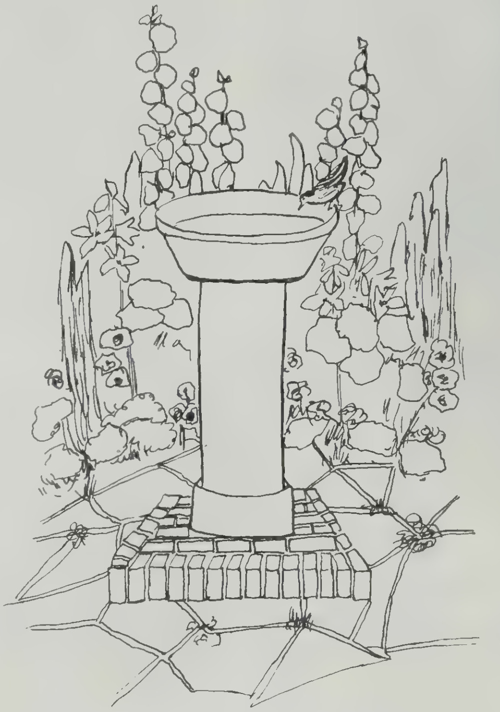
From this and previous similar experiences, the writer lays it down that "the best course to pursue when shipments are seriously delayed, is first of all to demand a bad order receipt from the transportation company to establish a claim, if necessary; second, immediately to notify the shipper of the condition of the stock upon arrival, telling him of the bad order receipt and asking for an adjustment in case the plants fail; third, to take the precautions outlined above; fourth, to make a report to the shipper, say a month after planting, to show just what success has been attained, and one's own fairness in the matter. During many years' experience I have always found nursery companies willing to meet me half way in making an adjustment.

"On other occasions, I have buried fruit trees, tops and all, in moist earth, even wet ground, for a week or more and had 100 per cent. success after they were planted. When a pond or a stream has been available, soaking for a couple of days has also given good results."

Marechal Niel: A beautiful long-service Rose

I became enamoured of Marechal Niel in the late 'seventies when I began to grow it in a house with very little heat. It had been introduced some years prior to this, but up to then it had not been distributed largely among amateurs. Not long afterwards the name was on almost everybody's lips who owned a greenhouse, and it advanced in popularity by leaps and bounds. One would be well within the mark in characterizing this Rose as the most popular one for indoor growing of its day. It had splendid testimonials as to character for indoor culture, comprising sweetly-scented flowers, of a beautiful yellow colour, clean leafage, and a most prolific bloomer. There were those who were not satisfied with these credentials, as they took exception to its inverted habit, the blooms being different to most Roses. I could never see that this was a fault in a blossom otherwise so perfect; rather was it deemed to be an advantage for a variety whose blossoms depended from the rafters in many a house, and could easily be seen. At any rate, in my judgment, there has never been a variety among yellows that approached old Marechal Niel. But it had one fault which soon came to light in that plants of two or three years and upwards often showed signs of canker, mostly near a joint. This was more marked among plants under glass than among those grown out of doors; but except in favoured localities it was never seriously regarded as an outdoor variety, its proper place being a cold house, or one where little heat was applied. This fault showed itself mostly where trees had been planted either in a border within the house or outside and the branches brought in. It was thought that lack of sufficient air and—as summer advanced—a too-heated atmosphere accounted for the plague—for such it became—hence many dropped this plan and planted in large pots or tubs, so that after the blooming season, when cutting-back had taken place, the pots could be turned out of doors and quartered under cooler conditions. If a plant was kept long enough, it eventually developed canker, so that it became quite a common practice to propagate from layers or cuttings, and grow these on with a view to bringing them indoors for filling the place of those which had failed. Moreover, it was found that the finest blossoms were nearly always produced on plants two or three years old. Budding on briers was no antidote to canker, as many found out, although it was asserted, and, indeed, appeared to be the case, that the colour of the blooms was more intense than on own root plants. The fact that Marechal Niel is grown to-day proves, I think, that it is really a remarkable Rose, and added to this that a variety that was first introduced in the 'sixties should have survived all these years and be put up in competition with modern varieties goes to show that it has great vitality, and is worthy of being placed among the best Roses for indoor culture. It is not done with by any means, as orders are frequently being received by the trade for plants in pots for indoor culture. Given good loam, rotted dung, with coarse sand in pots or tubs well drained, one may—notwithstanding the handicap referred to—have much pleasure and profit from this good old Rose, and if one can give it a few months in the open air after it has flowered and been pruned, the chances are that it will live to a healthy old age.

W. F.



Bird bath from drain-pipe

Rheum Alexandræ

This Chinese Rhubarb is one o
carrying the hall-mark of excellenc
den plants; from the deep, gloss
leaves arises, in summer, a spire-li
stem, 3 feet to 4 feet tall, and cove
attractive creamy-yellow leaf-like bra
plant is beautiful and strangely mys
thrives freely in a cool and deep soi
a very fine plant for grouping in th
near the water, in the wild garden, o
woodland, interspersed with such
Heracliums, Gunneras, Acanthu
Yuccas.

Other good Rheums are atropu
dissectum, a delightful plant, the
leaves of which are suffused with
the flower spikes rosy-red. With it
cut foliage and fascinating colour, t
barb should appeal strongly to all
thusiasts.

The wrinkled leaves of R. Emodi
prominent red veins, R. palmatum
large pale green leaves, and is one
earliest to break into growth. T
known as Dr. Baillers is strikingly
ful, with large palest-green folia
towering scapes 8 feet to 10 feet hig
with rose-coloured flowers, and, last
Rheum rotheanum is sure to appeal b
of its large ovate bluish-green leaves.

RALPH E. AR

How to make a bird ba

GET a drain-pipe or chimney-pot a
it cemented on to a square bric
Fix a good-sized earthen milk b
top of the drain-pipe and paint the
thing (not the brick base) stone colou
will then have a delightful bird bath
little cost. (MISS) C. A.

Saintpaulia iolantha

This beautiful little plant belongs
Natural Order Gesneriaceæ, and is con
known as the African or Stove Violet
a native of Central Africa, and wa
introduced into this country towards
of the nineteenth century. It forms a
of very dark green, oval, spoon-
leaves, from the centre of which the
bearing beautiful violet-shaped flower
deep violet colour arise to a height of 3
to 4 inches from May to October.

Saintpaulia iolantha should be po
March or April into well-drained 3-i
4-inch pots, varying according to the
the plant, in a compost of loam, pea
mould, and sand. It requires an abu
of water during the summer, but
watering during winter, and is to be
in a temperature of about 60 degs. to 7
Fahr.

It is easily grown, and has been
even to thrive in the shingle on the
It is propagated from seeds sown in a
compost to that used for potting, bu
finer texture and covered with a ve
sprinkling of soil, and placed in a hous
a temperature of about 70 degs. Fahr.
varieties S. iolantha purpurea (purple)
iolantha albescens (white) are also v
tractive.

GAVIN BR

Sweet Peas

These are blooming freely and gro
so rapid that frequent attention is ne
in the guidance of the growths, whic
to themselves, insist on taking any di
other than the one intended for them.
ing has been given in the form of Br
which is clean and almost immova
birds, and water is generously given, w
occasional dose of diluted manure.
blooms must be removed to prevent se
the plants will then continue with their
ful supply of flowers.

Rhododendrons and Azaleas on a north slope in Mr. H. E. Turner's garden at Rock Bank, Tunbridge Wells

wing Tomatoes out-of-doors

vagaries of our English climate are that in certain parts of the country at growing Tomatoes out-of-doors will s be attended with risk. But the hope better season buoys one up, optimism us on to try again, and we make gements for planting out. It is always to wait as long as possible until genial ions prevail, rather than attempt to get out early. May is, in most quarters, too soon to try the experiment, as one against extremes of temperature, mid-unshine and warmth being succeeded osty nights, which, if it does not kill outright, at least cripples them for a In the circumstances, June will be early enough, the plants in the mean-being kept under frames where they can vered at night with mats, if need be. ne having experience with Tomatoes dream of giving them any other posi-han the sunniest, and if a shelter of a or fence can be made use of, so much etter. Were I contemplating putting s out of doors this year, I should choose a position and select the strongest plants f pots at present in my greenhouse. It seless to attempt to plant out small s, "left overs" from the stock of s, and thinking by some sort of coaxing an make up for lost time. Some varie-re of more service for outdoor growing others, and most firms list such, and e right time advertise plants for this cular purpose. In planting, it is well ovide them with something better than ary garden soil, and it will be found ul to dig out a spit or two of it and substitute old loam with a little sand. No manure should be introduced at the time of planting out, stimulants of that character being left until the first truss of fruit has set. Soil charged with manure at the first onset simply predisposes to exuberant growth at the expense of fruit. The single stem system is the only one worth attempting out-of-doors, whatever views we may hold in regard to culture of plants under glass. I advocate the growing of Tomatoes outside, planted as near to a wall or fence as possible, the reason being that heat is reflected from them, and, further, if one has any spare frame lights (and sometimes in the summer these are idle), they can be reared up against the wall, and so a miniature greenhouse is formed and fruit ripens up much quicker. Tomatoes ought to be planted well clear of each other, and nothing should be permitted in front of them likely to impede light or sun. W. F.

Leeks

Those who grew Leeks for the first time last year found that while the Cabbage tribe fell victims to the severe frost and died off, Leeks were affected least. It is this fact which has led many this spring to make a sowing of seed for planting out a larger area. It ought not to be lost sight of that there is very little waste about them; in fact, all the leaves may be cooked. Further, once planted in good ground they are of little trouble, and, what is of equal importance, are not bothered with the fly like Onions. For those who at the moment have a bit of vacant ground and can enrich it with a little manure or vegetable refuse, or, failing these, an approved artificial manure, what is easier to plant than Leeks? You well dig a piece of ground, working in the manure, then draw your line, push your dibber down, and drop in the plants up to the tips of the leaves. That is all. The soil will trickle down the holes and fill up in due course. For a general crop for a family supply you can plant 6 inches or so apart. Plants can now be purchased, and if the ground is made ready they will soon get established and push along. A pinching of the tips of the leaves two or three times between now and November, and liquid-manure given occasionally, will ensure a good serviceable crop of one of the finest vegetables one can have in winter.

W. F.

Young Carrots for winter

There is no difficulty in having a good supply of Carrots in winter. Now is the time to sow for winter supplies, and the best varieties are the stump-rooted kinds, those one usually sows in the early spring, such as Early Nantes, Early Gem, or a Short Horn. These should be sown thinly in well-manured soil, and should the weather be dry it is as well to water to assist the seed to germinate freely. With winter Carrots one must guard against slugs, wireworm, and other pests. The wireworm is one of the worst, and it is well to dress the land before digging, with lime and soot, and in soils with a tendency to wireworm gas-lime should be employed. Wood ashes is a splendid fertiliser if this can be used in quantity, and in heavy clay soils the addition of road scrapings, old mortar rubble, or spent manure is of great value. There need be no fear of the crop failing. Carrots are quite hardy, and they are much sweeter when drawn fresh.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Indian Azaleas

The time has arrived when these, and many other forced shrubs, should be removed from the houses to a sheltered and partially shaded position in the open air, the pots being plunged in a bed of ashes. Growth is almost completed and buds well set, but the plants must not be permitted to become unduly dry at any time; daily syringings are necessary following hot, dry days, and most beneficial, as by this means the troublesome attacks of thrips are kept down. Should the latter present itself, the plants should be laid on their sides and well sprayed with a solution of paraffin soap, at the rate of ¼ pint of the latter to 1 gallon of water. Deciduous forced shrubs should be plunged in ashes in full sunshine and kept well supplied with water. Occasional syringings overhead are beneficial.

Decorative plants

With the exit of all bedding plants, specimens in tubs, etc., which congested the houses for so long, space becomes available for the free and more natural development of those choice subjects which are to provide us with flowers in the near future, such as Liliums, Tuberous Begonias, Verbenas, Hydrangeas, Fuchsias, many lovely annuals, and tuberous-rooted flowers. These should be neatly staked and gracefully arranged in order to be seen at their best, and where conservatories or flowering houses have to be maintained, no harm will result from the introduction of groups of perpetual flowering Carnations for a few weeks, as air may be admitted night and day.

Vineries

Should the heat and bright sunshine become exceptional, it may be advisable to spray the glass lightly with whiting, as this will prevent scorching of the leaves, a not uncommon occurrence following a spell of dull weather. While stagnant conditions of the borders must be avoided at all costs, ample moisture must be given at this season.

Peaches and Nectarines in the open

These have, in spite of the serious late frosts, set fairly well, and are now in process of stoning, so little change will be noticeable during the next few weeks. Established trees growing on south and west walls dry out very quickly and must be amply supplied with moisture, and if the crop is a heavy one, a weekly dose of diluted manure water will assist in swelling the crop. The same applies to Figs and Apricots. Syringe the trees every fine afternoon, driving the water briskly among the foliage and thus prevent the spread of Red Spider and other pests.

Pears

Push forward the thinning of the fruits (a big job this year in some gardens) and avoid over-cropping, for not only does this exhaust good trees, but the fruit is of necessity poor in quality and size. It is scarcely possible to over-water Pear trees carrying a crop.

Mulching

All crops derive great benefit at this season from a liberal mulch, and such should be applied wherever possible, as it not only conserves moisture but proves a labour saver; therefore, mulch with lawn mowings thinly, or even other grass if better material is unavailable. Azaleas, Rhododendrons, and other flowering shrubs such as Lilacs, etc., derive immense benefit from a rough mulch of leaves, Bracken, or grass.

Roses and Clematis

Tie in the shoots weekly and thereby guide them easily into any position, an impossibility when allowed to become entangled. Give abundant supplies of water, especially to those growing at the foot of hot walls, and should Green Fly prove troublesome with the former, spray the plants with Abol or quassia and nicotine wash.

Snowdrops, Belladonna Lily, Sternbergia, Crocus speciosus, Nerine Bowdeni

These and similar subjects may, where necessary, be lifted and divided to form fresh plantations, and to those who do not already possess these charming subjects I would say place your orders without delay and plant in well-drained soil.

Broccoli and Cauliflower

Continue to plant a few of each—as ground becomes available—from the late sowings, especially the valuable purple sprouting varieties of Broccoli, and make the final planting of Celery for late use.

Staking, mulching, and watering

These operations will demand constant attention among growing crops and must, in some instances, be accompanied with frequent applications of liquid manure.

Runner Beans

These must be staked when 1 foot high, and further sowings of dwarf kinds made every fortnight; the same applies to Lettuces of both kinds. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Late Chrysanthemums

If not yet done, the final potting of this important subject should immediately receive attention. Even when only grown for greenhouse or conservatory decoration, and for the production of cut flowers, a very substantial compost is desirable so as to get the best out of the plants. Clean, well-drained pots are essential, while the soil must be rammed very firmly round the roots. Set on a hard bottom in a sunny, yet sheltered, position.

The potting of young Cyclamens

Should the small pots at present occupied be well filled with roots, it will be well to proceed with the shift into the flowering pots. Those 6 inches in diameter are suitable for the stronger specimens, while the 5½-inch and the 5-inch sizes may with advantage be used for the smaller plants. Thoroughly clean and very carefully crocked pots should be used with a compost of the sweetest and most fibrous description procurable. Return to same temperature and water with the greatest care at all times, but more especially for some weeks after potting.

Winter-flowering Begonias

The final potting of these useful subjects should now have attention. The "Lorraine" type make excellent hanging baskets. If decent old plants be placed in 7-inch pots and given a little care, they can in due course be set in wire baskets and hung up in the conservatory or greenhouse. The staking and tying of the other kinds should have attention as soon as required.

Transplant biennials

If still in the seed bed, it will now be necessary to either plant them where they are to flower, which is the best plan, or else in nursery rows. It is so seldom that the first alternative can be followed out that it is
almost useless to mention it. Select
spot in the kitchen garden and se
rows 1 foot apart and the same bet
plants in the rows. This applies to
bury Bells, Wallflowers, and Ca
pyramidalis. The others may be
somewhat closer, the smaller, indee
better in boxes in a cold frame un
enough for planting in the open.

The border Auricula

This dainty early summer dwa
should be lifted, divided, and replant
second, or, at most, third year, and
sent time is well suited for the carr
of this work. Should it be desired
the same site for these plants, it
necessary to remove the top spit and
with fresh soil from one of the v
quarters.

Primulas in the rockery

Such gems as P. nivalis, P. helvet
its Hybrids, P. Juliæ and its Hyb
Cashmireana, etc., should, about
second year, be lifted and fresh soi
duced to the sites they occupy before
replanted.

Keep an eye on the Rose beds

While disbudding is not quite such
item at the beginning of the season
when the second and subsequent "
of bloom begin to develop, still it rea
to give some little attention to the
of reducing the number of buds, whe
are at all crowded. Should the weath
tinue dry, a thorough soaking of clea
at the roots will be most welcome
bushes.

Melons

As the fruits approach the ripenin
very careful watering is necessary.
actual dryness must be guarded agai
freqeuent supplies rather spoil the
and may, at times, cause splitting
fruits.

Turnips

Continue to thin each sowing as it b
fit for this operation, and hoe the soil b
the rows frequently. Another sowing
white and yellow varieties may now be
and even Swedes will still succeed if
at once.

Spring Broccoli

The plants should now be fit for
out in their permanent quarters. The
must be very firm and only very mod
rich. Ground that was well manure
previous crop is suitable and ne
be dug. If planting can be carried o
after rain it will be much easier than
dry weather.

Maincrop Celery

There is still time to plant this ve
portant crop, but no further delay sh
made. Drought is the chief foe
vegetable, so at no time must the soil
roots be permitted to get anything li
Before planting, the trenches should
moistened, as should the soil in wh
plants are growing so that a good ba
be had with each. Another drenching
be given in the evening followin
planting.

Maincrop Leeks

As soon as ever the plants are large
have them set out in their permanen
tions, selecting a well-worked and
manured site for the purpose.
weather watering will be necessary un
plants become established. C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgo

Paper mulching

ould seem that the use of black paper
for various crops is becoming an estab-
practice in America, following on the
obtained by its use in Hawaii, where
first used for the sugar crops. The
ple growers then took it up, and last
per cent. of the Hawaiian Pineapples
produced under paper mulch. The
States Department of Agriculture has
ted itself to the extent of making ex-
nts and issuing a bulletin on the sub-
It is said to smother weeds, provide
trap, showing an average increase of
to 2 degrees over ordinary soil, and pre-
ne soil drying by evaporation. We
speak from experience of the advan-
of paper mulching, about which there
een correspondence in these pages
ny. One writer in the United States
nends the practice for young Rhodo-
ns, Azaleas, and Hollies, not only as
ulant, but also as it eliminates the
of keeping the grass back. For suc-
of crops it is also recommended; for
le, with Beans following early Peas, all
necessary being to pull up the Pea
without disturbing either the paper or
il, and plant the Beans in the 1 inch
paces between the paper strips from
the Peas were pulled up. It is claimed
e same paper can be kept down for
years, with plantings occupying the
l all the season, after only slight pre-
rry soil preparation, and yet the yield
ier than with no paper and the cus-
soil cultivation and preparation. The
d of use appears simple, either by
ng between strips of mulch paper as
examples given, by cutting slits in the
e and putting plants through them, or
ting collars of paper round the plants.

Top-dressing

e is no doubt that where mulching is
cusly carried out it is highly beneficial
flowers, fruit, and vegetation gener-
It should be noted that top-dressing is
in a dual capacity, first for the nourish-
of the plant and secondly to conserve
isture. At the same time, evaporation
great extent prevented by keeping the
en and deeply stirred. We have com-
vely little sun even in favourable sum-
therefore in dealing with a large num-
plants nothing in the shape of non-
ting material, preventing the soil be-
ig warm and inducing rampant sappy
, not good fruit or flowers, should be
on the surface.

lvise the use of the hoe in place of
mulchings, particularly on retentive
riched soils. If it is applied let it be
coating, or take care that the whole
e be not covered, which will allow the
penetrate and aerate the soil. A great
owever, depends on the subject under
tion. Take Violas and Pansies, that
n cool and moist surroundings. They
greatly benefited by covering up the soil
efore the young plants can do so, but
t Pelargoniums or many Dahlias thus
be a gross error, as they would largely
leaf and sappy growth. The Fuchsia,
delights in partial shade and is rather
s feeder, if given a heavy dressing of,
ow manure when bedded out would be
from a flowering point of view.

the case of fruit trees it is certainly
cial to give them support in this man-
hen bearing a heavy crop of fruit, but
ply it without judgment on heavy en-
ground is greatly against the produc-
fruiting wood and leads to the neces-
severe root pruning. F. H.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Baskets of Roses

ROSES in a cut state are always welcome, and a tastefully arranged basket of them constitutes one of the most elegant floral ornaments that can be obtained for the decoration of the drawing-room. Three important points may be urged in their favour. Firstly, Roses will keep fresh for a comparatively long time; secondly, they are not difficult to arrange; thirdly, they can be bought for a small sum, if not growing in one's own garden, and anyone who does possess a garden, large or small, is sure to have Roses. Baskets made of different materials for holding ordinary cut flowers can be bought, but for Roses I prefer those made of glass, as the clear crystal shows up the rich colours of the Roses and their variously tinted foliage better than any other material. In glass baskets the flowers should nestle among Moss instead of sand, which, when seen through the glass, has a bad effect. The arrangement as to colours must be, of course, according to taste. . . . Opinions differ, I know, as to the propriety of mixing Ferns with Roses in preference to their own foliage, but for my own part I prefer their own leaves when the arrangement consists wholly of Roses. If of mixed flowers, then light Ferns might be used with advantage. I need scarcely add that besides Roses there are many other flowers that might be arranged in baskets for the drawing-room, and with excellent effect. . . .—June 28th, 1879.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENTS

A new spud, and the Sproughton rock garden hoe

AT this season, when so many readers are troubled with suckers on Roses, Lilacs, Plums, and on other flowering shrubs, the "Davidson Spud" is in great demand. This little tool, here illustrated (Fig. 1), is splendid for grubbing the suckers out from the base. We also find it useful for lifting Daisies from lawns and dragging them on to the grass to be swept away. It has been called a lazy man's tool; really it is labour-saving. The second illustration shows the new Sproughton hoe for the rock garden. It is just the right little hoe for working among small plants. These tools are made of well-hardened steel and can be fixed on either a long or short handle as desired.

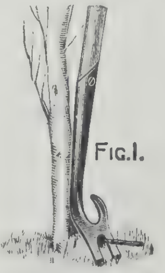
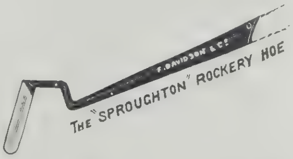


FIG. I.



Seasonal work on Strawberries

ONE of the most important tasks at present is to protect the fruit against birds, slugs, and snails, as neither of these wait until the fruits are ripe. There is no safer plan in protecting the fruit from birds than netting the plantation. When doing this it is best to fix a rough structure of fencing or wire on which to carry the nets, and if this can be fixed high enough to allow one to walk beneath when gathering the fruit and taking runners so much the better. Slugs and snails, which are not so numerous this season as in the past, can be kept in abeyance by scattering a good dusting of soot beneath the foliage. This should be done before bedding down the plants with straw. Hay or other rubbish should not be used, as it tends to cause the fruit to rot. Strawberries are surface-rooting and suffer seriously during dry spells, so water should be given in abundance if the plants appear to wilt. If they have been well fed with artificial and other manures during spring and up to the present it is not advisable to give them any more, as it is liable to give the fruits a peculiar taste.

Where plants are required for forcing purposes the runners must be taken early from yearling plants that have been kept for the purpose and have not been allowed to bear fruit. They may be layered directly into their fruiting pots, which I have found to be better than repotting them later on. Pots 6 inches in diameter should be well drained and filled to 1 inch of the rim with good chipped fibrous loam to which has been added a 5-inch potful of each of the following to each bushel of soil:—Bone-meal, old mortar-rubble, and wood-ash or very old soot. These should be well mixed together and put in a heap on the potting bench, covered with sacks, and allowed to remain for a week or so before using.

Worms are liable to enter the pots while standing on the bed, but these can be dislodged by using clear lime-water when bringing in the plants to the frame yard, which will also benefit the plants and sweeten the soil at the same time. The first runner only should be taken, and not more than two from each plant. These should be pegged firmly into the centre of the pot, afterwards pinching the leader. When taking runners for planting they may be pegged into small squares of turf, which should be turned upside down and set in the bed to the ground-level or into 60-size pots filled with the above compost.

As beds after three years' cropping are not profitable it is a good thing to make one new bed or extend the old one by several rows each year, discarding many of the old plants. These should be chopped out as soon as the fruit has been gathered. The best site for a new bed that I know is that which was trenched and well manured for early Peas. This need not be dug, but lightly forked over, and all will be in readiness for planting, which is best done during August. Two feet 6 inches between the rows and 2 feet between the plants is a fair distance to allow.

W. E. WRIGHT.

Vermin on wall trees

Cherries, Plums, and Apricots, in particular, are liable to be attacked by various destructive insects, so it is desirable, as soon as the pests are noticed, to have these trees well syringed. Should the attack be serious, a suitable insecticide should be used, making sure that all foliage and shoots are thoroughly wetted with the solution. As with Peaches, dryness at the roots very frequently does considerable harm to the crops. A soaking of water and then a mulch of long manure spread all over the ground where the roots are will help matters considerably.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FRUIT

Apple insects

(Hurtmore).—Your tin duly arrived and contained quite a collection of insects. The weevils are Phyllobius sp. This weevil feeds on the foliage of the Apple during May and June. The females lay their eggs in the soil, and the resulting maggots feed on the roots, and continue to do so until spring, when they pupate. You will kill large numbers of the weevil grubs if you fork in crude naphthalene at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard. The material should be forked in 6 inches deep, and should be applied in October. We found three kinds of caterpillar, viz., the Mottled Umber, the Winter Moth, and the Dunbar Moth. The first, a dark-coloured looper, brightly coloured, is a common one on Apples; the second is also a looper, but is green and generally feeds within a leaf or two spun together. The third is the largest of the three, green, with a pale head and one white line running down the back. It is not a looper. The caterpillar of the Dunbar Moth does feed on Apple foliage, but is, in the main, a cannibal, and feeds largely on the caterpillar of Winter Moth. You can do little now to control the pests, because they are practically fully fed, and most of the specimens sent have now turned into chrysalids. The naphthalene advised above will kill some of the pests in the chrysalid form in the soil. Grease-band your trees in the autumn and remove the bands in late March and burn. The main stems of the trees should then be thickly covered with lime-wash. When the Apples are in the "pink bud" stage next spring spray with the following:—Lime sulphur, 3 pints; lead arsenate paste, ½ lb.; water, 10 gallons.

Green Almonds

In Covent Garden last week I saw a basket of English-grown unripe Almonds, and I should be much obliged if you can tell me what they are used for. JEM

[The Almonds are opened with a knife and the kernels eaten as nuts for dessert.]

Pear Leaf Blister Mite

(J. Worthington).—The specimens sent for examination are affected with Pear Leaf Blister Mite, which is caused by the mite, Eriophyes pyri. This pest is very common in the southern half of England, but is not common in the northern portion. The best method of control is to spray the trees during the dormant season. In cases of bad infestation two sprayings are advisable, the first to be given as soon as the leaves have dropped in autumn and the second in late February. The Ministry of Agriculture Leaflet No. 239 gives the following mixture:—Paraffin oil, 1 gallon; soft-soap, 1½ lbs. to 2 lbs.; water, 10 gallons. The soap is first dissolved in 1 gallon of boiling water. The soap solution is then removed from the fire and the paraffin at once added, the whole being well mixed by squirting the liquid back into itself with a hand syringe. The strong emulsion may be kept until required for use, when the remaining 9 gallons of water should be added and the whole thoroughly stirred—or better, mixed as before with a hand syringe.

Diseased Walnut

(Juglans).—Incubation of the material sent for examination has failed to produce a fungus which could be responsible for the damage to the shoots of your Walnut. We conclude that the cause of the trouble must be lower down. From your description of the site where the tree is growing it appears likely that the roots of the tree are in a bad condition, and we cannot advise on any treatment of the site without a personal inspection, which is, of course, impossible. Is the tree getting enough water? Why not apply to your Advisory Service for advice? You should, in the first instance, write to the Professor of Agriculture, The University, Leeds, stating the trouble. A horticultural officer will probably be sent to examine the tree and give you his opinion. This service will be at no cost to yourself.

Cherries withering

(Cherry Stone).—The Cherries appear to be imperfectly fertilised. Are other varieties growing near to provide different pollen?

VEGETABLES

Fruit Rot of Tomato

(P. R., Durham).—Your Tomatoes are affected with Rhizoctonia Fruit Rot. During the winter the spores of the fungus live in the soil, and all your efforts at clearing the house are useless if you omit to deal with the spores in the soil. As the disease appears to be bad in your houses you should sterilise the soil with formaldehyde, using a 2 per cent. solution, *i.e.*, 1 gallon of the chemical added to 49 gallons of water. Fifty gallons of solution are needed for 18 square yards, and it should be applied six weeks before planting. After the house is planted up next year and the plants are getting away well give a soaking of Cheshunt Compound applied at 4 pints per square yard. All diseased fruit should be removed and burned, and please make sure that your water tanks are thoroughly cleaned out and sterilised.

Nineheaded Broccoli

Please tell an old subscriber how to treat the Nineheaded Broccoli after cutting off one crop. I presume I can look forward to another crop. How am I to trim the stalk? Also my Six Weeks Cauliflower plants have nearly all been attacked by the little white grubs, in spite of the creosote and sand which I put round the plants. L. F. J.

[The stems, from which the various heads are cut, are trimmed back and the plants make new growth. They produce a further crop next season, but should be well fed with liquid-manure in spring after growth starts. The Cabbage-root grub is very troublesome this year and is difficult to deal with. Watering the plants with 1 oz. of Hellebore Powder well stirred into a gallon of water is, usually, effective in checking the pests. In planting all Brassicas the roots and stems should be coated with soot. Make the soot into a thick liquid with water and dabble roots and stems in this.]

ROSES

Rose Rust

(Tavy).—Your Rose is affected wi
Rust, which is caused by the fungus
midium subcorticium, Wint. This
produces three distinct types of spores
the season. The first type is prod
spring, another type is produced i
and some authorities hold the view t
June type serves to spread the diseas
wider area. The third type of spore
duced in autumn and does not ge
until the following spring, and t
serves to carry the fungus over the
All the diseased portions should be c
and burned. After this has been d
bushes should be thoroughly sprayed
solution of liver of sulphur, using
the chemical in 2 gallons of wate
3 ozs. of soft-soap. Dissolve the
sulphur in another lot of hot water a
mix both fluids together; finally mak
2 gallons with soft water. Repeat
ting out and spraying as often as is ne
to obtain control. In the autumn a
Rose leaves should be raked up and b

Rose on south wall

(F. Mordaunt).—It will be of advan
the Rose if you remove a portion of th
wood at the present time, as the
strength of the plant will be then div
the development of the young growth,
should be trained in in sufficient qua
furnish the wall. During the winter
spring months run over the Rose aga
ting away the tips of unripened growt
spurring back strong side shoots not
for extension purposes to five or six e
portion of the older wood, providing
good health, should be left each year.

FLOWER GARDEN

Lupins

(E. G. H.).—The leaves sent w
withered and broken when they reac
that we are quite unable to make anyt
them. Late frosts this season cause
siderable damage to many hardy plan
start into growth early, and it is conc
that it is this that has caused the troub
your Lupins.

Lupin flowers dropping

(C. Lake).—It is impossible for us t
the cause of your Lupin flowers dr
without the opportunity of examining
plete plant. From your description it
appear that some root trouble is the
of the flowers dropping. If this be th
you can do nothing to arrest the troubl
of taking up the plants affected and d
ing them. Healthy plants growing
should be watered with a soluti
Cheshunt Compound.

Iris inquiries

(W. P. I., Durham).—Yes, there are
named varieties of the Regelio-cyclus
Nine of the best are Charon,
Clytemnestra, Isis, Osiris, Perse
Psyche, Saturnus, and Una. The
Crusader is not of this section, it is a
flowering Bearded Iris, requiring the
treatment as the common sun-loving,
Flag Iris.

Iris seedlings

(J. B., Wareham).—The flowers d
arrive in very good condition, but so
we have been able to see them,
the Petunia red variety, bears some
blance to Ed. Michel. No. 2 re
us of Tomtit. The other flowers we
far gone to form an opinion. We
think, however, that there is any great
for any of these varieties. They

us as being distinct or an advance on g varieties. Every raiser, of course, discard thousands of seedlings. The you sent are not to be compared with w seedlings that Miss Insole was g at the recent Iris show.

ge to Water Lilies

P. C. L.).—The water vole (water rat) onsible for the damage done, and you trap him down you will get no lowers. He burrows into the banks waterside, eating the roots of plants using the banks to give way. When ed he will dive under the water and along for some distance before showmself again, although he can only ren underneath the surface for a few s. Spring traps set in shallow water e edge will secure him, and so will a shotgun, but to get him with the gun cessary to keep observation for a time. 8 p.m. is an excellent time to get these ders.

or Pansy

dener, Mon.).—The flower sent is a

TREES AND SHRUBS

num Parkeri

.—We are obliged to you for sending us of this distinct and very pretty dwarf me. The writer possesses a small plant, owth here is very slow. Such charminty bloom is, however, worth a little e. This little shrub strikes easily uttings inserted in sandy soil in Sep and kept in a cool, closed frame.

ft hybrid

lly tell me what has happened in the ng case of a parasite plant in another. lant in question is an ordinary yellow num tree about the usual size. Pracll all over it is growing what seems to t be a kind of Pink Broom (I do not it is Rest Harrow) which is practically ng the whole tree. Both the parasite e Laburnum flower together, and the is rather odd. C. G. P.

bury.

[specimen sent by our correspondent that of the Common Laburnum, but num Adami, the well-known graft , to which reference has been made in issues. The same tree, and even the branch, bears racemes of both yellow rple flowers, and sometimes flowers of l purple, the curious tufts of the s suggesting Wiche's Brooms. This vas raised in 1825 by grafting the Broom, Cytisus purpureus, on a mon Laburnum. The flowers are]

MISCELLANEOUS

ultural student

G. Chapman).—The Royal Horticul Society admits young men to study ing at Wisley. They are trained in branches of horticulture, both in the and under glass, and are also well led in elementary chemistry, biology, n entrance fee of five guineas is the harge, but students arrange their own and lodging. If you write to the ary of the R.H.S., Vincent Square, n, S.W., asking for particulars, a ctus will be sent you.

e slime in pond

Card).—Your trouble is due to Flannel which usually becomes troublesome in ater, but which gives little trouble a free inlet and outlet exists which the water on the move. Perhaps you increase the circulation. The remedy is copper sulphate, of which you will require about 1 oz. This should be placed in a muslin bag and drawn through the water until dissolved, and should the trouble reappear repeat the process in a month's time. The copper sulphate should in no way injure the Lilies or affect any fish but trout.

Stinging plants

Could you say whether the stings of Loasas tricolor and volcanica are likely to be dangerous as well as annoying, or is the effect temporary like that of our native Nettle? G. H. S.

[They are not, as a rule, dangerous, but people vary so much in their reaction to such stings that it is better to avoid them.]

Myrtle in Royal bridal bouquets

In the "Life of King Edward VII.," published by Nelson, it is stated that the bridal bouquet of Queen Alexandra was made up of Orange blossoms, white Rose-buds, Orchids, and sprigs of Myrtle, the latter being taken from the same bush as that from which the Myrtle used in the Princess Royal's bridal bouquet was cut. Would it be likely that this bush was grown from a similar cutting from Queen Victoria's bridal bouquet? Perhaps some of your readers will know the history of this Myrtle. ULSTER.

[This inquiry has been passed on to Mr. T. H. Cook, The Royal Gardens, Sandringham, who kindly replies:—We have two Myrtles which were raised from "sprigs" taken from Queen Alexandra's bridal bouquet, but I have no knowledge, neither has anyone here, where they were obtained, and have not heard they were cuttings taken from the Myrtle used in Queen Victoria's bouquet.]

Turf for examination

(J. Worthington).—The turf sample has been examined, and the cause of the trouble is soil acidity. Under acid conditions certain species of grasses die out; other species are not so affected. The result of this is that the field becomes covered with rough grass of low feeding value and all the finer grasses die out. Your best plan will be to give the field a dressing of quicklime at the rate of 1 ton per acre in early autumn. Any dead patches of grass should be well raked or harrowed before application. Follow the lime treatment by giving an equal mixture of kainit and basic slag at the rate of 8 cwts. per acre. This mixture should be given in late autumn.

Weevil for name

(K. M. Rankin).—The weevil sent is that known as the Pine Weevil, Hylobius abietis, L. This weevil attacks many kinds of young forest trees and is a great pest of many trees. Douglas Fir, Scots Pine, Larch, Japanese Larch, Weymouth Pine, etc., etc., are commonly attacked. If you write to the Forestry Commission, 22, Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1, for a copy of the Leaflet No. 1, Pine Weevils, you would obtain much information with regard to the control and life history of Hylobius. We believe the leaflet is issued free of charge.

Caterpillar for identification

(Scot).—The grub sent in is that of the Cockchafer (Melolontha vulgaris). The life-history of this pest is as follows:—The adults fly during May and June, being active during the evening and sluggish by day. The female burrows into the soil and lays her eggs about the roots of plants. After six weeks the eggs hatch and the grubs begin to feed, but no great damage is apparent until the following summer, during which plants are frequently killed outright by the grubs eating the entire root-system. Feeding is continued for several years, then the grubs pupate in the soil and the adults appear the following summer. The best control for chafer grub is naphthalene applied at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard. Spring is, perhaps, the best time for application, and the maximum result is obtained if the material is applied prior to rain. The fact that only British-grown plants are affected is only a coincidence, the adult Cockchafer being very common in and around London.

Auto cultivation in the garden

Can any of your subscribers, especially those private owners of gardens who try "to make a private garden pay its way," give me their experiences, good or bad, with pros and cons, of any form of auto cultivator or motor plough? I have found, for a Scottish garden, such value in a motor mower and in other labour-saving devices, that I am contemplating investing in something of the above sort. A. D. G. G.

Châlet Theiler, Gstaad, Switzerland.

[Some time ago, it may be remembered, there was a rather animated discussion in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED concerning the use of the horse plough in private gardens. The conclusion arrived at was that while in theory the use of the plough might be commendable, in practice its use was to be deprecated. It appears that much the same reasoning can be applied to the use of a mechanically propelled plough or cultivator. Briefly, in the majority of gardens, and owing to the presence of fruit trees, a considerable area would, of necessity, have to be cultivated by means of the spade. Further, the breaks are not, generally speaking, so unwieldy in size that the employment of a motor plough would be profitable. Such an implement would entail a heavy initial expense, and it is worthy of consideration whether that outlay would not pay for spade cultivation over a series of years. Again, the soil in a garden is, as a rule, soft, and the weight of a motor plough, even of the lightest effective type, would undoubtedly be a handicap. The querist refers to the value of the motor mower, but the cases are not on all fours. It must be remembered that lawns are usually of some extent and, above all, that the surface is firm. Admittedly gardeners are a very conservative body of craftsmen; yet, had the plough, whether motor or horse, been practicable, there is no doubt that it would have long ago been in use. Having thus summed up generally, "A Scottish Gardener" is in a position to furnish a personal experience. "Less than a dozen years ago, during the shortage of labour, a small motor cultivator was procured. Doubtless such implements have since then been much improved. My own experience was sufficiently depressing and, I may add, enlightening. From beginning to end it was a disappointment—the portions cultivated were turned over at unequal depths and the work when finished was a positive eyesore. A neighbour who came to see the work with a view to purchasing a similar implement was frankly scornful. His exact words were: 'That! It looks as if a sow had been "**plowtering**" (*i.e.*, rooting) in the ground!' And there were not infrequent delays owing to the implement getting out of order—and this continued even after the operator had gained a certain amount of confidence and experience. To tell the truth, we wore out the patience of a very patient chauffeur, and in the end the motor cultivator was relegated to the tool house, where it rusts ignominiously. On the whole then, and from my point of view, honestly given, the querist will find that in the garden the spade is ultimately the best and the cheapest method of cultivating the soil. I ought, perhaps, to add that I refer to a garden of the customary size attached to an estate, one which runs to—all over, and including fruit and vegetable breaks—from 3 acres to 4 acres. Conceivably, and in much larger gardens and where tidiness is not a *sine quâ non*, a motor cultivator might be profitably used. But, as we Scots say, 'I hae my doots!'—A Scottish Gardener."]

Various queries

(T. G. R. N. N.).—Your plant sent for name is Limnanthes Douglasii, a very showy hardy annual. Your Tomato trouble is due to Rhizoctonia Fruit Rot. Please see reply to P. R., Durham, in this issue. The Rose disease is due to Rose Rust, and for this you must cut away all affected portions and burn. Spray the bushes with a weak solution of liver of sulphur.

Soil sample

(I. Jackson).—The trouble with your soil is soil acidity, and we do not think that mixing chalk or lime with the material would enable you to grow good plants in it. The best plan, of course, would be to treat the turf before it is lifted by applying quicklime at the rate of 1 lb. per square yard, followed by an equal mixture of basic slag and kainit at the rate of 6 ozs. per square yard. After these manures had had time to work, the material should be fit for pot plants, but at least a year is required, and two would be better. If you have a stack of the turf cut, the only treatment of any use would be to mix a good sprinkling of lime with it and allow the material to rot another year. When using the treated material a little steamed bone flour and sulphate of potash should be added to the mixture when making a potting soil. Cheshunt Compound can be applied direct to most plants, but we do not think that the material would assist you to any great extent. Your trouble is due to lack of lime in the soil, and the lime has been absent long enough to set up a serious condition of soil acidity, and until this condition is removed the soil must be to a great extent infertile. There are many acres of land in your district in a like condition.

NAMES OF PLANTS

G.—1, Rose Mme. Hoste; 2, Jasminum primulinum; 3, not recognised, flowers smashed; 4, Rosa Harrisonii; 5, not recognised; 6, Rose Mrs. Sharman Crawford; 7, too poor a specimen to name; 8, Rosa rugosa Mrs. Anthony Waterer; 9, cannot name from such a poor example; 10, Rose Reine Marie Henriette; 11, Rosa rugosa; 12, Rosa Pimpinellifolia; 13, possibly R. Moyesii, but flower almost beyond recognition. Kindly read rules for naming plants.

A. E. P.—Astrantia biebersteini.

H. Simons.—1, Dianthus hyssopifolius; 2, Hieracium aurantiacum.

E. F., Hereford.—1, Saxifraga Cotyledon; 2, S. Gaudinii; 3, Polygonum Bistorta superbum; 4, Salvia pratense var. Tenori.

C. Stevens.—Scilla peruviana.

F. S. Poole.—1, The Gladwin Iris (I. fœtidissima); 2, Spiræa japonica var. Bumalda.

C. H. P.—5, Tradescantia virginica or Spiderwort. The Irises were all over and could not be named.

F. W., Ealing.—The yellow Rose is Rosa Harrisonii, introduced from America by Harrison, 1830, and now common in gardens, especially cottage gardens in Sussex, as you have observed.

Grant.—1, Trifolium alpinum; 2, Saxifraga primuloides; 3, Campanula Bowles' Hybrid; 4, Sedum spathulifolium.

A. C.—Lonicera pileata.

A. E. P.—1 and 2, Lilium Martagon, good forms; 3, L. M. album. The former are worth about 10s. 6d. per dozen, and bulbs of the white Martagon might fetch about 2s. 6d. each.

Dublin.—1, Dictamnus (Fraxinella) albus; 2, Allium Moly (the Golden Garlic).

A. M. Whitmore.—1, Syringa villosa; 2, Borecole var. Asparagus.

Belbroughton.—Not Clematis Mrs. Hope, which has satiny-mauve flowers with very broad, overlapping sepals. The variety may be Blue Gem, but flower much withered.

Yarb.—1, Viburnum opulus; 2, Potentilla Farreri; 3, Clematis Belle Nantaise; 4, Lupinus, Paynei hybrid, True Blue; 5, Sequoia gigantea (Wellingtonia).

British Delphinium Society

The first show of the British Delphinium Society is being held at the R.H.S. new hall on July 5th. Taking the entries already received, it is estimated that there will be over 10,000 spikes of bloom on which to feast the eye, and to all Delphinium lovers the show will be well worth a visit.

This is a new Society, started in September last, and it immediately secured enthusiastic support from the leading growers in the trade as well as from numbers of amateurs.

The objects of the Society are not only to increase the interest already taken in the culture of this very popular flower, but also to provide a medium for the dissemination of information regarding its development and classification. This is being done in various ways, and the Society's activities will, of course, be greatly increased as its position becomes stronger. Already the Society has undertaken the compilation of a Register, which will secure, *inter alia*, the elimination of inferior varieties, and it is about to tackle the difficult question of classification.

The amateur grower is soon made aware of the fact that there is a singular dearth of literature on the subject, and the Society hopes to meet this by the publication in its Year Book of articles by experts on various aspects of Delphinium culture, and by the collation of information which will eventually supply the material for a standard work on the subject.

Thus the work of the Society will tend to a general raising of the standard of cultivation, and in this the amateur is primarily interested and should, therefore, support the Society.

Expert advice can be obtained by members either through the columns of this paper or from the Hon. Secretary.

LATE REPLIES

Oil cask

(Mrs. Eleanor Pain).—If you skim off the scum on the surface, you may use the water without doing much harm, but should not pour it over the foliage of any plant. Eventually the disagreeable scum and smell will disappear.

Violas

("Tweenways").—Unfortunately, there is nothing unusual in seemingly healthy Viola plants dying off suddenly, and it is difficult to exactly state the reason for their doing so. It is, however, most prevalent where the plants have been grown on the same ground over a series of years. Indeed, it is almost imperative to provide a fresh site every year for this plant.

Bindweed

(H. F. R. M.).—Constant pulling up of the shoots will eventually kill out the Bindweed, but this is a slow process, and frequent hoeing is easier and equally effective. In both cases it will take a little time to entirely rout the enemy. Should you only have a small
piece of ground affected, a layer of n
or even of half rotted leaves, 9 in
12 inches thick, spread all over the
and trodden down hard will within
kill them out. This is, of course, im
on a large scale.

Annuals

(Mrs. A. J. Brdley-Dyne).—We ca
suggest that in future you sow your
seeds earlier in the season so that th
come established before the heat becor
great. If Poppies fail to germinate w
week there is seldom any chance o
ever doing so.

Ants eating Lily buds

(W. G. B.).—Tie a fair sized piece of
wool round the stems of your Liliums
ing the wool as loose and fluffy as p
on the lower side. The ants have grea
culty in crawling over this and will
soon desist.

Pyrethrum

(Ignoramus).—We notice that
Thompson and Morgan, seed spec
Norwich, offer Pyrethrum atrosangu
which they describe as "several dark
son varieties." This may meet your r
ments.

Seakale

(R. M. R.).—We presume you refer
flower-stems sent up by your Seakale
These should be cut off as soon as th
pear, for by permitting them to rema
crowns would be seriously weakened.
a good plan to cut out all the small sid
in early spring, for when this is do
flower-stems are prevented and the
crowns are much strengthened.

Viburnum tomentosum

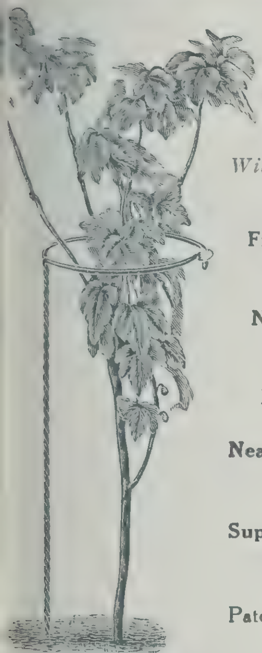
(R. S.).—Viburnum tomentosum
species, or mother plant, and V. t. pl
is a sterile variety with showy an
beautiful flowers. The mother shrub
handsome indeed, and so is another
called Mariesii, but for a small garden
var. plicatum is much the best. Eith
be obtained from Messrs. Waterer, Son
Crisp, The Nurseries, Bagshot, Surrey.

Keeping a pond from becoming sta

(Kenneth Blundell).—A free circulat
the water is the best means of overc
this trouble, and if you could increas
inlet and outlet you would soon obse
improvement. Apart from this we kn
no other method of destroying Flannel
other than by the use of sulphate of c
This would neither destroy the Water
or any fish other than trout. $2\frac{1}{2}$ o
copper sulphate is sufficient for 10,000
of water, and should be drawn throu
latter in a muslin bag until dissolved
have no knowledge of the water wee
refer to.

Callirhoe digitata

(R. S.).—Mostly natives of North Am
the Poppy Mallows are perennial in c
ter, although often treated as half
annuals. C. digitata grows about 2
high, producing numerous Popp
magenta flowers about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches a
shading to greenish-white towards the
each one branching out on a long, s
stalk, the foliage being light and deepl
The seeds should be sown in pans of
soil in March and raised in a temperat
55 degs. to 60 degs., transplanting the
seedlings in the open in April, or they m
sown outdoors in April. Ordinary ligh
soil suits them best. So far we have
unable to find seeds of this plant listed,
is possible that Messrs. Thompson
Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich, could
you.



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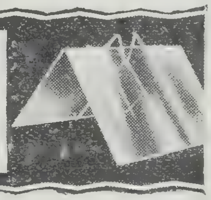

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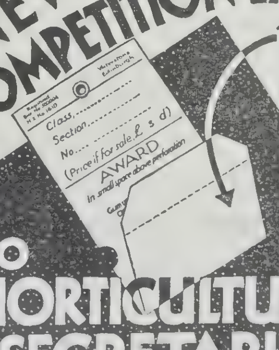
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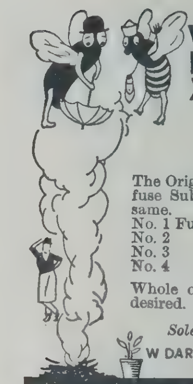

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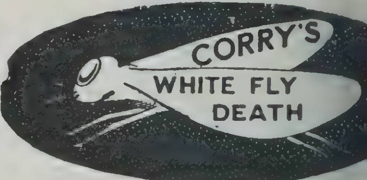

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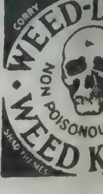

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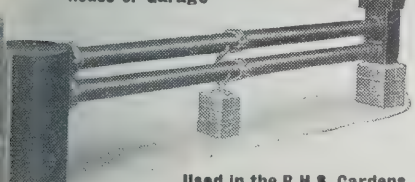

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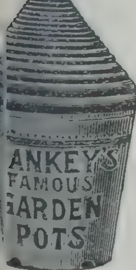

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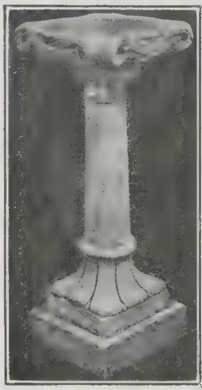

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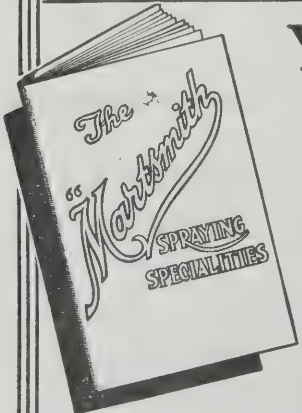

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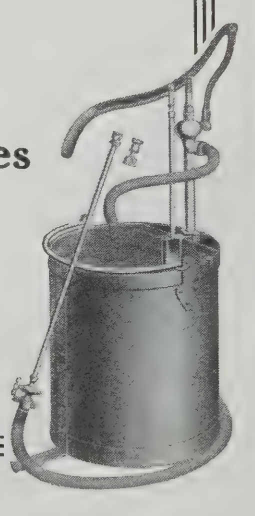

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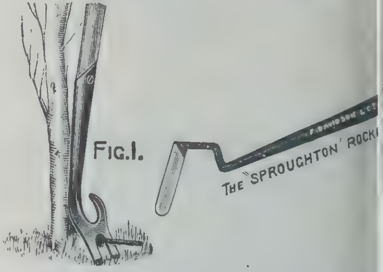

FIG. I.

"This little tool, here illustrated (Fig. 1 abov
splendid for grubbing the suckers out from the
We also find it useful for lifting Daisies from lawn
dragging them on to the grass to be swept away.
been called a lazy man's tool; really it is labour-sa
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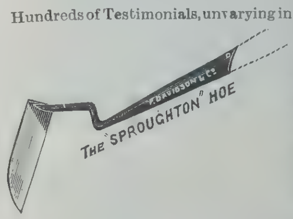

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close to
around Rose
other plants
has many a
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2626—VOL. LI. JULY 6, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

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The First Roses of 1929

E system of pruning one-third of each sh or Rose tree early, one-third mid-ason, and one-third late, as advocated ge 159 of the issue of March 9th, has ollowed here. The dry, hard winter ted not only root development, but the es from hydrating a sufficiency of de-es or sap, and at pruning time it was see which shoots were likely to start quickly and which would be backward, t it was not difficult to prune to the tions given in March. As soon as the rost had melted oil completely, od soaking of was given in to wash and out all the ous matter in il, which work e naturally in a l season by rains. This ng helped the es to make sap e buds to plump The usual thin-ut was carried rly in May, and rst Rose cut ay 31st. The eek in June a r were cut, the and third weeks ne early Roses r zenith. Sixty were out on 9th, 100 on the 5 on the 21st, on the 22nd; from 80 bushes ndards. So far 400 Roses, with r 300 visible, will be spread he next fort- and another ll later, is the

This is an average of over 10 Roses ant, spread over from May 31st to ly. Many of the buds of the second s are well advanced, and by mid-July be in full flower, so that there will break in the continuity of bloom hout the whole season. The results have been particularly good. Con-g that only 25 Roses were planted last the spring, and that the majority eeled in in November, 1927, in sixes ees together, grown like that through nd only planted out in March and 929, with the exception of a few new standards and bushes, the results are remarkable. Coming from a strong clay soil to a light, sandy loam which cannot stand a drought, it just shows how accommodating the Rose is. The singles had the buds disbudded to one only, and Isabel and K. of K. have been superb. Mrs. Henry Morse, with Mrs. Chas. Lamplough, have been huge and lovely, nearly 6 inches across. Golden Emblem has been large and grand. Augustus Hartmann, Château de Clos Vougeot, large and wonderful in colour, Florence Izzard and Mabel Morse very good and with deep colour, Dame Edith Helen superb, Shot Silk small, but the plants are very small and weak. They are gaining strength now. The General has been a marvel, 18 large, fine, beautifully shaped and coloured blooms from one bush. The first six spread over a week, the next six blooms all out together, now at their best, with six more to flower within the next 10 days. The old favourite, George Dickson, has never been quite so fine, huge in size, grandly shaped, and superb colour, vivid blood-crimson, with not a vestige of bluing. Mrs. H. Stevens very beautiful, Marcia Stanhope not yet in flower, Betty Uprichard moderate, Alexander Emsley wonderful, Los Angeles and Independence Day good, Lady Hillingdon rather pale, weak plants, now getting strong. Of the new standards, Etoile de Hollande has been grand and huge. What a glorious deep tone of colour. Geo. Howarth fair only; as a maiden it was too grossly grown. Julia Countess of Dartrey has so far given two good blooms and two more are to come, all from three bushes, two of which outrival Geo. Dickson in robustness of growth. One bush is 6½ feet high, the other 5 feet high and 5 feet broad, a mass of strong growth and wonderful foliage, though well thinned out in May, and very few flowers. Will more develop later? And will the laterals give autumn blooms? With new Roses only experience and time can answer the questions. So easy to grow, but how to cover with blooms it still remains to find out.

C. A. JARDINE.

Rose Elisa Robichon

Notes of the Week

Flowers and gardens at the 1930 Stockholm Exhibition

A WEALTH of flowers, such as has never before been seen in Sweden, and a large number of model gardens will form prominent features of the big Stockholm Exhibition of arts, crafts, and ideal homes to be opened in May, 1930. Practically all leading garden experts of Sweden will exhibit, and many have begun their preparations more than a year ahead. The architects of the Exhibition have at their disposal what is said to be the most picturesque site ever occupied by a display of this kind—a beautiful bay with wooded shores within the precincts of Djurgaarden, the ancient royal deer park of Stockholm, a district formerly belonging to the domains of the Swedish kings.

This Exhibition, which will be Sweden's

predominant attraction in 1930, is already arousing widespread interest abroad. A number of conducted tours from various countries are being organised, and the Stockholm hotels, which are preparing to meet a big international invasion, have already received reservations for visitors from abroad.

Omphalodes cappadocica

O. cappadocica will grow almost anywhere in partial shade and in a nice friable mixture of loam and leaf-soil. It is not, admittedly, so dazzlingly lovely as O. Luciliæ, but it is sweetly pretty—a charming arrangement of loosely set sprays of Forget-me-not flowers, less than 12 inches high, and appearing in spring. It is a fine plant for colonising on the shaded parts of the rock garden or in a shady border. Ralph E. Arnold.

Staking

This is important where quantities of Peas and Beans are grown, and should be carried out before the former reach 8 inches in height, otherwise squatting will take place. In the case of Runner Beans it is advisable to tie up the shoots at first where they do not take kindly to the stakes. All must be abundantly supplied with moisture and an occasional watering, with stimulants, will prove beneficial to heavy laden rows of Peas. Damping overhead is of immense benefit if carried out during the evening.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

A proposed Rock Garden Society

In view of the suggestion made by Sir William Lawrence, in the issue of June 22nd, that a Society be formed in connection with rock gardening, and in view of the caustic remarks of "S. I. B." concerning rock gardens at Chelsea (page 444 in issue of June 29th), a revival of the rock garden controversy may be expected. In such a case may I, too, offer a few remarks upon the subject from the point of view of the ordinary, everyday, all-round gardener, who is responsible for supplies of fruit, of flowers, of pot plants, of vegetables, and for the upkeep of lawns, tennis courts, croquet greens, shrubberies, and grounds, with, in most cases, a strictly limited number of helpers? The rock garden, when all is said and done, may not incorrectly be described as the hobby of the specialist or of the dilettante. In either case it is the be-all and end-all; other work must be subordinated to its requirements—and they are not few. Admittedly one of the most pleasing forms of gardening, the rock garden has assumed proportions altogether beyond its definite value; it has caused more controversy and more heated discussion than even the historic case of Rosa laxa as a stock! With the dilettante I am not greatly concerned. For him the rock garden is a toy, or a solace for spare hours. With the specialist, or quasi-specialist, the case is different. To be effective a rock garden must be of considerable area, and, as all of us well know, some of us to our sorrow, the work is never-ending. Unfortunately, even the specialist is, as a rule, none too keen to provide the needful labour. To maintain even a moderately-sized rock garden in anything like decent —not to say perfect—order where other work must be carried on is no easy task and, at times, leads to rawness of temper and of discouragement to the person who, after all, is ultimately responsible for its upkeep and who has to shoulder the blame for inevitable failures.

I have, particularly, in mind a very elaborate rock garden which was, some years ago, made in the West of Scotland by a leading English exponent of this type of work, and at vast expense. When it was finished it was handed over to the gardener as a "going concern," but without any augmentation of his not too large staff. Last year I saw it, and to my gratification a prophecy I ventured to make when I saw it fresh from the needle had been fulfilled. The more robust plants—the "weed-hiders"—had been encouraged at the expense of the choicer subjects, which had practically disappeared—Rock Roses, Barberries, Thymes, Potentillas, Veronicas, Phloxes, Sedums, Gypsophilas, Pinks, and so forth were in great and unkempt drifts, and the early promise had disappeared for ever. Well do I know that other gardeners can give similar instances. Fired by the "Chelsea rock gardens," many owners of gardens, smitten by the fashionable fever (who will dispute that, at the moment, the rock garden is "fashionable"?), have embarked on rock gardening without at all realising to what they have committed themselves—and to what they have committed their unfortunate gardeners harassed by a multiplicity of other work. I have known instances in which a gardener has been told that the rock garden will entail no extra work upon him. "We are going to look after it ourselves." That means, of course, until the novelty has worn off—until the weeds, spent blooms, and deaths begin to be troublesome. The beginning of the end is then at hand. "We are going from
—will you give an eye to the rock gar
After that it is an appanage of the gar
ever and a day; and, occasionally, one
or overhears, the regretful remark:
not nearly so nice as when we looked
ourselves." These are facts. I must
held as disparaging rock gardens. I
place they are very attractive and most
esting, and they provide a source of r
for deserving nurserymen, quarrym
railway companies, and haulage contr
So far they justify their existence.
none of them harm, but, rather, good
I do wish that they had to look afte
combined efforts when the work is com
I am well aware that these notes
little, if any, value; but there are tw
to every question, and I am sure I
ceive some modicum of support fro
fellow craftsmen in these views.

A Scottish Garde

Rose Goldfinch on a pillar

—— Sir Wm. Lawrence's suggesti
page 428 of your number of June 22nd
ing that it is time we had a Rock
Society, should be welcomed by all rock
growers—both amateur and profession

Many an amateur might save hims
or two years' often useless experimen
certain plants if he could have the me
seeing them and the grower at a spec
hibition at the Hall.

The "trade" also would benefit by
brought into touch with any new hyb
worthy introductions emanating from
sources.

Of course, the great trouble would
fixing of a date, or even two or three
for a show. It is a rather different p
tion from an Iris or Rose Show. But
I think any meetings of a Rock
Society would be enthusiastically atte

4, *Fitzroy Street, W. 1.* John W

—— Permit me to join in the expr
of approval of the suggestion of Sir W
Lawrence for the formation of a Roc
den Society. There is now ample ro
such, and it would serve a most usef
pose if formed and carried on as it cou

S. Arn

—— I think the suggestion in your
excellent in every way. Anyone can
rock garden. From the 3-inch pot
Grand Canyon is only a matter of size,
wonder no one has thought of the
before. Ernest Di

Putney.

Hesperis

Being interested in notes *re* Hespe
your paper, I send you a few spikes fo
inspection. (Excellent blooms.—Ed.)
find no difficulty in growing it here, a
always get fair results. The following
may be of service to your readers:—C
plants over 3 inches from the groun
after the flowers are spent. By Octo
they are nice plants. Then lift and p
cold frame, admit air freely, and
moderately dry. Plant out early in
Frames do not require mats during fro

Kirkintilloch. D.

Telopea speciosissima

This plant, mentioned in your is
March 23rd, the Australian Warata
Warratah), should succeed in S.W. E
if in suitable geological conditions.
well around Auckland in the volcan
In New South Wales it is probably at
on the Blue Mountains, which are co
of sandstone overlaid with sandy soil.
told there that it does nowhere so wel
the sandstone belt, and that occasiona
ing off is beneficial. This latter tre
may seem very drastic, but personal o

the Katoomba (Blue Mountains) dis- pports both these claims. There I saw ember numerous bushes growing and ng luxuriantly over a large area of ne country, which had been swept by previous year, and I may add that the is subject to fairly sharp frosts during nter.

e is another variety, Telopea truncata, of Tasmania, described as very hardy ore easily grown, which may well be , as its habitat is some 1,300 miles to miles south of the Blue Mountains, climate approximating more nearly to Britain.

ase Mr. Underwood would care to try smanian variety I think he could pro- eed from either Messrs. Chas. Cres- d Co., seedsmen, 104, Elizabeth Street, , Tasmania, or Mr. J. Overall, Nursery, Sulphur Creek, Tasmania. tter, I know, lists plants of it.

enclosed cuttings are from the cata- f a leading New Zealand nursery com- ut I do not think they save seed.

A. E. GRINDROD.

land, New Zealand.

Seakale

ERE are two plants of noble aspect ose common use is to provide for the chen, and whose fine qualities as gar- ants have, therefore, been generally ked. Many a time friends have said: t is that splendid, great, silvery " not recognising it as the kitchen Artichoke. Another equally de- plant is the ordinary Seakale. In a way we do not see the plant at all, is either under a big Seakale pot or away in some dark corner of a green- for forcing. But occasionally a root t singly in garden ground and grows ouched from year to year. When in ddle of June it is in full bloom, there no doubt as to its merit. On a well- hed plant the mass of creamy bloom as much as 3 feet across, rising from eaves of the noblest aspect, some of 8 inches long by a foot wide, with an dge that is toothed in detail but has sculpture-like ways of folding and , and have a quite remarkable blue- s colour. The flower has a sweet ke honey—not honey pure, but honey with wax. As with many others of e family (Wallflowers) to which it be- it has the delicate honey scent on the and a heavier cruciferous scent below. such strong isolated plants as the one ted occur in gardens it may be worth ing that the quite young bud masses are a good table vegetable. In the the small fluffy mass of bloom just the Seakale is London Pride. G. J.

Multiple flowered Tulips

notes appearing in your recent issues subject of multiple-flowered Tulips are, , of more than passing interest.

variety Mon. S. Mottett has, of course, the market for a number of years. urprised that your correspondent has n able to trace it, "except in a few catalogues," as it is listed by most firms of repute. Your correspondent's y to find the record of the variety is, , the criterion of the popularity of or varieties of this form. The ques- are such forms desirable? Or are s an older generation of florists would id) "Monstrous"?

time to time, as varieties of flowers s, curious forms are produced, as, for e, double forms of Tulips and ls, and in another sphere Digitalis osum. It seems to be that the beauty of the Foxglove lies in its graceful hanging bells, and is in no way enhanced by the campanulate top. It is a matter of opinion whether there is any artistic beauty in double Tulips. Sir Daniel Hall, in his admirable book on the subject, sums them up in two words—"better dead."

The same considerations apply to branching Tulips. Have they sufficient merit beyond the mere fact of curiosity to warrant the perpetuation of the species? During the present year branching Tulips have been noted in several parts of the country. Among my own stocks I have had several with two, three, and four flowers, but I have particularly noticed that the stems appear to be semi-fasciated, and the grace, poise, as well as the intrinsic merit of each blossom suffers in consequence. I am informed that a Dutch bulb cultivator in Holland has selected and segregated a considerable number of these varieties in various colours, and that they will shortly be placed upon the market. They are liable to meet with a mixed reception, but it seems probable that they will in the main find buyers, if any, among amateurs who do not differentiate in forms worthy of cultivation between that which is beautiful and that which is merely curious.

The branching form is, of course, natural to certain species of Tulips, notably præstans, so that it would appear evident that it is a trait of character which could, without serious difficulty, be introduced as a feature of garden Tulips if desired. The whole question is, is it desirable?

HERBERT G. LONGFORD.

Abingdon, Berks.

Wool shoddy

I was much interested some months ago seeing a short article in your paper on the advantage of forking into a flower garden "wool shoddy" where the ground was very dry.

I tried it in very sandy soil, with the result that this long drought has had no influence on the flower garden, everything is growing normally, and where we dig up a plant the soil is quite damp.

We have no water supply, and I can only regret I did not get a larger quantity and dig some in the whole garden. L. S. M.

Primula pulverulenta, Bartley Strain

It may interest Mr. Dalrymple and other recent correspondents on this subject to know that, in this fearfully exposed place, this was the only Primula of any description to succumb to the prolonged frost of January, February, and March.

In previous years a certain percentage of plants have always failed to stand the winter, but this time we have not a single plant left.

The suggestion that stagnation of the roots is a probable cause is very much beside the point in our case, in view of the fact that the gravel subsoil everywhere here ensures complete drainage wherever the plants may be put. Moreover, knowing this Primula's dislike of such stagnant conditions, we have always taken special care on the point and grown it in situations much drier and more freely drained than would be usual, even in a district normally so wet in winter as this.

Having regard to its behaviour in previous years and its complete failure this time, I am now fully convinced that the hardiness of this Primula is very doubtful as compared with that of 50 others taken at random.

Skipton, Yorks. J. R. K.

Seakale in flower

The Caucasian Scabious and varieties

The Caucasian Scabious (Scabiosa caucasica) has always been a favourite among the hardy border flowers. Introduced at the beginning of the nineteenth century, its popularity has been consistent throughout. It is doubtless the best and most useful of the perennial species, either for borders or for cutting purposes. Its beautiful, fine heads of pale blue or lavender coloured flowers, produced on long, graceful stems, characterise it as one of the most ornamental subjects for indoor decoration.

Many of the newer varieties of Scabiosa caucasica, evolved and put into commerce in recent years, are of outstanding merit, and whether grown for garden adornment or for supplying material for indoor decoration their value cannot be over estimated. The increased range of colours is no less remarkable, and it is now possible to make a selection varying from almost pure white, through numerous shades of lavender, lilac, mauve, blue, violet, etc. To enumerate a list of varieties is only to make a catalogue of names. Mention, however, may be made of two or three of dissimilar colour: Miss Willmott is a splendid creamy white variety, and probably the best white to date; Diamond, of an intense blue, a beautiful flower and very striking; and Clive Greaves, with flowers of a rich violet mauve, deepening with age.

Where large quantities of flowers are in great demand for indoor decoration, these Scabiosas supply the need over a long season, blooming profusely from early summer to late autumn. In such cases, it is certainly advisable to cultivate beds of plants specially for this purpose in quantities proportionate to the requirements of the place. Well-grown plants will produce flowers with stems 2 feet to 3 feet long, and flower heads 3 inches to 4 inches in diameter.

These Scabiosas appreciate a good, deep, well-drained soil, plenty of lime, and should be given an open situation. On cold, heavy, clay soils they are not long-lived plants. In order to perpetuate the different forms and varieties, propagation is carried out by division of the plants in autumn or spring. As they continue to bloom late in the season, probably this operation is best undertaken in the spring, especially in the less favoured districts. Plants may also be raised from seed sown in the spring, and treated in the same manner as other hardy perennials. There are now many good strains on the market which may be relied upon to produce flowers of excellent quality. If, however, one desires to save seed from home-grown plants, this should be collected from the best flowers which have been left to ripen seed, due regard being given to colour and form.

J. L.

Indoor fruit notes

NOW that there is work for every hour in the garden, fruit under glass is liable to suffer neglect, resulting in failings later on. As new roots are commencing to work freely, sufficient water must be supplied, for once let them have dry soil to contend with and the ends soon die, with the result that something very soon goes wrong above ground. It may be Peaches will drop too freely at the stoning stage. Grapes may have more withered berries than they should have, quite spoiling the shape of the bunches. This is all due to a check in their career. Such a state of things must be avoided by timely waterings, and if done thoroughly, no more is needed for a week or 10 days. At this season well-drained borders will take a good amount of water, which should be varied with liquid manure, or a good fertiliser applied and watered in.

During summer, ventilation plays a most important part in the welfare of fruits under glass. There can be no hard and fast rules, as the weather greatly influences the operation. Whenever the conditions are seasonable, one rule may be adhered to, and that is to leave just a chink of air on at night. There will be no scalding of fruit and foliage if this is done, resulting from a hot burst of sun on moisture-laden foliage and fruit in tightly closed houses. Without unduly lowering the temperature or causing excessive draughts, admit air freely during the day.

In close, stuffy houses trees will become over-luxuriant, but unfortunately they do not show it at once, as many plants do, but wait until autumn, when, instead of that brown, hard wood we so much wish to see, we find it is straw colour, and the leaves look as if they will remain on all the winter. Growth of this description is quite useless for fruiting, and the only way to prevent it is to study the ventilation. Then, again, a good deal of the success with indoor fruit growing is the keeping down of insect pests. The two worst pests are Red Spider and Thrips, which usually arise through too dry an atmosphere, and although there are several good remedies on the market, there is nothing like prevention. If a certain degree of atmospheric moisture is maintained, these pests cannot thrive, and this is created by damping down paths and bare parts, leaving them always moist. This may necessitate several visits a day in hot weather with syringe or can, but it is well worth the trouble. Most growers have experienced attacks of that loathsome pest, the Mealy Bug, which may be destroyed with a small brush and methylated spirit.

To prevent mildew, good culture is required and careful ventilation, avoiding a cold, stagnant atmosphere, draughts, and overcrowding of growths. A dusting of flowers of sulphur if given directly the first signs are observed will often prevent a serious attack.

The matter of over-cropping must be guarded against, Peaches resenting it above all fruits. To secure the best fruits, allow one to every square foot of space. With Vines, if well established, the rods will carry 18 or 20 bunches and finish them off nicely, but if 10 more bunches were retained it would probably mean very inferior results.

One must also realise that the thinning of fruit is an investment for another year; that is to say, the shoots not bearing are building up reserves that with reasonable care will produce the very finest results. Overcrowding also must be looked to. In the case of Peaches, retain only sufficient wood to be trained in easily, as a rule no more than three shoots on any one bearing fruit, one at the base, one in the centre, and a terminal. Pinch Vine laterals two leaves beyond the bunch, and those not bearing fruit at the fifth leaf. Stop all sub-laterals at the first leaf.

F. H.

Summer pruning

There is a systematic and discriminating type practised by good gardeners for many years which seems to me to practically embody the so-called Lorette system. Valuable contributions on the subject have often appeared in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, but as the season for the work will soon be approaching a few hints may not be out of place. Firstly, avoid too early curtailment, especially on strong-growing trees, or the result will be only a crop of worthless back growth. An examination of the wood towards the base of shoots will indicate the approach of the ripening stage. Trees which in the majority of seasons crop heavily, as, for instance, Early Prolific in Plums and Beurré Alexandre Lucas in Pears, make comparatively little growth, which ripens quickly, and they may be among the first to receive treatment. The trees should, however, be gone through carefully, especially the cordons, bushes, and pyramids, to note the crop and the growth made and (if not already realised) the characteristic growth of different varieties. I do not think we take sufficient
of this, *i.e.*, that while the shoots
variety may at the end of June be gre
rather on the soft side, those of anoth
thin, wiry, and fairly hard, and it is the
that can always be taken in hand f
our summer pruning operations. Na
in seasons when the crop is scanty
will be extra strong, and work on suc
delayed until the wood shows signs of
ing. The same remarks apply to
Gooseberries and Currants, which req
little special attention or the removal o
mer growth.

E. BURR

Red Spider control

This pest seems to be very troubleson
year, and many fruit growers on a
scale are alike ignorant of its characte
the damage caused by its activities.
crippled foliage means imperfect ripen
wood and a shortage of fruit the next s
so prompt measures should be taken a
as it is seen. Where locally troubles
careful inspection should be made of
directly fruit is set, and every inch of
trellis, wood, and foliage thoroughly s
with some insecticide applied with g
hose.

E. BURR

Meconopsis Baileyi

THE interesting correspondence o
beautiful species, and the metho
culture mentioned, tempts me to w
word of warning to enthusiastic growe
to fuss their plants unduly, for it may
to their undoing. Meconopsis betoni
(Baileyi) is perfectly hardy in any part
British Isles, therefore it requires no
protection, and it resents coddling in
form. Mulches of lawn mowings, as r
mended by "H. J. H.," are rather da
ous owing to their heating properties, a
use of leaves as a winter protection is
likely to be detrimental than beneficia
it will tend to hold excessive moisture
the crowns, and will probably provide a
fortable winter home for the voracious
where he can satiate himself unseen. O
other hand, leaf-soil should be freely
into the soil, for it is the natural food
woodland plants.

The cultural requirements of Mecon
Baileyi are comparatively simple. The
may be sown as soon as they are rip
kept until the following spring. If the
sown in autumn it is advisable to sow
so thinly that the young seedlings ma
main in the seed-pans during the winter
be pricked out in the early spring.

A good compost on which to sow the
and for growing on the seedlings consis
leaf-mould four parts, loam two parts, c
silver sand one to one-and-a-half p
according to the heaviness of the loam.

The young seedlings should be grow
a cool house or frame during the w
months, with good ventilation at all t
They should be pricked out in spring in a
of similar compost in a cold frame, and sh
be shaded from bright sun. When l
enough the seedlings may be transferre
their flowering quarters, the best pos
usually being a half-shaded border out of
drip of trees.

It is not advisable to grow plants
Meconopsis Baileyi in pots at any stag
their growth, for a pot-grown specime
generally a weak one, with few flowers o
whereas a well-grown plant will produ
strong spike of from eight to 12 flowers
first year of flowering, followed by
stronger spikes the second year, with f
12 to 18 flowers, whilst each plant will a
age four flower spikes.

F. C. PUDDL

Bodnant Gardens, North Wales.

BODNANT GARDENS, NORTH WALES

1. Meconopsis and Primulas.
2. Primulas in woodland.
3. View from Upper Terrace, with River Conway and mountains in the distance.
4. More Meconopsis.
5. A corner of the Rose Terrace, with a fine specimen of Fabiana imbricata in the foreground.
6. Rhododendron Pink Pearl.
7. The wild garden.

Lavender

Its cultivation for marketing and distilling

LAVENDER has been grown commercially in the south of England for a great many years, having been introduced in 1568, and where the soil and situation are favourable, there is no doubt that it is a profitable crop and worthy of consideration. Lavender is grown for the production of oil of Lavender for perfumery purposes, for sale in a fresh state as "bunched Lavender," and for sale as "dried Lavender" for sachet making, etc. As regards oil production it is pointed out that chemistry has not yet succeeded in producing a synthetic product which can claim to be a substitute for English Oil of Lavender, and hence the supply depends wholly upon the natural product. The variety grown, and which should be grown commercially in England is Lavendula vera, usually referred to as "English" Lavender, of which several strains exist. The chief Lavender growing districts in the past have been in the neighbourhood of Mitcham, Hitchin, Canterbury, and Bournemouth, the Mitcham oil of Lavender having become world famous as a product unequalled by that of any other country.

SOIL AND SITUATION.—Too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of soil and situation. These are the factors governing success, and should be carefully considered before steps are taken to plant any large area. In common with all plants containing a high percentage of oily matter, Lavender needs very little moisture and does best in a calcareous, stony, well-drained soil in dry, sunny situations. The ideal soil is a light brown loam overlying chalk, although sandy loams may be utilised, provided good dressings of chalk or lime are applied. Heavy soils which hold water are not suitable.

Situation is quite as important as the soil, if not more so, as Lavender is by nature a sub-tropical plant, although fond of high altitudes. It is liable to injury by frost, and hence low-lying situations and those prone to become weather-bound in winter should be avoided. Even under favourable conditions in England, a hard winter may result in a number of plants being killed by frost. The situation should be exposed and sunny, preferably sloping to the south, and protected from the prevailing summer winds by a belt of trees or a high hedge. This matter of protection is important, as considerable damage may be done by high winds when the tall flower spikes are being carried by the plants during July and August.

PREPARATION AND CULTIVATION OF THE LAND.—It is supremely important that the land be properly prepared by deep and thorough cultivation. Potatoes which have been well manured make an excellent forecrop, as the thorough working of the land will prepare the way for the Lavender.

After planting, it is essential to keep the land in a thorough state of cultivation while the plants occupy it, in order to secure a good annual throw of bloom. A horse-hoe should be used for this purpose, and the land worked both ways and as close to the plants as possible.

PLANTS AND PLANTING.—The plan most favoured, after a supply of plants is secured, is to plant them out 18 inches x 18 inches very carefully on the square. When these plants have occupied the ground for one year, each intervening plant, and those of every other row, are taken out, leaving the land planted 36 inches x 36 inches. The plants so removed will be utilised for planting up fresh ground, each being divided into about three. Before being planted the plants should be trimmed at the top and the rough roots removed to where the fibrous roots have developed. The usual practice is to use a straight chopper and clean wood block for preparing the plants for re-planting.

Planting should be done in October or early spring. November and the winter months should be avoided, as the plants are then liable to injury by frost and snow when out of the ground. It is important to plant very deeply. Special dibbers not less than 14 inches long are used, and the plants should go into the ground up to within 2 inches of the top and be very firmly closed in.

In commercial practice the bushes are seldom retained after their fifth year, after which they should be grubbed and burnt. It follows, therefore, that in order to keep up a continuous supply of bushes in their prime, planting and grubbing must, in an *established* plantation, be done every year. Most growers plant, in the first instance, a fifth portion of the ultimate area of Lavender aimed at, and this is repeated each year until the fifth year, when the area first planted is grubbed immediately after flowering and the land fallowed. It is an advantage to have a sixth piece of land available for planting in the fifth year in order to give the land, which has carried Lavender for five years, one complete year's rest from the crop. During the first year in the permanent position the plants are better for not being allowed to flower, but should be kept trimmed with a pair of sheep shears to promote bushiness.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Living copings for walls

THERE is one kind of coping for walls that is not used so much in small gardens as it might be with advantage—viz., living copings of Ivy, Roses, Virginian Creepers, Jasmines, Clematises, etc. At first sight it might seem that few of these plants, unless it were the Ivy, had sufficient density of foliage to afford much protection to the trees below, but it is quite otherwise. I have observed a crop of Peaches saved year after year by the protecting power of a few sprays of a Virginian creeper. It is a simple matter to run a few wires on studs projecting a foot or so from the wall immediately under the coping, and to clothe these wires with climbing plants, thus crowning the wall with verdure and beauty, and saving our fruit crops by one and the same process. Fancy a coping of Marechal Niel—one of the best Roses possible for this purpose, owing to its free growth and early leafage and flowering — surmounting a wall studded with Peaches underneath. Living protectors have, at least, this merit above all others—they would be cheap at first cost, durable, efficient, and assuredly beautiful.

MARKETING THE CROP.—The Laven
ready for market when the middle bl
of the spike are widely open; the lowe
soms will then be fertilised and t
blossoms showing the bloom of th
When sold as bunched fresh Lavend
stalks must be cut as long as possibl
ting well into the bush (this is also s
the purpose of cutting back the bush
operation). The cutting is done by a
sickle having a toothed edge, and sho
done as late in the evening as is com
with despatch for market. Bunches fo
ket are about 12 inches in diameter, tie
raffia as low as possible to the butts.
these bunches are tied together in bu

When sold as dried Lavender the f
are dried on the stalk and are subseq
removed by hand or with the aid of a
There is a considerable loss of weight
the drying process, and only about a f
the weight of fresh flowers will be av
as the dried product. The Laven
dried by being spread out thinly on s
in a dry shed for about six weeks.

DISTILLING.—The founding of a La
plantation for the purpose of oil prod
is an enterprise which requires carefu
sideration beforehand. It will be nec
to provide a small distilling plant o
grower's premises, unless arrangement
be made for the distillation of his crop
local distillery. If the grower possess
distilling plant of his own, he cart
Lavender to a neighbouring still,
intends the boiling, and watches fo
"oil-run."

Beyond reference to the facts that th
should be of the shallow body type a
worked by steam from a boiler, the tech
of distilling cannot be discussed here.

When cutting for distilling, the b
must all be fully out, generally about a
later than for market. The cutting s
only be done in the sunshine, the cut la
clean, dry mats, and covered from sun s
immediately. There must be no moistu
the stook, neither must it be dried up by
or sun. The mats will be rolled up i
cool of the evening, before the dew is fa
and carted to the still. The flowers mu
placed in the still in a perfectly fresh
dition.

For some purposes the stalks are
ened to about 6 in. before stilling,
generally the whole of the contents o
mat are placed carefully in the still
away.

The yield of oil is apt to vary conside
from season to season, as the age o
bushes and the weather will affect bot
quantity and quality of the product.

Roughly speaking, 1 cwt. of fresh flo
with 6 inches of stalk will yield about
of oil. An acre of Lavender in its
would, in a favourable year, yield from
20 lb. of oil; but, taking the whole o
area planted as directed above, an ave
yield of 12 lb. to the acre would be a
estimate. The market value of the
constantly fluctuating, and its use in
fumery is influenced considerably by the
of alcohol. It is a noteworthy fact
English oil of Lavender enjoys a very
higher value than imported oils.

After distillation the oil is matured i
dark, for from three to five years, store
blue glass jars known as "Winchest
holding about 80 oz., but as this is us
done by the merchants it does not co
the grower, unless he elects to store
mature his own oil.

LAVENDER DISEASE AND PESTS.—Lave
is, unfortunately, often severely attacke
this country by a fungus disease know
"shab" or "wilt," which is caused b

s *Phoma lavendulae*. The disease ilting or shrivelling of the growths, nes attacked soon die.

isease is under investigation at the time, and at the moment little can efinitely as to preventive measures. ould be taken to obtain healthy r planting, and if the disease appears lantation all affected portions of nd dead bushes should be removed t as soon as detected.

dly drained soils, and soils with a of lime or chalk, the roots of the e often attacked by the mycelium of which penetrates to the main stems ately causes their death.

act nature of this disease is obscure, pears to depend very largely on soil s, and is not very troublesome where r are favourable to the Lavender.

sect or other pests are known to avender to any extent, but slugs use damage by eating away the rowths in the early summer.

d by the Ministry of Agriculture and s.]

Didiscus cœruleus

very pretty plant, which has become lar in many of our public parks and ens during recent years, is a worthy of choice borders and beds. It may from seeds, and these should be rly in March in pans or boxes of l and placed in a temperature of for germination.

seedlings, when large enough to may be pricked off singly into small boxes may be used for the purpose, n growth is seen to be free, cooler may be given in order that the ay develop sturdy growth ready for in the open in May, a distance of s being allowed between the plants, soil should be light, but in good

ace Flower, as it is often called, is a f Australia, and was introduced to try in 1827, 100 years ago, and to to perfection a good summer and osition is necessary. In the old House Gardens (now a public garden) ourne I saw a few groups of this t during the past summer, the plants feet 6 inches high, each plant carry- eral pretty, but not showy, loose flowers, resembling in some respects casian Scabious, each flower being nches to 3 inches across.

also seen this plant used with excel- t in Hyde Park, its branched umbels der flowers appealing strongly to soft colour shades.

us cœruleus makes a nice pot plant ry lasting in a cut state. It is often seedsmen as Trachymene cœrulea.

E. MARKHAM.

al work in the flower garden

of us who have to rely on hardy nd annuals for our summer display tle facility for artificial watering omewhat despairingly at our plants the close of the long drought, but the rain pulled them round wonderfully, one has to be busy. One of the is to put some stout twigs round the of the old Clove Carnations to hold ower-stems, which are pushing along the same time prick up the ground round them to receive the prepared which to layer. Another favourite require a little support is the double aved Campanula.

s of stronger-growing flowers, like kets, will generally come through although even in their case a few light Pea-sticks so placed as to be practically out of sight may prove useful. I have sown a pinch of seed of different-coloured Cornflowers this year in the neighbourhood of clumps of herbaceous members of the family, and the association will be pleasing and give many different shades. All the members of the Marigold family, from the lofty Calendula to the lowly Tagetes, make a brave show and are very enduring. Where only a few annuals are required to fill vacant spaces it is best to rely on things of an enduring nature that will last out until the end of the season, such as the pink and white Lavatera and Nemesia Blue Gem.

One likes to have occasionally some plant quite different to anything else, even if neither showy nor beautiful, and I have one at present in Euphorbia pilosa, some 3 feet high, with fine heads of its peculiar flowers. It is more attractive than the great scarlet Poppies, which are just making their appearance, so we are getting a variety of colour, for the buds of Geranium grandiflorum are on the point of bursting and the Rockets are still at their best.

E. BURRELL.

Didiscus cœruleus

Helen's glen

Helen has a garden, a charming garden, looking over hills and woods, very pleasant to the eye. But Helen has gardeners, and she proposes, and they dispose. But one day she woke up and said, "I want a garden of my very own, where I can do exactly as I like."

Now the garden proper ended in a narrow ditch that gently and very straightly drained away any possible water from the higher ground into the wood below, and one passed over it every time one went to the tennis courts, and sentinel over it, in stately fashion, were some noble old Oak trees. "Here," one day said her friend, "is your new garden. Widen it irregularly, plant it with Primulas, Iris, Spiræa, Cape Lilies, Senecio, Saxifrage, and a thousand other lovely things. In the winter you turn the water off into this other little channel, and your Kæmpferi will flourish accordingly."

Helen did this, and much more besides, and the result is a truly beautiful piece of gardening that I have never seen excelled. It has the advantage of perfect setting, the sparse trees above, the wood below, and beyond the blue, misty outline of the downs. The ditch, a wave of colour, falls away from your eye into this wood, where Lilies sweeten the air and Azaleas make a Chinese fairy tale. Group after group of Primulas fill the widened space, Helodoxa and Bartell's Strain, Bulliana, and japonica. The Siberian Iris in blue, violet, white, and yellow is flung among them, and marvellous to see, because I never associated them with damp, great Mulleins are making much ado, their grey, spreading leaves charming among the pink, rose, and yellow. Later come the Kæmpferi, Mimulus, and Spiræa. Phlox, which dearly love their toes in the water, find a place, and later still the Cape Lily's coral and pink show themselves among the fading joys, though latest of all, the blue Pea, revelling in the damp, carpets the ground with heaven's own hue, and the autumn Crocus bears it company.

From earliest spring, when the Daffies light up the close-cropped turf on either side the shallow ditch, it is a garden of delight, and it is a form of gardening that many other lovers of flowers growing beautifully could emulate more often with much joyful recompense to themselves.

Maude Haworth-Booth.

Lilies now in flower

I AM writing from a garden in S.W. England, a very old garden, practically on a level with the river, which flows unceasingly not many yards distant from an old-established clump of Lilium Martagon catanæ. The deep, purplish claret flowers of this Lily, without any spots, are seen to advantage close to a planting of the true L. colchicum, whose pendulous, bell-shaped flowers of rich buttercup yellow pervade the air with their fragrance. The bulbs of this Lily were only planted last autumn, but quite 50 per cent. are flowering profusely.

Near by are a few fine heads of the true szovitzianum. There is do doubt whatever that although in the past L. szovitzianum has been sold for L. colchicum, and vice versa, they are quite distinct one from the other. The pale, straw yellow of szovitzianum, with its pronounced petal tips of purple, when seen growing by the side of L. colchicum, does not need a horticultural expert to note the distinct difference of colour. I do not know any other Lily with such glorious rich yellow flowers as the true L. colchicum.

No doubt the cool subsoil where these particular Lilies are growing is to some extent responsible for their healthy appearance, and being only a few yards from the river they are not feeling the effects of the drought.

A large clump of L. croceum in another part of the garden is just coming into flower. This old-fashioned Orange Lily when left for years is really marvellous, and proves that if Lilies are to be seen at their best they must remain undisturbed. Some of the heads are nearly 4 feet from the ground, and in a few days will be a wonderful sight.

The new forms of umbellatum have been very gay for the last fortnight. A number are still thick with flowers. Golden Fleece is a grand addition to the umbellatum section, its large, broad-petalled flowers of golden yellow, tinged with orange and scarlet, is a splendid break from the old grandiflorum type. Orange King is another variety worthy of note. The spreading flowers made up with shapely petals of deep orange, with effective scarlet tips, are very striking. Apricot I do not think is likely to impress the Lily enthusiast. The colour tone is certainly all that the name implies, but the habit and general appearance of this variety is particularly disappointing, and I shall certainly discard it or place it in some secluded spot. Splendidum, with its large heads of dull crimson, is a fine plant, and although when viewed in conjunction with Vermilion brilliant it appears to lose its colour, it is of splendid habit, and probably the strongest of all the umbellatum Lilies. Vermilion brilliant is wonderful. The massive broad petals of the deepest vivid blood-red, with just a few spots of black, are of the right shape and colour to place this variety as the finest of the more recent introductions. The old grandiflorum and incomparabile varieties are making a wonderful splash of colour, but there is no doubt that the new forms of umbellatum are distinct improvements and worthy of a place in all gardens.

All the above-mentioned Lilies are growing in a soil containing a certain amount of chalk. Not that I advocate chalk, except in the case of L. candidum, but the natural soil here happens to contain a certain amount. Previous to planting, a good deal of leaf-mould, collected from the surrounding woods, mostly Beech, was incorporated, and the bulbs enveloped in sand. Whether any special compost was used when the old clumps were planted, I cannot say. In the planting of the more recent introductions I have always made a point of seeing that drainage was good, in my opinion an all-important point in the successful cultivation of Lilies.

Liliaceæ.

Fancy-leaved Pelargoniums

IT was not on account of their blossoms that tricoloured Geraniums were valued so much as their beautiful foliage, and to use a common expression much in vogue in my youth by those who grew them, " their leaves are the flowers "; indeed, I have a distinct recollection of my father pinching off flower buds as they appeared in order to concentrate the energies of his favourites in the production of more wood, and incidentally in obtaining more highly coloured leaves on his plants. Why did fancy-leaved Pelargoniums lose their popularity, and is it possible to resuscitate interest in them, are questions worth considering in these days. In the first place, the bedding-out mania, as it came to be called, involved considerable expense not only for those who were not possessors of greenhouses, but also in the case of those who raised their own plants, and after all, the display out-of-doors was but fleeting—a few months at the most—and then there was all the labour of propagating, lifting for potting of plants that had been turned out, and housing them for the winter under genial conditions. Interest in the culture of Geraniums for bedding perceptibly flagged, and not merely Zonals came under the ban, but the tricolours—the fancy-leaved kinds. Another thing which militated against the fancies was their comparatively slow growth.

To mention some of the varieties we used to grow 50 years or more ago is akin to perusing a number of choice old volumes in a library, or being shown wonderful specimens of Sheraton or Chippendale furniture. Here are some of the varieties that come to my mind, as I recall how carefully they were " tallied " in an old lean-to greenhouse: Mrs. Pollock held for a time chief place as the most highly coloured tricolour. It had a yellowish ground, suffused with carmine and red and brown. Mrs. Harry Cox was an advance on the first named, being more pronounced in colour, and, what was more important, was robust in growth in comparison; Macbeth, another of the golden tricolours, had a deep carmine zone. Black Douglas and Marechal MacMahon were two noted for distinct bronzy centres with margins of yellow. Then there were Lady Cullum and Sophia Dumaresque, which also were beautiful in their golden and reddish coloured leaves. Silver tricolours were a most interesting class, and were, I think, rather more free in growth than the golden. One recollects such varieties as Prince Silverwings having a whitish ground and marked with green and pinkish tint, and Mrs. Laing of similar colourings. Others that were very popular in their day for bedding were the yellow leaved Crystal Palace Gem, Beauty of Lauderdale, and Golden Chain, th with a crimped edging of yellow.

Some time ago in looking over an o logue issued in the early 'seventies, than 60 varieties of gold and sil coloured Pelargoniums were shown, gives an idea as to how popular th become! The question is sometime as to whether it is likely that a revi ever take place in these once highly e members of the Geranium family. Th have not all died out I am convinced it were possible to make a tour of we should, I think, find some of the mentioned still grown. I have a rea making this statement, as no less rece last summer a gardener, writing to the subject of old Geraniums, sai know their worth from a bedding p view, and before the War I had thousand. I used to grow Mrs. Hen which, to my mind, is the best of and Mrs. Pollock, Flower of Sprin Fairy Queen. When in the army th was lost, and the place keeps changing and, of course, taste and fashion char

We live in days when it is the fas specialise certain plants and to foste wider culture and make them more p associations have been formed with view. One has but to mention Swee Roses, and Dahlias to explain what is But the Geranium, one of the olde assuredly one of the most widely plants, to be found in many a cottag dow, has not, so far as I can rememb this distinction conferred on it.

It is singular, to say the least a plant which is found everywhere have been allowed to become depleted of its sections—the tricoloured, and not unimportant one—and those to w have mentioned the matter agree in that many of the beautiful varieties of years have been lost, much to their The question I would like to see an is the one asked at the beginning: interest in them ever be revived? " W

Eranthemum pulchellum

This beautiful Acanthad, with brig flowers produced in profusion, is a v plant for winter decoration, and well- pots of it make an attractive variation embellishment of the winter garden servatory at a time of the year wher flowering subjects are few.

A native of the East Indies, it is a house plant, but after it has been gr flowering stage, it stands quite well in a lower temperature and remains decorat a considerable time. Large specimens plant make handsome objects, but for decorative purposes smaller plants, from cuttings struck in April or Ma grown on into 6-inch pots, are much useful. The cuttings strike readily u bell-glass in a warm house, and it is to strike them singly in thumb pots they may be potted on without root d ance. They like a rich soil, and a c made up of two parts loam and on rotten manure, with sufficient coarse s keep it porous, suits them admirably.

The essential conditions of cultivati quick and clean growth are strong abundance of water, and atmospheric ture during the growing season. Shad be necessary during the hottest part day, but should not be overdone, as ex to light induces sturdy growth and f free flowering. When well establish their flowering pots, periodical applic of dilute liquid manure may be given the flowers appear, when they may moved to cooler and somewhat drier tions.

W. Au

Columnar trees

lian and Grecian landscapes the
s, which there attains its maximum
of nearly 100 feet, forms a charac-
ature, and breaks up monotonous
imilar to the Lombardy Poplar in
scenery. But oftener than the
e Cypress is the accompaniment of
ire, with the horizontal lines of
conical outline forms a striking
Though in this country Cypresses
row to nearly the size which they
South Europe, they are valuable
indeed are all the other Conifers of
growth in ornamental planting,
unhappily, as in the case of the Lom-
plar, they are not always planted so
duce the harmonious effect of which
capable. Indeed, one of the most
istic defects in English gardens, and
ly in those of limited extent, is the
inate planting of all kinds of Coni-
ees with apparently but little regard
her their ultimate effect, habit of
or degree of hardiness. Thus many
wn has become bestrewed with a
eous mixture of Conifers of varied
pe, and tint, harmonising but little
hemselves or with their surround-
his incongruity is not the only evil
at the excessive planting of Conifers
ght about, for it has given to resi-
gloomy, nay, almost funereal aspect,
quence of the dull monotonous green
e year round, being unmarked by
changing effects which characterise
s trees and shrubs.

ypress and other cylindrically-shaped
e the same effect in the immediate
rings of a house that the Lombardy
nd other trees of tall conical growth
the more distant landscape. The
rowing conical trees should be dis-
on the same principles as the
y Poplar in order to produce con-
ffects, but with this difference, the
subjects should accompany low trees
shrubs of a flat or rounded habit of
out instead of that they are too often
ated on lawns, with the inevitable
e ring scooped out of the turf at
e, which not inconsiderably adds to
iness, and these dotted about on a
th sometimes geometrical precision,
the case of the Irish Yew, along the
walks, have anything but a good ap-
Columnar-shaped Coniferous and
es, in order to be seen to the best
e, should, as a rule, be planted in
nd balanced, not matched, by corre-
masses of trees or shrubs of spread-
th and rounded outline, and they
ways, when seen from the principal
f view, be accompanied by an
and picturesque outline of low-
subjects, both evergreen and de-
As nearly all the cultivated
except the Pines, Cedars, and a few
are more or less of a cylindrical,
or spiral growth, it is unnecessary
rate varieties. Columnar subjects,
e though they may be in themselves,
be seen to advantage in connection
s of a different habit of growth.

Maples

a large group of European, Ameri-
Japanese trees, represented in this
by the Sycamore Maple (Acer
lantanus) and A. campestre, which
us in its many forms for our gar-
he Maples are mostly medium-sized
rdy in nearly every garden soil.
warf-growing Japanese Maple, A.
n and its varieties, are exceptions
e, and very useful plants for small
or rock gardens. They are among the most beautiful of summer leafing shrubs, giving fine effect of foliage and picturesque habit. This section have a flat, horizontal spreading system of branching, a characteristic of many trees and shrubs from Japan. There is nothing in the open garden so charming as good plants in full leaf, with their branches in table-like tiers, but the brilliant tints always seem more effective in the subdued light of shady rocks, and happily few shrubs do better in partial shade than the above. They like shelter even from southerly winds, and they will thrive in any open soil.

Libocedrus decurrens

They are good subjects for planting in close proximity to water. In common with others of its kind, these shrubs do not need to be planted so that their roots are in the water, but rather on a somewhat elevated position, pinched between two rocks, and one that is near to the margins of pools. All the summer the shoots will be covered with brilliant foliage, and when this departs the glowing red bark will give a touch of brightness during the dreary season.

A. dissectum is a dwarf shrub, with bright green finely cut leaves. It exhibits a loose, round form. A. d. atropurpureum is similar to the above in habit, and only differs from it in having highly coloured leaves. A. d. ornatum is a dark form with a neat spreading habit. A. d. palmatifidum has green leaves very finely cut.

H. Stevens.

Tree Pæonies

The beautiful modern varieties of Tree Pæonies are to be found in fewer gardens than their merits deserve. Large, old bushes of the typical Pæonia Moutan are fairly often seen, but the somewhat unpleasant scent of their magenta flowers has prevented the plant from ever becoming a popular garden favourite. Many of the modern varieties are of extremely beautiful colouring and nicely scented. Continental hybridists have produced a race of very large, fully double flowers, which lack the grace of the single and semi-double varieties of Japanese origin. Some desirable Japanese varieties are: Fuji-no-mine (pure white with golden stamens), Kokirin (rose-pink, very free flowering), Saigyo-Zakura (pale pink), Kokirin-Nishiki (deep crimson), Ruriban (rosy-purple), Kasumi-no-mori (white), Azuma-Kagami (bright scarlet), Hana-no-tsukasa (flesh-pink, deepening at the base), and Fuyo-ko (salmon-pink). These have all flowered exceptionally well here this year in spite of the unusually severe frost. Fortunately they had not started into active growth before the frost commenced, consequently the buds were uninjured. A mild winter followed by late frosts is the worst enemy to Tree Pæonies. They thrive in any good garden soil which will grow herbaceous Pæonies, but appreciate an annual mulch of well-rotted manure. As the choice varieties are always grafted, it is important to see that the stock does not overpower the scion. They are sometimes grafted on P. Moutan stock and sometimes on P. sinensis, the herbaceous Pæony; the latter will generally be found the more satisfactory, as if suckers make their appearance they are easily detected and removed. Whatever the stock, fairly deep planting is advisable, as after a few years the scion will make good roots of its own.

N. G. Hadden.

West Porlock, Somerset.

A novel roof garden

It is a sign of the times that great business houses are identifying themselves with the growing popularity of flowers and gardens among the general public. At the Oxford Street store of Messrs. Selfridge's is now to be seen a roof, unique of its kind. Set right in the heart of the Metropolis, 180 feet above the most famous thoroughfare in the world, is a garden as restful and charming as any that can be found. Motives, other than altruistic, inspired its planning; the idea was conceived in a desire to assist members of the amateur gardening public in the choice of garden features.

Extending uninterruptedly for a distance of more than 200 yards, a series of gardens, each complete in itself, has been designed for the purpose of assisting and further developing the art and love of gardening. Here there are lawns and water pools, flowers and foliage, plants to clothe the heavy structure of oak pergolas and sun coves, and in quiet relief are old world pigeons, quaint cotes, sandstone walls, and heavy paving in random style.

Among the thousands of daily visitors are gardeners who marvel at so daring an experiment, wondering how this and that amongst the plants will fare when winter comes.

As many readers know, Bouverie House, the home of Gardening Illustrated, and situated in the heart of the Press world, has a flourishing greenhouse on the roof, which is managed by an enthusiastic committee.

Attend to Dahlias

These are making rapid growth now, so thinning of the shoots should have attention, while tying to the stakes must not be neglected, or the wind will in all likelihood cause serious damage. The Dahlia quickly resents dryness at the roots, so should the weather continue dry give a thorough soaking of clean water, while the following day a further drenching of weak liquid manure will prove beneficial.

The Dry Weather

THE British Rainfall Organisation, Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, have sent us the map reproduced on this page, together with the following details:—

The scarcity of rain this year has become a matter of general interest, and in many parts of the country water engineers are anxious as to the adequacy of their supplies. Not since 1921 has there occurred such a pronounced shortage of rain; indeed, the intervening years have been marked by excessive rainfall, the excess being usually well distributed throughout the year.

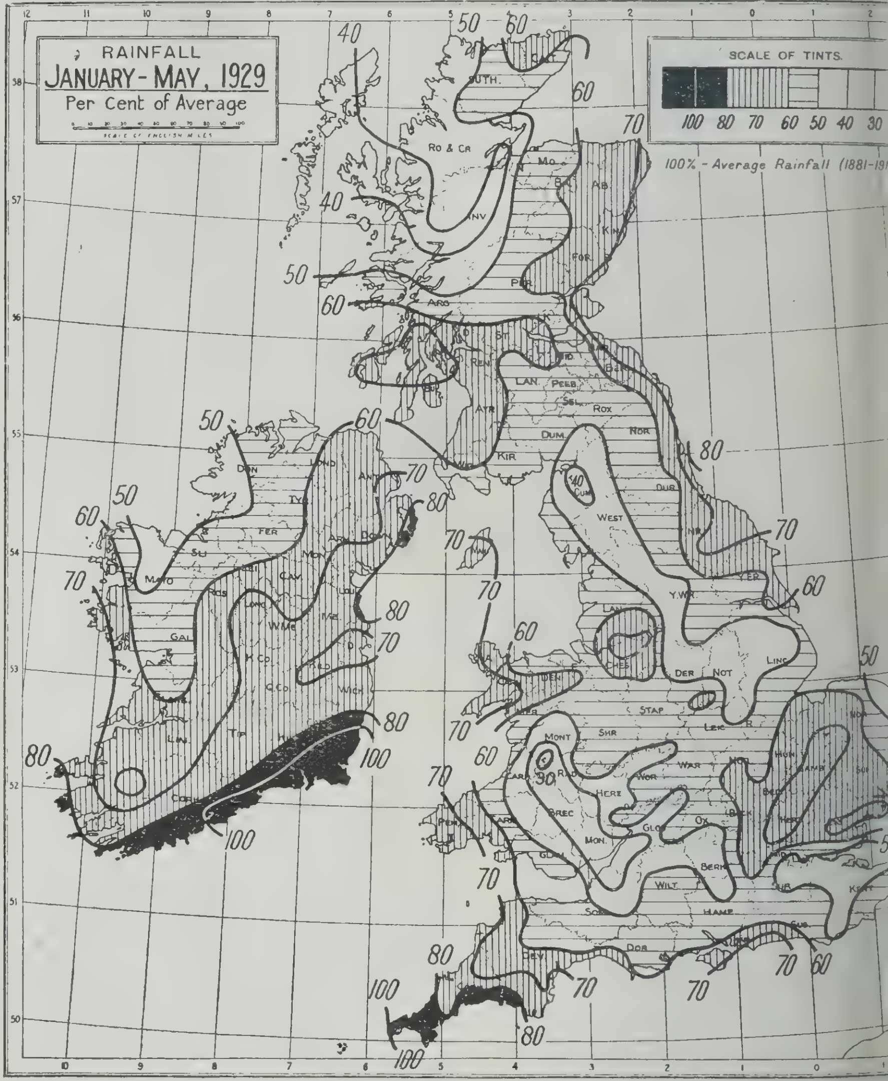
The period of relative dryness commenced generally in December last, and it continued in most districts until May. The following table shows the general rainfall of the last six months. The values in the table are not actual rainfall amounts, but they are rainfall amounts expressed as percentages of the averages. This method of expression is adopted in order that the values may indicate at once the relative degree of dryness (100 per cent. denoting an average fall, 50 per cent. half an average fall, and so on).

—	1928.	1929.				
	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.
England and Wales	83	71	49	13	57	103
Scotland	96	49	54	24	76	107
Ireland	96	57	129	24	51	109
British Isles ..	92	63	67	18	61	105

From the point of view of water supply the important feature of this table is the fact that the three winter months, December to February, showed a decided deficiency, and that the following month, March, with 18 per cent., gave the lowest monthly percentage general fall on record for the whole of the British Isles. For it is the rainfall of the winter months which percolates through the soil and maintains our springs and rivers. Summer rainfall, unless exceptionally heavy or continuous, is absorbed by vegetation or evaporated again, and does not contribute much to water supplies.

The percentage values given in the table above are general values for each country as a whole, and in order to show the variations in different parts the accompanying map has been prepared from the records of nearly 300 stations distributed over the British Isles. For each station the total rainfall from January 1st to May 31st, 1929, was expressed as a percentage of the average rainfall at that station for the same five months, the averages being derived from records of the 35 years, 1881-1915. The percentage values were then plotted on a map and lines drawn to indicate where the five months' rainfall was 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, or 100 per cent. of the average. The 100 per cent. line indicates areas where the fall just attained the average. This line is drawn in the middle of black patches extending from 80 per cent. upwards, and it occurs only in the extreme south of Ireland and the extreme south-west of Cornwall. Areas with less than 50 per cent. of the average fall in the five months, January to May, are left unshaded. They occur in the north of Scotland, the north of England, in the Midlands of England, and the contiguous parts of Wales, in Kent, and in N.W. Ireland. London and Birmingham received about half their normal rainfall amounts, Edinburgh and Glasgow had about 55 per cent., and Dublin about 60 per cent. The lowest percentage values so far worked out are 30 per cent. at Llangurig (Montgomery), 35 per cent. at Rhayader (Radnor), 36 per cent. at Margate (Kent), 39 per cent. at Aspatria (Cumberland), and 38 per cent. at Fort Augustus (Inverness) and Bendamph (Ross). The highest percentage value is 119 per cent. at Waterford.

Only 2·72 inches of rain fell at Margate during the five months, and 2·86 inches at Shoeburyness (Essex). At Seathwaite, the wet spot in Borrowdale (Cumberland), 24·15 inches were measured, this, however, being only 47 per cent. of the average value of 51·09 inches for the five months, 25·78 inches (73 per cent. of the average) were measured at Blaenau Festiniog, in North Wales, and 24·72 inches in the mountains of Connemara.



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Most of the rainfall observations upon which this note is based were contributed to the Meteorological Office by voluntary observers in all parts of the country, whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

The Horned Poppy

Some of the readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED who are taking their holidays by the sea may meet the Horned Poppy growing (with almost miraculous thriftiness) in the shingle of the foreshore. Good gardeners will be content to admire it under the conditions that best show off its beauty, and it is to be hoped that others will resist all temptation to dig it up. There are good and obvious
reasons for leaving it to flower for
light of other eyes, and, if they are r
cient, it should be borne in mind t
extremely unlucky to dig up eit
Horned Poppy or the Sea Poppy. Th
have unthinkingly destroyed them in
have been known to suffer for yea
wards from Borborygmi, Bridg
Paracusis Wilsoni, and other afflict
unpleasant to be mentioned here.

But the great horned pods of the Se
produce an abundance of seed, of wh
than 1 per cent. will germinate where
and of this we can take a pinch or t
impunity and a clear conscience. Se

which are readily raised in this way, a
ticularly useful to those who have bu
by the sea, and, though they would
have flowers, have no soil in which t
them.

In the garden the Horned Popp
always seem a little out of place to th
have seen it flowering in the shingle,
great, yellow flowers and massive, gre
foliage look handsome enough here to
themselves in the unnatural but pleas
sociation with Cheiranthus linifolius,
supplies a background of cool lavend

When it is once established the
Poppy will usually seed itself, often too
and young plants are now popping up
the Raspberry canes to remind the obs
stay-at-home gardener how pleasant i
be by the sea. F. A

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

thern and Midland

flowering Begonias

ally those of the Gloire de Lor- ｏe, should now be growing freely, hile a brisk, moist temperature able to maintain the plants in and healthy condition, an occa- imulant will prove beneficial. Keep s near to the glass, shading the latter he hottest part of the day. Shift on ts into larger pots as required, and all flower buds as they appear. A stakes will be necessary to support st plants, and where it is the custom hese splendid winter flowering sub- furnishing hanging baskets no time lost in getting these made up. The eatment will be found very satisfac- most of the winter flowering kinds.

ens

should now be occupying cool and shaded frames, where growth is both nd clean; dryness at the root is a itation to attacks of mite and thrips. e avoid this at all costs by intelligent , spraying, and shading from bright . On warm, settled nights the lights h advantage, be removed altogether.

ous Calceolarias

fine plants enjoy very similar con- o that recommended for Cyclamen, om bright sunshine being most im- with an abundance of moisture round eir receptacles, but the plants them- ust be watered with care, especially age.

as and Primulas

nditions are necessary here also, and is more suitable than the cold frame accommodation. Once past the stage, the former grow rapidly, and ive a check if permitted to become . Therefore shift the plants on into ts before this condition arises. A my soil, to which has been added of leaf mould, sharp sand, and a e-meal, will suit both species.

al flowering Carnations

he exception of those brought along to produce flowers under glass dur- er, all should now be in the open air, will admit of a thorough cleansing igating of the houses. No time lost in placing plants required for wering in their final pots, and until part of this month all growth show- lency to push flower spikes should be lown. Avoid attacks of Red Spider p by syringing the plants freely fol- t days, but should these pests gain a pinch of common salt to a gallon of ayed upon all parts of the plant will heir damaging the foliage.

les which may be sown now

vacant plots where early Potatoes, tuce, etc., have been growing become at this date, and may be turned to e if dug and manured at once. ts may be sown with Onions, Beet, summer Cabbage, Cauliflower, early of Peas, French Beans, Spinach, of which will prove of inestimable supplying small sweet and tender arly autumn. One important point orne in mind when planning for this ply, and that is, that all the crops thinned, not transplanted, and per- mature in the lines in which they were sown. Transplanting would in most instances check the plants and prevent their maturity.

Netting fruits

Bush and other fruits must be netted, otherwise the greater part of the crop will be lost. I find it necessary to use $\frac{3}{4}$-inch mesh netting, otherwise the most elegant of our singers can pass through easily and do quite a lot of damage; also, since nets have become so expensive, I use wire netting 2 feet wide all around the base, and thus the fish netting is kept clear of the ground and its life extended considerably.

The flower garden

This is now very gay, and every effort must be made to keep Roses clean by spraying, climbers trained, old flowers constantly removed, and staking wherever necessary. Whether the plants are large or small, this is equally important. The hoe must be constantly going, in order to present the beds and borders in their most interesting and beautiful condition, and this can only be attained by cleanliness, judicious watering, and removal of discoloured blooms as they appear.

Herbaceous borders

On sandy soils watering is constant, but must be done, or the result will be quantities of naked stems before summer has reached its zenith. Staking, too, is claiming a good deal of attention.

Polyanthuses

Sown during April in pans are ready for pricking out at 4 inches apart in the open to provide good roots for autumn planting.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Arabis albida fl. pl.

This is one of the easiest of plants to cultivate, and yet many growers lose it, from one cause or another. It is easily raised from cuttings, and these, if secured now and dibbled into a bed of sandy soil, well watered and carefully shaded from all sunshine, will be ready for planting in their permanent quarters in a few weeks' time. In combination with some of the dwarf Brooms, it is very telling on large rockeries.

Aubrietias

The Rock Cresses are among our most cheerful, early-flowering dwarf plants. They are much more difficult to root than are the Arabises, but if secured, while the growths are comparatively soft, shortly after flowering is finished, they are more likely to do well than when left until later. Insert carefully in well-drained boxes, filled with very sandy compost. Set in a sheltered and shady place until rooted.

Garden Pinks

When cuttings are taken late in the season, they often fail to root; so it is advisable to secure them about this time. Good results often follow when shortish shoots are pulled off with a heel and planted firmly on a shady border, without any trimming off of leaves. Merely take out a notch with a spade, run a little sand or sandy compost into the bottom, set the bases of the cuttings on this, fill in the soil, and make very firm. Ordinary cuttings can be inserted in boxes of light soil and set in a shady frame.

Stake border Chrysanthemums

If stakes have not already been placed to these plants, it will be necessary to do this now, without further delay, for when once the stems get bent over for want of suitable support it is never possible to get them into good upright condition again. Where the shoots are at all crowded, remove all the weaker ones, for overcrowding is bad for the plants. If Green Fly are present in the points spray with some good insecticide.

Spring Cabbages

It is only by having the plants of good size before winter sets in that really early Cabbages can be produced. It is necessary therefore to sow the seeds in good time. In our later northern districts the first week in July is none too early, while in the more favoured localities about the 21st will be found to give good results. "Velocity" I find a very valuable little Cabbage, coming into use a week or 10 days before Flower of Spring and Milecross Marrow, all three being very hardy, of fine table quality, and non-bolters.

Spring Broccoli

If planted at once there is still time for these to succeed. Very firm, and not over-rich ground is necessary if this crop is to stand the winter, for it is only by encouraging the plants to make firm, sturdy growth that they will be able to withstand the vagaries of our climate.

Lettuces for autumn

It is hardly worth while to sow after this date here in the north, unless a frame can be used when necessary to protect the plants. For present sowing I find Ben Lomond, New York Giant, and Webb's Wonderful very reliable and of fine quality.

Turnips

Continue to thin earlier sowings, as they become fit, while a final sowing of both white and yellow varieties should be made so as to ensure fresh young bulbs, until frost spoils them. Chirk Castle, Black Stone, although anything but attractive to look at, is of quite good quality, and is very hardy, even withstanding all ordinary winters out-of-doors.

Onions

Do not fail to water this crop copiously during dry weather. An occasional soaking of liquid manure also will help materially in swelling up the bulbs, while frequent dustings of soot will help to discourage the dreaded grub and also stimulate the plants. Failing a supply of liquid manure, an occasional light dressing of some good artificial manure will be very good for the Onion crop.

Dwarf Beans

These useful subjects are very frequently considerably spoiled by reason of over-crowding of the plants. Where there is any evidence of this it is very easy to put matters right by thinning down to 9 inches or 12 inches apart in the rows.

Tomatoes

Plants carrying good crops of fruit require to be well nourished, so systematic feeding must be carried out. Liquid manure should be given weak and often, while if this material is difficult to procure a light dressing of some good chemical fertiliser will do at least equally well, being well watered in. Care must be taken to prevent a close, stuffy atmosphere in the house, a little air being left on, even during the night.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

"The Scientific Papers of William Bateson" *

SCIENCE in England has been singularly fortunate, alike in those who have fostered its progress by actual effort and in those who have supplied for that progress the complementary necessity of money. The munificence of the wealthy English gentleman has frequently given to the brilliant man of science the opportunity for which he might have had to wait years longer if he had had to rely on public bodies. Of this we are reminded by the recent publication of the scientific papers and of the popular addresses of one of the most brilliant scientists of our own time—those of the late William Bateson. These volumes contain nearly all Bateson's contributions to the scientific and popular literature of his day, and the "scientific papers" embody the results of Bateson's scientific investigations, and their importance makes of them a lasting monument to the memory of this "heaven-sent genius."

The consummation of Bateson's life work, however, was aided considerably by the generosity of a wealthy gentleman who had carried on business in the City towards the earlier part of last century. John Innes was a wealthy City merchant who bought an estate in the area that is now known as Merton. At his death he left the estate, together with a considerable sum of money, both to be used for founding a school for gardeners. The endowment became so large that it was deemed sufficient for founding a Horticultural Research Institution, which later became known as the John Innes Horticultural Institution. In due course the post of Director was offered to William Bateson, who then held a Professorship in Biology at Cambridge. His acceptance was conditional upon the reservation "that he should be allowed space on the land to run his poultry and continue his breeding experiments with them. . . . Happily, permission was granted." In the memoir which is published along with Bateson's popular essays and addresses Mrs. Bateson describes the condition of the site of the future Institution as Bateson termed it, "The land which the experimental garden at Merton was to occupy was bare, and, but for crops of Mint for Mitcham Salteries, practically uncultivated." Such were the beginnings of what was to become one of the most famous research stations in the world.

Notwithstanding his predominantly zoological interests Bateson, during the time that he was Director of the John Innes Horticultural Institution, commenced and carried to a successful conclusion many investigations of a horticultural nature. The results of these investigations form the subjects of several of the articles which are now included in "The Scientific Papers of William Bateson." The horticulturist who recognises the importance of the scientific foundations of his subject will be interested in such papers, among others, as "On the Genetics of Rogues Among Culinary Peas," "Root Cuttings, Chimæras, and Sports," and "Genetics in Primula sinensis." In addition to such papers, which embody the results of Bateson's own researches, the collection also includes Bateson's contributions to several discussions with many eminent men of his day. Of these, perhaps, one of the most interesting from a horticultural point of view is that which centred round the origin of the cultivated Cineraria.

The late Sir W. Thyselten-Dyer, himself an eminent horticulturist, exhibited at a meeting of the Royal Society early in 1895 a specimen of Cineraria cruenta, from the Canary Islands, side by side with a plant of the common cultivated form, and in connection with this he stated, "that, firstly, of the two forms exhibited the one had been produced from the other; secondly, as far as is known, the process of evolution had been accomplished by the gradual accumulation of small variations and not by the selection of sports or seedlings, presenting notable and striking variations."

Bateson dissented from this view on the grounds that "records of the early culture of the Cineraria" indicated "(1) that the modern Cineraria arose as a hybrid derived from several very distinct species; (2) that the hybrid seedlings were, from the first, highly variable; (3) that sports of an extreme kind appeared after hybridisation in the early years of the improvement of these plants; (4) that the subsequent perfection of the form, size and habit has proceeded by a slow process of selection." The species that he mentions as having contributed towards the hybrid are cruenta, aurita, populifolia, and lanata, all from the Canary Islands or

Madeira. Bateson elaborated his a
in a series of letters which appe
Nature in 1895.

The collection of Bateson's more
addresses and essays includes one or
prints from the Journal of the Roya
cultural Society.

Time has altered but little the
these pieces to the horticulturist. T
ject matter is still a potential sourc
rivalled interest, and the method of p
tion recalls most forcibly the passa
the memoir that each lecture "was
lously thought out."

In such papers as those we have me
above the horticulturist will doubtl
his main interest, but the other art
these volumes command attention,
because, in so far as they all deal w
problems of heredity they may hav
bearing on problems of horticultural i
but also because "an exact determina
the laws of heredity will probably wor
change in men's outlook on the wo
in his power over Nature than an
advance in natural knowledge that
foreseen."

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* "The Scientific Papers of William Bateson," 2 vols., 42s. each. "William Bateson, Naturalist"; 21s. The Cambridge University Press.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED
has to be sent to press some days in adv
date, queries cannot always be replied to
issue immediately following their receipt.
not reply to queries by post.

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pl*
be named should send fair examples of ea
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of
and points of shoots are useless.) Not mo
four plants should be sent in any one week
same correspondent. Where more than o
is sent they should be numbered. Of coni
cones should always be sent.

FLOWER GARDEN

Plants for fragrance

(A. J. W.).—This is not a very suitable time for starting to raise plants of any kind, but for out-of-doors, at the proper season, you could plant Lily of the Valley, Wallflowers (you could procure plants of these shortly), Auriculas, Roses, Pinks, Carnations, Woodruff, Monarda, Lavender, Liliums of sorts, Tree Lupins, Stocks, Nicotiana, Polyanthus, Mignonette, Thyme, Violets. For the greenhouse you could have Heliotrope, Cytisus, scented-leaved Pelargoniums, Carnations, scented Verbena, Mignonette, Liliums, Cyclamens, Primula malacoides, P. Kewensis, Roses, Polyanthus, Narcissus, Hyacinths, Jonquils, Freesias, double Wallflowers, and Stocks.

Narcissus Tazetta, an early flowering form from Portugal

I have seen in your issue of March 9th a photograph (page 158) of early Narcissus "collected in the hills of Portugal." Can you give me information as to where in Portugal this comes from? Is this a popular flower, *i.e.*, is there any demand for the bulb?

J. K. CASSELS.

242, Rua da Agra,
Foz, Oporto, Portugal.

[We are unable to say in what district this Narcissus was found, but of its popularity there can be no doubt. If you are in a position to collect bulbs, you would gather all the information you desire by corresponding with one of the principal English or Dutch bulb growers, such as Messrs. R. H. Bath, Ltd., Floral Farms, Wisbech, Lincs., or Messrs. Van Tubergen, Haarlem, Holland.]

Name of plant

(Capt. Henry L. Cochrane).—From the description you give of your plant we should say that it was either Heuchera Richardsoni
or H. tiarelloides. The flowers of the
possess no colour beauty, but bear a g
aspect when grown in numbers. This
however, is grown for its handsome
more than its flowers, the former tur
beautiful coppery-bronze during the
If you could send another leaf and flo
may be able to clear the matter up for

About Lilies

(A. E. P.).—Yes; the Turk's C
Lilium Martagon. The name Turk'
may be a corruption of Turn Cap.
Yellow Turk's Cap to which you refe
all probability L. pyrenaicum, native
Pyrenees. Please send specimen for
fication. Your Lilies were named i
week's issue.

Diseased Lilies

(E. E. M.).—Your Lily is affected wi
Lily Disease, which is caused by a fu
Botrytis sp. Please see reply to "H. L
on page 442 of our issue for June 22nd.

Position and manure for Auricula

(K. U.).—Auriculas love a cool
partially shaded aspect, such as the nort
of a wall. They also do fairly well i
open position where they do not get u
dry during summer. Well-rotted far
manure is best for them, but if this
obtainable bone-meal should be emp
Yes, they are extremely beautiful
grown in pots, but will not stand high
peratures. Cool greenhouse treatme
even frames will be found suitable.

Iris Kæmpferi dying

(Miss Edye).—The roots of the plan
were quite dead, and the reason was pr
due to the plant having been kept to
This Iris must be kept quite moist at the
until well established, otherwise this re
sure to follow. Another reason is that
are often kept in cases too long before

r sale at the large sale rooms, and by
h they reach the customers, are half-
you have others in the same condi-
advise you to lift them, wash out
ots, and replant firmly in a moist
where they can be damped over every
during dry weather. In this way
be able to save a percentage of them.

kia magnifica failure

nted some roots of Ostrowskia
a last autumn. The plants all came
and looked very healthy till they
inches to 15 inches high. Then sud-
e leaves turned yellow and all the
em to be dead. I have them in three
parts of the garden, but they have
fred in the same way. I have a
a in the same bed which has grown
ormous size and flowers very freely.
one of the plants.

CHAS. E. MARSHALL.

ave examined your plant of the Giant
r (Ostrowskia magnifica) and can
vidence of disease. It appears to us
r garden is, perhaps, one that will
this plant successfully. The plants
delight in a deep, loamy soil, and
great care in planting and shelter.
th this, for some unknown reason,
t will not grow in some gardens.
some of our readers will be good
o give us the results of their experi-
ith this plant. Detailed reports of
would be as useful as the reports of
It may be that your plants were
y frost.]

dying

ner).—The Viola plant was much
by the time it came to hand, but we
e that it was weakly in growth, so
soil or situation had not agreed with
le both Roses and Violas rather like
garden refuse one requires to know
s material is composed of. In your
had no idea, so it was risky using
Roses something vastly better would
ed—the top spit of an old pasture or
best portion of a vegetable garden
been well cultivated previously would
necessary. It is doubtful whether
ever be able to so improve the pre-
tents of the bed as to make it suitable
s, or even Violas. Had the garden
heap been mixed with fresh lime it
ubtless have destroyed many noxious
injurious to plants and would, at
ve sweetened the soil.

Clarkia

).—The Clarkia should not be sown
rich ground or it will almost cer-
ow mainly to leaf and stem. Sow
s thinly, and when the seedlings are
to 3 inches high thin out to 9 inches
Keep free of weeds and stir the soil
hoe at least once a fortnight. Pro-
your climate water will have to be
reely.

lowers

. S.).—It is impossible for us to give
eason of the Lupin flowers dropping
e material sent, because the trouble
ed lower down. The trouble may be
elworm or to a Foot Rot. Give the
d also the nearby plants a thorough
with Cheshunt Compound. If the
plant shows any further signs of
it should be taken up and burned.
r soil been dressed with phosphate?
a dressing of basic slag would assist
ts.

Pea diseased

e).—Your Sweet Peas are affected
own Gall, and we should like the op-
y of examining a better specimen.
The one you sent dried badly in the post. If you packed one in a tin box it should arrive in a good condition for examination. We are surprised that the plants are flowering satisfactorily. If you can send us another specimen we will report in due course.

Iris diseased

(R. F. S.).—There are two serious diseases of Flag Iris, one a Leaf Spot, the second a Soft Rot, which affects the rhizomes. The organism causing Soft Rot has from time to time received different names, and one name under which it has been known was Pseudomonas. It may be that actually there is more than one organism which causes the rot. However, they have one thing in common, *i.e.*, they are all bacteria and, as such, flourish in an alkaline medium. There are many people who, like yourself, give a dressing of lime to plants affected with Soft Rot, with the result that the disease spreads very rapidly. The lime has probably no effect on the cell sap, but it makes the soil alkaline. The soil around plants affected with Soft Rot becomes highly infected with the bacterium, and the disease spreads through the soil. A dressing of superphosphate of lime tends to reduce the bacterial activity. If you follow out the directions upon the control of Soft Rot which have been given within these pages of late you should have no difficulty in obtaining control. Sterilisation in some form or the other is essential.

Plant to name and culture of same

(Clipstone).—The plant is Veronica parviflora (Bowles hybrid). Plant in a warm and sheltered border or other sunny spot where it is protected from cutting winds, and in well-drained loamy soil containing a portion of leaf-mould. As your soil is on the heavy side we advise you to introduce a little coarse sand or gravel into it to assist aeration. You should then experience no difficulty in growing this pretty plant.

Columbine Leaf Miner

(L. B., Ohio).—Your specimen leaf duly arrived, but did not contain any specimens of the insect which causes the damage, therefore we are unable to state the actual causal organism. There are many dipterous flies which cause similar damage in many plants in England, and we think your damage is caused in the same way. Here we use nicotine as a control for Leaf Miners. Prof. Theobald has shown that a very strong solution of nicotine will kill the larvæ of some Leaf Miners within the leaf, but his recipe is expensive, working out at about the rate of 8 ozs. nicotine to 10 gallons of water. You might try the effect of using an ordinary application of nicotine solution as follows:—Nicotine, 1 oz.; soft-soap, ½ lb.; water, 10 gallons. Increase the amount of nicotine if you find the above not strong enough to kill, but be careful not to use the material strong enough to burn the foliage.

Rasphail semi-double Geranium

(Little Welshman).—Both Dobbie and Co., Ltd., The Scottish Seed Establishment, Edinburgh, and John Forbes (Hawick), Ltd., Buccleuch Nurseries, Hawick, Scotland, catalogue the Zonal Pelargonium (Geranium) F. V. Rasphail.

GREENHOUSE

Cycas revoluta

(Seven Rides).—Your plant is a Cycas revoluta and is one of the most valuable of the greenhouse plants that may be placed in the open air from the end of May till October. It should be put in a warm, sheltered position. As a greenhouse plant it will thrive in turfy loam and coarse sand. The pot must be well drained to prevent stagnation. Young plants can be obtained from suckers, which are occasionally thrown up. We certainly advise repotting; in fact, this might be done each year. It should be kept in a moderately moist condition. Probably your best plan now would be to get a local florist to plunge it in a greenhouse hotbed to develop new growth quickly.

Begonia Rex turning brown

(Begonia).—Mix up a little soot and lime into a paste and place this in a pail of water. When thoroughly dissolved submerge the pots in it for a few minutes and water in future with a tablespoonful of lime and soot to 2 gallons of water.

Celosia failure

I am enclosing three specimens of Celosias and will be greatly indebted if you will state cause or reason of their obvious check. One specimen has roots attached, but the majority of the batch were potted into 7-inch pots and possess healthier roots than the specimen enclosed, yet all, numbering five dozen, are affected as the enclosed, and therefore suspect some overhead trouble. A. R. L.

[We have examined your specimens and can find nothing present that indicates the cause of the trouble. The roots are in perfect condition, and it is only the youngest portions of the aerial parts that are affected. It appears to us that the damage has been caused by insecticide or fumigant of some kind. The trouble is certainly an overhead one, but what has actually caused it we are unable to state from the evidence we have. Perhaps you will be able to find out what has happened. Something has come in contact with the tender portions of the foliage which has burnt it.]

Hæmanthus Katherinæ

(R. Smith).—The Hæmanthus is by no means common in British gardens. Its culture somewhat resembles that of the Amaryllis, and is briefly this. Good, sound loam and fibrous peat, with enough sharp sand to ensure porosity. The bulbs should, unlike those of the Amaryllis, be covered with the compost. A temperature ranging from 50 degrees to 60 degrees suits them while making their growth, but the flowers last longer if the plants are removed to a cooler house just as they open. After the flowers fade the plants should again be moved to their former quarters, and after full growth has been made, much less water and a lower temperature should again be provided so that the bulbs may secure a rest. The plants must not be placed in large pots, as it is only when well pot-bound that flowers appear. They should be left in the same pots for several years.

Carnation Leaf Spot

(F. E. Sowden).—The specimen Carnation foliage sent for examination is affected with Carnation Leaf Spot, which is caused by the fungus Septoria dianthi. This fungus causes a lot of trouble to Carnation growers, and, once it becomes firmly established, is difficult to control. Spores are produced from all the affected portions; these are carried into new areas by air currents and by water, when the plants are syringed. The best control measure is to pick off and burn all the affected portions. This can sometimes be done not by removing the entire leaf, but only the affected tip. Of course, if the whole leaf is affected it must come off. The plants should be sprayed at intervals of a few days with a solution of liver of sulphur 1 oz. to 2 gallons of water. Repeat the picking off and spraying until you have obtained control. Do not syringe for a time, but to guard against Red Spider you must keep the plants well damped down. Please note that we do not reply through the post.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Yew hedge

(New Reader).—In the first place you were much too late in planting your Yews, and, secondly, wild plants lifted as described are always very doubtful unless quite small. When grown and prepared in nurseries, such bushes are transplanted every second or third year, and when finally lifted for transit receive very little check. We advise you to reduce all your plants to 2 feet, cutting the tops away completely, and prune all side branches to within a few inches of the main stem. This seems drastic treatment, but it pays in the end. Place a mulch of litter over their roots and damp the plants overhead in the evening following hot days. The reason that a few survived is probably due to none of their large roots having been broken.]

Beech

(N. M.).—The plant was well supplied with fibrous roots, and if planted at the right time—between November and March—ought to have done all right, although the soil does look what the Scots call very "fuishinless" stuff. The Beech rather likes a little lime in the soil, and it may be that yours is entirely deficient in this constituent. A moderate amount of old mortar-rubble from a demolished building might conceivably help. The soil, being so light and open, should be trodden down very firmly over the roots, and while the Beech, as a rule, requires little in the way of manure, some well-rotted garden refuse would, we doubt not, also help to give the roots a start.

Fir Tree insects

(A. N. C., Torquay).—Your trees are affected with Pine-shoot Tortrix Moth, Retinia buoliana, Schiff. This is often a serious pest. The leading buds or whorl of buds are not arrested in their early stages and therefore all begin to grow. The central shoot is soon killed by the caterpillar attack. All the side shoots usually grow away, but are often deformed. The life-history is that the moth appears in July and eggs are laid at the tip of the shoot, and the caterpillars hatch in late summer. The young caterpillars gnaw the side of a shoot and this causes a flow of resin which covers the caterpillars over for the winter. In spring they wake up and commence to feed, causing the injuries such as you send. The caterpillars are fully fed in June and July. The pupation period lasts from 10 to 14 days. Little can be done to control this pest other than picking off the affected shoots and burning them. This, of course, is useless if the caterpillars are not *in situ*. In small trees search might be made in winter for the pest within their resin homes.

(N. Cowie).—The insect pest of Pinus insignis and P. sylvestris sent for examination is the one noted above.

Pruning shrubs

(A. M. H. Rogers).—(1) Buddleia Colvillei should be pruned immediately the flowers are over. The pruning consists of taking off the old flower-spikes, removing overcrowding and impoverished branches so as to admit light and air, and the reducing of growths which are inclined to push beyond their allotted space. This shrub must on no account be treated in the same way as is usual with the Chinese species. (2) Actinidia chinensis should be pruned only when absolutely necessary, and this should be done during the winter or towards the end of March, when just sufficient clean, strong growth should be left as will enable the leaves, etc., to develop to their full extent. This is now in bloom and making long growths, which may be pinched at their tips, or even removed altogether if there is no room for them to be trained in. It is a grand climber for a tree where it may ramble at will and prove very effective. The writer has seen it 80 feet high and spreading through the branches of a large Corsican Pine. (3) Ribes aureum.—A careful thinning of the branches should be made in October and any necessary shoots or branches removed to equalise the balance of the bushes. With young plants it is sometimes necessary to reduce the current season's growth to half its length in order to build up shapely bushes for future years.

Hole in tree

(J. S.).—Although the boring such as you mention is certainly not advisable in any tree, we do not consider that any harm will arise in the case of your Elm tree, especially as the hole is only to be driven half-way through

BEES

Moving Bees

Is it possible to shift bees and hives a distance of about 30 miles (in a car) in warm, sunny weather, and how should I set about it? L.

[Hives containing bees can be moved safely at the present time if due precautions are taken. The brood chamber must first be securely fixed to the floorboard by means of screws. The quilts must be removed, a wooden frame, about ½ inch deep, covered with perforated zinc at the upper side, the exact size of the top of the brood chamber, should be fixed at the top of the frames so that these latter are held firmly in position. This is very important. There should be no possible chance of these shifting during transit. In place of the entrance slides fix a strip of perforated zinc along the entrance of the brood chamber, and make sure that no bees can get out. The outer lifts and roof can be kept in place by being roped round, the ropes passing under the floorboard and over the roof. These operations should be performed in the evening after the bees have ceased flying for the day. The hive can then be moved to the new location. Bees dislike excessive vibration, so it will be well to drive slowly. Before liberating the bees, allow the hive to remain undisturbed for a quarter of an hour or so; this will permit them to settle down. Do not attempt to remove the frame of perforated zinc above the brood chamber until the following morning, but the quilts should be temporarily placed above it. It would be as well to place a handful or two of hay in front of the entrance when liberating. This will help the bees to mark their new position.—L. B.-W.]

FRUIT

Seedling Strawberry

I am sending a sample of Strawberries from plants which I have been cultivating for the last three years. I found the seedling growing wild among wild ones in a Cobnut plantation where Strawberries had not been grown, to my knowledge, for 50 years. The only varieties growing near are Sovereign and Paxton, which are about half a mile distant. It is a vigorous grower, a splendid cropper of medium-size fruit, commencing to ripen about June 18th and ending about July 12th. Practically free from disease. Is it a distinct variety? What is the cross? I should like your opinion of quality for commercial use.—KENT COBS.

[The fruits travel remarkably well, a most important point for a market variety. The flavour is good, and the fruits are of useful size, and of nice shape and appearance. The seedling is distinct from Royal Sovereign and Sir Joseph Paxton, both in fruit and
foliage. So far as we can tell, it is a
variety, but coming, as it does, from a
berry growing county, there is the po
that it may be a stray from a Str
plantation or the seed may have been
by birds or human agency. The seedl
nothing to do with the wild Straw
among which it was found growing,
it is, as stated, free from disease
splendid cropper, we are of opinion
has a great future for commercial us

Apple foliage

(A. E. P., Queen's Co.).—From y
scription it is impossible for us to
cause of your Apple trouble. If you
like to send us some specimens
damaged foliage and shoots packed i
box we should be pleased to examin
for you and report in due course.

Cherry trouble

Would you kindly tell me what is
with my Morello Cherry espalier? Th
tion is on an east wall; the soil was
and limed in the autumn. The tree
years old and has a good crop of C
and looked well till a few days ago
sprayed with Abol about 10 days ag
slight attack of Black Fly. The folia
well except at the fruit-buds, and the
turning a dull colour and dropping of
foliage at the fruit-bud has a slightly
colour. M.

[Red Spider is, in the main, the c
your Cherry failure. Wall fruit fre
suffer from this pest because the co
against a wall are so favourable to t
In the first place, the roots of wall t
often allowed to get dry, and in the
place the wall traps all the available
at certain parts of the day becomes v
Red Spider can only flourish under
conditions. You should give the
thorough soaking with water. Do
afraid of giving too much, many gall
be required. The tree should be spray
a weak solution of lime sulphur, and
this on by giving thorough syringing
with cold water just before the sun
the wall or early in the morning. D
water well up under the foliage and
the crevices of the wall. If this work
carried out at once you will lose all the
and the tree will be ruined for another
You have allowed the pest to stay
tree long enough to spoil your crop
season. It seems a pity to dest
chances of a crop for next year. Red
on any plant is the result of ins
water, especially to the aerial portions

Diseased Apple

(C. A. W.).—The Siberian Crab is
with Apple Scab, which is caused
fungus Venturia inæqualis. From
pearance of the foliage sent it is p
that most of the leaves affected will v
drop from the tree. These should
lected and burned. The fungus co
attacks wood, leaves, and fruit of all
some varieties being more susceptib
others. A thorough spraying with li
phur at summer strength will help
the new foliage free from the disea
your main effort in this direction sh
next spring. When the tree is in t
bud stage lime sulphur should be ap
winter strength. When the petals dr
the flowers a second spraying sho
given, this time at summer strengt
second spraying should be follow
another at the same strength three
later. If you write to The Se
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisher
Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1, for
of Leaflet No. 131, Apple and Pear Sc
would find much useful information

with this disease. We believe single of this leaflet can be obtained free of

failure

., West Riding).—We have examined elon and can find no trace of a fungus ould have caused the damage, and we t the root-system is in perfect condi- t appears probable that insect injury original cause of the trouble. We hat the collar of the plant was eaten the whole way round, and such would be likely to cause a shortage r to the leaves and burning would be ult. From the appearance of the d stem it looks to us as if woodlice en at work. If woodlice are the they could be poisoned by laying uitable baits. Thrip was present on ge, but not in sufficient quantity to amage.

rotting

. Barber, Hants).—There is not a fungi present in the Grapes you have examination, and we think that the the trouble must be a cultural one. ng is probably wrong with the root- of the Vine, but without actual ex- on on the spot we are unable to help you would like to give us full de- the Vines, age, state of border, and on of the Vine, perhaps we could be Perhaps a good local gardener sist you. It may be that a dressing ate of potash is required.

and Pear questions

. W.).—(1) The Pear leaves sent for tion are affected with Pear Leaf Mite (Eriophyses pyri). This mite d breeds within the tissue of the during the summer. The adults e in the scales surrounding the buds winter. The best method of control ay the tree so soon as the leaves drop, solution of lime sulphur at winter . In mild cases this is usually suffi- control, but in bad cases, such as pears to be, it is necessary to repeat ying just before the buds begin to the spring. Rake up and burn as the affected leaves as possible after It may be necessary to repeat the several years before you obtain full No measure of control can be out during summer. Theobald, in periments at Wye, found that lime was more effective against this pest f caustic soda *plus* 1 lb. of soft-soap ded to each 10 gallons of lime sulphur (2) We have carefully examined imen Pear fruits and cannot find a which could possibly have caused the ation. It occurs to us that the real the trouble is at the root of the plant. y remove some of the soil and ex- e fibre roots, and we expect that you that they are dead. It is also likely 4 query is due to the same cause, there is no sign of a fungus present ecimen leaves. You will, of course, a position to consider what has the roots. Many things could have t, but it must have been something n character or the fruits would not eloped as they did, neither would the ave reached their present size and e off. Have you been using manures g? There is no sign of Red Spider in the specimens sent. (3) Your liage is affected with Capsid Bug, an hich causes much trouble on Apple and fruits. In appearance the Apple when adult is like a huge Green Fly but, unlike Aphis, the Capsid can rapidly. If the trees are jarred the creature drops to the ground fairly readily. The life-history is as follows:—Winter is passed in the egg stage and the eggs are more or less embedded in the bark of the tree. The eggs hatch during April and May, and at first are very small and have no wings, but at all stages the creatures run very rapidly. After several months the adult stage is reached, and as each moult occurs wings are gradually developed. Capsids feed by piercing the tissue of the host and sucking out the cell sap. A red mark occurs at each puncture. Eggs are laid in late summer, and in the case of the Apple Capsid the whole summer is spent on the Apple. Pears are occasionally used as a host. The best control is to spray about 10 days before the flowers open, using a good nicotine wash. Care must be used to drive the spray well into the flower and leaf trusses or little good will be done. The Capsids which fall to the ground must also be sprayed or they will ascend the trees and carry on. Nicotine is only a contact wash and must therefore hit to kill.

VEGETABLES

Tomato plants

(A. J. W.).—Your plants seem, judging by the leaves sent, to be in a weak condition. While your compost is good enough, as far as it goes, you would require (unless the loam is of extra fine quality) to enrich it with some good chemical fertiliser, Thomson's being one of the best for use in the cultivation of the Tomato. A good quantity of dry wood-ashes should also have been mixed with the soil at planting time. You can easily apply the fertiliser now, giving about a dessertspoonful to each plant, sprinkling it evenly all over the surface and covering with a little fresh soil mixed with wood-ashes. This should help to bring the plants into good health.

Asparagus

(Mrs. Eleanor Pain).—While there will be little difficulty as regards the two rows of seedlings, it will be somewhat difficult to make good the gaps in old beds from the thinnings from these, as the Asparagus is so easily damaged if you begin to dig among its roots, as you would obviously have to do in lifting some of the seedlings. It would really be better to well thin the seedlings, leaving them about 15 inches apart, and either buy sufficient plants to fill the gaps or else next spring sow seeds thinly in the gaps. Or better still, sow the seeds on well prepared ground in another part of the garden, the young plants from this sowing being transferred to the gaps a year later. We may say, however, that we do not greatly favour making up gaps in old beds, finding it much better to bring on young beds until in full bearing and then destroying the old ones.

Onions dying

(G. McKeown).—Your trouble is caused by the Onion Fly, and we advise you to pull up all affected plants and destroy them. If you squeeze the lower part of the plants you will see the maggots emerge. Dress your ground between the rows with either nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia at the rate of 1 oz. to each square yard, lightly hoeing it in. This will be very unpalatable to the maggot, and also act as a strong stimulant to the plant, promoting in it such vigour that it will quickly grow beyond the critical stage. Another method is to spray the young plants with a petroleum emulsion once each week, from mid-May to mid-July, using a wineglassful of paraffin to 1 gallon of water. The paraffin must be mixed with boiling water first.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dogs and cats

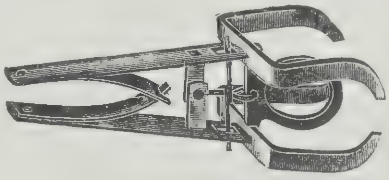
Can you give me the name of any material, powder or liquid, which has a smell which dogs and cats dislike? I have a bank at the end of the garden with wire-netting above, but some dogs manage to get in. An unpleasant odour might deter them.

C. A. W.

[We do not know of any liquid which can be depended upon to keep dogs and cats away from any given area, and we are publishing your letter in the hope that some of our readers may be able to assist you. In our own experience a generous supply of pepper sprinkled over the area acts as a deterrent to dogs and cats. Paraffin is also distasteful, especially to dogs.]

Trapping the common mole

(J. K. Cassels).—The best trap for this purpose is the one here shown. This consists of two small pieces of steel shaped like a two-tined fork with the tines at the base bent inwards. These are held together in the centre by a pin, which also holds the ring used when setting the trap. At the top of each fork handle, but riveted inside, are strong springs which close the trap as the mole approaches along its run and removes the ring, which has a hole in the centre large enough for the mole's head to pass through. This removed, the forked parts close up, gripping the mole round the body. Bits of poisoned meat placed in their runs will also get rid of moles. Any sundriesman would supply the traps.



Weed on small pond

(Mrs. C. D. H., Surrey).—This is the small pond weed, Potamogeton pusillus, a very troublesome weed once it becomes established. A close-toothed garden rake drawn through the water provides the best means of ridding one's pond of this nuisance. The rake should be pulled along the bottom of the water and thus prevent the plant from spreading and seeding. When broken through in this way collect the weeds from the surface and destroy them. Weeds growing among the plants must be removed by hand. If the collecting of the weed presents a difficulty you will find a fine-meshed sieve lashed to a long handle excellent for the purpose.

Daddy-long-legs

(A. M. A.).—The grub you send is that of the Daddy-long-legs. Give the ground a good dressing of lime or one of the many soil fumigants.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Alpine.—1, Rhododendron myrtifolium; 2 and 5, Rhododendron ferrugineum; 3, Rhododendron arbutifolium; 4, Rhododendron Kæmpferi; 6, Veronica buxifolia; 7, Geranium Lancastriense; 8, Geranium argenteum.

J. G. W., Near Frome.—1, Æsculus Hippocastanum (Horse Chestnut); 2, Acer negundo.

E. B. P.—1, Asperula cyanchica; 2,

Erodium Kolbiana; 3, Escallonia microphylla; 4, Linaria triornithophora; 5, Clinopodium calamintha.

Scot.—Cotoneaster microphylla.

Annie E. Lanyon.—1, Leptospermum scoparium Chapmannii; 2, Philadelphus Lemoinei; 3, Berberis Hookeri; 4, Pyracantha coccinea.

S. C. M., Gledstones.—1, Dianthus dependens; 2, D. deltoides; 3, D. superbus.

J. T., East Lothian.—Weigelia Eva Rathke.

Cæsar.—Chionanthus virginica (Fringe Tree).

C. Saunders.—1, Dictamnus fraxinella (Burning Bush); 2, Pulmonaria saccharata var. Mrs. Moon; 3, Asperula cyanchica; 4, Corydalis lutea.

Begonia.—1, Lantana odorata; 2, probably a Jasmine, but must have a flower with foliage.

H. Coleman, Manchester.—Bennets Seedling, a very old Rose.

"Lest we forget"

Mr. Lionel de Rothschild presided over a large and brilliant assembly at the Mayfair Hotel, Berkeley Square, on Wednesday, June 26th. The occasion was the 84th anniversary festival dinner of the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution. Among those supporting the Chairman were:—The Lord Aldenham, Sir Jeremiah Coleman, Bt., J.P., D.L., V.M.H., Sir Frederick Green and Lady Green, Colonel Sir John Smith Young, C.V.O., G. W. E. Loder (President, Royal Horticultural Society), Mr. and Mrs. C. Grahame-White, Leonard Sutton, J P., C.B.E., Sir J. B. Slade and Lady Slade, Mr. and Mrs. John Weir, H. Gordon Selfridge, Capt. Noel Sutton, E. P. F. Sutton, R. C. B. Gardner, A. Simmonds, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Ebblewhite, Lt.-Col. F. R. Durham and Mrs. Durham, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Bradbury, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bigland, Mr. and Mrs. W. Cuthbertson, Mrs. J. W. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Sherwood, and Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Marshall, of New York.

After the Royal toasts had been honoured, the Chairman delivered the toast of the evening, viz., "Continued Prosperity to the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institution." He touched upon the objects of this great Institution, which grants relief to aged and distressed gardeners and their wives. There were, he said, 26 applicants waiting on the list for election. He made a strong appeal for support for the fund, which, considering its good work, ought to be more flourishing and more widely known. Mr. Leonard Sutton, Chairman of the Committee, responded, and, in doing so, paid tribute to the Chairman and to his family, who had done so much for the Institution in the past. Mr. Leonard Sutton explained that there were now 265 pensioners on the list. The work of the fund is increasing, and there is greater need for it now than ever. Tributes were also paid to the late Lord Lambourne and to the late Mr. Peter M. Veitch, both of whom had done so much for the Institution.

The toast of "The Visitors" was proposed by Col. Sir John Smith Young, who referred to the human factor in gardens, to the trained eye necessary to keep gardens at their present high standard of efficiency, and to the influence of flowers, which turned the thoughts of men and women from grave to gay and from gay to illumination. He made a touching appeal on behalf of the Institution. The toast was responded to by Sir Jeremiah Coleman, and the toast of "Our Chairman" was fittingly proposed by Mr. Edward Sherwood (Treasurer, and Master of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners).

At the close of the evening the Secretary, Mr. George J. Ingram, announced the subscriptions that had been made in response to the appeal. These included 100 guineas from the Chairman; Mr. N. N. Rothschild, £100; Mr. Edward Sherwood, 100 guineas; Messrs. Sutton and Sons, £100; William Wood and Sons, £100; Royal Horticultural Society, 50 guineas; Mr. Gordon Selfridge, 50 guineas; handsome collections from Major E. Monro and Mr. J. Collingridge, of Covent Garden, making, with many other subscriptions, a total of £2500.

All desirous of supporting the Institution should communicate with the Secretary, Mr. George J. Ingram, 92, Victoria Street, S.W. 1.

The greenhouse White Fly

MANY people who have greenhouses find their plants troubled with this pest. There are several methods of dealing with it; the latest is that for killing it by means of parasites. The Empire Marketing Board and the Ministry of Agriculture, acting with the Experimental Research Station at Cheshunt in Hertfordshire, have arranged a plan for the distribution of a parasite which lays its eggs within the scales or egg houses of this fly and thus destroys the young stages of the pest. This parasite is entirely harmless to plants; indeed, it is dependent on the White Fly for its existence.

Where the White Fly is very numerous and immediate control is called for, growers would do best to start off with one of the older methods, and fumigate the greenhouses at night with sodium cyanide and sulphuric acid, which make up a deadly gas called hydrocyanic acid gas—*i.e.*, one-eighth of an ounce of cyanide dropped into a jar containing one-half of a fluid ounce of 33 per cent. sulphuric acid. That amount will deal with 1,000 cubic feet of space, and will kill the majority of adult flies without injuring the foliage, but it is a deadly poison to man and must be used with great caution. The other quick remedy by fumigation is 5 fluid ounces of tetrachlorethane to every 1,000 cubic feet of space. This volatile liquid is poured upon the path of the greenhouse. It is much less poisonous than hydrocyanic acid gas, and, therefore, much more suitable for use in amateurs' Tomato houses. The operator must not breathe the fumes more than is necessary, and on no account must stay in the greenhouse. The fumigant cannot, however, be used without injury to certain plants, such as Chrysanthemums, Fuchsias, and certain varieties of Pelargonium.

As regards the parasite, the method is slow but very sure. The parasite is a sort of wasp, known as the chalcid wasp, and the Research Station at Cheshunt will, so far as they can, supply it to owners of glasshouses and conservatories. Owners should write to the Entomologist of the Station, Cheshunt, Herts., stating the number of glasshouses and the type of plant which is infected by White Fly. Where it is a commercial nursery, in which blocks of houses are used, it is advisable to state the number of houses in each block. The size of the houses does not matter. The most suitable time for starting the parasite is from late March to early June, though it can be done up to the beginning of August. The Research Station will send full directions about it with each box of material. The wasps are quite small insects. The female has a pale yellow body, and usually is found on the underside of the top foliage of plants upon which White Fly is breeding. When the plant is touched, the wasp may jump like a flea, or turn to flying, when it will be seen to do so in a
manner. The male wasp has a da
and is only to be found when temp
in the greenhouses are low.

On receipt of the material from
search Station, the grower will at on
it in a shady place in the greenhouse
he knows the White Fly exist. From
three weeks after, at about 70
Fahrenheit, he will find little black
scales on the underside of the low f
his plants. If he does not, someth
have gone wrong, and he must
another consignment of parasites.
one point to look out for, and that is
low temperatures the wasp is averse t
its eggs in White Fly scales where t
on the leaves of Tobacco, Datura,
tus, and a few other varieties, in
Primula and Pelargonium. The grow
not expect, therefore, a high percen
"takes" under such conditions.

Treatment of Asparagu

It is generally a rule in well-kept
that as soon as early Peas come in, As
cutting must cease, and this usually
about the third or fourth week in
Some people cut the young foli
Asparagus for house decorations, but
mistake as it weakens the plants imm
Where this Fern is required it is wis
a clump or two in the flower border
where for the purpose. As growth pr
a few stout stakes should be placed
around the outside of the beds and co
together with strong twine to prot
growth. Plenty of water should be
during dry periods, and liquid manure
plant food should be given periodicall
the end of October. During Nov
when the foliage has become yellow, it
be cut down and the beds dressed with
farmyard manure to the depth of 4 inc

In some cases where seed was all
ripen and fall on the beds there ar
likely to be a quantity of young plants
ing up at the present time. These sh
transferred to a bed of good soil and
in rows 18 inches apart and 9 inches b
the plants, and if kept watered and
hoed amongst them, they will mak
plants for a permanent bed, which sh
made up in November and planted
lowing April. Where seeds were sown
on new beds or in a spare piece of gro
transplanting, they should be thin
9 inches apart and those on permane
again thinned to 18 inches next spring
them supplied with water to encour
much growth as possible during the su

W. E. WR

LATE REPLIES

Improving Anemones

(K. U.).—If it is possible the roots
be lifted at the present time and repla
once in freshly prepared ground whi
received a good dressing of leaf-mould
little bone-meal. If growing in gra
cannot do better than dress the surf
September with Peruvian guano at th
of 2 ozs. to each square yard, and ag
the end of March at the rate of 1 oz.
square yard. This should increase
vigour considerably.

Plum trees unhealthy

(A. M. N.).—The unhealthy look
foliage has been caused by the a
which, however, you have been able
stroy, so far as we can see. There a
traces of Silver Leaf, but we should
see some of the shoots later on, wh
will be able to say definitely wheth
disease is present.

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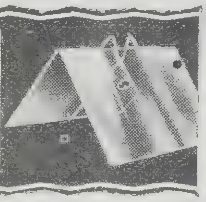

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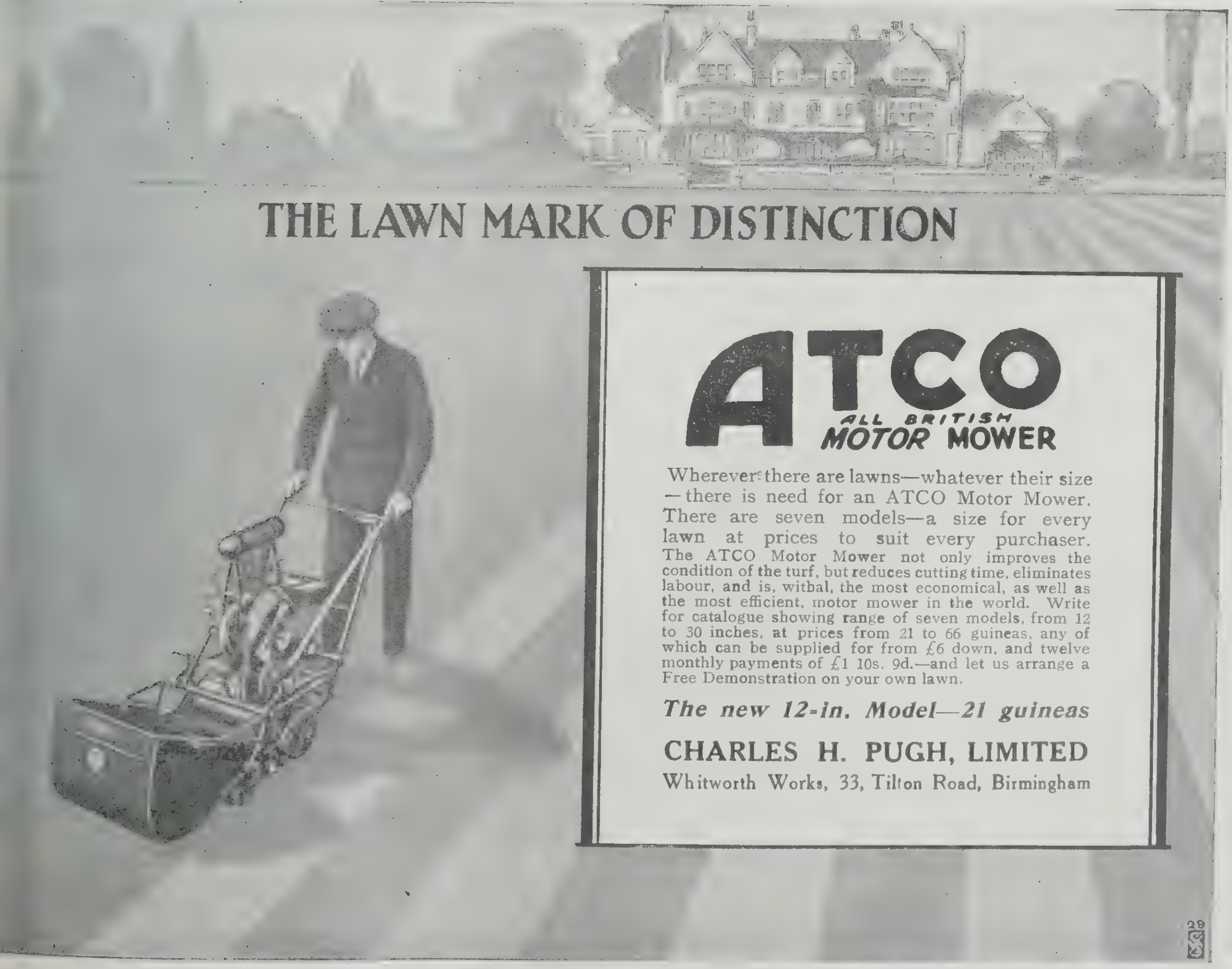

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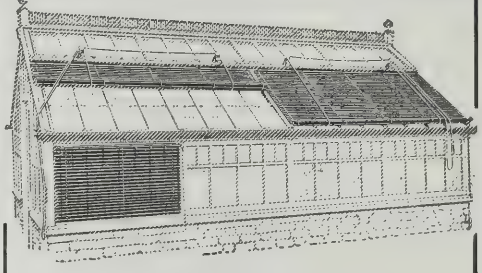

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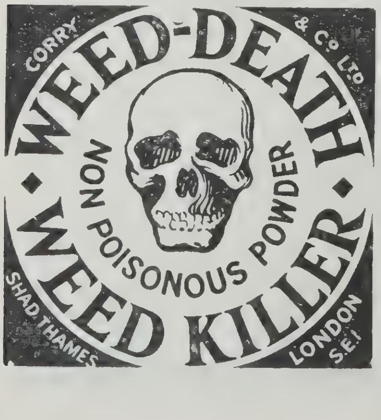

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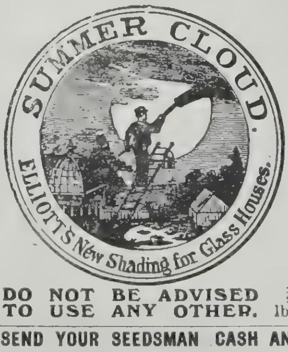
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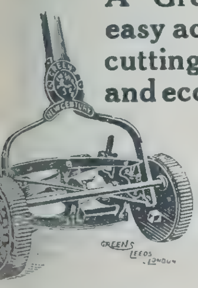

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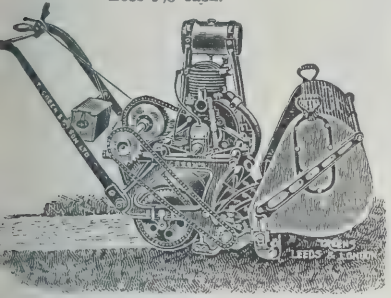

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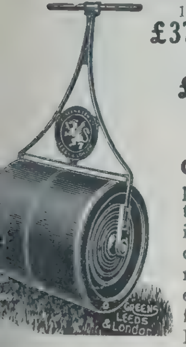

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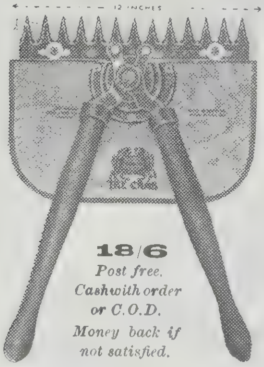

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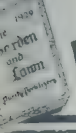

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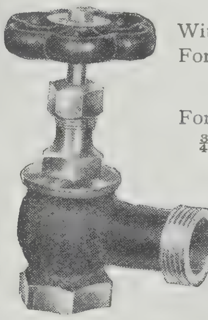

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as grass
but not
grass"
it's a

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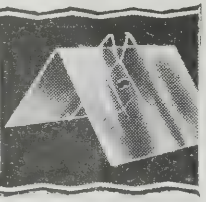

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TONBRIDGE, KENT

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The "Spud" costs **5/-**, and "Sproughton **4/-**, both post free.

F. DAVIDSON & CO.,
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VEGETABLE SEEDS
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All perennial and biennial varieties, such as: *Antirrhinum, Auricula, Aquilegia, Double Daisy, Campanula, Delphinium, Foxglove, Geum, Hollyhock, Lupins, Forget-me-not, Pansy, Polyanthus, Poppy, Sweet William, Viola, Stock, Wallflower, etc.*

Please ask for the above-mentioned catalogue you in making a selection. It is free by post fr
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The King's Seedsmen, SOUTHAMPT

GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

2627—VOL. LI. JULY 13, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

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Impressions of the Chelsea Rose Show

E National Rose Society's Chelsea
ose Show, held on July 5th and 6th,
as again, for the third year in succes-
a world's re-
For each of
ee years these
Shows have
d any Rose
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ere else. That
8 left the show
7 far behind,
e present one
exceeded that
year, both in
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this fact it is
necessary to
a few of the
ous new Seed-
Roses, three of
received Gold
, and four
cates of Merit.
e, deep yellow, verging on orange in the deeper parts, with an intensified Marechal Neil scent; Trigo, another somewhat similar, though paler in colour; Gladys Benskin, rose, flushed yellow, mainly at base; Elizabeth Arden, purest white; Night, almost black; Coquette, red, with yellow base, a lovely single Rose destined to be popular in every garden; Sally, a semi-single after the type of the Queen Alexandra Rose; Maid of Kent, an Ophelia-Mrs. W. G. Grant cross, a finely formed grand pink, most deliciously scented; Mrs. Johnstone, rose-pink, colour of Dame Edith Helen, with the form of Frau Karl Druschki; George Howarth, a large light crimson of good form and an excellent doer; Crimson Glow, a Hybrid Wichuraiana; and lastly, Peter Pan, for it is not possible to mention the very numerous delightful new Roses which cause the mouth to open and the heart to patter. In another page a full report will be found. Last year we drew the attention of our readers to the importance of the Chelsea Rose Show, and pointed out that a visit to the R.H.S. Chelsea Flower Show was not complete without a visit to the N.R.S. Chelsea Rose Show. Regardless of the fact that the week was one crowded with social events of great attraction, and exciting finishes fell on the Friday and Saturday, the N.R.S. Chelsea Rose Show drew a record attendance, in which figured guests from all the Dominions, from the Continent, and a record number

Rose Elizabeth Arden, awarded a Gold Medal at Chelsea
Shown by Geo. Prince

from the United States. To our American friends the Chelsea Rose Show is a delightfully startling reality, and something to talk about when they go home, which will not fail to raise the prestige of Britain in America. To our readers who follow the Rose we draw their attention to the Windsor Rose Show on Saturday, the 13th, in the heart of the Thames Valley, the chief centre of England where Roses do so exceedingly well.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

Horticultural Dinner

THE Government entertained last week the members of the International Professional Horticultural Federation, who are holding their Annual Conference in this country. In proposing the toast of "The Guests," the Right Hon. Noel Buxton, Minister of Agriculture, said the vital thing was to increase mutual understanding between peoples, and it was a happy thing that their Federation could be pioneers of peace while concerned with such a delightful subject as plants and flowers. He had himself been indebted to the international side of gardening, having learnt from the Japanese the idea of miniature landscape and practised the art in several places. Horticulture was also an instrument of social welfare. He was glad to know it was becoming increasingly a democratic institution. Till lately it had been somewhat plutocratic, but he had been greatly struck by the change in the gardens of the working classes both in town and country. Cottage gardens now frequently grew Darwin Tulips.

British Carnation Society

The following new Carnations have been registered with the Society:—W. H. Wallace, seedling, colour deep salmon-pink, raised by the late Mr. W. H. Wallace and registered by W. E. Wallace, Eaton Bray, Dunstable; Catthorpe Cherry Red, sport from Baroness de Brienen, colour bright cherry-red, large fragrant flowers, habit of growth and stem as parent, raised by Mr. W. G. Donce, Catthorpe Manor Gardens, Rugby.

At a Council meeting held on June 25th the Chairman presented the late Secretary, Mr. Percy F. Bunyard, with the Society's Gold Medal as a token of appreciation for valuable services to the Society.

J. D. Simpson, Esq., Ashton-on-Ribble, offered to present two Gold Medals to the gardeners who show the best vases of five blooms at the Society's 1930 shows, and R. F. Felton, Esq., offered two Silver-gilt Medals as second prizes in the same classes.

The British Carnation Society's summer show will be held in conjunction with the National Carnation and Picotee Society on July 18th and 19th at the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster. The schedule, which contains a large number of classes in which valuable prizes are offered, is now available from the Secretary, F. W. Alesworth, 17, Avenue Road, Isleworth.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

The raising of hybrid Asiatic Primulas

IN the interesting article by "B. O. M.," p. 448, the cross between P. pulverulenta and P. Beesiana is mentioned as producing an ugly shade of washy rose. I raised a plant from this cross with flowers of a good purple with the habit of P. pulverulenta. I cannot remember what happened to the plant, and as it was self-sterile I never got into the second generation with it. Regarding the seeding of the P. anisodoxa Hybrid, this has done so in this neighbourhood, and if I remember rightly, the seed parent was more P. anisodora than P. helodoxa. The results show 75 per cent. P. anisodoxa and 25 per cent. P. anisodora, the foliage of the hybrid being more P. anisodora than P. helodoxa in the majority of cases. I raised a hybrid between P. helodoxa and P. Bulleyana, but failed in every other attempt with other species. I have tried time after time to cross P. Sikkimensis with P. secundiflora and P. vittata, and now that P. microdonta violacea is in cultivation I am content to give up trying. There are two crosses which I feel sure are wrongly described and not mentioned in this article. One is P. pulverulenta Annesgrove Hybrid (I take the name as I have always known it). It is identical with the rose-coloured forms resulting from the P. Beesiana and P. Bulleyana cross, and I can see absolutely no P. pulverulenta blood in it, either in leaf or flower. The other cross is known as Moerheim Hybrids, P. Beesiana x P. pulverulenta, which is again identical with the P. Beesiana x P. Bulleyana. The description gives the plants the same habit and height as P. pulverulenta, and "vary in colour from yellow, orange, etc., etc." If the cross is as stated, how can the yellow and orange appear?

As "B. O. M." says, P. japonica does not cross readily, but I have found that the hybrids all possess stamina and good constitution and flowers of good form, but all appear sterile. I find some hybrids are quite sterile and others set plenty of seed, such as the Lissadell Hybrids and the majority of P. Beesiana x P. Bulleyana seedlings.

G. H. DALRYMPLE.

Bartley, near Southampton.

Primula Poissoni

I should like to know what is the experience of your readers with above Primula, as, although I have always been led to suppose it was a coarse, hardy, not too attractive Primula, I have lost my entire stock, whereas all my other Primulas have passed safely through the severe winter. I found that the crown rotted completely away.

Rutland. GUY FENWICK.

Primula pulverulenta Bartley Strain

Your correspondent, "G. C.," on page 447, does not give one any idea as to the number of plants of this Primula that were grown, and, therefore, as "one swallow does not make a summer," so I can hardly let my Primula be condemned if the decision rests upon a few plants only. As pointed out before, I grow mine on heavy clay, and always have done so. Does "G. C." trench and drain his, or her, heavy Sussex soil? I am tempted to exclaim, without wishing to be in any way personal, to "G. C.": "Is it never the fault of the cultivator when a plant dies?" I was asked to inspect some of these Primulas not long ago, several of which had died and the remainder were very sick. I found them growing in a sort of basin which in dry weather was flooded and then allowed to remain till it dried out again—no drainage at all. Can one wonder at the plants dying? And yet the owner was condemning the Bartley Primulas as not being hardy.

"J. R. K.'s" letter leads one to suppose
that he lost his plants through fro
not know how many degrees he regi
in Yorkshire, but here my lowest rea
29 degs. of frost. I think plants
stand that can be classed as ha
"J. R. K." quite certain that his pla
killed by frost and not by any other

G. H. DALR

A standard colour chart

Countess Giulio is a welcome co
to the columns of your journal, and i
that much will be read from her gi
It is a great pity she has only rec
come a subscriber, as the earlier di
on colour description and nomenclatu
have made the object of the subject
her.

The primary object of a standar
chart is not for the matching of c
arrangement of colour design, but to
the chaotic state of catalogue descrip
Countess Giulio hastily turned to som
English catalogues for colour descri
would soon be amazed to find that
flower is credited with nearly all the
of the rainbow. Correspondents hav
again and again the distracting lack
formity of catalogue colour descript
the only way to ensure uniformity i
introduction of a standard colour
ceptable to all.

This was my reason for bringing
the new chart by E. Fellowes—not b
am an expert (Heaven forbid that I s
be expert at anything!), but because
simple gardener depending very la
catalogue description for my floral
and considered Fellowes' chart on
could be accepted by all as a standard
on.

Might I point out to Countess Gi
a colour term is useless unless the
using it can each visualise the ident
intended. She writes: "Everyone
more or less, what is meant by . . .
blue. . . ." To me this term me
vivid pale blue of G. Farreri, and
deep blue of G. acaulis. That is bec
sight of a large drift of the former
bloom is deeply impressed on my mem
is instantly visualised when I hear t
Gentian.

I venture to say that colour descrip
nomenclature would soon assume its
and highly important position in th
cultural world if the R.H.S. made
statement to the effect that "all ou
descriptions and nomenclature are b
Blank's chart." It would give the
lead to follow (at present I believe it
trade jealousy that is preventing th
duction of a trade chart), they woul
Blank's chart for their own use, and
purchasers and people who really
would begin to get satisfaction.

PERCY E. CHA

Longrock, Cornwall.

Apple Gravenstein

I was delighted to read in your i
June 22nd the letter from E. Bu
praise of that delicious old Apple,
stein. In this garden there is a v
tree, certainly 40 years old. At som
after it reached middle-age it must ha
blown completely down, as 6 feet of its
is lying flat along the ground and th
turned up and grown into a large and
tree. During the nine years I have be
only once, in 1921, has this tree born
crop, but the glorious flavour of th
crop was sufficient to induce me to pu
three more trees. Of these, two e
have so far done very little, but the
a bush tree, has made very satis
growth, and this year is carrying a ver

I am in complete agreement with E. in his choice of the four best flavoured but (and it is a very big but) my nce in two different counties, Kent orfolk, has impressed one fact upon nd, viz., that the flavour of any variety le varies enormously with the condi- f soil and climate under which it is Here, for instance, on a light, soil Allington Pippin and Newton r are quite flavourless, whereas in vhen grown on a deep loam they are is.

J. KENNINGTON.

Scented flowers

note on page 415, issue of June, con- the fragrance of Clematis m. rubra, hich Mr. Johnson seems to derive as amazement as enjoyment, reminds one pleasure experienced, even in a small from our many scented flowers right from the time of the Violets, Wall- , and Polyanthas to the end of the and even in the driest months we our Chimonanthus and Tussilago s. I was interested last year in a border running close by the side of ge in which a few Tobacco plants lanted at intervals along the back, the other part of the border was occu- ith Hesperis tristis. A big room was er the border, and the owner said he me delicious whiffs through the open v. It is rather remarkable that all the many annuals we grow for r flowering, so few have any scent. ve pleasing shades, gorgeous flowers, culiar flowers, but the perfume is lack- cept in a very few. I suppose every- s their favourite scent, and I think Heliotrope, the only drawback to the being its very short life in a cut state.

E. BURRELL.

Queen wasps

particularly interested in the corre- nce on the prevalence of these pests ar, seeing that, in a part where wasps t by any means, in the usual order gs, a nuisance, I have already de- more than I can remember having ed before. I, too, have noticed their for Cotoneaster bloom, but most of have captured have been in planta- r vicinity of Pines, in cold frames and about, and on the stout Oak pillars standards for the drive lights. The I note, is a favourite haunt of wasps ear, and I have seen as many as a t a time hard at work on one Oak Wherever Green Fly or Black Fly wasps will abound. I have frequently crop of Broad Beans, badly afflicted e latter, so infested with wasps that impossible to go amongst them, while it plantations—the ripe Raspberries, the same garden were completely f them, which seems to point to there ome value in a Broad Bean row in- with Black Fly after all, for the Fly is evidently more attractive to than the fruit!

J. R. K.

ton, Yorkshire.

"Grubbing off"

iced that in your last week's issue of ING ILLUSTRATED you remarked on the nce this summer of "grubbing off" Cauliflower and Cabbage. A very and at the same time a very effi- remedy for this is to put one tea- l of Scrubb's ammonia, or any simi- shing ammonia, into 1 gallon of soft and to water the affected plants with ixture. It must not, of course, be over the plants, but close round the This not only apparently kills the grub, but gives the plants a fillip, for one finds that they send out fresh roots, and in a short time entirely recover from the ravages of the grub. This remedy was told me by an old-fashioned gardener, but I find that it is as effective as it is simple.

Yorkshire. G. T. WHITEHEAD.

Lupin Munstead Strain

THIS strain of the fine old Lupinus polyphyllus is kept to the colouring of light blue-purple and white. Unlike other good modern kinds it is unwilling to vary in colour or habit. For a long time it never produced seed, and when at last a seed-pod appeared, it was hailed as a wonder. Since then it has seeded regularly, but never varied until a few years ago, when a white one appeared. This also bears seed, and is quite true to its colouring, a warm white, which suggested the name "Ivory" by which we now know it. The appearance of the strain is unlike that of the older sorts, for the spikes of bloom are bolder and handsomer, and the foliage is much better, the segments broader and flatter and of a brighter, lighter green, and with a general aspect of more strength.

G. J.

A bank of Lupin Munstead Strain

Mechanical cultivation

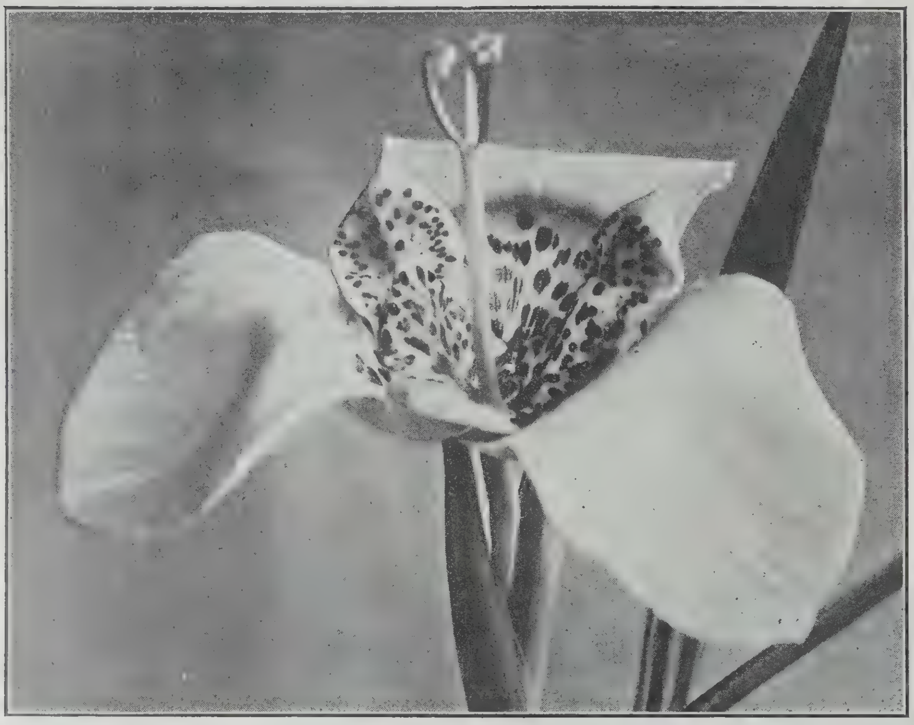
On page 457 of the issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED for June 29th there appears a note under Auto-cultivation in the garden. The general trend of the note is to the effect that, apart from the use of motor mowers, mechanical aid in garden work is practically useless. That mechanical cultivation is useless is, of course, absurd. There are hundreds of motor cultivators in use to-day, and I venture to suggest that if a visit could be made to all the owners of these implements and their views taken, few would like their money back, and I am equally certain that few cultivators would be found relegated to the tool house to rust.

To quote "A Scottish Gardener's" experiences of "less than a dozen years ago" is futile. Much has happened since "A Scottish Gardener" tried, with such bad results, his small motor cultivator. In the first place, motor cultivators have improved beyond all knowledge, and, further, the man behind the motor cultivator has improved too. I imagine that there is, to-day, many a garden boy having a quiet laugh over the motor cultivator that "wore out the patience of a very patient chauffeur." Motor cultivators to-day can be purchased which are extremely easy to run—half-an-hour's instruction is sufficient for most beginners, and breakdowns are few. If breakdowns occurred more often, perhaps, some gardeners would be a little more pleased with the motor cultivator. The breakdown would at least give an excuse to stop work, but, believe me, rests due to breakdowns are few and far between.

Let me take another sentence from "A Scottish Gardener's" experience—"the portions cultivated were turned over at unequal depths and the work, when finished, was a positive eyesore." In my experience a motor cultivator working in soil of a uniform hardness will plough or cultivate to a uniform depth, and the work, when completed, will stand comparison with the *Good Spade Hand,* but all jobs are not those on a soil of uniform hardness, most pieces of soil have hard and soft places, and a motor cultivator, if put into such a soil, cannot be expected to cultivate evenly. The usual practice with such soil is to go over the work twice. After the second time over, there is no just cause for complaint. Let me hasten to add that even if the motor cultivator has to go over the work twice it will do the work as well as the spade and in a quarter of the time.

The motor cultivator has, of course, its limitations. I have not yet met the sort that will trench a piece of soil, but surely, if motor cultivators were used more for the top 10 inches of soil, more time could be given to cultivate below this by means of the spade if such deep cultivation be necessary. Again, I have not met the machine that is of any use in the herbaceous border dotted about with plants of varying shapes and sizes. Hand cultivation will continue to be supreme under this condition.

My experience of motor cultivators shows me that they are the only means of reducing labour costs of a vegetable garden to an economic level. By means of mechanical labour gardens can be made much more tidy at less cost than without such labour. There



Tigridia conchiflora, a most beautiful yellow form with purple spotted cup

are few commercial vegetable gardens to-day that are run by hand labour. Horse labour gradually replaced hand labour, and now, in turn, motor labour is very gradually displacing horse labour. Private gardens have not taken up motor cultivators to any great extent because the men running such gardens are too conservative in their outlook, and still think that the only way to cultivate the soil is to dig it by means of the spade in spite of the high cost of such labour.

Let me plead with all inquirers, such as "A. D. G. G.," to get into touch with the various firms who make motor cultivators and allow the firms concerned to show them exactly what the various cultivators can do. The result will surprise most *Spade Lovers*. The writer's job takes him into many gardens where motor cultivators are used and appreciated. The owners of the machines would not—nay, could not—do without them.

JACK.

A beautiful hedge

I can quite adequately support Mr. R. E. Arnold's recommendation of Berberis Darwinii as a hedge plant, for the finest hedge, from every point of view, that I ever saw was one of this Berberis in Northern Ireland. It was planted above and behind a low stone wall bordering an estate, and was fully a quarter of a mile in length, without a break. Evidently it had been allowed to grow on its own and had received no attention in the way of cutting whatsoever, with the result that it was completely satisfactory in every detail, whether utilitarian or artistic. It is no exaggeration to say that when in full bloom it was worth going miles to see. It would be quite 12 feet in height above the wall top, and at least half that distance through.

But, judging by the behaviour of this and some other Berberises this winter, I doubt whether there are many parts of this country where it would attain to such magnificence. With us in North Yorkshire Berberis Darwinii, B. Wilsonæ, and B. stenophylla have all suffered most severely during the past winter, the former particularly where grown as a bush in the shrubberies. In some cases quite half the wood is dead.

J. R. K.

Skipton, Yorkshire.

The Tigridias

IT is pleasant to see the cause of the Tigridias championed by H. H. Warner in a recent issue, although it may not appear to some that these gorgeous plants are in keeping with the ordinary occupants of the rock garden. May I suggest devoting a small bed of light but rich soil in a sunny part of the garden to the Tigridias? This I have done, and the result, when the sun shone, was enough to delight anyone, as, apart from the form of the flowers, which is very beautiful, the colours are of such a glowing character that all who see such beds are full of delight with them. The only fly in the ointment is that they need full sun, and, possibly, another might be suggested regarding keeping the roots. It is not enough where frosts are severe to hang them up in a shed. The place must be frost-proof, or they should be stored in dry sand. I prefer the latter as they do not appear to shrivel so much as when hung up.

ESS.

A proposed Rock Garden Society

I see we are threatened with another garden society, this time a Rock Garden Society, but where is it all going to end? We already have Narcissus, Iris, Rose, Rhododendron, Sweet Pea, Delphinium, etc., societies, and soon, I suppose, someone will want Aspidistra and Spotted Aucuba Societies. Of what advantage is a rock garden society going to be to anyone? I have had a rock garden for a great number of years, but I do not think it would have been either better or worse for the existence of a "Society." I can imagine a show of rock gardens being more interesting than one, say, of Sweet Peas, Delphiniums, or even Roses. The society shows of one kind of flower are really very boring, and as for a Sweet Pea show it is positively nauseating. The fortnightly shows of the R.H.S. are really much more interesting, and the best of every kind of flower may be seen at them. As your correspondent, Mr. H. E. Seaton,
says, "There is no subject on whi
is more disagreement than rock ga
but as to a society promoting "eve
happy discussion," I am exceedingly
ful. Judging by the amount of critic
bad feeling the rock gardens at Che
gender, I am afraid there would ra
incessant wrangling, and your column
be filled with indignant letters fron
pointed exhibitors.

On the whole, I think we are b
without any more societies—there
many already.

MARK FEN

Stow-in-the-Wold.

Bone meal as a manu

As a substitute for farmyard man
for occasional use as a dressing to lan
it is not possible to manure each ye
the former, bone-meal is excellent a
ing in its benefits to practically al
Pure bone-meal holds up to 50 per
total phosphates and about 4 per
nitrogen. I have found it to be
greatest value when used for digging
land in spring, many crops respondin
ously to dressings of it. Unlike man
artificials, which, after an extended
liable to leave the soil too acid, th
of this product appears to be absor
the plants, leaving the land sweet
able. As a fortnightly dressing t
bearing crops such as Runner Beans
including lines of Sweet Peas, to Cel
Onions, it is most beneficial, and
about the roots of Roses is apparent
a short time.

In the making up of Vine, Pea
other borders for fruit trees it is al
useful, but it should not, in such ca
used too generously or growth will
vigorous. In this case I advise the
the coarse bone meal as being more
the fine being preferable for top
growing crops and general surface dr
For forking into the surface aroun
trees in March, bone-meal could scar
improved upon, the roots of the trees
hold of it ravenously and proving it
by the improved appearance of their
and fruits.

Its use upon lawns, too, is very not
and a dressing applied either in sp
autumn will do much to improve the
and strength of the grasses, even upo
and other playing grounds which ha
annually dressed with artificials of a
nature.

For mixing with potting composts
meal in both forms is in constant u
where the loam is of a rather poor
a proportion of it should always be a
Chrysanthemums, Carnations, Cyc
Hydrangeas, and a host of other im
plants may be vastly improved by i
either mixed with the soil or as a fort
top dressing, and over beds of close g
Lily of the Valley which it is imposs
fork, an occasional dusting of bone-me
prove most beneficial and lasting.

E. MARK

Irises

Where it is desirable to make u
borders or transplant Flag Irises the
is a good time, as the plants take hold
new soil quickly and become well
lished before winter sets in. I much
this to autumn planting. A good, de
not unduly rich with manure, but cont
a percentage of lime, is very suitable fo
lovely subjects. It should be well d
and if any of the rhizomes show prese
disease when lifted they should be s
and well dressed with flowers of sulph
fore replanting.

Old-fashioned flowers

The Rose and the Lily

E would be inclined to say that Roses
ere certainly amongst the earliest of
owers. According to an ancient
ity of 1260 we read that "Among all
; of ye worlde ye flowre of ye Rose is
and beeryth ye pryse."

leners, whether of the amateur or high-
order, have not always time to prowl
into the dark ages and produce some-
valid to go by, so when anyone can do
nd fish up something of real value all
and thanks be to the discoverer.

first sight of the striped "York and
ster" Rose brought some of us within
of the famous wars of the Roses, or at
ve imagined so. As there are many of
distinctly striped Roses of French
which include "Belle des jardins
or de Flandre," it would be difficult to
when this form became "York and
ster."

es we read of in Holy Writ and also a
To quote again an ancient English
ity:—"The lely is an herbe wyth a
floure, and though ye levys of ye
be whyte, yet wythen shyneth ye
se of golde." This allusion is to the
ovely of its race, the peerless Madonna

y people talk glibly of the "Apothe-
Rose," which is a well-known bushy
with deep rose, semi-single blooms and
golden stamens. It is very sweet and
s more or less to the Apothecaries, as
sed in the production of Attar of Roses.
rue Apothecary Rose deserves a very
lace in our affections; it is the "Rose
ire de Provins," where it was grown
used for distilling many valuable
es and perfumes. Of a flat type the
imson petals, shading to black almost,
mes showing tints of mauve, curl, more
s, over the crimson velvet heart, and
is fragrance in its sweetest form. The
ck Moss Rose somewhat resembles the
Rose in colouring. The Moss Roses
eal to us, so sweet and enhanced with
ilmy green.

Roses of the Moschata type are well
, but what of the true Musk Rose
century ago was described by Miss
d in her delightful tales of "Our
e." In glowing words she wrote:—

hat an exquisite fragrance and what a
ful flower! So pale, so white and
, and the petals thin and smooth as
. ."

gly Mother" was the ugly name
to Fritillaria pyrenaica, or Nigra,
g from Southern Europe about 1605.
g become rather *de trop* in gardens
years ago, it is now being eagerly
for, and, strangely, the monster looks
well in groups in the large herbaceous
where Maids of France, Jacob's
rs, Fluffy Thalictrums, and other
ely tinted flowers make billows of fair
, amongst which the large, pendant
vith slightly reflexed perianth showing
ale olive, waxen lining of the flower
out with a beauty of their own.

Iris Quaker Lady

IS charming Iris, brought out by Farr
1909, is one of the most useful in the
rden. The colouring is a wonderful
ny of tender tints. The standards are
curious kind of faint smoky-yellow
ed with an equally tender lilac. The
are first veined with pale brown on
ish-white, broadening into the wide
of tenderest warm lilac. The whole
of the flower is of a glowing yellow, strengthening to a brilliant orange in the ample beard. The habit of the plant is rather short and compact, and as each stem carries at least six blooms it is richly filled, though not overcrowded.

G. J.

Colour values in flowers

THERE is no doubt of the necessity for a clear definition of colour in flowers to be laid down for the help of the average amateur gardener.

When very much of a novice the writer remembers well how keenly felt were the disappointments when the chosen lilac Poppy blossomed pink and the blue Stocks and Asters desired turned out to be mauves and lilac shades, and no Campanula, tall or dwarf, ever reached an azure tint.

In any case there is a great deal to be said in favour of seeing flowers growing—there is always something indescribable in form and colour—and different effects appeal to different people. A clustering spray of small French-grey flowers might be even dingy, when the large blossom of the Periwinkle (Vinca difformis) of same shade and more beautiful texture, resting on its Myrtle-green leaves, is a thing of great beauty. Nature's elusive painting is too beautiful and too difficult for description.

The old maize-yellow of the Scotch Rose might find its source in golden-yellow, which, through lemon and canary shades, could be brought down to palest sulphur tints. Carmine might bring us down to rose and blush pinks, ruby-crimson to coral, shrimp, and flesh-pink. Myosotis-blue seems easily defined, Gentian equally so, through many gradations to palest porcelain-blue. Royal blue, which breaks away from the abovementioned, runs through shades of Hydrangea, Periwinkle, Plumbago, Wedgewood to French-grey, influenced by a suspicion of carmine.

Nana cœrulea, the supposed blue Phlox, never justifies its name, and then only very slightly, until evening light. The purple Phloxes, Le Mahdi and Marvel, are never really purple until the same time.

The obtrusiveness of crimson is not always admired. There were at one time many shades of magenta that were very unpopular, but since the advent of Bois de Rose some of these shades have been found quite useful. A stretch of rock garden well planted with various shades of pink Phloxes and Aubrietias, including the faintest of the pinks, and well set off with silvery Artemesias of the low, spreading variety, looks very well. The scheme may be deepened with shades of Aubrietia Souvenir Ingram, and still further deepened by adding rich mauve and purple colours.

Mauve and lilac tints may be brought into harmony with light blue shades, and very often flowers arrange themselves more or less, or suggest ideas which only require a little assistance in restraining form and colour here and there. The exquisite word-painted pictures from a celebrated garden which we have the privilege of reading, from time to time, in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *are* of the most intense interest. It is there that the poetry of flowers is understood, and the gifted lady who has created so much beauty gives many a valuable idea to the readers, whom her words really thrill.

E. A.

National Sweet Pea Society Show

Held in the New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society, Westminster, on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, the annual exhibition of the National Sweet Pea Society was well up to standard. The number of entries was large and the standard of the exhibits high.

Sutton and Sons, of Reading, gained a large gold medal for a magnificent display of about 60 varieties. The Eastbourne Cup went to Dobbie and Co. for one of their two groups, the other gaining a gold medal. E. W. King and Co. were awarded the City of Bath Cup. Major C. B. Krabbe, as last year, won the "Daily Mail" Cup, Mr. F. W. Franks, of Tonbridge (gardener, Mr. W. Humphrey), won the Sutton Cup and also the medal for the best exhibit in classes not open to the trade. The cup for the best six vases (amateur) was won by Mr. A. Cole, of Basingstoke, and Mr. Samuel Wallrock won the cup for the most decorative display of Sweet Peas shown by an amateur.

Iris Quaker Lady

The National Rose Show

GREAT SUMMER SHOW AT CHELSEA

NOTWITHSTANDING the drought of the past months and the squally weather of late, the summer show of this popular Society may be described as a great success. There were Roses in abundance in magnificent form and beautiful condition. The Queen, accompanied by Queen Amélie and attended by Lady Ampthill and Sir Harry Verney, honoured the Society with her presence on the first day. Her Majesty took away with her a specimen bloom of each of the three new Gold Medal Roses. The 74 classes, comprising the show, were generally well filled.

NURSERYMEN'S SECTION

The chief class in this section was for the Championship Trophy for a representative group of cut Roses shown on a space 40 feet by 4 feet. On this occasion there were no fewer than eight competitors, leading honours being awarded to A. Dickson and Sons, Hawlmark, Newtownards, Ireland. This was a beautiful group, which included in its display new and choice Roses at their best. Glorious examples of cultural skill were Flamingo, Edith Nellie Perkins, Swansdown, Emma Wright, Mabel Morse, Julien Potin, Lady Inchiquin, Dame Edith Helen, Adela Crofton, May Watson, Scarlet Glory, Betty Uprichard, and a host of other good things.

Mr. Elisha J. Hicks, Hurst, Berks, also showed extremely well to win second prize. Ivy May, A. Pernet, Gooiland Beauty, and Mabel Morse being noteworthy varieties. The Stanway Rose Gardens, Colchester, were third and J. Waterer, Sons, and Crisp, Twyford, Berks, fourth.

A smaller group of cut Roses shown on a space 20 feet by 4 feet is always a source of interest both to the trade and the public. The De Escofet Memorial Cup is awarded to the first prize winner. The place of honour was secured by J. Harkness and Co., Hitchin, with a very handsome and striking group of well-grown Roses at their best. A few of the better kinds were Mme. Butterfly, Golden Gleam, Lady Inchiquin, Betty Uprichard, Mrs. Beatty, Shot Silk, Patience, K. of K., Rev. F. Page Roberts, Mrs. Henry Morse, Golden Emblem, Lamia, and Sovereign—a really superb group. Second prize was awarded to Mr. Geo. Prince, Longworth, Berks, who staged a beautifully representative group. The "Daily Mail" scented Rose and the white Elizabeth Arden were noteworthy. Dowty's Nursery, Wokingham, were a good third. The third competition in this section was for a representative group of cut Roses shown on a space 10 feet by 4 feet. Mr. John Mattock, Headington, Oxford, who had a grand series of stands, displayed well-grown Roses at their best. Outstanding varieties were Mrs. Henry Morse, Mabel Morse, Mrs. Beatty, Lady Roundway, Dame Edith Helen, Climbing Ophelia, K. of K., and Shot Silk. A good second were Jarman and Co., Chard. This firm had some especially good stands, such varieties being Shot Silk, Hortulanus Budde, Mabel Morse, Mrs. H. Morse, Betty Uprichard, and Mrs. Herbert Stevens. An interesting display won third prize for Mr. D. Long, Gt. Horkesley, near Colchester, Lady Inchiquin and Mrs. H. Bowles being noteworthy sorts in this exhibit.

DECORATIVE ROSES IN BASKETS

The premier class here was one for seven baskets of cut Roses, seven distinct varieties, not more than 36 stems of one variety to be shown in each basket. There were only two exhibitors, the first prize series standing out for their excellence and beautiful character. This came from Mr. John Mattock, who was obviously in good form at this show. His varieties were Mrs. Tresham Gilbey, Angele Pernet, Betty Uprichard, Louise Criner, Lady Inchiquin, Golden Emblem, and Shot Silk. Second prize was awarded to Mr. H. Drew, Longworth, Berks. His better kinds were Mrs. Henry Bowles, Lord Charlemont, Mrs. Henry Morse, and Lady Inchiquin.

In a similar class, but for three baskets in three distinct varieties, first prize was awarded to D. Prior and Son, Colchester, who showed in excellent form and condition Lady Pirrie, Col. Oswald Fitzgerald, and Mme. G. Herriot. A beautiful series secured second prize for G. Longley and Sons, Rainham, Kent. Their varieties were Golden Emblem, Col. O. Fitzgerald, and Norman Lambert.

It is good to note that the Society has provided a class for three baskets of Polyantha Roses in three distinct varieties, which is becoming increasingly popular. Not more than 24 stems of each variety may be shown. On the present occasion first prize was won by G. Longley and Sons, who showed beautiful baskets of Kirsten Poulsen, Diana, and Else Poulsen, the last-named being very charming. Second prize was secured by W. Cutbush and Son, Ltd., Barnet, Herts, who showed lovely baskets of Frank Leddy and Golden Salmon, and the new variety, Sunshine. D. Prior and Son were placed third with a pretty series.

ROSES IN VASES

The leading competition in the Nurserymen's Section under this head was for 30 distinct varieties, not less than three or more than seven stems of each variety, for the A. C. Turner Challenge Cup. Premier honours were awarded to Mr. J. Mattock, Headington, Oxford, who staged, among other good varieties, Betty Uprichard, C. E. Shea, Mrs. G. A. van Rossem, Lord Charlemont, Golden Emblem, J. C. Thornton, Lady Inchiquin, Louise Criner, Shot Silk, Francie Simms, Etoile de Hollande, Lady Dixon Hartland, Independence Day, Emma Wright, and Ivy May. Second prize was awarded for a good, even series to A. Warner and Son, Boxted, Colchester. This grower showed beautiful examples of Patience, Golden Emblem, Shot Silk, Henrietta, Golden Gleam, Betty Uprichard, Hortulanus Budde, and I Zingari. Third prize was awarded to Mr. George Lilley, Cippenham, Bucks, with a nice, fres
blooms.

EXHIBITION ROSES IN BO

The championship for 48 exhibition
in distinct varieties, for which the
Trophy is awarded with the first prize
present occasion attracted four com
Frank Cant and Co., Ltd., Colchest
maintained their reputation by winni
prize with a good, even lot of wel
blooms nicely finished. Outstanding
in these growers' stand were Henry
Mabel Morse, Bessie Chaplin, Lady
quin, Mrs. Geo. Norwood, Courag
F. Page Roberts, Nellie Parker, Sh
Gwynne Carr, Capt. Kilbee Stuart,
Emblem, Mrs. Geo. Shawyer, Una V
Red Star, Mrs. Henry Bowles,
Mawley, Anne, Lemon Pillar, Mrs.
Capt. F. Bold, Mrs. A. R. Barra
Comte G. de Rochemne, Mrs. Hugh D
and Geo. Dickson. Ben. R. Cant an
Ltd., Colchester, were awarded secon
with a series of noteworthy blooms,
Trayler, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Clara
Coronation, Courage, and a number
kinds. Third prize was secured by
Slinger, Newcastle, Co. Down, with
tractive lot of blooms, and fourth priz
to G. Longley and Sons.

The class for 24 blooms, distinct va
seldom fails to provide severe com
amongst the nurserymen. The
secures the John Hart Memorial Cu
Harkness and Co. secured first prize
Cup with a heavy lot of blooms,
suffered badly as the day progressed.
of the best blooms in this stand were
Chaplin, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Edith
Mrs. Henry Morse, Florence Forrester
Inchiquin, Mrs. Chas. Lamplough, an
E. J. Hicks. A good second was fo
Jarman and Co.'s exhibit. Especially
worthy blooms were Mrs. E. J. Hic
Cook, Mabel Morse, Mrs. H. B
Premier, and Mildred Grant. Mr. Eli
Hicks was placed third. Edel, C. Lyor
and Lady Ashtown were good blooms.

The D'Ombrain Cup for 12 distinct
ties, Tea and Noisette Roses, is genera
garded with favour, and is usually a
test of the grower's skill. First priz
awarded to Jarman and Co. with a cha
lot of blooms. Some of the better b
were Mr. E. Mawley, W. R. Smith,
C. Hall, Mrs. Myles Kennedy,
Hermanos, Molly S. Crawford,
Maman Cochet, and Mrs. Foley
Second prize was won by George Longle
Sons, and third prize by Mr. H. Drew.

A class of more than ordinary inter
that for 12 blooms of new Roses distri
since January 1st, 1925, distinct var
The first prize, carrying with it the
Stuart Memorial Cup, was won by
Rosery, who led the nine exhibitors
beautiful lot of well-grown blooms.
better varieties were Lady Florence Str
Mrs. Beatty, Dame Edith Helen,

Red Pharisaer, Lord Lambourne, A. R. Barraclough, and John Henry. prize was awarded to D. Prior and nd third prize to B. R. Cant and Sons,

competition for 12 blooms of any new distributed since January 1st, 1925, on ccasions has given prominence to the ualities of certain new kinds. On the n under notice there were no fewer seven good exhibits, and they were a feature in the nurserymen's tent. grand blooms of Mrs. Beatty, B. R. nd Sons, Ltd., were placed in the lead- sition. Twelve grand blooms of Dame Helen won second prize for Dowty's y, Wokingham; the "Daily Mail" l Rose, shown by Mr. Geo. Prince, won rize.

HIBITION ROSES IN BASKETS

first class was for one basket of cut one variety of H.T.'s, not more than oms. There were six competitors, rize being awarded to grand examples sie Chaplin, shown by Mr. J. Mattock. good examples of George Gibson G. y and Sons were placed second; and basket of Admiration, J. Jefferies and td., Cirencester, came third. There was class for one basket of cut Roses, one of Teas or Noisettes, not more than oms. First prize was awarded to Jar- nd Co. with nicely finished examples of n Cochet. Second prize was won by . Drew, who staged Mrs. Foley Hobbs, vith quite good blooms of Mrs. H. s Mr. George Prince secured third

Brayfort Challenge offered for one of cut Roses, one variety, not more 4 blooms, H.P., H.T., T., or N., put ommerce after January 1st, 1923, in stance was won by A. Warner and Co., d, with a grand lot of blooms of Mar- McGredy. Mr. George Prince was l with the "Daily Mail" scented Rose, ith good examples of Maud Cumming ohn Mattock was placed third.

ARTISTIC CLASSES

Nurserymen's Section

Decorative Classes are always an un- source of pleasure and interest to the oving public, and at most shows of this l Society there is generally something and pleasing to be seen.

ss 17 provided a decoration of cut for dinner table, arranged with Rose only, on a table space 6 feet by 4 First prize was won by Miss M. Archer, rd, Kent, for a very lovely decoration ich the exhibitor utilised the beautiful Rose, Dainty Bess, most advantage- using as an embellishment beautiful foliage. With ideal blooms of Rose- , Mrs. L. R. May, Waltham Cross, an exceptionally good second, her s being disposed most artistically. us blooms of the new Duchess of Athol a good third prize display for Mrs. Bide, Farnham, and fourth prize was ed to Mrs. C. A. Tisdall, Woodford , with Betty Uprichard. Class 18 pro- for a bowl of cut Roses arranged with foliage, but small buds were allowed e added foliage. The seven entrants a beautiful display, a most artistic bowl oselandia gaining first prize for Mrs. ll. With lovely blooms of Irish Fire- Golden Emblem, and Angele Pernet. A. H. Harraway, Warminster, was l second. Mme. Butterfly as arranged s. May secured third place, and fourth was won by Mrs. A. F. Chaplin, am Cross, also with Mme. Butterfly.

The class for a basket of cut Roses, lightly arranged with Rose foliage only, was quite good. First prize was won by Mrs. Tisdall, who had a glorious basket of Mme. Butterfly superbly arranged. With the same variety Mrs. A. F. Chaplin was second, and third prize was secured by Mrs. A. R. Bide with a lovely decoration of Lily Kemp, a richly coloured semi-double variety. Miss E. Smyth, Mitcham, Surrey, was placed fourth with Mme. Butterfly.

In the same section there was a class for a vase of cut Roses, lightly arranged with Rose foliage. Four competed, Mrs. Tisdall easily winning first prize with a charming vase of Mme. Butterfly. Mr. R. E. West, Reigate, was second, and Mr. A. H. Harraway third with Mrs. Beatty. With a pretty vase of Columbia, Mrs. A. R. Bide was a good fourth.

Rose Gladys Benskin, awarded a Gold Medal at Chelsea

Shown by Alex. Dickson and Sons

Amateur Section

It is not possible to mention more than two or three of the leading classes in this section. The most noteworthy competition under this head, of course, was for the Champion Trophy, which is offered for a representative group of cut Roses, shown in a space not exceeding 6 feet by 4 feet. There were five entrants, each exhibitor staging most praiseworthy groups of Roses. On this occasion the premier position was well won by Mr. G. Marriott, Carlton, Notts. His display was most attractive and striking. Some of the better Roses in this exhibit were Souv. de G. Pernet, Lady Inchiquin, Mrs. Henry Morse, W. F. Dreer, Eva Eakins, Gwynneth Jones, Betty Uprichard, Rev. F. Page Roberts, and Emma Wright. A good second was seen in the display of Dr. R. C. Turnbull, Colchester. Third prize went to a former champion, Mr. J. N. Hart, Little Heath, Potter's Bar. His stands of Penelope, Trier, and Paul's Scarlet Climber were beautiful. Mr. S. W. Burgess, Tonbridge, was awarded fourth prize.

The Edward Mawley Memorial Medal was also awarded to Mr. Marriott's Champion Trophy Display for the most meritorious exhibit in the Amateur Section.

The Cecil Cant Challenge Cup offered for a smaller group, set up on a space 4 feet by 4 feet, was won by Mr. W. H. Pickford, Gloucester, who staged a quite effective group of well-grown Roses. His better blooms were:—Angele Pernet, Ophelia, Golden Emblem, Emma Wright, Elizabeth of York (lovely), I Zingari, Else Poulsen, and Kirsten Poulsen. Mr. H. R. Darlington, Potter's Bar, was awarded second prize.

Other successful amateur growers were Messrs. Norman Rogers, H. E. Moore, R. White, G. Brown, A. C. Turner, A. L. F. Cook, H. E. Cribb, S. E. Tattershall, E. H. Pleasance, F. H. Fieldgate, J. E. Rayner, C. H. Rigg, H. F. Spicer, E. T. Gann, Miss Gardner, Miss Handcock, Mrs. L. Tilley, and Mrs. Mappin.

LADIES' ARTISTIC CLASSES (AMATEURS)

The competitions in these classes were again exceedingly popular. Class 65 provides for a decoration of cut single-flowered Roses for dinner table, lightly arranged with Rose foliage only, on a space 6 feet by 4 feet. The competition was quite good, Miss Newsham, Aughton, Liverpool, being a good first with a charming table of Dainty Bess. With the same variety, Mrs. L. Courtney Page, Earldoms, Hayward's Heath, was placed second. With a table arranged with Irish Fireflame, Miss M. Woolven, East Grinstead, was awarded third prize.

Class 66 for a dinner table decoration of cut Roses in which any Roses except single-flowered varieties may be used was also of much interest. There were again as many as six entrants, first prize being well won by Mrs. Courtney Page, who used magnificent blooms of Mme. Butterfly most effectively. A superbly arranged decoration of Roselandia won second prize for Miss M. Woolven. This exhibit was as fresh on the second day as it was on the first. Another beautiful table of Mme. Butterfly secured third prize for Miss E. J. Cooper, Wallingham, Surrey, and with a further table of Mme. Butterfly, Mrs. Charlton, Yiewsley, was placed fourth. The class for a basket of cut Roses, arranged with Rose foliage only, found no fewer than seven entrants. Miss Woolven was again successful, winning first prize with a lovely basket of Mme. Butterfly, superbly arranged. With Lady Isabel, Mrs. A. D. Ruff, Sharnbrook, Beds., was an interesting second, and Miss Newsham, Liverpool, whose basket had been upset, was third. Mrs. Courtney Page was fourth with Mme. Butterfly arranged on original lines.

A vase of cut Roses on somewhat similar lines was a competition in another class, which found as many as seven competitors, Miss E. J. Cooper easily winning first prize with grand blooms of Mme. Butterfly. With the same variety Mrs. A. D. Ruff was a good second, and again with the same variety Mrs. Courtney Page was placed third.

Class 69, for a decoration of cut Roses for the dinner table, is always popular with exhibitors. This is open to lady amateurs who, without assistance, grow their own flowers. The six entrants made a pretty and unusual display, Mrs. Courtney Page with Emma Wright, of splendid colour, winning first prize. Miss Emily Griffith, Dollis Avenue, Finchley, won second prize with Betty Uprichard, well displayed. Third prize was awarded to Mrs. F. Oakley Fisher, Sudbury, who used blooms of Emma Wright, Old Gold, and Irish Fireflame. Again with Emma Wright, Miss Woolven was awarded fourth prize.

Class 70, for a bowl of mixed cut Roses, was won by Mrs. Courtney Page with a very charming arrangement. Miss E. Griffith was placed second and Miss Woolven third, all showing well.

A good group of Delphiniums shown at Vincent Square by W. Wells, Junr.

Class 71 was for a table decoration open to those who have never won a first prize in the Decoration Section at any of the Society's shows. The four exhibits were most praiseworthy. With richly coloured blooms of Emma Wright, Mrs. A. A. Yates, Warwick, was a splendid first prize winner. Her arrangement was all that could be desired. Mrs. M. F. Fraser, East Grinstead, with a beautiful decoration of Mme. Butterfly, was placed second, and with the same variety Miss W. Walker, Rivercourt Road, W., was awarded third prize.

In Class 72, for a bowl of cut Roses, open to the same kind of exhibitor, there were four entrants, Mrs. M. F. Fraser winning first prize with Mme. Butterfly charmingly disposed. Mrs. A. A. Yates was second with Roselandia, and Mrs. H. Williamson, Canterbury, third with a glorious bowl of Roses.

Class 73 was another class for a table decoration of cut Roses for dinner-table, open to lady amateur novices. First prize was won by Miss E. Charlton, Yiewsley, with a pretty decoration of Mme. Butterfly. Miss B. Yates was second with Roselandia, and third prize was won by Miss E. Robins, Ingatestone, with Emma Wright.

THE NICKERSON PRIZE

This prize is given for the best new Rose of British or American origin sent out between June 1st, 1922, and December 31st, 1927. The exhibits must consist of not more than 36 stems of any one variety arranged in a fan-shaped stand. There were no fewer than 25 exhibits, comprising most of the better varieties of comparatively recent origin. Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh, gained this distinguished honour with their wonderful novelty, Duchess of Atholl. It is a beautiful Hybrid Tea Rose of splendid form and substance, and of a rich orange colour—most outstanding. The Nickerson Cup is of the value of £30.

NEW SEEDLING ROSES.

The new Roses were, as usual, shown in a tent specially set apart for the purpose. A Gold Medal was awarded to each of three varieties mentioned in the subjoined list.

Gladys Benskin.—This is a beautiful Hybrid Tea Rose of a soft pink col yellow ground. It is large and of g and substance, and is described by t as being free-flowering and vigorous.

Aureate.—Another Hybrid Tea good form. The colour is described as a rich golden yellow, but saffro is a better description. Erect and fre ing. The two varieties above-mentio shown by Messrs. Alex. Dickson a Ltd., Newtownards, Ireland.

Elizabeth Arden.—The blooms are shape and produced on long stems colour is almost pure white. F Habit of growth vigorous and free. by Mr. George Prince, Oxford.

A Certificate of Merit was awarded of the following new Roses :—

Chaplin's Crimson Glow.—A pr Hybrid Wichuraiana Rose, very fre ing, developed in beautiful trusses. crimson. Shown by Messrs. Chapli Ltd., Waltham Cross.

Trigo.—A Hybrid Tea Rose of Colour soft yellow. Shown by Messrs Dickson and Sons, Ltd.

Mrs. Johnstone.—A vigorous g Hybrid Tea Rose. Colour soft pink. by Messrs. Bees, Chester.

Peter Pan.—A Hybrid Tea Rose glorious orange terra-cotta colour, rem one of the colour of Emma Wright. by Messrs. Wheatcroft Bros., Gedling,

D. B. C

Houstonia cœrulea or "Blu

This little carpeting plant will appea with a preference for blue flowers. growing 4 inches high, the star-like of the Houstonias commence to bloom May, continuing more or less until July It should be planted in sandy loam b rocks in a cool place in the rock garde should be well watered during the first it is planted. This hardy plant is easi pagated by root division in the autu early spring, the latter for preference, seed sown as soon as collected. I native plant in Canada, where it i known as "Quaker Ladies."

R. Mo

The Delphinium Show

HAT a triumph this show has been for the Delphinium and the new British Delphinium Society! Here re visiting the first show of a Society year old, and yet it fills the new Horti- al Hall with wave on wave of varying such as the Delphinium alone can and presenting, as a whole, such a that no words can adequately describe d do it justice. The very mode of g the large competitive groups in the of the hall was a stroke of genius, cidentally gave an answer to the critics e new hall. With the Delphinium it came into its own, and it has never more regal as one viewed its grey out- rough vistas of dark and light blue.

Delphinium has always had an im- t place in the garden, but never has it so pronounced as in recent years, when urs and professionals alike look upon very king of the early summer garden, having this in mind, a body of keen siasts formed "The British Delphinium y" with the object of encouraging the ction of new and improved varieties and llection and dissemination of all useful ledge regarding this flower. That they ded in doing both these things was ced at this show, and by the remarks on all sides it was a show of which any y might be justly proud.

large competitive groups brought out at is best in the Delphinium and ed full play to the artistic tastes of the itor, and in such groups as these, ring 36 feet by 8 feet, it was no easy to keep them on the light and graceful but the exhibitors scored on this point e way through. We have to congratu- Blackmore and Langdon on winning largest class, which carried with hallenge Cup and the large Gold Medal Society, with what I consider the finest of Delphiniums ever exhibited.

arrangement was perfect, and the large ts employed to raise the centre were ularly effective. Here we found all s best in the Delphinium, both from the of variety and culture. Blue Bird, its semi-double flowers of rich deep blue, at its best, and so was Lady Edith, a variety with lavender flowers and a dark Lady Grace is semi-double and of a ower-blue, while Mrs. Newton Lees is inating mauve. Of the vast number of ies in this exhibit one can only say they all tip-top.

second prize went to W. Wells, of tham, who had some grand spikes of E. Lascelles, a well-tried favourite now, Harry Smetham, a flower of rich lain-blue and perfect shape, Joan r, lavender with a white eye, and that garden variety, Mrs. Colin McIvor.

J. Jones was third with a splendid col- n of such sorts as Purple Robe, Mrs. s, Phyllis (a lovely shade of mauve), and sty.

it not interesting to know that all these grown within 7 miles of London Bridge? rs. Hewitts, of Solihull, were also in class, and had some fine spikes of Will espear, a variety said to grow 8 feet 4½ feet of which is flower.

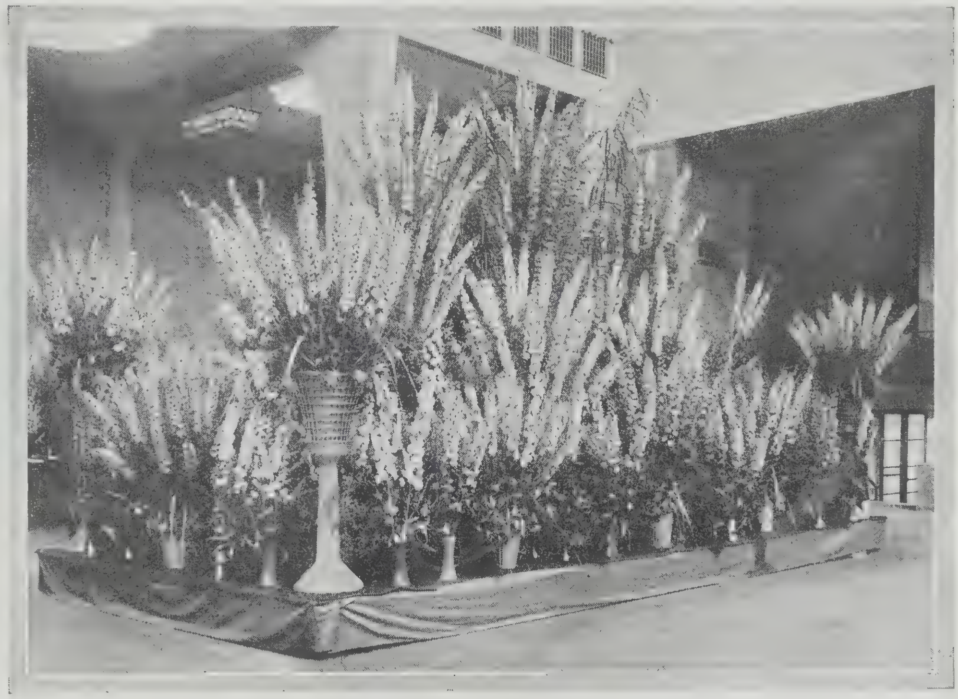
other group class brought some splendid rs from T. Carlile, Loddon Nursery, ord, who was the winner of first prize he Gold Medal. He had Mrs. H. Kaye, n Mary, Gwen (a Cambridge-blue with e shading), and the dark Mercurius, all e condition.

Bones, of Cheshunt, was second, having ovelty, Hunsdon Hall, in quantity, and others, all equally well grown.

Gavin Jones was third with a varied collection, amongst the best being Dusky Monarch and Harry Smetham. S. J. Goodliffe, of Bishops Stortford, had some extra good varieties in his exhibit, but none stood out so prominently as Pannonia (a rich, deep blue with a white eye) and the strong-growing Walter T. Ware.

In two other important trade classes Blackmore and Langdon were first, while T. Carlile was second, and in both cases the very cream of the family found a place, while they were the last word as far as culture, and made one wonder where the improvement of the Delphinium will end.

Other trade classes brought equally good stuff, and there was keen rivalry in all these. Among other firms showing were Kelways, of Langport, Bakers, of Wolverhampton, Whitelegg, of Chislehurst, and others, all adding their quota to a wonderful display.



Blackmore and Langdon's winning exhibit at the Delphinium Show

A large number of novelties were put up for awards, and the following were successful in gaining a First-class Certificate:—Lady Bath (a double mauve of wonderful substance) and Bleu Gown (a mid-blue of great promise), both these being shown by Blackmore and Langdon. Mr. T. Bones also gained a similar award for Hunsdon Hall and Mrs. Hargreaves.

Awards of Merit were given to Pompadour, from Hewitts; Mrs. Paul Nelke, Lady Elizabeth, and Lady Emsley Carr, from Blackmore and Langdon.

I must now speak of the amateur classes, and I frankly confess that, good as these were, they were not competitive enough, through lack of entrants. Where were all our readers who grow Delphiniums so well?

I do not propose to go into details of all the classes, but only the most important ones, though I must say that the standard reached in these was a very high one, bearing in mind the difficult season.

The class for the best arranged vase was hotly competed, and the first prize went to Mr. W. C. Blakeway, of Droitwich, Mrs. Hamilton, of Claygate, being second, with Mrs. E. A. Gold, of Wimbledon, third, the flowers and arrangement of these three being very good; but the others in this class did not bring out either the best in the flower or in artistic arrangement.

The basket of Delphiniums was not so well contested as one would expect from such an adaptable flower, the main defect being that the flower-stems had been shortened too much, though the winning efforts were good. Mr. L. D. Corder, of Bromley, Kent, was first with a very fine basket, while Mrs. S. H. Roberts, of Thornton Heath, came second with a rather charming boat-like basket well arranged. Mr. C. Reynolds was third.

Class 6, for six varieties, the first prize and Bronze Medal being presented by GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, was won by Mrs. J. M. Dolura with finely grown spikes, second Mrs. E. A. Gold, and third Mr. C. Reynolds.

A Challenge Cup was offered for six single spikes raised by the exhibitor, and this was splendidly won by Mr. W. C. Blakeway, who had some very charming things, especially a light blue, which attracted much attention and was named at the show Mrs. S. H. Roberts.

Mr. Blakeway again won in a class arranged on a table 8 feet by 3 feet, and here again we had examples of both culture and quality.

In a class for 12 spikes Mrs. Hamilton won with long, healthy examples of well-grown flowers, which even late in the day still preserved their freshness—a true test of value of all cut flowers.

In Class 7 Mr. Corder won with 12 topping spikes, especially his blooms of Modesty and Peacock.

A small group, not for competition, was put up by an amateur, Mr. A. J. Moir, and this was praised by all who saw it, especially some spikes of Welshman, F. W. Smith, and Mrs. T. Carlile.

I think these notes will prove that as a first show this was a wonderful accomplishment, and if one may be allowed to say it, I think it is due to enthusiasm of the lovers of the Delphinium, both amateur and professional, and our hearty congratulations are offered to the Committee and those two live wires, Mr. S. Halford Roberts, the Secretary, and his assistant, Mr. A. J. Moir.

J. S. D.

Some Asiatic Primulas of Comparatively Easy Cultivation

It is surprising how many gardeners are under the erroneous impression that the majority of Primulas from the Chino-Thibetan region are bog plants. The unfortunate result is that some cultivators seek the wettest places they can find to grow their Primulas, and which too often is a stagnant bog. Others, and especially owners of small gardens, much as they would like to cultivate this lovely and diverse family of plants, are apt to consider themselves unable to do so, owing to the lack of boggy positions in their gardens. If, however, we study the natural conditions under which these Primulas grow we shall find that the majority of species grow in Alpine meadows and woodlands rather than bogs. We must also take into our consideration that the climate of the Chino-Thibetan region is the reverse of ours, for it is a country of dry winters and wet summers. Consequently, although many Primulas may thrive in very damp places during our summer months, cold, stagnant conditions during winter are quite foreign to their nature, and usually results in a heavy mortality.

I readily admit that the Sikkimensis group especially, and many of the candelabra series, may often be found perfectly happy under very moist conditions all the year round, but much depends on the position. A damp slope or a stream-side affords very different growing conditions to a stagnant bog, the fundamental difference being that moving or running water is aerated, whereas still water is not. This is an important point in the cultivation of Primulas which cannot be too strongly emphasised, and growers who complain that certain species are tender in their gardens will usually find that it is the conditions and not the hardiness of the plants which are at fault.

Although woodland and streamside is undoubtedly the best setting for moisture-loving Primulas, there are many places in the garden proper where they may be accommodated, and in small gardens, where the facilities are limited, a border which is a little too shaded for the general run of herbaceous plants to grow and flower normally will usually provide a congenial home for Primulas, and, incidentally, their fellow-countrymen, the Meconopsis. There are, however, two essential points necessary for success:—

(1) Plenty of half-decayed leaves or other forms of humus should be worked into the soil.

(2) The plants must not suffer from drought during the summer months.

P. japonica and P. pulverulenta will endure excessively damp positions more than most Asiatic species, but they will also grow and flower freely in such a border. The brighter-coloured varieties of P. japonica should, however, be placed in the more shaded positions as the colours are apt to bleach in the sun.

The Bartley Strain of Primula pulverulenta will not suffer winter damp with quite the impunity of the type, but they are perfectly happy in a half-shaded border which can be kept moist in summer, or in Rhododendron and Azalea beds. Moreover, their delicate pink shades tone beautifully with Rhododendrons, and there are few more charming combinations than the Bartley Strain Primulas and Japanese Azaleas.

Of the yellow-flowered Primulas belonging to the candelabra group P. helodoxa is superior to P. Smithiana. I would recommend growers who do not care for massings of yellow to try a few plants of P. helodoxa sprinkled amongst the best forms of P. japonica, and I think that they will be charmed with the result.

P. Poissonii and its allies, P. angustidens, P. Wilsonii, P. glycosma, and P. oblanceolata, are so closely related and their botanical differences are so small that two only need be considered. P. Poissonii is certainly the best, for the flowers are carried almost at right angles from the stems, or, in other words, they look at you, whereas the flowers of the other species are more or less pendent, which tends to hide their beauty. Of these, P. Wilsonii or P. glycosma may be selected. The closely related P. anisidora is worth growing for its deep maroon flowers. This species crosses freely with P. helodoxa, the product being a pleasing hybrid of a crushed strawberry shade.

Other notable species of the candelabra group are P. bulleyana, valuable for its late flowering and the parent of many charming hybrids; P. Burmanica, a finer species than P. Beesiana and much hardier than its name suggests; and P. Cockburniana. This dwarf species is more at home in the rock garden than at the streamside, and is very effective when boldly massed. One of our most thriving colonies is growing on the residue of an old and disused stone quarry, where self-sown seedlings are so abundant that it might be said to have naturalised itself.

The Sikkimensis series is rather bewildering to many amateurs, who find considerable difficulty in differentiating between the various species. They may roughly be divided into two groups:—

(1) Those species having cordate leaves, which include P. Florindæ, and P. microdonta and its varieties alpicola and violacea.

(2) Those having cuneate leaves, as in the typical P. Sikkimensis. These include the dwarf P. pudibunda, P. Waltoni, P. prionotes, also P. secundiflora and P. vittata. The chief difference between the two latter species is that the flowers of P. secundiflora hang on one side of the stem only, whereas in P. vittata they form the complete whorl.

Fairly moist conditions are necessary for the successful culture of all species of the Sikkimensis series.

P. involucrata and its allies P. Wardii and P. chrysopa are also moisture-loving Primulas, but they should be cultivated in fairly open positions. This especially refers to P. chrysopa, which becomes drawn and weak in semi-shaded positions.

The nivalis is one of the largest sections of Primulas, but it is singular how few have proved amenable to general cultivation in our gardens. The chief trouble is that they cannot withstand our damp winter conditions. A fairly open and well-drained position is, therefore, essential to success. The plants should also be placed in their flowering positions when comparatively young, and never disturbed unnecessarily. P. chionantha and P. sino-purpurea are, perhaps, the most reliable species, but another species belonging to this group, P. pulchelloides, which was collected by Capt. Kingdon Ward on his 1924-25 expedition, is growing well and producing self-sown seedlings at Bodnant, and may prove the easiest of all.

P. Mooreana is the best species of the capitata series, and is one of the most valuable Primulas for garden decoration. Under rational treatment it will succeed in most semi-shaded positions and give a constant succession of its beautiful violet flowers from July until November.

The muscarioides group are chiefly Alpine meadow plants, and should be gr fairly open positions. They form a crown which is dependent on a comp slender root-system to hold it in positi it is advisable to place all young p their flowering positions not later t end of July, so that they become anchored before the resting crow formed. Even with this precaution t frequently lifted by severe frosts, a well to examine them occasionally du winter and make firm any loose cro they will perish with the cold, dry P. atricapilla, P. cernua, and P. defi three of the best and most reliable P. Littoniana belongs to this series, a succeed under similar conditions.

The Cortusoides series are definitely land Primulas, and a shaded bank f congenial home for them. Perhaps t known species are P. Veitchii, P. genses and its variety Hapala. species are so closely related that t often confused. They may, however, tinguished by the hairs on the under the leaves. The leaves of P. Veitchii most densely hairy. P. lichiangenses next, and the variety Hapala has th hairy leaves. The flowers of Hapala also have an orange eye.

Of the Geranioides group, belonging same series, P. latisecta will proba found the most reliable. This speci a creeping rhizome and quickly forms mass. Most of the species belonging Cortusoides series will winter much on a gently sloping woodland bank th will on the flat.

I will mention only one more grou Bullatæ, which is represented in gard Primula Forrestii and P. redolens. are of comparatively easy culture if th be given a sunny position in a wall or the crevice of a vertical cliff in th garden, but any attempt to grow th the flat will usually result in failure, f will succumb to winter damp.

There are many other fine Primulas are well worth growing, but being of more difficult culture they are, conseq outside the intention of these notes, think that I have mentioned suffici show that every amateur may indulge cult of the Primula, for, no matte limited are the possibilities of his g amongst the wide range of species h find some that he may cultivate with chance of success. I would, however, emphasise the importance of planti Primulas in their flowering positions as in the late summer as possible, so that is no possibility of root injury predis the plants to rotting during the winter

Primula enthusiasts should also b mind that many species are biennials, others are doubtfully perennial, or are lived, and to keep a representative coll in good health constant renewal from is very necessary. This is, however, a paratively easy matter from freshly ga seeds, and if the best forms are m specially for seeds, growers may enjo added interest of selective breeding.

F. C. PUDL

Bodnant Gardens, N. Wales.

Greenhouse Primulas

Shady cold frames are best suited t summer wants of these winter-flow Primroses. Shade from all direct sunsh imperative, while very careful watering maintain the health and vigour of the p

BODNANT GARDENS, NORTH WALES

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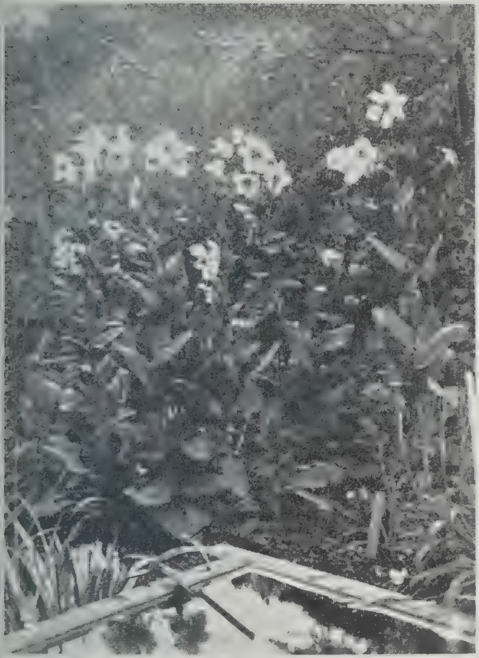

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5

6

7

1. Primulas in the Dell.
2. Some of the older Rhododendrons.
3. Meconopsis Baileyi.
4. A fine specimen of Cedrus atlantica glauca.
5. A rock garden of dwarf Rhododendrons
6. A sunny corner. In the wall Saxifraga longifolia, Lewisias, and Primula Forrestii find a congenial home, whilst Agapanthus, Roscoeas, and Sisyrinchiums luxuriate below.
7. Saxifraga lingulata in the rock garden.

Growing Melons in Frames

As pits and frames are now mostly cleared of the stocks of bedding plants which have occupied them for some months, it becomes necessary for those who are anxious to turn the resources at command to the best account to consider to what use the appliances can be most profitably put until again wanted for winter protection. Tomatoes and Cucumbers are often grown with great success, and are highly appreciated during the summer months, but I suggest that an increased portion of the space afforded by the disused pits and frames should be devoted to Melons. Many growers think that Melons are very difficult of cultivation, and cannot be had in perfection without the aid of an efficient heated structure; but although somewhat exacting in their requirements, when the cultivator has become acquainted with these peculiarities, the production of good crops of fine quality presents no difficulty. A high temperature and abundant atmospheric moisture are undoubtedly essential factors in the culture of these fruits, but these can be easily obtained in unheated structures during the summer months by a careful utilisation of sun-heat and judicious use of water.

Melons require for their successful cultivation a rather strong and not over-rich soil. Almost any ordinary turfy loam will, however, be suitable, and very little in the way of rotten manure should be added. With too rich a soil the growth will be unduly luxuriant. There are two courses open in making up the beds, one to form under each light a substantial mound of soil, and the other to form a ridge along the centre of the frame, which has decided advantages. The soil should be moderately moist and made rather firm, and on the formation of the bed, the frame should be shut up quite close for a day or two to ensure the mass becoming thoroughly warmed. The ridge of soil may be added to at intervals, as the roots make their appearance at the sides.

For frame culture, varieties that are hardy in constitution and free setting, as well as of good quality, should be selected. Melons of the Cantaloup type, so largely grown in the South of France, may also be grown under the same conditions. Two plants will be required for each light, and on planting out it may be necessary to slightly screen them from the full rays of the sun for a day or two, but when established they will stand full exposure. A temperature ranging between 75 degs. and 80 degs. during the day will be the most suitable, but early closing of the frames should be practised, to bottle up sun-heat. If the plants and all surfaces of the structure are well sprinkled with tepid water before closing, this may be done early enough for the temperature to rise to 90 degs. or 95 degs. without any risk of injury to the foliage.

When the plants are well established and growing freely, they should be stopped, to induce the formation of several shoots, which should stretch over the bed and be allowed to grow unchecked until they reach the sides. They must then be stopped, and as the result of this, fruit producing laterals will appear along their whole length. During the flowering period, rather more buoyant conditions should be maintained, and artificial pollenisation should be carried out so soon as four or five female flowers are expanded at the same time on one plant. Each plant will be able to bring four or five fruits to maturity, and so far as practicable these should be evenly distributed over the plant. The laterals bearing fruit should be allowed to grow unchecked, but others will require some amount of stopping to prevent overcrowding. It is good practice to give the bed a thorough watering at the time that the fruit-bearing flowers are expanding, and then discontinue the use of the watering can until the fruits have attained the size of a pigeon's egg. An excess of moisture previous to the fruits reaching this size frequently causes them to turn yellow and ultimately decay. It is a good plan to place a piece of earthenware tile under them at an early stage of growth, and to raise them above the foliage on approaching maturity. As the fruits begin to ripen the soil should be kept rather dry, but sufficient water must be given to enable them to finish completely.

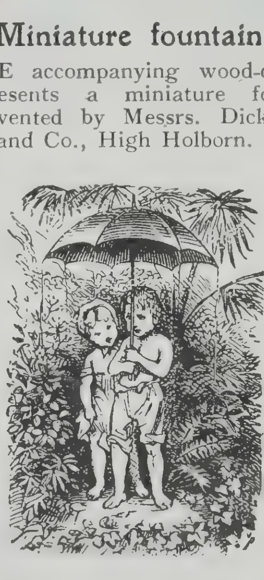
W. Auton.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Miniature fountains

The accompanying wood-cut represents a miniature fountain invented by Messrs. Dick Radclyffe and Co., High Holborn. It has been shown on several occasions at horticultural shows and has been greatly admired. It is well adapted for small ferneries, conservatories, or rock works in the open air.



A simple frame

With a trifling cost from a good size water-barrel can be made a frame just to keep the cold out for the winter and to cultivate one Melon or Cucumber in the summer. Take out six spars of wood (if a good-sized barrel) and put in their place glass in a framework. The frame, with a little trouble, you could make yourself, and for a few shillings buy the glass.—July 12th, 1879.

Border of herbaceous plants

Reply to "L. V."

It is evident that the border requires rearranging, deep digging, and so forth, and this work could be taken in hand any time in September. You say nothing about the class of soil or its depth, but with Michaelmas Daisies 8 feet high the soil cannot be bad. Any bulbous plants could be lifted earlier—say July—and set aside for future replanting. We think it best that you clear the entire bed, trenching the soil, clearing out any rooting weeds, and manuring freely. do this the planting can be done easily. You cannot do better than ar the plants in groups or colonies, as i way a good effect is secured. In the dr tion, the bulbous Irises, Daffodils, T Crown Imperials, Lilium candidum, L. ceum, Alstrœmerias, and such like d tremely well. The Tulips would r annual lifting to do them justice. I background, if you desired tall subje correspond with your Michaelmas D Sunflowers, Kniphofias, Hollyhocks, conias, Delphiniums, and other showy should find a place. If you arrange Larkspur—say, three, five, or more pla to form a group having a ground ar planting time, not less than 3 feet a you will obtain a spread of leafage d this size when in full growth, and a some flowering withal. Taking this spur group as an example, and with a space allowed for full development, you on each side of it, and quite 3 feet neare front, arrange groups of herbaceous Pæ in red or crimson, with Emperor o Watkin Daffodils appearing in spring tween the Pæonies, and filling up the space with a white Campanula—C. carp alba, a mass of 4 feet across. If you f this idea generally you could in like ma employ many of the tall growing Lilie speciosum vars., colchicum, testaceum, didum, tigrinum, umbellatum, Martigon others, in conjunction with tall Rudbec Asters in variety as Pyrethrums, L Phloxes, Incarvillea, Pentstemons, Eri speciosus, with dwarf Phloxes, Campar dwarf Irises, I. pumila, etc., Aubri Megaseas, and many more appearing in masses in the front.

Roses on poles, the red and white pere Pea, and other effective subjects as Cl tises, could also appear in moderate nun throughout the border. We see no occ for dividing the border with stones, thou some extent you could employ these wit dwarfer plants near the front in such a that no formal arrangement should a continuously, and that the presence o stones was intended to assist the dw subjects generally to a greater inform and picturesqueness by raising the p more prominently, so that they event clothe the sides of the stones. It would good plan to roughly sketch the border, with the assistance of a catalogue grou plants.

Raised beds

Raised beds are seldom seen in m gardens, but in years gone by were common, and if well planted were a pleasing feature. I remember three were worth noting. One had alternate p of Plumbago capensis and Solanum jas oides just inside the paths growing ren ably well, flowering profusely, and har nearly to the ground. The remainder o bed was filled with a few tall plants of H trope and the Lemon-scented Eucaly with dwarfer Heliotrope beneath. In st contrast to this bed of pleasing soft sh was one of Fuchsias, the outer rim pla with General Roberts and Wave of both of a pendant nature, whilst Fuchsias in several varieties filled the mainder of the bed. The contrast in co of the different varieties, both in sepals corolla, was startling, but in no way dist ful. Yet another bed was, perhaps, more startling, with plants of Tropæ canariensis, Maurandya Barclayana, a centre of Veronica Andersonii variegat study in purple and gold.

E. Burre

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

outhern and Midland

flowers

ese should now be drawn from the seed
and planted out at 9 inches to 1 foot
, allowing the same distance between
ows. The plants should be well watered
nd if dry weather continues a light
ing overhead with the rose will prove
reat assistance in getting the young
s well started. In this way nice, bushy
s will be available for the beds in
nn. The hoe should be plied freely
g them once they have become nicely
lished.

ring Carnations

not wait until all the flowers are over
e commencing this operation or many of
ayers will scarcely be ready when re-
d for planting out.

aring the plants

st cut away all flower-spikes on which
looms are past their best, remove all
ly growth and poor foliage, then place
nch layer of gritty soil around the base
e plant and firm gently down. The
s should then be evenly spread out, and
inches or 5 inches from the tips of the
hs remove a few leaves. At this point
a sharp blade beneath one of the joints
lraw it through the centre as far as the
joint, or about 1 inch, open the wound
ly by bending the growth, and press
into the prepared soil, fixing firmly with
e peg. A little of the same soil should
be placed over the layer and peg, and
completed water the layers with a fine
If the weather proves hot and dry the
s should be damped over every evening
week or 10 days, and in a month's time
of them should be ready for severing
the parent plants.

s

ese delightful garden subjects may be
y increased at this season in various
Pipings about 4 inches or 5 inches in
n may be torn off the plants with a heel
ed and dibbled into sandy soil at the
of beds, or in rows, according to re-
nents, and a large percentage will root.
more reliable method, however, is to
the pipings into boxes of sandy soil and
them in a cool, closed frame, shading
from bright sunshine until growth is
ent. Damp the pipings over occasion-
o prevent wilting only.

panula pyramidalis, Canterbury Bells, Brompton Stocks, &c.

sown in May must now be planted out
ws at 9 inches apart to provide large
for pots, or for planting out in borders
umn.

saving

ny Alpine and other plants are ripening
seeds fast, and these should be harvested
perfectly dry and stored in a dry place.
he case of Primulas, Auriculas,
ndias, Conandron ramondioides,
nopsis, etc., they should be sown as soon
ssible. When only a small quantity of
s required from a batch of plants the
sary heads should be marked and the
emoved.

nberries

n out the strong growths of the current
o three or five of the best, place stakes
se to prevent swaying by rough winds,
pply weekly doses of liquid-manure to
carrying heavy crops.

Trained fruit trees in the open

Cut away all superfluous growth to within five or six buds of their base and thus give sunshine and air admittance to those buds which are now being built up to supply next season's fruit. Examine all such trees and make the final thinning of their fruits, care being taken to clear away all damaged or distorted examples, as they only rob the trees.

Netting

Continue to net all fruits as colouring commences, and use the nets from the earliest batch of Strawberries for late dessert Gooseberries. Here it is often necessary to net Green Peas or to suffer considerable loss.

Melons

Plants swelling their fruits must be assisted with frequent applications of liquid-manure. This, however, as in the case of water, must be given with discretion, and should not touch the base of the stem, or canker is likely to set in, resulting in the early death of the plant. Few things require more care in this matter than Melons.

Autumn-sown Onions

Bend over the growths of those not already ripened and so prepare them for lifting. The remainder should be pulled and laid on their sides to dry for a few days before storing in a cool, airy shed. The same applies to the mild Potato Onion.

Celery

If leaf miner proves troublesome spray the plants with Quassia Extract and this disfiguring pest will disappear.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Harvesting Shallots

It is advisable to keep a watch on the Shallot bed, for as soon as the crop is ripe it ought to be gathered and laid out thinly on a hard surface and in full sunshine to properly mature. If left in the ground and a rainy spell sets in, the bulbs, immediately they are ripe, again send out roots, and, in so doing, spoil, to some extent, the quality and keeping properties of the crop.

Planting Leeks

It is now advisable to have full breadths of this useful winter vegetable planted, making certain that the site selected has been well worked and generously treated as regards manure. Plant in drills 3 inches deep drawn with a hoe, taking care not to "hang" the plants. In this connection it is advisable, instead of trying to firm them in the soil, merely to make deep holes with the dibber and drop a plant into each. A very small quantity of loose soil may be trickled into the holes, if desired, or a little water can be given, and this will wash in sufficient fine earth to give the plants a start.

Vegetable Marrows

Dryness at the roots is quickly resented by this subject, so during dry spells copious drenchings twice a week will prove very beneficial. After a number of fruits are set and swelling, an occasional soaking of liquid-manure will encourage the plants to give of their best. Avoid overcrowding of the shoots by vigorously thinning out the growths.

Layering Border Carnations

This is a tedious and back-breaking job, but one that is an essential item in the culture of this esteemed plant. It is a good plan to do the work betimes, just as the different varieties become ready, as this greatly lessens the tedium of the operation.

Border Chrysanthemums

The staking and tying of these must not be neglected much longer or the stems will get bent over, if not actually broken, and there will be considerable difficulty in getting them neatly trained. Prevent overcrowding by cutting away all unnecessary shoots, nothing ever being made by permitting a mass of shoots where there is only space for a few.

Dahlias

These grow rapidly now, and a frequent overhaul is necessary, removing all unnecessary shoots and securely but loosely tying in those retained. The Dahlia delights in moisture at the roots, so in dry weather do not forget this fact. Should there be any lack of vigour an occasional soaking of liquid-manure will materially help to strengthen these plants.

The Rose garden

Most beneficial to all classes of Roses is the frequent stirring of the surface soil with the Dutch hoe. Incidentally, it destroys weeds, and so materially adds to the beauty of the beds. When suckers are discovered do not cut them, but pull each one out by the socket and so prevent, to a considerable extent, others from springing from the base, as happens when cutting is practised. A soaking of water during dry weather will be greatly appreciated by the bushes. Remove spent blooms and thin the buds drastically whenever necessary.

Pansies and Violas

The season of beauty may be considerably extended if spent blooms and seed-pods are removed at frequent intervals. Any straggly growth may, with advantage, be cut back, and also any weeds present removed. If the soil can be lightly stirred between the plants with a hand-fork and then a mulch of very rotten manure worked in under the plants much benefit will result, the plants again flowering freely, while, later on, numerous sturdy cuttings will spring up in the centres of the plants.

Sweet Peas

Water, train, and tie these, as necessary. Dryness at the roots is most injurious to this plant, so every care must be taken to see that this state is never reached. On dry, hot soils a generous mulch on both sides of the rows adds materially to the welfare of the plants, checking evaporation, and helping to maintain a cool, rich medium favourable to the production of fine flowers. Pick off any seed-pods that appear, and cut away shoots that threaten to produce overcrowding.

Cyclamens

These should be sprayed overhead twice daily, while the soil in the pots must never be permitted to get actually dry, at the same time taking care not to keep it constantly saturated by too frequent applications of water.

Calceolarias and Cinerarias

Both of these must be provided with cool, shady quarters all through the summer and early autumn, while watering must never be neglected. A dry, warm atmosphere and soil will invariably induce attacks of Green Fly and other noxious vermin, and if these get a serious hold the plants are doomed.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Notes from a Cornish Garden

THE children have a couple of little gardens in the upper compartment of the wall garden. To one of them it is merely a thing to show to visitors, but to the other a real interest. For she is a picker-up of unconsidered trifles, chiefly valueless, and spends some of her scanty pocket-money at a shop called Woolworths, where it appears one can get bulbs, etc., which really grow, for an almost infinitesimal sum. Assuredly Mr. Woolworth should be knighted or canonised as the children's saint from the amount of pleasure he gives.

To me these gardens are a refuge from the gardener and his boy, whose custom it is to knock over the labels and destroy the plants they do not know in the other borders. So that though I have to do most of the weeding, I can with comparative safety put odds and ends in them for which no other place is available. At the moment they contain a group of Aquilegias—formosa x the long-spurred—the seed of which was sent me by my friend, Mr. George Fraser, of Ucluelet, British Columbia. And beautiful things they are, some being mauve and white, though the majority show a lot of red in the sepals, with petals which are cream-coloured. As a rule I find the Viburnums rather invasive for this garden and have had to abolish several Chinese species which have threatened to crowd out their choice neighbours. Viburnum Carlesii is an exception, beautiful in flower and sweetly scented, and V. rhytidophyllum is very handsome just now, a shapely bush growing in poor clay soil near the upper pond, with its large flowers well distributed all over it. V. tomentosum var. Mariesii is particularly fine, a great spreading bush with multitudes of pure white flowers on its horizontal branches. Moreover, it layers itself freely, though it appears that rabbits will eat the layers when separated and planted out.

The first of the wild Roses are in bloom, R. omeiensis and R. Hugonis, the latter creamy-yellow, the former almost white, with pretty foliage, the whole of the leaf-stem being red, and a graceful arching habit which renders it very attractive.

A stretch of Primula helodoxa on a north bank among the Ferns is quite delightful, nor have the rabbits found it yet. A damper place would make it grow taller, but near the stream grow many gigantic weeds, and since labour is non-existent here it would not hold its own. P. pulverulenta, indeed, does so to a certain extent, and I was pleased to see a self-sown seedling of the fragile little P. Cockburniana among the grass the other day. One plant of P. Reidii, minute, hairy-leaved, with large pure white flowers, is in bloom on the steep north bank beside the drive, which apparently suits it, as one of the plants has been there for three years. It does not suit P. Agleniana nor P. Omphalogramma, which seems to require a richer diet, for they live but do not flower. P. Agleniana has got over being divided and is looking well, but so far only one plant is flowering. Its great white flowers, with their green centres, are exquisite. I am very fond of a green centre or green spotting in a flower. Some of the Lilies have it, such as L. Farreri, and some varieties of Rhododendrons Aucklandii and decorum, whilst R. Augustinii occasionally has green spotting. How disappointing in this respect are some of one's purchases at shows. During the last two or three years I have bought Rhododendrons Mrs. de la Mare and Mrs. Lindsay Smith, both because of this green spotting, and a pure yellow variety of R. cinnabarinum. The last turned out very ordinary and the first two have brown spots, the abnormal colours being probably due to forcing. And all the time there is in the garden one of my own Hybrids, Brachycarpum x discolor, of the most delicate pale pink and with the required green spots. And this is, indeed, a fine flower, for it has 15 seven-lobed bells, 2 inches by 3½ inches, in a tall conical truss, and yet retains the charming colouring and refinement of R. brachycarpum. If circumstances had permitted I would have taken it to London, a candidate for a F.C.C., but as they did not, I can only hope that someone else who has had a plant will do so for me.

The incomparable Meconopsis Baileyi is flowering here for the first time and is giving us the greatest pleasure. Azure blue, no less, with a circle of yellow stamens, and sometimes four out at once on a stem 2 feet high. Unfortunately, a certain number of the plants are bearing purple flowers and are probably natural Hybrids with M. quintuplinervia. A neighbour to whom I gave plants saw only the last before she went away for a month and was highly indignant thereat, but I hope that some of the real thing may pacify her on her return.

A Himalayan Meconopsis from seed collected by Pradham, probably paniculata, is flowering in the same bed and is pale yellow throughout.

During the winter I had to cut all the lower branches off Davidia involucrata as it was crowding some Rhododendrons planted near it. However, it does not seem to have bled, and is now hanging out many of its large white bracts among the green leaves. A damp place with a north aspect evidently suits it, as it has prospered wonderfully ever since it was moved from the hot sunny spot where it was originally planted. Near it Acer Forrestii, by no means the least ornamental of that pleasant race, is beginning to set its seed and is making a nice little tree about 6 inches in diameter at the base. Its bark is a dark olive-green, with perpendicular lines of a lighter green, and the leaves are dark green with reddish stems.

Forrest's number was 6008, and it is worth a place in any garden, if obtainable.

PETER THE HERMIT.

Summer Show of Brighton Horticultural Society

THE summer show of the Brighton, Hove, and Sussex Horticultural Society was held on July 3rd and 4th in The Dome, Corn Exchange, and Library, at Brighton, and it no doubt suffered somewhat by being held so soon after the Sussex County Agricultural Show, with its large horticultural section, and also by being held during the same week as the show of the National Rose Society at Chelsea. Nevertheless, there were some particularly fine exhibits of Roses from Messrs. Prince, of Oxford, and Frank Cant and Prior's, of Colchester.

In the collection from Oxford, for which first prize was awarded, I Zingari, Angele Pernet, Christine, the "Daily Mail" scented Rose, Mr. Herbert Stevens, Johanna Bridge, Hortulanus Budde, Ivy May, Betty Uprichard, and William Kordes were very finely shown.

Frank Cant's contented themselves with a comparatively small group, but were awarded first prize for cut Roses shown in another class, in which Marcia Stanhope, Mabel Morse, Lady Inchiquin, and Mr. Henry Morse appeared to perfection.

Mr. Frank Woollard, of Brighton, was awarded the third prize for a fine group composed largely of the above-named The same firm also showed an int group of herbaceous plants, the being particularly good.

A. Goatcher and Son, of Wash Sussex, showed a Gold Medal gr Roses, and Mr. Ernest Hicks, of W ford, was awarded a first prize for a f lection in which Lady Inchiquin, I Z and Dainty Bess were particularl shown. Second prize fell to Hazelde Knight, of Lewes, for a good group of

Cheal's showed a Gold Medal gr herbaceous plants arranged in their fa position in front of the great organ Dome. In the centre of the group the a fine collection of Dahlias in many different varieties. Mr. W. A. R. Clif Willingdon, showed some of his fine Pelargoniums, which gained the Medal. A new variety named Will Gem is a deep, rich orange with white

Amongst private growers a first pri awarded to W. H. Vokins, Esq., for goniums (gardener, Mr. W. J. Scott).

A magnificent non-competitive disp fruit came from G. G. A. Nix, Esq., gate, Crawley. The bunches of Grapes Cannon Hall were particularly

Another fine exhibit of fruit came C. B. O. Clarke, Esq., Weston Steyning (gardener, Mr. J. Kidd).

Mr. J. H. Manton, gardener to W. J. Esq., of Haywards Heath, took first pr a fine group of Perpetual Carnations.

Lowe and Gibson, of Crawley Dow up a magnificent collection of Delphi for which the Gold Medal was awarded exhibit was to show the result given b ing one packet of seed which is save 22 leading varieties only.

Balchin's, of Brighton and Hove, fill end of the Corn Exchange with a form den having a central bed filled with Crampel Pelargoniums, and a gro Lilium longiflorum in the middle of On each side of this central bed smalle filled with Tuberous Begonias and vari foliage plants were placed, the Coleus particularly good. From Lye Nurseries, Chesham, Bucks, there charming formal garden with pool artis constructed and planted, which receiv Gold Medal.

Mr. H. Hemsley, of Crawley, made garden display of Alpines on the bench, also received the Gold Medal.

The Misses Davison, Faircroft, With Brighton, put up one of the best colle of cut herbaceous flowers in the clas amateurs. Here various Water Lilies shown, and the blossoms remained well throughout the two days on which the was held.

In the class for table decoration Miss Rhodes, The Firs, Clappers Gate, Barc was awarded first prize for an arrange of Dainty Bess Roses.

In the Trade section W. Miles and were awarded a medal for a display of f and flowering plants, in which Hydra and Gloxinias figured.

Mr. S. Miller, of Newport, Isle of W ran away with the Silver Challenge Cu a collection of Sweet Peas. Avalanch pure white; Gleneagles, a lavender-a Grenadier, a geranium-scarlet; Mrs. Searles, a deep salmon-pink; What J pale yellow; Sunkist, a cream Picotee; Youth, another Picotee, were splen shown amongst many other varieties.

Mr. Arthur Pratt, of Preston Brighton, had an exhibit of flowers in Corn Exchange to draw attention to Florists' Telegraph Delivery Association ing up florists all over the world.

Answers to Queries

es—Queries and answers are inserted in ɴɢ Iʟʟᴜsᴛʀᴀᴛᴇᴅ *free of charge if corre-dits follow these rules: All communications l be clearly written on one side of the paper ,nd addressed to the* Eᴅɪᴛᴏʀ *of* Gᴀʀᴅᴇɴɪɴɢ ᴛᴇᴅ, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, Letters on business should be sent to the* ɪᴇʀ *The name and address of the sender uired in addition to any designation he sire to be used in the paper. When more ne query is sent, each should be on a re piece of paper; the name and address added to each. As* Gᴀʀᴅᴇɴɪɴɢ Iʟʟᴜsᴛʀᴀᴛᴇᴅ *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

n auratum

Auratum Lily was growing well and y in my garden till about a week ago, the top began to turn right over. It e stiff. I can see no blight of any sort, es it need water. It is from 2 feet to high. I should be very grateful if you me know the likely cause.

“ Cʜɪsᴡɪᴄᴋ.”

r trouble is probably due to decay or rm having penetrated the bulb, and ow of nothing you can do at the pre-me which would be of any real help to Yours is by no means an uncommon nce, as often disease has commenced the bulbs are planted, but cannot be d.]

ed Delphiniums

W. Kidley).—The plants sent for ex-tion are teeming with eelworms, and ave had a lot to do with the failure plants. On the other hand, we do not tirely satisfied that the eelworms are le cause of the damage, because we that the plants sent are all endeavour-throw fresh roots from the collar. ms to us that the probable reason for ilure of the plants is that they were crippled by the frosts of last winter, just h vitality was left in the plants to allow o break into growth, but the dry season en against making enough root to sup-the foliage. Further, the weakened have fallen an easy prey to the attack worm. If you intend to try and save lants, proceed as follows: Give the a thorough soaking with Cheshunt ound and then earth up the collars with fresh soil about 1 inch deep; leave the until the autumn and you will then to judge whether or no they are worth g. If you find that the Cheshunt Com-does not strengthen the plants suffi-to enable them to pull round and the eelworm attack, the plants should troyed. The bed should be sterilised 2 per cent. solution of formaldehyde any new plants are put out. Write us if we can be of any use.

era flowers

F. Reynard).—From the material you is impossible for us to say the cause ur Heuchera plants changing their If you would like to send us a com-plant, packed in a tin box, we could e it for you and report as to whether the plants are diseased in any way. ave not noticed that Heuchera was to change its colour. Can any of our s help?

seased

G.).—Your Iris is affected with Iris Spot, which is caused by the fungus porium gracile. If only a few plants ected it would be wise to burn them. lants growing near should be sprayed ulphide of potassium. If you desire to try and control the disease you should cut off and burn the discoloured foliage, and keep the plants sprayed with the sulphide of potassium, 1 oz. in 2 gallons of water. When the rhizomes begin to make their new growths a thorough drenching with Cheshunt Compound would keep them. If the plants show any sign of the trouble next year repeat the Cheshunt Compound solution and spray the foliage with the sulphide of potassium solution indicated above.

Sweet Peas dying off

I should be much obliged if you could tell me the cause of some of my Sweet Peas dying off, and have enclosed two for inspection. The method of cultivation employed is to sow the seed in 48-pots in October, place in a cool frame, and during October or November dig out a trench 2 feet wide and 2 feet deep, half fill the trench with leaves, chiefly Oak and Beech, put a thin layer of horse manure and fill up trench with soil, and then in the spring, about the third week in March, shake out the Peas and plant about 1 foot apart in two rows.

S. E. Hᴀʀᴛʟᴇʏ.

[Your Sweet Peas are attacked by a fungus which causes Black Rot. The organism concerned is Thielavia basicola, which attacks many kinds of garden plants. Your method of culture appears to be correct, and, of course, we cannot say actually when infection occurred, because it may have happened at any period from the date of sowing. Take up and burn all the plants that are affected; they could at best only make a partial recovery, and diseased plants are a source of danger to healthy ones. The healthy plants should be given a thorough soaking with Cheshunt Compound. When sowing your Sweet Pea seed another year make sure that they start well by sowing in sterilised soil. Soil for the purpose could be baked, or, if this is impossible, you could use the chemical formaldehyde for the purpose. Take 6 gallons and 1 pint of water, and add 1 pint of formaldehyde; stir well, and then add enough of the solution to the potting soil to well wet it. Cover with wet bags for 48 hours, then air the soil, turning it each few days to allow the fumes to escape. Soil treated with formaldehyde should not be used as a potting medium for at least a month; six weeks is safer. After preparing the flowering quarters for your Peas next year give a soaking with Cheshunt Compound just prior to planting. Cheshunt Compound is from time to time advertised in our pages, and only requires water to be ready for use. Cheshunt Compound can be used either prior to planting or direct to plants without harming them.]

Muscari (Grape Hyacinth) seed

(P. B. H., Bournemouth).—These come freely from seed, which should be sown in spring in a light, gritty compost in a cold frame. Flowering plants are produced in three or four years from seeds, but the bulbs are so cheap that raising from seed is scarcely worth while unless one wishes to increase a very special kind.

GREENHOUSE

Geranium trouble

(“ Cairndowan ”).—The trouble, we doubt not, was caused by the addition of the stable manure to the compost for the Geraniums. These plants require none of this material, as it only causes soft, long-jointed growth and few and inferior flowers. The best compost for the Zonal Pelargonium (Geranium) is made from three parts turfy loam, two parts leaf-mould, and 1 part coarse sand. This is improved by adding a 6-inch potful of bone-meal and a 5-inch potful of Thomson’s Vine and plant manure to each barrow-load of the other ingredients. Mix thoroughly and press quite firmly round the roots.

Mystery Lily of the East

(L. D.).—The Latin name of this curious Lily is “ Sauromatum guttatum ” syn. Arum venosum. It is a native of the Himalaya and is increased by offsets from the older tubers. To obtain the most satisfactory results this species should be grown in a warm greenhouse in a compost of light, rich, sandy loam, peat, and leaf-soil. The roots must also be kept well supplied with water when in growth. The greenish spathes, washed with yellow inside and irregularly blotched with deep purple, appear during May and June. The tubers, instead of being grown in a greenhouse as recommended, are often placed in fancy bowls, or even on the mantel-shelf, without any water whatever. If the temperature is high enough (60 degs. to 70 degs.) growth commences, and the nourishment stored up in the tuber is sufficient to produce the flower-spathes without further attention. Plants so treated are of little use after flowering.

Lilium auratum seed

(Rev. R. F. Reeves).—It is just possible that your Lily may ripen its seed if kept in the greenhouse and given every care in the matter of watering and airing, and shade from midday sun. The seed should be sown as soon as it is ripe in well-drained pots or pans of sandy soil. Cover the seeds very thinly with sand, and raise in a cool frame or greenhouse. You are probably aware that this and many other Lilies may be increased by scales taken off the bulbs and dibbled into pots of sandy soil, this being a quicker method of propagation than that of raising them from seeds.

Geranium Leaf Spot

(T. G. L.).—We have examined your Ivy-leaved Pelargonium and find that the only organism present likely to cause trouble is a large number of Red Spider. This pest attacks a very wide range of plants and causes a lot of foliage troubles. The actual spotting of the foliage is only indirectly connected with the Red Spider, but there is no fungus present which should cause you any bother. The best method of control for the spider attack will be to keep the plants well syringed with clear water, driving the water well beneath the foliage and between the pots. A watering with sulphate of potash, repeated twice at intervals of seven days, would help you to keep the foliage healthy. The strength of the sulphate of potash solution should be 1 oz. to 2 gallons of water. Well stir before using. Keep the Pelargoniums well aired if you will have them under glass.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Spiræas delay flowering

(H. C. Gaye).—The Spiræa appears to be S. Van Houttei, a hybrid between S. trilobata and S. cantoniensis, the leaves of the true S. cantoniensis being lozenge-shaped, which these are not. We could have been more sure had we seen flowers. S. Van

Houttei is one of the finest white-flowered Spiræas in cultivation, and we think it is only a matter of time before your plant blooms. Syringa japonica, cannot say with certainty without flowers, but probably the true thing.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Leaf Miner on Chrysanthemum

(W. Ken).—Your plants are being attacked by a Leaf Miner similar to, but not the same as, the Leaf Miner so commonly found on Celery. Please see reply to F. Holland in this issue. Your specimens arrived in a dried-up condition and all the maggots were dead. If you would like to send us some fresh specimens, plenty of them, packed in a small tin box, we would endeavour to breed them through to the adult stage and get the actual culprit named for you. You realise, of course, that it will be next spring before you obtain a reply, and only then if we are successful in getting the adults through. If the fly happens to be a double-brooded one we may get the flies out before the autumn.

ROSES

Rose Leaf-rolling Sawfly

(E. Williamson).—The Rose shoots you send for examination are affected with Leaf-rolling Sawfly (Blennocampa pusilla). The Sawfly in question occurs frequently on wild Roses, and is not uncommon on cultivated Roses. It appears that for some reason or the other the pest is extremely common this year, and we have noticed that hardly a Rose garden in the country is free. The adult Sawfly appears in May and June. The colour is black and shiny, the legs black with whitish knees, wings dusky and iridescent. Eggs are laid on the foliage. The caterpillars need no description from us, because if you unroll the affected foliage you will find the caterpillars within. When the caterpillars are fully fed they drop to the soil, enter, and form cocoons in which they remain as caterpillars until the following February or March. Pupation then takes place and the adults emerge in May and June. Hand-pick and burn all the affected leaves. At the end of next March spread evenly 2 ozs. of naphthalene per square yard of soil and then fork in the material as deeply as you can without disturbing the roots. Watch carefully for the reappearance of the pest next year, and deal with it by hand-picking and burning if necessary.

VEGETABLES

How and when to make an Asparagus bed

I wish to make an Asparagus bed and should be glad to know what is the best time to prepare the bed, and how to do it; also the right time to put in the plants. I believe two-year-old plants are the best. How long after planting would a crop be ready to cut?

A. WELLS.

[The ground for Asparagus must be thoroughly prepared, and while some soils are better than others, the best is a good, deep, friable loam with a porous subsoil. Good drainage is absolutely essential, therefore, unless the land is drained naturally or is of a specially heavy nature, land drains should be laid along the whole length of the beds, with a slight fall to the exit. The ground should be trenched 3 feet deep in the autumn, working in a good quantity of well rotted manure, burnt earth, and mortar rubbish, and on heavy land the bed should be raised to 1 foot above the general level of the ground. At the latter end of March fork over the bed, which should be 5 feet in width, and place a neat but stout stake at each corner. If other beds are required alongside, alleys 2 feet wide should be left between them. The first week in April is a very suitable time for planting, choosing dull, damp weather, and the shorter the time taken between lifting and replanting the better. Such a bed will accommodate 3 rows of plants at 2 feet apart all ways. Having lined out the bed, proceed as follows. Remove the soil at each station, leaving the centre of each hole slightly higher than the sides, and place the plant carefully thereon, or the roots pointing slightly downwards, and finish off with 3 inches of fine soil, making the whole tolerably firm. Never cut the heads until the second year after planting.]

Asparagus growing

(Young Gardener).—All you can do at the present time to established beds of Asparagus is to apply plenty of moisture, with an occasional dose of diluted manure water, or, if possible, give it a mulch of farmyard manure. If the growths become tall and heavy and require the support of stakes, these should also be given. There is nothing further that can be done except to keep the plants free from weeds until autumn when, following the ripening of the growths, they should be cut away at 4 inches from the ground.

Asparagus "Caterpillars"

(Charles Barrington).—The specimens sent for examination are the larvæ of the Asparagus Beetle (Crioceris Asparagi). The adults hibernate during the winter in garden rubbish and emerge about the end of April. Eggs are laid on the stalks of the Asparagus. After about a week the larvæ hatch and begin to feed. After feeding for 14 or 15 days the larvæ are fully fed and drop to the soil, where they form a cell and pupate. Ten days later at the outside, another generation of beetles emerge, and the life-history is repeated. Clear up all rubbish near to the beds during winter. When growth commences in spring all growths should be kept cut; that big enough for the kitchen should be used for that purpose, but the small material should be destroyed. By so doing, the beetles of the hibernating generation are forced to lay their eggs on the pushing growths, and these are constantly being removed and used or destroyed. This plan breaks down badly if any growths are allowed to remain. At this period of the year all you can do is to keep the foliage dusted with fresh air-slaked lime early in the morning. This treatment will kill the larvæ.

Growing Seakale

(Young Gardener).—The flower stems should be removed at once down to within 4 inches or 5 inches of their base. Seakale requires good ground and generous treatment, and otherwise is by no means a difficult crop to grow. The plants you refer to are apparently old ones, and apart from keeping them clean and feeding them, there is nothing further which you can do at present. During the winter you might lift a few plants and cut off their roots, selecting a few of the straightest, and after cutting them into lengths of about 5 inches, stand them upright in boxes of sand in a cool, frost-proof shed. By April the thick end will have made slight growth, and the roots may then be planted out on good land at 18 inches apart. In this way you may renew your stock.

Tomatoes for examination

(F. T.).—The Tomatoes are attacked by the fungus known as Black Rot, a rather common disease. A thorough system of ventilation is the best means of keeping Black Rot at bay in houses, a little air being left on all night, with an increase of fireheat to keep up the temperature. Sulphide of potassium at the rate of ½ oz. to 1 gallon of water is also useful as a preventive measure. It sh
sprayed upon the plants as soon as th
fruits have set, and repeated if n
Bordeaux mixture is also useful in
ing this disease. Too much moistu
ing about the plants is often respon
this trouble.

Celery Leaf Miner

My Celery is attacked very ba
maggot. What would you recomme
rid of this pest, also the cause? I
made its appearance I had dusted w
also sprayed, every other day, wi
water, and have sprayed with a nic
ordinary strength and then double
but without success. I might add
the last 10 years the ground has bee
manured (cow manure). Would this
bring this about?

F. Ho

[The cause of Leaf Miner in Cel
two-winged fly called Celery Fly.
appears in April and May, and eggs
within the foliage. The maggots ha
feed within the tissue of the leaf.
fully fed, the maggots eat their way
drop to the soil, and change to the
stage. Three weeks or a mont
another generation of flies appear fr
chrysalids, and the life-history is r
except that the second lot of maggo
changing to the chrysalis stage
autumn, remain in that condition un
or May the next year. Because the
pear over a long period we are so
led to believe that there are more t
generations. It is often possible to fi
flies and maggots on the same plant.
case the adults are late in emerging
the maggots are those of the flies
emerged early. The only method of
which is very successful is to spray th
with an insecticide containing nicotin
wash should be used as strong as the
will stand. As a deterrent to the ad
when egg-laying, paraffin emulsion is
Naphthalene applied at the rate of 2
square yard in March will destr
chrysalis stage of this insect. For me
application see reply to E. William
Rose Sawfly in this issue.]

FRUIT

Diseased Melons

(H. Bound).—Your Melons are
with Leaf Spot, or Anthracnose, of Cu
and Melon. This disease is caused
fungus Colletotrichum oligochætum
parts of the plant are attacked.
disease is taken in time control can
be obtained, but to do this it is neces
prevent the fungus attacking the stem
plant. A good fungicide for the con
Leaf Spot can be made by using o
wheaten flour, 2 ozs.; lime sulphur,
oz.; water, 2½ gallons. Take the flo
add cautiously a little water, and mi
the flour is made into a smooth pas
from lumps. More water is gradually
until the mixture is made up to 3 pint
the mixing must be done in such
that the product is milky and free
lumps. The mixture is then boiled
stantly stirring it, until it begins to
When this happens the mixture sho
gradually stirred into the remaining a
of water. Finally, the lime sulphur
be added, again stirring. Thoroughly
the affected plants with this solutio
then the next morning every spotte
should be removed and burnt. This
ment must be repeated at weekly int
until control is obtained. In order to p
damage by the spray fluid spraying
only be carried out during the evening
the next morning, before the sun gets

(Continued on page 492)

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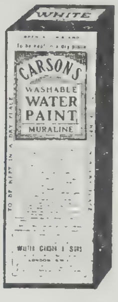
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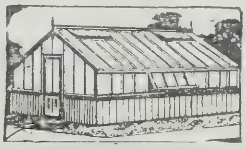

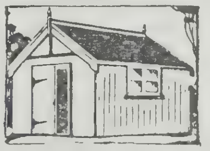

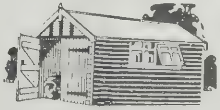

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the plants, they should be sprayed with clean water to prevent any surplus lime sulphur remaining on the plants. A little air should be given and the plants shaded from hot sun if necessary. This treatment will cure plants where the disease has not reached the canker form on leaf and main stems. When the disease has reached the advanced stage nothing short of taking out the affected plants and burning them will save the rest. Healthy plants growing near should be sprayed as a preventative. You should remember that lime sulphur solution when made up does not keep in good condition long, so that it will be necessary to make up a fresh solution each time it is required. Some varieties, both of Cucumber and Melon, are markedly resistant to this disease, and we imagine this explains why only one of your varieties is affected. After a house has had this disease a thorough clean-out is essential, because the organism can exist between two crops as a saprophyte on any organic matter lying about the house.

Vine trouble

(E. G.).—Your Vine foliage is attacked by Vine Mite and also by Red Spider. You can control the latter by using plenty of water for damping down and syringing; make sure also that the roots of the Vine do not need more water than you are giving them. The Vine Mite cannot be successfully controlled at this period of the year, but the dormant Vines should be sprayed next spring with lime sulphur at winter strength, as near to the breaking of the buds as is possible. The vinery should be fumigated with naphthalene when all your Grapes are cut and the foliage shows signs of beginning to crop this autumn. Give the border a dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard at once and repeat the dressing next spring.

Nectarine leaf curl

(P. C. M.).—Your Nectarine is affected with Peach Leaf Curl, caused by the fungus Exoascus deformans, a disease which attacks Peaches, Nectarines, and, less frequently, Almonds. The disease makes its appearance each spring and is always most prevalent in cold, dry weather such as has been experienced this year. The foliage produced later is generally free from the disease. Pick off and burn all the affected leaves, following this treatment up by spraying just before the buds begin to push next spring, with copper sulphate, 9¾ ozs.; sodium carbonate, 11 ozs.; and water, 3 gallons. Sodium carbonate is common washing soda. The copper sulphate and soda are dissolved separately, each in 1½ gallons of water. When completely dissolved the two are mixed together. Wooden vessels should be used for mixing the materials. The solution does not keep long after it is made up. In bad cases the spraying should be repeated after an interval of a few days, covering the whole of the tree with the solution. Persons who are troubled with this disease are frequently led to believe that the disease has been cured after having picked off the affected foliage because the summer foliage is free from the disease. The Leaf Curl reappears each spring, and the only control is to spray as above.

Morello Cherries dropping

(C. W. Cozens).—If you pick up some more of the Morello Cherries and open them with a knife, cutting right through the stone, you will find the cause of dropping. The seed within the forming "stone" has not developed. This is due to imperfect fertilisation. Imperfect fertilisation can be caused in many ways: sterile varieties, frost, lack of phosphate. As the Morello Cherry is a self-fertile variety, we think that your trouble was due to frost during the flowering period. If you have not given any mineral manures (potash and phosphate) of late you should apply an equal mixture of a good grade basic slag and kainit at the rate of 8 ozs. per square yard. If your soil is on the heavy side omit the kainit and give sulphate of potash in spring at 1 oz. per square yard. The wind had nothing to do with the fruit dropping; it would have dropped in any case.

MISCELLANEOUS

Destroying moles

(H. Goodman).—It is of no use to try and trap moles in loose and newly cultivated ground unless you are an expert at the job, but if you could find their main run, where they enter, even though you have to dig low down for it, you would secure them easily with the ordinary spring trap. In loose ground the best method is to cut up cooked bacon rind or bits of meat, dip them in rat poison, and place them in the runs the moles are known to frequent. In a short time their activities will cease. Our issue of last week contained details and illustration (page 473) of a mole trap which is extremely effective.

Ridding lawns of Plantains

Will you kindly tell me if there is any effective way of getting rid of Plantains? I am trying to get much neglected lawns into good order and have this very difficult problem to face. I have used weed killer and they have grown again. A. M. H.
Lincs.

[Place a small pinch of lawn sand—from a reliable firm—over the crown of each plant whilst the dew is upon them, and repeat, if necessary, upon very strong old roots a second time. This should rid them from your lawn. The only other satisfactory method is weeding them out with the help of one of the specially made hand forks.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

Devon.—Pinus Hartwegi.

E. F., Hereford.—1, Anemone rivularis; 2, Agrostemma atrosanguinea; 3, Linaria dalmatica; 4, probably Stipa pennata.

Lewis Hewlett.—Maiden's Blush.

F. T., Edgbaston.—Bouquet d'Or.

E. F. L.—1, Campanula garganica 2, Deutzia Wellsii; 3, Campanula

Dartmoor.—1, Rosa rugosa Mrs. Waterer; 2, Teucrium latifolium.

R. E. G. Pandy.—1, Spiræa filipen Potentilla Fredrichseni; 3, Centaure tana; 4, Campanula glomerata Dahurica; 5, Incarvillea Delavayi; 6, ceum aurantiacum.

G., Dublin.—1, Sedum album; 2, themum serphyllum plena; 3, Salvia var. Tenorei; 4, Echevaria secur Erigeron speciosus superbus; 6, Cyno appenina; 7, Allium ursinum; 8, Sieboldiana; 9, Sidalcea rosea; 10, A carniolica; 11, Jasminum Beesianu Berberis (may be B. polyantha); 13 14, Anchusa italica (Dropmore variet

W. G. N.—1, Periploca græca (Vine).

G. J. Warren.—1, Viola cornuta Dianthus fragrans; 3, D. Fettes Mo Rosa centifolia (Cabbage Rose); 5, D Mrs. Sinkins.

E. A. H. H.—1, The yellow fl Phlomis fruticosa; 2, Ruscus hypogl

Conway Higginson.—The flowering causing the "Snowstorm in June," scribed and illustrated in our num June 29th, is the common Guel (Viburnum Opulus sterile).

West Country.—1, Astrantria car 2, name of dark rich purple flower. your description of the plant you should say that it was Campanula glo var. dahurica, one of our finest hardy which comes into bloom during Ju July.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMEN

Slug Mort

We understand that the very efficie remedy known as Slug Mort has bee out in many quarters with excellent and the Company have recently been fa by an order for a supply to the Royal at Windsor.

"Beauty from Bulbs"*

Around the plot and counter-plot tha the hybridising of a unique bulb spun his immortal tale of La Noire, but for all our absorption in th of patience, devotion, jealousy, hate, d and triumph, it is to bulbs literatur another plane we turn for instructio this most popular form of gardening.

We shall be busying ourselves soo the catalogues, for the time is near we must plan our bulbs planting sche next spring.

A foretaste of these publications is to hand from the enterprising John Sch of New York, but theirs is no ordinar logue of pictures, paragraphs, and pric is an attempt which suggests kinship compilers with Dumas' hero in his to the bulb. It is a bulbs idyll. In a attractive setting of historical detail, cl quotations in poetry and prose, Frago La Belle Jardiniere as frontispiece, more illustrations of bulbs and bulb ga mostly in colour, full descriptions of hundreds of Tulips, Narcissi, Crocus, and miscellaneous bulbs, this is a treat "Beauty from Bulbs" which, betwe embossed covers of green and gold and printing and general embellishment, mises to an uncommon degree the love of its subjects in their natural setting. a rare tribute to the favourite bulbs of A can gardens, and exemplifies once mor commercialism and art can on occasi very happily wedded. A.

Gardens in Essex

The following gardens in Essex are open in aid of the Essex County Nursing Association and other local nursing services Admission 1s.

Date.	By kind Permission of	Address.	Hours.	Nearest Station.
Saturday, July 13th ..	Miss Sparrow	Rookwoods, Sible Hedingham	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Sible Hedingham.
Saturday, July 13th ..	Mrs. Gosling	Dynes Hall, Halstead	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Halstead.
Wednesday, July 17th	Mrs. Tufnell	Langleys, Gt. Waltham, and House ..	2 p.m.—7 p.m.	Chelmsford.
Saturday, July 20th ..	Rt. Hon. Lord Rayleigh	Terling Place, Chelmsford	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Hatfield Peverel.
Saturday, July 20th ..	Mrs. C. Pilkington ..	Boreham, Chelmsford	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Chelmsford.
Sunday, July 28th ..	Capt. F. J. O. Montagu	Short Grove Hall, Newport	2 p m.—8 p.m.	Newport.
Wednesday, Aug. 14th	Lady Victoria Gosling	Hassobury, Bishop's Stortford	2 p.m.—8 p.m.	Stansted.

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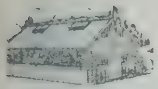

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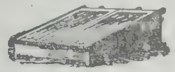

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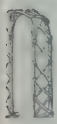

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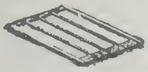

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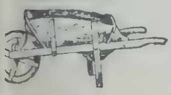

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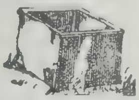

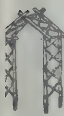

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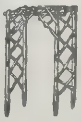

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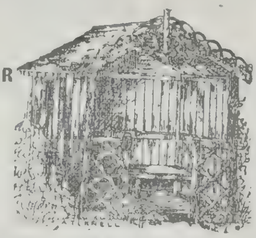

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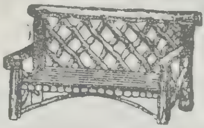

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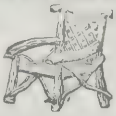

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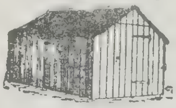

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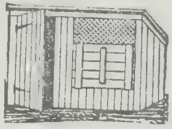

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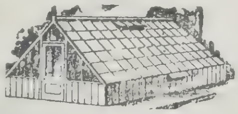

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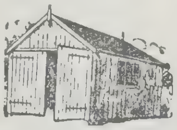

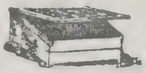

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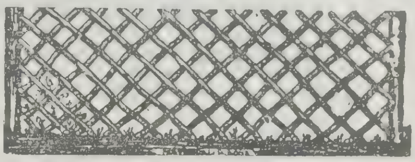

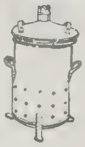

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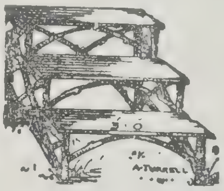

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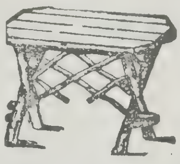

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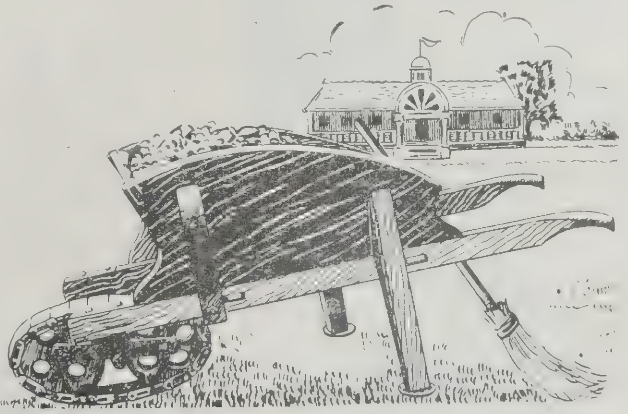

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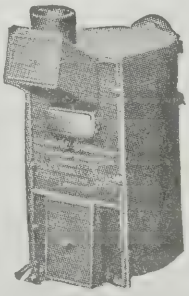

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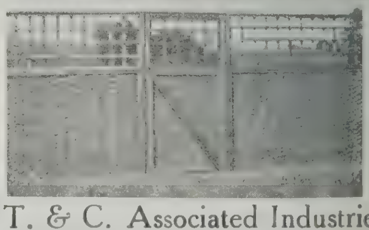

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.—No. 2628

Saturday, July 20, 1929

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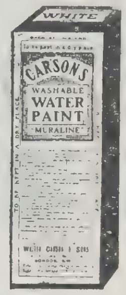
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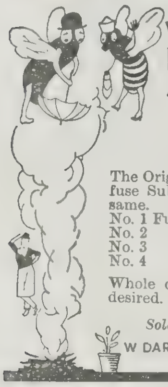

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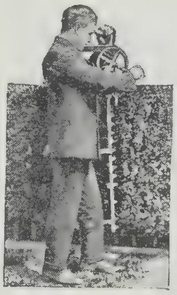

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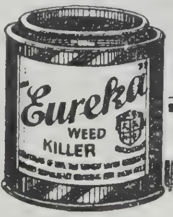

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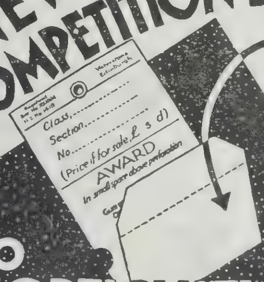
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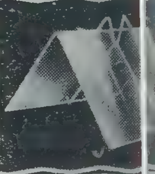

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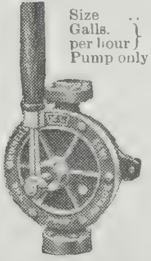

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constitution. Each generation adds
quota of thought, which is perhaps
criticised by the next. We, to-day,
ost patronising in our disapproval of
comfortable curves and stiff carpet
of the Victorians, and it is difficult
ve that any coming generation will
back to it. But having decided we
y superior, would it not be wise for
dulge in some introspection and ask
s what is our own contribution to
ient art? Our children will answer,
tions." Up and down the country
l gardens of the well-to-do being
into museums of rare plants, and if
ze were to become universal the out-
uld be depressing. Luckily this is
there are still many who value form
our before rarity, and who will not
balance of their garden to find room
e plants than it can hold. The test
good " plant to them is not whether
the only pos-
of it, but
it is likely to
nament to an
sh garden.
, also, it is
rden owners
e the silent
in politics,
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t keeps pub-
on steady.

Mecca of the
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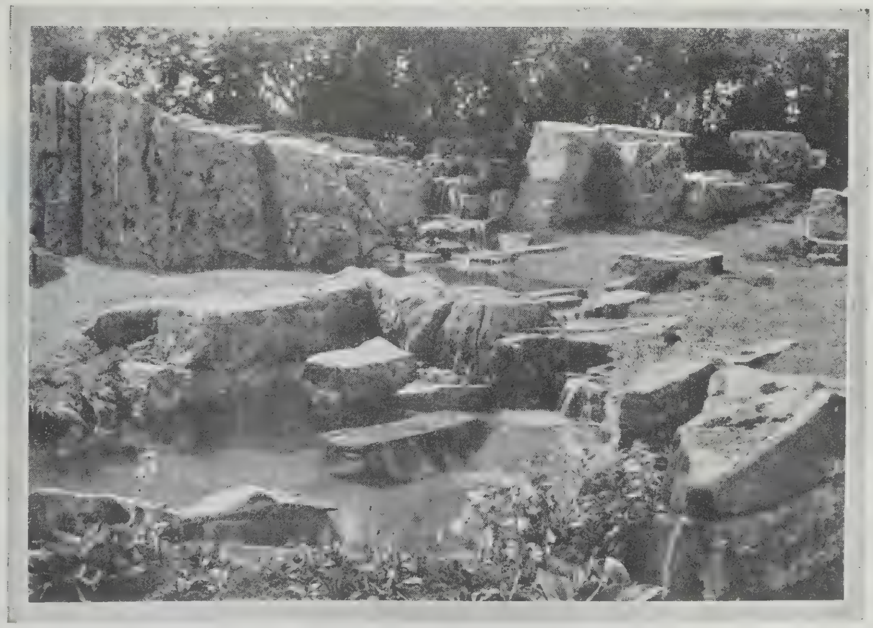
side the syn-
dicate. The next step is a friendly exchange of visits with influential members of the council, when Mr. X, being wise, keeps the conversation about plants in his own garden or plants he knows—his reputation is quickly established as a plantsman, and he is deemed worthy of being given a voice in horticultural councils. His knowledge of garden lore, as understood by our forefathers, is probably small, and his artistic taste and knowledge of garden form and proportion are probably nil. It is hardly surprising that we are wandering into the wilderness with such mentalities as these at the helm to guide our premier horticultural society.

If the architectural profession fell under the domination of a similar school of thought, Regent Street, instead of being a stately line of commercial buildings, would be a museum of architectural rarities. We can picture the managing director of Swan and Edgar showing us the beauties of his building: "This is rare; it is a window from the Doge's Palace in Venice. That next to it is a harem window from the late Tippoo Sultan's Palace; very rare. And that—ah, that's a gem; it is the original window through which Sir Walter Raleigh first blew tobacco smoke in London; it has not yet been reproduced in any building in the country." This would suffice for him to be invited to judge rock gardens at Chelsea!

Let us have our collection enthusiasts; they have their place in horticulture, and an important one, for it is they who first try new plants, and when they cease to be rare society discards them as dull or admits them into cultivation as worth keeping; but let us also have the true garden lover with artistic taste enough to appreciate form and line and colour. The two mentalities are seldom found in the same person, and it is only the latter type who can be relied on to judge a plant solely for its garden value. Their influence is needed to correct the present-day tendency to museum-ise our gardens.



A portion of the much discussed rock garden by Mr. Gavin Jones at Chelsea this year

Constructed on bold and original lines in surface weathered granite from the gigantic screes of the Snowdon Range; it is a remarkable study in rock mass and a magnificent replica of natural effect.

NOTE OF THE WEEK

First Danish woman landscape gardener

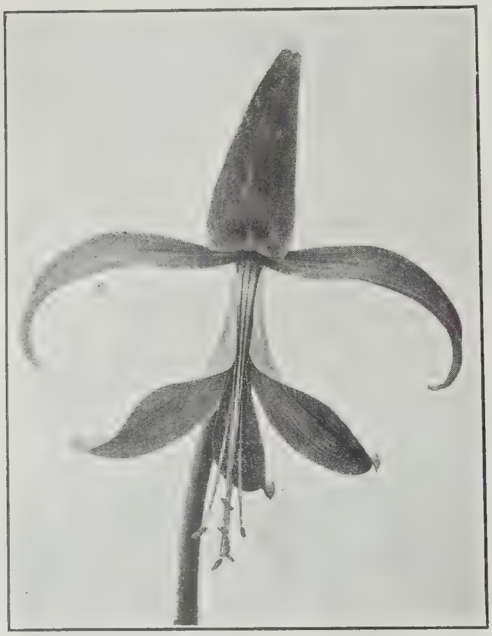
THE first woman to complete the course of work required in Denmark for the diploma of landscape gardener is Mlle. Anka Rasmussen. For the last 15 years she has been studying garden work in order to take the final examinations. The different grades include fruit-growing and plant school-work. Four years are prescribed for the practical work, and another four at an Agricultural High School, at the end of which a three-year course in surveying and levelling must be taken before the final diploma is granted. Miss Rasmussen also worked and studied in Italy, France, and England in order to specialise in the different styles of landscape gardening found in these countries.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Rock gardens at Chelsea

THE criticisms by "S. I. B." on rock gardens in June 29th issue, can only emanate from a biassed and undiscerning mind. Careful examination of his letter and of your Chelsea Show critique seems to point particularly to Mr. Whitelegg's exhibit as the object of his scorn. Much as I esteem him personally, I hold no brief for Mr. Whitelegg, but as a rock builder I speak with knowledge, and I do not hesitate to say that the builder of his exhibits of 1927 and 1929 is the foremost exponent of art in the rock garden to-day.



Sprekelia formosissima (the Scarlet Jacobean Lily)

In your issue of June 1st I gave my opinion of the rock bank this year. On the same page Mr. John Wood gave Colonel Gavin Jones an encouraging pat on the back. I myself praised Colonel Jones highly where I thought praise was due, but I am no whole-hearted admirer of his work. It is too severe. Colonel Jones, I believe, gained much of his knowledge of rock construction in the Himalayas during years of foreign service, and it would seem that the frowning peaks of Northern India still cast their sombre shadows over his mind.

He relies on memory to the exclusion of imagination. All his works are imitations of Nature, faithful, it must be said, but still imitation. In the garden Nature must be idealised.

That is where Marcel De Smet surpasses Gavin Jones in particular, and all his contemporaries in general. The son of an artist of no mean repute, for artistic imagination his work is unrivalled. "S. I. B.'s" charge of "artistic and technical faults" may be dismissed as the frivolous vapourings of an anonymous carper.

Captain Symons Jeune has the virtues of Gavin Jones without the vices. There is poetry and imagination in his work. But he is erratic and unreliable, disappointing at times, even to his ardent admirers.

As for John Wood, if, instead of dividing his energies between kicking the R.H.S. and patting deserving artists on the back, he would show us again what he can do on the rock bank, he would give pleasure to all and render yeoman service to the cause of art in the rock garden.

C. PENROSE.

Taplow.

An alleged Sprekelia cross

DURING this spring I crossed a Hippeastrum with a Sprekelia, the former being the seed parent. The pod has just ripened and burst open, revealing a great many more seeds than I can use. I am reluctant to waste any of them, and should be very pleased to give some of them to anyone interested and patient enough to grow them. The seedlings take, I believe, from three to four years to flower. Next year I hope to make Sprekelia the seed parent.

(MRS.) EMILY M. BURN.

34, *Old Road, Llanelly, Carm.*

Meconopsis Baileyi

In view of the correspondence on this subject, I am surprised to see that Mr. F. C. Puddle commits himself to the sweeping assertion that this plant is "perfectly hardy in any part of the British Isles"! It is not hardy here, and is not so anywhere within reach, and as he is writing from Wales, may I ask what authority other than hearsay he may have for saying it is? As emphatically as I can I contradict his wild statement. Further, I defy him to find a decent group of it in any garden in N.W. or N. Yorkshire in the Pennine Chain! I will accept his statement for North Wales, but I am not the only one who will refuse to do so for this part of the country.

J. R. K.

Yorkshire.

Arenaria Ledebouriana

A long-time grower of Alpine flowers, and well informed regarding the various species of rock plants, in looking over my garden the other day espied a specimen of Arenaria Ledebouriana, and expressed what was in my own mind, that it was "a much over-rated plant, and hardly worthy of the p stowed upon it by Farrer," who sa a most charming little gem." O Arenarias known to me I consider most worth growing are A. montan balearica, which both seem indisper

A. Ledebouriana reminds me too that inappropriately named A. grar a name which should rather have plied to A. montana. But it forms rosettes of a rather grey tone, whi slender stems with small white flowe not a plant which one would consi pensable, but once in the garden it main, and will give some pleasure soil in a sunny place.

S. A

Gillenia trifoliata

A plant whose beauty is certain estimated in gardens is the above, found in full bloom in Mr. Millard at Felbridge, Sussex, a few days single plant being literally cove charming, elegant sprays of white averaging 3 feet in height, and the pl about the same width. This we and distinctly graceful plant, with it stems, loose, branching panicles o and pleasing effect, should not on count be neglected.

E. MA

Solanum jasminoides and Eccrem scaber

These two delightful old climbers so frequently seen in our English g they deserve to be. Although the is a native of South America, S. jas seems to be quite hardy in Kent, and Sussex, and in the still milder c the West of England. During the ter the plant we have on the fron house was subjected to icy wind snow, and successive frosts, which o occasions were as much as 22 deg therefore, pleasing to be able to re it is now in blossom. The sno delicate trusses of starry flowers, s its own dark green, glossy foliage, a charming thing to lightly clothe t of the house or garden shelter.

Eccremocarpus was not so fortuna but in Hertfordshire it grew for ma under the overhanging thatch of a house, where the roots were sufficie tected against frost.

Nymphæa stellata, the beautiful blue Water Lily

From a photograph kindly sent by Mr. W. Rutter, Yarra Braes, Eltham, Victoria, Aust

tood several winters here, but the
of the last one killed it, as it did
all the shrubby Veronicas in the
The long orange flower bells are so
ul and the foliage so graceful that we
ertainly hope to see it again in the
next year. It is said to increase
from seed, but none that I have sown
nated. It is an ideal climber for
s and pillars, and the rich orange-red
flowers associates well with the mauve
Maurandia Barclayana. H. H. W.
rhton.

Syrian Flos Adonis (Adonis aleppica)

brilliant flower, which comes to us
Asiatic Turkey, is now flowering and
ing a good deal of attention by reason
handsome, feathery, green foliage and
uously shining deep blood-red
, which are not unlike a huge Wind-
with eight or ten petals, the flower
perfect in shape and 3 inches or more
Growing from 18 inches to 2 feet in
this delightful annual continues in
for two months or more, and should
a general favourite when its seed is
le in larger quantities.
In cut and placed in vases the beautiful
remain in a fresh condition for a long
,and for this purpose alone it should
to many. The plants here were
in a cool frame, pricked off into small
nd planted out in May, but it may also
vn in the open in early spring, the
erminating in about a month from the
f sowing. This is rather a long time
plant of this kind, and to gain time I
to sow it in frames.

E. MARKHAM.

Heucheras changing colour

s much interested in the note on page
your last issue, on Heucheras chang-
lour, as this has occurred here this
or the first time. I have grown H.
de Feu for many years, and it has
remained constant in colour. Last
n I divided some of the plants and
the pieces in the same bed, making
r patch of it only about 2 yards away
he rest of them, so there is no ques-
putting them into a differing sort of
All those which were broken up last autumn have come out pale rose coloured, while the original plants, which were only put in their present position some two or three years ago (I find that here Heucheras want dividing up and replanting every few years to get them to flower freely), are still the same bright crimson-scarlet. I enclose a sprig of the rose-coloured one. I should be very much interested if any of your readers can explain this.

H. M. BROWN.

Duns, Berwickshire.

Primula scotica (Scottish Primrose)

THIS is a rare flower, but grows in a few places near the sea in the Orkney Islands and in Caithness. It is of a pinkish-mauve colour, and grows from 3 inches to 4 inches in height, flowering in June and September.

THOS. KENT.

Orkney.

Primula scotica

Longevity of Tulips

A year or so ago in my notes relative to Tulip culture I mentioned the existence of Tulips in a cottage garden which continued to flower, although, to my knowledge, they had not been disturbed or attended to for over 40 years.

I think it will interest some of your readers to know that during the past few days the opportunity has been afforded me to lift these, and the results are interesting. The border in which these were growing lies between a cobbled path and the cottage wall. The natural soil consists of strong, heavy loam. Over the surface of the soil were hanging arms of Virginia Creeper, which probably accounts for the fact that the border has never been cultivated. The present owner has been in the occupation of the house for upwards of 50 years, and it was his father's before him for a period of years nearly as long. Having some remembrance of his father, I should doubt if he planted these Tulips, so that the age of the clump can be certainly placed at over 50 years, and quite possibly double this length of time.

Careful removal revealed a tightly packed nest of bulbs extending from within an inch of the surface of the soil, and approximately 1 foot thick. Actually I lifted something over 200 bulbs, which were felted together in a peat-like mass of decayed roots and scales; the cluster was about the size of a large wasps' nest. The remarkable fact was that while there were so many bulbs, only perhaps a dozen of the number were of flowering size, and these were not dwarfed, but appeared to be quite normal and natural in every way. The average size of the remainder of the bulbs was about the thickness of a lead pencil. Every bulb was perfectly healthy.

I think the chief interest of this occasion is to illustrate that under normal and natural conditions, without any feeding or watering or culture of any kind, cottage Tulips have a constitution capable of withstanding the rigours of our climate for an unlimited number of years, and that (as with the Narcissus family) it is only when we embark on high cultivation and constant lifting that the constitutions of the subjects become impaired and liable to the ravages of disease.

As a matter of fact, the flower produced by this particular Tulip conforms to no modern variety, but is very similar to the old Semper Augustus illustrated in Sir Daniel Hall's book. I cannot, of course, claim that it is identical, as, unfortunately, the flower had faded before the book was published during the present year, but I hope to make a closer comparison next year.

HERBERT G. LONGFORD.

Abingdon.

Wild blue Lupins

THESE beautiful wild flowers are now blooming on gravelly heaths in several localities in Orkney. They apparently thrive best on poor ground, but have the property of extracting nitrogen from the atmosphere, which is fixed and goes to enrich the soil.

THOS. KENT.

Kirkwall, Orkney.

Lupins in Orkney

In the Orobian Alps

I have returned from a marvellous journey in the Orobian Alps above the Lago di Como. The Fire Lilies (Lilium croceum) were all about the country, flaming the ground, rocks, field, underwoods. Daphne striata, the Potentilla nitida, and the Gentians were at their glory. Now I must stay here for some weeks quiet and working.

Geneva. H. CORREVON.

Ostrowskia magnifica

I HAVE read with interest the note by Mr. Marshall, issue July 6th, page 471, on the failure of his Ostrowskias. Here we have the same thing; our best plants, even those which generally reached 2 metres high, are this year very weak and poor. It cannot be the frost as in this case the plant would not have grown at all. It seems not to be the drought of last summer as the plant likes the hardest drought for its rest time. We do not see any fungus. What can it be? This is a mystery to me. H. CORREVON.

Geneva.

Garden weeds

By LT.-COL. WOLLEY-DOD

AN article appeared in "The Times" of June 8th, headed "Beautiful Garden Weeds," which leads me to think that a few remarks on weeds generally may be acceptable, at least to beginners in gardening.

To define a weed is always difficult. It is sometimes defined as "any plant growing out of its proper place," which is a fairly good definition, but not quite what the gardener means by a "weed." It may be defined for gardening purposes as "any plant which tends to spread itself inordinately or to establish itself ineradically," a long definition which I am unable to condense, unless by omitting the second portion of the sentence. "Any undesirable plant" is not a good definition, since it leaves too much to individual opinion, and some of the prettiest garden flowers are weeds to a gardener.

Weeds, by my definition, may be classified as follows:—

A. Plants which seed themselves profusely;

B. Those which spread inconveniently either above or underground;

C. Plants whose roots or tubers remain in the ground, usually at a considerable depth, and persistently send up their stems after the main plant has been removed.

Class A contains not only many of the worthless adventitious weeds of cultivation, but also a considerable number of otherwise very desirable garden plants. Their demerit varies in different soils and situations, and, to a great extent, on individual taste. They may be annuals or perennials, but their destruction is not, as a rule, a difficult matter. Hoeing and raking, with as much hand-weeding as there is time for, should keep these in check, though some are very prolific and persistent. In my own garden I think the three worst are the Hairy Bitter Cress, Thale Cress, and Perennial Pearlwort. These three have so short a period of life and are often so small and hidden among other plants that they germinate and ripen their seeds before they are detected, and run through two or three generations in a season so as to increase in geometrical progression if not kept in check. Hoeing in wet weather is almost useless (this is especially true of Annual Meadow Grass), and in any case impossible when the weeds are mixed up in some small tufted alpine or in the crevices of a rockery. Persistent and untiring hand weeding is the only real remedy. A golden rule is never to let them ripen their seed, a maxim which is most difficult to impress upon the ordinary jobbing gardener, who hesitates to "put the 'oe through" until there is something substantial to work upon, after, of course, all the seed is shed, or when it is quite ready to ripen on the hoed up plants.

Ostrowskia magnifica, the great Oriental Bellflower

Of garden flowers which require much attention to prevent their taking charge, I would mention Foxgloves, Campions, some Erysimums, Iceland and other Poppies, especially the yellow Welsh, some Campanulas, especially lactiflora, Linaria purpurea and reticulata, Eschscholtzias, Bishop's or Gout Weed, Cape Gooseberry, and many others. They are, as a rule, easily disposed of, though some, for example, the Welsh Poppy and Campanula lactiflora, make small, nearly invisible, seedlings the first year, but insidiously produce a thick rootstock, rendering their abolition in the second year a matter of much greater difficulty.

Class B might perhaps claim not to be considered as weeds in the usual sense, but rather as aggressive subjects presenting some of the undesirable qualities of weeds, such as swamping out less pushing, though equally desirable, subjects. Such are Cerastium tomentosum, Mossy Saxifrages, Perennial Sunflower, and many others, in which one might include Aubrietias and Pinks. All these are quite easily kept in check by clipping or digging round so as to remove the superfluous growth, but I admit that I have not found a satisfactory way of keeping Mossy Saxifrages in check.

Class C is by far the worst class the gardener has to contend with, though, like other classes, it contains some very beautiful flowering subjects. Provided that a very careful judgment be exercised in selecting suitable positions when first planting this class of "weeds," where they can be left indefinitely, they are for the most part harmless, but woe betide the novice who allows such a plant as Polygonum c tum to take charge and then hopes to or remove it. It is said that persistent will kill any weed, but I have with hoed or dug off every shoot of this soon as it has appeared above ground letting it get up to 6 inches high, a rarely more than 1 inch. I should a I began by digging it out to a depth 2 feet. It still continues to appea seven years, though it is certainly we In a waste part, where I kept variou of rubbish, I have completely abolishe the use of weed killer, but this cannot in flower beds. An equally persisten is Lathyrus latifolius, and I think folius is as bad. There are other which run these pretty close, but of fortunately for me, I have little perso perience, but I have seen enough of Tail (Equisetum spp.) and Sheep's (Rumex Acetosa) to wish for no acquaintance. Such deep-rooted per as the Oriental Poppies, Globe Thistl Campanulas, especially Rampion, P Lily, and even herbaceous Phloxes established, are most difficult to er completely, and will go on sending u shoots for some years, but persistent out sooner or later will abolish them. never found Couch Grass nor C Thistle so difficult of abolition as is su The ground on which I made this was overrun with both when I took I practically entirely abolished both in year on a space I afterwards sowe grass, and in two years no more wa seen in the flower garden. It is si question of forking it out as soon as it, and I never formed the intense hat either that I have for the procumbent wort or the Hairy Bitter Cress.

I will conclude by a word or two on in paths or on lawns. The former ar easily dealt with by a weed killer, and fer a poisonous one, though one m careful in watering it on not to spla leaves of the flowering plants or th inevitably be killed. The roots of the ing plants are not injured provided the does not go into their crowns, or so surrounding soil so much as to reac roots. I have even been quite succes poisoning Pearlwort in a Daffodil be out any harm to the bulbs. For w grass I find lawn sand, applied in spri autumn if they are bad, or once a yea numerous, is a complete remedy. The are surprising. The difference betwe lawn when I came and now must be be appreciated. Large unsightly pat Pearlwort, Mouse-ear Chickweed, etc appear as if by magic, though someti the expense of a bare patch for a few The coarse grasses and such weeds a bous Crowsfoot, Sorrel Dock, and one others, are slower in responding to th but disappear in time. Dandelion Daisies in small numbers are easily out and instead of millions are now tically absent from my grass.

The golden rule is persistent and ea tention, almost entailing drudgery a and never allowing any weed to shed it It is by the application of such princip my garden has earned the appellatio "depressing" one, the "depression" on the part of those who, by giving less tion to their weeds, possess a wild instead of a garden.

Sow more Spinach

Where there is a demand for this some vegetable small sowings at fre intervals will maintain fresh supplie rather moist and shady place will giv results during dry, hot weather.

wers in the London Parks and Gardens

E flowers in Hyde Park, Kensington rdens, Kew, Hampton Court, and chmond have been very beautiful dur- e past month or so. Double Wall- s, Intermediate Stocks, Violas and s, Caltha palustris flore pleno, uble Marsh Marigold, associated with Forget-me-not, and Tulips in great have been quickly followed by Lupins, of Nice Stocks, Hydrangeas, Calceo- and the Rhododendrons. The Tulips ampton Court were at their best at un, and the following were varieties of nding merit: La Candeur (white), a ed, carpeted with purple Aubrietia, , but most effective; Clara Butt (pink) with white Arabis and blue Forget- t as a groundwork, very charming; William Pitt and T. Massachusetts, -scarlet, carpeted with double white s; Tulip Greuze, a striking purple; , a distinct shaded pink, associated Nigella Miss Jekyll; Tulip Isis, a fine red; Fensée Amère, an unusual colour, slate; Tulip Nauticus, cerise; Bronze , bronze; Giefs, another good purple; Copland, mauve; Sultan, almost black, ne of the most distinct to my mind; Queen, pink, with a bronzy-yellow very beautiful among specimen plants izanthus Grahami carmineus. Among Tulips that were out, Gesneriana still held its own. Another pretty effect bed of Tulips Murillo and Clara Butt, a groundwork of Aubrietia; Maurine, mauve; Tulips Princess Elizabeth and e, pinks; Aspasia, buff; Madras, a tall -scarlet, following Cramoise Brilliant, fine. Tontinette, maroon; The Fawn, colour as the name; and La Tristesse, -mauve, made a truly magnificent The Azaleas were just coming out, ere were wonderful beds of Cinerarias, ed with Primula malacoides and and white Pansies, Double Cherries, en "Chestnut Avenue" in perfection, gh there was not a single Horse nut then in blossom in our district).

Kensington Gardens some uncommon nteresting plants bloomed in the bed ed for them in Church Walk. They e Leptospermum Boscaweni, an attrac- le pink flowering shrub from New Zea- Glaucium flavum tricolor, an choltzia-like flower of tangerine colour Asia Minor; Primula Littoniana, bear- ttle tapering spikes of mauve flowers he top half bright red (China); Felicia is, a mauve Daisy from South Africa; nthemum formosum, yellow with a ate blotch (Portugal); the whole d by some truly wonderfully grown of Sutton's double red and pink Gode- In Hyde Park late in June there were interesting things to be seen, including ium fastuosum, an orange Daisy with k central zone, from South Africa; a anethoides, another orange Daisy South Africa, with attractive Fern-like and an excellent erect habit. Other id beds consisted of Iris Imperator, Hydrangeas, creams, pinks, blues, and , looking very happy under the trees; laria Hybrids, grand; and Stock y of Nice variety Summer Night, a ep purple. At Richmond a fine drift t lovely blue Phacelia Campanularia, very well in the new rock garden the terrace, and the Gloxinias and her- s Calceolarias in the conservatory, ged with Maidenhair and other Ferns, ell worth a journey to see. There is d for the Londoner to go to the country to see flowers to-day; indeed, we go from the country to London to see new varieties and get ideas for our bedding schemes. Last, but by no means least, one must mention Meconopsis Baileyi in Kensington Gardens.

A. L. W.

Rheum undulatum

WHERE there is space for a large group of important flower and foliage, or even for a single plant, this fine Rhubarb is in place. The large radical leaves are a foot long and as much wide, and are, as indicated by the specific name, boldly waved at the edge. The flower-stalk rises up clear and tall, with its close clusters of creamy bloom, to any height up to 6 feet. If it can be where there is dark foliage at the back, such as the Yew hedge of the picture, it is seen to the best advantage. It is nearly related to the Rhubarb of our kitchen gardens.

G. J.

Rheum undulatum

Notes from North-West Cheshire

I WAS very pleased to see that "H. G.," in his "Notes from the West," in the issue of June 22nd, refers to the highly coloured Wallflower, Cheiranthus Allionii. Of all long-flowering and easily raised plants, the Siberian Wallflower, probably the most highly coloured of garden plants, is without a rival. In this district, by sowing the seed in early and later sowings the Siberian Wallflower is in bloom practically the year round. Even throughout the long, severe winter of 1928-29, certainly the most severe in our records of more than 40 years, there were very few periods in which our gardens were not relieved from their sombre and frigid appearance by vivid splashes of this brilliant and easily raised Wallflower.

Our first sowing this year was on June 12th; the first signs of the tiny seed-leaves appeared above ground on the 19th. On taking a test from the same sample of seed sown, I find that the germination is very low; about 75 per cent. And one wonders if the seed supplied is fresh.

The seed-bed should be composed of light, sandy soil, and deeply dug, with time to settle before sowing. It is important that the soil should be fairly firm—we tramp over the bed with the feet—for the object should be to secure strong, stocky plants. This applies also to the bed in which the seedlings are transferred.

The Siberian Wallflower is a much hardier plant than the ordinary improved kinds. Last year there were thousands of Wallflowers destroyed in a single night, their blackened and tattered remains were consumed on the smother heap! But there are many interesting incidents of profit and loss in the plant-raising of the past winter that cause one to think that with protection very many deaths might have been prevented.

Wallflowers planted in a long border, with a low wall running down the centre, gave one the impression that it only requires a little shelter to assist the plants to come safely through the severest winter. On the side facing the north-east—we had long spells of cold, blighting east winds—every plant perished, while on the side facing south-west a large percentage of the Wallflowers came safely through and bloomed with most satisfactory results.

On a raised border, with probably a thousand of the common, though beautiful, species, Iris germanica, with a few clumps of an old creamy-white kind that I do not know the name of, came into good leafage, blooming three weeks later than usual, but quite 60 per cent. of the plants were blind. It is interesting to note that every plant of the creamy-white variety bloomed to perfection.

I think we may safely assume that the frost damaged the embryo buds of the Irises, causing so many casualties. Even here, again, I am of opinion that a little protection would have brought many of these Iris germanica safely through.

We have always considered our various species and hybrids of Montbretias quite hardy in our light soil. Indeed, we have never had occasion to give them any protection other than their own leafage. This applies to the newer kinds also, but this season has nearly killed all the Davison and Earlham hybrids. From a few plants of Citronella, George Davison, Lord Nelson, Prometheus, Star of the East, and Queen of Spain we had in the course of a few years several hundred plants. Still, there is something in our failures that spurs one on to further aims and ambitions, and we shall make the best of those that are still left to us.

SALIX.

Sowing Primula malacoides

A final sowing of this dainty little Primula should be made at once. While dryness is much against success with this subject, damp is worse, few other plants being so easily over-watered. Every care must therefore be taken at all stages of growth with the watering, while, like most Primulas, shade from bright sunshine is imperative.

Cutting down Delphiniums

Unless required for seed, the old flower spikes should be removed down to the leaves; this will not only conserve the strength of the plants, but assist in retaining the freshness of their foliage over a much longer period. Vigorous plants cut down to within 6 inches of the ground at this date will flower a second time.

Looking Backward

Pests and diseases that follow one another—and how some have been checked

By Thackeray Turner

I STARTED making this garden in 1899 and, looking back over that period, one thing which seems to me most noticeable is the succession of pests and diseases which have followed one another. When one pest has been overcome another arises. The first, I remember, was all our Roses becoming hopelessly mildewed. We overcame this by working the ground over and raking it quite smooth, and then, before any leaves were showing, buying Dorking lime and slacking it until it was like flower, and then putting a covering of it all over the ground so that it looked like a fall of snow. It was left until the bushes were in full leaf and then forked in. We have never been troubled with mildew since.

The next trouble came in the kitchen garden. All the Gooseberry bushes were covered with green caterpillars. We picked them off by hand, but that was of no use, and the bushes were left bare of leaves. This went on for more than one season, and then, when watching my gardener, I saw there were more caterpillars fallen from the bush than in his bowl, so I told him to stop picking and to make a ring of soot close round each bush, and every day to go round with a forked stick and give each tree a shake. Very soon the bushes were all free of caterpillars, and as they all died before they could turn into chrysalises it stopped their breeding. We have not been troubled with them since.

All our Nut trees have been infested with maggots in the Nuts for about six years. This I do not know how to overcome. Our Black Currant trees were very bad at one time with Big Bud, but we are nearly free from it now, and I think this is greatly due to our picking off the big buds and burning them. The next trouble came in the flower garden. All the Hollyhocks became badly diseased, and it became worse year by year till we gave up growing them. We bought some seed, but the seedlings were covered with the disease, which looks as if it was in the constitution of the plant. We now have a rule that no plant shall be kept for more than two years, or three at the most, and we are fairly free of the disease. My idea is that if the roots run deep, as the old ones do, they get down into the sand, where they can have moisture but no food, and so do not grow strongly and healthily. It is very noticeable that healthy plants, like healthy animals, are generally free from disease.

Rose trouble came next. They were badly damaged by Green Fly, but as I have already told your readers, this was, and has been, and can continue to be, overcome by watering the roots with guano-water. It is quite delightful doing this, for the joy of seeing in a day or so all their little dead bodies on the branches.

The Madonna Lily has ever been
culty, and many experiments have b
here to avoid or overcome the diseas
kills them. I think the best cure i
them up in August, if diseased, and
lie on the open ground until they tur
and then replant them. American
Apple trees was very bad with us at o
but a brother told me that he notice
always started where a branch had b
so we now never cut a branch withou
ing the wound with Stockholm tar,
no longer much troubled, but a neigh
garden has it badly, and I think it is
to keep free from diseases when
badly in the neighbourhood.

At one time we could not grow
They were always destroyed by
We tried the experiment of giving th
a heavy dressing of lime, with the res
we obtained a perfect crop.

In early days we never had any
our Prunus Pissardi. It is such a
tree because when picked in bud an
into the greenhouse and put in water
and will remain in flower in the sitti
for a long time. Obviously birds w
ing out the buds, and I thought th
be tits. An Apple tree with a stem
as my thigh had all its buds picked
died. My then new gardener told m
all due to bullfinches. I told him
them. It seems a pity. They are
pretty, but fruit and flowers ar
valuable, and in spite of all shootin
seems always plenty about.

A disease came to our Tulips, and
spring garden they all disappeared.
up trying to grow them there for a
two, and now the disease seems to h
appeared. A quite recent trouble has
bug which gets into the leaf of the
One year it left us with hardly a plan
only way I know of overcoming this i
grow more than you actually need,
constantly pick off the affected leav
burn them. Asparagus beetles are
trouble which, as far as I know, can
overcome by picking them off, and th
is the case with the Mullen caterpillar

What is the matter with Strawb
There is nothing to be seen to sto
growth, and yet now they will not

The illustrations on this page and on the page opposite are in Mr. Thackeray Turner's garden at Westbrook, Godalming. The garden, well furnished with hedges, trees and lawns, was laid out 30 years ago.

ear a friend sent me some plants from and they fruited quite well. From ok of them now there seems small of their having a crop this year. If we could find a few diseases which attack the wild Minor Convolvulus, ts, Thistles, and Ground Elder what a g it would be.

ve told of so many troubles that I hope induce some of your many readers to

ahlias sheltered by Yew hedge—lawn in foreground

light on some of the subjects, more ularly on Nut maggot, and especially berries. THACKERAY TURNER.

tbrook, Godalming.

emerocallis for woodlands

Day Lilies, members of the genus ocallis, are easily grown and desirable either for grouping in the herbaceous or for massing in the wild garden or and. Grown in open glades of the and garden with some of our native as a groundwork, their tall, handsome of flowers are remarkably attractive. are moisture-loving plants and thrive a well-worked retentive soil, and if desired to grow them in light, sandy their water-holding power should be sed by liberal additions of organic e when preparing the sites for plant- The individual flower is evanescent, der good conditions of cultivation the spikes bear a large number of flowers follow each other in rapid succession, a display of flowers is maintained long period. The dominant colour of wer is yellow, which varies in shade the clear canary-yellow of the old and nown species H. flava to the bronzy-e, almost flushed crimson, of some of odern hybrids, and their flowering begins in May with H. flava and is through to September by the late-ing but beautiful Japanese species H. tiaca major.

Middendorfiana, an Asiatic species, is a plant, its soft orange-yellow flowers particularly attractive and its foliage singularly graceful. H. flava is probably the most popular member of the genus. It produces its clear yellow, sweetly perfumed flowers on stout stalks from May till July in great abundance, and should be grown in every garden; its variety major is somewhat taller growing and equally useful. H. fulva is a rather stronger growing plant, with deep golden, almost coppery-red flowers, but it has not the graceful habit of H. flava.

H. luteola is a very vigorous species of graceful habit, its beautiful golden flowers are freely produced on branching stems which frequently reach a height of 4 feet.

Many of the new hybrids are very handsome plants and add considerably to the decorative value of the genus. Notable amongst these are Orangeman, with large heads of clear, bright orange flowers borne on slender stems; Dr. Regal, with distinct, large flowers of a rich apricot colour which succeed each other from May till August; Gold Dust, with deep orange flowers; and Sovereign, with soft yellow flowers which colour a rich brown on the outside of the petals. W. AUTON.

Well-constructed garden seat and shelter surrounded by herbaceous flowers

Rose leaf diseases

Every rosarian knows the parasitic fungus Black Spot appearing on the foliage of his Roses as purple blotches which rapidly darken and become black. Leaf Scorch has a different appearance, the pale yellow spots gradually darken with a purple margin. Blotch is a brown infestation attacking the soft new shoots and buds. In the way of eradication not much can be done. Spraying with liver of sulphur, 1 oz. to 3 gallons of water, or with a fungicide like Bordeaux mixture, should be practised to prevent the diseases from spreading and to keep them in hand. Mildew is a disease much more destructive and crippling than is generally supposed. It may be cleared away by any good fungicide. Then there is rust, but this is seldom harmful to any extent to garden Roses. In all cases it is very necessary to rake up and burn the fallen foliage in the autumn and give the soil a dressing of slag and potash salts in equal parts. In winter and spring spray the bushes with formalin where Scorch, Spot, and Blotch are known to be. F. H.

Flowers on the window-sill

A box to fit a sill does not cost much, and can be put together easily if the material is handy. The idea of having flowers on your sill this summer may not have occurred to you, but there is plenty of time to proceed. The box should be provided with broken pieces of pot for drainage, and filled with loam and leaf-mould and sand well mixed. A sheet of zinc fastened on the sill on which the box can be placed will prevent damage to the stonework or bricks by moisture. Fuchsias, Heliotropes, Verbenas, Snapdragons, trailing Campanulas, Nasturtiums offer a selection, and, if young plants are put in, will soon get established and bloom if the position be a sunny one. Another way is to put plants in pots in the box, which gives one the opportunity of changing the occupants occasionally if desired. LEAHURST.

Summer treatment of Perpetual Carnations

OUTSIDE in the border Perpetual Carnations are opening a month earlier than the old type of Border varieties, and it is satisfactory to be able to secure flowers even before other herbaceous plants are at their best.

Perpetual Carnations are not only more easily cultivated outside than under glass, but they appear to have more fragrance, which is by no means a slight charm.

Those young plants being grown on for winter blooms should be in their flowering pots now, and by using a coarse (chopped, not sifted) compost of turfy loam three parts, and well-rotted manure, brick or mortar rubble and coarse sand, half part each, they may be firmly potted if the pots are well provided with drainage of a double layer of crocks. A 6-inch pot full of coarse bone-meal to the small barrow load of compost adds body to it, stimulates root action, and feeds the plants, and if the loam used is known to be poor, the same quantity of Carnation fertiliser and likewise of soot is helpful.

Carnations always seem to stand still after potting, and the anxious grower becomes impatient, yet this phenomena is normal and need not cause one to worry. From a 3-inch pot to one of 6 inches in diameter is a considerable step, and some care must be taken not to over-water such newly potted plants until the roots are around the pots, after which they may be watered freely.

It is a good plan to stake at once these freshly potted plants in order that the new shoots may be secured as soon as necessary. Freshly potted plants do better if stood on a bed of new ashes than on a dry or, as it sometimes is, a hot bench.

One over from China was telling me recently that while his gardeners are good on the whole, he has the greatest difficulty to prevent his men putting the young Carnation plants at the bottom of the pot and filling the pot up with soil, as one would grow a Tomato. I asked him if he did not lose many from stem rot—the plant dying off at the root—to which he replied "Many." Deep potting is, of course, the most fruitful source of stem rot.

There is much satisfaction in watching the deliberate, if slow, progress, of the newly potted Carnation. It grows in the reverse way to a vigorous annual which springs up from seed, and there is no spontaneous growth, but first the promise, then the development, and finally the growth which we know is the forerunner of our winter blooms. It is the summer cultivation of the Carnation which matters more than anything else, and the born cultivator evolves his best methods according to the means at his disposal.

It is not always the orthodox methods which produce the best results, and although it is dangerous to give unorthodox advice, I must say that if I were an amateur with only a limited time at my disposal, I should prefer to plunge my pots in soil rather than stand them on a dry bench in hot weather. The risk of too much wet on one's plants outside is better than a hot, dry atmosphere in summer under glass. The ideal is a frame in which the plants may be plunged in ashes or soil, with glass lights which can be used to cover the plants in excessive we
but in hot weather the plants sh
syringed under the leaves to keep aw
Spider. This year of grace, however
blessedly free from pests.

LAURENCE J. C

Bush Hill Park.

Perennial Phloxes in herbaceous border at Westbrook, Godalming

Giant Oriental Poppies

These have made a gorgeous displa
hardy plant border this season. Of la
they have been greatly improved, the
ranging through the most beautiful sh
pink, salmon-scarlet, orange, crims
maroon. They are very useful for cut
for large vases if cut early in the
when the buds are just bursting. Th
nicely in water, and the petals do n
so quickly. The plants are perenni
succeed in almost any soil in an ope
tion. Their only drawback in bor
mixed hardy plants is their untidy app
when flowering is over unless the
spikes are removed and the large leave
tied up to stakes. These Poppies s
the best advantage when planted in
large beds by themselves so as t
groups. The plants may be either in
by division of the roots in autumn or
or from seeds sown in March or April.

F

Lychnis alba fl.-pl.

Of the three or four forms of our
Lychnis alba, still generally called L.
tina, the only one really worth grow
the garden is the double one, L. alba
It has fallen largely into neglect, but
time was often exhibited in collecti
hardy flowers at shows. Now it is
seen, and in gardens is very rare inde
is not too showy, but is quite a good
plant when of any size. The doubl
is generally about 3 feet high in a goo
and has leaves which are hairy, tape
the base, opposite, connate-ovate, oblor
acuminated, the purplish stems swo
the joints. The flowers are quite
white, and of good size. One of the r
why L. alba fl.-pl. is not so much cul
now appears to the writer to be due
plant forming, in course of years, a
base, which eventually decays. It do
seem to lend itself well to division
root, and in the old days was general
pagated by cuttings of the stems a
inches or 3 inches long, inserted in
soil under a bell-glass or hand-ligh
kept close until rooted. The writer h
quently seen this process being perforn
old-time exhibitors, who argued, pr
with reason, that these young plants
finer flowers. Any good loam is suita
this Catchfly, which does not object to
shade.

S. ARN

Campanula garganica W. H.

One of the most delightful of the
forms of the well-known and highly
Campanula garganica is that which,
lieve, emanated from an Irish garde
bears the name of its introducer or
Mr. W. H. Paine. It has all the good
ties of its sister-flowers in loveliness an
of growth, but has the flowers of a
deeper hue. It is practically purple,
white centre, and the contrast betwee
purple which forms the greater porti
the colour of the flower accentuates th
tinct white eye. A few flowers which
appeared on the top of the low wall
this Campanula is growing made the l
on think that they were those of Nem
insignis. C. garganica W. H. Paine
hardy as the typical Gargano Hair Bel
can be grown in walls, on rock work, o
in the front of the border.

S. ARN

in South-Western Scotland

a considerable number of the Roses in gardens suffered to a very appreci- tent from the abnormally severe and g frosts of February is absolutely cer- it it must also be said that they re- reatly during the following months; when they usually begin their evolu- aving been especially favourable. In d early July, with genial showers and t alternating, and thus creating ideal conditions, they flowered, for the art, with great facility and artistic eness, and their blooms were of excep- lustre and size. This affirmation is lly expressive of such notable repre- ves of the Hybrid Teas as Princess th of Greece and Mme. Tresham raised at Waltham Cross (which are stinctive and of rare decorative cap- , Caledonia and Margaret Anne Bax- iny-white), the former of which origi- at Messrs. Dobbies' nurseries on the s of Edinburgh, while for the latter, a ledal Rose, we are indebted to Messrs. s Smith and Sons, Stranraer. Both of re very beautiful, in all probability two finest in cultivation. Among dark, -crimson or maroon introductions, few ore distinctive or commanding in than Etoile de Hollande and Colonel Fitzgerald, which are at present s in this garden; while Hugh and Dickson and the much more Earl Haig are also quite admirable, Irish Roses (whose fragrance is most ting) affording a fine artistic contrast, e influence created by light and shade. varieties of contrasted hues that have ery conspicuous during the last two s are Golden Emblem, Claudius Pernet t Ducher), Mrs. Wemyss Quin, a of Newtownards, and Mme. Edouard t, coral-red and exceedingly luminous, which my own French namesake is l; while some of the more venerable es, such as the artistic and refined a, Mme. Alfred Carriere, and the incomparable Margaret Dickson, have han maintained their great reputation.

David L. Williamson.

R.H.S. Amateurs' Show

new hall of the Royal Horticultural was satisfactorily filled with exhibits sday, July 9th, on the occasion of the urs' Flower Show. The competitions livided up into three divisions. The as open to all amateurs, the second to mateurs who do not regularly employ paid assistants in their gardens than rdener and one boy or part-time man, e third to bona-fide amateurs who regularly employ any paid assistant garden. A great variety of subjects petition was provided in each division. was a host of classes for cut flowers. hedule was most comprehensive.

t Peas were superbly shown. In the r 12 vases there were seven competi- grand series of varieties winning honours for Mrs. A. Wigan, Dan- ark, Chelmsford. The varieties were in, Sunkist, Gleneagles, Youth, Monarch, Grenadier, Magnet, go, Ivory Picotee, Avalanche, Mrs. A. , and Powerscroft. In the class for s of Violas Mr. A. D. Bates, Stony rd, had a good series in which the ng kinds were shown. Drummer , Agnes Bryce, Helen W. Cockrane, ohnstone, Kathleen Condry, Mrs. Jas. ; Mrs. H. Milner, Mrs. Florrie , Kitchener, Moseley, Ideal, Rowan, and Admiral Jellicoe. The four com- s in the class for six vases of cut sprays of hardy shrubs in flower made a beautiful display. The first prize was won by Mrs. A. Desborough, Tulgey Wood, Broadstone. This exhibitor set up some quite uncommon subjects, such as Desfontania spinosa, Zenobia speciosa, Cornus Kousa, Embothrium coccineum, Styrax japonica, and Abutilon vitifolium. In the larger class for 12 vases of cut sprays of hardy shrubs in flower there were as many as five competitors, and they made a most noteworthy display. Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury, Southampton, secured leading honours, showing superbly Helichrysum rosmarinifolia, Leptospermum Chapmanii, Zenobia speciosa, Azalea optima, Escallonia langleyensis, Magnolia macrophylla, Buddleia alternifolia, Ceanothus De Fosse, Genista virgata, Spiræa discolor, Cornus Kousa, and Rhododendron discolor. There was a splendid array of Delphiniums in the leading class for 12 vases, three spikes in each vase, not fewer than six varieties, which was contested by three entrants. The first prize was won by Mrs. Hamilton, Kingsmead, Claygate. This exhibitor showed several very good seedlings and good spikes of Blue Bird, Edward Bromet, and Robt. Cox. Carnations also were well shown, M. Lionel de Rothschild winning first prize in the class for nine vases of perpetual-flowering Carnations, eight blooms in each vase, nine varieties. Superb examples of the following kinds were beautifully displayed: Topsy, Czarina, Sir P. Sassoon, Bis Greenfield, Laddie, Surprise, Marion Wilson, and Brilliant.

The four entrants for a group of flowering and/or foliage plants, arranged on an area of 100 square feet, made a noteworthy display. They were all good. First prize was again won by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, who had many grand Anthuriums, Hydrangeas, Carnations, Crinums, Clivias, Ferns, and other foliage plants, all tastefully disposed. In the class for 12 vases of hardy flowers, 12 kinds, there were no fewer than seven exhibitors. Premier honours were won by Lord Woolavington, Lavington Park, Petworth. Included in his exhibit were good examples of Erigeron Antwerpia, Lilium

Aureate, the new Gold Medal Rose

Shown by Alex. Dickson and Sons at the Summer Show of the National Rose Society. Colour deep yellow umbelatum splendidum, Delphinium seedlings, Galega officinalis compacta, Lychnis chalcedonica, Verbascum vernale, Pæonia alba plena, Campanula celtidifsia, and other good things. An interesting exhibit was provided in the class for six vases of flowers raised from seed during the 12 months preceding the show, not fewer than three kinds. In this competition the first prize winner was Mr. H. E. Dunhill, Mount Lodge, Harpenden. He showed annual Chrysanthemums, Candytuft, Gypsophila elegans, Antirrhinum Yellow King, Eschscholtzias, etc., all in splendid form. There were as many as eight competitors. D. B. C.

Interesting plants at the Royal Show, Harrogate

The largest combined show of agriculture and horticulture in the British Isles closed on July 12th. The horticultural show is one of the best out of London.

In a gorgeous combination of Begonias and Delphiniums, Blackmore and Langdon had that beautiful type of basket Begonias with racemes of flowers some 2 feet to 3 feet below the basket. This type is most effective in the conservatory.

A run of herbaceous plants 300 feet long included the fine Delphiniums Jenny Jones, which has very dark outer petals with Oxford blue centre, and Nora Ferguson, a Cambridge blue. Knight of Somerset is another distinct variety with compact, long-lasting spikes of navy blue. Outstanding groups of these came from Bees, Chester; Kelway, Langport; Hewitt, Solihull; Bakers, Codsall.

The blue Erigerons are always good at this season and last well. Fine examples were shown in the extensive groups of Messrs. Gibson, Bedale; Harkness, Bedale; and Maurice Prichard, Christchurch.

For large herbaceous borders the Eremurus Bungei, with its noble yellow spikes, is very effective. Messrs. Artindale, Sheffield, and Bakers, Codsall, were strong with these, the same firms showing the effective Thalictrum glaucum and Verbascum vernale. Messrs. Toogood specialised in Gladioli.

The amateur does not always obtain Sweet Peas of such quality as seen here. In Messrs. Sutton and Sons' group, which filled the whole end of one tent, Gold Crest, an orange-scarlet, was very prominent. Royal Blue, in Messrs. Bolton's fine group, is a colour loved by all. So, too, is Mammoth, an orange, seen in Messrs. Alex. Dickson's display from Newtownards, Ireland.

One whole side of the great tent was filled with Roses, making a glorious sight. Bedford Crimson, shown by Laxton Bros., is of that solid, fragrant type of Rose beloved by rosarians. Lady Mary Elizabeth is a glorified type of Lady Inchiquin with deeper cerise and finer petals. Shown by the raisers, Messrs. Alex. Dickson and Sons.

Desmond Johnstone is a most distinct Rose of port wine crimson with a base of yellow flushed through the flower; Golden Gleam, a most refreshing yellow; Mrs. A. R. Barraclough, a rose-pink with a ray of gold through the petals, which are of exhibition form. Rose Marie is not truly an exhibition variety, but it was described by one exhibitor as the best of all pink Roses for the garden, with its shapely long flowers that remain on the bush good for a week. These and many others were shown by Messrs. W. Lowe and Sons, Beeston; Thos. Robinson, Nottingham; Frank Cant, Colchester; Wheatcroft Bros.; and Wood and Ingram. Quite exceptionally fine was a basket of B. R. Cant's yellow variety, Mrs. Beatty, with its Maréchal Niel-like perfume. Ivy May, a well-coloured, dainty flower, of Mme. Butterfly type, came from Messrs. Jarman, Chard.

The Border Carnations, salmon and scarlet Cloves, from Mr. Horace Lakeman, Thornton Heath, are of the best type, with fragrance.

Messrs. Allwood Bros. had a pretty form of Dianthus Allwoodii in Esther, a dainty mauve with rich purple eye. A collection of these Dianthi flanked a noble group of Perpetuals.

Carnation Evelyn in Mr. C. Engelmann's exhibit is an uncommon shade of rose flush with pale rose-pink. Kathleen is a clear shade of salmon without any red, and of exquisite form. Countess of Harewood, a perfectly rosette type of Perpetual, of bright rose-pink, were included in Stuart Low and Co.'s group.

Those who have well-heated greenhouses may indulge in many plants not enjoyed by others. A feast to the eye was the group from Messrs. Cypher, Cheltenham. Stately Crotons vied with such brightly coloured foliage plants as Reedia glaucescens, with its white leaves, and the long-lasting spathes of Anthuriums, and scarlet Clerodendron fallax, while the graceful Humea elegans gave a light effect. In this group the more homely but equally lovely Fuchsia was not despised.

FRUIT.—The King's Acre Nurseries demonstrated what an interesting and profitable hobby the growing of fruit trees, etc., in pots may be. Pears with many fruits nearly mature on each tree included Doyenne Bossouch, Beurré Giffard, and Margaret Marrilat. With Apples, the better colour which one secures with pot-grown trees makes them look more tempting. Jas.
Grieve is, of course, delicious, but W
Pearmain and Lady Sudeley are
look at. Plums nearly ripe of River
Prolific, and Czar, Figs, Gooseberr
Currants, also nicely finished Gra
Downe's Seedling all made a fine c
of fruit trees.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

In reserve

THE General who sends all his forces into action at once stands a great chance of defeat and of being without the means of covering his retreat. So, also, the flower gardener who only grows sufficient plants for his beds, or that gets rid of his surplus stock when his beds are planted, runs a risk of having unsightly blanks. This season has been especially fertile in perils to young plants. The weather, to begin with, has been very ungenial, and this has been accompanied, as such seasons usually are, by other evils in various forms. There are perils from insects and creeping things; birds, too, are often troublesome. I find sparrows are especially fond of the variegated Mesembryanthemums, and starlings display a propensity for nipping off the tops of Coleuses. Then there are the Red Ants which congregate round the roots of the Pelargoniums and eat away the bark round the collar of the plants until they turn sickly and die. It will thus be seen that with so many possible difficulties, and others, such as the hoe of a careless workman, to contend with, it is never safe to cast away surplus plants till every bed is well filled up. . . . The same principle should run through the kitchen garden, for it is quite as necessary to have in reserve young plants of all those things commonly raised at home as it is with flowering plants. . . .—July 19th, 1879.

Studley College for Women is doin
work if the fruit exhibited is a c
Well-coloured Peaches of Hale's
Apples Lady Sudeley and Jas. Griev
coloured, and Currants Victoria a
koop Giant were staged with vegeta

Strawberry Royal Sovereign
coloured), shown by the raisers,
Bros., compared well with many rais
recently, but The Duke, Majestic,
Joseph Paxton (a deep red variety)
well in the group sent from Bedford

The Royal Agricultural Soci
England's Award of Merit was grant

ROSE LADY BARNBY (H.T.).—This
better colour than Mrs. H. Bowles,
shape and good scent.

ROSE GLADYS BENSKIN (H.T.).—T
Medal variety, already described in
ING ILLUSTRATED.

ROSE ADELE CROFTON (H. T.).—Sof
with orange centre. All the abov
shown by Alex. Dickson and Sons
townards.

BEGONIA HERBERT FRANKLIN.—Ver
6 inches in diameter, flowers of deep

DELPHINIUM LADY ELIZABETH.—Has
blue outer petals with deep meta
centre. Both shown by Blackmo
Langdon.

CARNATION MADGE.—A large Perp
bright orange with carmine lace
petals. A full form. Shown by C.
mann, Ltd., Saffron Walden.

CARNATION THOMAS IVES.—A deep
Perpetual. Has petals over 1¼ inche
with a fine calyx and stiff stem.

CARNATION R. A. NICHOLSON.—Alth
scarlet, this has a perfume. Sor
similar to, but larger than, Spectrum
stiffer stem. The last two were sh
Stuart Low and Co., Enfield.

Norfolk and Norwich

The long looked for centenary s
show of the Norfolk and Norwich H
tural Society has come and gone, t
dict being that nothing approaching
feast of horticulture has ever been
the old City before.

July 11th will always be remembere
day of days in the annals of local sho

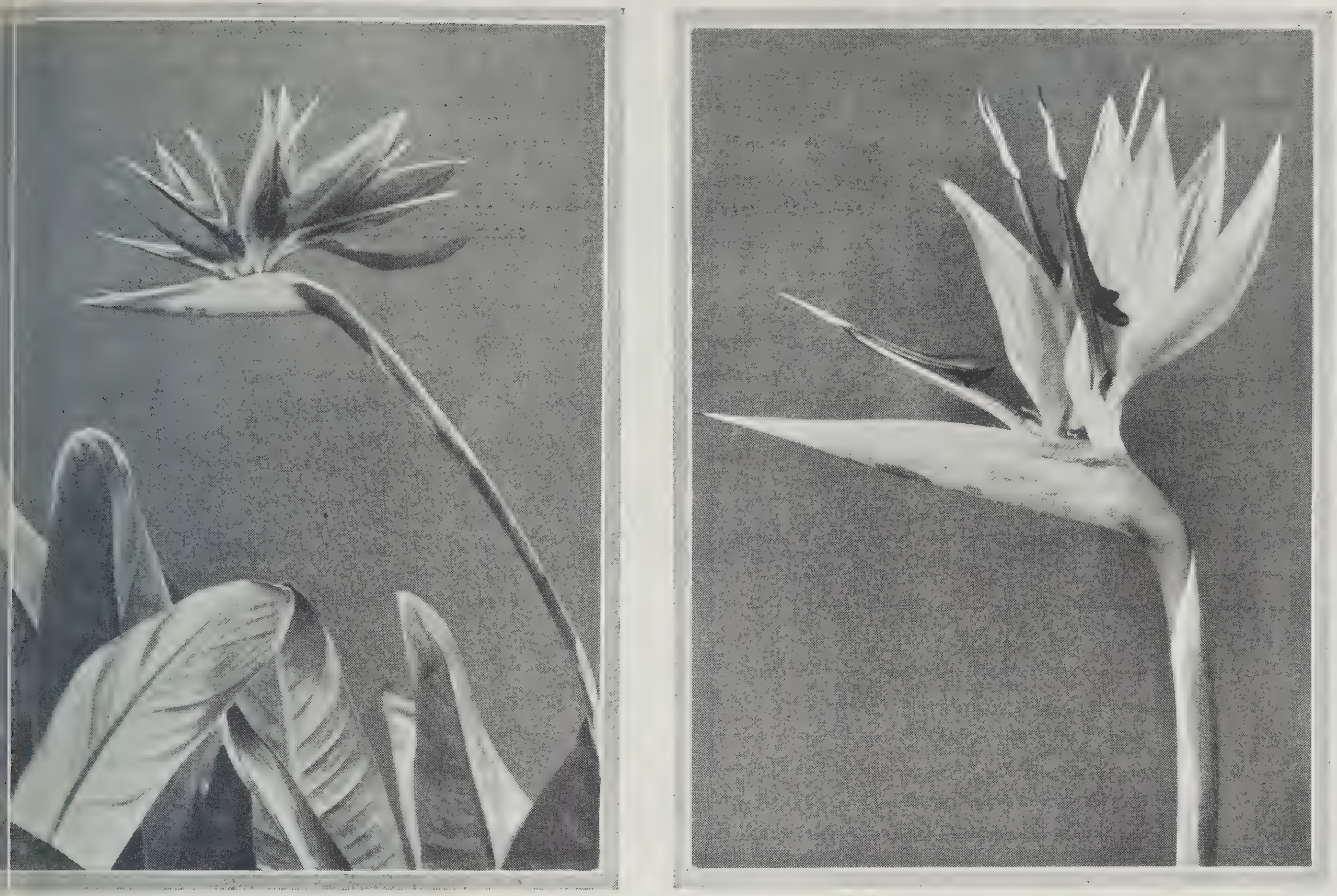
The delegations from the R.H.S
N.R.S., and from the National Swe
Society were greatly appreciated. The
presence brought pride to the loc
thusiasts.

Local Sweet Pea growers had a
lesson from the merging of the pro
show of the National Society a
gathering.

The Lord Mayor of the City (Mr.
Gowen) and the High Sheriff of the
(Mr. S. Christopherson) both promised
during their speeches.

J. A. Christie, Esq., M.P., Frami
Manor, who is a great gardener and
supporter of the local Society, respon
its behalf.

Local growers from private gardens
a bold display, but to the large num
Trade growers the Society were deep
debted for adding so much of educa
value. There were object-lessons for
gardener. Messrs. Daniels Bros. had
did early Gladioli blooms; Suttons, D
E. W. King and Co., Stark and Son s
ised on Sweet Peas; Allens, Hy. Mors
Son, A. Reeves and Co., Regd. W



TWO STUDIES OF THE BIRD OF PARADISE FLOWER, STRELITZIA REGINA, NATIVE OF SOUTH AFRICA

The sepals of the flowers are 3 to 4 inches long and yellow in colour. The tongue is about the same length, auricled and dark blue. The leaves are 10 to 18 inches in length and 4 or 5 inches wide. A curious thing about this species is that a similarly coloured and showy bird (Nectarinia afra) is the agent by the means of which fertilization takes place.

and E. B. Le Grice did Roses justice; G. W. Miller, Hewitts, and Lowe and specialised mainly with Delphiniums; to come across, here and there, those ad been fortunate enough to have a . Medal card placed upon their ex- did one good, as also did, likewise, who had been singled out for distinction National Rose Society—Allens with a Medal! Why, even the man who and cuts the blooms could hardly hold lf back.

or Evans-Lombe presided at the on. He is the direct descendant from dward Lombe, President 100 years ago. appreciated so much the compliments ved upon the old-time florists of Nor- rom Mr. E. A. Bowles. His references Flemish weavers and their Tulips very appropriate, nor could one but at the "breezy" flow of words from Lecky, R.N., of the National Rose y, or of the dry wit of Mr. Harold of the National Sweet Pea Society.

Peed and Sons had a collection of pot that made the amateur greenhouse etor "linger on."

Captain Sandys-Winsch, the Parks ntendent of the City, great praise was r his organisation of the event.

AYTCH PEA.

orfolk and Norwich Horticultural ociety's Centenary Show, 1929

July 11th a deputation from the Royal ultural Society, consisting of Messrs. Bowles, W. Cuthbertson, T. Hay, and Leak, with the Assistant Secretary in ance, visited the Norfolk and Norwich Horticultural Society's Centenary Show at Norwich and made the following awards:—

GOLD MEDALS.—A. J. and C. Allen, Norwich, for Roses; Dobbie and Co., Edinburgh, for Sweet Peas.

SILVER-GILT FLORA MEDALS.—R. H. Bath, Ltd., Wisbech, for Delphiniums and other herbaceous plants; Daniels Brothers, Norwich, for a mixed group of Gladioli, Roses, Sweet Peas, etc.; A. Reeves and Co., Old Cotton, Norwich, for Roses.

SILVER-GILT BANKSIAN MEDALS.—Hewitt, Solihull, for Delphiniums; J. Peed and Son, Norwood, for stove and greenhouse plants.

SILVER FLORA MEDALS.—Hon. Arnold Henderson, Writtle Park, Chelmsford (Gardener, Mr. E. H. Starling), for Sweet Peas; Stark and Son, Fakenham, Norfolk, for Poppies and other hardy flowers.

SILVER BANKSIAN MEDALS.—J. A. Christie, M.P., The Manor House, Framingham Pigot (Gardener, Mr. Sam High), for hardy shrubs; Baroness Cederström, Hoveringland Hall (Gardener, Mr. F. Tweed), for annuals and biennials; Samuel Wallrock, The Manor House, Stanmore (Gardener, Mr. W. H. Holloway), for Sweet Peas; Mr. G. W. Miller, Wisbech, for a mixed group of herbaceous plants and Roses; Isaac House and Son, Westbury-on-Trym, for Scabious and other herbaceous plants; Lowe and Gibson, Ltd., Crawley Down, for Delphiniums and Border Carnations.

SILVER VEITCH MEMORIAL MEDAL.—G. L. Lang, Great Plumstead Hall (Gardener, Mr. F. Sheldrake), for Delphiniums.

BRONZE VEITCH MEMORIAL MEDAL.—Gordon Winter, Wramplingham, for seedling Pinks.

Cynoglossum cashmerianum

The plant which received the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Merit on June 11th under the above name has now been identified as Cynoglossum nervosum, Benth.

Rhododendron Houlstonii

On June 25th a Rhododendron received an Award of Merit when shown under the above name. It has since been found that the plant exhibited was really a form of Rhododendron discolor, and, as it is not an improvement upon the forms of Rhododendron discolor which have already received awards, the award made on June 25th has been cancelled.

Successive sowings

Considerable care has to be exercised in small gardens to avoid waste in connection with those vegetables that have a comparatively short life and that are soon over after coming to maturity. It is a pity to see breadths of things like Cauliflower and Lettuce "running away." One can have a continuous supply of nice little Cauliflowers through several of the summer months, even in small gardens, but the essentials are a small variety like Dean's Snowball, successive sowings in March, April, and May, and only sufficient put in at each planting to meet requirements. So, too, with Lettuce, a row of four or five yards will yield quite enough for a small household. If sown in watered drills the seed soon germinates, and a second and third sowing can be made when plants from earlier sowings are well on the way. Golden Queen and Continuity are two of my favourites.

E. B.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Spring Cabbage

The time has arrived when the first sowing must be made in shallow drills, drawn at 9 inches to 1 foot apart. Should the soil be dry at the time, the drills should be watered before sowing the seeds; germination will then be a matter of days only. Protect the young seedlings from birds. Excellent varieties are Flower of Spring, Watkin and Simpson's Early Market, Early Feltham, and Ellam's Early Improved.

Carrots

In many instances the main crop sowing has failed owing to the persistence of the Carrot Fly, and where this has occurred I advise a sowing at the present time to provide sweet young Carrots for use during autumn and winter, the fly rarely interfering with these late sowings.

Parsley

Make a good sowing to stand the winter and to provide strong plants to fill a cold frame.

Globe Artichokes

Those which are fruiting freely require the assistance of liquid manure, such as the drainage from farmyards or diluted artificial. Cut away all old heads which have gone too far so as to enable the later heads to develop more freely, and, where possible, place a mulch over the roots.

Early Potatoes

Most of these are ready for lifting, and in doing so select the best tubers of seed size for next season's use and leave these latter on the ground for a few days to become thoroughly ripened and hardened, following which they must be placed in a cool store and examined from time to time.

Turnips

Make a good sowing to provide roots during winter, and through their early stages keep well supplied with water. If fly becomes troublesome, spray with Quassia Extract.

Winter Greens

A final survey should now be made in order to make good any failures which may have arisen from the various causes to which such plants are subject, and make a final planting of Celery for late use.

Chrysanthemums

Growth being free and vigorous, the question of staking must be considered, and few better methods exist than that of straining a stout wire from end to end of each row of plants and stapled to one or two intermediate posts as well as at each end. The tallest stakes supporting the plants may then be secured to the wire, the height of which must be arranged according to the height of the varieties being dealt with. They will then run no risk of being blown about, and may be syringed with vigour. Watch for insect pests and combat them. Late struck plants for flowering in 6-inch pots should now be finally potted and staked.

Peaches

Trees which have been relieved of their fruits may be thinned without delay. The removal of such wood as will be no longer required will allow sun and light to penetrate and harden the present season's growth, and although such pruning is not final, it is an undoubted advantage. Syringe such trees vigorously every afternoon and keep their roots well supplied with moisture.

Perpetual fruiting Raspberries

Tie in the strong young growths, as these will shortly be coming into bloom, and on no account permit the plants to suffer for want of moisture at their roots. A good heavy spraying overhead late in the afternoon will also be found most beneficial.

Rambling and other Climbing Roses

Train in the desired number of vigorous young growths now appearing from the base and cut clean out those remaining, as nothing is gained by overcrowding the supports. Remove old flowers when their beauty has expended itself.

Wistarias

Perhaps the most handsome and graceful of hardy climbers, these are developing numbers of streaming young growths which, unless required for extension purposes should be cut back to within four or five buds of their base and thus force the plants to become spurry and ultimately more floriferous.

Sweet Violets

Keep these well supplied with moisture and damp overhead in the cool of the evening, using a little soot in the water at intervals in order to hold Red Spider in check and improve the colour of their foliage.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Roses

Many Rose beds this year are anything but satisfactory, for even where plants were not entirely killed, they were so crippled that the growth is relatively feeble, and flowers in consequence smaller than usual. Considerable relief can be afforded the bushes by vigorously thinning the buds while still in a small state, while vermin must, of course, be kept under. Doses of liquid manure, not too strong, will greatly help for later bloom.

Sweet Peas

These popular annuals are for the most part exceptionally fine this season, and as growth is now very rapid, frequent attention in the way of training, tying, and thinning-out of the shoots is necessary. Moisture at the roots is also very necessary if the plants are to continue in health. Where the plants are not growing well some stimulant must be given if size of bloom and length of stem are to be maintained. Do not, however, overdo the feeding, for too strong and too frequent doses are certain to do more harm than good.

Border Carnations

The layering of these should be begun as soon as the plants are fit for this operation. All varieties are not ready at the same time, so it is well to take each when in good condition rather than wait for all to be fit. By doing so the work is less tiresome and the results are usually more satisfactory.

Border Chrysanthemums

These grow very rapidly at this season, and frequent attention in the way of tying and regulating the shoots is necessary, while disbudding of the earlier varieties must not be neglected where large flowers are desired. In dry weather an occasional soaking of clean water is very beneficial, while, should the plants be making only moderate progress, a little good artificial fertiliser sprinkled over the surface and hoed in just before w takes place will greatly help the s colour of the flowers.

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine

This pretty winter-flowering subjec looks better than when grown as a plant in a moist, rather warm house. two-year-old plants make the best plants as a rule. They need not, should not, be planted in the bask have the pots (the 7-inch size is very s hung up. Attend carefully with wat water, and weak liquor manure, pic all flower-buds as they appear until

Statice profusa

This is a most satisfactory subject cool greenhouse and conservatory an at all difficult to manage. It is so difficult to root, however, when the are taken from old plants, but side broken off with a "heel" from vigorous plants root quite readily. L is also a certain method for increasin and may be carried out now.

Eucharis amazonica

This lovely subject has been great lected of late years, and yet it is one very finest of warm-house plants. Li bulk of flowering plants, it must period of rest if it is to bloom well ensure this the pots should be move house with a temperature 10 degrees degrees lower, while water must be very sparingly. From three to four w this treatment will provide the necessa and the plants can then be returned t usual position and given plenty of wat occasional doses of weak liquid manur

Sowing Onions

The time for sowing this crop vari siderably, as there is so much diver climatic conditions. In the later d about July 20th will be found a favo time, while in the sheltered and milde as late as the middle of August will giv results. Trebons and Danver's Yell very good varieties for autumn sowin quite as hardy as the varieties usually a for this purpose.

Lifting early Potatoes

There is no advantage in allowing to remain in the ground after they ar so an opportunity should be taken to them dug up and stored. If "seed planting next year be required, sele more shapely medium-sized tubers and shallow boxes, setting these in full sun to thoroughly "green" before storing in a cool yet frost-proof shed.

Harvesting Shallots

These are so apt to start into growth if left in the ground after they are rip it is necessary to have the crop harvest moment this stage is reached. Lay the on a hard, dry surface in full s thoroughly mature before placing in net and hanging in a cool, dry, and airy pla the winter.

Dwarf Beans

Late sowings should be well thi should this be necessary. The plants s not be closer in the rows than 9 inches inches. Watering may be neces especially on light soils, while plants co into bearing will be greatly helped i occasional soaking of liquid manure be

C. BLA

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow

Answers to Queries

ies—Queries and answers are inserted in ING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre-nts follow these rules: All communications be clearly written on one side of the paper and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, Letters on business should be sent to the* IER. *The name and address of the sender quired in addition to any designation he esire to be used in the paper. When more one query is sent, each should be on a te piece of paper; the name and address added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

ing Water Lilies

Monmouth).—The Water Lilies may ely divided at any time during the winter pring months after the majority of the have died down. The ideal time is rly part of April, growth commencing liately. This, however, should not pre- ou planting or dividing them earlier if esire to do so.

las turning yellow

rth Riding).—Your Primulas are ng from basal rot, a trouble to most members of the family ubject. The only cure is to lift, and replant on fresh ground which ot grown any of the Primula species least three years. All diseased por- should be cut away with a sharp knife he parts well dusted with powdered al.

ces failing

B. Craven).—We have carefully ned the specimen of Phlox sent, an find no trace of vermin. The of the stems have some appear- of having been attacked by wire- s, but we can find none of these de- ive creatures. The plants appear to been well grown, as the stems are but they are very dwarf and showing prematurely. You have not been ng strong stimulants of any kind, have The Phlox dislikes drought, but the rance of the plant hardly points to its g suffered from a too dry root-run. could, however, try what a thorough ng of water at the roots would do to them.

re and treatment for Anemones

U.).—Most of the wind flowers enjoy m, sandy soil which is of fair quality. however, will require heavy manuring. e any of the spring-flowering kinds show of exhaustion they should be lifted, l, and replanted in warm borders ally, although a few love partial shade. include A. appennina, A. Robinsoniana, palmata, etc. If healthy, there is no ion to move them, and there is little can do until February, when a top- ng of bone-meal or artificial manure be given with advantage. The peren- A. pulsatilla, A. sulphuræ, A. rivularis, imilar kinds will benefit from a sprink- f bone-meal around their roots during owing season.

hocks diseased

at can I do for Rust in Hollyhocks? any use spraying with soft-soap and in, or must I scrap the lot now? Can lant with healthy stock at once, or has round to be treated? H.

nmouth.

is is a fungoid disease and is best com- by spraying with Condy's Fluid, Bor- Mixture, or a salt solution every 14 Use a breakfast-cup full of common o 3 gallons of water. Employ an Abol syringe with a fine mist-like spray so that the mixture does not reach the roots of the plant. Messrs. Webb and Brand recommend the following: Slake 1 bushel of lime and when cool add 1 bushel of soot, 4 lbs. flowers of sulphur, and 2 ozs. sulphate of copper, finely powdered. Pass the mixture through a fine sieve and dust the plants well over with it three or four times during the growing season and when the leaves are damp.]

Name and approximate price of Lily and time for planting same

(A 30 Years Reader).—The flower you send is that of Lilium umbellatum, an easily grown Siberian species. The bulbs should be planted at about 5 inches deep and in good turfy and leafy soil during August and September. The price per dozen is about 7s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.

Various points

Please give me cultural hints for treatment after blooming for the following: Sunroses, creeping perennial Phlox, and Alpine dianthus. Some of my Pansies shrivel and are either rotted or eaten off just below the soil's surface. My Sweet Williams have done better this year. I put lime rubble at the roots when planting out last autumn, but some have still turned yellow-leaved and died. Can you account for the above? Kindly give me aspect, soil, and winter treatment for the small, scarlet, creeping Verbena. "IGNORAMUS."

[(1) The three first-named should be cut over immediately flowering has ceased; that is, the old flower-stalks should be removed down to the foliage, and if it is necessary to curtail the growth of either, the present is the best time to do so. (2) Pansies. This is probably the work of eelworm, to check which Vaporite should be dug into the soil before planting. (3) Sweet William. Eelworm. Treat as advised for Pansies. (4) Verbena chamædryoides. A frame or cool greenhouse is necessary to winter this brilliant spreading Verbena except in our most favoured counties, when a south aspect is desirable, and even then a little straw or bracken should be placed over it during winter. Sandy loam is quite suitable.]

Seedling Delphinium

(G. S. Daykin).—It is almost impossible to give an opinion from such a minute example. The flowers were almost withered up on arrival. A good spray should be sent, and in this case should be packed so as to arrive as fresh as possible. We do not, however, think that with such magnificent examples now in commerce that—except for the length of flower-spike, which appears to be exceptional—it bears any unusual character. You might like to consult one of the Delphinium specialists, such as Baker, seedsmen, Wolverhampton, or Hewitt, Solihull, Birmingham.

ROSES

Rust and Black Spot on Roses

(Seven Rides).—Spray the bushes every 10 days with Bentley's Anti-Rust, using a fine Abol syringe for the purpose and taking care to thoroughly wet the under-sides of the leaves. This may be obtained from J. Bentley and Sons, Barrow-on-Humber, Lincolnshire.

Rose leaves for inspection

(A. T. W., Berks.).—This is the work of moths and their maggots, the former laying their eggs on the foliage, and the resulting larvæ obtaining their sustenance on the leaves or flower buds. Hand-picking during May is the usual remedy, the maggot being found between the leaves after the manner of that of the Celery Fly, and careful crushing with the thumb and finger will exterminate him. Another remedy, and a more expeditious one, is to syringe the plants immediately this pest is discovered, with quassia and nicotine, repeating same once each week until it is stamped out.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Shoot of Willow

(Mrs. Ragg).—The reason why your Willow continues to fail is drought. Willows love their toes in the water and rarely flourish on the fringe of artificial pools cut out of stiff clay soils which are liable to drop to low levels in times of drought, as, unlike the sides of old rivers where water is constant and moving and the sides composed of centuries of loose silt, the sides of artificial ponds are usually solid and unsuited to the culture of Willows. As you value the tree, we advise you to plant it in a variety of positions until you find out in which part of the garden it seems most at home. Also paint the trunk every fortnight with paraffin soap or paraffin emulsion (obtainable from horticultural sundriesmen), using the directions given by them.

Obtaining and raising trees and shrubs from seeds

(C. S. Gordon Smith).—(1) Either of the following would prove of great assistance to you: "Shrubs for Amateurs," by W. J. Bean, price 5s. 6d., or "Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles," two vols., £3 4s.; the latter a remarkably fine standard work and one of the most reliable in existence. (2) Tree and shrub seeds are offered by very few nurseries in this country. Thompson and Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich, however, offer a few, but Vilmerin et Cie., 4, Quai d' la Megisserie, Paris, offer a fairly large list, and we advise you to write and ask for it, stating your particular requirements. A few Conifer seeds may be obtainable from Ben Reid and Co., of Aberdeen.

Erect trees for wind-swept garden

(Lady Rosamund Christie).—We do not know of a bronze Cypress, but this colour is developed to a very large degree in the late summer and during winter in Cryptomeria japonica. It is then very beautiful, and would thrive with you, but is, we fear, rather too spreading in character for your purpose. You are probably aware of the golden, erect Irish Yew. Then a very lovely, erect-growing tree is Cupressus macrocarpa and its golden variety lutea. There is also a very erect variety of this tree called fastigiata. There is also the Red Cedar Juniperus virginiana, a rather small tree with a close spire-like figure and of a pleasing green aspect. Cupressus macrocarpa in one of its forms would, however, be the most suitable tree for your purpose. The heeling over could only be prevented by placing a stout wire around the trunk of the tree and straining it to a stump in the ground, or, if this is not possible owing to such a wire coming across the path, then erect two posts at the nearest possible point and fix two horizontal supports from them to the tree, and on the side where pressure is greatest. A small ring of felt should be secured around the trunk where the ties are to be made.

Rhododendron leaves for examination

(W. H. Mason).—There is nothing whatever wrong with the leaves you send, the numerous brown hairs on the young leaves being perfectly natural to this particular species. You will notice that few or none remain upon the older leaves, and the same will apply to those now developing as they age and harden. We should say that the shrub from which the leaves were taken was quite healthy. Quite a number of Himalayan and Chinese Rhododendrons have this hairy character when young.

FRUIT

Peaches discoloured

(" Under-Gardener ").—As regards the discoloration on the Peaches, there must be some cultural mistake. Syringing with water containing lime or iron would cause the brown spots. So would the use of too strong insecticides. Another probable cause would be syringing in the morning with the house close shut, the sun striking on the fruits while drops of moisture are hanging from them could easily cause the mischief. It is likely that the branch of the Nectarine tree that is showing signs of distress is suffering either from " gumming " or " canker," all " stone " fruits being specially liable to these diseases. In either case cut away the dead branch and dress the wound with styptic or painters' " notting."

Fig leaves

(W. P.).—The leaves were so dry when they reached us that we are unable to get much guidance from them. Have the roots at any time got dry? If so, this would go far to cause the trouble. The leaves looked as if they had been attacked by Red Spider, but in their dry state we could discover no trace of these pests. The Fig in growth demands copious supplies of water at the roots, and after the fruits are set and swelling, occasional soakings of weak liquid manure is beneficial. You err in syringing with cold water. It should always be slightly warmer than the temperature of the house.

Shot-leaf fungus in Peaches

(J. McK.).—All badly affected and fallen leaves should be carefully collected and burned, and in spring the trees should be sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture. Permitting the trees to get dry at the roots is very bad for the Peach, and this has doubtless helped to encourage the fungus. It is not at all certain where the spores of this fungus pass the winter, but you would do well to thoroughly cleanse, or better still paint, the whole of the wood-work during the winter.

Plum tree not flowering

(A. M. Cunnington).—There are two reasons why your Plum tree does not produce flowers. (1) It may be that birds pick out the buds (a very common occurrence) during the winter when the branches are bare. This you can prove by netting or protecting the tree in some way next year. (2) The tree may be growing too vigorously, making a lot of rank, fruitless wood, in which case we advise you to take out a small trench in a circle around the base of the tree and at 2 feet 6 inches from the tree trunk. This should be about 18 inches wide and 2 feet deep, severing all roots contained therein, and after cutting the severed ends clean with a knife, fill in the trench, and make firm. This will have the effect of checking exuberant growth and bring the tree to a fruitful condition.

Cordon Gooseberries failing

(H., Monmouth).—This trouble occurs from time to time among Cordon Gooseberries and is due to cankering of the wood. No remedy is so far known, except that of cutting away the affected branches and the training in of new, strong basal growths to take their place. As soon as the fruit is gathered the trees should be sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture. In the case of old specimens it is better to cut or dig away the plants altogether and renew both soil and plants. The ground should be trenched 2 feet deep at least and enriched with manure. Such trees often get exceptionally dry at this season and should receive periodical soakings of water.

Making a new Strawberry bed on the site of an old one

(M. A. Pilkington).—Of course it is much better to make a new bed on entirely fresh land, but under the circumstances we consider that if you trench your soil to a depth of at least 2 feet, incorporating a good quantity of well-seasoned farmyard manure, together with a light dressing of bone-meal in the last 8 inches of surface, you should obtain satisfactory results for at least 3 years. The Strawberry you mention is excellent in every way, although its flavour varies slightly on different soils.

Strawberries unsatisfactory

(Mrs. Howard Coote).—There was no trace of disease upon the plants you send, and we suggest that the cause of weakness in the leaves and fruits is due to lack of nourishment. As soon as the fruits are gathered, remove all runners and give the plants a mulch of farmyard manure and an occasional soaking of water. You are probably aware that land for Strawberries should be dug two spits deep and plenty of farmyard manure incorporated with the soil, as they remain upon the same ground from 3 years to 5 years. We can give no reason for the fruits being so small other than the above.

Morello Cherries

(Mrs. Howard Coote).—Drought is probably responsible for the dropping fruit, and we advise you to soak the trees thoroughly. Trees on such walls have in some instances suffered severely in this way this year, both on north and east walls, watering having to be carried out once every week to retain the crop.

VEGETABLES

Gaps in Asparagus bed

I came to this garden 2 years ago last March and immediately made an Asparagus bed. I bought Sutton's 4-year-old roots, had it well prepared, did not cut at all the first year, very little last year, and expected to have a good crop this year, but though some of the stalks are quite excellent, there are gaps of 7 feet or 8 feet with no growth at all, and in other places only a very weak, spindly growth, and the number of edible stalks have been very, very few. It was heavily manured with seaweed this winter. As this garden is on a mountain side I put it at the bottom, thinking it would be more moist. Immediately above the top row of Asparagus is a row of rampant Raspberries and they throw up suckers all over the Asparagus bed, so I think this may have something to do with it. I propose taking up the row of Raspberries this autumn. Do you think I should replant the gaps in March, and is it the weakly growth seedlings which should be removed, as advised on pa
and how should I manure it now?

" SEVEN RI

[We advise you to remove the Rasp as soon as possible and fill up all spaces in the Asparagus bed at the March with two-year-old plants, dis entirely those which have failed to r At the present time you might give a light sprinkling over the surface wit mon salt, and in a fortnight's time with diluted manure, such as the d from farmyards or a similar manure m dissolving a small quantity of artifi water and then diluting same before a it to the plants.

MISCELLANEOUS

Coarse patches in lawn

(Landway).—It is advisable to rem turf from the patches in question, the soil beneath to a depth of 1 foo after firming down add a surfacing o loam to take the place of the turf re Firm this, rake the surface fine, and s seed. The last week in September o in October is a good time for sowing. to clip Yew hedges, the end of July.

Mealy bug

(M. H. W.).—As summer treatmen cure some spirits of wine and with a hair brush go systematically over the and wherever any of the vermin is touch it with this liquid, not omitti little tufts of white, woolly material contains the eggs of the pests. Thi grant considerable temporary relief. the leaves fall, prune the Vines, burni the prunings. Next go carefully ov rods, rubbing off all loose bark. The of the house should then be scrubbed warm water and soft-soap, all brick whitewashed, and any cracks cement All loose debris should be then swe and immediately burned. The Vines s then be carefully painted with a strong tion of Gishurst Compound, working i into any cracks, but taking care r damage the eyes. All this will help, spring keep a sharp look-out for the e and again have the spirit of wine h and by repeatedly hunting for and de ing every insect seen there should b little trouble with the vermin getting a the berries.

Ants in Melon frame

(Eleanor Pain).—We advise you to the Acme Chemical Company's ant beetle destroyer, which is harmless to thing except insects. All crawling in such as ants, steam flies, crickets, etc., disappear when this remedy is adopted. you have to do is to place the destroyer the spot where the ants are known to The price is 2s. each. The address is Acme Chemical Company, Ltd., Tonbr Kent.

Soil for examination

(Melon).—We find nothing whatever i soil you send which would cause the rot from which your plants are suffe This is due to faulty management, and no means uncommon, especially w Melons have to be entrusted, to a larg tent, to young and inexperienced men. much water about the stem and too l temperature, with the plants and foliage at the same time will set up this tro Maintain a higher temperature, and do water within 4 inches or 5 inches of the s over which a dusting of lime should shaken. We would also advise you to a little slaked lime to any future mixing of as it appears to be deficient of this.

Mildew

G McKeown).—From what you say, it ly probable that mildew is at the root trouble, but not seeing the affected we concluded that the fly was re- nble, as this latter pest has been most some this year, but wherever the is at work, Onions will be found to maggots. Remedy: Damp the foli- nd then dust freely with flowers of r, or spray the plants with Mildew c such as that offered by Messrs. ty, Barrow-on-Humber, Hull, the price 3s. 6d. per quart, this being sufficient ke 20 gallons of wash. It is a very and effective remedy.

NAMES OF PLANTS

C., *Devon.*—Campanulas to name. s too far gone to be certain of them, bably variable forms of C. cæspitosa.

C., *Devon.*—1, Sedum Sieboldi; 2, spurium; 3, Sedum spathulifolium; um obtusatum.

Mills, Belfast.—1, Hypericum reptans; panula garganica hirsuta; 3, not re- d.

B.—Olearia semi-dentata.

F., Dartford.—Phlomis fruticosa ia Digswelliana).

Muriel Jex-Blake.—Allium Ostrow- m.

-Delphinium F. W. Smith.

—It is not possible for us to name oses. One is a Moss Rose and the first cross between a garden Rose species. There were thousands of rosses raised 50 years ago, many of found their way into gardens. They ther nameless or, if named, have been n.

E. Smith.—Habenaria virescens r Butterfly Orchis).

J. M.—Veronica spicata.

A. K. H.—1, Nepeta macrantha; 2, N. Mussini; 3, Cotoneaster Francheti.

Mrs. Annan Bryce.—1, Polemonium Richardsonii; 2, Lychnis chalcedonica; 3, Potentilla argyrophylla; 4, Orobus niger; 5, Lychnis flos-Jovis; 6, Olearia nummularifolia; 7, Indigofera Gerardiana.

"*Marmion.*"—(1) Calceolaria polyrrhiza; (2) Campanula abietina; (3) Dianthus plumarius fimbriatus; (4) Dianthus Fettes Mount; (5) Trachelium sp.

LATE REPLIES

Pruning Jasminum officinalis

(V. L. M.).—This fine shrub should be left entirely alone as long as possible; it will then bloom with the greatest profusion. When something must be done owing to its having outrun its allotted space, it should be thinned out, *i.e.*, the poorest and weakest wood removed just sufficiently to allow of sunshine and air penetrating its branches, leaving a goodly number at their full length, as it is these growths which produce the flowers. To prune this lovely climber after the manner of Roses, etc., is to cut away all —or most of—its flowers.

Raspberry Caterpillars

(Merlin).—The specimen Raspberry leaves are attacked by a species of Sawfly, but as most of the specimens were dead on arrival we are afraid we cannot breed them through to find out the exact species. We remember seeing this or a similar Sawfly doing the same type of damage to Raspberries in a Somersetshire garden, but failure resulted in the attempt to get the larvæ through to the adult stage for purposes of identification. We do not think that the pest is a common one, at least in England. We think that if you leave the pest until the fruit is gathered the larvæ will be fully fed and will have gone down to the soil to pupate. In any case spraying would not be of much use because the larvæ appear to tunnel in the leaf, and in such a position are protected. A wash containing nicotine might kill them. If it is practical, we should advise you to go over the attacked plants and cut off the affected foliage at once and burn it. A dressing of naphthalene at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard applied to the soil in early autumn would account for many of the creatures. Dig the naphthalene in as deep as possible without disturbing the roots.

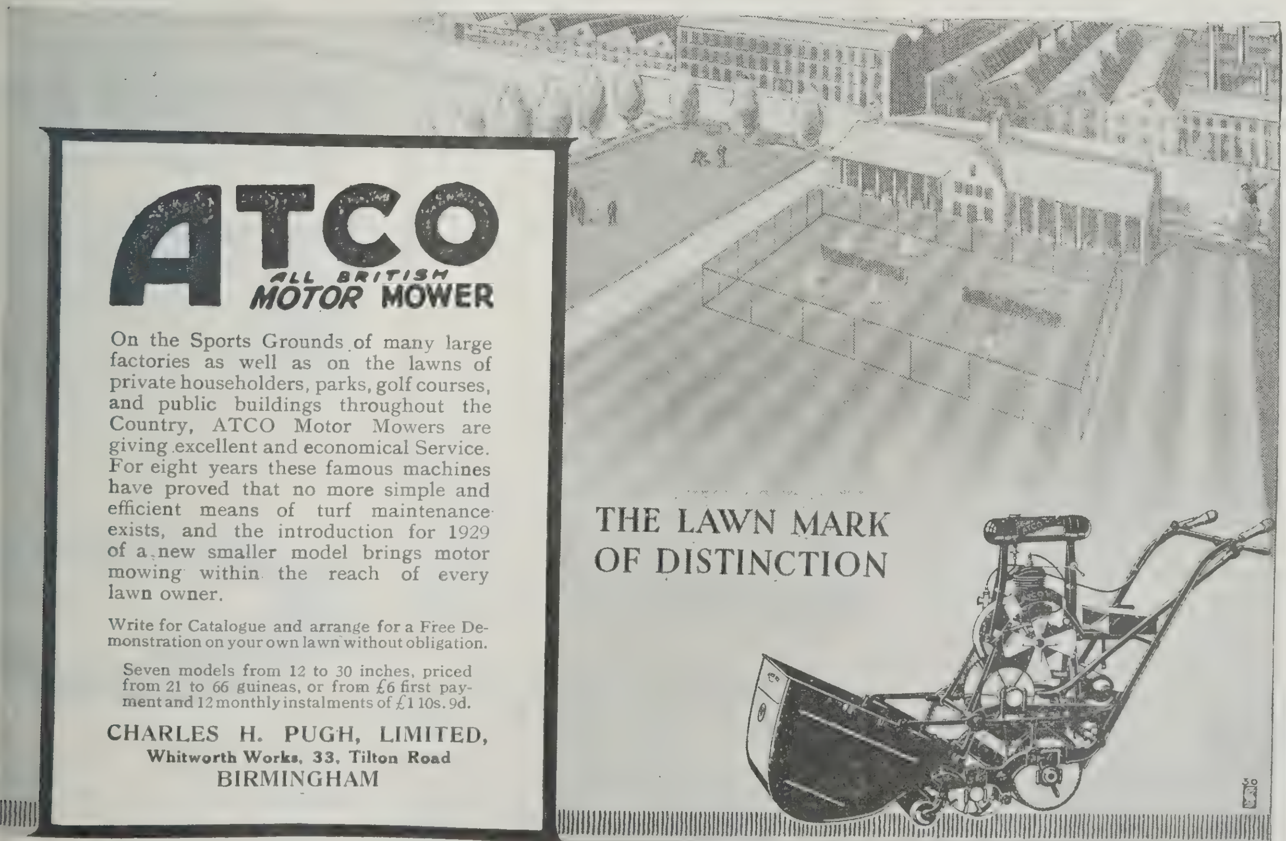
SHORT REPLIES

Naphthalene.—For the destruction of all insects, wireworms, leatherjackets, millepedes, etc., naphthalene should be dug or worked into the ground a little below the root depth before sowing or planting. The fumes will then destroy these pests. For surface insects, etc., it should be sprinkled over the surface, raked in, and watered with a rose.

A. Donovan. — Stump-rooted Parsnip wanted. Messrs. Ryder and Sons, seedsmen, St. Albans, Herts.

B. Brandreth, junr.—*Re* Primulas. Try Messrs. J. Stormonth and Sons, Kirkbride, Cumberland, or Mr. G. H. Dalrymple, Bartley Nurseries, Southampton.

F. G. Barron.—You should write to Farm and Garden Universal Fertiliser Company, 415, Smithdown Road, Liverpool, or to one of the border Tweed mills, say, R. G. Tait, Slitrig Mills, Hawick, or Peter Anderson, Bridges Mills, Galashiels, as there is always plenty of waste wool at these places. For good, healthy plants of Meconopsis and Primulas of all kinds, apply to Messrs. Oliver and Hunter, Moniaive, Dumfriesshire.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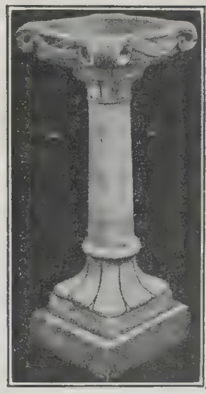
BIRMINGHAM



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Height 32 ins.
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Everlasting reconstructed Stone. The appearance of Portland Stone, but stronger and more durable.
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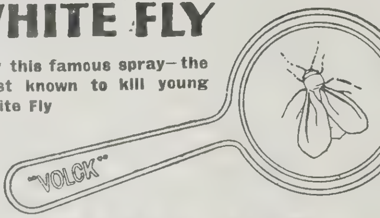

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will kill them before they have a chance to do any damage.
Used safely under glass on the most delicate foliage.
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GEORGE MONRO, Ltd., Covent Garden, London
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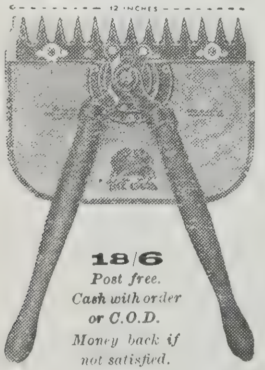

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ASTOR HOUSE,
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THOMSON'S MANURES

On the market for over 50 years they still hold first place for QUALITY and RESULTS. They are safe, sure, and lasting. The direct result of many years' practical experience in gardening, they stand unrivalled at the present day for all Garden Crops.

Prices:—**VINE, PLANT, AND VEGETABLE MANURE**—a Perfect Food—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**; tins, **1/3** and **9d.** **SPECIAL TOP DRESSING MANURE**—an excellent stimulant—1 cwt., **30/-**; 56 lb., **16/-**; 28 lb., **9/-**; 14 lb., **5/-**; 7 lb., **3/-**. Tins, **1/3.**

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Corry's Non-poisonous. Simply requires sprinkling.
Highly Commended by the Royal Horticultural Society.
CAUSES INSTANTANEOUS DEATH TO ANTS, WOODLICE EARWIGS, SNAILS, SLUGS, and kills or brings Mice, Rats and Rabbits from their holes.
2 ozs. 1/-; 4 ozs. 1/9; ½ pt. 3/-; 1 pt. 5/-; 1 qt. 9/-
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GREAT ANNUAL FLOWER S
WILL BE HELD IN
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On Wednesday and Thursday
AUGUST 7th and 8th, 192
Schedules and all information on application to H.
Abington Park, Northampton.

ROYAL WELSH SHOW at WREX
AUGUST 7th, 8th, & 9th, 19
GREAT OPEN SH
of FLOWERS AND FRUIT, Etc.,
Extensive Classification
50 Guinea Challenge Bowl for Cut
Popular Judges
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Schedules now ready from CAPT. T. A.
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 1
LARGEST ONE-DAY SHOW and
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£12 and £10 Classes for Cut Flo
Roses, Gladioli, Herbaceous, et
ALL MONEY PRIZES GUARANTEED
Schedules from D. DAVIES or A. CRIDDLE, Radstoc
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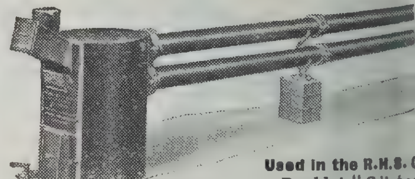
The economical Boiler for the small Greenhouse or Garage



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For	2	6	20	40 nests
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AUGUST HORTICULTURAL SHOWS

ISBY AND DISTRICT AMATEUR ORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
th ANNUAL SUMMER SHOW
will be held in
GRANT THOROLD PARK
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1929
ffiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society.
ules may be obtained from Hon. Secretary, S.
, 186, Legsby Avenue, Grimsby.

ry and District Horticultural and Allotment Association
th ANNUAL SHOW
will be held on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1st,
ard House Meadow, Thames Street, Sunbury
permission of H. Dakin, Esq., and H. H. Allen, Esq.)
Open Tug-of-War (Weight limit 100 stone).
ule and full particulars from Joint Hon. Secretaries,
y and G. WARREN, 12, Thames Street, Sunbury-on-

T PARISH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S
54th ANNUAL SHOW
will be held in
NSCRAIG PARK, RAVENSCRAIG GROUNDS,
lly granted by Sir MICHAEL NAIRN, BART.,
SATURDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1929
ST POT PLANT EXHIBITION IN FIFE.
ules on application to JAS. D. SIMPSON, Secretary,
oy Street, Dysart, Fife.

gdon Horticultural Society
ANNUAL SHOW
to be held on
gust Bank Holiday, 1929

ules and particulars from Secretary, G. STEFF,
g Road, Abingdon.

BNALL FLOWER SHOW
BURTON ON-TRENT
CLASSES—TRADE EXHIBITS
AUGUST 5th
SCHEDULES FREE.

LL, Secretary, Burton-on-Trent.

14th ANNUAL SHOW
OF THE
ill & District Horticultural Society
and the Knaphill Sports
will be held at LYNBROOK
MONDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1929
ules can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, F. E.
, 77, High Street, Knaphill, Woking.

WOOTTON (Isle of Wight)
RTICULTURAL SOCIETY
NINTH ANNUAL SHOW
to be held on
NK HOLIDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1929
ules from Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. B. CULLIN,
ands," Wootton Bridge.

AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
(Affiliated with the R.H.S.)
JAL SHOW, LIME KILNS, OAKHAM
ank Holiday, August 5th, 1929
ETEEN OPEN CLASSES (Special Sweet Pea Class).
Entrance fee 1/- each class.
or full schedule from the SECRETARY, 13, Barley-
oad, Oakham.
Trade Stands at minimum charges.
D HOLIDAY PROGRAMME has been arranged

FRODSHAM
rcultural & Agricultural Society

HIRTEENTH ANNUAL SHOW
eld on the ATHLETIC GROUND, FRODSHAM, on
DAY (Bank Holiday), AUGUST 5th, 1929
ules from W. A. HILL, Lowland Road, Runcorn.

Spend Bank Holiday at
ETCHLEY SHOW
MONDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1929
RSE JUMPING, ATHLETIC SPORTS,
RTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, ETC.
Show opens 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
at Amusement Park (100 side shows).
ion: Adults, 2/- Children, 1/- (Including tax.)
LOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES JULY 27TH.
rticulars with Entry Forms and Schedules from
tary, HEDLEY J. CLARKE, Bletchley.

THE FLOWER SHOW OF THE NORTH
(Affiliated with the Royal Horticultural Society)
WHITLEY BAY (on the Links)
BANK HOLIDAY, August 5th
Over £300 given in Cash, Cups, Medals, Certificates, etc., £100 Cup, also R.H.S. Affiliated Medals and Certificates given for Trade Stands.
Schedules now ready—Apply, N. F. ARVESCOUGH, 4, Gordon Square, Whitley Bay, Northumberland, Hon. Sec.

Abbey Park Flower Show, Leicester
AUGUST 6th and 7th, 1929
Silver Challenge Cups, Medals, and Valuable Cash Prizes
TRADE EXHIBITS INVITED.
Schedules and further particulars on application to R. LISLE, Abbey Park, Leicester.

BEXHILL OLD TOWN 14th ANNUAL FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW
will be held on
Wednesday, August 7th, 1929
In Grounds of Linkwell
Secretary, J. BRYANT, 19, Wilton Road, Bexhill.

GREAT SCOTTISH NATIONAL SHOW OF ROSES, SWEET PEAS, & CARNATIONS
In The Kelvin Hall, GLASGOW
ON
7th and 8th AUGUST
Hon. Secretary, JOHN SMELLIE, Westwood Cottage, Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire.

Royal Horticultural Society of Ireland
SUMMER SHOW
in conjunction with
The Royal Dublin Society's Horse Show
AUGUST 7th 8th, & 9th, 1929
E. KNOWLDIN, Secretary, 5, Molesworth Street, Dublin.

ROMFORD & DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS & GARDENS ASSOCIATION (Established 1917)
13th ANNUAL SHOW
of Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, etc.
will be held in
Wykeham Hall, Market Place, ROMFORD
On SATURDAY, AUGUST 10th, 1929
CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW, NOV. 16TH, 1929.
Full particulars from the Hon. General Secretary, J. SEAMAN, 155, Victoria Road, Romford.

The National Carnation & Picotee Society
(Northern Section)
SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION
Cutlers' Hall, SHEFFIELD
SATURDAY, AUGUST 10th, 1929
12 noon to 9 p.m.
SECRETARY, 11, Longley Avenue, Norwood, Sheffield.

HILLSIDE OF MONTROSE AMATEUR HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SHOW
(confined) including
POULTRY, PIGEONS, RABBITS, CAVIES, and CATS,
to be held in
The Public Hall on SATURDAY, AUGUST 10th, 1929
Livestock will be judged by Mr. JAS. GARROW, Loanhead, Midlothian.
Schedules can be had from the Secretary, E. CHRISTIE, Dubton Station.

CLAY CROSS FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Sixty-Sixth Show and Fete
Will be held on AUGUST 13th
Schedules are now ready, and may be obtained upon application to the Secretary, H. STANLEY, Thanet Street, Clay Cross.

Beverley and District Association of Allotment Holders and Amateur Gardeners
TENTH EXHIBITION
to be held in the
GYMNASIUM HALL, BEVERLEY
On THURSDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1929
Hon. Show Secretary, Mr. A. B. MORFITT, 10, Albert Terrace, Beverley, Yorks.

Royal Horticultural Society of Aberdeen
THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
will be held at
HAZLEHEAD, ABERDEEN,
ON AUGUST 15th, 16th, and 17th
Particulars and Prize Schedules may be had from the Secretary, J. B. RENNETT, 231, Union Street, Aberdeen.

EASTON-IN-GORDANO AND PILL DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
(Affiliated to the National Sweet Pea Society.)
FIFTH ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
AUGUST 17th, 1929
At HEYWOOD FIELD, PILL
PRIZES OVER £110 IN VALUE OFFERED.
Schedules on application to the Hon. Secretary, LIEUT.-COM. S. W. FARMAN, R.N., Parsonage House, Easton-in-Gordano, near Bristol. Entries close Monday, August 12th.

12,000 PEOPLE WANTED!

To attend the Eighth Exhibition and Competition of Flowers, Vegetables, Fruit, and Industrial Work to be held at Lappie Park, East Wemyss, on Saturday, 17th August, 1929. Horse Derby Racing, Push and Motor Cycle Racing, and Foot Racing are features of entertainment. NOTE:—This Society after meeting all liabilities has disbursed £1,945 to charity. We lead, follow who may.

The Show will be opened by the Right Honourable WM. ADAMSON, M.P., Secy. of State for Scotland, at 3 p.m. Capt. WEMYSS, Chairman.

EASTINGTON & FROCESTER
HORSE SHOW & SPORTS
Flower, Fruit, & Industrial Exhibition
GREAT ANNUAL SHOW
at EASTINGTON, NR. STONEHOUSE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE
on Saturday, August 17th, 1929
Schedules, Entry Forms, and all particulars from the Secretary, T. A. CRITCHLEY, Westend, near Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

NARBOROUGH and LITTLETHORPE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
EIGHTH ANNUAL
Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Exhibition
WILL BE HELD
On AUGUST 17th, 1929
Secretary, S. C. SHARPE, Redhill View, Huncote, Narborough, near Leicester.

HORFIELD & BISHOPSTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW
will be held at
Bristol Rugby Ground, Filton Avenue, Horfield
On Wednesday, August 21st, 1929
£150 IN PRIZES
Schedules can be obtained from the Secretary, MR. J. WALL, 58, Bishop Road, Bishopston.

ROTHERHAM AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL and CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY
SUMMER SHOW
of Vegetables and Flowers, etc.
will be held
On AUGUST 21st and 22nd, 1929
Schedules from Secretary, ERNEST STOTHARD, 23, Broadway East, Rotherham, Yorks.

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF PERTHSHIRE
GRAND FLORAL EXHIBITION
will be held in the
CITY HALLS, PERTH
On WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, August 21st and 22nd, 1929
Schedules of Prizes can be obtained from Secretary and Treasurer, MR. JAMES G. YOUNG, 59, South Methven Street, Perth.

CHESHIRE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
(Federated)
SHOW AT CHESTER
Friday and Saturday,
AUGUST 23rd and 24th, 1929
Open Horticultural Show of Cut Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, and Table Decorations
For Schedules apply to G. OUSELEY-SMITH, 48, Bridge Street Row (West), Chester.

AUDLEM FLORAL FETE
AUGUST 29th, 1929
£300 PRIZES for Table Decorations, Fruit, Flowers, Vegetables, Cheese, Butter, Roots, &c.
— ATTRACTIONS —
Horse-leaping, Tug-of-War, Motor Cycle Events, Trade Stands and Handicraft Exhibits, Band selections, Dancing, Fun Fair. Licensed and other Refreshments.
Up-to-date Conveniences and Accommodation.
Schedules, &c., from A. C. WILLIAMS, Secretary, Audlem, Cheshire.

Display Successional Blooms in "LEFCO" VASES

With the passing season blooms fade; the early Spring flowers die before the later flowering plants are budding, and your garden needs the continuous colour supplied by successional blooms tastefully displayed in "Lefco" Vases. At the head of the steps, at path intersections, or happily placed on lawns or terraces "Lefco" Vases lift to the sun succession after succession of bright blossoms, making your garden always gay.

There are a dozen charming designs in "Lefco" Vases, all of them moderately priced, ranging from 22/6, all of them described and charmingly illustrated in our inspiring booklet, sent you free on receipt of the coupon below. Remember, "Lefco" Vases are made of the permanent "Lefco" ware. They will not crack nor crumble. They stay beautiful always. Send to-day for the book of garden ornaments which gives you half a hundred hints for beautifying your garden. Use the coupon below.

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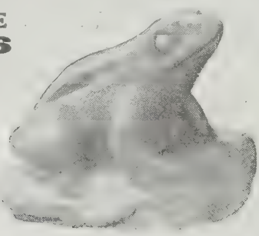

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THE FROG

This quaint "Lefco" piece stands 3 in. high. In addition to its use in the garden, it forms a really admirable paper-weight or mantel ornament. Made of the famous "Lefco" Ware, it will not crack; a wipe with a damp cloth will remove any dirt. Charming, useful, and very low in price. Obtainable only from the makers. See the mark on every piece of "Lefco" Ware. It assures you that it is genuine and British made.

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LONDON, W. 1

To Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd.,
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Please forward me, free and post free, copy of your booklet of "Lefco" Ornaments and name of nearest supplier.

*Also forward me the sample "Lefco" Miniature Frog, as advertised, for which I enclose 2/6 to cover postage, packing, etc.

Name ....
Address..
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* Cross out if not desired.

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These four books are indispensable everyone who wants to make his garde more profitable, more beautiful, and less an anxiety.

SUCCESSFUL SPRAYING
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"This book can be strongly recommended to the grower who wants a handy volume in which he will find such information as concerns his plants set out in a concise and understandable manner."—*Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society.*

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This book is one of a series of small practical handbooks written by specialists for the use of market gardeners, fruit-growers, nurserymen, etc. "Practical Spraying" describes the most effective measures to take against the various pests and diseases that ruin crops.

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This is the first book ev written explaining how grow violets for large sca production in this country. is full of expert informatio and will prove equally val able to the market garden and to the amateur grower.

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SPECIAL OFFER FROM STOCK AT REDUCED PRICES
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AMATEUR SPAN-ROOF GREENHOUSE from £5 5 0

RUSTIC POLES from 4/6 per doz.

GARDEN FRAMES from £1 2 9

GARDEN EDGING
Plain. Usual price 5/- per 100 ft. **Reduced Price 4/6 per 100 ft.**
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ROUND TOP RUSTIC ARCHES from 9/6

GARDEN LIGHTS from 3/-

GARDEN BARROWS from 20/-

GARDEN FLOWER BOXES from 4/3

HEAVY MAKE RUSTIC ARCHES

Height 8 ft.	Usual Price	Reduced Price
4 ft. path	5/9	5/-
4 ft. 6 in. path ..	8/9	7/9
5 ft path	11/6	10/-

HORTICULTURAL GLASS
Prices on application. State size required.

RUSTIC SUMMER HOUSES from £3 10 0

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PORTABLE MOTOR HOUSE from £5 15 0

SEED FRAMES
These Frames are very useful for pr serving seeds and bulbs against frost are made of tongued and grooved boar and very warm. The light is hung back and can be opened to different positions. Glazed 21-o glass. Two coats paint. 3 ft. long, 2 ft. wide. 150 to clea Usual price, 13 6. **Reduced Price, 10/-**

RUSTIC FENCING from 5/6 per 8 ft. panel.

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AUG 12 1929
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Gardening
ILLUSTRATED

FLOWERS · FRUIT · VEGETABLES · BEES · GARDEN DESIGN
TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

I.—No. 2629

Saturday, July 27, 1929

TWOPENCE

DENING ILLUSTRATED” is regis- et at the General Post Office as a News- p. The Offices are at Bouverie House, e Street, London, E.C. 4.

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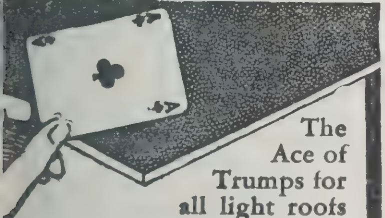

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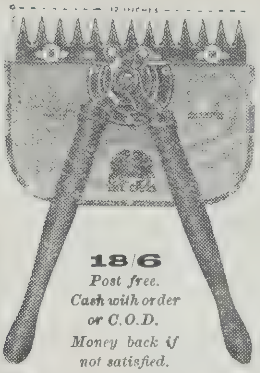

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AUGUST HORTICULTURAL SHOWS

GRIMSBY AND DISTRICT AMATEUR HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
19th ANNUAL SUMMER SHOW
will be held in
GRANT THOROLD PARK
On THURSDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1929
Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society.
Schedules may be obtained from Hon. Secretary, S. Plowes, 186, Legsby Avenue, Grimsby.

Spend Bank Holiday at
BLETCHLEY SHOW
MONDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1929
HORSE JUMPING, ATHLETIC SPORTS, HORTICULTURAL EXHIBITION, Etc.
Show opens 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Great Amusement Park (100 side shows).
Admission: Adults, **2/-** *Children,* **1/-** *(Including tax.)*
Closing Date for Entries July 27th.
Full particulars with Entry Forms and Schedules from the Secretary, Hedley J. Clarke, Bletchley.

The Barcombe Cottagers' Horticultural Society
will hold its
ANNUAL SHOW
With ATHLETIC SPORTS
ON MONDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1929
(August Bank Holiday)
AT BARCOMBE, SUSSEX
Schedules from Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. W. Linter, "Fernhill," Barcombe, Sussex.

The Petersfield Horticultural Society
will hold their
ANNUAL SHOW AND GYMKHANA
On MONDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1929
in the
CAUSEWAY MEADOW
(By kind permission of Sam Hardy, M.F.H.)
Schedules from Secretary, Mr. Geo. Bailey, Chapel Street, Petersfield.

Maiden Bradley Horticultural Society
27th ANNUAL SHOW
At Maiden Bradley, August 10th, 1929
LARGE NUMBER OF OPEN CLASSES.
P. A. Wilcox, Secretary, Estate Office, Maiden Bradley, Frome. Telephone 2.

New Byth Amateur Floral and Horticultural and Highland Games Society
SHOW
will be held on
FRIDAY, AUGUST 16th, 1929
Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Edward Anderson, Bridge Street, New Byth, Aberdeenshire.

STRATFORD-ON-AVON AND DISTRICT Garden and Allotments Association
(Affiliated to R.H.S.)
ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF
FRUIT, VEGETABLES, & FLOWERS
At the CORN EXCHANGE, STRATFORD-ON-AVON
On TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20th & 21st, 1929
Enquire Hon. Secretary *re* special prizes, space, etc., of Floral Display, R. H. Webb, 4, Holtom Street, Stratford-on-Avon.

EASTBOURNE FLOWER SHOW
AUGUST 21st & 22nd
Classes for
Groups of Plants & Ferns, Tables of Roses, Baskets of Roses, Cut Flowers, Tables of Fruit, Table Decorations, and Vegetables
Schedule of Secretary, 17, Tideswell Road, Eastbourne.

SIDBURY, SIDFORD, AND SALCOMBE REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
FLOWER SHOW
will be held on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 1929
at SIDFORD
Schedules from Hon. Secretary, Miss W. M. Darnell, Stanhope, Sidmouth.

BRITON FERRY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW
Of Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers, and Eggs
will be held on
THURSDAY, AUGUST 22nd, 1929
Secretary, T. Clarke, Sunny Bank, Old Road, Briton Ferry.

NEWARK and DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL and ALLOTMENT HOLDERS' SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW
of FLOWERS, FRUIT, VEGETABLES, etc.
to be held in the Town Hall, Newark, on
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, AUG. 23rd & 24th, 1929
All communications to the Hon. Secretary, J. W. Brown, "Cosmea," Winthorpe Road, Newark.

BIRKENHEAD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW
to be held on GROUND adjacent to
Tranmere Rovers Football Ground, Prenton
BIRKENHEAD
On AUGUST 23rd and 24th, 1929
Schedules, etc., from Hon. Secretary, Edwin Coker, Jnr., Cavendish Park Nurseries, Bebington Road, Rock Ferry.

ST. ANDREWS AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
will be held on
Saturday, August 24th, 1929
in the
VOLUNTEER HALL, CITY ROAD
Schedules from Hon. Secretary, D. Wilson, 31, South Street, St. Andrews.

LONGRIDGE and DISTRICT Horticultural Society
VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SHOW
in the Co-operative Halls, Longridge
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th, 1929
Schedules from Hon. Secretary, Wm. Hall, "Wilmcote," Halfpenny Lane, Longridge.

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SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SUMMER SHOW
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th, 1929
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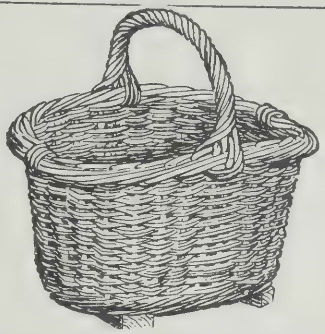

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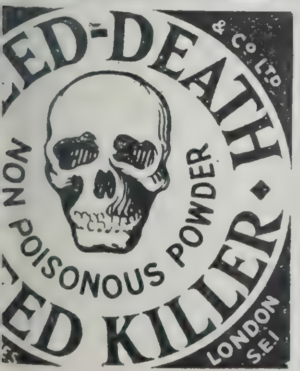

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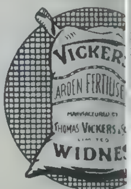

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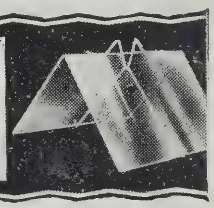

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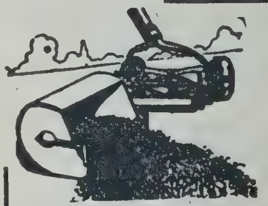

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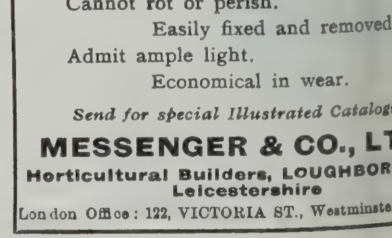

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

.2629—Vol. LI. JULY 27, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

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Roses That Excel

id-July we are at the zenith of enjoy- t of our Roses, and the season is ably the best of the year for Rose es. I know nothing better than Etoile Hllande, which, although a little thin t too free, only has one rival in Bed- imson, which has more substance and with just as good a scent. This is a r grower. The next best is Chateau de ougeout, the darkest of all Roses, but short grower that only those with a oil should attempt it, and then it must pined to an eye looking upward to tract its spreading habit.

ve always said that rins, both amateur and eional, had missed the pik Rose grown—Rose There is a life about non rose-pink petals, vetness in its scent celled, combined rm and freedom of eng, in any other e. Do not expect a ush from a nursery- It does not make a e-year tree, but is a rower when once it lished in the garden. xt choice of a pink alls on Briarcliffe and ia (see illustration), gh Dame Edith Helen es a finer flower.

brilliance of colour, oses excel Comtesse tillija; it is deeper in han Angele Pernet, xcept in scent, a rRose. Chas. P. Kil- s a finer shape than I would regard it as less Rose if it had a cent. Wm. Kordes in perfume. One ove all these varie- ith their fascinating of orange and pink; one leave out Shot lthough its form is good.

r the yellows, I love ll. Golden Emblem, of its winter deli- lorence Izzard, better and so much like the Mabel Morse; Gol- leam and Ville de most vivid of yellows; and, perhaps best of all, Julian Potin. Yet these do not include Souvenir de Mme. Boullet, most elegant of all yellow varieties with a softer shade, nor Rev. Page Roberts and its sister Mrs. Beatty.

We hear some people say they do not like white Roses, but this would never apply to the exquisite Clarice Goodacre. Of course, everyone loves Mme. Butterfly, although it is a little untidy, but no variety beats it in the shade, although I prefer its more deeply-coloured sport, Lady Sylvia.

Of many favourite Roses, who can forget Ruth, a flower so full and good of orange and apricot shade, carried on a short bush? Or of that wonderful full and gorgeous pink shot with orange, Souvenir de Georges Pernet, that visitors to the Folkestone Rose Garden could not fail to see? It has not perfect shape, but for a display of really fine flowers is unrivalled.

For a stately, perfect flower, Lady Dixon Hartland is a variety many rosarians have overlooked. Each individual flower comes blameless, of a light salmon-rose-pink.

Not many of the Roses that I love are found among the singles, but Isobel is sweetness personified, of a reddish apricot, shot with orange and pink. Hawlmark Crimson and K. of K. are somewhat similar, but for lovers of a dark single they are supreme.

Just now the climbing Hybrid Teas are at their best, although at Rose Shows one does not see them to advantage. It should never be forgotten that Roses vary somewhat in different districts. It is a good plan to see them growing at the nearest nursery to one's garden, for the growth and habit of a variety are not the least of its important points.

A. Swallow.

Columbia, one of the best of the many pink Roses

Notes of the Week

The drought and garden watering

We have all noticed the urgent request of the Minister of Health that consumers of water shall exercise strict economy in its use during this unprecedented period of drought. Mr. R. W. James, the Vice-Chairman of the Metropolitan Water Board, in a statement made to his Board on the 5th inst., pointed out that the amount of water used through 500 ½-inch hose-pipes playing for 24 hours is equivalent to the normal daily consumption of 30,000 persons.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

The desert garden

THIS has done very well, and in the absence of rain is beginning to justify its name.

A photograph of Potentilla nitida shows how well this class of plant does in the dry, stony soil. There are two varieties of this Potentilla, one of which is supposed to be more floriferous, but personally I find little difference; the white form also does well.

To the desert garden we have added a sand garden with 2 feet of river sand. Here the various Oncocyclis Iris hybrids and other hybrids raised by Professor Mitchell, of the University of California, including William Mohr and Cherokee Maid, are doing remarkably well, as are also Corallospartiums and Chordospartiums from New Zealand. Here, too, Venidium fastuosum grows best. In the border it has a tendency to get drawn, but in the sand it carries its flowers on relatively short stems and spreads out in all directions, making a most attractive plant with its great hairy buds and grey-green foliage. I have no hesitation in declaring this introduction of Mr. Hay's the best new annual which has appeared for many years.

William Lawrence.

Potentilla nitida, flowers bright rosy pink, in Sir William Lawrence's desert garden at Burford, Dorking

Meconopsis Baileyi

I can assure "J. R. K." that I am not in the habit of making statements unsupported by facts; neither do I lack experience of the climatic conditions of Yorkshire, for I had charge of a well-known garden in that county for some years before coming to North Wales.

When I wrote that Meconopsis Baileyi is perfectly hardy in any part of the British Isles, I used the word hardy in its generally accepted sense when applied to plant life, meaning that the plant is able to withstand cold, but perhaps "J. R. K." expects it to cover all cultural defects. I would remind him that there are other factors responsible for winter mortality amongst plants, and knowing the West Riding of Yorkshire as I do, I am fairly certain that, provided other cultural details are correct, winter damp and poor drainage is the cause of "J. R. K.'s" failure.

If my memory serves me correctly, herbaceous Phloxes winter badly in many parts of the West Riding from the same cause, but I doubt whether anyone would suggest that they are not hardy throughout the British Isles.

"J. R. K." is very emphatic in denying my statement, but can he as emphatically prove that Meconopsis Baileyi has been killed by frost?

Amongst Yorkshire gardens where I know that Meconopsis Baileyi is well grown, the Hon. Robert James' garden at St. Nicholas, Richmond, is perhaps the nearest to "J. R. K.," and he will find that they have succeeded there for several years.

In view of the strong expressions which "J. R. K." uses, it is a pity that he does not write over his full name, so that one knew with whom they are dealing. It requires small courage to make wild accusations under the cover of pseudonyms or initials.

F. C. Puddle.

Bodnant Gardens, North Wales.

—— It is rather surprising to read the note by "J. R. K.," on page 494, in which he takes exception to the statement of Mr. F. C. Puddle that this Meconopsis is hardy. I have had plants in flower this summer which stood in the open ground without protection all last winter, and I did not lose a single plant, although M. Dallichi was destroyed. I saw a nice lot of plants which had flowered in a Kirkcudbrightshire garden, and all had survived last winter's ordeal. It is also hardy in the uplands of Dumfriesshire, and I have had similar results reported to me from other parts of Scotland. I am, however, reserving my opinion regarding the perennial character of this Meconopsis. I
have been informed that there are two
one of which is perennial and the
biennial. I am disposed to think t
plants which have flowered will die,
present they show no sign of departu
are setting seeds well. S. Ar

Dumfriesshire.

A proposed Rock Garden Soci

With the exception of just one p
most cordially agree with and support
"A Scottish Gardener" says. Th
point alone on which I differ from
when he says that "to be effective,
garden must be of considerable area."
he falls into the error which is th
mark of estimates and suggestions
emanate from the comparatively few
men, which is exemplified by the exhi
great shows, and by the catering
authorities for big things and big
alone, to the exclusion and deprecia
the "small man." In the "small"
rock garden or rockery most, if not all,
difficulties suggested by a "Scottish
dener" automatically disappear. I
seen numerous rockeries and miniatur
gardens of the greatest beauty and in
and made from a few barrowloads
and a few stones, equally effectiv
successful as gardens of acres. And w
the most miniature of all the sink
troughs? Some I have seen have be
quisite in every detail and requiremen

Mr. Ernest Dixon, lower on the pag
the nail fairly and squarely when he
"Anyone can have a rock garden. F
3-inch pot to the Grand Canyon is
matter of size." Exactly, but I hav
hopes of a Rock Garden Society on
suggested by Sir William Lawrence
realising the fact so tersely stated b
Dixon, or being so broad-minded as
member that "any one can have a
garden," and a good one, unless it be
area, scope, ambition, and cost!

And, while it is true that Sir William
rence put in print the actual suggestio
is therefore entitled, I suppose, to a h
glory, no one with eyes to read coul
sibly fail to see whence he got it
how much he owed for his "suggestio
the pages of Gardening Illustrated
week or two before he put it forth!

Has Sir William Lawrence, or ha
dozen others such as he, any experien
small rock gardens or gardeners, or
save those of a comparatively few
men such as himself, that he and hi
porters alone should be allowed, if po
to carry the day as they will? Not
lack of knowledge, or of experience,
interest, is it that many of us, large or
fail to find a place in current comment
as this, but, perhaps, from the fact
largely through distance alone we are
touch with the vast seat of learning
in the clique of the favoured few who
think they represent the whole hortic
knowledge, experience, and opinion
country! But it is quite time that it
made known, for the enlightenment of
few "big" men, that there are
equally "big" in knowledge, exper
and weight of opinion, and thousan
others, despised "small" fry, who can
suggestions for rock garden societies
and who are not averse to carrying the
as well! J. R.

—— It is clear that a large numb
amateur and professional growers of
plants and the like would welcome a s
of this kind. I see that Mr. Mark Fe
protests against the multiplicatio
specialist societies, but this is an ine
result of multiplying the number of
in cultivation. Indeed, Mr. Fenwick h
suggested to me that at the Amateur

as s should be arranged for Campanulas, d might well be one of the tasks of the c Garden Society to arrange for a classi-d xhibition of Campanulas and similar an in connection with one of the R.H.S. os.

I ropose with your consent to return to e ıbject in the autumn and to arrange for eting of amateur and professional rs who are specially interested in the ltation of this class of plants. A well-on nurseryman is very anxious that ics should constitute one of the activi-s f the society, and personally I think is a good idea. WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

Heucheras changing colour

h reference to the query, issue July th page 489, as to all my Heucheras hav-g ecome a dingy yellow colour this year, y perhaps interest others to hear that t Royal Show recently I mentioned this t ee gardeners, all of whom were show-g glowing masses of this lovely flower gst their exhibits, and they all assured at it was caused by the drought! One er told me that all his plants had been rly affected one year, and that since e he had taken care to give them copious es of water before the actual flowering s commenced.

A s! I cannot follow this good advice, e have no water now, but it was re-s ng to be told that probably next year ants would flower "better than ever"!

M. F. REYNARD.

Cnp Hill, Bedale, Yorkshire.

Lilium Regale

O not know if you would care to pub-h this photograph of Lilium Regale. o bulbs were planted in their present sion in 1922. One of the Lilies is now e 4 inches high, and that one has three k with total of 34 flowers. The other is high (about 6 feet). It has two spikes, a of flowers 38. The one on the extreme t s a seedling from the tall one. Seed e in in 1925. Sir Thomas Royden, r, is standing beside the Lily to show its gt. He is 5 feet 9 inches tall.

QUENDDA M. ROYDEN.

Rke Hall, Chester.

Hemerocallis in woodland

T e excellent note on the above by Mr. W. t, on page 499, directs attention to the y of the Hemerocallis planted in o and. One point of importance has lbly been omitted inadvertently. This t t in some places that pest of many things—the rabbit—is very destructive e Hemerocallis, especially during the t ear. I know of at least two instances emerocallis being planted in large s in woodlands, and that after an in-v of years. In the first case the plants r cropped to the ground, but some of r survived and came up weakly the d year and were then hardly touched. e other instance the plants appear to been destroyed without any chance of ery. The rabbit has an uncanny taste velties, and in some places will destroy which in others they will leave abso-e alone. At Monreith the Funkias, for ple, are untouched, while in another I know the rabbits crop them to the d and soon eradicate them. I heard ther day of Trolliuses which had been d out and had been eaten also. The Mr. James Brown, of Knockbrex, Kirk-lightshire, was most anxious to estab-n his beautiful grounds the common which grows in abundance on the oppo-de of the bay, and where rabbits abound. s brought from this bay, and seedlings eds from the same quarter, were tried at Knockbrex, but the rabbits there gave them no chance of life, cropping them to the ground beyond recall. S. ARNOTT.

Re blue flowers

I should like to support everything Major Chappell says on page 280 on this subject, and to add my own strong condemnation of the looseness of description so prevalent, as in the article on "Blue-flowering Plants," by W. Auton. In that article, over and above Anemone hepatica and A. apennina, and the absurd reference to blue Aubrietia, there were, I noticed, at least half-a-dozen other plants mentioned which are very doubtfully entitled to the description "blue." I, too, should much like to know the name of the blue Aubrietia, but I fear that among all those of this family which "approximate" to blue there is not yet one with which I should dream of replacing the Forget-me-nots. Equally inaccurate, as Major Chappell suggests, is the reference to "Primroses from pale blue to deep violet."

Lilium Regale, over 7 feet high

Two spikes from one bulb carrying 38 flowers

As regards the accuracy of description shown by many contributors, I am afraid I cannot altogether agree with Major Chappell. I think this looseness in colour description is but one direction in which there seems to be a growing tendency towards inaccuracy by contributors, not only by comparative novices, but quite as often by those who reckon to know. Nomenclature is frequently far from correct, and, judging by many articles and letters which appear, there seems to be widespread confusion over the use and meanings of such terms as species, kind, variety. Plants are often written down, recommended as "absolutely hardy," which, in truth, are no more than half-hardy, until the use of the term "hardy" seems to be something of a habit.

Major Chappell advocates, and no doubt rightly, the establishment and use of a colour chart. But the root cure for much, but not all, of this laxity in colour description, and for much of the looseness shown in describing other features and characteristics is, it seems to me, a "return to facts." For there is a steadily growing tendency to get further and further from the fact. Two clear examples are found in this colour confusion and in the use of the term "hardy," and in each case departure from the fact would seem sometimes to be deliberate.

Blue is a comparatively rare colour, but at the same time most desirable in our gardens. To make up for this lack of blue plants the only thing appears to be, on the part of many writers and list-makers, to force in a number of purples, violets, and mauves. Is this an attempt to follow the catalogues, which are so unreliable on this, as on other points in plant description, or is it carelessness alone?

Again, almost every plant newly introduced is proclaimed by those who write of it and recommend it, and who reckon to know, as "quite hardy," irrespective of district or climatic conditions, or anything else. Quite one-half of the plants described by contributors as "hardy" are by no means so, save under the most special conditions. Are our gardens so short of "hardy" plants as to necessitate the almost universal forcing of "hardiness" upon many subjects which are by no means so?

The actual facts are that *this* plant is blue, or red, or whatever it may be, and *that* plant is "hardy" or "tender." Why cannot we be content and stick to the facts of Nature without attempting to impose upon them characteristics which are not theirs?

I have come to the conclusion myself that something else is of more fundamental necessity than a colour chart, and that it applies to other inaccuracies of description besides colouration. Briefly and bluntly it is, that many of those who aspire to contribute to horticultural journals should previously exercise their powers of observation with a little more exactitude than they apparently do.

Of those conversant with them, as we suppose the writers to be, it surely demands no great strain upon power of observation to realise that many of the plants described by them as "blue" are, as Major Chappell says, manifestly purple. If one cannot distinguish between purple and blue in the flowers themselves I fail to see the use of a colour chart at all.

As at least a partial cure for the prevalent and increasing tendency to looseness of description I would suggest that we *begin* by getting back to facts, and by using our power of observation with a little more care before ever we think of colour charts or any other "mechanical" aid. It used to be that a plant was "hardy" or not, now those which are half-hardy or less need but the pen of a misguided enthusiast to convert them to absolute and universal hardiness.

Flowers used to be blue, or something else; now, it seems, they may be any colour of the rainbow, according to whatever is necessary towards the "stuffing" of an article, or the filling of an all too abbreviated list. J. R. K.

Mechanical cultivation

I am pleased to see "Jack's" rejoinder to my note in connection with mechanical cultivation. There are two sides to every question—many men, many minds, and it is only by the exchange of opinions that in this, as in other matters, we can arrive at the truth. I do not at all complain of the excerpts which "Jack" has made from my observations, but I would point out that I fear he cannot have read carefully the question raised by "A. D. G. G." No doubt that gentleman is qualified to speak for himself. My recollection is that, specifically, he desired information not for the commercial gardens to which "Jack" refers, but for a private garden in order that the latter may "pay its way." "Jack" tells us that on soil which is partly hard and partly soft a motor cultivator cannot be expected to cultivate evenly, and in such a case it is the usual practice to go over the work twice. I may be "dull in the uptak'," as we Scots say, but I really fail to see how going over the soft places twice is going to improve matters. Nor is it customary to entrust expensive machinery to the "garden boy," as "Jack" evidently thinks, and "half-an-hour's instruction," which, as he tells us, "is sufficient for most beginners," is liable to arouse the risible faculties of others than the garden boy.

The Pennsylvania lawn-mower, or the Planet, Junr., cultivator, hand-propelled, are more usually the implements entrusted to that tyro. "Jack's" admission that he has not met with a motor cultivator that will trench a piece of soil or dodge in and out among fruit bushes was entirely unnecessary —neither has anyone else. And he would be sanguine who would expect such a cultivator to attend, even in the experienced hands of the garden boy, to the herbaceous border. Horse labour in ordinary private gardens, such as those to which I made reference, has not ousted, and never will oust, the spade; much less will motor labour, despite the fact, which I freely admitted, that gardeners are the most conservative body of craftsmen almost in the world. In spite of "Jack's" quite reasonable note I yet adhere to my expressed opinion. A sudden doubt assails me. "Jack" does not directly tell us that he has had personal experience—as I have had—of motor cultivation, but he says (I quote): "Let me plead with all inquirers, such as 'A. D. G. G.,' to get into touch with the various firms who make motor cultivators and allow the firms concerned to show them exactly what the various cultivators can do." (Rather a big proposition, by the way, for obvious reasons!) "The result will surprise *Spade Lovers*." (Why, may I ask, the italics?) "The writer's job," "Jack" concludes, "takes him into many gardens where motor cultivators are used and appreciated. The owners of the machines would not—nay, could not—do without them." Clearly, then, "Jack" does not speak from personal experience. It is "up to" the owners of the "machines" to homologate "Jack's" *obiter dicta*. Mefears he has an axe to grind —or, perhaps, I ought to say, a motor cultivator to sell! And I, wishing him every success, take my leave of him and of the question.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Celery Leaf Miner

This pest is proving rather destructive this year. In view of the dry weather, which makes the growth of a moisture-loving crop such as Celery so difficult, it is incumbent upon all gardeners to do everything in their power to minimise embarrassment. So far as the Celery Leaf Miner is concerned, this can be done by removing infected leaves while the attack is in its infancy and dusting the plants with soot when they are moist with dew. The process should be repeated every fortnight until the third week in September, when one may reasonably expect that the attentions of the Celery Leaf Miner will have ceased. It is important that the soot should be weathered before it is used for this purpose. Almost every gardener has a soot-box somewhere about his premises, and he should draw soot from it which has been stored there for at least three months. New soot contains rather violent sulphur compounds which are liable to injure tender foliage. The Celery Leaf Miner, it should be stated, is the larva of a fly which is very prettily marked. The female lays her eggs on the under-surfaces of the leaves and makes them adhere thereto by using a sticky fluid. In a few days the larvæ hatch out and proceed to make twisted, rusty passages in the leaves. Obviously by taking away some of the assimilating tissue of the plant they do it great injury. Soot, having a pungent smell, makes the surroundings of Celery so offensive to the fly that she avoids them.

TYKE.

The British Delphinium Socie

In your excellent report of our sho
ask, referring to the rather small a
entry: Where were all our readers wh
Delphiniums so well?

The answer is that they were at th
taking stock of the exhibits of their
venturesome fellow growers.

Next year we shall see the amateur
very hotly contested, as a large num
keen amateurs joined up in the hall
day of the show. Now, I am sure
number of readers grow Delphiniun
have profited from time to time by
pert advice which you place at their
What they perhaps do not know is that
ing Delphiniums is easy—and may be
able. It is also a delightful experie
exhibit one's spikes in such a noble a
spikes, and to be there to see the g
the show.

I am at the service of any of your
who would like information abou
Society.

S. HALFORD ROBERT
Hon.

3, *Warwick Road,*
Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Loganberries

Reading the Week's Reminders I
Mr. Markham's note on Loganberrie
I wonder whether my experience of
during the present season coincides
that of others on either side of the B
While Rasp canes came unscathed th
the abnormal frost of the early month
Loganberries were killed to the groun
—not a single cane survived. The
now, however, making strong growths
the roots, and, possibly, we may se
crop of kinds, though at a later date
usual. I have never known Loganber
be killed down previously, and it wou
interesting to learn if, in other districts
were similarly dealt with by the fro
spring.

W. M

Mabie, Dumfries.

Double-flowered Hollyhocks, edged with Hydrangea paniculata, in Greenwich Park

Kalmia latifolia as seen from the pergola

Kalmia latifolia

SPACE, a few yards wide, between a ady pergola and a Yew hedge is given Kalmias. A deep peat bed was pre- for them, and they are near a hidden ipe, from which they are given a cs watering in dry weather. A well- bush of Kalmia is a thing of singu- vell-dressed appearance, with its neat rong-looking foliage and lovely pink Not only is it a thing of fine effect garden, but the individual flower is the most interesting to examine closely. hole cluster of bloom and bud is of a and beautiful pink, rosiest in the bud A single flower is a little upstanding inted cup with a slender white central Ten stamens rise from around its nd arch over, their anthers fitting into hollows coloured a deep red. These ns are sensitive, and, if touched, even he finest needle, they fly back to the , shooting off their pollen as they go. ng at the underside of the bloom, the s where the anthers rested show as ing knobs. In the centre of the flower, the stamens rise, is a little ring of zig- ints of rosy-red, each point directed to the stamens rested. A wonderful to examine closely.

G. J.

Dry weather plants

has been a trying time in the flower up to the present, July 20th, especially facilities for watering are not avail- although a good, deep tilth and fairly g soil has enabled us to pull through than I expected, and it certainly rs a good opportunity of noting plants that stand the drought. This is alike interesting and instructive, and a guide to future planting. Big clumps of Rockets came through well, the flower heads lasting well, and the freshness of the foliage well retained. Young spring plants are now flowering well. The Anchusas are very beautiful, and a welcome dry-weather plant is the rosy Yarrow that supplies a colour not commonly found in hardy flowers. Heucheras have done well, and so has the Daisy-like Erigeron. I always think the petals of this flower surrounding the yellow disc very beautiful alike in texture and colour. Cornflowers, both annual and perennial, have been quite at their best, but this is not surprising so far as the herbaceous kinds are concerned when one considers that their native habitat is not far removed from "The Death Valley." Antirrhinums are among the best of dry weather plants, and those that came through the winter safely are now big clumps and flowering splendidly. With a little care and attention and the prompt removal of seed spikes, they will last well through the season. A few clumps of hardy Fuchsias, too, that are well-established show no signs of flagging, and I have been alike pleased and somewhat surprised at the blue and white seedling Larkspurs making a brave show. The things that have suffered most with me are Phloxes, Scarlet Lychnis, and Rudbeckias, and when replanting these another autumn I shall mix a small proportion of dry cow manure, well shredded up, with the natural soil (this being somewhat harsh and stony). If this mixture gets one thorough soaking the moisture will be well retained, and these plants will hardly be affected so much by a similar spell of drought as that we have experienced this year. Sweet Peas are in grand form just at present, but they, like the culinary sorts, are in fairly deep trenches and well mulched.

E. B.

Wahlenbergias or Alpine Hairbells

These, belonging to the family of Campanulas, are comparatively little known, but the flowers, mostly upright and cup-shaped, deserve a place in the garden of all who make rock plants their special hobby. They are best served when they can be given a place high up on a rockery, where good drainage is assured, with the exception of one variety. They thrive in a compost made up of loam, leaf-mould, and coarse grit or sand. Flowers are purple, blue, and white, and are very freely produced. They bloom for fully three months. W. graminifolius and W. Serpyllifolius are purple, W. saxicola is white. W. hederacea is a creeping sort which likes a cool, shady place, or can be planted among grass. W. dalmatica is a deep purple-blooming sort, very strong, with broad leaves.

Wahlenbergias can be raised from seeds, which should be sown as soon as ripe. If left on the plant plenty of seedlings will, in all probability, spring up. Division of roots in early spring is another method of propagating these showy blooming plants.

WOODBASTWICK.

Azaleas and Rhododendrons

Besides adding considerably to the tidiness of the shrubbery, it also greatly benefits the bushes to have all seed pods removed. In doing this, a little care is necessary so as not to damage the points of the shoots.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Gloxinias

These are approaching their finest flowering stage, and in order to maintain the blooms in a fresh condition over as long a period as possible a slightly drier and cooler atmosphere should be given; free ventilation without cold draughts is desirable, and syringing between the pots once each day should suffice. Too dry an atmosphere will invite the dreaded mite.

Arum Lilies

Where these were left in pots and allowed to ripen their foliage, it will now be advisable to turn them out, clean and shake out the roots, and repot into fresh compost, which should consist of the following: Three parts turfy loam, broken up to about the size of hens' eggs, and one part made up of well-weathered cow manure, or spent mushroom bed, to which has been added a sprinkling of bone-meal. After potting, the plants should be stood on a cool bed of ashes and on the cool side of a wall or fence, and if these can be accommodated with a frame over which the sashes may be placed during excessive rains, it will be an advantage. Those planted out in trenches are growing freely, and must be provided with ample moisture.

Mignonette for winter flowering

Seeds should now be sown to furnish flowers during winter. Pots of 5 inches or 6 inches in diameter are desirable for this purpose. These should be well drained and filled to within 1 inch of the top, with a compost consisting of fibrous loam which has not been broken too fine, spent mushroom bed, or leaf mould, and a little mortar rubble which has been passed through a half-inch sieve. A quarter-of-an-inch of fine soil over the surface will be sufficient for the seeds to rest upon, with a final light covering. Water with a fine-rosed can, and stand the pots in a cold frame, shading them from bright sunshine until germination has taken place, when both light and air must be freely admitted. Thin out the plants to 6 inches or 8 inches in each pot, when large enough to handle, and grow on either in a cool frame or greenhouse, keeping them close up to the glass.

Lilium longiflorum, Nerine Bowdeni, Iris reticulata and its variety Krelagei

Obtain and pot up a few of each of these at the earliest opportunity, and start them in a cool frame. Also lose no time in forwarding the order for bulbs intended for forcing.

Freesias

The bulbs of these may now be shaken out and graded, repotting only the very best into 5-inch or 6-inch pots, from nine to 12 bulbs to a 6-inch pot will be found sufficient. A fairly light but rich soil is desirable, and after potting stand the plants in a cold frame, or they may, with equal satisfaction, be plunged in a bed of coal ashes.

New Strawberry beds

Use the ground recently cleared of early Potatoes for the new Strawberry plantation. This should be deeply dug and enriched with good farmyard manure, as it will have to remain for at least three years undisturbed, and if attended to now will have time to settle down before being required for the early batch of plants. Continue to put down more layers as these become available, and attend regularly to the watering of those intended for fruiting in pots which were layered earlier.

The flower garden

It should be scarcely necessary to remind readers of the necessity of removing dead flowers from the great variety of plants now in bloom; not only is this essential to the beauty of the garden, but it is vital to some plants, which often produce such quantities of seed as to ultimately cause their death. Therefore, where the seed is not required, it should be at once removed.

Hoeing and cleaning, staking and training

All of which are necessary daily, must be kept well in hand if the various subjects are to give of their best, and if a mulch of some kind can be applied to climbing plants growing at the foot of hot walls and fences, the latter will derive immense benefit therefrom. Do not tie in a lot more growths of Rambler Roses than are required to take the place of older growths next year, but select the desired number and remove the remainder as they appear, for crowding is fatal to all.

Ornamental Vines and other climbers

Do not at any time tie these in stiffly, as to do so is to lose much of their charm and graceful form. Vines, Escallonias, Honeysuckles, Clematis, and Cotoneasters are beautiful in appearance when permitted to hang loosely from their supports and often wreathed in bloom.

Hoeing

Keep the hoe constantly on the go among kitchen garden crops, and thus prevent evaporation of the soil. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Celery

Dryness at the roots is always fatal with this plant, so under no conditions must it be allowed to suffer in this way. Should there be any sign of want of vigour, a thorough soaking of liquid manure will help greatly to put matters right. It is a good plan to begin the earthing-up process now, a few inches of fine soil worked in around the plants, besides beginning the blanching process, helps wonderfully to retain moisture at the roots. A little more can be added every few weeks as growth advances.

Earthing-up Brassicas

In exposed situations much damage is caused to Brussels Sprouts, Savoys, and late Cauliflowers by the wind, so it pays in the end to draw a quantity of soil up round the stems of these so as to steady the plants. Do this earthing-up while the soil is moist and before the plants get too big.

Vegetables for spring planting

In the later districts it will be advisable, where this method is favoured, to sow seeds of Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Savoy, and Curled Greens within the next week or so, these to stand in the seed-beds until spring. Cauliflowers, of course, must be pricked into a bed of light soil, under a cold frame in September, for the winter. The seeds of all the kinds should be scattered broadcast and lightly covered with fine soil. Best results are had if the ground is rather poor.

Ply the hoe frequently

The Dutch hoe, when frequently and vigorously plied between growing crops, not only keeps weeds down and the garden trim and neat, but its action permits of the passing of warmth and air to the roots, chec due evaporation, and thus helps to keep healthy and sturdy.

Sowing Onions

In the later districts, if not yet d would now be advisable to have thi sown. The position should be ope sunny and the soil not too rich. Cra Excelsior succeeds quite well when now, while Trebons and Danver's are also excellent and hardy and usuall a good account of themselves.

Planting Strawberries

If good, strong "runners" are av within the next three weeks, there no doubt that autumn planting is best unfortunately, in many districts it i into September before they are fit, a plant at that late date is very risky. such conditions it is well to lif "runners" and lay them in close to in nursery rows for the winter. If pl is to be carried out shortly, the ground be well manured and double dug as so possible, so that it may be well settled by the time the plants are set out.

Fruit picking

This necessary but tedious job dema lot of time, which is lost for other work things are apt to get a little out of ha other departments. Growth is just height, and grass and weeds move alo an alarming rate. Ground under fruit is specially apt to get unsightly, an weeds soon seed, and so lay up more tr for future years. It is well, therefore, all possible, to have the fruit quarters free of seeding weeds, even if it is nece to hand-pick them.

Recently-planted shrubs

With the light rainfall of the cu season, shrubs planted during last s have had a rather trying time of it watering and mulching have been attended to. Even yet, an occasional soa at the roots will be greatly relished b bushes, and if this be followed by a gen mulch of rotten manure or half-rotted le the roots will soon respond.

Pansies and Violas

So that the flowering season may be longed, an occasional overhaul of the p should be carried out. Any old strag growths should be cut back and all pods removed, while an occasional soa of weak liquid manure will help mate to maintain the vigour of the plants.

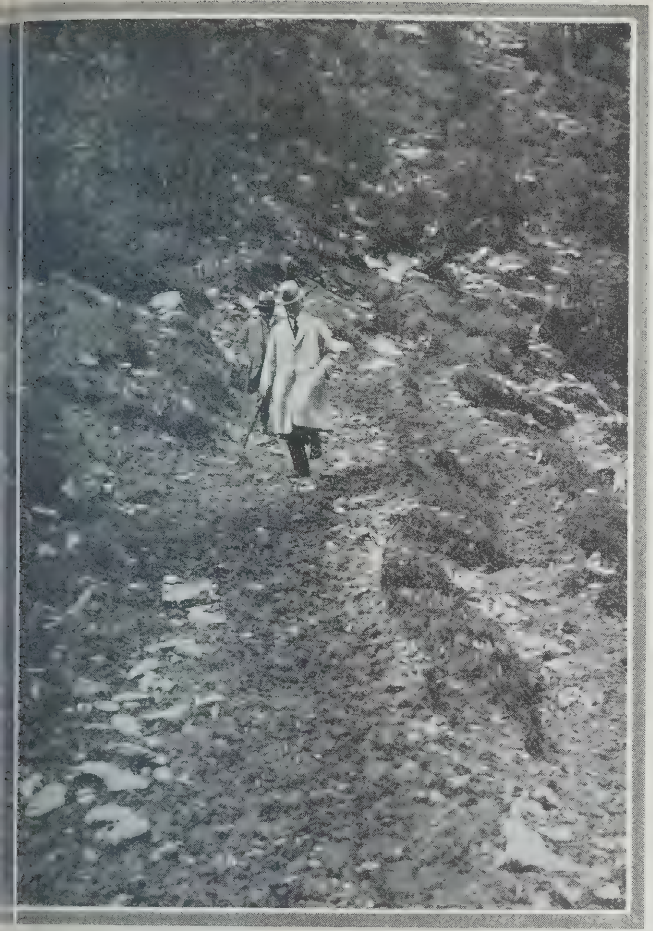
Tomatoes

Systematic feeding must be given this so as to get the best out of the plants. messy than liquid manure, and much e to apply, are some of the standard arti fertilisers. I find Thomson's particu suited to the wants of this fruit, slight d ings every three or four weeks being best way to use it. It acts well when into a liquid, but this method is some wasteful as all the constituents are quickly soluble in water.

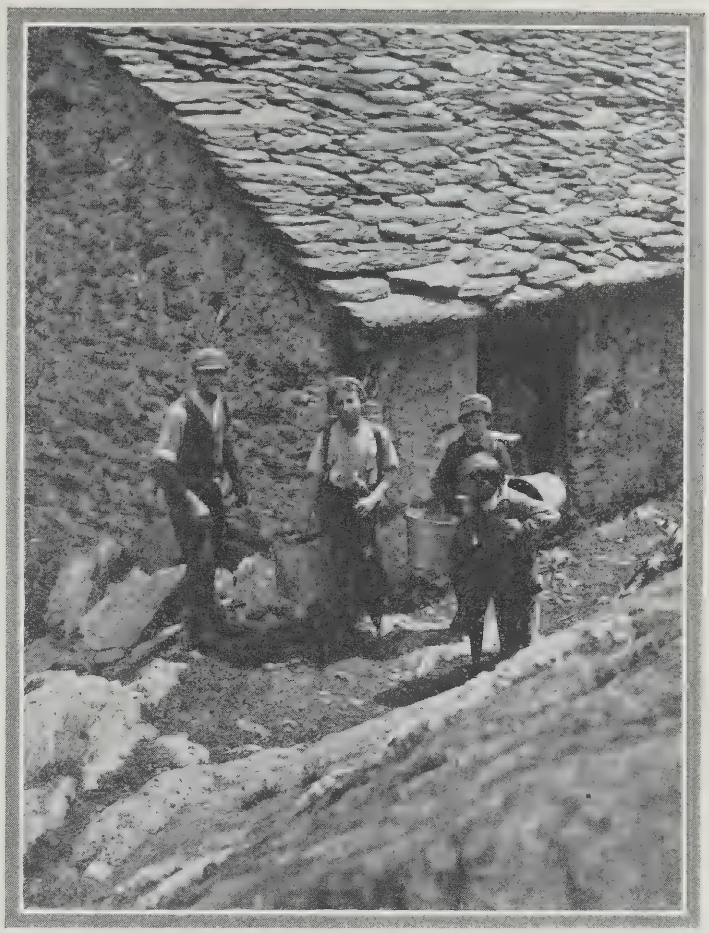
The Vineries

Grapes approaching the ripening should be given abundance of air, eve night, for this fruit resents being coddle close, stuffy houses, flavour and appear being inferior under such conditions, vermin flourish, and later cause no en trouble. Do not permit overcrowding o foliage, but remove sub-laterals w necessary. C. BLA

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.



C. W. Needham and P. R. Barr negotiating the track between Piora and Sanitorio



The lads of Altanca

Ten Days in Levantina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

JUNE 28TH.

Victoria on 11.20 a.m. boat-train Peter R. Barr and C. W. Needham, ng not a little concerned about my ons' heavy baggage. They travel like —a strange contrast to myself with ak, Alpine boots, and ice axe. Per- y I take no more than I can carry in r for a mile.

B. produced a diary of a trip he Piora 20 years ago. I found this teresting and resolved to make one lf, but am doubtful if I shall keep

ain and boat Needham, who by the s nephew of Samuel Barlow of Tulip ntertained us with stories of old s Tulips, show Auriculas, and laced ius and Pinks; his reminiscences, ay of the Lancashire weavers and their florists' flowers, would make good I hope also that he will give us the f that favourite old Daffodil Horse- ised by a Lancashire weaver.

e near Dover purple and bright blue ffects of our native Viper's Bugloss vulgare) growing in large masses halk. Incidentally, this good plant nied us by rail and road for much journey through France and in and. Another beautiful roadside ommon on the Continent, especially places, is the Meadow Sage (Salvia s). In England it is very rare as a out it is a good garden plant, able to take care of itself in the drier parts of the wild garden or rock garden.

My friends, anxious to avoid travelling by night, arranged to stay at a quiet and seclusive hotel in Paris specially recommended by a friend of P. R. B.'s. It was anything but quiet; dancing to raucous jazz continued till daybreak. In future I shall travel by night.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29TH.

Left hotel at 6.45 a.m. after hardly a wink of sleep. Train to Basle and Lucern, *en route* for Airolo. Near the railway peasants are very busy haymaking—a late and rather poor crop, for the drought has been serious and widespread. Cherry picking is in progress, especially around Lake Lucern, and the crop appears to be a good one. Certainly the cherries we get on the train—white, red, and black—are all that could be desired of these luscious fruits.

We enjoy the glorious run by rail round Lake Lucern, passing Brunnen and Flüelen. The mountain scenery gets finer as we approach the St. Gotthard, ever-changing vistas of mountain, lake, gorge, and torrent amid smiling valleys and snow-clad peaks.

After Altdorf the railway ascends by curves and spirals through scenery of great beauty till Goschenen, at an altitude of 3,640 feet, is reached. This is the beginning of the St. Gotthard Tunnel, which is 9½ miles long.

Happily the trains are electric, and we pass through the tunnel in comfort, emerging at Airolo, 3,750 feet on the southern side of St. Gotthard. Here we alight, after holding up the train while we push all our baggage through the carriage window to be piled up on the platform. The train proceeds on its southern course to Faido, the health resort of the Levantina Valley, and Bellinzona, the capital of the Canton of Ticino.

We stay night at Hotel Lombardi quite near the station.

Enjoy good trout for dinner and fine old Capri wine.

SUNDAY, JUNE 30TH.

Rise early and take solitary morning stroll N.W. of Airolo.

A stormy morning, but am rewarded with good form of Lilium Martagon just at its best, flowering well above a mass of Phyteuma, with elongated heads of blue-purple flowers mingled with Hieracium aurantiacum, Geranium pratense, Salvia pratensis, and the dark Mullein Verbascum nigrum. Although it is Sunday, haymaking is in progress. Unfortunately, the Lilies, both Martagon and croceum, are brought down with the scythe.

Heard cuckoo in the higher valley (it was heard almost daily till July 10th, higher still, around Lake Ritom).

After breakfast we all three search for the Lady's Slipper along the south bank of Ticino. We found only one small plant that may have been Cypripedium Calceolus; it was not in flower.

On our way we encountered scrubby bushes of the Common Barberry (Berberis vulgaris), while rocks were clothed with Dryas octopetala, now out of flower, but showy with its feathery awns, Gypsophila repens, Campanula pulla, Dianthus carthusiorum, and Dianthus sylvestris, all flowering. In moister places were Pyrola rotundifolia and Solomon's Seal.

Airolo from the direction of St. Gotthard on a stormy morning

In afternoon, with baggage, we take the funicular railway from Piotta to Piora, passing Sanitorio and Altanca on the heavenward journey.

This railway is very steep, the steepest I have seen. It was new to P. R. B., having been constructed since his previous visit. It is driven by electricity derived from water power, of which there is an abundance in this part of Switzerland. The power station utilising the water from Lake Ritom is at the foot of the railway at Piotta.

(*To be continued.*)

Geraniums for Christmas

Opportunity should be taken now of potting on any spring-struck Zonal Pelargoniums into 5-inch pots with a view to Christmas flowering in the greenhouse. A compost of old loam, rotted manure, or bonemeal, with a little leaf-mould and sharp silver sand suits them. Potting should be done rather firmly and the plants stood out of doors on an ash-covered walk for the rest of the summer. September will bring well-developed plants ready to burst into bloom a few weeks later, provided in the meantime all flower-buds have been kept picked off. One may have the glowing colours of Zonals in the depth of winter in a greenhouse where the temperature ranges about 55 degs., but it is only by preparing plants beforehand that success may be expected. Plants that have been allowed to bloom in the summer cannot be expected to continue to do so, no matter how much heat one can give them. For small greenhouses a dozen or two plants will bring much gayness, and if some of the semi-doubles are grown, like F. V. Raspail (crimson), Pasteur (rose), and Louis (purple), there will be no dearth of rich colour in the depth of winter.

MIDLANDER.

Garden Sundries

A DIP into the old volumes of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED and recollections of a visit to Sundries Avenue at Chelsea suggest that the inventor and the chemist are busier than ever in the service of horticulture. In fact, of the making of gardening accessories there would seem to be no end. Father Time and changing fashion have found out many of the "wonders" of the past, naturally; they have had their vogue, and passed on to the limbo that is unhonoured and unsung except in the affectionate recollection of ancient gardeners addicted more to reminiscence and rheumatism than to active gardening practice as we know it to-day.

It is evident from the Editor's postbag, however, that there is a widespread lack of knowledge about the "sundries" side of gardening—what equipment to use in certain emergencies, what remedies to apply in others, and where these are to be obtained. Some good purpose may be served, therefore, if in the next few issues we examine what the leading sundriesmen are doing for the gardening community. We shall not be able to mention all the excellent things that lighten garden labour and make for efficiency generally—that would be an endless task beyond the scope of this series. Rather shall we have to confine ourselves in the main to requisites having special merits which are not so widely recognised as they should be, judging from the large number of inquiries that are sent to us every week. It will be enough to say of such productions as the greenhouses of Boulton and Paul, Foster and Pearson, Messenger and Co., and Duncan Tucker, the greenhouse boilers of Kinnell, and the greenhouse paints of Carson—names well known to our readers 50 years ago—
that their steady increase in popula
been accompanied by evolutionary ch
the goods concerned, which make fo
quality, fitness for purpose, and du
Time is always on the side of firms w
abreast with the times.

The XL All products of G. H. R
Ltd., have been a household word
deners for generations. They compri
tically all requirements in garden s
but the firm's special contribution is
ous insecticides, fungicides, and weed
The list is now extensive, and a
two ago was augmented by the incor
of all the "Stonehouse" preparation
also go back a long way in service
deners, and will remain well to the
the XL All family. Our contribu
regularly recommending the XL A
lisers, White Fly vapour, Leaf Miner
cide, weed destroyer, winter wash
forite "H" (soil cleanser), and R
"Sunshade" (greenhouse shading
latest XL All speciality is a 3 p
nicotine powder for dry spraying
makers are of opinion that this m
spraying will develop as a conveni
easy insecticidal system for the reas
larger areas are sprayed in less ti
water haulage problem is overcome,
air-borne dry spray will penetrate
liquid cannot.

This new dusting powder will
destroy Mealy Bug, Scale, Thri
Spider, Green and Black Fly, caterpil
blight. It is especially useful on tree
leaves are curled and for plants like
tions, where foliage is often marred
use of liquids. Of high nicotine con
of quick remedial effect, this is an

IN THE TICINO VALLEY

Bucca di Fongio, near Piora. Conifers planted on steep slope to village below from avalanches.

A clear view of the River Ticino from Cap Alto, near Fongio.

Altanca village and church.

4. Dianthus sylvestris by the track near Altanca.

5. On this slope grow the beautiful Arnica montana. Anemone sulphurea, Lilium croceum, and Campanula barbata.

6. The track at Valle above Altanca.

cal spray, which is certain to have a good reception among those who know the significance of the XL All label.

Corry and Co. is another firm with a big list of aids to gardening and to which, with commendable enterprise, it is continually adding. A lime sulphur wash is often recommended in these pages as a safe summer and winter wash for mildew, Black Spot, Rust, Plum Aphis, and Woolly Aphis. Corry's lime sulphur wash has been in use for over 40 years. Users have also found it an effective control of Big Bud.

" White Fly Death " will completely fumigate an airtight house in 12 hours. It is non-poisonous and, with 2½ fluid ozs. to each 1,000 cubic feet, evenly sprinkled, is a safe operation, obviating any need of " drying off " the house. A non-poisonous " Ant and Woodlice Death " is also effective upon earwigs, slugs, snails, and similar pests. This is sprinkled in small quantities in nests, holes, or runs. A teaspoonful will destroy an average-sized ants' nest. Thousands of woodlice have been destroyed by lifting old bricks or lumber and promptly sprinkling the liquid among the pests, which are killed instantly by its fumes.

" Weed Death " is non-poisonous, non-caustic, and odourless, and dissolves readily in cold water.

" Summer Cloud " greenhouse shading in green and white, " Tenax " grafting wax for grafting and budding, " Safe and Sure " wasp destroyer, tar oil winter wash, " Lethorion " nicotine cone fumigators, Standen's manure, Fowler's lawn sand, and many other allied preparations are distributed by the firm among sundriesmen everywhere. Two items also worth mention are their " Tidy " refuse burner, a perforated, strong, steel-plated cylinder type on tripod, fitted with poker and holes for raking out, and the Evenspread Sprinkler, a perforated container supplied in three grades for sprinkling sand, powders, seed, fertiliser, fine soil, and similar materials.

(To be continued.)

To make a greenhouse wall attractive

Why should the back wall of lean-to greenhouses not present an attractive appearance when there are so many suitable creeping and climbing plants that will transform them? The transformation may be quickly brought about by utilising Clematises. The ideal variety for permanent indoor culture, and one which does best planted out within the house is Indivisa lobata, having white flowers, but use can be made of some of the large flowering lanuginosa section with very handsome blossoms, such, for instance, as Fairy Queen (pale flesh), Beauty of Worcester (bluish-violet, white stamens), or Lanuginosa (pale lavender). It is often more convenient to plant these Clematises in large pots or tubs so that when occasion arises they can be taken out-of-doors. Time was when most greenhouse owners boasted one or two specimens of that most excellent Rose Marechal Niel, which in the spring brought many blossoms of a yellow that has scarcely been surpassed in modern Roses. These can always be procured in pots, and like the lanuginosa Clematis are not dependent on the house being heated. I have a Plumbago (the pale blue capensis) that makes a good coverer for a back wall. Its flowers are produced in the greatest profusion in early summer. Among Tropæolums of the fibrous-rooted kinds there are some which yield many bright flowers in the early year and clamber over a lattice erected on a greenhouse wall.
Mention can be made of Tricoloru
flowers of scarlet and orange and
black. For covering large space
Solanum jasminoides, with bunches
blossoms, and some of the Passiflor
numerous quaint looking blossoms th
fail to excite admiration. You can
green-covered wall by planting one
Asparagus or the trailing Smilax. T
in fact, no dearth in the selection of
plants to cover an inside wall. Th
can be undertaken now.
V

Aster alpinus

THE above perennial which has bee
priately named the Blue Mountai
is one of the most desirable of
rare Alpines for growing in the rock
When planted in bold groups, which
way is the correct method of using t
Aster, it will provide a delightful s
blue—a much appreciated colour in r
—from June until well on in Augus
Daisy-like flowers are immense whe
pared to the dwarf-like stature of the
and they completely smother the folia
in full bloom. Of course, the fl
period may be considerably prolon
cutting away the flowers as soon as t
past. Spring is a good season to pla
although this Aster is not fastidiou
soil requirements it should be placed
sunshine. The plants may be raise
seeds sown during the spring or imm
after the plants have flowered or
may be taken from the non-flowerin
during summer and inserted in san
under shaded hand-lights. It is a go
to lift established plants every three
years in order to increase the stock
maintain the vigour of the plants.

H. GRE

Val Ticino from Cap Alto
Aster alpinus in the foreground

The rocky road to Piora
Saxifraga cotyledon in the granite rocks

olony of Lilium Martagon in the Alps near Medrano

Mr. Peter R. Barr with camera at the top of the funicular railway near Piora

ondon and South of England iola and Pansy Society

nual show of this Society was held
16th in connection with the fort-
meeting of the R.H.S. in the New
estminster. It was quite obvious
long drought had materially inter-
th the prospects of growers; it was
teworthy that so many really good
were exhibited.

lasses open to allcomers were not
cept the class for new exhibition
The amateurs in all the prevailing
ances did really well. There was
entry in the class for three distinct
of Viola. This won first prize for
I. Little, Romford, who had an in-
series. He also won first prize for
stinct varieties of Violettes, not less
blooms of each variety, showing
ioletta and Lyric. There were four
or six vases exhibition Violas, six
of each variety. Mr. Mitchener,
was first, showing Walter Kaye,
hnson, Andrew Jameson, Jack Mil-
seley Ideal, and Malcolm Milner.
Luckin, East Grinstead, was a good
showing well Mrs. Jacob Bell,
Hood, and Mrs. A. Stevenson. Mr.
le, Ponders End, was third. A
lass, but for three vases only, found
ur entrants. Mr. Mitchener was
rst with good blooms of John Adam-
alter Kaye, and Moseley Ideal.
prize was awarded to Mr. R. W.
Alton, Hants; and third prize went
Noble. The class for 12 blooms
n Violas in four distinct varieties,
ooms of each sort, found Mr. Mit-
gain leading the van. He had good
of Jack Milner, Rowan Hood, W.
d Moseley Ideal. Mr. Luckin was
cond, having beautiful examples of
Ritchie and Rowan Hood. Mr.
as third. The six competitors for
, white self exhibition Viola, found
H. Little first with large, clean
of Helen W. Cochrane, and with
owers of the same variety Mr.
er and Mr. Luckin were second and
pectively. The class for one vase
eam or cream ground, edged or
Viola, was a good competition. Mr.
er was placed first, with good ex-
of Mrs. H. J. Milner, Mr. Luckin
ith Mrs. J. Ritchie, and Mr. H. R.
entwood, third, also showing Mrs.
lner. A similar class, but for a yellow ground, edged Viola, was also noteworthy. Mr. Luckin was a grand first with beautiful blooms of Moseley Ideal. This exhibit gained the Society's Medal for the best pan of Violas in the show. Mr. Mitchener was second with Rowan Hood, and Mr. Spicer third with Moseley Ideal. For a vase of six blooms of a dark self exhibition Viola Mr. Luckin was again first with a good exhibit of Kathleen Coudry, and with the same variety Mr. Spicer and Mr. Mitchener were second and third respectively.

D. B. CRANE.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Flowers for the children

FOR the sake of children have plenty of flowers around your homes. Plant enough so that it may be no sin for the little ones to gather large handfuls and make playfellows of them. One little girl, not four years old then, used to ask me for Pansies before she was dressed in the morning, every day for weeks, last summer. She could hardly count the fingers on one hand, but I used to let her run out before breakfast and gather three or four Pansies. Several times again throughout the day she could have as many more, and they all personated characters to her imagination. Other flowers figured also in these plays, but I do not wonder that the smiling Pansy-faces were most attractive. Children should have their own flower-beds as early as possible, and many half-waste places might be made to blossom like the Rose for their sakes, with but little labour.

Fruit as a medicine

A paper written by P. Holloway was read at a meeting of the Lucas County (Ohio) Horticultural Society, in which he spoke strongly in favour of the beneficial effects on the health of eating Blackberries. He had cured himself of dyspepsia by living upon a small quantity of bread and butter, accompanied by Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries, and Peaches, in their respective seasons. The President thought Blackberries the most wholesome of all fruits.—July 26th, 1879.

Leeds Flower Show

Leeds Flower Show, which opened in Roundhay Park on the 16th inst., was a great success. There were 157 exhibitors from all parts of Great Britain, and amongst these the trade was well represented.

The official opening was performed by the Lord Mayor of Leeds (Alderman D. B. Foster) and the Lady Mayoress, who presented the Trophies. The President, Sir John Barran, congratulated the Horticultural Society on the high standard of the show.

Following are the trade awards: —

Rock gardens.—1, P. Gardner, Addingham; 2, A. Greenwood and Co., Wetherby; 3, F. Rowley, Alwoodley.

Hardy cut flowers.—1, G. Longster and Sons, Ltd., Malton; 2, Harkness and Sons, Leeming Bar; 3, G. Gibson and Co., Leeming Bar.

Carnations.—C. Engelmann, Ltd., Saffron Walden.

Miscellaneous plants.—T. M. Petch, Bradford.

Plants and bloom display.—1, Dickson, Brown, and Tate, Manchester; 2, W. Kershaw, Saltaire; 3, T. M. Petch.

Violas.—1, E. Clegg, Dewsbury; 2, F. J. Bell, Whitley Bay; 3, J. Wynn, Selby.

Local nurserymen's display.—1, Greenhill Gardens, Armley; 2, T. M. Petch; 3, H. Clark and Son, Rodley.

Collection of Roses.—1, Wheatcroft Bros., Gedling; 2, R. Harkness and Co., Hitchen; 3, C. Gregory, Chilwell.

Roses (class 2).—1, R. V. Rodger, Pickering; 2, G. Burch, Peterborough; 3, H. Drew, Longworth.

Sweet Peas.—1, E. Leigh and Son, Stoke-on-Trent; 2, Whitaker and Wilson, Collingham Bridge; 3, T. Wadsworth and Son, Bishop Wilton.

Open classes, 24 Roses.—1, R. Harkness and Co.; 2, F. Cant, Colchester; 3, W. Drew, Ledbury.

Twelve Roses.—1, Donard Nursery, Newcastle, Co. Down; 2, W. Drew; 3, F. Cant.

Fourteen Roses.—1, Wheatcroft Bros.; 2, R. V. Rodger; 3, Donard Nursery Co.

Three baskets.—1, Wheatcroft Bros.; 2, R. V. Rodger; 3, H. Drew.

One basket.—1, Wheatcroft Bros.; 2, G. Burch; 3, H. Drew.

"The Yorkshire Evening Post" Trophy

for best display was won by Greenhill Gardens, Armley. The display consisted of a blue carpet of Hydrangeas with huge stands of magnificent Carnations rising at the back and a cloud of Madonna Lilies in the centre.

The Brotherton Trophy for Roses was won by Wheatcroft Bros.

The Clay Cup

Before the introduction of Rose indica, in the last years of the eighteenth century, the majority of garden Roses were hybrids or varieties of the Centifolia-Gallica-Damascena group, and they possessed, almost without exception, that typical fragrance that we now call the "old Rose scent." But when the "Tea-scented China Rose" was introduced in the early part of the nineteenth century and used extensively for hybridisation, a new scent came into the Rose garden which replaced the old scent in some Roses and modified it in many others; and then, about 20 years ago, a new strain of yellow Roses was launched by M. Pernet-Ducher, which gave us many new shades of colour, but seems incapable of carrying the old Rose scent. So that, partly by force of numbers, the typical Rose scent has tended to become obscured by scentless or differently scented varieties among the new Roses.

It was in order to encourage the restoration of the typical Rose scent among the new Roses that the late Mr. Clay presented the cup which is awarded every year by the Royal Horticultural Society. In order to be eligible for the award the Rose, according to the conditions laid down by the Society, must be of good form and colour, it must not be in commerce before the current year, and it must possess the "true old Rose scent," such as may be found in the Provence Rose, General Jacqueminot, General McArthur, etc. This last condition does not seem to have been appreciated by some of the competitors for the award last week, for several Roses were entered which, although they were deliciously fragrant, presented a scent of the Tea Rose type, and this is specifically ineligible. This condition may seem a trifle stringent, and it might be objected that the Tea scent, since it has been present in Roses for about a hundred years, might be fairly called an old Rose scent. But the terms of definition of the "old Rose scent" are fairly wide, and even within the Centifolia group it varies from the deep, rather "grapy" scent of the dark red Gallicas to the softer sweetness of the Provence; and it may be assumed that any Rose would be eligible for the award if the "typical Rose" element predominated in its scent, and that a faint shading with other scents, such as a trace of honey, lemon, or peach, would be allowed.

The Cup was awarded this year to a Rose entered by Messrs. B. R. Cant under the name Aroma; a very presentable Rose in deep carmine, with a full, rich scent of the Gallica type, luscious, but not heavy, in its faint suggestion of the smell of a bunch of Muscat Grapes, which seems to lurk in the depths of this type of scent. The name is not particularly well chosen, for the word "aroma" carries with it an idea of spiciness, when it has been blighted by its horrid use as a genteel word.

Clethra arborea, the Lily of the Valley Tree from Madeira

Clethras

THE hardy Clethras are not ver
grown in this country, yet they
valuable free-flowering shrubs
make an attractive floral display in
summer and autumn months, w
flowering season of the majority o
has passed. Members of the Natur
Ericaceæ, they belong to that large
so-called American plants which re
light soil of a peaty nature, where
moist root conditions. In such s
plants thrive and spread freely, soon
large clumps which bear profusely
liciously fragrant cream or white
disposed in conspicuous racemes or p

C. alnifolia is probably the bes
member of the genus, and was in
from Eastern North America so long
1731. It is a handsome, bushy shr
ducing its pretty bell-like flowers
fusion; their delicious fragrance per
the air to a considerable distance
variety paniculata has a more bran
florescence and is even more showy
type. C. acuminata, another A
species from Carolina, is a rather
growing shrub with brighter green le
prominent veins, and the racemes o
are more closely held. C. tomentosa,
American species, has leaves a
florescences covered with a white to
giving the plant a greyish appearanc
also the latest to flower. C. bar
(canescens) is a Chinese shrub of dw
spreading habit, bearing small white
in loose terminal panicles, but it is n
so showy as the American speci
Delavayi is another Chinese species
recent introduction, and probably th
of the genus. It may not be co
hardy under all conditions, but it ha
stood normal winters in the souther
ties, and is well worth a sheltered
Its beautiful inflorescences of Lily
Valley-like flowers are exceedingly a
and not unlike those of the wel
greenhouse species, C. arborea.

W. A

The Botanical Gardens, Re
Park

A paradise of plants

On a warm summer's day it is d
to spend a few restful hours in th
Botanical Gardens, Regent's Park.
wide lawns, groves of wonderful ol
cool, winding waters, gay flower-be
immense conservatories and glassho
pleasant and refreshing *al fresco* tea
to one's enjoyment.

For the student of plants helpful
is made by special beds in which pl
grouped according to their natural
ship, and by the full labelling which
in later reading.

In 1932 the lease of these Gardens
in, and Government is unlikely to r
This will be a misfortune, for at pr
Gardens cost the country nothing to
and contain many rare plants, some
have taken half-a-century to grow.

Some of the most remarkable plant
world are to be seen in the glasshouse
Elephant plant, with its curious woo
like the animal's foot, is said to be 3
old. It has a spongy arrangement
base which enables it to draw water
soil far and deep, and this enables i
in the South African desert. The p
very little root, and from the hea
arises a yellow flower not unlike
Jenny, with surprisingly light foliage

Another strange plant is Dykia su
with long, slender leaves. This

Clethra Delavayi, pendulous pure white flowers in terminal racemes

The stems and sepals are red. A rare and tender species from Yunnan

habit of changing the colour of its
before flowering. When a blossom is
o form, patches of red come on the
and presently there is an outer circle
rlet foliage, in the centre of which
a bright blue flower with yellow
. When the plant has flowered the
gradually turn back to green again.
ddening of the leaves is explained as
e to attract insects.

eat curiosity is the Kaffir Bread Tree,
ame over for the Wembley Exhibition.
ecimen is said to be a thousand years
d claims to be the only one in the
. It has not fruited here, but, as it
to be in good condition, there is no
why it should not do so.

collection of Cacti is very comprehen-
nd these attract not only by their
shapes, but by the beautiful pigeon's
bloom on some of the foliage. The
Cactus is a droll little plant whose
come one above another like a
in a stick. Worthy of note is the
actus, shaped like an open volume.
ting also are the Aloe saponaria, from
soap is made, and the famous Agave,
tury Plant, which has the reputation
ering once in a hundred years, but
true only in a limited sense. It lives
any years without blossoming, then
p an immense flowering stem, bear-
haps 4,000 or more yellow, sweet-
flowers. There follow the fruit and
and the plant, exhausted by its pro-
aring, then dies. On the Riviera the
lowers after 10 to 15 years. In our
atories it waits until 50 years or more.
impatient of detail, and short of
. speaks of this long life in general
ntury.

dainty are the Tree Ferns from West
ia, their stems covered with Moss, and the beauty of this Fernery is enhanced by the rich green Corsican Chickweed that drapes the stones.

The magnificent Victoria regina is the pride of the gardens. It has eight large tray-like leaves with handsome red, deeply-veined under parts, and these are capable of bearing considerable weight. The great creamy yellow buds that turn to deep crimson when full blown, appear in late summer.

A Cat's Tail, with hanging red flowers, a fine sugar cane, and a deep rose double Lotus, are among other botanical treasures here. Very attractive is the Sensitive Plant, with pinky flowers and delicate foliage that folds up at the slightest touch. Elephant's Ears, a velvety green pot plant, contrasts well with the lighter foliaged plants.

A fine Banana is noticeable for the perfection of its foliage compared with the wind-torn leaves of those grown out-of-doors. In this favoured situation it has produced bunches of 85 Bananas of full flavour and ripeness.

Green manuring

The problem of manure, and especially of the provision of humus in the soil, becomes more acute each year. The practice of green manuring is not so popular as it should be, for here we have an easy way out of a real difficulty. Green manuring means the sowing of a crop which is intended to be dug into the soil before it becomes mature. Lucerne is a good crop to sow for this purpose, and the sowing should be done as soon as possible. (This year Peas have been a failure in many gardens. It would be a good plan to dig in what haulm there is instead of throwing it on the rubbish heap.)

Lucerne and all members of the leguminous family enrich the soil by providing it with beneficial bacteria which live on the roots and give up nitrogen. The supply of humus is satisfactory, and the soil benefits in two ways. The crop is dug in when approaching the flowering stage—it must not be allowed to seed.

C. H.

A trial of Canterbury Bells

The following awards have been made to the under-mentioned flowers by the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society after trial at Wisley.

AWARD OF MERIT.—Single white, sent by Messrs. Dobbie, Edinburgh; Calycanthema white, sent by Messrs. Webb, Wordsley; single mauve, sent by Messrs. Hurst, Kelvedon; Calycanthema mauve, sent by Messrs. Hurst, Kelvedon; double rose-carmine, sent by Messrs. Haage and Schmidt, Germany.

HIGHLY COMMENDED.—Single rose, sent by Messrs. Webb, Wordsley; Calycanthema rose, sent by Messrs. W. H. Simpson, Birmingham, and Webb, Wordsley; single mauve, sent by Messrs. Daniels, Norwich; double cœrulea, sent by Messrs. Haage and Schmidt, Germany.

Clethra alnifolia near the King William Temple at Kew

Answers to Queries

Queries—Queries and answers are inserted in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FRUIT

Shoot of a Pear tree affected with fungus

(Stellawood).—This is caused by the fungus Podosphæra leucotricha, and is the same as that showing on the young shoots. The best remedy is to cut away all affected shoots and burn them, and spray the trees with Bordeaux Mixture. Le Lectier is very subject to this when growing in the open upon badly drained soil, but is scarcely troubled with it on warm walls. It is also very shy in setting its fruit, even when other Pears are growing on each side of it, but the fruits when well grown and matured are equal to a Comice.

Melons decaying

(Surreyite).—This is a bad case of Melon Spot Mould or Blotch, the cause of which it is difficult to determine. It first made its appearance among Melons in 1896. Destroy the whole lot at once, and before using the house again, have all glass and woodwork thoroughly cleansed with disinfectant. Spraying with Bordeaux Mixture has been tried, but is not very effective. There is no cure for this dreadful scourge so far as we know, and we advise you to burn every leaf and fruit and start again with fresh seed from another source.

Bush fruits

(Castle).—Gooseberries and Red Currants require no treatment after fruiting further than keeping the ground clear of weeds until the leaves drop, when pruning should be carried out. Black Currants can have some of the older wood cut back to near the ground, and thus permit of the current season's growths obtaining light and air, which will help considerably to ripen the wood and ensure a good crop next year.

Grape Mrs. Prince

(W. P. C. L.).—The berries have not been properly fertilised when in bloom, this being of quite common occurrence. You are making a mistake in allowing your young Vine to carry so many bunches this season. Unless the Vine is very strong it should have had all fruit removed as soon as the bunches appeared. A very strong plant might be allowed to carry two bunches the first year. The over-cropping is, of course, part reason at least for the faulty fertilisation.

Pear leaves eaten

(Miss M. N. Warren).—This is the work of the Pear-tree Sawfly (Selandria atra). The sawfly lays its eggs just under the upper surface of the leaves of the Cherry and Pear in June, occasionally earlier. The slugworms, which are covered with a greenish secretion, when about six weeks old, cast their green or blackish-looking coats and appear as buff caterpillars free from slime, being smooth and transversely wrinkled. These caterpillars go down into the ground, spin a cocoon, and from these the sawflies emerge in the following summer. The larvæ feed on the upper surface of the leaves, which in some instances they remove entirely, leaving Pear and Cherry leaves as skeletons. Remedy: Dust the slugworms over with quick lime or gas lime. The first application they will throw off by exuding a coating of slime, but they cannot continue doing this, and if a second application is made soon after the first it will kill them. Vaporite forked into the surface will also account for this pest.

Leaves of Cordon Apples eaten

(Regular Subscriber).—This is the work of the caterpillar of the Winter Moth, which is the most injurious of the leaf caterpillars. If you band the stems of your trees in autumn with the well-known "Stictite" you will have done much to prevent a recurrence of your present trouble, as this will prevent the female from crawling up the stems to deposit her eggs in the spurs and branches. Next year immediately the flowers have fallen, spray with "Katakilla" once or twice and you will have the trouble under control. This pest attacks some varieties more than others, especially Codlin Apples, but was not responsible for the tree not fruiting, its energies being directed towards the foliage only, a bad case leaving a tree entirely defoliated.

Red and White Currants in collection of fruit

(Robin).—Red and White Currants are distinct varieties and may be shown as such. Black and White Grapes are, for exhibition, allowed as distinct kinds of fruit, and, therefore, Black and White Currants, see Rule 2 of R.H.S. "Rules for Judging," page 9. Should the Schedule read: "So many distinct kinds of fruit," then every dish must be of a different species of genus, and one dish of Currants only will be allowed.

FLOWER GARDEN

Salpiglossis and Larkspurs failing

(H. G. Fulford).—Too much water in their infancy will bring about the trouble your plants are suffering from, and this has probably been the cause of yours. Also, if kept too wet when first planted out on cold aspects, the same will occur. There is nothing you can do at the present time except to keep them somewhat drier until growth is strong and free, but before planting out next season, and before digging the ground intended for them, apply a dressing of freshly slaked lime, and a few weeks before actual planting takes place fork in a little Vaporite over the surface.

Plants for a crazy pavement

(J. E. T. C.).—Acænas in variety, Draba aizoides, Pratia repens, Stachys corsica, Thymus serphyllum coccinium and album, T. lanuginosum, Silene acaulis, Raoulia australis, Trifolium repens purpureum, Veronica pectinata and prostrata, Dianthus cæsius and D. deltoides, Erinus alpinus, Helxine Solieri, Mentha Requieri, Nierembergia rivularis, Campanula pulla, C. pusilla, C. rotundifolia, Hypericum repens, H. reptans, Sideritis taurica, Omphalodes verna, Sedum acre, S. hispanicum, S. Lydium, S. murale, Saxifraga apiculata, S. Aizoon, S. muscoides, S. Rhei, Sancta, and u
Majus rugosus, Gentiana acaulis, V
incana, V. Bidwillei, Linaria aquitri
pallida, Arenaria balearica, Ajuga
purpurea, Antennaria tomentosa,
sylvestris, Cotula squallida, and Aub
variety.

Diseased Phlox

(F. Trelawny, Devon).—Your
specimens are affected with Leaf
which is caused by the fungus
divaricatæ. This fungus thrives in t
of the older leaves and penetrates th
so blocking up the supply of sap to t
above, that eventually wilting an
occur. You should cut out and burn
affected stems and the apparently
ones should be sprayed with a weak
of liver of sulphur. For the time be
should avoid all forms of overhead w
because moisture collecting in the
the leaves favours the development
fungus.

Gentiana sino-ornata dying off

I should be very grateful if you
me the cause of my sino-ornata Gent
ing off. I have several good clumps
in semi-shade in suitable soil, but ev
I find a few pieces wilted and turned
They appear to be rotten at the roots,
come up when pulled, without any
This is the first year that they ha
in this particular place, as my rock
was only made in the autumn. Th
get sufficient moisture, as I have an
ground pipe through which water
intervals. I am afraid that if man
pieces die off I shall lose all my plant

[Gentiana sino-ornata is subject
trouble you refer to, and hundreds of
are lost in this way every year. Son
exists, either in your soil or water, wh
plant resents, and although many re
have been tried to overcome this, nothi
so far as we know, yet proved suc
Large growers are troubled with it, an
pull the affected plants up and destro
immediately it is observed. Ants are
times responsible for the death of
plants, but this does not appear to b
your case. An open, sandy, and lea
(quite two parts of the latter) is wh
plant enjoys.]

Holding back Antirrhinums, Co and Zinnias

(E. N. Cowell).—The first named
freely stopped in order to restrain
flowering period. Cosmos and Zinnia
wise, but the two latter are less satis
when so treated, and you would do be
sow the seeds at a later date and grow
the coolest possible conditions.

Sidalceas required

(J. Shipley).—Messrs. Waterer, Son
Crisp offer no less than seven ki
Sidalceas in plants, including the
Sussex Beauty and Rose Queen, and
are offered of seven kinds by Messrs.
son and Morgan, seedsmen, Ipswich
plant you describe is undoubtedly a Si
Yes, they belong to the Mallow fami
you will find the principal kinds descri
W. Robinson in "The English Flowe
den" under Sidalcea, page 642 of last
The many new varieties of recent in
tion are not, however, included.

ROSES

Roses losing their foliage

(Miss M. N. Warren).—Drought is
responsible, and in addition to sprayi

(Continued on page 524)

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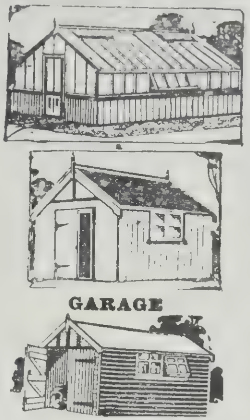

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Yours, in grateful remembrance of circular,
(sd) S.T.A. "

trees with a weak solution of copper sulphate, keep them well supplied with water, damping them overhead in the evening after hot, dry days; an improvement should then be seen. When watering the plants it is necessary to soak them thoroughly, surface sprinklings being useless.

Dorothy Perkins

(" Boone ").—Your Rose is rather weakly in growth, and would probably benefit considerably by having a good watering at the roots, followed next day with a generous soaking of liquid manure. In late autumn as much of the old wood as can be spared should be cut away near the ground and young shoots trained in in its stead.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Cutting Spiræas

(W. S. C.).—Without knowing the variety or varieties of Spiræa you wish to cut back, it is impossible to advise as to the best time to have this done, some kinds being best pruned in March, while June is the proper time for others. The same with other flowering shrubs.

Flowering shrubs for a public garden under trees

(T. E. Lloyd).—It will be of little use trying to grow anything beneath such voracious feeding trees as Limes and Elms, but there are many lovely subjects which could be grown at a respectable distance from the base of such trees. Would it not be possible to remove a few of the large trees in order to admit of more light and sun and enable you to grass down much of the space now covered with objectionable Privet? If this could be done, then you could plant bulbs such as Crocus, Snowdrops, Scillas, and Daffodils for spring effects. The following shrubs would also prove much more interesting and beautiful for grouping in the more open positions: Azalea mollis in variety, A. occidentalis, Rhododendrons in variety, with Lilies of the auratum and speciosum type among them, Grislinia littoralis, a fine evergreen which, however, does not bloom, Ribes alpinum, Berberis aquifolium and B. japonicum, B. Darwini, Garrya elliptica, Berberis aristata, and B. umbellata, Gaultheria Shallon, Vinca major and V. minor, Hypericum moserianum, H. calycinum, Ivy (large-leaved kinds), Arbutus Unedo, Skimmia japonica fragrans, S. Fortunei, Vaccinium vitis-idea, Bambusa, such as aurea, nitida, nigra, fastuosum, etc., Escallonia langleyensis, E. macrantha, Choisya ternata, Cornus alba, Red Dutch Honeysuckle, Eleagnus in variety, Symphoricarpus occidentalis, Coronilla emerus, Hydrangeas in variety, Cotoneasters in variety, Jasminum nudiflorum, Leycesteria formosa, Olearia Haastii, Rubus spectabilis, R. irenæus, R. bambusarum, Osmanthus illicifolia, Spiræa arguta, Veronica Traversi, Viburnum tomentosum and V. plicatum, and, of course, there are many plants which might be used.

VEGETABLES

Tomatoes and fowl manure

(" Tomato, Thanet ").—It looks as if your soil had become " Tomato sick," while the use of the fowl manure is by no means reliable for this crop unless used with great judgment, as it is difficult to exactly gauge the proper amount to apply. Also we do not favour mulching with stable manure. While little can be done to improve matters this season, for next year the soil should be wheeled out to a depth of at least a foot and fresh, sweet loam brought in in its place. This could be carried out after the Chrysanthemums are over.

MISCELLANEOUS

Insect for identification

(C. H. A. R., West Hagley).—The insect sent for name is the Giant Wood Wasp, Sirese gigas. The female wood wasp lays her eggs in various kinds of Pines. The long appendage at the end of the abdomen is the ovipositor, by means of which the lady bores a hole in the bark of the tree selected, and deposits her eggs. When the eggs hatch, the maggots begin to feed in the timber, making long tunnels. When fully fed, the larvæ make their way towards the outside of the attacked trees and pupate in a position so that when they emerge as perfect insects they have not far to eat their way out. The jaws of both larvæ and adult are very powerful. A case is on record where this creature was present in a piece of worked wood fixed in a house, with a lead gas pipe attached. On eating its way out, the adult came in contact with the pipe, and instead of turning aside to find a softer place ate right through the pipe and was killed by the escaping gas. Attention was called to the damaged pipe by the smell of gas, and the creature was found dead in the hole it had made. Death was surely a poor reward for its enterprise! Sirese gigas is frequently imported into this country by means of pit-props and similar timber, and it no doubt breeds in this country, but extensive damage to home-grown timber is not recorded.

Sand for potting

(H. S. G.).—There is no process by which fine sand can be turned into proper material for use in gardening operations. Sea sand, if sharp and clean, is probably the best for general use among potting soils. It must, however, be well washed before being used, or else it should be kept in the open for at least 12 months before being brought into use so that the rain and air may remove the salt present in this material.

Bullock's blood

(Mrs. E. Labouchere).—We do not recommend this smelly, unpleasant material for use in a vinery, or, indeed, anywhere where people have to be about. It has, of course, a certain value as a manure, but is less objectionable if dried and used as a powder. It is then applied at the rate of about three-quarters of an ounce per square yard and hoed in.

SHORT REPLY

"*Castle.*"—Iris sibirica can quite easily be divided, February or March being the best time to carry out this operation.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Z. P., Surrey.—The Rose had all fallen to pieces when it reached us, but is, probably, Mme. Segon Webber. The Honeysuckle was also much knocked about, but is, probably, Lonicera Webbiana.

J. O.—1, Crassula; 2, Scabiosa caucasica. Cuttings of the Crassula can be secured in August and inserted in small pots of sandy compost, and kept rather close and shaded. Pot off singly into small pots as soon as rooted. Give very little water during winter. Give a shift in early spring, and after the plants are well established, say, early in July, plunge the pots in a bed of sand close to the foot of a sunny wall. Little or no water should be given, and the plants, before the advent of frost, should be taken to a cool pit, but at no time should frost be allowed to reach them. Water very sparingly during the winter.

A. P., Devon.—1, Eleocarpus reticulatus; 2, Kalosanthes coccinea; 3, Escallonia Donard Seedling; 4, Amorpha fruticosa.

E. F., Hereford.—1, Viola Bluestone; 2,
badly withered, but probably Viola
Black; 3, Viola gracilis Purple F
Euphorbia cyparissius, not rare.

Alec Short.—1, Campanula mu
Sedum album; 3, S. spurium splen
Viola cornuta purpurea.

Northerner.—1, Lathyrus grandifl
Lonicera italica, a fine hybrid bet
caprifolium and etrusca.

M. N.—1, Centaurea dealbata; 2,
thus alpinus.

" *Quæro.*"—Campanula patula (S
Harebell), the leaves of which are la
the flowers more violet than in C. m

CATALOGUES RECEIVE

Anthony C. Vanderschoot, Ltd., H
Holland.—Bulbs for autumn plantin
perennial plants, rockery plants,
plants, Roses.

Walter Blom and Son, Ltd., H
Holland.—Bulbs.

LATE NOTE

Sweet Peas at Norwich

Mr. R. F. M. Wiltshire staged an
group of Sweet Peas at the centena
of the Norfolk and Norwich Hort
Society. Two of his best varieti
Michael and Magnet, the forme
awarded first prize for a new seedlin
National Sweet Pea Society's Show
the R.H.S. Hall on July 2nd. The
Horticultural Society has an unbroke
of shows from 1829, the last one bei
bably, the best, and certainly the larg
its formation.

LATE REPLY

(G.).—We regret to say that man
specimens sent were so much withere
they reached us that it is impos
identify them. The following we b
be the correct names of such as were
far gone:—(1) Clematis (one of th
manii group), (2) might also be a C
(7) Francoa appendiculata, (9) Alstr
(10) Alstrœmeria, (11) Astilbe japoni
Sedum elongatum, (13) Erigeron,
doubtful, (14) Polyantha Rose Mig
(15) Orchis, (17) Veronica, might be
(18) White Campion.

Vegetables: Making the bes

Advice has often been given in GA
ILLUSTRATED as to the advisability of
and planting certain vegetables in t
and those who have followed that adv
have cause to congratulate themselves
this long spell of drought. Perso
should have come off very poorly if
not adopted the plan. When I took
present garden last autumn, I fou
whilst three parts of it was good, fai
soil, the other quarter, previously occu
a couple of cottages, was hard, har
very stony, and it was not easy t
what to do with it. I decided to d
to vegetables in shallow trenches,
both Broad and Runner, Peas, Cele
Leeks. If intervening trenches are
the same ground the next two seas
whole at the end of the last season w
fairly good working order. It has
tated getting out a lot of stones, pu
a bit of better soil, and forking up
but it has certainly paid for the
There is no doubt that in all garde
have not been deeply dug or tren
plantings of winter greens would, in
like the present, have done better in
trenches. They have been a long tin
ing any headway, whereas in the tren
initial watering one is able to give
retained and gives them a quick star

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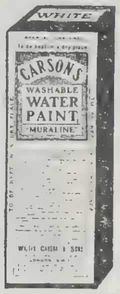
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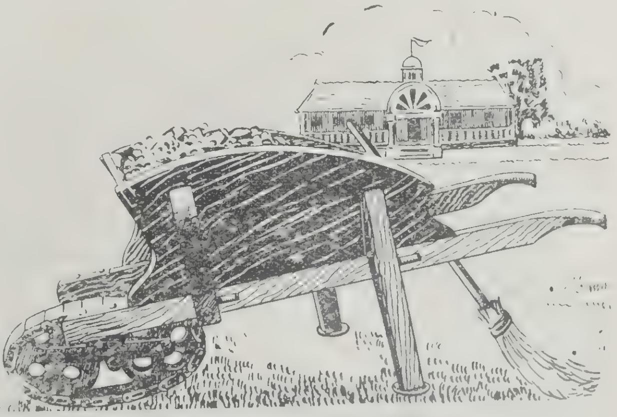

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

I.—No. 2630 Saturday, August 3, 1929 TWOPENCE

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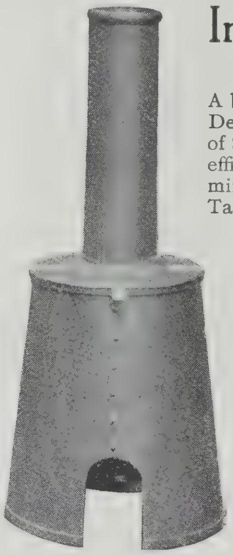

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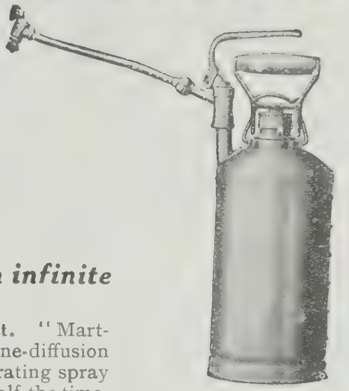

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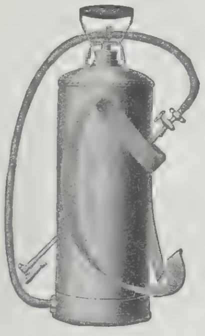

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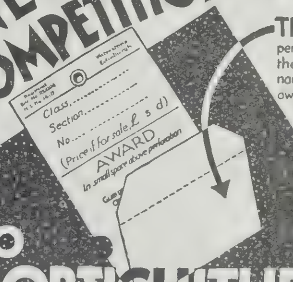
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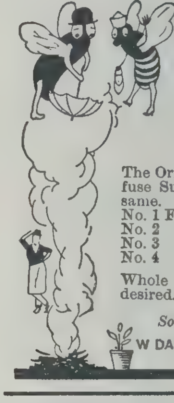

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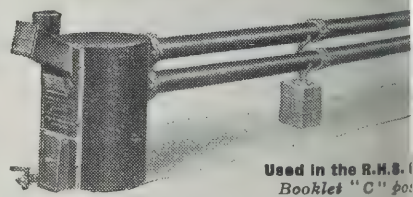

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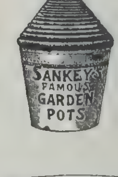

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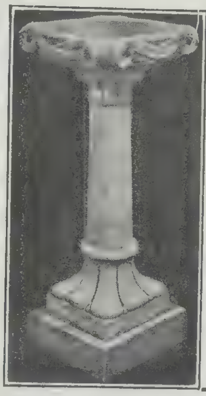

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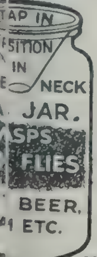

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"as green
as grass
but not
grass"
it's a

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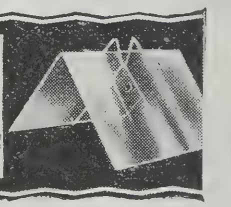

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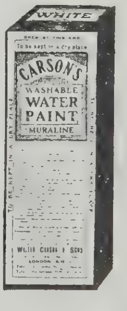
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Colour Names and Descriptions

By Gertrude Jekyll, V.M.H.

ERE have been lately a number of
tes and articles on the subject of the
scription of colour in flowers. Some
favour of a colour chart, which may
y be of use to those who have but little
le for the perceptions of colour distinc-
But without such a means of refer-
there are quite enough ordinary ex-
; in natural objects and substances and
; with an obviously typical colouring to
s a basis for an accurate description of
lour of a flower. Some colour words
een so long mis-
that they have
into the language
their unblushing
Such a word is
. We read in
lists "brilliant
yellow," mean-
right yellow such
Buttercups. The
of gold is not
t yellow; it is
yellow at all. I
iece of gold on a
path and it just
s. If it was
used it might fit
traws, or some of
definite shades of
dull yellow in
Arctotis, Calen-
and Helichrysum.
yellow or brilliant
anyone can under-
without any re-
to gold.
her misused word
e. In plant lists
eant for a bright
scarlet, such as
me bedding
ums, in Nastur-
and in Tropæo-
peciosum, whose
r name is Flame-flower. But the
of flame is not red at all; it is a rather
ite yellow, with occasional flares of a
uish tint. It is the incandescent coals
e red or reddish, but are never of so
a scarlet as Tropæolum speciosum.
not say scarlet at once. There are
degrees of scarlet, some deeper than
we may consider the type, and some
g to orange, but a useful central
of type may be accepted from the
of some well-known objects, such as
al pillar box or a guardsman's tunic.
red is a fine word, and stands for a
colour, such as is well shown in some
Dahlias and Hollyhocks. Magenta is a kind of purplish-red, capable of unpleasant virulence, which is offensive to many a trained colour eye. In view of the fine reds existing, it may safely be excluded from the garden. As the name is derived from a sanguinary battle, it ought to have stood for a good blood-red; it corresponds to some forms of the French *amaranthe*, where in foreign plant lists it serves as a useful warning. In justice to the continental seed and plant lists, it is only right to say that their colour descriptions are generally more careful and accurate than our own. One of the most oddly misused words is amethystine, and it seems to have been accepted even by learned botanists. It is common to find in plant lists such a plant as a Delphinium described as a brilliant amethystine-blue. No amethyst is blue, or anything the least like blue; it is reddish-purple; in all but the best examples a washy reddish-purple. I can only suppose that when the word was first used in connection with the colour of flowers, that the careless giver of the name muddled up amethyst and sapphire, and said amethyst when he meant sapphire, which is a gem of a pure blue colour. It is pleasantly noticeable that in some recent catalogues the word amethyst is properly used. Messrs. Cheal have a Dahlia named Amethyst quite rightly named. They have also a fine deeper purple one named Porthos, not so obviously named for colour unless it is in reference to the "purple" patches in the musketeer's adventurous career!

Munstead Dwarf Lavender

The various names, mauve, lilac, lavender, purple, and violet, are much confused, but are all useful if properly used. Mauve especially is commonly used too loosely; it actually means the rather feeble reddish-purple of the common wild Mallow (*Malva sylvestris*)—mauve in French. Lilac should stand for the same kind of colouring, but deeper, that of the slightly reddish-purple of the old garden Lilac. Lavender speaks for itself, for though there are garden forms of Lavender whose colouring may be a shade lighter or darker, it has always the same quality of colour.

The word blue is grossly misused, commonly serving to cover a number of purple and purplish flowers, such as Campanulas and China Asters, that are not blue at all. The word should be kept for the pure blues, such as the deep colour of Commelina and Salvia patens, of Cornflower and Gentian, the medium blues of Nemophila and Phacelia, and the tenderer blues of Forget-me-not, Agathea cœlestis, Cynoglossum amabile, and Plumbago capensis. There are vague words in common use denoting blue that are difficult to define. I do not know what is meant by azure, except that it is some kind of palish blue; *azurea* in botanical wording seems always to mean a pure blue, but azure is so vaguely used that it is perhaps better excluded from plant lists and left to the poets.

One of the most trustworthy colour words is sulphur, because the substance is so nearly invariable in colour that if a flower is described as sulphur one knows exactly what is meant. Primrose is also useful to denote a shade of pale yellow near sulphur, but a slight shade greener. Salmon is also a good colour word for a whole range of pink or pale rosy shades with a warming yellowish inclination. Orange is a fine colour word, and needs no explanation. Lemon is also a good word, for though it may have shades deeper or lighter, the quality of the colour is invariable. The word citron may be usefully employed for shades of colour lighter and tenderer than lemon; of this class the now popular Grape fruit is a good representative, as its colour varies so little.

Descriptive words for foliage are also plentiful. Grass green usually stands for a full, bright green. Apple green I am never sure of, but think it means the colour of some unripe Apples. Bottle green for the deepest polished foliage describes itself, and so does sage green, a quite useful word. Glaucous is a fine word for the many plants whose foliage is of a grey colour inclining to blue, such as that of the common Pink, Eryngiums, many of the Cabbages, and notably Seakale. Silvery grey is also permissible, for though it is not really like silver it may well stand for the colour of the Artichoke, Stachys lanata, several of the Artemisias, and other plants that make such a beautiful setting to flowers of pink and purple colouring. Thus it appears to an old student of colour that it is pleasanter and quite as effective to describe a flower as, say, primrose yellow than as Pl. XVI., S. 24.

G. Jekyll.

Minister of Agriculture on rural amenities

Mr. Noel Buxton, the Minister of Agriculture, in opening a flower show at Upshire, Waltham Abbey, stated that village flower shows in these days were acquiring added importance.

They were all familiar with the efforts of the National Gardens Guild, of which the Queen was the Patroness, to bring beauty and colour into the towns. There was need for similar encouragement in the country. This was in no sense a case of carrying coals to Newcastle. Our modern activities, motoring and so forth, had planted many hideous features on the countryside. Petrol stations were raising their pale, forbidding heads on red posts, and there were other harsh features along our modern roadways. The Gardens Guild, which was now extending its activities into the country villages, was doing a great service in promoting competitions aiming at beautifying the countryside.

Horticulture had its more material aspect—the growing of fruit and vegetables—and here the Ministry played a notable part in improving the technique of cultivation. He was personally eager to encourage local authorities to provide model allotments and demonstration fruit and vegetable plots. The best could only be obtained if the land were cropped and cultivated according to plan. The Ministry was already helping local Councils with money to provide these demonstration allotments.

The Lea Valley, in which the show was held, contained a most extensive glasshouse industry, the annual value of the output of Tomatoes and Cucumbers alone being over £2,000,000. The Ministry was assisting research in glasshouse problems by a grant of over £3,500 a year to the Cheshunt Research Station.

He was eager also to promote village amenities, and the Ministry, through the Development Fund, made grants for the promotion of village halls. Nothing could be more conducive to happier conditions than a place where villagers and the country people around were tempted to meet. The Rural Industries Bureau, also assisted by Government grants, helped to promote handicrafts,
such as basket-making, and he com
these activities for the improvement o
amenities to the notice of every villag

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Garden form

THE suggestion that the collector type of garden owner makes sole possession a test of a good plant is a little unkind. In my modest way I have distributed both to amateurs and the trade large stocks of two very good new garden plants, Chrysanthemum Mawii and Mutisia retusa, and in the same way all my friends, when they get a good thing, are most anxious that everyone should share in their good fortune. To quote only two names, the gardens have been immensely enriched in the last few years by the generosity of Mr. Hay and Mr. Millard. Mutisia retusa this year has passed my fondest expectations. One plant, which has dragged a Cotoneaster down to the ground, is covered at the moment of writing with a hundred large pink flowers 3½ inches across.

Other new plants which have done very well this year are Phlox argilacea, introduced by Mr. Hay from North America, Chrysanthemum hispanicum, introduced by Mr. Lofthouse from the Sierra Nevada, and Arctotis (Dimorphotheca (?)) acaulis, introduced by Professor Watkins from South Africa. A new Phlox, P. mesaleuca, from North America, promises well.

William Lawrence.

Bone meal as a manure

I very heartily commend Mr. Markham's thoughtful note on the use of bone-meal to all gardeners, and especially to the amateur. Its value is known to the majority of us, and it has one quality which Mr. Markham, perhaps, overlooked. The most of what are, colloquially, known as "artificials" are, in careless or in inexperienced hands, liable to do damage as well as to make the soil acid by their continual use; but bone-meal is as nearly "fool-proof" as any manure substitute can be. For lawns it is excellent.

Arctotis (? Dimorphotheca) acaulis, 2 inches to 2½ inches high

The plant is now bearing 12 flowers, which remain expanded during the day. Their colour is dead white, but the backs of the petals are yellow with a purple stripe

Some people appear to imagine that
do not require manuring at all, and
belief is due the unsatisfactory swards
may be seen almost everywhere. A
point. In comparison with chemica
lisers, strictly so-called, bone-meal i
pensive. A Scottish Gard

Rock gardens at Chelsea

The article by C. Penrose, on pag
in the issue of this Journal for July
really calls for an answer, and though
are many more qualified than I to m
yet my pen cannot rest but leaps to th

I find it difficult to discern the vie
of C. Penrose, "S. I. B." (whom
scathingly criticises), and many more
most insular opinions expressed by wo
critics of the Chelsea Rock Gardens
seems to stand on the hilltop of his
opinion—and tastes—and endeavou
shout down some other shouter.

All those who hold impartially alo
do not allow themselves to become
in this ever recurring dispute, must
that it is quite impossible ever to be
matic about the rock garden, and ye
Penrose and his earnest confreres pers
trying. One says: "Nature mus
idealised in the rock garden." A
says: "Nature must be faithfully cop
the rock garden."

I do not intend to hold forth at
about my own opinions on the su
though I have strong ones. That
defeat my own ends. I will only say
my rock garden endeavours to be a repr
tion of the true lines of Nature, whils
providing suitable homes for plants, a
attainable object, in spite of all that is
to the contrary.

One would almost imagine, after re
the many one-sided articles that hav
cently appeared, that one must either
an inartistic jumble of stones, though
viding homes for plants, or a structu
coldly imposing grandeur like Col.
Jones' admittedly wonderful reprodu
but offering no nooks, pockets, or scree
the plant lover to revel in filling.

I contend that the true rock gardener
of necessity be a plant lover, else why
a rock garden at all? There are few
can afford, or would wish for, a portic
the Welsh granite ranges set down in
gardens merely as an appeal to the æst
senses.

Should we not try to strike the h
medium between reproduction and ada
and endeavour to please all, though I fe
should never satisfy Mr. Penrose,
apparently hungers for extremes.

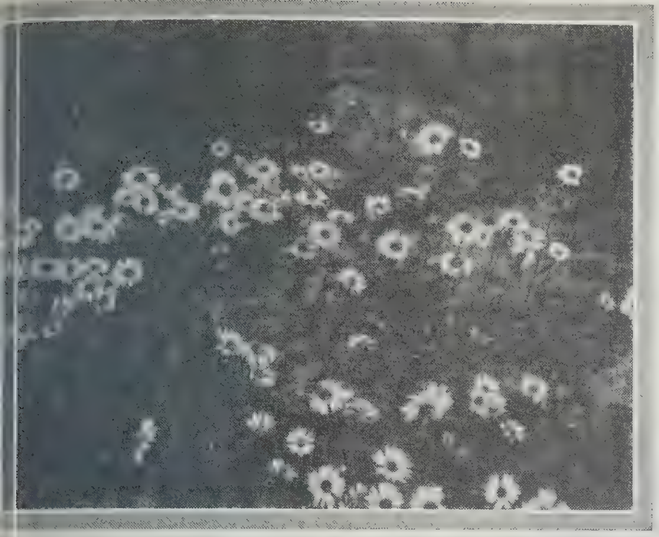
Will Ingwerse

The Birch, Sharpthorne, Sussex.

—— I think it a great pity that c
spondents should rush into controve
matters in the unkind spirit of some re
letters regarding the rock gardens at Che

However, the matter has considerabl
terest for me, and, like other of your c
spondents, I was disappointed with the
bank this year, so I venture to think
perhaps my view may be of interest.

Mr. Penrose criticises Col. Gavin Jo
rock garden as a too faithful imitatio
Nature and too severe. Now is not Na
severe, and is she not most lovely when



Chrysanthemum hispanicum

The sulphur-yellow flowers are set off by grey-green foliage

Phlox argilacea

The flowers have a faint flush of violet. The plant is hardy and of good constitution

severe? Further, he says that in the
le Nature must be idealised. Exactly
t Col. Gavin Jones did at Chelsea. He
lied the bold features of Nature and left
stracting details to other exhibitors
ther ideas, and produced an ideal bit
country, restrained, well-balanced,
ove all, restful. The best of the other
bs were beautiful imitations in minia-
-not faithful imitations—of Nature.
natural scale there would be many
features, but reduced to small scale
ess of detail and over-planting had a
sturbing effect when seen as a whole.
little features, beautiful as they are
examined individually, appear as a
of stones and plants viewed
mble " which inspire no restfulness,
ce.

e years ago Mr. Whitelegg had one
beautiful exhibits at Chelsea. Lovely
the high Alps, bold, meadowy slopes
ch the rocks only gave character. I
nt recollect him criticised as severe,
he ideally idealised Nature in a
rr exactly the reverse of Col. Gavin
who used bold rock forms to which
dwy slopes only gave character. In
ases planting was carefully restrained.
I am certain that the exhibitors on
k bank at Chelsea this year are not
apable of far better work, but have
far better exhibits in the past.
ever, apart from excellence of rock-
the effect of over-planting was im-
y attractive to the average visitor, and,
ubt, did much by contrast to get Col.
Jones criticised for his severity.
not know anybody, even remotely,
ted with the gentlemen I have taken
erty to mention. R. PAINTON.

gworth, Berks.

Something has annoyed your corre-
nt of July 20th. Sincere controversy
ful and entertaining. Honest criticism
ts and helps the victim. But why will
tics harp on one man's *style*?
r. Penrose will take some friendly ad-
will not do his friend harm by making
own assertions about him at the ex-
of other good workers in a magazine
ead by persons who regard their gar-
uite seriously. It is possible to ap-
e even a friend's work without resort-
superlatives and damning every other
Some people prefer Chopin to Liszt,
ch was good at his style.

I should not have written so much—my life is too full to admit of continual badinage. Also I am much too busy to ever kick at the R.H.S. And I do not " pat my friends on the back," but when I see a good piece of work I hope I shall always be honest enough to praise it if occasion demands—and irresponsible critics provide plenty of occasion.

Of the two pieces of work disposed of I must say I preferred the " severity " and " imitation " of the one to the flat and rather monotonous prettiness of the other, and, so far as I heard, this was the generally expressed opinion. There was too much stone spread about on the space in the latter case, giving none of those pleasant reliefs to the eye and spirit, but showing from a short distance a bewildering and flattish expanse of rocks. In a garden this effect would have been still more evident after the lapse of a year. J. WOOD.

4, *Fitzroy Street, W. 1.*

The colours of flowers

More than one of your correspondents lately have expressed dissatisfaction with the want of precision in defining the colours of flowers and have advocated an authoritative standard for universal use. I am afraid there is no remedy for the prevailing uncertainty, the difficulty of standardising colour being inherent in the nature of the subject, and insuperable. Ruskin expressed indignant dissent on being told that a Crocus was not golden till it appeared above ground; he would have denounced still more strongly the statement that it was not golden until some eye perceived it. Nevertheless, that is the truth.

Colour has no objective existence; it is purely subjective, being a sensation caused by the impact on such fibres of the retina as react to such of the components of pure light as are not absorbed by, but may be reflected from, the object in view. Even if it were assumed that the sensation caused by any ray in the spectrum is exactly the same in every individual, that sensation is subject to infinite modification by other rays reflected from adjoining objects. Thus the sensation of red is strengthened by proximity of its complementary green, that of blue by its complementary yellow. We commonly speak of Geranium ibericum as a blue Geranium, and if a spray of its blossom is placed, say, among the flowers of a yellow Tulip, it will cause the sensation of strong blue; but set it among bright green foliage and the complementary red ray will assert itself, causing the Geranium to appear purple.

Dyes may be chemically manufactured to reflect any colour with precision, but the fabrics to which they are applied must always have their effect modified or enhanced alongside of fabrics reflecting other colours.

Monreith. HERBERT MAXWELL.

Colour charted and catalogued

The letter of Mr. Percy E. Chappell in your issue of July 13th, stating his approval of the Fellowes Colour Chart, is most interesting.

As the author, I write to say that this chart, which is entitled " Colour: Charted and Catalogued " (publishers, Geographia, Ltd., 55, Fleet Street), was compiled for the use of inexpert persons unaccustomed to describe subtle differences of hue. This chart forms a basis on which they can discuss and select hues on equal terms with an expert. Unlike most colour charts, the hues do not depend merely on a colour name. Each hue has been fixed by definite colour measurements, with which the user is not concerned. It has besides a specific number and a simple colour name.

The 400 hues cover the whole field of colour in a simple sequence of bright, dull, strong, and weak hues, a key reference, and pigmental colour, as described in the subtitle. E. FELLOWES.

Oriental Poppies in the flower border

Your correspondent, " F. H.," writes in your issue for July 20th about patches of Oriental Poppy that are so handsome in the flower border in early summer, but that leave such unsightly blanks when their bloom is over. The same problem presented itself here (south-west Surrey), and was got over in this way. A slightly raised mound of rather large size was planted for a good display of these Poppies. They are in groups, the centre of each group about 6 feet apart. Each group, when in flower, occupies a space about 4 feet across. Between each we planted Gypsophila paniculata. This was two years ago, and now each plant of Gypsophila is a cloudy mass of bloom also a good 4 feet across, completely hiding the cut-down Poppies. But when the Poppies make their first growth again in the late summer we cut away some branches of the Gypsophila to give them room. Behind all this we have some plants of the hybrid Clematis Jouiniana. It occurred here, as it has done in other places, where its obvious parents, C. Vitalba and C. Davidiana, are grown. This makes yearly flowering shoots a good 15 feet long and is trained over the now discolouring Gypsophila, and over any places where a gap asks to be filled. I do not think that this particular plant is procurable, but a fair substitute would be Clematis Flammula.

G. J.

Ostrowskia magnifica

I SEND you a photograph just taken of a remarkably fine Ostrowskia magnifica that I venture to think is worthy of your notice. It is growing in a corner of my rock garden here. Height of plant, 7 feet 4 inches; width of individual bloom, 6⅝ inches; five bloom spikes, with a total of 17 blooms open and nine to open. THOS. KINGSCOTE.

Watermoor House, Cirencester.

Ostrowskia magnifica well grown in a Cirencester garden

A proposed Rock Garden Society

I should like to say how much the idea of a Rock Garden Society appeals to those who are interested in growing really rare and difficult Alpines. To the ordinary person the difficulty of getting in touch with really keen amateurs is great. We all know dozens of people who talk about their rock gardens, but when we go and see them they are usually collections of one or two hundred most ordinary plants. What makes an interesting Alpine garden is not its size, but the planning and showing off real treasures to the best advantage, and I personally think Sir W. Lawrence's suggestion a most excellent one. N. S. C.

Godstone.

Meconopsis Baileyi

In reference to "J. R. K.'s" note on the hardiness of this subject (page 494), I can assure him that many plants, both old and young, and quite unprotected, came through last winter here without the slightest injury. The thermometer registered zero on two occasions, and for five days it did not rise above 12 degs. A box of seedlings on a garden path was frozen solid for a fortnight, thawed, and again frozen for a similar period, yet they all appeared in spring and are now lusty plants. I agree with Mr. Puddle that M. Baileyi is unquestionably hardy. A. T. J.

Carnarvonshire.

—— I think "J. R. K." is decidedly too sweeping in his wholesale condemnation of those whose idea of a blue flower does not agree with his. He quite forgets the enormous influence soil has on colour. I had a Pentstemon procurus some time ago, the most vivid clear blue. I grew a cutting of it and brought it to a different soil and situation. It is now a most uninteresting mauvy dull blue, and unless I myself had taken
those cuttings I should not have beli
to be the same. Look how vividly b
Hydrangea is in one place and p
another. You can take a cutting off
plant, but put it in different soil and
flower pink or a dull slate colour.

Again, hardy is a very variable w
consider hardy means a plant that
ordinary care and in an ordinary wint
stand outside, but put a hardy plan
damp, draughty situation it is lost, a
owner complains it is not hardy. La
ter, for instance, was fatal to many
that had stood for years outside. I
my Lithospermums and all my
Strain of Primulas, and both are fairly
A plant may be hardy, but an exce
place or an exceptional winter may
death. N. S

Godstone.

Hippeastrum x Sprekelia

I am rather surprised to see (issu
20th, page 494) that you head my
"ALLEGED Sprekelia Cross." It is n
an *alleged* cross, but a perfect one.
crossing has been done before.
Weathers, in his "The Bulb Book,"
edition, mentions the resulting plant
the name of Hippeastrum Cybist
Sprekelia Cybister. It came from
Bolivian Andes, but has since been
cultivation. (MRS.) EMILY M. B

[The correct name for Sprekelia C
is Hippeastrum Cybister. We publis
letter with the usual reservation, and
out that because a Hippeastrum has
pollinated by a Sprekelia it does not
that the seeds are those of a big
hybrid.—ED.]

If it were possible

It has often been remarked that in
summer the gardener who has work
valiantly through the spring seeks o
shady tree, either literally or figura
and allows time to go unheeded. V
excuses are made for this inactivity, b
anyone ever offered the reaction fro
plethora of flower shows as an excus
later idleness? Surely after the fren
management which is required on th
of the committees, one might reasonab
pect the harried members to want both
and repose, qualities of good garde
which do not often have a chance i
exhibition rooms. But whatever e
may be offered, surely all must be cons
valid, when the terrific heat and blazing
light fill the midsummer world and
exacting physical labour seem far from
desires.

But whatever excuse one must off
midsummer idleness, however flimsy it
appear in the cold light of necessity,
gardener should practise it in the gar
the extent of meditating on the present
of his accomplishment. To sit quietly,
in the drowsy heat of a July afternoon
let the mind and eye play quietly ov
garden scene, filling up the spaces that
yet to be filled, observing critically the
development of the garden picture, an
ciding as carefully as possible wheth
not the slowly forming garden pictu
fashioning itself to your heart's desi
far from sloth.

The above are the sentiments of an
can writer in the National Hortic
Magazine for July. Many an English
dener who is a member of one or
show committees will heartily agree and
wish that it might be possible to sit
a tree and meditate. He will, however
it difficult to carry out the suggestion
is a Border Carnation, Iris, Daffodil, D
or Gladiolus enthusiast, to mention o
few of the flowers which require all the

ttention he is able to devote to them this hot summer. SMILAX.

Hoeing

never one reads the advice published h the gardening and in some of the and weekly papers, and the particular t is that of the value of "hoeing," arly always sees the words "keep the hoe going." The purpose of this is to spread the fame of a hoe I have using for some months, and which is the Sproughton. There is no possible rison between the two. The ghton, with its double cutting edges s free point, together with the angle ich the blade is set to the handle, does hing the Dutch hoe can do and much in half the time and without fatigue

do many people neglect hoeing? The r is that it is too fatiguing. So it is any type of hoe except the one I am mending. A dry time such as we have aving needs the hoe more than any- Let anyone who has not already so try the Sproughton, and if he does gree with me I shall be very surprised. presented several to friends and they what a splendid tool it is.

B. STANLEY.

Loganberries

McGuffog's note (page 512) relates an ence which exactly coincides with mine On my return after some weeks' un- ible absence during the hard frost one first things I noticed was that the of the Loganberries were, to all ap- nces, completely dead, nothing but a ticks remaining to indicate where had hriving and hefty canes. I gave them an utter loss, but decided to leave them, n with many other things in similar l, to see if they would start again later. pleased to say that they are now as ishing as ever, and only the other day I ed quite a number of fruits well ad- d on this new growth.

ing the last eight years here I have, on ccasions, suffered considerable loss of and even the complete destruction of lants during hard winters, so I was not altogether surprised at the damage this time.

I note that Mr. McGuffog has been more fortunate and has never known Loganberries to be killed back before. With us here it is, as is seen from what I say above, not an uncommon experience, and I should say, from my experience, that in this district they are one of the most likely fruits to suffer in severe winters. Incidentally this, alongside Mr. McGuffog's experience, goes further towards proving my contention that the climate here is more trying than that of Scotland, and that it does not follow, as many Scottish gardeners seem to think, that everything which is hardy in Scotland is so here by any means. J. R. K.

Skipton, Yorks.

The hardiest Helianthemums

A border of mixed Helianthemums, planted haphazard, has for many years been a cheerful feature in my garden, but the past winter has cleared out half of them.

From our misfortunes we can often draw some useful information, and a list of the hardier varieties is my solace in this case.

Here they are: Sudbury Gem, Smith's Pink, Miss Lake, Mrs. Croft, and Bonfire.

These are not merely survivors, but varieties which have come through unhurt, foliage covering the whole plant.

In another place I note The Bride and Scarlet Queen as untouched by frost.

A large pink-flowered seedling given me by Mr. Musgrave seems to be quite hardy.

Can any of your readers extend this list?

Among the killed are Album plenum, Aureum plenum, and A. Fireball.

E. A. BUNYARD.

Paul's Scarlet Climber

ONE catalogue describes this Rose as only of moderate growth, and the Rev. J. H. Pemberton is reported to have said that the only fault he had to find with it was its name—that it never grew higher than 12 feet with him and should be called a Pillar Rose.

I enclose a photograph of one I planted five or six years ago. It is now 27 feet high, and, as you see, has a mass of glorious flowers. It has never had any manure whatever, which, I consider, accounts for its vigour and for the cleanness of its foliage. The white Rose which has grown into it is one of Pemberton's Musks.

The other photograph shows a bit of the Rose garden. In the foreground is a bed of Wilhelm Kordes; Ophelia and Mme. Butterfly are in the next bed and Betty Hulton in the third. On the right, under the wall, are Mme. Butterfly and Betty Uprichard. The soil is chalk, which I dug out to the depth of 2½ feet and replaced with good loam. That is all that is done, excepting spraying for mildew in autumn and Black Spot in winter. No manure is given, but the Sproughton hoe is used freely. Immediately after pruning I give all my Roses a dressing of burnt vegetable matter. HERBERT NASH.

Chantry Dene, Guildford.

Left: A Rose garden on chalk *Right:* Paul's Scarlet Climber 27 feet high

The Alpine Sea Holly (Eryngium alpinum)

Eryngiums

THE steely-blue colouring of the stems, spiny leaves, and flower-heads of these hardy herbaceous perennials, popularly known as the Sea Hollies, renders them valuable border plants for decoration during the autumn months, and if carefully dried the inflorescences make useful ornamental material when flowers are scarce in the winter season.

Deep-rooting perennials, they succeed in a medium, well-worked loam, and although they sometimes take two years to become thoroughly established they then make fine clumps which remain satisfactory for a number of years without disturbance, and are very effective in borders on account of their unique habit and colour. They should be given an open, sunny position to ensure the rigid development of their stout stems on which the Teasel-like flower-heads are borne. They resent disturbance and should not be moved too frequently. When this becomes necessary propagation can be effected by division, but they can be readily raised from seed.

E. Oliverianum, one of the best of the genus, is a strong growing plant about three feet high with large, rather elongated flower-heads of a lustrous, metallic blue. E. amethystinum is a somewhat lesser plant with attractive, deep-blue stems and flower-heads.

E. planum is a more slender but taller growing plant with a distinct branching habit and bears flower heads of a pale blue colour in profusion. E. giganteum is a very strong growing plant with silvery-grey foliage and pale blue heads of flowers. E. Zabelli is a splendid decorative variety of a deep blue colour and without spines. E. Bourgati, with small, deep blue flower-heads, and E. maritimum, with paler blue heads, are dwarfer growing kinds and excellent for the front of the hardy flower border. W. AUTON.

Woking.

Verbena species C.E. 354

The plant which was exhibited as Verbena species C.E. 354 at the Royal Horticultural Society's fortnightly meeting on July 16th, and received an Award of Merit subject to its being named, has now been identified as Verbena corymbosa (Ruiz and Pavon).

Perpetual Carnations and the Holidays

TO many people the only regret at the holidays is leaving one's plants. The head gardener or the amateur all have the same sensation when they depute the care of them to someone else. So much depends on the deputy.

The head gardener who has a "second" or boy should be able to hope for the best from one of his own training, but the amateur who has to rely on a friend naturally has some anxieties, for he knows how quickly his plants dry out in hot weather. To such people it is a good plan to plunge one's plants outside in soil up to the rims, in a shady position. Plunged thus deeply in the soil they require less water and do not dry out so quickly. This is especially important for the young plants recently put into their flowering-pots, as if these become abnormally dry they are apt to go hard.

I should not be misunderstood to mean that a shady position outside is good for a permanent position, but merely as a temporary place while the owner is away from home. The anxious owner of his plants may in such circumstances rest comfortably assured that his beloved plants will thrive with less than half the attention which would be needed in the greenhouse, for Mother Earth has a cooling effect and moisture-giving ability, when the plants are plunged up to the rims, which is remarkable. This applies not only to Carnations, but to many other plants of our favourites. A top dressing of fertiliser or liquid manure helps them meantime.

On the return from one's holidays one should replace Carnations in the houses, for, while bearing in mind that during summer it is necessary to keep them soft and growing freely, as the summer nears its end we should steady the tendency for softness and prepare to ripen them in autumn. Thus, while it is good to feed regularly now and to continue to do so until September, at that time the plants should only be given half quantity, and feeding ceases at the end of the month or early October.

For the same reasons one puts Carnations under glass at the end of the summer, as in the case of continual or heavy rains at this (or any) season plants become too soft for winter blooming under glass.

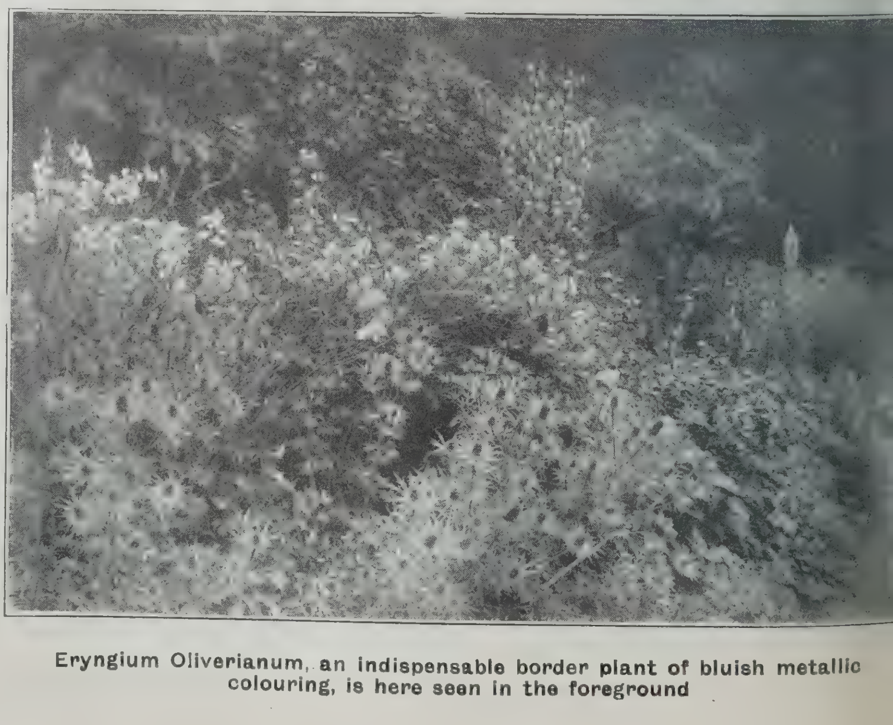
During the hot spells which have prevailed this summer, one notices a big differ the behaviour of varieties. Our old fav Enchantress and Baroness de Brienen, like it, while some almost like it. variety Saffron, which is not one of t to open in the sunless days of winte well, and the salmon-pink Eileen Low, geny from Baroness de Brienen, se revel in the heat and keeps well withou "curly."

It is quite an important point in a tion that it should behave well and la during these hot spells. Among which I have noted good for this bein Silk (the pretty art red fancy), Crystal Orange Sunstar, Sunstar, Sheila (orange, flaked red), Lady Northcliff Laddie (both rather tall growers f amateur), Brilliant (deep scarlet), Top Mrs. Cobb (crimsons), Spectrum and Nicholson (scarlets), Thomas Ives (Mrs. Ward Improved and Master M Stoop (rose-pinks), Daphne and Amos (mauve-heliotropes).

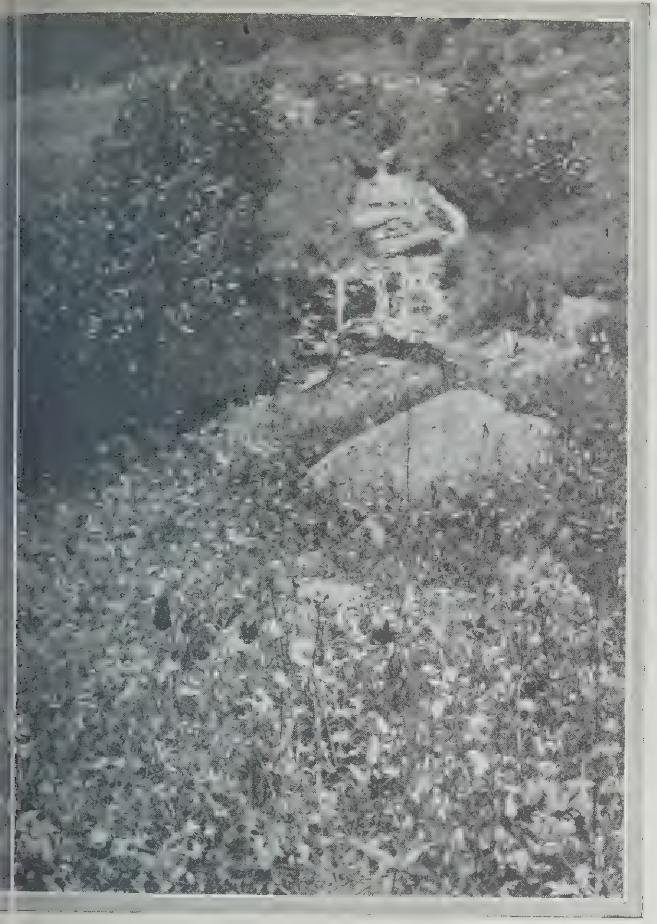
A good result of this ample sunlight return of fragrance which in winter d missing, or not to be noticed in so varieties, and the sun brings out a good point in the Perpetual Carnatio it demonstrates that there are few f which last as well cut during the Thousands of dozens are sent from C Garden Market to far away provincial t where the florists rely on them as som which will not let them down during t hot spells. LAURENCE J. C

Delphinium Hunsdon Del

Of the many Delphiniums shown this one novelty, Hunsdon Dell, seems to out from the rest by virtue of its pur wonderful colour. The flowers are clear Italian sky-blue, it is semi-doub free and vigorous growth, and robust stitution. This handsome variety receive First Class Certificate of the British phinium Society when shown by M Bones, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire. Fron point of view of border effect we can con of nothing finer than the tall blue spir Hunsdon Dell.



Eryngium Oliverianum, an indispensable border plant of bluish metallic colouring, is here seen in the foreground



rca montana, Anemone sulphurea, and Aquilegia alpina grow in this pleasant meadow

St. Bruno's Lily or Paradise Lily (Anthericum Liliastrum) glorifies the alpine meadows around Piora

Ten Days in Leventina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

(*Continued from page 516*)

JUNE 30TH.

IVED at Piora in afternoon in dense . The hotel is situated on the edge a lake of which we see very little. mp and cold in this summer resort, ing no fires, though we should have ld of one.

JULY 1ST.

Awakened in the chilly morn to of bells, a herd of black goats being p to browse all day on mountain The mists have cleared, revealing the of mountains around the lake.

Piora is beautifully situated—it lone at the head of Lake Ritom, ng no village. It is reached only by —no motors, no horses; one donkey is it a mule?—brings up the

ld up here. We are among the first The hotel is almost empty. This is a good centre for the plant-lover. orning mists had disappeared the ped heights of Taneda, Corandoni, oughe look most inviting. We are me good days among the higher nd are excited at the prospects of the heights.

Needham has a tendency to vertigo, finds the altitude too much for him. es wisely to descend to Airolo, and 3." goes with him.

scend by zig-zag track to Sanitorio, in advance.

This track is most interesting for its wild flowers. Some of the slopes literally white with Paradise Lily—Paradisia (Anthericum) Liliastrum—now in full bloom.

Lago Ritom and cascade seen from the dining-room at Hotel Piora

There are large colonies of Globularia in rocky places, and the bright orange-yellow Arnica montana gives good splashes of colour.

There are large, almost silvery rosettes of Saxifraga Cotyledon wedged in between rugged granitic rocks.

We pass village of Altanca, a jumble of cabins, cowsheds, and pigsties. Needham facetiously named the village Altanca odorata.

At Sanitorio I leave P. R. B. with Needham and return alone to Piora.

TUESDAY, JULY 2ND.

Alone at Piora on a bright, sunny day.

Left Lago Ritom on the right and ascended by first cascade to Lago Tom.

Primula farinosa abounds in moist places by the lake. It is one of the common flowers here. Interspersed with it are the intense blue flowers of Gentiana bavarica, making a study in pink and blue that could not be bettered. Some higher slopes are bright yellow with flowers of Geum montanum mixed with a little Ranunculus, with Buttercup-like flowers borne close to the ground. The colour of these two flowers is so closely matched that it is not easy to distinguish them.

Proceeding higher, past two small lakes or tarns—I like the word tarn, meaning a tear dropped in the mountains—and crossing a steep patch of snow, where ice axe comes in useful, I reach Lago Scuro. It is covered in snow and frozen over, and almost surrounded by snow. There is a magnificent view across the frozen lake. The shrill call of the marmot is the only sound to break the quietude of these dizzy heights and ice-bound lake.

Scrambling about on rugged granitic rocks between drifts of snow I espy bright little

Eritrichium nanum in its native home. It is difficult to reach and almost impossible to cultivate

This beautiful and interesting little plant grows on these precipitous rocks. Two plants in flower are clearly seen in the closer vie of the centre illustration

patches of pure sky-blue. Yes, on closer inspection it is the far-famed Eritrichium nanum in full bloom. From a little distance the flowers look like a clear blue film on the rocks. The little Forget-me-not-like flowers must be seen in their native haunts to be fully appreciated. The plants, clothed with fine, silky hairs, hug close to the cliffs, and the blue flowers sit tight upon their cushion of leaves. Verily, this treasure is well named Roi des Alpes.

Near by are other treasures of the high Alps, Androsace carnea, Ranunculus glacialis, and Soldanella pusilla.

(*To be continued.*)

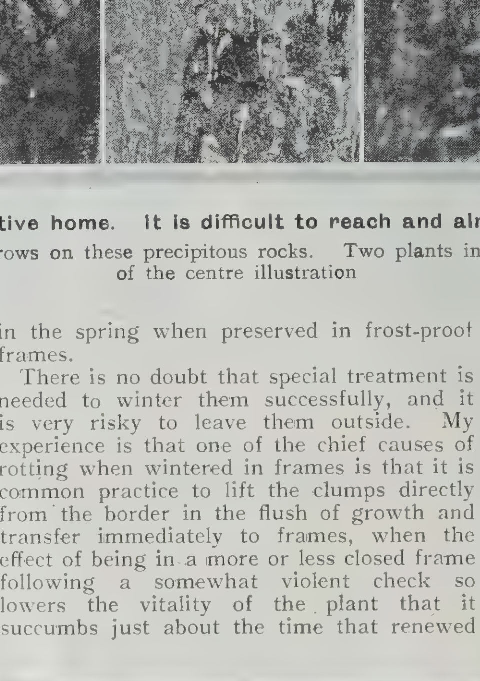
Lobelia cardinalis

IN recent years many good, tall, herbaceous Lobelias have been introduced with distinct colours in various shades of pink, violet, purple, and scarlet, but a good type of crimson is more to be desired than any other colour in this section, and none can surpass L. cardinalis for sheer dazzling beauty. The present season, difficult as it has been for many plants, has only served to intensify the beauty of the foliage and the brilliance of the flower of this handsome subject. A lover of both heat and moisture, it may have suffered from drought conditions on lighter soils, but in good, strong soil which has had an abundant supply of organic manure incorporated with it so that it retains moisture and the surface mulched with similar material growth and flowering is well-nigh perfection.

Opinions differ as to the methods of cultivation of this plant, and while some assert that it may be left in the border during the winter by giving the crowns some protection, others maintain that it must be lifted and wintered inside. It is admitted that the plant presents some difficulties in wintering, but it is not wholly a matter of temperature, for while it will survive the winter unscathed under certain conditions, it is by no means unusual to find whole clumps rotted in the spring when preserved in frost-proof frames.

There is no doubt that special treatment is needed to winter them successfully, and it is very risky to leave them outside. My experience is that one of the chief causes of rotting when wintered in frames is that it is common practice to lift the clumps directly from the border in the flush of growth and transfer immediately to frames, when the effect of being in a more or less closed frame following a somewhat violent check so lowers the vitality of the plant that it succumbs just about the time that renewed growth should take place. It is a caution to prepare the clumps for few weeks beforehand by slightly them with a fork a few weeks before actually removed. A semi-ripening of the crowns then sets in, and much better able to resist winter co It is also advisable to divide the cro encourage new growth early in the as it is often when left too long wit tention that heavy losses ensue. Ev piece grows freely if given good c in fairly strong heat in the spring, the plants are well established they transferred to cool conditions, harde planted out, as, when well harden will even stand considerable frost stage.

It is quite easy to raise stocks f sown in strong heat in spring and off so soon as the seedlings can be but the resulting plants will not b form depth of colour, and further tion should only be effected from plants. W.



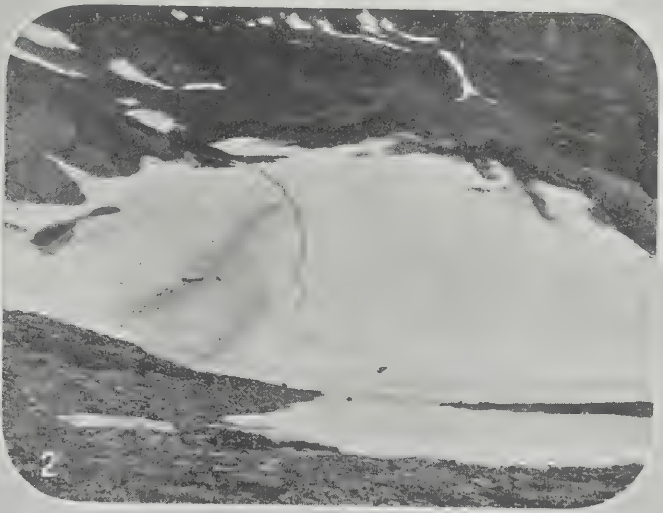
Lago Scuro, about 9,000 feet, frozen over and covered in snow

From a photograph taken on July 2nd

Epigæa repens (Mayflow

Belonging to the Natural Order Epigæa repens is a small evergreen only a few inches high. It is American plant, where it is found i positions in the shade of Pines. specific name implies, it is of a trail of growth with cordate-ovate enti the nerves of which are very hairy pretty rose-tinted flowers in small which exhale a rich, spicy fragran pear in spring. As previously s natural home is under trees, theref advisable to plant it in the shade of shrubs. E. repens is a charming pl shady situation, thriving in sandy soil. It may be increased by div well-established plants. The plant known under the common names of Laurel and Mayflower.

PLANT HUNTING IN ALTA LEVENTINA



ast of Lago Ritom, looking towards Passo Columbe and Santa Rhododendron ferrugineum in foreground.

he snow track, seen from above, on the way to Lago Scuro and hutte.

rimula integrifolia in granitic rock.

4. Piora, looking south to the Ticino valley.

5. A fine herd moving to higher pastures.

6. The cascade between Lago Ritom and L. Tom. Primula farinosa and Gentiana bavarica grow freely by the stream.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Peaches in the open

As the varieties begin to colour freely, discontinue syringing and also manure water, and apply clear water only until the fruits are gathered. Tie in all loose growth and push back leaves wherever there is a tendency for such to obscure light and sun from the fruits. It is also advisable to examine all ripening fruits daily, removing only those which fall freely into the hand. Wasps and bluebottles are often troublesome, and if this becomes serious the fruits must either be placed in light muslin bags or gathered a little in advance of actual ripening, finishing them in a cool room. This, however, should only be resorted to when serious trouble exists, as nothing is comparable to the fruit freshly gathered from the tree.

Vineries

Do not omit to apply abundant moisture and generous syringings to houses from which the fruit has been cleared, and leave the ventilators open fully both day and night from this date in order that both wood and leaves may become thoroughly hardened. Feed with one of the excellent Vine manures now available those later houses carrying heavy crops, and close the houses daily at an hour which admits of the foliage becoming dry before night.

Plants intended for winter blooming

Whether Zonals or other Pelargoniums, Poinsettias, Coleus thyrsoides, Begonias, Primulas, or other subjects required for this purpose, all should be potted on as soon as they are ready into their final pots and kept growing freely. A few of the mixed collections of stove plants will also benefit from a further shift into larger pots at this season.

The bulb order

Referred to last week, this should—to avoid disappointment—be sent off without delay for those bulbs which are intended for forcing. Roman Hyacinths and a few of the large-flowered varieties, Narcissus, such as Maximus, Golden Spur, King Alfred, and the merits of the sweet scented varieties should not be lost sight of. Tulips, both early and late flowering, Grape Hyacinths, Chionodoxas, Scillas, and Lachenalias.

Carnations

Those layered in frames, as advised in a former calendar, should now be gradually exposed to light and air until the lights may be removed altogether. If the growth is clean and free, the plants may be freely rosed over with the can in the late afternoon following hot days so long as the soil is kept from becoming sodden. Keep perpetual-flowering varieties growing freely, and syringe the plants in the evening as a check against Red Spider, shifting on into larger pots as desired. Tie in any growths liable to become damaged, and place supports in readiness for advancing shoots.

Celery

This has been severely attacked with the Celery Fly this year, and only by constant spraying with quassia has this disfiguring pest been kept down. The plants are now growing luxuriantly, and must be assisted by frequent waterings and applications of artificial or manure water. Keep a sharp look out for Celery Rust, the most serious trouble which the Celery grower has to deal with, and spray with Anti-Rust immediately its presence is noted, or with Bordeaux Mixture.

Salads

Make sowings of Lettuces in order to provide plants for the filling of cold frames and warm, sheltered borders, where they will winter safely. Also make a sowing of Spinach to stand the winter on a well prepared and well drained border which has been made tolerably firm.

Roses

It has been a wonderful Rose year, and, generally speaking, the plants have kept reasonably clean from the many and various pests which attack them. Train in weekly the fast growing shoots of climbing kinds, remove dead and unsightly flowers every few days, watch for mildew and rust, which is almost certain to put in an appearance within the next few days, and spray immediately with Mildew Specific and Anti-Rust.

Pansies

Make a sowing of a few good varieties for planting out in late autumn to form broad edgings to beds of spring and other flowers, and keep the seeds removed from those now in bloom in order that the full plant's energy may be given to the development of successional bloom.

Lavender

Cut the blossoms as they become fully open and before the lower part of the spikes begin to fall away, and cut when the whole bush is quite dry. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Pot up Freesias

The bulbs should now be shaken out of the old soil and the largest again potted up, the small ones, unless wanted to increase stock, being discarded. The compost should consist of sweet, fibrous loam three parts, leaf-mould two parts, and sufficient clean, coarse sand to ensure free drainage. After potting, set in a cold frame, shade from the sun until growth appears, and do not over-water.

Roman Hyacinths

For early blooming, pot these up as soon as procurable. The compost advised above for Freesias will suit admirably if a small quantity of quite dry cow manure be added. Place six or seven bulbs in a 6-inch pot, or, if wanted for room decoration, three in the 5-inch size make very neat little specimens. If merely wanted for cutting, the bulbs may be planted in boxes.

Repot Cinerarias

These should have a shift into the flowering pot before becoming unduly pot-bound. Clean, well-drained 6-inch pots are very suitable, but for the stronger plants the 7-inch size may be given. Good, sound loam, leaf-mould, and sand, with the addition of a 6-inch potful of bone-meal, and a 4½-inch potful of Thomson's plant manure, to each barrowload of soil will give good results. Set in shady frame on hard ash bottom, water with judgment, and give abundance of air.

Herbaceous Calceolarias

These gorgeous subjects have still many admirers, and a well-grown group is certainly well worth a little trouble to procure. The seedlings growing in boxes should now be fit for transferring to 3-inch pots. Use a sweet compost of good loam, leaf-mould, and sand, and do not press the soil too firmly. Set on ashes in a well-shaded cold frame, keep rather close for a few days, an
with great care.

Increasing Fuchsias

Cuttings of these graceful plants, if
in pots of very sandy compost and
cold frame, will root more readily n
they are likely to do later on. Keep
just nicely moist, not saturated by
quent watering. Set in a cold fra
shade from all sunshine until rooted.

Border Chrysanthemums

The tying of these should have reg
tention so as to prevent damage b
while in the case of varieties that a
grown for the production of large blo
thinning of the shoots and the remo
superfluous buds must be given du
The earlier such operations are carr
the better will be the results.

Pentstemon cuttings

While it is much too early to think
pagating the main batch of these, in t
of rare varieties it is well to now secu
cuttings as are present, and this wi
likely encourage the plants to send o
growths, these being secured later.
all the more necessary in a season l
present one, when growth is slo
stunted by reason of the prolonged dr

Pansies and Violas

These are suffering from the dry co
of the soil, and cuttings are to be a
commodity in many districts. It will
therefore, to secure any that may be a
now, in case the plants die off, as t
threatening to do. Watering and m
(with very old manure or leaf-moul
help to keep them healthy.

Sowing Onions

In the later districts it will be well
now, if this has not already been do
a fortnight later will be more suita
sheltered, early localities. To sow to
usually results in the plants "boltin
spring. Cranston's Excelsior, D
Yellow, and Trebons are all good Onio
succeed well when sown in autumn.

Jerusalem Artichokes

To prevent the stems being knocked
by the autumn gales, it is a good plan
this time to cut them back to about
from the ground. This does the c
harm, if, indeed, it does not add to t
of the tubers.

Harvesting Shallots

Even in late districts this crop shou
be ripe and should, therefore, be gath
once, as the bulbs very quickly begin to
out roots again, especially should a s
wet weather set in. Lay out the
thinly on a hard bottom and in full su
to mature thoroughly before storing
winter.

Parsley for winter

To ensure a steady supply of this
herb throughout the winter and spring
be necessary to employ a frame
most of that period. A bed of nice,
compost should be prepared under
frame, and fresh, healthy seedlings
therein. Make nicely firm, and shad
all sunshine for a few days, but do n
too close or the leaves will turn
After they are growing freely, take
sashes so as to make the plants as
as possible. Only on the advent of kee
should the sashes be placed over the f
C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow

National Rose Society

Show of new Roses on July 23rd

New Hall of the Royal Horticultural ety was used this year for this ety's show of new Roses, together eral competitive classes.

llowing new Roses received the ice of Merit of the National Rose No medals were awarded to new

EEN KING.—A promising new Hybrid e, of fairly good form, and with a perfume. The colour is not unlike Caroline Testout, but there is point ew Rose. Growth upright. Shown . Marriott, Carlton, Notts.

CHAPLIN.—A useful addition to the vety crimson Hybrid Tea Roses, scented in the early opening of the Good for exhibition or garden. y Chaplin Bros., Ltd., Waltham

TA DE ALVAREZ.—This is a charm- -double Hybrid Tea, of a pleasing ink on yellow ground. Strong and owth. Shown by B. R. Cant and ., Colchester.

ONIA.—A distinctly promising Rose, g size, good form, and substance, splendid character. Colour, creamy- Growth erect and branching. Good ition or garden. Shown by Dobbie Ltd., Edinburgh.

URSERYMEN'S SECTION.

e groups of cut Roses of a repre- character, shown on a space 20 feet , made a glorious display. A strik- ndsome display won first prize for edy and Son, Portadown, Ireland, good exhibits of McGredy's Ivory, R. Barraclough, Hortulanus Budde, as. Lamplough, Mrs. Henry Morse, Morse, Los Angeles, Margaret , Marion Cran, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Druschki, and Portadown. The dis- haplin Bros., Ltd., Waltham Cross, rded second prize. This was a group of well-grown Roses. The f the blooms was also good. Third won by Mr. J. H. Pemberton, Rom- fourth by B. R. Cant and Sons, lchester. A smaller group of the racter, 10 feet by 4 feet, was also ntested. There were no fewer than ficent exhibits. Superbly fine was prize group set up by R. Harkness Hitchin. There were in this ex- nd examples of Mrs. A. R. Barra- , Ime. Butterfly, Lady Inchiquin, K. Irs. Henry Bowles, Mrs. Chas. gh, Lord Charlmont, Dame Edith abel Morse, Allen Chandler, Isobel, ulsen, and among the ramblers a and Thelma. A good second was rge Prince, Longworth, Berks. ze was awarded to Mr. C. Gregory, Notts., and fourth prize to Nursery, Wokingham.

ss for three baskets of cut Roses istinct varieties, not more than 30 each variety, found four beautiful Leading honours were won by T. Sons, Stranraer, with fresh, well- amples of Lord Charlmont, Ruth, . Baxter. Second prize was secured . Burch, Peterborough, and W. F. hird prize went to Mr. E. B. Le rth Walsham, Norwich.

BITION ROSES IN BOXES.

incipal class for Roses shown in s for 24 blooms, in distinct varie- this instance there were four en- showing well. T. Smith and Sons ced first, having good blooms of Advocate, Lady Elizabeth, Mrs. C. Lamplough, Lord Allenby, Mrs. E. J. Hudson, Frau Karl Druschki, Mrs. A. R. Barraclough, Ruth, John Russell, Lady Inchiquin, Golden Emblem, Mabel Morse, Una Wallace, Gwynne Carr, May Western, and Mrs. Tom Smith. Second prize was awarded to Mr. C. Gregory, Chilwell, Notts. Third prize was secured by B. R. Cant and Sons, Ltd., Colchester.

Yucca gloriosa, about 7 feet high, now flowering in the Calverley Grounds at Tunbridge Wells

This imposing Yucca has an immense panicle of large white flowers. It is one of the noblest plants in English gardens

A smaller class for 18 blooms, distinct, was a good feature. The leader in this class was Mr. G. Burch. His better blooms were H. V. Machin, Mrs. F. Dennison, George Dickson, Coronation, Dean Hole, Mrs. C. Lamplough, and Candeur Lyonnaise. Mr. H. Drew, Longworth, Berks., was placed second, and third prize was awarded to R. Harkness and Co., Hitchin.

AMATEUR SECTION.

In the class for one basket of cut Roses, mixed varieties, not more than 18 stems, there were four pretty exhibits. First prize was won by Mr. J. E. Rayer, Worcester, with a light and airy arrangement, second prize by Mr. J. N. Hart, Little Heath, Potter's Bar, and third prize by Mr. G. Marriott, Carlton, Notts.

The chief class for amateurs was for 12 blooms, distinct varieties, open to all amateurs. There were five excellent exhibits, first prize being won by Mr. H. F. Spicer, of Hitchin. His bloom of George Dickson, a beautiful example, gained the Silver-Gilt Medal for the best Rose in the amateur classes. Mr. J. E. Rayer, Worcester, was placed second, and Mr. J. N. Hart third.

Another class for 12 cut Roses, distinct, open to growers of fewer than 500 plants, was represented by three splendid exhibits. First prize was won by Mr. Norman Fletcher, Farringdon, second by Mr. Alan Gibbs, Lisvane, and third by Mr. E. T. Gann, Tankerton, Kent.

There were only two exhibits in the class for six distinct varieties shown in vases, not more than three, nor more than seven, stems of each variety. First prize was well won by Mr. G. Marriott, who had good examples of Golden Emblem, Souv. de G. Pernet, K. of K., Emma Wright, W. F. Dreer, and Los Angeles. Mr. H. F. Spicer, Hitchin, was awarded second prize. D. B. CRANE.

Sundries for the Lawn

Continuing our review of garden sundries commenced in last issue, it will be appropriate to refer this week to a few accessories for the lawn

ALL the arts of the green-keeper and all possible aids to lawn maintenance have been severely tested this season. Mowers have ceased for long spells from mowing, and rollers are at rest as far as most lawns are concerned. Hose and sprinklers have been working overtime until their use in many districts has been proscribed by anxious water authorities. The customary baldness on the base lines of the tennis court has encroached nearer and nearer upon the service lines, and nearer, possibly, is the conversion of many owners to the laying down of the best substitute for grass—a green hard court.

For sprinkling large areas one of the best watering appliances is Pattison's "Majestic" sprinkler. Its two arms are of wide span, and they scatter a fine mist-like spray which does not flood. These makers of the well-known horse boots are specialists in all equipment for the lawn. Their "Sarel" spiked roller for aerating and cultivating fine turf, and their Graduator-distributor for applying top-dressings to links and large lawns, are extensively used. Another good sprinkler of a revolving wheel type, mounted, is the "Pluviette."

The "Atco" lawn edge trimmer is an indispensable machine where an immaculate appearance on the borders of large lawns has to be maintained. Running smoothly along the turf edge, on curve or straight, it works with a continuous shearing action and imparts, to ornamental lawns especially, that finish which is so much coveted by less perfect gardeners. Another useful "Atco" appliance is the Turf-replacing Weeder, by means of which weeds, complete with their roots, are lifted from lawns and clean turf replaced in the cavity by the same ingenious tool, used also for planting bulbs in turf or returfing bare patches.

Leaf sweepers may be expected to come into operation earlier than usual. Ransomes have a very good machine for this. An enclosed canvas collector is driven by side wheels operating a revolving brush which sweeps up the leaves and light refuse in a thoroughly efficient way besides being stimulating to congested turf, to which it imparts a healthy appearance. A device of a simpler kind for the small lawn is the "Springbok" rake. Its hardened and tempered teeth give it an exceptional flexibility. It is light, easy to work, does not clog, catch in the roots, or injure the turf in the slightest. Users are finding it handy also for tidying up paths and courtyards, and preparing seed beds. This rake has quickly become popular and has taken the place of its Bamboo prototype now rarely seen in this country. A rake made on a similar principle and known as the "Brumerake" was introduced to our readers last year.

The latest novelty in weeders is the "Ricco." This is in the form of a dredger 38 inches long which is charged with "Ricco" powder and, when pressed down over the weed, automatically releases sufficient of the weedicide for complete destruction of the weed. The powder is non-poisonous, and by this means is applied to the weed only, leaving the surrounding grass untouched.

The difficulty of transport over lawns is met by the "Oxford Roadless" barrows. These are in various types and sizes, all fitted with the "Orolo" track unit, which not only obviates any risk of marking the surface, but enables barrows, light trucks, and water carriers to be wheeled over dug or cultivated ground, or over obstacles or rough ground en route. The legs of the barrows are fitted with shoes as a further protective measure. Track units can be supplied for existing barrows.

Lawn sweepings and all garden refuse are incinerated and rendered into fine ash for fertilising by the Incinerator Company's "Dragon" series of destructors, supplied in garden, estate, and commercial sizes from 3 feet 6 inches to 9 feet 2 inches in height to top of chimney. These are an improved type made of strong steel plate. The bottom of the chimney projects into the furnace in order to withdraw the products of combustion from newly charged material and thus minimise smoke. A rocking grate is operated with a footstep, and so shakes the ash through to the ashpit with a minimum of trouble.

(*To be continued.*)

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Sawdust and slugs

I HAVE found the following plan of getting rid of slugs very efficacious, namely, sprinkling sawdust round the plants as one would quicklime and soot. The latter when once wetted lose their effect, but sawdust retains its virtue, however wet, and, sticking to the slugs, prevents their approach. When dry, slugs detest it.

Rustic picture frames

Pretty frames may be made with Nuts and cones. I lately saw some made of Beech Nut shells, fully open, along with others not so far advanced, Acorns, Hazel Nuts, and numerous small cones of different sorts, the whole forming a pretty and effective frame, which may be either square, oval, circular, or hexagonal. A piece of strong cardboard is brushed over with glue, in which the Nuts are set on a groundwork of dried Lichens. The larger cones are generally placed singly, but the smaller Nuts are mixed and grouped together. When finished, the cones and other parts receive a slight coating of varnish. Where plenty of cones and Nuts can be had, very pleasing combinations might be made in this way.—*August 2nd*, 1879.

Empty spaces

These should all be filled up without delay with Coleworts, Cabbage, Sprouting Broccoli, and Kales, as these will furnish a lot of useful, sweet food during the winter months.

Value of deep cultivatic

The value of deep and thorough cu
in garden practice has been a theme
dening literature for longer than mo
can remember, and if any further
were needed to substantiate the clain
"ayes" in the matter the present
affords us a striking illustration,
would-be grower of crops on badly
ground is wholly beaten by lack of n
Gardeners acquainted with the rudin
soil physics know that the water
power of a soil depends largely on its
tion, and whereas the very sandy s
loses its moisture through excessive
and the retentive unprepared soi
evaporation, both types can be
ameliorated by deep cultivation and
corporation with it of organic manu
liberal scale during the process of
tion.

While crops growing on poorly
soils can scarcely exist under the pr
conditions of the present season, th
crops growing on well-prepared soil n
cellent progress, provided that due a
is paid to surface cultivation or mul
prevent loss of moisture by evaporati
In a wet season the restriction of
on poorly prepared soil is not so pro
as in a dry one like the present, as th
holding power is not called on to a
extent, owing to frequent replenishme
nothing enables the plant better to res
periods of drought than deep cultivati
no system of manuring or watering c
the sins of omission in this direction.

W. A

Heating Orchid house

An interesting example of the prac
plication of electric heating comes f
North of England, where a keen
grower of Orchids with large greenh
these and other tropical plants has
had to depend upon hot-water pipes c
to a coke-fired boiler. Constant atte
the boiler was required, particularly
winter, to keep the heat of the Orch
at the necessary figure. Firing late
again early in the morning, as well a
times during the day in this case pro
some, especially as in the other hou
taining semi-tropical plants a lower
ture was sufficient. The obvious
therefore, was to instal separate hea
the Orchid house and make it inde
of the remainder of the buildings.
purpose the Industrial Heating De
of the G.E.C. was consulted, and
heavy waterproof type of tubular he
designed. A number of these hea
experimentally installed in the Orch
to a total length of 82 feet. To pres
proper saturation of the atmosph
heaters themselves are constantly
with water, which speaks well for
sign, and accurate temperature contr
Orchid house is effected.

Armeria cæspitosa

This comparatively choice Alpine h
the South of Europe, where it grows
tions of 5,000 feet to 8,000 feet ab
level. It is the smallest of the Th
Sea Pinks, and a most desirable su
the rock garden. The habit is dw
compact, forming dense tufts of dar
leaves, which spring from a br
woody root-stock. Its small heads
coloured flowers are borne on short,
stems, 1 inch to 2 inches high, fr
to September. The plant thrives
drained, rather poor, sandy loam. If
in rich soil it is liable to damp of
collar in wet weather.

Notes from the West

HOUGH some plants are admittedly
er drought resisters than others, it is
to see, when making observations
garden, that plants which are in
ultivated ground are better able to
d drought than those which are in
soils. If there is any truth in the
that we are in for a spell of dry
those who are contemplating the
ut of new flower borders might well
s in mind when preparing the soil.

iniums that have had their main
cut away are now producing a
t display of secondary spikes, and
these are not of such fine stature as
rnary spikes they are, nevertheless,
inty in appearance, and they are
y valuable in extending the flowering
f the plants. This second crop of
may be assisted considerably by
he plants a soaking with water and
viding a mulch to prevent evapora-
recently noticed a very effective com-
made by clumps of Thalictrum
and Delphinium Mrs. James
This Larkspur is by no means a
iety, but it holds its own with some
ore modern kinds. The flowers are
combination of blue and mauve, with
ling white centre, and the lateral
re produced in great abundance.

of the best massed effects I have
this summer is that made by Salvia
emorosa. The petals of the flowers
rich deep blue and the sepals of a
ue. The flower-spikes are about 18
height, and it is certainly one of the
erbaceous Salvias. Antirrhinum
is also an ideal plant for massing.
our of the flowers is unique among
rgons. It is a brilliant crimson-
nd is probably the richest-coloured
n existence. I saw this recently in
Kelway's nurseries at Langport, this
g responsible for its introduction into
e. One of the best annual Poppies
seen this year is named The Swan.
ble white blooms are like huge snow-

ix hispida æstivalis is at its best
he delicate pink plumes of blossom
attractive amid the elegant feathery
This shrub is especially suitable for
situations on the southern and
seaboards. Another noteworthy
Spiræa ariæfolia. It makes a great
eet or 12 feet in height, and through-
was completely smothered with its
amy blossoms. It also flowers well
north wall.

lue of Gaillardias in dry summers is
own, the following varieties being
praiseworthy:—Kelway's King
llow throughout), Great Western
bordered gold), Secret Fire (a com-
of crimson and gold), and Monarch
rimson, edged gold, with scalloped
Here at Minehead, in spite of
perennials are holding out well.
ll-known Erigeron Quakeress has
flower for several weeks. E. super-
erhaps, not so well known. It is of
deeper shade than Quakeress and,
inion, is a slightly better kind.

patens is generally regarded as a
lant, but I have seen plants in
gardens which have survived the
severe winters and are flowering
. I wonder how many shrubs will
ssom on two-year-old seedlings? In
en I have just seen a self-sown Elder
ond year with several blossoms on.
pace is not too limited this pretty
makes a very useful subject for
parts of the garden.

H. GREAVES.

Kalmia glauca

This little shrub is one of those whose great merits seem to have escaped the notice of the general run of gardeners. A native of N. America, where it ascends to great altitudes in the Rocky Mountains, K. glauca was introduced in 1767. It is an evergreen species making a sheaf of upright, slender, twiggy branches, usually rather less than 2 feet in height. The leaves, which are narrowly oblong, are about 1½ inches long and up to ⅜ inch wide. They are pointed at each end, recurved at the margins, and have their short stalks adpressed to the stem. A rich, lustrous green on their upper sides, these leaves are so glaucous beneath as to be almost white. The flowers, appearing in small terminal clusters in April, are very beautiful. Of the typical Kalmia shape, the five-lobed corolla is about ½ inch across and of a bright, keen rose, the unopened buds being ruby-red. Flowers are yielded in great abundance year after year, and their season often extends well into summer, and, as often as not, there will be a light second crop in autumn. K. glauca is, of course, quite hardy, and it is by no means difficult in sandy peat or any cool, well-drained loam in which ericaceous plants in general prosper. It enjoys fairly moist conditions, especially in spring and early summer. In fact, it may sometimes be seen growing in shallow water at the margins of lakes in the Rockies. Full sun is desirable, but partial shade is not resented should this be deemed advisable on account of too dry a soil. Unlike K. angustifolia, of which there are many forms, this species may always be identified by the characteristics given, especially by those of the foliage, while it flowers very much earlier than any of the others. These blooms, it may be added, are fairly resistant to light frosts. This delightful shrub may be increased by detaching rooted offsets or by cuttings of half-ripened shoots in August.

A. T. J.

FRUIT GARDEN

The Vines need attention

IT is strange that so many gardeners have greenhouses suitable for Vine growing and yet never attempt to provide themselves with their own Grapes. The greenhouse need not necessarily be a large one; in fact, some of the very best fruit has been grown in small greenhouses.

If it is wished to have forced Grapes, the border for the plants should be inside the house. It should be about 3 feet deep and 4 feet wide, and it must always be well drained. Good coarse loam is the soil Vines like best, and wood ashes and lime added to it, with rubble and bricks at the very bottom of the bed to provide drainage. After it has been prepared, the bed should be well watered and then left for a few days. The Vines should be planted in the summer; young plants should not be put in after July. When taking the young plants out of their pots, the matted roots should be shaken out so that they may get a good hold of the new soil freely. A large hole should be made for them, and the roots carefully earthed up bit by bit.

The less vigorous Vines, such as Lady Downe's Seedling and Foster's Seedling, require only about 3 feet between them, but those like Syrian and Gros Guillaume should be given about 4 feet.

Vine plants should be well watered after they have been removed from the pots, and before they have been planted. Throughout the summer the greenhouse should be constantly syringed so that a warm, moist atmosphere may urge on growth, but at the end of summer the actual growth will cease and the wood of the Vine will begin to ripen, so that less heat and moisture is then necessary. Gradually the greenhouse should be made cooler, and free ventilation given night and day.

For young Vines the stem should be cut right back to about 3 inches in December; that is, to within two or three buds of the base, so that it may become a sturdy plant before it bears fruit.

Until April the greenhouse should be kept quite cool, and then the ventilators should be closed until the temperature goes up to, say, about 60 degrees in the day time, when they may be opened; but throughout the growing time the temperature should be kept about 55 degrees to 60 degrees at night. If the greenhouse is well warmed by the sun during the day time it will be found that the night temperature will also be kept up. From April onwards the greenhouse should be kept of a moist atmosphere by constant syringing, and always—winter and summer alike—the roots should be well watered.

Frequently the failure of the Grapes to "set" well is due to the fact that too much moisture is given, with the effect that free fertilisation cannot take place because the pollen is damp and not easily moved. When the young Grapes are nearly as large as Peas a pair of Grape scissors should be used to thin out all superfluous Grapes. It is difficult to say exactly how many should be cut out, but beginning at the bottom and moving up through the bunch, thinning should be continued until the remaining Grapes are about ½ inch apart. Grapes are usually ready for thinning out by the first week in May.

Apples dropping

Some of the earlier dessert Apples have an awkward habit of dropping their fruits before they are ripe. Damage by bruising may be prevented by spreading straw or litter beneath the trees to catch the fallen fruit. Beauty of Bath is one of the worst sinners in this respect. James Grieve also has a bad reputation for being in a hurry to get off the tree.

The other extreme is provided by the delicious D'Arcy Spice, now sometimes known as Baddow Pippin, and one of the finest-flavoured of all Apples. If this is taken from the tree too early it will shrivel to uselessness. Leave it hanging as long as is safe and then store in clean paper in a box. It will also keep well put away in dry sand.

Market growers are now realising the possibilities of cold storage of Apples, and Bramley's Seedling, Newton Wonder, and Blenheim Orange have proved themselves especially adapted to this treatment. C. H.

Strawberries

Layering must now be attended to, especially where quantities are required for forcing. It is difficult to improve upon the usual practice of layering into 3-inch pots, the latter being stood close together between two rows of plants and all suitable layers from the two rows brought into the one row where the pots are placed; thus alternate rows are left clear for watering and other necessary attention. The pots should be filled with rich soil and made tolerably firm before pegging the layer upon them, and examined for water daily, all extension layers being cut away. Do not neglect the old plants at this stage, as a good soaking of water occasionally will prove of great assistance to the development of the layered plants which are feeding upon them.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Curious Foxgloves

(Okeford and M. A. Pilkington).—Okeford sends the apex of a Foxglove spike bearing a cup-shaped flower at the top. M. A. Pilkington sends a newscutting which is headed "Drought Makes a Rose Out of a Foxglove," and the cutting includes a reproduction of a photograph showing the so-called "Rose." The newscutting states that the flower came from Devonshire and was sent to a Scientific Society in London. An officer of this Society is reported to have said: "I can only explain a freak such as this by the abnormal weather we have had lately. The long drought must have caused a stoppage of growth in the stalk. At the same time the raw material out of which the flowers are made continued to be forced upwards from the roots. Then came a heavy fall of rain, unsealing the channels which had for so long been closed. The flower material had to be utilised at once, and the way Nature took was to form what would have been many flowers into one large flower. The bell shape entirely vanished, although the markings on the inside of the bells, which show the bees the way to the hidden nectar, occur on the linked petals of the new flower. About 14 different flowers, I reckon, have gone to make the Rose-like blossom. The most curious fact about the matter is that the abnormal growth should have been regular and not confused. I have seen a somewhat similar growth before, but that took place in a Campanula, not in a Foxglove. The cause was the same, drought followed by heavy rain." If the officer in question is reported correctly, which we doubt, he is surely in error as to the cause of this Foxglove producing an abnormal flower at the apex of its spike. If it was a result of the dry season of 1929 why is it that the same thing happened in 1928 and 1927, and regularly each year before that for many more years than we care to remember? At least one seed firm in this country has offered seed of this plant for many years, viz., Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading, and it is probable that many other firms do the same. In the catalogue of the above firm the plant is listed as Digitalis monstrosa, and its description reads: A remarkable Foxglove. Very large, bell-shaped terminal flowers, white and various shades of rose. Perhaps Messrs. Sutton and Sons could inform us as to who introduced D. monstrosa into cultivation, and perhaps something of its history. If this data is available we think that the drought of 1929 will be cleared of the honour of introduction. The drought of 1929 has done many things, but it is surely not guilty of making Roses out of Foxgloves.

A choice selection of perennial plants and annuals for a light and well-drained soil

(Flower-lover).—Perennials: Delphiniums Queen Mary, Harry Smetham, Millicent Blackmore, Starlight, King of Delphiniums, King George, Rev. E. Lascelles, James Kelway, Glory, Pink Beauty, Border Carnations in variety to include Bookham Clove, Bookham Rose, Coral Clove, Bookham Scarlet, Peach Blossom, Princess Mary, Leslie White, and others, Anthemis cupaniana, Thalictrum dipterocarpum, Anthericum liliastrum maximum, Libertia formosa, Anemone japonica Lady Ardilaun, Queen Charlotte, Campanula persicifolia Telham Beauty, Scabiosa caucasica, Romneya Coulteri, Chelone barbata, Salvia patens, S. uliginosa, and S. virgata nemerosa, Agapanthus Mooreanus minor in blue and white, Geranium armenum, Lilium candidum, L. testaceum, L. Henryi, L. regale, Aconitum Wilsonii, Monarda didyma Cambridge Scarlet, Lychnis chalcedonica, Œnothera Lamarckiana, O. Missouriensis, O. taraxicifolia, Catananche cœrulea, Chrysanthemum maximum Mayfield Giant, Dictamnus fraxinella, Veronica incana, V. candida, Verbascums in variety, Sedum spectabilis, S. Ewersii, Echinops humilis, Echinacea purpurea Rose Queen, Sidalcea Sussex Beauty, Dieramma pulcherrima, Eremurus in variety, Eryngium tripartitum, E. amethystinum, Gypsophila paniculata, Gillenia trifoliata, Helenium Riverton Beauty, Phlox decussata in variety, Linum narbonense, Lavendula nana compacta, Bocconia microcarpa, Kniphofia Gunton Park, K. Goldelse, Iris in variety, Incarvillea Delavayi, Helianthus orgyalis, Geum Lady Stratheden, and Potentilla Warreni. Annuals: Fedia cornucopiæ, Phacelia campanularia, Rhodanthes in variety, Cornflower Kaiser Wilhelm, Lavatera Sunset, Adonis aleppica, Delphinium Blue Butterfly, Silene orientalis, Mignonette Golden Goliath and M. Machet Red, Gilia tricolor, Madia elegans, Arctotis breviscarpa, Hunnemannia fumariæfolia, Nemophila insignis, Clarkias in variety, Stocks and Asters, including the single Chinese (Callistephus) Calandrinia grandiflora, Bartonia aurea, Argemone mexicana, Annagalis grandiflora cœrulea, Alonsoa Warscewiczii, Acroclinium roseum, Dimorphotheca aurantiaca in variety, Eschscholtzias, Sweet Scabious, Didiscus cœruleus, Nemesias in variety, Phlox Drummondii in variety, Viscaria cœrulea, and Salpiglossis.

Using Gypsophila as a foliage plant

(Amateur).—Strictly speaking, Gypsophila is a flowering plant and not foliage, and unless schedules are worded to the contrary it should not be used as a foliage plant. Persons using it as such should be disqualified.

Plants to furnish cut flowers

(Flower-lover).—All the plants you mention would probably thrive on your soil, but shelter to a certain extent is necessary for the Romneya. These and the following are excellent for cutting:—Gladiolus, Hyacinthus candicans, Tiger Lilies, Lavatera, Chelone, Scabious (all kinds), Gypsophila paniculata, G. Rokejeka, G. elegans, Annual Larkspurs, Eryngiums (all kinds), Kniphofias, Yucca filamentosa, Phlox decussata in variety, Achillea ptarmatica The Pearl, A. eupatorium, Bartonia aurea, Mignonette, Silene orientalis, single Asters, Salpiglossis, Clarkias, Lupinus affinis, L. polyphyllus, L. arboreus, Michaelmas Daisies in variety,
Galega Lady Ardilaun, Anemone jap
variety, Border Carnations and Pinks
the pallida section, also English and
Iris.

Soft rot in Irises

(R. F. S.).—This disease (Rhizon
can be recognised at once by its ch
istic smell, the rhizome becoming s
slimy. The best treatment is to
plant attacked and carefully cut a
diseased portions of the rhizome. It
then be washed in a bright pink sol
potassium permanganate, replanted i
soil, and sprinkled with superphosp
lime. This should be washed in wit
if the weather is dry. An ounce or
superphosphate to the square yard s
over beds of Bearded Irises at fl
time should check the disease and
same time provide the plants with t
they need, care being taken to ap
superphosphate while the leaves a
Good drainage and plenty of lime
into the soil is absolutely essential.

Sweet Peas diseased

(Ardene).—The plant arrived in go
dition and is similarly affected. T
little you can do to improve matters
present time except to keep the plan
supplied with moisture, damping the
overhead frequently. When prepar
soil for next season's plants trench
deep and work in plenty of farmyard r
mixing the latter thoroughly with the
being a great mistake to leave ma
layers at any time. Also add a good
of freshly slaked lime to each foot
avoiding all artificial manures an
should get satisfactory results.
sprinkling of bone-meal worked into
8 inches will, however, prove benefic
even this must be used in moderation

Delphiniums

(A. W. R.).—Of course, such a t
possible, but we would not care to
ourselves to an opinion at this late d
having seen the plants. We would
you, however, when ordering further
to insist upon them having been gr
this country. It is a well-known fa
Iris, Delphiniums, Pyrethrums, and
plants imported from abroad, and whi
have been in packing-cases for wee
also kept in hot storerooms waiti
auction sales, are notoriously difficult
into growth, hundreds of such plant
lost annually. Always plant your ne
phiniums at the end of April, when, pr
the plants are healthy, you will alm
tainly succeed with them.

Plagianthus Lyalli not flowering

(Querist).—Your Plagianthus is, pr
suffering from want of nourishment
plant six years old should be much
than yours. Given a little help in the
mulching with old farmyard manure it
only be a question of time before it
freely. This shrub requires very
pruning, a mere thinning of dense
occasionally being all that is necess
desirable, and this should be done dur
winter months. The writer finds this
some shrub to be happiest and most e
when growing in a partially shaded p
and sheltered from cutting winds, a
bushes 18 feet high and a mass of bl
the present time.

Rose Black Spot

(S. S.).—Your Roses are affected
Black Spot, due to the fungus Actin
Rosæ. Leaves which are nearly fully
are those most frequently attacked.

infection varies with the variety of some being completely covered with ease, but others only show isolated s. If the disease is bad early defolia- sults, followed by a crop of new leaves at the ends of the branches from which ought not to break until the ng spring. This results in weakened The wood of Rose plants is, in ases, attacked, and in this case the d portion shows a blistered, blackened ance. All diseased leaves should be d and burned, and the healthy foliage yl with a weak solution of liver of r. If all the leaves are infected you ot, of course, remove them at this but spray with liver of sulphur to as much as possible the spread of ease in autumn. Collect and burn the eaves and cut away the infected wood, Follow this by spraying at intervals e above fungicide, beginning early in

FERNS

ed Ferns

Marcan).—The specimens arrived in dried-up condition that it is impossible to form an opinion as to the cause of uble. If you will send more specimens in a tin box we should be pleased to e them for you. Messrs. Perry, Plant Farm, Enfield, could supply you erns for your rock garden.

TREES AND SHRUBS

e trees not fruiting

you suggest a cause for my Euonymus us dropping all its fruits while they quite an immature state? The bush en in its present position four years s never ripened a single fruit, though uces flowers in great abundance. I a heavy dressing with old mortar- last year, and always water it well the fruit is forming. A bush of E. in quite a different part of the garden, has very little lime, behaves in the nanner. Both are well in the open.

x. A. H. W. D.

eral species, notably E. europæus and nicus, are frequently badly attacked aterpillar during their flowering sea- hich swarms on the branches in cob- masses, feeding on the leaves and pre- the formation of a crop of fruit. A and effective remedy is to spray the th an arsenical wash. A solution of Green at the strength of 1 oz. to 12 of water may be used. This may een responsible for the bushes not , although the latter is by no means ruiting species at any time. We do nk it is a question of lime. Trees of opæus are known to fruit profusely y in soil absolutely free from lime. s at the root may have had some- o do with their non-fruiting, and we that you try a plant in partial shade.]

FRUIT

ing Apples

F. I. Johnson).—The cause of your dropping is undoubtedly imperfect tion. If you open the fruits in ques- u will find that the pips have not ed. This imperfect fertilisation may to one of several causes. Because p bees it is not safe to assume that l always obtain a crop; you are more o do, but that is all. The dropping of Apples at this period of the year is a t source of trouble to gardeners, and own as the "June Drop." Spraying rtain fungicides is known to increase the loss, but in your case it appears to us that your trees are suffering from lack of plant foods in the soil. Those that are in grass should receive a dressing of an equal mixture of slag and kainit at the rate of 8 ozs. per square yard. The mixture should not be spread just around the roots, but over the whole area under grass. The trees in cultivated land should have a mixture of slag and kainit as above, and this dressing should be followed next spring by giving sulphate of ammonia at the rate of ½ oz. per square yard. Again, the whole area should be dressed, and not just around the roots. The slag and kainit mixture should be applied to the grass at once, but if the open land is carrying a crop you should wait until the crop is taken off. Continue with the winter washing of your fruit trees. Write us again if we can assist you further.

Diseased Apples

(R. Augell).—Your Apple specimens are badly affected with Apple Canker, and to a lesser extent with Apple Scab. The control for the first trouble is to cut out and burn all the affected growths, especially on the younger portions of the trees. Certain varieties of Apples are very prone to canker badly on some types of soil, and it is wise to avoid such varieties under these conditions. The control of Apple Scab consists in spraying the trees in the so-called "Pink Bud stage"; a second spray is given when most of the petals have dropped from the flowers, followed by a third wash three weeks later. Lime sulphur or Bordeaux Mixture is used as the fungicide, the former being the easiest to prepare in small quantities.

VEGETABLES

Cucumbers flagging

(C. C.).—Most likely your Cucumber plant has been attacked by that distressing disease which is caused by the very tiny eelworm which rejoices in the name of "Anguillulæ," and the only known cure is to pull up and burn at once. The soil should also be removed and fresh, sweet compost brought in in its place. This is all that can be done now, but for another season all the old soil should be removed and entirely fresh material brought in during the winter. Before planting in spring a fair dusting of lime and soot should be given the soil, as this helps to keep the pests in check.

MISCELLANEOUS

Borage for cider cup

Will you, please, inform me through the means of your paper the proper name of the Borage which is used to put in the cider cup, and addresses from which I can procure plants. I am informed that the usual garden Borage, which grows from 18 inches to 3 feet high, is not the correct variety.

W. A. R.

[We think you have been misinformed about the kind of Borage that is used for flavouring cider cup and other summer drinks. It should be the ordinary Borage, Borago officinalis. Seed is in every seed list. It is an annual, and can be sown either in spring or autumn. The following quotations may serve to convince our correspondent:—In Vilmorin's "Vegetable Garden" we read: "It is sold chiefly for making claret cup." In Weathers's "Practical Guide to Garden Plants" it says of Borago officinalis: "This is the species used for flavouring drinks." In that useful old book, Johnson's "Gardeners' Dictionary," it says: "Being aromatic it is put into negus and cool tankards." In the "Treasury of Botany," by Lindley and Moore, we read: "Borago officinalis, when steeped in water, imparts coolness to it, and is used in the beverage called cold tankard."]

R.H.S. Rules for judging

(Judge).—The publication you require is the "Rules for Judging at Horticultural Exhibitions," price 2s. 6d. This is obtainable from the Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, London, S.W. 1.

Name of pond weed and method of eradicating same

(Norvic).—This is the Spiral Tassel Pond Weed (Ruppia maritima), which can be kept under control by hand-pulling or cutting away with a long-handled hook or scythe. When cut it will come to the surface and can then be removed. If this is done frequently and the plant kept from seeding it becomes less difficult to control. Sulphate of copper will not destroy this weed, and we know of no remedy other than that given above.

Compost bed for a country house enriched from a septic tank

For some years I have been collecting household refuse, together with grass cuttings, weeds, etc.; in fact, anything that will rot. This material was placed on iron plates draining to a trough. Every day or so a little liquid was thrown on to the heap, which trickled back into the trough ready to be used over again. Temperatures as high as 120 degs. were recorded in the centre of the heap. In a year everything was well rotted, and I could not detect any great crop of weeds from its use. Another experiment made during last winter was the pouring of household slops daily over a heap of decaying leaves. Maximum temperature recorded during cold weather was 90 degs. F. The leaf-mould was found to be thoroughly rotted in six months. The heap was turned once. I am now moving to a country house in which the drainage (with the exception of the bath water) passes through a septic tank. Will you kindly advise me as to its best use with decaying vegetable matter, including leaves? (1) Can the liquid be drawn direct from the septic tank? (2) Query in such daily amounts that the level of the liquid is not sensibly lowered. (3) Should the pumped liquid run into a trough to be used again, or will once through the compost heap be sufficient? (4) What vegetable matter should be burnt? (5) I understand that Nettles are particularly rich in potash. Should they be cut before the seeds form? (6) Is it an advantage for earth (mostly sandy loam) to be mixed with the compost from time to time? If so, in what proportion? (7) What is the length of time that should elapse before the compost is used? (8) How would such a compost compare in manurial value with farmyard manure? As we shall be very short of water I am proposing to run the bath water, after filtering, to a Lily pond and afterwards to a bog garden. Are there any grave difficulties in its use?

LOUIS BARROW.

Little Comberton, Pershore.

[The best way of making a compost heap is to put a layer of garden rubbish about 6 inches thick and to lightly sprinkle with lime, then cover this layer with a layer of soil about an inch in thickness. Repeat the layers of rubbish and soil alternately until the desired height is reached. The heaps are usually made up as the materials become available; the lime is used to hasten the decay. If the heap is well made no drainage should take place from the heaps, as the soil used should soak up the moisture. The effect of pouring water or liquid-manure over the compost heap will hasten decay, and if the latter is used the resulting material is enriched in plant foods. When such liquid is used more soil is used in the make-up of the heap, so that drainage does not take place. A compost heap so formed is not usually turned, but after leaving for a year is chopped down and used as manure. It is impossible for us to answer your questions in connection with the septic tank, but the firm who constructed it should be able to do so. We understand that in the case of a well-constructed tank of this description the overflow should be clear water only. As to the desirability of taking out a portion of the liquid we cannot express an opinion. You certainly should not use sufficient liquid so that it runs out of the heap, because the water draining out will take with it the whole of the nitrate, which is the most valuable portion. All diseased material and anything of a woody nature, which would not decay fairly easily, should be burnt and not placed in the compost heap. We have no record of actual experiments comparing farmyard manure with compost heap material, but experience teaches that compost material makes good manure. All green material contains its maximum amount of plant food just before the flowering period. If your filter removes the soap from the water we see no difficulties in your using the bath water as suggested. Please note that we do not reply to queries through the post.]

Clover in lawn

(M. B.). Dress the lawn with Anti-Clover Mixture at the rate of 3 ozs. to each square yard. One or more dressings may be necessary before the Clover entirely disappears, leaving a fine grass surface. This is obtainable from Messrs. Willis Bros., Harpenden, Herts, and other good horticultural sundriesmen. It will be advisable to apply the Anti-Clover Mixture after rain has fallen and the day fairly settled.

SHORT REPLY

F. W.—Try Corry's White Fly Death, but be sure and follow instructions carefully. By dealing with White Fly at once you may eradicate the pest. If neglected, even for a few days, it becomes increasingly difficult to deal with.

NAMES OF PLANTS

G.—1, Eryngium amethystinum; 2, not recognised; 3, Helianthemum Double Chocolate; 4, Nicotiana affinis; 5, Potentilla Gibson's Scarlet; 6, Salvia pratensis; 7, Centaurea montana; 8, Sedum stoloniferum; 9, Oxalis floribunda; 10, Achillea ptarmatica The Pearl.

J. L. T.—1, Arum Dracunculus (Common Dragon); 2, Fuchsia fulgens; 3, Neprolepis exaltata var.; 4, Selaginella sp.

J. E. M.—Anagallis Webbiana.

Cheltenham Spa.—1, Phacelia tanacetifolia (annual); 2, Sedum middendorfiana; 3, Saxifraga aizoon minor; 4, Hypericum reptans.

B. B.—1, Spiræa discolor; 2, S. Douglasi; 3, S. Bumalda.

N. J. P.—1, Quite dead; 2, Dianthus deltoides; 3, D. deltoides var. caucasica.

S. A. C.—Dianthus Napoleon III.

Anxious.—1, Desfontainea spinosa; 2, Benthamia fragifera; 3, Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair Tree); 4, please send when in bloom.

T. A. V.—1, Veronica Hulkeana; 2, Potentilla Farreri; 3, Lactuca Plumieri; 4, Hieracium aurantiacum; 5, Euphorbia cyparissias.

P. S. C.—1, Sedum album; 2, S. aizoon; 3, Lilium pardalinum; 4, L. croceum; 5, Erigeron speciosus grandiflorum; 6, Campanula grandis; 7, C. lactiflora.

Regular Reader.—1, Rosa Wichuraiana Rubin; 2, R. W. Lady Godiva; 3, R. Francois Foucard; 4, R. Wichuraiana Excelsa; 5, R. W. Hiawatha; 6, R. Leontine Gervais; 7, Pelargonium Chatsworth.

J. R. Dalton.—1, Sedum album; 2, S. spurium; 3, S. Kamtschaticum; 4, Campanula pusilla alba; 5, Rose Tea Rambler.

NAMES OF FRUITS

An Old Reader.—Gooseberries: 1, Lancer; 2, White Swan; 3, Keepsake; 4, Postman or Succeed.

GARDENING APPOINTMENTS

Mr. GEO. H. COPLEY, N.D.H., Parks Superintendent to the County Borough of Dewsbury, appointed Superintendent of Parks and Cemeteries in the city of Hull.

Mr. W. OATES, formerly head gardener to Sir H. COOK, Bt., of Cintra, Portugal, now head gardener to B. E. SMITH, Esq., of Chuniana, Malaga, Spain.

Fashions in garden planning

NEVER were truer words written than those of Pope, in which he says: "Whatever day makes man a slave takes half his worth away," if they are applied to gardening, for in no occupation is freedom of thought and catholicity of taste more essential, and with these slavery of mind is incompatible. One of the most uncompromising tyrants and sternest opponents of liberty in either taste or thought is fashion, whether it exercises its baleful influence in dress, art, architecture, or gardening. In the latter she has found her victims as plentifully as elsewhere. Then we wonder if the right men find their wrong occupation in gardening. But is it the gardeners' fault at all? Seldom, we are forced to admit, when we see what fashion does with the public generally, and weakly and fully the latter gives way to her in other directions. So the misguided crowd craves for this or that fashion in gardening, and the gardeners must provide it.

Consequently, during the last 100 years we have been led to believe in many "correct and only" styles. We have meekly accepted the stern decrees of "Capability Brown" and sought salvation in the spacious splendours of landscape sweeps and stretches. Then followed the assurance that the true and correct faith could only be found in Italian parterres. Equally sure that it was to be discovered nowhere else but in the gardens of France, we passed from one slavery to another. Afterwards, reinforced by a patriotic fervour, we found salvation in our native land again, only to be assured once more that we were mistaken, and that it resided not in old English gardens, but in those of Japan.

All this time the earnest seeker for truth is asking himself in which of these styles is it to be found, and the correct answer is, in none, in all. In these last four cryptic words lies the secret and mystery of true garden planning. Not in fashions and fancies, but in truth and sincerity is the correct style found. To many gardeners the question that will suggest itself at this point is that of Pontius Pilate: "What is truth?" Well, it is not discoverable in romanticism carried out in a small suburban garden, nor in landscape effects on a 7-acre recreation ground. Just as the architectural genius would never think of getting a Spanish atmosphere by a building on the Grampian hills, so the garden artist would beware of trying to Frenchify a quarter-acre plot in suburbia.

Yet garden art is catholic and wide in its tastes, and no country possesses a monopoly of style. People in England who cannot
travel to Italy still wish to see what he
are like, and so the Italian style ne
be taboo. In our larger parks and ga
where the contour of the ground a
immediate surroundings suit, the Ital
French parterres may well find a plac
to place them where neither of these
tions assist is as bad as preferring the
lish style where it lacks congruity.
people regret the departure that was
from the old Italian formalism in Re
Park years ago, which forms an apt il
tion at this point of our subject. He
surrounding mansions, the contour
ground, the natural lay-out of the pa
this portion, all favoured the style.
effect was very fine and gave joy to
thousands who used to visit regularly t
the changing beauties during the seaso

In few places could this style have
adopted to better effect, and one wor
what considerations prevailed, except fa
to bring about the change. With eve
sire to do justice to the results, can w
that they justify the alteration? The
vases, however beautiful they look wh
their best, scarcely offer an affirmative.
now appear to be out of place, and d
consort well with the present-day arr
ment. In a certain town on our sou
coast an attempt at making the Italian
supersede an English lay-out is succe
in making a lovely public garden neithe
thing nor the other. This is becaus
surroundings are purely and intensely
lish, the contour of the ground, too, le
itself only to the native style, which it
have been wisest to follow.

In the first case there is little doubt,
or fashion had much to do with the ch
in the second it was a matter of local
ences—and these not natural ones. The
able gardener is he who can rise super
fashions and whose intellect prevents
faculty of imitation from running to see
bringing him down to Simian level. He
be unmoved by the fact that a sunk ga
pond, and fountain have been planned
near neighbour, or that a raised terrac
vases have been artificially schemed
another. Even such things as crazy-pavi
topiary work will have no dominatin
fluence over him. He will take his own
of ground, be it big or little, and, consid
its surroundings, will plan it on such
that for that particular situation it shall
picture difficult to improve upon.

The garden planner should be an arti
instinct and training. Then he will
that, like all art, his must be based o
eternal principles of truth, sincerity,
honesty. Truth cannot be expressed in s
and mere imitations, nor sincerity in t
ferring plants from situations where the
right to others where they are anachron
or mere pretences. Honesty involves
right and sympathetic use of the materia
hand, whether stones, bricks, shrubs
plants, and fidelity to the claims of the
roundings. No artist can ignore these
principles, and the gardener who endea
to do so has missed his vocation.

A. W.

Francoa (Bridal Wreath)

The Francoas are Chilian plants belon
to the Saxifraga family. The three p
pal species have been in cultivation sinc
early part of the nineteenth century.
are handsome herbaceous perennials, s
what tender, and only hardy in warm l
ties and in dry, sheltered positions.
may, however, be grown in pots and pla
out in the summer. Grown in pots
greenhouse or conservatory decoration
make a fine display when in bloom d

ly summer. They are also very good ting, as the long, branching stems hite or pink blossoms 2 feet or more hich are extremely graceful. The flowers of F. ramosa are copiously d in much-branched racemes from 3 feet high. F. appendiculata bears of a pale reddish colour in a more t raceme. The flowers of F. sonchi- e loosely arranged and rose-coloured. atter is the hardiest species. Pro- n by division of the plants in spring seeds sown in gentle heat in spring, ly hardening off the plants if intended door work. J. L.

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CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Anthony Roozen, Haarlem, Holland.—Bulbs, herbaceous plants, Roses, etc.

John B. Vanderschoot, Ltd., Hillegom, Holland.—Bulbs, perennials, and Roses.

Holden Clough Nursery, near Clitheroe, Lancs.—Alpine and hardy plants.

LATE NOTES

A cup for Gladioli

The annual competition for the Foremarke Challenge Cup for Gladioli will take place in 1929 at the Royal Horticultural Society's fortnightly show in the Society's new hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, on August 13th. The Cup is offered for the best 20 spikes of named Gladioli in not fewer than 10 varieties. Not more than two spikes of any one variety may be shown. The competition is open to both amateur and trade growers. Entry forms may be had on application to the Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. 1, by whom the completed forms must be received not later than by the first post on Wednesday, August 7th, 1929.

Scottish National Sweet Pea, Rose, and Carnation Society

The Committee of the above Society have decided to continue the trials of Sweet Peas not in commerce in 1930. Twenty-five seeds of each variety must reach the Secretary not later than the last week of September, so that all can be sown on October 1st. Five shillings for each variety must be sent along with the seeds.

JOHN SMELLIE,
Hon. Secretary.

Westwood Cottage,
Helensburgh, Dumbartonshire.

Crossgates Show

Some excellent exhibits were staged at the fifteenth annual show of the Crossgates and District Horticultural Society held in the Manston Schoolrooms on Saturday, July 27th. The opening ceremony was performed by Mrs. A. E. Ives, of Roundhay, in the unavoidable absence of Alderman Hugh Lupton. Mr. W. M. Gray, of Crossgates, retained the Hugh Lupton Challenge Cup, the premier award in the Sweet Pea classes for members. He also won the Royal Horticultural Society's Silver and Bronze Medals.

Dr. Todd, of Killingbeck, was awarded the Burniston Challenge Bowl for the best cut Roses.

Shallots

Lift and store these, choosing a dry day for the purpose; should the weather be dry and settled a few days in the open after pulling will improve their keeping qualities.

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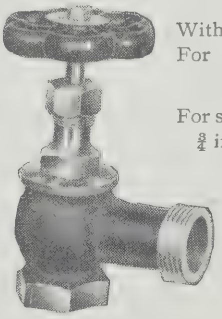

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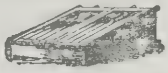

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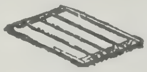

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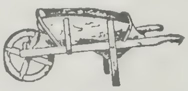

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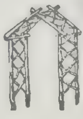

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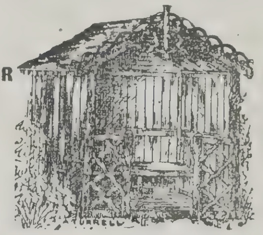

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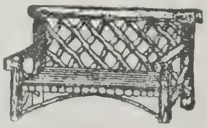

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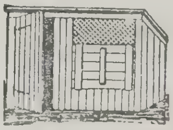

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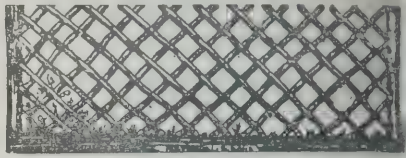

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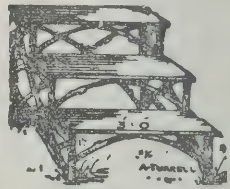

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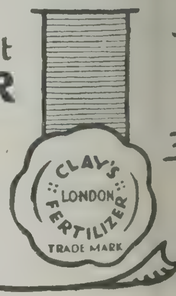

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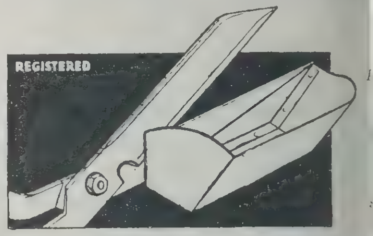

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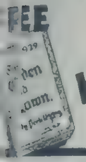

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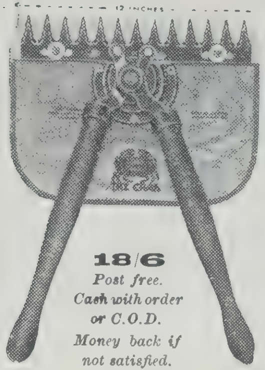

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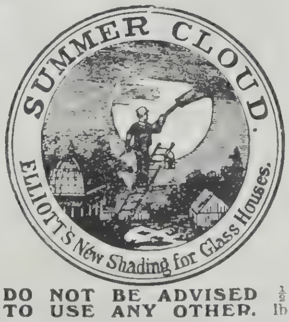

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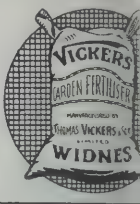

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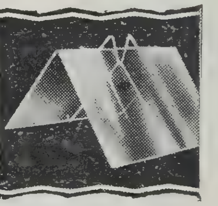

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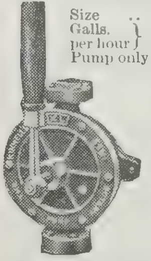

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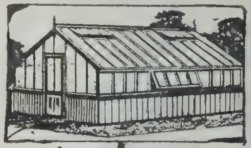

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Lilies in S.W. England

E my article entitled "Lilies now Flower" appeared, the abnormal ght of July caused many Lily en- s considerable anxiety.

kinds, where, for various reasons, has been withheld, have now lost hness, and in some cases the disease y known as "sunstroke" is taking oll of some of our favourites.

the last fortnight, in South-West particularly in the chalky districts, onna Lily has made a magnificent One particular cottage garden I have hidden away in the centre of was literally full of some of spikes it has ever been my to view. If any doubts ever s to the Madonna Lily liking soil I am sure this particu- ing would have removed all ty.

planted bulbs of candidum s u m, the black-stemmed Lily, are not looking so as the ordinary variety; one ppear to be suffering from a ack of Botrytis. The spray- lphide of potassium has, how- t this in check. Although undoubtedly a fine form of , in my opinion it hardly e difference in price.

days since, a magnificent the hybrid Lilium Marhan seen growing to perfection d garden not far from here rough undergrowth, while yards distant bulbs of the Martagon, planted in the t autumn, were an utter . Although both Marhan and are base-rooting Lilies, parently love the partial shade woodland and shrubbery.

excelsum is now in its full This beautiful Nankeen- Lily is one of the aristo- he family. It has stood the remarkably well, but showed distress a week or so since, when good soak at the base and syring- ead in the evening acted as a good wo, however, collapsed completely. e now in this particular planting spikes, 5 feet high, carrying from flowers.

croceum, although considered e hardiest of Lilies, is not looking ly happy, and while a large num- of perfect size, shape, and colour, to, having got to the stage of flower- ed yellow and died. A planting bulbs, collected in Italy of this Lily, appear to be standing the drought remarkably well. Quite a number are flowering. They vary considerably in shades of colour, and in some cases foliage is narrow compared with the species usually found growing so profusely in gardens in Ireland.

The true Lilium Brownii is doing wonderfully well. It is perhaps not quite so tall as we have been in the habit of seeing it, which is probably due to the very dry season. Its lovely creamy-white, trumpet-shaped flowers, chocolate brown anthers, and pleasing fragrance places it in the forefront of hardy Lilies. Moreover, it is not averse to a certain amount of lime and chalk in the soil. I have never tried the Japanese Brownii odorum under similar conditions, the true Brownii being, in my opinion, a more refined and desirable species.

Lilium candidum, one of the best known and loveliest of Lilies. Seen in almost every cottage garden

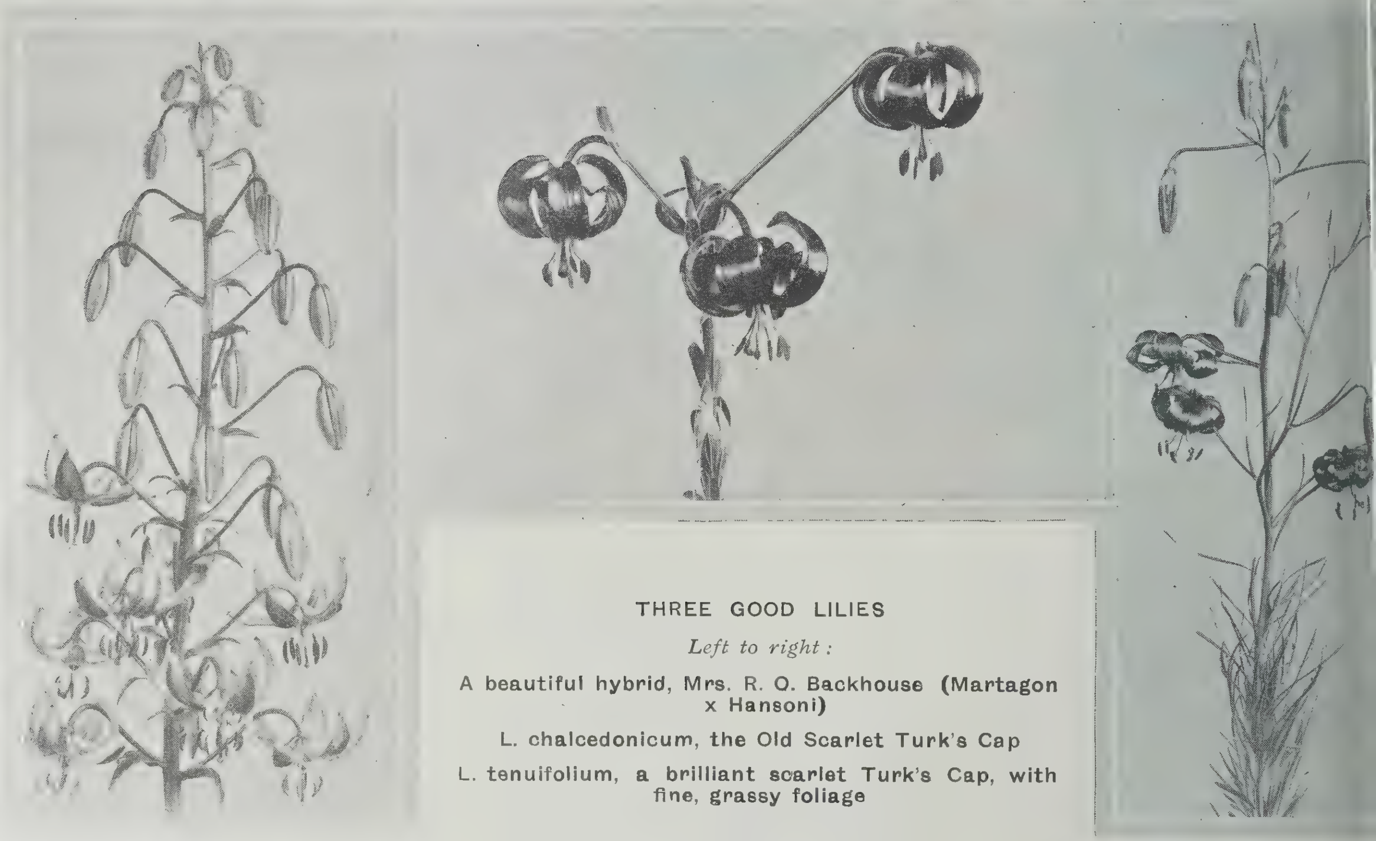
Lilium giganteum, the notable Himalayan Lily, is doing its best to repay for the little extra attention bestowed at the time of planting, and the occasional soakings it has received during the drought. Bulbs of flowering size were planted last October in a small shrubbery walk. Soil was taken out to a depth of 2 feet, the bottom being covered with a layer 4 inches to 6 inches deep of crocks, small stones, etc. This was filled in with a compost of three parts leaf-mould and one part loam, in which the bulbs were planted, with plenty of sharp sand around them, about 1 inch of soil covering the crown. Although this Lily makes a bulb of tremendous size, deep planting is not advisable. During the winter and early spring a covering of old leaves was applied. To-day the result is seen in its magnificent heads of long, white, tubular-shaped flowers, streaked purple internally. This Lily, if grown in the right position, is desirable on account of its beautiful, dark green foliage, apart from the beauty of its majestic spikes.

The one Lily which is just coming into flower, and which has received no moisture other than the little rain we have had, is the brilliant Scarlet Turk's Cap, Lilium chalcedonicum. A planting made last November is, considering the short time it has been established, doing remarkably well. Eighty per cent. are throwing flowers, and if it is possible to leave the bulbs undisturbed it should next year provide a wonderful splash of colour.

A few years since a good deal was written concerning the growing of Lilies from seed, and a certain amount of interest was then created, but for some reason or other this particular method of increasing stock has not received the attention it deserves. With certain kinds it must be admitted considerable patience is required. One or two species, however, mature very quickly, and with these time cannot be the excuse.

In the cool house here, a batch of 80 to 100 magnificent plants of L. Philippinense formosanum Wilson's Var. are now in full bloom, some of them carrying as many as five flowers. When looking at these plants one would hardly credit that it is less than two years since seed was sown. There is no difficulty whatever in flowering this species 14 months from seed, and I believe I am correct in stating that on one occasion Mr. Comber flowered this species nine months from seed. I am trying 50 or more of this Lily in the open, and while one or two were rather badly hit by a late frost, I notice quite a number are going to flower. At Castle Kennedy it has established itself, growing 4 feet to 5 feet high, its only drawback being that there it usually flowers too late in the season to produce seed.

Lilium Willmottiæ is another species which is showing buds 18 months from seed, and



THREE GOOD LILIES

Left to right :

A beautiful hybrid, Mrs. R. O. Backhouse (Martagon x Hansoni)

L. chalcedonicum, the Old Scarlet Turk's Cap

L. tenuifolium, a brilliant scarlet Turk's Cap, with fine, grassy foliage

although one cannot expect a fine specimen spike from a bulb of this age there is a certain amount of satisfaction in having one or two flowers without having to wait four or five years.

Other species well worth considering, on account of their rapid growth from seed, are L. regale, which can be flowered successfully two to three years from seed, L. Davidii two to three years, and most of the Martagon varieties three years.

Where the protection of a cool house is possible I would advocate sowing Lily seed in light, sandy soil, immediately the same is ripe, transferring the seedlings to small pots when the second or third leaf appears. Later, when the bulbs are making good root, they can be planted out into their permanent quarters. On no account should they be allowed to become pot bound. Where no protection is available, seed should be sown in the spring. A special bed in a sheltered position should be prepared for this purpose. A compost of equal parts loam, leaf-mould, and sand, sifted finely, is usually satisfactory. Sow shallow—a thin surface covering, is sufficient. Never allow the bed to become dried out. Keep just moist, encourage rapid growth as much as possible. Care and attention in early stages of growth will bring their reward.

Even one or two bulbs of the rare Lilium centifolium, less than four years old, threw single buds. These, however, with the exception of one, were pinched out to strengthen the bulb. The one left is, at the time of writing, in flower.

A bulb of the true Lilium nepalense (not ochraceum) will, I hope, be in flower during the next three weeks. A bulb I had the pleasure of sending to Kew has already flowered, and has proved to be the true nepalense, which has never yet been in cultivation. The bulb is quite small compared with ochraceum, and somewhat more conical in shape. Last year it flowered the second week in July, when it carried three blooms of greenish gold, stained at the base deep wine purple, similar in colour to ochraceum, but much less reflexed. It appears to be of stoloniferous habit, and grows about 2½ feet high. It is, rather more interesting than beautif

Lil

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Looking backward

THE interesting article by Thackeray Turner, issue July 20th, on "Pests and Diseases" should prove to be a welcome help to many of your readers, and considering the wide field that it covers, I feel fortunate in being able to give the result of my experiences in fighting some of the enemies that he has not as yet got the better of.

With regard to the Nut trees, I always spray these with arsenate of lead at the same time as the Apple trees, and find that this quite checks the depredations of the weevils, and results in a sound crop of Nuts. It may be of interest to those who have had their garden Peas eaten off by mice when just pointing through the surface to know that this can be entirely prevented by lightly spraying the rows of Peas with arsenate of lead also.

Now as to Big Bud, the result of careful experiments at one of the Kent Research Stations is that this pest can be almost entirely prevented and cured by the application of lime-sulphur at winter strength sprayed on the bushes in the spring when the leaves are grown to about half their full size. It might be thought that the young and tender leaves would be injured by the lime-sulphur, but my bushes so treated this spring are now carrying a good crop of fruit.

Until about four years ago I regularly had more than half of the buds on Prunus Pissardi, P. triloba, and several varieties of eating Plums pecked out by the bullfinches which always come in flocks of a dozen or more; but that is a tria past now. The bullfinches come, buds remain, and time, powder, and saved, as well as the lives of the bul which doubtless do good in some oth of life.

The remedy is a simple one an made. Take any old tin canister not gone rusty, preferably a flat-si cut it up into sides, bottoms, etc., a these flat sheets cut pieces measurin 3 inches long by 1 inch wide. Near of each of these slips punch a sm pass a string about 12 inches long the hole and make fast, then hang it near the end of a branch. Three t more strips, according to the size bush, will be required. The light from the bright surface of the tin, constantly spinning, effectually frigh birds. Of course, this idea might b rated by the substitution of som corrosive metal for tin, which rus being exposed for a week or two.

"What is the matter with the berries?" is a question now asked gardeners, and as far as I am aw remains unanswered. In a small have been experimenting, and have h results by growing the plants on be above the normal ground level by inches. The beds are 3 feet 6 inch allowing room for three rows of pla the soil is kept in position by boa pegs along the sides and ends. This ensures perfect drainage during the and allows the frost to get into t ly sweetening and pulverising it. t point I consider most important, ows a good tilth to be obtained in r part of the season. I am convinced ood tilth to a depth of 6 inches is to the health of the plant. I do end that this method is a solution ifficulty, but I have had healthier nce adopting it.

on the subject of pests, some of your may have had losses in their young f Cabbages, Brussels Sprouts, and embers of the Brassica family, the is being discoloration and withere leaves, followed by the death of the The Cabbage Root Fly is the cause e trouble and is very prevalent this Having lost about one-third of my Sprouts, I sent a specimen of the plant, together with the fly, egg, a (which may be found round the art of the root) to the South-Eastern ural College, Wye, for examination, advised to hoe in around the plants ommercial naphthaline (grade 16) at of one quarter of an ounce to each vice, at intervals of two weeks. I lowed out this advice with satisfac ults. FRANK BURTON.

Primula pulverulenta

e grown a goodly number of these, h bloomed freely, set seed, which also many plants, some of which I gave ly at Purley. These, too, produced owers to the delight of the lady and nds. I recently wrote to her to inw they fared last winter by asking question: "Have the Primulas this year?" and this morning I ceived the following reply:—"I am say the Primulas did not flower this d I am afraid the severe frost and ght together killed them. Our soil light." G. C.

Garden weeds

el Wolley-Dod's notes on garden s in your number for July 20th, sugew words of warning about bringing eplants into the garden. There are ild things that are so beautiful in tural places that one is tempted to n as garden plants. The little Wood Oxalis Acetosella), that is so charmin shady woodland places, becomes an able pest in the garden. It gets into ts of Ferns and other plants, and elf unmercifully in more open places. surface-rooting plant and seems to easily, but always leaves something and appears again in quantity the ason. One summer day, rambling some waste ground, I came upon a ead patch of the common Scabious a arvensis). The plant is common in trict, but the flowers of this patch such unusual size and colouring that ere marked and the place visited again utumn, when the marked ones were and planted in the garden. It was a nough thing in the flower border, but it only too readily. Ever since I have ying to exterminate it, but the roots , and every little bit left makes a lant next year.

e yellow Loosestrife (Lysimachia), that is so handsome by a river-side, so, unfortunately, brought into the It has been a real pest, coming too not only where it was planted, but ng without evident reason in different f the garden, although it has never owed to seed.

pretty little Enchanters' Nightshade lutetiana), such an engaging plant damp, shady places where it grows naturally, was also admitted to the garden; an indiscretion that I have never ceased to regret, for the whitish roots form spreading masses that invade and overwhelm neighbouring plants, and though every year we fork it out as well as we can, yet it always comes again and grows rapidly. But the most regrettable lapse of all was when I brought home from a distant cornfield a root of the common Horse-tail (Equisetum sylvaticum). It was a piece of inexcusable folly, for I knew what a dangerous plant it was, and I had only brought it for a close examination of its curious structure, as I had not seen it for a long time. But I laid it in and then forgot it—with disastrous consequences. G. JEKYLL.

Dianthus x Enid

A charming hybrid Dianthus which I have now had in my garden for several years and which is of the easiest culture is that named D. x Enid, which is of hybrid origin and was raised, I believe, at Lissadell. I understand that one of its parents is D. deltoides, and probably the other is D. neglectus. In the garden I had prior to removing here in 1927 this little Pink was dwarfer than in the better soil here, and rarely exceeded 3 inches. In this garden, however, where I have it in three or four different positions, it is about 6 inches or 8 inches high. In character the flowers resemble those of D. deltoides, but are of a much deeper colour—a deep crimson—and have dark foliage. This plant forms a carpet of foliage and is easily multiplied by taking off pieces from the old plant, which divides quite freely. I have several plants in sunny positions in the rock garden, in a loamy soil with sand added, and have it also as a part of an edging to a border of herbaceous flowers. This Dianthus is absolutely hardy and well deserving the consideration of all growers of rock plants. S. ARNOTT.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

How to form a rockery

(In answer to a correspondent.)

TO imitate Nature in its various details is very difficult. Artistic rocks may be portrayed, but to build them to avoid detection is another matter. What materials has "A Constant Reader" at hand? Flint, scoriæ, or what has he got? If he has nothing he should buy some coke in large lumps. The groundwork should then be planned, not less than 4 feet from the wall, against which should be thrown the foundation in a slope to the height required in proportion, not forgetting to mingle with the rough at the bottom plenty of brickbats and other such material. Next get a pailful of thin Portland cement and water, into which the coke may be dipped, and quickly lay the front line in the most irregular and inartistic manner possible, avoiding straight lines. Raise this about 1 foot, draw the earth forward, solidate it where the next line is to come, and build on according to taste in whatever number of steps may be required, taking into consideration that the quicker it is done the better. Avoid arches; cultivate roughness, and bear in mind that the growth of the plants will, if given the soil in which they mostly delight, soon cover—and the quicker the better—all your artistic work. Avoid shells, quartz, or anything that will lead the mind away from the real object in view, viz., giving each plant the position it most delights in; that is the use of a rockery.—*September 13th, 1879.*

Ripe Gooseberries

I think the Goosebery the best flavoured fruit grown in England, either indoors or out; but most people laugh on hearing such an opinion. Those who have the best means of making the fairest comparison among all our fruits, or a good many of them, think as I do of the Gooseberry. The very name and hardiness of this fruit make it almost ridiculous to many amateurs, who do not mind spending a deal of time and trouble about Grapes. The flavour, indeed, of certain kinds of Gooseberries is, I think, only equalled by the Peach in its best state. GROSSULARIA.

The hardiest Helianthemums

We have over 30 varieties of Helianthemums in this garden. The plants, which were not more than two years old, have flowered very well indeed, but older plants have been entirely killed by frost. The age of the plant seems more important than the variety. Similarly a dwarf Hypericum which had become hard and woody was killed, but its seedling survived. Has anyone saved Polygonum campanulatum?

A. M. D. H. ROGERS.

St. Hugh's College, Oxford.

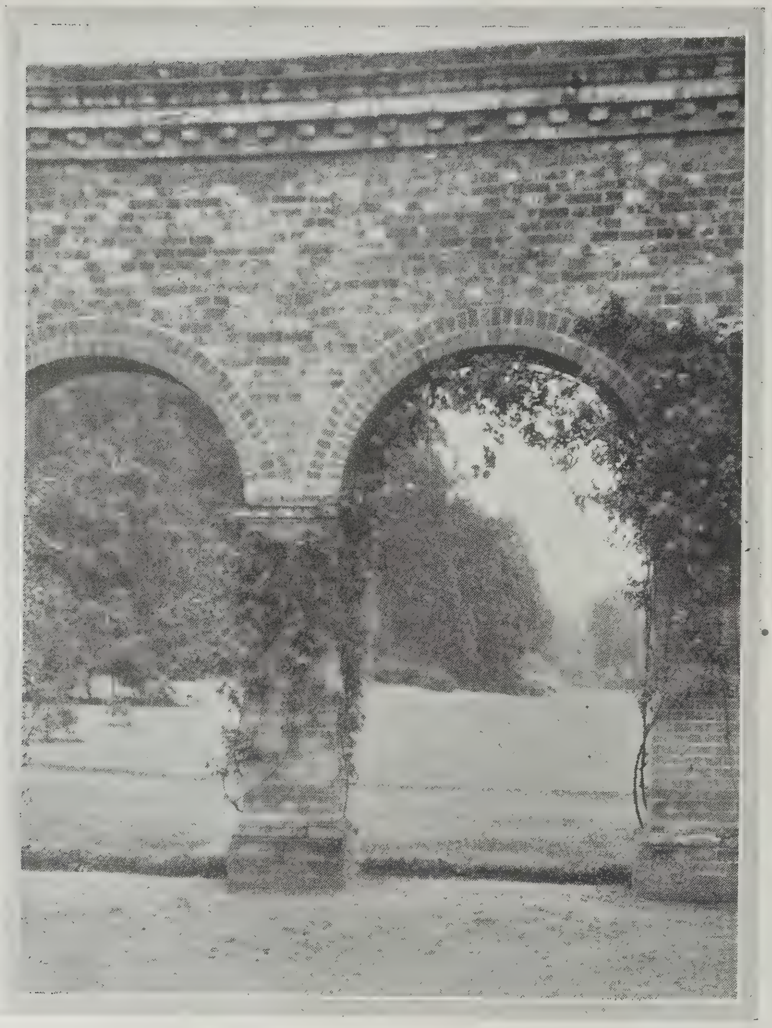
Saxifraga umbrosa—Elliott's Variety

This fine form of the good old London Pride should find a place in every garden. Like its ubiquitous relative it will grow anywhere, in sun or shade, but possibly prefers a little shade from the midday sun. The small and neat rosettes are coloured a lovely green, and in due season will produce a fine crop of pink blossoms, much more brightly coloured than those of S. umbrosa, and the whole plant is smaller and more compact than is the old species. Saxifraga Elliott's Variety should be planted in considerable colonies or drifts if its beauty would be fully realised. The massed blossoms will produce a piece of most effective colouring on the rock garden or in the forefront of the border. This Saxifrage was collected in the Pyrenees and is as easily increased as the old London Pride. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Campanula Parryi

This is a dwarf, sturdy plant varying in height from 3 inches to 6 inches, each branch bearing a quantity of large, blue, drooping blossoms. It is similar in habit to C. rotundifolia alpina, but distinguished from that plant by its slender habit and the intense blue of the blossoms. The flowers, too, are larger and more cup-shaped, fully 1 inch across. It is a neat, slender kind, forming light, spreading tufts of tiny leaves and producing many flower-stems each supporting three to five drooping deep blue blossoms with a light, graceful, airy effect.

It is much more graceful in habit than our native plant and far more refined in colour, being, as a rule, not difficult to cultivate. It grows in neat, spreading masses about 6 inches high. The flowers are borne on slender stems in a loose, graceful manner. It succeeds in any position and is not particular as to soil, though it thrives best in soils of an open nature. The plants should be kept at least 6 inches apart as it spreads a little at the root. It is easily increased by division and quickly forms a stock sufficient for any garden. H. STEVENS.



Chiswick House and Its Grounds

ON July 4th His Royal Highness Prince George opened Chiswick House and its historic grounds to the public. The Brentford and Chiswick Council felt that the place so long connected with our Royal Family should not be allowed to be cut up for a building site, and with the help of the Middlesex County Council, neighbouring Local Authorities, and private subscribers, including a gift from His Majesty the King, the estate of 66 acres was purchased from the Duke of Devonshire for the sum of £80,000. It is important to note that no less than £3,500 per annum has been set aside for its maintenance.

We know that a house stood on the site in 1624, for at that date it was in possession of Robert Earl of Somerset. Charles II. purchased it for his son, the Duke of Monmouth, in 1668. In 1682 the first Earl of Burlington acquired the property, and the third Earl made it his country residence. With the help of Campbell and Kent he built the present "villa," as it is termed, or rather a mansion in the Paladian style. On his death the property passed to his daughter, whose husband became the fourth Duke of Devonshire. It is said that James I. made a secret visit to Chiswick House to see his disgraced favourite, Robert Earl of Somerset, but the most notable Royal visit was when Queen Victoria, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Saxony were entertained by the sixth Duke.

King Edward and Queen Alexandra, when Prince and Princess of Wales, leased it, and His Majesty and the late Duke of Clarence spent some of their young days there. The two plots of ground which were the little Princes' gardens are still pointed out.

The gardens are well worth a visit, if only to see the fine timber. On the south front of the mansion an avenue of Cedars with an avenue of Limes on each side of it extends for 400 feet. On the north front there are three avenues 600 feet in length leading to two garden houses fashioned like ancient temples. At the end of a broad gravel walk there is a typical gate by Inigo Jones which much resembles the well-known one that serves as the entrance to the Oxford Botanic Garden. Some beautiful and famous iron gates once stood at "The Duke's Avenue" entrance, but these were removed from Chiswick to Devonshire House, Piccadilly, and stood there till 1921. They were, fortunately, saved to this country when that residence was demolished, bought by the nation, and set up as the Piccadilly entrance to the Green Park.

To return to Chiswick, in the park-like grounds there is a lake 2,000 feet in length and about 200 feet wide, usually fed by the Bollar Brook, though there seemed to be no water flowing from it when we visited it this week after the long drought.

The soil excavated to form this lake was used to form an embankment and raised walk to the south of the mansion, and from this raised and shady walk some charming
glimpses of the water and distant
to be seen. Along the sides of t
some ancient Box trees stand, and it
to be hoped they will be carefully pr
At the present time it all wants clea
and given general attention. Noth
park-like undulating land and wild w
can be seen near the mansion, but
walk away from it to the north we s
come upon a very large lawn on
(now used as a children's playgrou
cricket ground), while to the right,
behind a bank of Rhododendrons and
ing walk through a belt of fine old
we at length discover the Italian
where we actually find some flow
The hand of Kent is undoubtedly se
but fine landscape artist though he m
he seems to have been actually asha
both lawn and garden, so carefully
concealed.

In passing, we might note that in
old plant-houses in the Italian garde
are some fine Camellias planted out.
are well worth better housing. It
markable that Kent allowed any av
stand planted before his time, but
he thought that the somewhat brok
of Cedars and those of the Lime tree
be excused, as they formed a cla
proach to ancient temples. Und
Cedars a very large number of vase
and statues are to be seen. Thes
brought over from Hadrian's villa a
by the third Earl of Burlington, and
Kent had to modify his usual lands
accommodate them. They give the p
appearance of a cemetery.

Near the lawn there is a superb ol
tree the branches of which touch the
and give the tree an immense circum
It is now being crippled by Ivy, which
be removed. There are also some
finest Hollies to be seen in Englar
must be 60 feet or more in height.

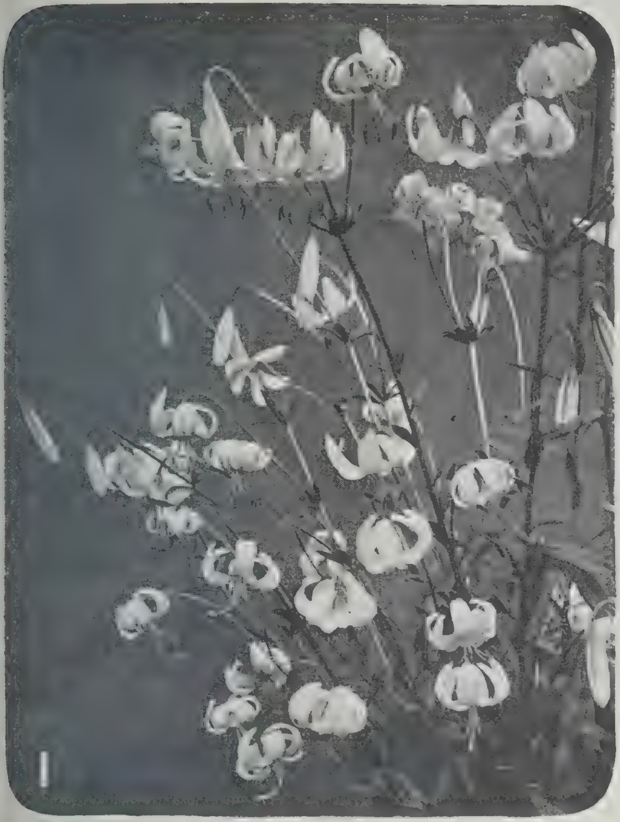
Kent began life as an apprentice to a
builder, and, with the assistance of
went to Italy and studied painting.
not do much at this, but succeeded
architect and as a designer of temp
ruins for gardens. By the help of his
Lord Burlington, he came under no
the Queen, and was made Archite
Painter to the Crown. He was looke
as the founder of the Landscape Ga
School.

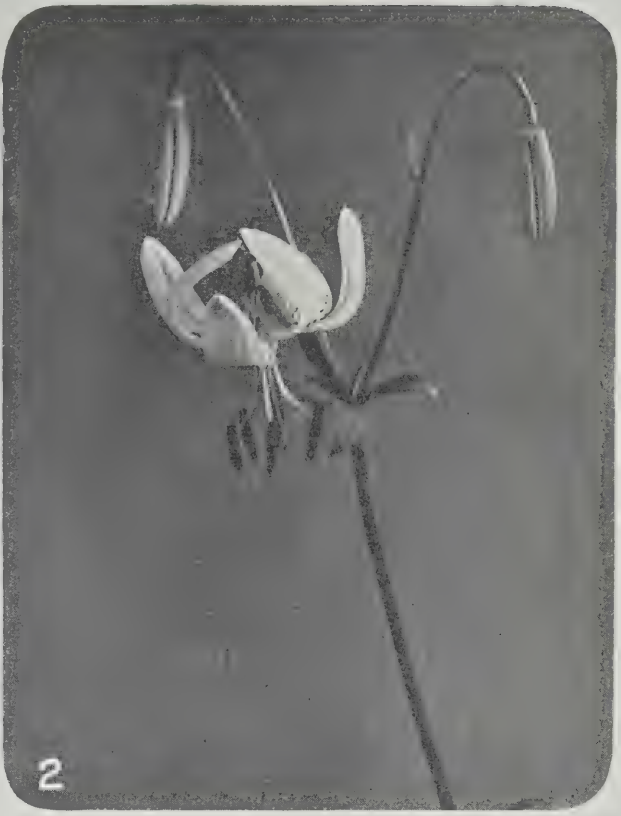
At one time his wish to follow
carried him so far that he planted de
in Kensington Gardens "to give grea
of truth to the scene," but Walpole
he was soon laughed out of this
There was much rivalry between s
these newly laid-out landscape garden

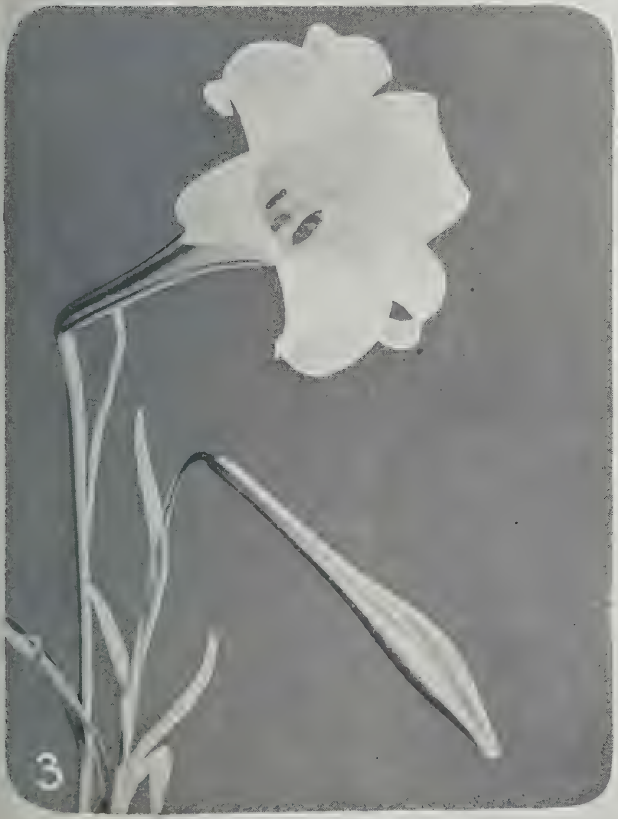
> "Some cry up Gunnesbury,
>   For Sion some declare,
> And some say that with Chiswi
>   No villa can compare."

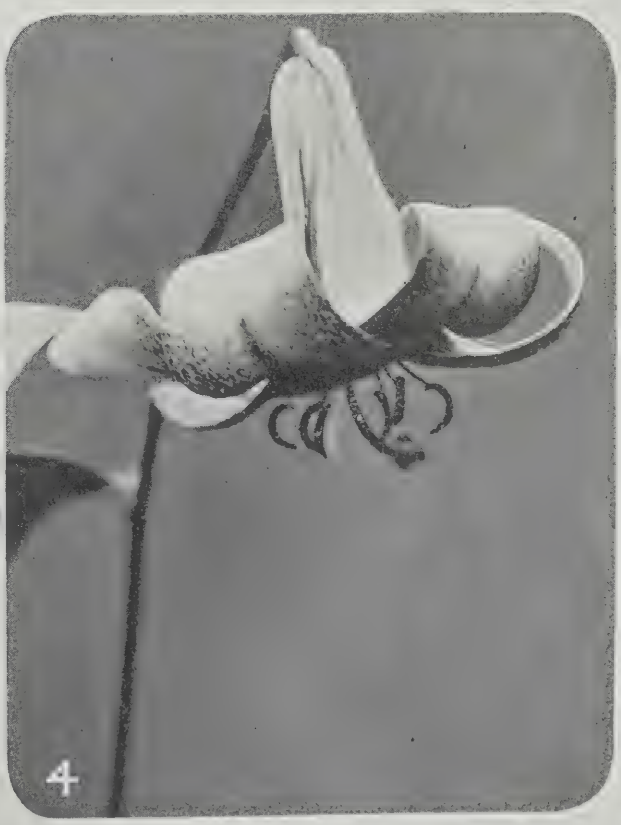
Count Frederick Kielmansegge,
visited our English gardens in 1761,
"You are sometimes in doubt wheth
are looking at a garden or at any o
landscape. The fruit and kitchen g
are always quite separate, and freque
well hidden that you cannot discover
without help." Kent thus successfu
his Italian garden at Chiswick House.

Capability Brown succeeded Kent
conspicuous landscape gardener. H
appointed Royal Gardener at Ha
Court, and it was he who planted th
brated Vine there in 1796. Had he c
himself to creating landscapes we coul
no grudge against him or his school,
can but regret the destruction of the
ful ancient gardens that he swept rut
away. Even if Brown had "a hor
straight lines" they were not all re









SOME OF THE NEWER LILIES

and 2. Lilium Duchartrei var. Farreri. Found in Yunnan by inald Farrer on his first expedition to China, and frequently referred n his writings as the Marble Martagon Lily.

Lilium Philippinense Formosanum. A distinct Lily, with pure white flower and long drooping bud, of refined and graceful appearance.

4. A glorified Lilium ochraceum—L. nepalense of former years. Flowers yellow, stained almost black in the centre.

from the Chiswick House garden, and it stands to-day a splendid living monument to this pioneer of the Landscape School.

The alterations effected by "Capability" Brown in St. James' Park involved a tremendous destruction of fine old Elms which was said to have been "the best obliteration of avenues" ever accomplished.

The grounds surrounding old Buckingham House must have been charming in Queen Anne's time. There were wide terraces, the walls of which were covered with Roses and Jessamine, parterres, "water-works" and fountains, a canal 600 yards long, and a double row of Limes on either side. These were all swept away in the reign of George IV. and plain grass, a stiff artificial lake with bays, and a few clumps of trees substituted.

Bacon, who loved the green of the grass and yet would have his garden full of bloom throughout the year, would have been angered by being told that "the flower garden ought never to be visible from the windows of the mansion." At Chiswick House we have an example of this precept put into practice. It is a most interesting survival and a landmark in the history of gardening in England. H. H. WARNER.

Michauxia campanuloides

THIS plant grows 4 feet high, forming neat symmetrical growth. It commences to flower in July and remains in beauty several weeks. The flowers are white, suffused with rosy-purple. Although a biennial Michauxia campanuloides is well worth a little trouble to establish for its distinct character and the dainty beauty of its quaint, white flowers.

It is not difficult to please as regards soil or position, but will be found to thrive better on light and warm ones. Slugs play havoc with this plant, so the crowns must be well covered with lime or what is, perhaps, more readily available, finely broken clinkers.

H. F. STEVENS.

Michauxia campanuloides

Large-flowered Pentstemons

Among late summer and autumn flowers the large-flowered or florist's Pentstemon takes a foremost place, the modern varieties being of large size, both as regards spikes and single blossoms, while the colours in recent years have been greatly improved. Profuse in bloom and of graceful habit, Pentstemons have a special value for our flower beds, as they flower for many weeks.

When well placed in the garden, the Pentstemon is superb, its profusion of bloom creating fine masses of colour in late summer and autumn, especially when the best varieties are used.

The Pentstemon is so great a favourite, and there are so many beautiful forms, that those who want a border or bed of them may choose the kind and colour they like best. The cultivation of the plants does not call for any special skill or treatment. They will thrive in any good garden soil, and being so useful for so many purposes they should find a home in all gardens.

Although the Pentstemon is really a perennial plant, and in the mixed borders usually allowed to grow as such, the gardener generally finds it more convenient to treat it as a bedding plant for the purpose of filling beds and borders. The plant readily lends itself to this treatment, and, providing cuttings are rooted early in September, the resultant plants may be relied upon to give a bold and brilliant display the following summer.

Cuttings are the best means of propagating Pentstemons. These may be taken even as early as August. Side shoots that show no disposition to flower are the most suitable for the purpose. The cuttings must not be too long out of the ground, or they will quickly flag.

For the purpose of raising plants a cold frame is necessary. This must be filled with soil consisting of loam, leaf-soil, and sand. The cuttings should be pressed firmly into the soil and kept closely shaded and moist for about three weeks. When well rooted, free ventilation must be the rule at all times. During winter very little if any water will be needed. Early in May the plants may go to their permanent quarters. The young plants will stand a few degrees of frost if well hardened.

Of modern varieties there are a great many, and nearly every nurseryman has his own speciality. Particulars of these and other large-flowered kinds are given in any good catalogue of hardy plants. The following are a few distinct:—Mrs. Langford, Mrs. Edwin Beckett, Red Riding Hood, and H. J. Elwes. H. STEVENS.

Brompton and East Lothian Stocks

Raising plants for next year

The value of Stocks both for their fragrance and their beauty is not confined to the summer blooming or ten-week varieties so much as it used to be, as in recent years those who have greenhouses from which frost can be excluded are appreciating what an asset a batch of Brompton or East Lothians are to have for spring flowering under glass. The culture of plants in these sections is very simple; seed can be sown at once in pans or boxes of light loam and leaf mould, with a little coarse silver sand among it. If seed is sown thinly, and just covered with soil, germination at this time of the year will not be long, and before winter sets in plants will be large enough to pot off into 5-inch or 6-inch pots, in which they can be bloomed. The best quarters for them is a shelf in a cool house, not too far away from the glass, but where they will have plenty of air.
Brompton Stocks are hardier than th
Lothians, and will in a mild winter
accommodated when in a young sta
cold frame, but if quartered in a gree
where, if it is really necessary to
little fire heat, it can be applied, they
well enough. Backward plants will b
useful for planting out of doors in Apr
will give beauty among spring flowers
weeks later. These Stocks are alm
hardy as a Wallflower, and require
general way the merest shelter to ensu
flowering, and though last winter, w
abnormal spell of hard frost, upset ou
and destroyed many plants—Stocks
them—it is well to remember that th
worth the risk. A sowing about the
August, or early in September, will
plants that will give beauty indoors
sired, or if grown on under very co
ditions will enable one to bed them
late spring flowering. It is mostly a
table arrangement. LEAHU

How to grow Lachenalia

There are signs that the Lachen
gradually becoming more popular.
number of bulb catalogues contain
least a short list of varieties is inc
year by year. Why the Lachenalia ha
in the background for so long it is
to say, but a possible reason is that
distribute their lists during the secon
of August, or even later, whereas
enalias should be planted towards the
July or the beginning of August. Of
the bulbs will grow if potted up late,
result is, if anything, disappointing.

A well-grown pot of Lachenalias is
picture. The orange, wax-like, elo
bells of various tints, including green,
evenly all around the top half of a
foot long The base is speckled with
spots, as also the bright, sword-
leaves that curve well over the sides
pot. When grown well the tips of the
will also put on a reddish-brown hue,
enhances the appearance.

As already stated, the end of July
best time to plant them. Select
measuring about 6 inches across the t
thoroughly scrub them out. Place
crocks in the bottoms, and over these
little rough material. The compost
consist of two parts ordinary well-cul
garden soil, one part leaf-mould, and
sand. If you have them, charcoal and
meal should be used in small qua
Pass the whole through a ¼-inch sie
well mix together. Fill the pots to
1 inch of the tops, and then place the
on the surface 1 inch apart in all dire
Cover them over with nearly another i
compost. After watering with a fine
can put them in a shaded frame, or, if
convenient, they may be stood und
staging of an unheated greenhouse.
more water is needed till signs of grow
visible unless the soil becomes really
dry. Directly growth appears place th
in a sunny position in a cool house an
go steady with the water till the leav
an inch long. After this, water fre
long as the soil is not sodden. Kee
plants in the coolest greenhouse ava
as they dislike being coddled. It is
necessary to keep away frost.

The blooms will appear during the
spring at a most welcome time, and w
for at least a month. As soon as the
decrease the amount of water gradua
that none is necessary at the time the
wither. Do not shake them out of thei
after this, but leave them undisturbed
sunny shelf in the greenhouse right th
the summer till re-potting time comes

ne of the Lachenalia is South Africa,
gets baked naturally.
er are many varieties in commerce, but
owing few are representative, and
d prove suitable as the nucleus of a
tin :—Nelsoni, pure golden-yellow
Siam, deep canary-yellow; Thibet,
axy-yellow with green markings;
c pale yellow with dark edge of
mouth. G. E. W.

rouping hardy flowers

ril thought beforehand when about to
ardy flowers on beds and borders in
a of selection as to time of flowering,
t, and colour is often apt to give quite
ang and striking an effect as the most
plans for summer bedding. I was
sd earlier in the season with some
ernate blocks of Nepeta Mussini and
le white Arabis. The Arabis has
er for some time, the dry weather
g its departure, but some early-
Shasta Daisies planted at the back
ewhat the same effect, for although
anint is past its best, the blue shade
ws. Higher plants of a darker blue
good companions for the Shasta
are blue Larkspurs, which last a long
lower if early spikes with a tendency
are promptly removed. Antir-
are generally massed in a bed or
of a border, but a trial this year of
height in smaller clumps with inter-
g clumps of Violas has proved very
n, although again, so far as this sea-
oncerned, they have required extra
to keep them up to the mark, they
o good dry weather plants, especially
y porous soils. A good white variety
e Swan) has been very pleasing be-
old clumps of the scarlet Lobelia
lis). Later in the season an attrac-
ure will be furnished by a batch of
Sea Lavender (Statice) facing
of the white Japanese Anemone.
eedlings vary considerably in height
our, that is, in the different shades of
hich makes the association all the
tractive. This Anemone and the tall
ia make charming backgrounds for
eful types of Starworts. E. B.

halictrum aquilegifolium purpureum

pretty Meadow-rue is one of the
t useful border plants of June. The
ish-purple colour of the stems and
r bloom tones delightfully with other
wering plants—Iris Asphodel and
ll-chosen Lupins. It is also welcome
es in some of those spaces among
s that are not always satisfactorily
s with others of its family, though
ell content in the ordinary flower
r it is happiest in a cool place near
company with such a plant as the
rm of Iris sibirica. G. J.

athering your own seed

are numbers of garden flowers and
vegetables we may gather seed of, if
cured at the right time, and turn out
ll, but there are others about which
not speak so definitely. Presently
lk will be turning their attention to
thering, and it is well to remember
best results always follow when seed
obtained from that earliest ripened.
take a leaf out of the book of those
ake growing for seed their business.
not suffer plants to go on blooming,
mpt to gather, only from the best
g plants. Sweet Peas may be taken
xample among popular flowers. As a rule most folk want plenty of flowers for table decoration, and then when they think they have had enough they turn their attention to picking pods of seed. It is then that the plants after blooming for weeks—perhaps months—are low in vitality, and consequently seed from such a source is not worth very much to the grower for sowing next year. Only the best of the "first fruits" is worth considering. If you contemplate saving seeds of Mignonette, Marigolds, annual Larkspurs, and Love-in-a-Mist it will pay you to go to the trouble of setting aside a few plants for that specific purpose and restricting their flowering. Vegetable seeds, such as Peas and Beans, Broad, French, and Runner, ought to be selected from plants known to be healthy, and only from the best of the first ripened. As a rule, it is better to purchase vegetable seeds rather than trouble with saving. In any circumstances, it is a mistake to save the same kind of seed year after year. An object lesson in Potatoes and Runner Beans this year proved to me, had proof been necessary, that to save seed year after year is a losing proposition, and not worth a moment's consideration. The crops at the time I pen these notes will hardly be worth gathering. "I shall not save my own seed again," was the remark the owner made to me! W. F.

Propagating hardy edging plants

Those who desire their garden paths to be fringed with hardy edging plants another year should lose no time in propagating them, and, once established, they last a season or two without needing much attention. For instance, now is a suitable opportunity for getting in cuttings of Pinks. You cannot have a better or sweeter white than old Mrs. Sinkins. Another white edger will be found in the perennial Candytuft, especially the sort known as Little Gem. What blue flower has made more friends than the Catmint (Mussin's Nepeta)? Cuttings of this taken near a joint will strike very quickly. Many of the Saxifrages with their cushion-like growth are adapted for edgings to borders. Stormonth's Pink is one that comes on quickly and can be propagated from cuttings. You can have another pink-flowered plant about your paths, if you do not object to one which "sprawls," in the Soapwort (Saponaria ocymoides), with a reputation for flowering very freely. This, again, will strike from cuttings now. Not many view Aubrietias in the light of path-edgers, yet they, too, make a garden very charming in spring, and there is no difficulty in getting a stock of plants from cuttings if put in at once. Should you have some clusters of dwarf Campanulas, perhaps on a rockery, remember their worth for the verge of the path, and that plants can be pulled to pieces and the portions got in where they are wanted to bloom. WOODBASTWICK.

Frame plants that must have shade

The term "cold frame" is often a misnomer, at this time of the year at all events. Usually when selecting a site for such useful contrivances regard is paid to a sheltered spot for winter requirements of plants, but when it is decided to locate them in a south position and they have to do duty for "housing" such things as Primulas and Cinerarias then trouble begins, as such plants dislike heat and the glare of the sun. It is well to utter a word of warning in a period when the thermometer is likely to soar as to the necessity of affording such plants a screen from the heat. Supposing the frame cannot be shifted to cooler quarters temporarily, then arrangements ought to be made to give shade. In the ordinary way under a sun-screened spot the light can be removed altogether for some weeks, so that these plants can have all the air it is possible to give them. It may not be quite so easy to dispense with the light in a south position and to give shade at the same time, as nothing must fall on either Primulas or Cinerarias that will crush or mar the leaves, hence the light ought to be "painted" with whiting or sun-cloud, but this of itself in a south aspect will not be enough. Coolness must be ensured by raising the sash and covering it over in the hottest part of the day with a mat. No plants become debilitated more than these two winter and early spring flowering greenhouse subjects in trying heat, and it behoves everyone growing them to afford cool and airy conditions, and, above all, in giving each plant room clear of its neighbour. MIDLANDER.

Thalictrum aquilegifolium purpureum

The cascade between Lago Tom and Lago Ritom

IN THE ALTA LEVENTINA

Soldanellas by the melting snow

The bright pink of Silene acaulis mingled w
intense blue of Gentiana brachyphylla and th
blue Myosotis alpestris, the Alpine Forget

Ten Days in Leventina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

(*Continued from page 532*)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3RD.

SIGNS of activity at Hotel Piora. New arrivals include Swiss family from Zurich, comprising five children (German-speaking), and an Italian family from Milan (one child), English-speaking, all most friendly. The Italians are here for trout fishing, which is said to be very good in the streams below Lago Tom and Lago Cadagno.

Heavy mists surround the mountains. Spend a quiet day on easy slopes of Ritom and Cadagno amid true Alpine wildness.

On south side of Ritom the coarse-growing Gentiana punctata, with inflated greenish-yellow flowers heavily spotted black, replaces the better-known G. lutea. It likewise has a very long tap root. An equally coarse-growing Veratrum grows with Gentiana punctata. They appear to enjoy each other's company and are very common among large bushes of the Alpenrose and occasional plants of the tall-growing Achillea macrophylla.

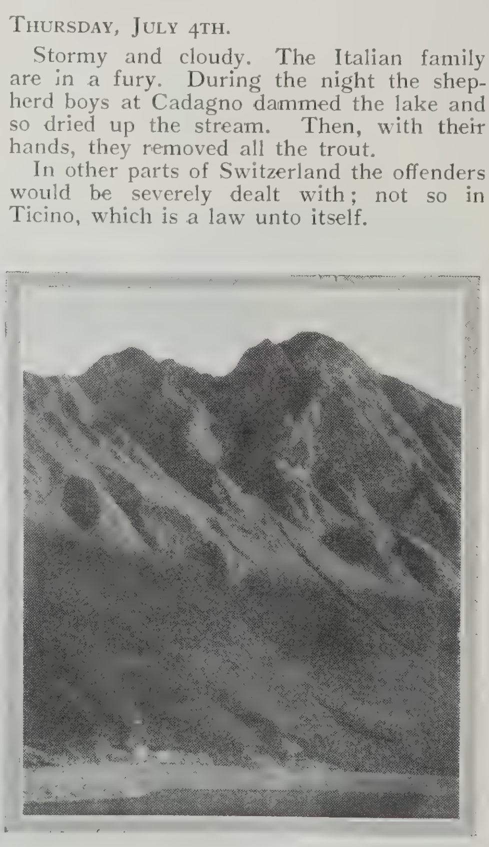
On the grassy slopes of Ritom the vanilla-scented Nigritella nigra grows freely and the air is filled with its powerful and pleasing fragrance. Many flowers are at their best. That good plant Myosotis alpestris makes lovely patches of pure blue mingled with the less showy colours of Oxytropis sordida, Bellidiastrum Michelli, and Saxifraga cuneifolia. The little yellow Pansy, Viola biflora, abounds here. A little higher, among rocks, are brilliant patches of Silene acaulis so freely flowered that the cushion of foliage is hidden from view. How different to those luxuriant plants in rock gardens that make ever-spreading cushions of mossy green but fail to produce flowers. There are also large drifts of the white-flowering, low-growing Achillea moschata and Gypsophila repens. On one slope at least the narrow-leaved form of Ranunculus pyreneus, known as angustifolius, is plentiful, while the ground near melting snow is carpeted with the graceful Soldanellas pusilla and montana.

Returning in evening the Italian family are likewise well pleased with their day, having landed five trout.

THURSDAY, JULY 4TH.

Stormy and cloudy. The Italian family are in a fury. During the night the shepherd boys at Cadagno dammed the lake and so dried up the stream. Then, with their hands, they removed all the trout.

In other parts of Switzerland the offenders would be severely dealt with; not so in Ticino, which is a law unto itself.



Cima di Camoughe towering above Lago Ritom

P. R. B. returned to Piora to-da
am glad of his company on the h
again. We spent the afternoon or
and Camoughe.

Amid the wealth of flowers, one
a profound disappointment to both
and that is the wayward Gentianella
known as Gentiana acaulis. Acco
some botanists, Gentiana acaulis
exist, the name including four distin
—all with large trumpets, each or
raised to specific rank. The four sp
angustifolia, excisa, Clusii, and
The first three are always Gentian
cept, of course, the albino forms. T
tianella of the non-calcareous slopes
Piora is of the Gentiana alpina per
and is of purple hue, not the plun
of G. pyrenaica, but a dull, dingy
purple. The plant was looking pe
though not only off colour but th
ashamed of its bad behaviour. H
ferent to its gay sisters, angustifoli
Pyrenees and Clusii of the Dolomite

The Gentianella of Piora was made
all the more inferior by contrast
good Gentians of dazzling blue growi

(*To be continued.*)

When Rambler Roses have flowering

One of the troubles which beset the
of Rambler Roses is that of mildew
autumn, particularly after a wet spe
may dust affected shoots with sulp
help matters a good deal, but more t
may be done by cutting away the o
after flowering in order to give th
suckers a chance and admitting ai
out the new wood. Unfortunate
many delay this duty until late
autumn, when pest of mildew has
hold, instead of tackling the work
ately flowers have gone. There is
gained by delay, especially with
growers of the type of Dorothy Perk
old wood of which, if left, smoth
young shoots, which make the best
ing wood the next year. LEAH

Asperula suberosa

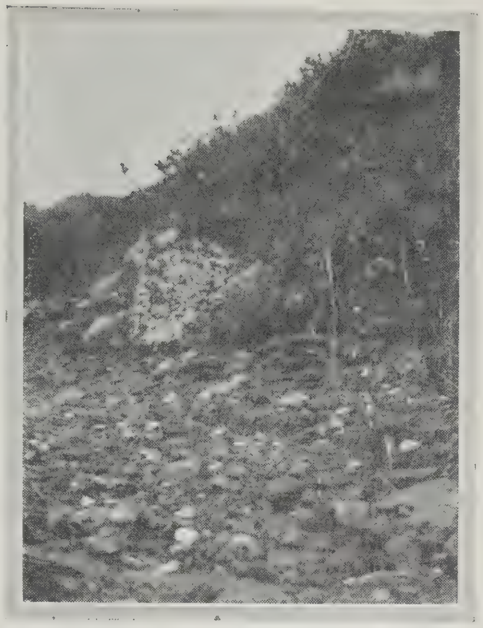
delightful little plant never fails to a full measure of appreciation when thriving condition, and it is really a npered beauty if tactfully en- d. A sunny ledge upon the rock gar- a sharply drained root-run composed gritty loam and a little leaf-soil and nd a surfacing of chippings will coax ng a lovely little picture during late and early summer—hummocks of grey woolly leaves and tiny stems over with a profusion of palest pink is. A few plants will at once create re of interest and strike a novel note Alpine garden.

little Grecian plant's implacable is damp, so that during the winter it advisable to place a sheet of glass plant and to always retain a small reserve plants in the frame or green- A close atmosphere must be rigidly d. Asperula suberosa will furnish a r the Alpine house in delightful , and is, indeed, a delicious confection r-grey and pink. Cuttings afford a neans of increase, and should be in- n sand or in very sandy soil during r and covered with a handlight or a cold frame. Safeguarding against s the greatest problem.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Flowers for naming

inability to determine names of sent for identification and con- disappointment to the sender is so e neglect of a few simple rules that be advisable and, indeed, imperative the reminder that it is necessary to them to obtain satisfactory results. wers should be cut in early morning ced in water for a time. They should the partially expanded bud stage or usses, as in the case of herbaceous s. When only a small proportion of s are expanded strap a little damp ound the stems and secure these to to avoid shifting about. The flowers should have some soft material between them and the box to prevent bruising. Despatch by first post [this office is closed on Saturday and Sunday.—ED.] to ensure quick transit. In the case of fruit, always send before the ripening stage is finally reached. This applies particularly to early Pears, Peaches, and Nectarines. The above may seem very simple instructions, and almost uncalled for, but the recipients of many hundreds of boxes in the course of a year, as in the case of a busy office, would doubtless notify as to the necessity for them.



In the centre of this picture is a patch of Silene acaulis, about a yard across, freely studded with rosy coloured flowers which it never produces in cultivation

Bulbs for early potting

Sometimes the one who attempts to force bulbs for the first time imagines that if he can have enough heat at his disposal the matter is quite easy; hence, one finds now and again amateurs, after potting bulbs about the middle of November, proceed a few weeks afterwards to bring them into extra warmth. One is within the truth to say that in such cases only failure results. There is no express culture in the production of flowers from bulbs, however good the soil may be, or however ample means of heat may be. There must in all cases be time given for root development before any thought should be given to bringing them into the excitement of extra warmth. Whether Hyacinths, Tulips, Narcissi, or some of the smaller flowered bulbs like Snowdrops, Scillas, and Grape Hyacinths are wanted for blooming indoors early, potting of them should take place in rotation. If one desires bloom in the neighbourhood of Christmas or the New Year, then a start should be made in August or early September, potting up in a compost of loam and leaf mould, and taking care that for six or eight weeks the pots are placed in a dark shed, but one where air can reach them, or put under ashes in a cold frame. Five-inch or 6-inch pots are a useful size, and bulbs may be planted quite close to each other. Not until root action has well advanced—easy to find out by examining one or two of the pots—should they be brought into heat; indeed the first shift should be into slightly warmer conditions, as it is not possible to jump bulbs into great heat from cool quarters, thinking they will come on quickly, without ill effects following. Many a batch of bulbs through this alone have turned out " blind buds." Gently luring bulbs into flower is in all cases better than extremes of temperature, and the next best thing is to give the bulbs a long season of growth so that when it is time to admit them to warmer conditions the pots will be full of roots and the bulbs well equipped.

WOODBASTWICK.

Trout streams above Lago Ritom and three disappointed anglers from Milan

Primula farinosa, Gentiana bavarica, and Dryas octopetala grow freely by these streams

Suitable Plants for Crazy Pavements

OBSERVATION of many houses and bungalows of comparatively recent erection indicates the growing popularity of small rock gardens and paved paths studded here and there with suitable dwarf-growing plants. The primary purpose of a footpath, of course, is indicated by its name, but a reasonably decorated walk proves a much more attractive and interesting feature in a garden than does an unbroken stretch of concrete. The amateur gardener who possesses just the average amount of land on which to spend his endeavours is not usually predisposed to be too lavish when allowing for paths, and consequently one guiding axiom should be, the narrower the path the smaller the occupants. Many plants for this sphere of gardening are available, and the following are selected for the benefit of the enthusiast undertaking the laying of crazy paving for the first time and who is as yet unfamiliar with many of these increasingly popular diminutive subjects. They are, for the most part, of easy culture, and should they prove too aggressive can easily be trimmed back without in any way injuring the remainder of the plant.

Saxifraga apiculata, a member of the cushion group of Saxifrages, blooms during March and April. It forms very compact tufts of bright green leaves and bears pale yellow flowers on stems 4 inches or 5 inches high. There is also a white variety which grows as freely and blooms as profusely as the original. Among the Mossy Saxifrages S. Flower Carpet is a variety with a very compact habit. During April and May its delightful pink flowers, borne on 2-inch stems, appear in such quantity that the rest of the plant is completely hidden. In common with most of the red and pink Saxifrages, however, the colour is impaired by strong sunlight, so to be seen at its best it requires a semi-shaded position. S. Stormonth, or Stormonth Seedling, is another good pink variety with dwarfer foliage, stems about an inch long, and smaller flowers, though produced just as freely. Of the two the latter, though a small and very dainty plant, spreads much more rapidly.

Armeria maritima, the native Sea Pink, is too well known to require description, and can be obtained with flowers of various shades of pink. There is also a white form. A much rarer kind, however, is A. cæspitosa, a minute species forming tufts of grass-like foliage about 2 inches high, with bright pink flowers. All the Thrifts revel in a well-drained sandy position in full sunshine.

The Aubrietias form another well-known class of plants indispensable for the present purpose. For the most part they seem indifferent to soil and aspect, though they flower earlier and perhaps a little better for a fair share of sunshine. When the flowering season is over it is essential to cut them well back in order to keep them compact and bushy. There are now many varieties to be had, and amongst the best of them are the following:—Dr. Mules, of very good habit, dark violet flowers; J. S. Baker, an early variety, large purple flowers with a neat white eye; Russell's Crimson; Gloriosa, large rose-coloured flowers; Mrs. Lloyd Edwards, deep violet; Delicata, pale lavender.

Arenaria Balearica is a plant very much at home in a damp and shady position. It not only covers the soil with its myriads of emerald-green leaves, but will actually grow upon the stone itself—sandstone for preference. It attains no appreciable height, but merely covers the ground with colour, and in summer bears the daintiest of small, star-shaped flowers on slender stems ½ inch high. A. cæspitosa aurea thrives well in a sunny position and covers the ground with a thick, Moss-like carpet of pale green. During summer it is studded with innumerable small white flowers.

Erinus is a very accommodating plant for a hot, dry position, and grows well in any odd chink on a path or between steps. It forms diminutive tufts of dark green leaves, and seldom becomes too aggressive. E. alpinus bears rose-purple flowers, alba being the white form and carmineus the carmine. All three are very desirable and attractive little plants.

Like the Saxifrages, Sedums offer a good selection of plants suitable for crazy paving. S. acre, the native Stonecrop, will thrive under almost any conditions, but the more sunshine it receives the better it seems to flower. S. acre aureum is a good variety with bright golden foliage and yellow flowers borne during June and July. S. anglicum is another native species similar to the last, but the flowers are rose-coloured.

Among the low-growing Phloxes, P. amœna is a beautiful dwarf variety of spreading habit covered in May and June with a rosy mantle. It is easily kept within prescribed limits by a little judicious trimming after passing out of flower. The sublata section offers many beautiful hybrids which are all of easy cultivation if guarded against excessive drought as experienced this year. The following are a few of the many good varieties which can be had:—The Bride, white; Vivid, a rich salmon-rose with a carmine centre, and one of the most outstanding of the group; Seraph, white with a blue eye; G. F. Wilson, blue-grey; Compacta, pink; Lilacina, pale lilac.

Thymus, serpyllum, the English Wild Thyme, is ideal for path-work. It exists in various forms, and a richly coloured kind is T. S. coccineus. This forms a close, green carpet except during the flowering period, when it is one mass of deep crimson-purple. Alba, the white variation, and Villosa, pale pink, are equally attractive. T. citriodorous aureus, the Golden Lemon Thyme, can be kept in the form of a neat 6-inch flowering bush by careful trimming, and is well worth growing for its fragrant foliage and bright colour. The same remarks apply equally to T. c. argenteus, the Silver Lemon Thyme.

Veronica Traherne forms a neat-growing tuft of golden foliage and is covered with clear blue flowers during June and July, reaching a height of about 6 inches. Another very useful plant in this family is V. repens, in some places known as Snow in Summer. This is a tiny creeping plant which spreads fairly rapidly and is covered with white flowers in May and June. V. rupestris, blue, and alba, the white form, are also of the creeping type. V. saxatilis grows about 3 inches high, making a dense carpet of blue flowers.

Two plants worth growing on account of their foliage are Achillea Kellereri and Antennaria tomentosa. The former has beautiful laciniated foliage of silver-grey and grows with a neat habit. The flowers, which appear from May onwards, are white and are held well aloft on graceful stems. There is nothing attractive about the flowers of Antennaria, but the small rosettes of leaves form a neat silvery carpet. Both plants will flourish in a hot, dry position.

There are many attractive plants among the dwarf Campanulas, but unfortunately some of them are rather fastidious in the matter of position and the soil they occupy. C. pusilla, however, is a reliable plant, and can be had with either blue or white flowers, which are very much in evidence during June
and July. C. muralis, with its de
flowers is also of strong constituti
somewhat larger than the foregoi
light soil and plenty of sunshine are t
cipal needs of the Campanulas. A.

FRUIT GARDE

Strawberry cultivation

THE soil most suitable for the su
cultivation of the Strawberry is
deep, rich loam, resting on a f
open subsoil. But they may be gr
anyone who is prepared to treat the
fairly on soils and in districts differing
from each other. Usually, Strawber
at their best in the second year, an
pends mainly on the soil whether they
worth running after the third. In the
gation of Strawberries there is not
deter anyone in possession of plant
putting it into practice. To ensu
crops the parent plants must be i
health and fruiting vigour. Unless th
are rooted and planted out early, it
to expect a heavy return the first seas
those about to commence the culture
luscious fruit I emphasize the imp
of making a start with clean vigorou

Those who intend to propagate sho
no time in pegging down the s
runners in 3-inch pots filled with go
Stand the pots level and as far as pos
rows to facilitate watering. In abou
weeks the young plants will be esta
when sever them from their paren
stand the pots in the open on an a
Watering and spraying overhead must
attended to, for moisture is the mai
to keep them going nicely. If the
be very hot, a mat should be plac
them during the heat of the day to
flagging.

In the meantime, the ground should
prepared by trenching it to the depth
2½ feet or 3 feet, according as the na
the ground will admit; apply at th
time a heavy dressing of manure.
ground is of a light, sandy nature
addition to the manure, a quantity
scrapings, or good, strong, heavy loa
on the other hand, it consists of a hea
the addition of coarse sand or lime
together with a good dressing of hor
will greatly improve its fertility.

A position in the open garden sh
selected for the main crops. But to
the season different sites should b
use of. On a warm, sunny border f
ripen in advance of a bed in the op
the ripening process may be further h
with a few spare frame lights. Then,
on a half-shaded border, if planted
good late sort, welcome berries
gathered in August.

The sooner the ground is prepar
levelled the better, for, above ever
Strawberries need a firm soil.

The advantage of having pot plants
there is no necessity to delay planting
count of the weather. If the soil is
may be necessary to still further con
it by treading. The distance betw
rows should be 2½ feet and 2 feet betw
plants in the row. In strong, rich soi
ever, some varieties with large folia
require 3 feet between the rows. F
and late varieties, I plant a foot apart
rows, and after the first crop every
plant is chopped out. Before planti
well over the pots and see that the soil
moist; in fact, I advise a thorough
ing some time beforehand.

After planting the ground around th
of the plants and between the rows sh
trodden firmly and afterwards hoed m

e surface, loosening it as little as

n the ground is firmed, the plants are s prone to run into foliage instead of ng up flower scapes. The ground must clear of weeds, all runners removed h appear, and the surface of the ground ntly stirred with the hoe. Water plays portant part in the subsequent treatment for the roots are quite unable to work y soil. Therefore, should the weather , the plants must have frequent and waterings.

dressing between the rows is very ial, as it keeps the ground moist and the plants nourishment. The manure put on in the autumn or spring, just h plants start into growth. I prefer to ion in autumn, as the enriching prinare washed down by the winter rains use the plants to start away with vigour in spring. About 1 inch of n traw should be laid down just as the are commencing to open. From the e flowers begin to open till the fruit p the plants must never suffer from the f water.

s oon as the fruit is all gathered, the tion must be thoroughly cleaned. e the top dressing, runners, and decayiage, so as to admit plenty of light and the heart of the plants. The ground then be lightly stirred with the fork, n every care not to disturb the roots. e dig between the rows with the spade, principal feeding roots would be del.

h length of time a plantation is allowed ain depends upon the nature of the nd the mode of treatment. My own e is to renew the plantation every ear, and I find that the best fruit is ed the second year after planting. r are now so many excellent varieties is a difficult matter to say which are st. The following I find very reliable od:—The Duke, a fine early sort, good cing; King George V., a grand variety, cious flavour; Hatfield Victor, very good cropper, and fine flavour; Royal eign, a grand variety in every way; and doo, a splendid late variety. F. H.

c Currants

soon as the fruits have been gathered the bushes with quassia and nicotine This will check the development of d, and cleanse the tips of the shoots of the multitude of aphis which has collected in them during the ripening period of the fruit. A good mulch of manure or litter will prove a boon to them if applied now.

Planting Vines and Peaches

(In Answer to a Correspondent.)

It is not advisable to make up the whole of the border for Vines at one time; the favourite practice is rather to do this piecemeal. A width of not more than 4 feet should be built up at first, loose bricks being excellent with which to form a wall to keep up the soil in front. They may be done without, and the turf so built that it will form a bank of itself; but the advantage of bricks is they keep the soil moist and help the roots that pass out to the extremities of the border. We have seen the roots protruding through bricks in great numbers when the vines have been long enough established to reach that extent. Good turf from a meadow is that required to form a permanent border, incorporating with it a goodly proportion of coarse bone, which not only affords lime to the soil by decay, but assists in keeping the materials porous. Lime should be employed also, but, if possible, this should be old or that obtained from buildings that have been pulled down. If you can procure some burnt refuse or burnt soil, this is excellent for border making. Drainage should be provided about 6 inches or 8 inches deep, and on this 2 feet of soil, and a pipe drain to carry off superfluous water. We have found, too, for forcing Vines it is best to provide against the roots going outside into the cold subsoil. This is done by concreting the bottom and the sides, if the walls are not good, for Vine roots will pass through even a solid wall to get outdoors. Some gardeners chop up their soil roughly, so as to mix all the ingredients well together; others simply arrange the Grass side downwards and apply other materials in sprinklings between the layers. The former is the better plan. If possible, try and procure soil from a source where trees grow well, otherwise your success may not be of the measure you expect or desire. Much depends on the soil in successful Grape growing. A distance of 3 feet apart provides sufficient space for a single Vine-rod, which means that you will require ten Vines to plant each house. For forcing you will find Black Hamburgh the best black Grape and Foster's Seedling a corresponding white variety. If you need more variety, you may include Madresfield Court, Black Muscat, Buckland Sweetwater, and Gros Maroc. In the later division Black Alicante, Lady Downe's, Gros Colman, Appley Towers, Lady Hutt, and White Tokay are good varieties, Lady Downe's and Gross Colman being the latest keepers. A Vine or two of Muscat of Alexandria may be tried in either house.

In making Peach borders care must be taken not to make them over rich; an excess in this direction means trouble later on, for the trees become so rampant in rich soil that it is impossible to get any satisfactory crops. We prefer, rather than employ new loam entirely, to use about half garden soil to mix with the turf. No manure should be employed, but some lime is absolutely essential, and also a few coarse bones. Turf that has been cut and stacked some time to reduce the herbage that is growing in it is best. If you cannot do this you may make your borders as early as you can, and allow them to stand some time before planting your trees and Vines. Allow about 10 feet run for each tree. For both Vines and Peaches it is important that the soil be made firm, but choose a dry time, so that the ramming-stick will not make the loam pasty. It should be in a medium state of moisture, neither dry nor wet. You need not concrete the bottom for Peaches, but provide some drainage the same as for Vines if the ground is heavy. You could make the border for Peaches all at one time, as root-pruning will correct any tendency to rambling. A selection of sorts for early, mid-season, and late will be found in Amsden June, Hale's Early, Grosse Mignonne, Bellegarde, Violet Hative, and Sea Eagle. Nectarines: Early Rivers, Lord Napier, Elruge, and Pine Apple. If your land is of a light or medium state and fairly deep, drainage would not be necessary for Peaches. If you need Peaches only, Stirling Castle, Dymond, Prince of Wales, and Barrington are other good varieties in addition to the above named.

Trimming Hedges

The cutting back of practically all kinds of hedges may now be taken in hand. Hollies, Lonicera nitida, White Thorn, Yew, Beech, Hornbeam, etc., may be cut in fairly hard without the slightest disfigurement, and will look as fresh as ever in quite a short time. Laurels are best when cut with a knife, otherwise many half leaves remain.

FLOWERS IN THE ALTA LEVENTINA

r Maids of France (Ranunculus aconitifolius) with single white flowers wing in great profusion in a damp mountain pasture near Lago Cadagno

Primula integrifolia with the fringed lilac bells of the dainty Soldanella around a weather-beaten bush of the Alpenrose

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Rambler Roses

Many of these charming Roses have finished blooming for this year, and, wherever it is possible, should be thinned out in order that the strong, young shoots of the current year may be exposed fully to sunshine and air. The old growths which have borne flowers may, in many instances, be removed entirely, unless of a strong and vigorous constitution, when a portion of them only should be removed. It is, however, important to divert the strength of the Rose to the development of the younger wood, therefore do not crowd growth by leaving in an excess of old wood. Very often a Clematis or other climber accompanies the Rose, and where this is so the removal of the old flower-trusses is all that can safely be done, owing to the brittle nature of twining Clematis, many of which are now blooming.

Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Andromedas

These and similar shrubs must be watched carefully at this season and prevented from becoming dust-dry, as it is now that the handsome flowers for next year are being built up, and such plants remaining excessively dry over an extended period will fail to bloom next season. A good mulch of whatever is available at this season will benefit them immensely.

Lilies

The large groups of Lilies which are often planted among the above shrubs must be securely staked and tied as the large heads of bloom advance, and kept well supplied with moisture. The large auratum, tigrinum, and speciosum groups will also benefit from weak applications of manure-water.

Pinks and Carnations

Complete the propagation of Pinks by inserting the latest flowering kinds in boxes of sandy soil and placing them in a cool, closed frame, and do not overlook the importance of a new batch of any of the choice Alpine Dianthus at the same time, as these will strike freely under the same conditions and prove useful in replacing worn-out stocks on the rock garden.

The layering of Carnations in the open

This must also be completed if well-rooted plants are to be ready for the beds by the end of September or early October.

Seeds of Meconopsis Baileyi and others, Primulas, Auriculas, Ramondias, and Conandron

These will germinate freely if sown now and kept in a cool, closed frame where they are shaded from bright sunshine. Moist, but not excessively wet, conditions are essential. Seeds of Alpine plants will be found to germinate most satisfactorily, too, if sown now.

Peach houses

When all the fruit has been gathered, the ventilators should be thrown wide open and the trees exposed as much as possible in order that the wood may get thoroughly ripened. Abundance of water must be given and sharp syringings once daily. This will keep the trees clean and healthy. Trees carrying heavy crops in late houses and in the open must be syringed daily and assisted with weak applications of manure-water. Bud-dropping means disaster, and this will certainly arise if the trees are permitted to get unduly dry at any time during autumn and winter.

Perpetual fruiting and other Raspberries

Remove all the old canes from these immediately they have ceased to fruit, and thus divert the whole strength of the plants to the production of strong, young growth, which in the former case is already in bloom. A reasonable number of young growths only should be permitted to remain so as to average 1 foot apart in the rows.

Winter Lettuces

Make a sowing of hardy Winter White Cos, Bath black seeded and Trocadero, both for the filling of cold frames, pits, and to furnish plants for a good bed in the open.

Late Peas

These must be generously treated, liberal watering with an occasional application of liquid-manure being most essential, and in order to keep the dreaded Thrip, so troublesome to late Peas, at bay, the rows should be rosed over in the evening. Where birds are numerous it will be necessary to place nets over them. A good mulch of manure will prove of the utmost value to this important crop.

E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Sowing Persian Cyclamens

The first half of August is now widely recognized as the best time for sowing the seeds of this valuable winter-flowering subject. Use clean, well-drained pans filled with a sweet, light compost; scatter the seeds thinly and evenly, and cover with about one-eighth of an inch of the soil. Give a gentle but thorough watering; cover each pan with a sheet of glass and a piece of paper. While some advocate placing the pans in a cold frame, I think as good or better results are had by placing in a pit, or greenhouse, where a little artificial warmth is provided.

Schizanthus

By sowing seeds within the next 10 days or so, very fine plants may be raised for flowering in spring and early summer. Sow thinly, in pans of light soil, set in a cold frame and shade until growth appears, which is generally in about 5 days. As soon as germination has taken place, raise the pans up quite close to the glass, for this plant is very easily "drawn," and where this happens, means farewell to any good plants. Prick off when ready and return to the frame, but as soon as frost threatens have the little plants placed on a light airy shelf in a greenhouse, from which frost is excluded. Water with great care, especially during the short days, and never be tempted to set in a high temperature.

Clarkia

This is an annual much favoured by many for early blooming in pots. Much the same treatment as advised above for the Schizanthus will suit this plant, but when pricking off three plants should be placed round the edges of 4-inch pots, instead of one in each of the 3-inch size, which suits the former. Very careful watering is necessary at all times, or damping off will soon wipe out the plants.

Mignonette

While the fragrance of Mignonette is acceptable at all seasons, it is in spring that it is most appreciated. Seeds should be sown now, either in pans, or in 3-inch pots. In the latter case, only three or four seeds should be put in each, and when the seedlings are growing freely, the weaker
be pulled out and one plant left in ea
When sown in pans the little plants
be carefully pricked into 3-inch pots,
they remain for the winter, and in Fe
are moved to the 5-inch or 6-inch siz
cording to the strength of the plants.

Cinerarias

The main batch of these will now
for a shift into the flowering pots.
must be clean and dry and should be
fairly good drainage. Pot firmly and
to frame, where abundance of air m
given, and shade from all sunshine.
ness is a necessity with this plant,
dryness at the roots is fatal. At the
time, over-watering will quickly kill
plants, so a judicious use of the waterin
is the main feature in their culture.

Summer pruning

The manner and precise time for ca
out this work is highly controversia
everyone must just carry it out accord
what they consider the best time and m
Personally, I have tried many of the
cated methods, and so far have never
able to discover much difference in t
sults, so I now usually carry it out abo
end of August, and if nothing else be
the trees are relieved of such vermin a
be present, all prunings being immed
gathered up and burned.

Young wall trees

After the removal of surplus growths
very desirable to train in all nec
growths as far as space admits, for
this is done while the foliage is on,
then much easier to judge correctly
proper distance apart to leave the bra
It also saves having to tackle this dis
able job during cold weather. Do not,
ever, shorten back these young growth
leave until the winter pruning.

Pruning Black Currants

If time can be spared just after the
are gathered, it is good practice to d
necessary pruning of the Black Cu
bushes, for by doing so now all the
growths that will bear the next crop w
given room to develop properly and ripe
stead of having to battle with the old
cut branches that have already done
duty, and must eventually be cut out.
down to near the ground all such as are
discarded, and burn at once.

Raspberries after fruiting

Immediately the last of the fruit is pi
the old canes should be cut down an
moved, while the young ones shoul
thinned where necessary. To prevent
age by autumn gales these young
should be loosely but securely fasten
the supports. Remove all weeds and
the whole plantation tidy.

Planting Strawberries

It is unfortunately the case that in
of our northern districts "runners"
produced so late in the season that it i
possible to plant in autumn, which is a
ous handicap, the first season being en
blank when the plants have to be se
in spring. Those who can secure st
well-rooted plants by the middle of Au
and set them out on rich, well-prep
ground, will be able to secure a crop of
berries next summer. The Strawberry
have a firm root-run; so if the ground
been recently dug it must be well tro
down before planting is carried out.

C. Bla

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Answers to Queries

rs—Queries and answers are inserted in ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if corre- s follow these rules: All communications clearly written on one side of the paper d addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, Letters on business should be sent to the r. The name and address of the sender ired in addition to any designation he ire to be used in the paper. When more e query is sent, each should be on a piece of paper; the name and address lded to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

ORCHIDS

and other plants

rtance Tebbs).—If you are convinced t sprinkling of this artificial fertiliser stages has benefited your Orchids, o reason why you should not repeat ess, although we must confess to aving heard of this treatment before. do not name the Orchids we cannot and at what time they should be re- the kinds varying considerably in pect. Yes. A Bougainvillea will ll right in a well-drained tub, but a higher temperature than that of ary greenhouse. The tub need not than a foot deep, but must have 1-inch holes in the bottom to ensure rainage. The best compost for this best fibrous loam three parts, leaf- two parts, and one part coarse, clean As the various sections of the as require different treatment in the pruning, we would require to know es of your plants before we could Probably, however, dryness at the one of the main causes of the trouble, will be greatly aggravated by the pre- f the tree roots. Copious watering help matters even yet. It is difficult exactly what causes your Plum and ees to fail to set crops, seeing they abundance of blossom. Frost or nds while in flower, the fact that the s may be self-sterile, and the over- nce of the trees are all likely causes trouble. If the trees are trained on me temporary shelter while in flower most likely help greatly to ensure a . Fig trees while in growth require nce of water, but no manure, unless crop of fruit is setting and swelling, occasional soakings of weak liquid are very beneficial.

FLOWER GARDEN

onal flowers

hing Green).—We have carefully ex- your specimens of Geum Mrs. Brad- , and have failed to find any indication why the flowers should develop small eaves instead of the usual coloured s The specimens arrived at the office ry dried up condition, which made ation difficult, and if any animal ms had been present they probably e dried material in the post. It to us likely that some small crea- the Mite type may have caused the in the first place. We notice that stamens of the flowers appear to be njured or have turned into tiny leaves. ould like the opportunity of examin- cimens another season so soon as you anything abnormal about any of the . We think that it is too late to find ything this season, even if you send ecimens, because the injury occurred me ago and the organisms concerned w left. Thrips or Mites are the most cause of the trouble. When sending ens to this office please pack in a tin box, because when so packed specimens arrive in a nice condition for examination. We are sorry we cannot name the leaf of the plant you sent. If you will send a spray of the plant when in flower we will name it for you.

Dahlia blooms

("Earlstone," Newbury).—Doubtless the advanced state of the blooms when cut is responsible for their going to pieces during the night. When meant for exhibition the flowers should be a little less than fully open, for they will, as a rule, open out nicely after being cut and placed in water.

Mildew on Roses

(M. S.).—While we agree that mildew is one of the worst troubles the rosarian has to contend with, we do not think that it is impossible to check, or even prevent, it if a systematic course of Kuremil be given. This specific may be had from any nurseryman, and is not at all expensive, while full directions are given with each packet. Roses in draughty positions, or those planted against dry walls, are most subject to the disease.

GREENHOUSE

Nerines

("Bert").—The best time to re-pot Nerines is early in August, but this is one of the plants that only require to be moved once in every four or five years. Any loose outer skin may be removed, but there is no necessity to do this. The best compost for this plant is very fresh, fibrous loam, with a little leaf-mould and plenty of silver sand. Little or no water should be given until growth begins to show. You will understand that during winter the Nerine makes its growth, and, usually in May, the foliage begins to ripen, when water must be gradually withheld, and as soon as the foliage is dead not another drop of water must be given, while the pots should be set on the sunniest shelf in the greenhouse and well "baked" until the points of the flower-spike begin to peep from the bulb, when watering should again begin.

Amaryllis

Two years ago I bought a small collection of these bulbs, and on looking them over recently I found them very much invested with Mealy Bug. They were all treated with methylated spirit as they went out of flower, but the bugs do not appear to be strict prohibitionists, in fact, the bulbs so treated have produced still larger numbers of bugs. A friend of mine suggested the hot-water treatment used by Daffodil growers, but as he could not say he had had actual experience of the result of such treatment, I am afraid it would result in the death of the bulbs. There are many preparations advertised, I know, but few, if any, appear to have much effect on this pest except cyanide. This, however, is too dangerous, and therefore out of the question. On a close examination of a bulb it is evident the bugs get well down between the scales, and any outward application fails to reach them. Can you suggest any treatment short of burning the bulbs?—SIRIUS.

[We think that by periodically hunting for the bugs and touching every one found with spirit of wine that you would be able to get rid of the pests. We should not care to advise the hot-water treatment, but a solution of Gishurt Compound used slightly more than luke-warm would most certainly give some relief, if not an entire cure. Use while the bulbs are at rest.]

FRUIT

Melons

("Constant Reader").—Your Melon plants are suffering from stem rot, or canker, which is quite common when the plants have not been watered with sufficient care. While in growth the Melon demands abundance of water at the roots. This should not be poured close to the stem or the trouble you complain of is almost certain to appear. In planting Melons most good growers raise a small, rounded mound for each plant, and this plan is to be commended, as it prevents water lodging round the stems and yet permits of abundance of moisture reaching the roots. A small mound of three parts lime and one part ground charcoal heaped round the stem before the canker appears will usually prevent an attack.

Making a Strawberry bed

(S. A. C.).—Loam of a heavy texture should be well dug in and thoroughly incorporated with the staple. Such a dressing is better than applying quantities of manure. Heavy soils, on the other hand, are greatly benefited by being well manured, and the manure should be thoroughly decomposed. Another thing to be avoided when choosing a site for a Strawberry plantation is to ignore low, damp situations, for although the Strawberries may succeed in a season such as the present, in the generality of seasons they would fall a prey to mildew, and the fruit would rot in a wet time. The digging done, matters may be left alone until the plants are ready for setting out, and then the soil should be made quite firm by trampling it evenly all over previous to planting. This will thoroughly consolidate the soil and make a good firm bed for the plants to root into, and it will also in a great measure prevent the plants being thrown out or lifted by frost during the winter months. Some few hours before planting, the young plants should be well watered, and it is also a good plan to water them home directly the planting is completed. A trowel should be employed for setting out pot plants and pegged-down runners, and the soil must be made very firm about them. Runners taken from the plants without preparation may be dibbled in if time and labour are an object, but they should be made very firm or numbers will be lost during the winter.

White Currant "sport"

(E. M. Day).—It is possible that your White Currant produced a "sport." All plants seem to be able to do this at times, although we have never seen a currant of any colour doing so. All we can say is that the fact of your growing White Currants intermixed with Black Currants could have had no influence on the White Currant to make it produce a black bunch of fruit. Even if cross-fertilisation took place between a White and Black Currant, the colour of the fruit would not alter in the parent plant. The resulting seedlings might show variation in the colour of the fruits, but the colour of the fruit of the parent plant must always remain the same. If the Currant does the same thing again we should like the opportunity of examining a specimen of the branch bearing the bunch showing the variation.

Diseased Nectarine

(F. W. L.).—The specimen Nectarine is affected with Brown Rot, a disease which often causes much trouble amongst ripening Peaches and Nectarines. You should carefully collect and burn all the affected fruits the moment they can be detected. The growth you send is in perfect health, but when pruning keep a sharp look-out for any dead twigs or dead snags of tissue, because the fungus concerned frequently carries on from one season to another in such places. The most frequent cause of the disease is mummied fruits, which have been attacked the previous year, and which remain on, under, or near to the ripening fruits. Keep plenty of air on the house when the fruits are ripening.

VEGETABLES

Diseased Tomatoes

(E. C.).—Your Tomatoes are attacked by Buckeye Rot, which is caused by the fungus Phytophthora parasitica. This fungus is a frequent cause of a Foot Rot of Tomatoes, and also causes damage to the fruits later in the season. The spore organisms may be in the soil or in the water supply, and may reach the fruit from either. Spores are also produced from the diseased fruits, which alight on other fruits and so cause infection. Control measures consist in picking off and burning the affected fruits. A mulch of straw placed on the soil prevents water splashing up from the soil to the fruits and so carrying spores with it. A thorough soaking with a solution of Cheshunt Compound would help to control the fungus present in the soil, which is not only causing the fruit trouble now, but may also cause foot rot amongst your plants next season.

Tomato leaves for examination

(J. S.).—Incubation of the material sent has failed to produce a fungus that could in any way be responsible for the spotting of the foliage. We can, therefore, conclude that some cultural detail must be at fault. It occurs to us that the house getting so hot in the day is the probable cause. The temperature you mention—90 degs. F.—is, of course, not excessive, but much depends upon local conditions, *e.g.*, are you sure that the foliage is quite dry during the warmest part of the day, because sun shining upon spots of water is a frequent cause of Scald. During hot periods air should be freely given, and the house should be damped down, but moisture actually on the foliage during the day must be avoided. A crack of air should always be left on a Tomato house during the summer to prevent condensation of moisture upon the foliage. The soil you are top-dressing with is correct, but you might add just a little sulphate of ammonia —1 oz. to four plants would be ample. We are a little doubtful as to the watering you have given with kainit; " a handful " to a gallon of water is very vague; 4 ozs. to 5 ozs. could be held in the hand, in which case the solution would be too strong. In any case kainit is not usually given to Tomatoes. Sulphate of potash would be the better manure to employ, using 1 oz. to 4 gallons of water. It should only be necessary to give this about three times in any one growing season.

Broad Beans

(" West Somerset ").—We have carefully examined the Bean root-stocks sent, and while there are some slight signs that wireworms have been at work, not one of these pests was actually present, so that we could hardly place the trouble definitely to their charge. Growing this crop over a series of years on the same ground would cause much the same appearance. The specimens sent were much dried and shrivelled.

From Gardening Illustrated

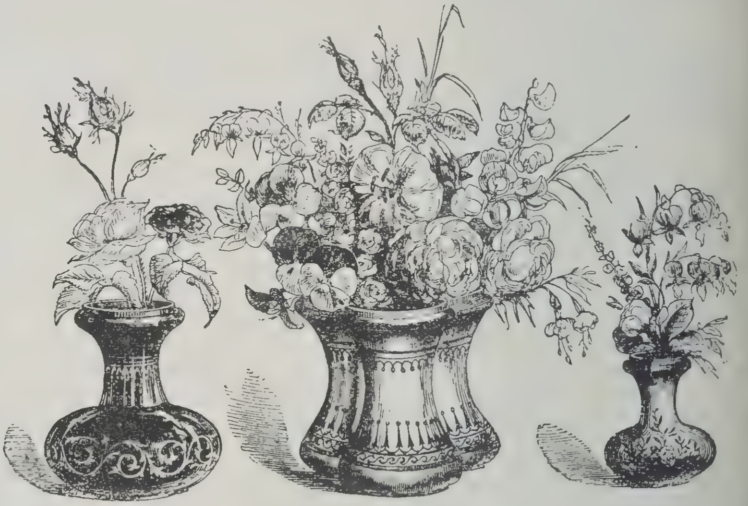
Fifty Years Ago

Pot plants in room

FEW floral ornaments look prettier in sitting-rooms than well-grown pot plants, which have a great advantage over cut flowers, inasmuch as they last longer in perfection. To townspeople who have no gardens or glasshouses they are a real boon. . . . Some conceal the pots in the following manner: A bundle of common Brake Fern is obtained and the ends of the Fern fronds, cut in a slanting direction with a sharp knife, and inserted in the

soil with which the pot is filled, cl
to the rim, over which they are brok
so as to make them droop and h
the pot. . . . All plants should be
moved to the greenhouse at night,
there is one; if not, into some room
which no gas has been burning. It

bad enough to keep plants in a ga
lighted room for any length of tim
but after the gas is turned out, th
should be removed, as the atmosph
being still charged with its fum
sadly injures them.



—August 9th, 18

Bottling vegetables

(Carnholme).—You can obtain an excellent book of directions on " How to Bottle " from G. Fowler, Lee, and Co., Ltd., 72, Queens Road, Reading, for 2s. 9d., post free.

MISCELLANEOUS

Pit refuse

(J. Scott).—We can hardly advise as to the size of pit for garden refuse, not knowing what quantity of such material you desire to collect and treat. Nor do we know the position of such a pit—whether on sloping ground, or on the level—which makes a great difference. All kinds of annual weeds, if these have not been permitted to seed, mowings from the lawns, rough grass, stems and leaves of vegetables, and the bulk of garden flowers, tree leaves, and, indeed, most kinds of soft vegetation will eventually rot down into useful material for applying to ground during winter, being almost as valuable as farmyard manure for many plants. To hasten decay, turn the whole mass once every three months, mixing it well together. House slops poured over the heap helps to hasten decay and also adds to the manurial value of the refuse. Omit all woody material, perennial weeds, and coal ashes. The two former can be burned and
added to the heap.

Lawn dressing

(A. J. C.).—The loam, wood-as
farmyard manure should all be
through a ¼-inch riddle and well mi
gether. The proportions should b
parts loam, one part manure, one par
ash. The poultry manure is very po
and if used at all must be at the
about a quarter part. This should ha
kept quite dry and rubbed through
riddle. A little soot will do no har
is not really essential. When applyi
dressing, scatter it thinly over the
lawn and well rub it into the turf
birch broom.

Various Galls

(J. P. Phillips).—The specimen
twig sent is affected with a small di
pest called Cecedomyia taxi. The
this insect lives in the end of Yew tw
produces a small Globe Artichoke
bunch of leaves. When fully fed t
pupates within the galls. The only
is to pick off and burn the affected p
The abnormal growth on the Box sp
is produced by a creature similar to,
the same as, Apple Sucker. This
very common on Box throughout the c
and if left uncontrolled will ruin the
of the bushes. Spraying with a goo
tine wash should control the pest if y
drive the spray well into the tips
growths. The galls on the Wild Thy
caused by a mite, but we have no
as to its life-history.

(Continued on page 556)

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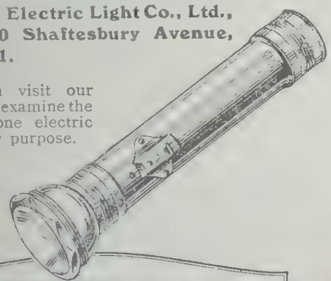

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NAMES OF PLANTS

M. Brierley.—The flower is that of Salsafy Tragopogon, a rather valuable winter vegetable, the roots of which are eaten. Mammoth Sandwich Island is an excellent variety for kitchen garden culture. The flowers, though fleeting, are handsome.

L. R. Barron.—Your specimens at first glance were somewhat puzzling, for, although undoubtedly Willows, the berry-like bodies needed explaining until closer examination revealed the fact that these bodies grew from the leaves, when no doubt remained that they were galls produced by one of the numerous gall wasps affecting Willows. If you care to dissect one or more of these bodies you will find that each one contains a larva or pupa which in time would become a perfect gall wasp. Both your specimens are forms of the variable Salix repens, the only one of the dwarf British Willows which is silvery-hairy on both surfaces of the leaves. The different conditions under which you found them growing are enough to cause the difference in size and vigour.

N. Barron, Shetland.—Without flowers we are unable to name your shrub with certainty, but it is one of the Ribes family, possibly Ribes sanguineum, and its flowering should only be a question of time. Do not prune it in any way until it has flowered.

T. Sewell.—The shrub is Cornus Mas. argentea variegata, and the best time to take cuttings of it is the second week in September, when they should be inserted in sandy soil or pure sand in a cool, closed frame. It is the variegated form of the Cornelian Cherry.

E. M. Tawney.—Cassinia fulvida syn. Diplopappus.

G.—The Roses arrived all smashed up, thus we find it almost impossible to name many of them with any degree of certainty. 6, Benedikt Roezl; 13, Félicité-et-Perpetue; 15, Ardon; 17, Dorothy Howarth; 18, La Reine Elizabeth; 19, Albertine; 23, Hugh Dickson; 25, Trier; 26, Non plus ultra; 27, Annie Crawford; 50, Fellemberg; 53, Mme. Isaac Perriere. Kindly read the rules for naming plants.

E. Pengilley.—Achillea Eupatorium.

H. Mills.—1, Santolina incana; 2, Lysimachia mummularia; 3, Coronilla cappadocica; 4, Erigeron Asa Gray.

T. J. Reed.—1, Spiræa callosa alba; 2, S. nobleana; 3, S. virginiana; 4, Lilium croceum.

Glasgow Reader.—1, Stachys lanata; 2, Isatis glauca; 3, Epilobium Dodonæi; 4, Sedum telephium purpureum.

M. E. Hamilton.—Digitalis lævigata.

Reginald Holloway.—The specimens sent were considerably wilted when they reached us, and it is therefore difficult to identify such. Probably, however, No. 1 is Allwoodii Lottie, and No. 2 Allwoodii Barbara.

SHORT REPLY

("Yonge," Westpark).—Certainly; both Paul's Scarlet Climber and Debutante are rambler Roses. If anyone calls this in question, refer them to the official list of Roses issued by the National Rose Society.

LATE REPLIES

Seedling Viola

(James Barker).—The Viola, of which several blooms were sent, would, if of good dwarf habit, be likely to become quite a good "bedder," although there are other named varieties of practically the same shade of pale blue or lavender. It would, therefore, have to be of neat habit and produce its blooms in great abundance, and that over a long period, for it to find favour with the flower-loving public.

Noteworthy plants

I wonder if any of your readers have grown what to me is a new Alpine, Lawrencia Bemella. I saw it at the Horticultural Show the other day, and it grows well with me. The way the flowers come from the side is most attractive, and it seems easy to grow so far. Lupinus Lyalli is also flowering well. It is not too hardy, but I hope a sheltered scree will suit it.

Godstone. N. S. C.

[The plant you refer to is Laurentia tenella, not Lawrencia Bemella. Laurentia is a small genus closely allied to Lobelia and Pratia, and three species only are known, one from America, one from Spain, and the plant you inquire about from Southern Europe. In Nature all three are bog-lovers and found most commonly on Sphagnum beds. None of the three are long-lived, but in suitable positions in the rock garden self-sown seedlings generally appear to take the place of the older, worn-out plants. As far as we know, only L. tenella is in cultivation, and is a very pretty, fairy-like plant with tiny rosettes from which arise a long succession of the dainty, China-blue flowers on short, thread-like stems. Lupinus Lyalli hails from Southern California and Mexico from no great elevation. This, too, is short-lived, and cannot be considered thoroughly hardy. It must be remembered that it hails from dry, sun-scorched hills with a dry winter climate, and that its silky, hairy leaves would hold too much moisture in our wet, changeable winters, and cause the death of the plants, which, under drier conditions, would probably survive our frosts with equanimity. We strongly advise that you save seeds of this delightful little Lupin and raise a succession from year to year.]

Yellow-flowered Tansy wanted

(E. M. Tawney).—Tanacetum argenteum, 1 foot; T. aucherianum, 1½ feet; T. grandiflorum, 1½ feet. All produce large yellow flowers and may be obtained from Messrs. J. Stormonth, Kirkbride, Cumberland, or Messrs. Bees, Ltd., Liverpool.

Schizanthus

("Cairndowan").—If you had omitted the stable manure from your compost for Schizanthus you would, we believe, have had better success. With this, our finest annual plant, the greatest trouble is in watering, the plant greatly resenting the soil being constantly saturated. We hope to have a detailed and practical article on the Schizanthus shortly in these columns, which please watch for, and which, we think, you will find useful.

Nectarines

(W. R.).—There must be some deposit from the water with which you syringe the Nectarine trees, or else you must be using some insecticide not suited to this purpose, although it may destroy the vermin. Keeping the house too close shut during the night and failing to open the ventilators early enough in the morning would also be likely to result in the rusty appearance complained of.

Viola cuttings

("Gardener").—The first half of September is the best time for inserting cuttings of Viola. A bed should be made in the frame some 4 inches deep, composed of about equal parts of loam and leaf-mould, and with a good amount of clean, sharp sand added, the whole being well mixed together and riddled. Before placing this compost in the frame, some rough material, such as the riddlings from the soil, should be laid in the bottom to a depth of 4 inches or so to ensure proper drainage, the prepared soil being placed over this and made moderately firm.
The cuttings are then dibbled in
inches apart, making certain that th
well pressed around each one. T
cuttings are the sturdy young shoo
spring up in the centres of the plants.
are pulled up, cut through just under
and a few of the lower leaves trimm
When the bed is filled with cuttings,
good watering through a rosed can, cl
frame, and keep close for two or three
shading carefully from all sunshine by
ing a mat or something of the kind o
glass. At the end of three weeks
sashes at the back, some half-an-inch
but as time goes by, gradually incre
chink, still shading from all su
Unless the soil begins to get really dr
no more water, but when it does, giv
cient to moisten the whole of the com

Roses under glass

("Gardener").—It requires very
airing to prevent mildew attacking
grown under glass. The following
succeed as greenhouse climbers :—Ma
Niel, Climbing Caroline Testout, Cl
Lady Hillingdon, Niphetos, Ca
Mermet, William Allen Richardson,
ing Richmond, and Climbing Paul Led

Roses on wall

("Gardener").—It would have been
better had you removed the whole
soil in the border to a depth of 18
and replaced it with the fresh, turf
soil and some well-rotted farmyard m
and bone-meal, the whole being well
together, while at planting time a
lightish compost should be placed amo
roots to induce them to start away q
Varieties likely to succeed on the wall
Gruss an Teplitz, William Allen Richa
Climbing Paul Ledé, Climbing
Melanie Soupert, Reve d'Or, Mermai
Zephirine Drouhin. For the bord
Caroline Testout, General Mc
Golden Gleam, Pharisaer, Hugh Di
Mrs. Wemyss Quinn, Clovelly, Chr
and Frau Karl Druschki.

Tomatoes not setting

(A. Kyler).—Some varieties of Toma
much more freely than do others, an
probable that you have some of both.
most likely your cultural details are no
gether satisfactory. The Tomato det
close, stuffy, and moist atmos
especially while in flower. Plenty of
air is essential, but cold draughts m
avoided. It is good practice to tap s
each plant about mid-day each day,
disperses the pollen and thereby
proper pollination. Given these cond
there should be no trouble in havin
fruits ripen properly.

LATE NOTE

Aquatic and waterside plants

Mr. Amos Perry will hold a lecture
Royal Horticultural Society's Fortn
Meeting on Tuesday, August 13th, at 3
on "Aquatic and Waterside Plants"
Society's new lecture hall in Greycoat
Westminster.

A film, taken by the Koda-colour B
of Messrs. Kodak, in colour, of a
plants growing in a number of well-k
gardens will be displayed. It is though
this is the first occasion that such a
film has been exhibited for the purpos
a horticultural lecture. As it may be
instructive as well as an attractive ch
ter to a great number of horticulturist
to those interested in colour photogr
any person interested in the lecture an
play will obtain free admission to the l
on application to the Secretary, R.
Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.1.

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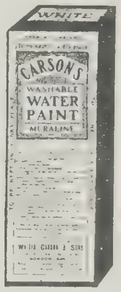
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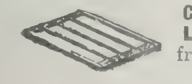

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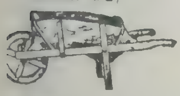

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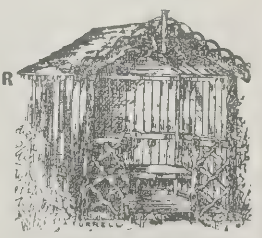

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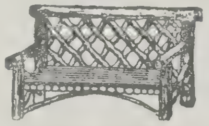

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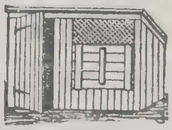

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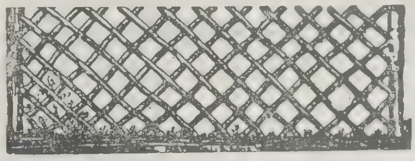

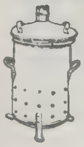

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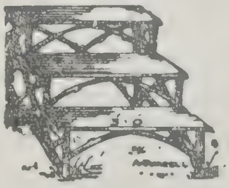

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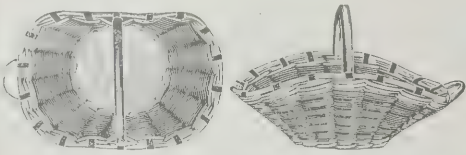

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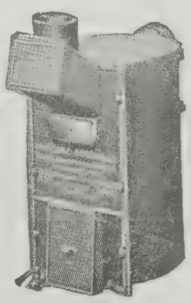

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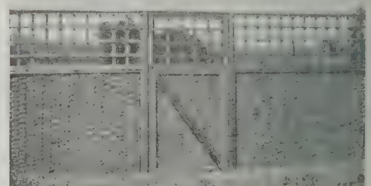

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I—No. 2632

Saturday, August 17, 1929

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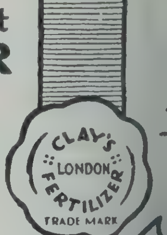

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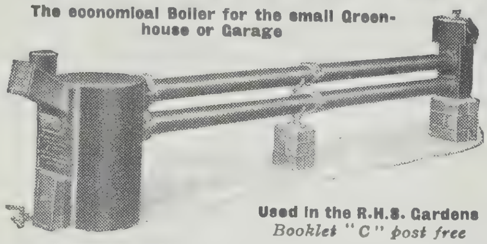

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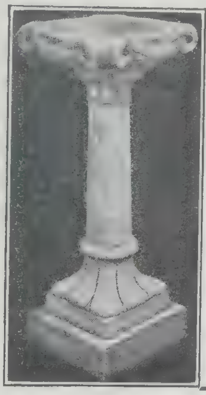

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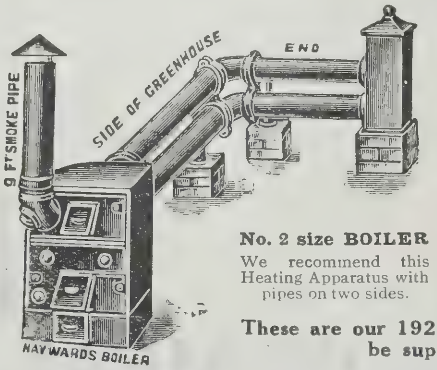

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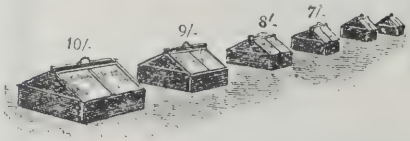

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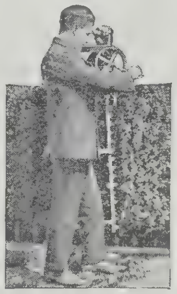

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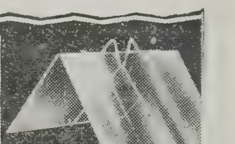

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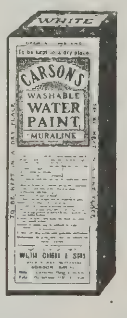
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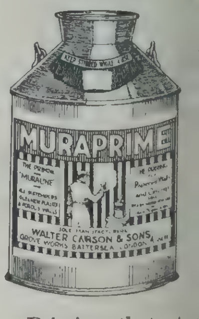
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Friendships Made in the Garden

D a Rose of a favourite variety which ought so few knew that I was much rised to see a man opposite to me it when going to town last year. changed confidences on Roses in , and on this variety in particular. h loved a sort with solid petals and ragrance, a good, deep red which did blue, and we both found it in this, lford Crimson.

then we have often exchanged our experiences, and I have made a lifeiend by introducing my favourite climb- Hybrid Tea, which qually solid petals even more fruity ance. This, the enir de Claudius l, grows well, and twice in a season, st crop coming in nd the second at the August and early in ber. Neither my nor myself have ever at a Rose show, or d it in the cata- of many nursery- It is one of those l things on this or which, more than thing else, peer and may have common tion.

village I know, of course, everyone the other, came a r who kept himself self. A year after ival, however, there such a garden ed as the result of bours! His Del- ns excelled those of ctor's wife, who herself on her's, his Carnations d both earlier and later (they were al varieties) than those in the garden arson's wife, who had the best things Border Carnation world. He had, too, ngs in Pinks. In June his "White- ' were noted as superior to the Mrs. Sinkins. In glorious sequence, ple Forget-me-nots and Thrifts were d by Sweet Rockets and yellow n, associated with blue Aubrietias and tion of shrubs, which, commencing e Forsythia spectabilis, the yellow of which made the garden bright in and carried on with the numerous lphus (or "Mock Oranges"), commonly misnamed Syringas, which, of course, is the botanical name for the Lilac, of which he had also a collection in half-a-dozen shades.

This man knew shrubs, for summer found him with bushes garlanded with the joyous blossoms of Weigelas in pale and deep pink, also red varieties, that noble, sweet, and effective Spanish Broom (the Spartium junceum), which was quite a feature of his garden from May to October.

My Spartium did not bloom until July, so I had to make his acquaintance to find out his secret. I found him, as I expected, a charming exponent of the art of gardening. He said: "You prune your Spartium each year, of course. Come and see how I grow mine. I plant them in pairs. I prune one in winter the other in July in alternate years. The one I prune in winter does not bloom until July, while that which I prune in July, but leave unpruned in winter or early spring, commences to flower in spring."

Yes, there is art in gardening, as the Spartium shows so well, and whether in the garden or for cut flower in vases the Spartium junceum is one of the best of shrubs.

In Mr. G. G. Porter's rock garden at Belmont, Wantage, Berks.

The tall plant in front of Master Porter is a self-sown Chimney Campanula (Campanula pyramidalis)

Whether in making a new garden or improving an old one, it is a great thing to know what one wants and where to put it. This garden was made in a fruit-growing district where Apple-blossom, Pear, Plum, and Cherry made a picture which no genius of the landscape gardener can excel, and yet this man had the audacity to introduce several varieties of double-flowering Cherries, notably the Hisakura, varieties of flowering Crabs, such as John Downie, Dartmouth, and Veitch's Scarlet, the purple leaf Crab Eleyii, which carries its oblong purple fruits in profusion, and not least, the purple-flowered Prunus Blieriana, that also carries purplish-copper leaves so much alike to the better-known Prunus Pissardi.

There is no wonder that this man soon had many friends. Villagers regarded him with respect, and some, who had fine gardens, with friendly envy. He was a retired colonel who truly had turned his sword into a ploughshare, and that he was able to acquire such gardening knowledge, in spite of his more severe duties, is a mystery. By the side of his house, which is a farm bailiff's converted cottage, is a small paddock. He tells me he intends to make a Rose garden here, the anticipation of which gives him much pleasure. The house is already covered with Ivy, part of which next year he is removing to make room for Honeysuckle and Clematis. He will make more friends, will this colonel, when a lover of the beautiful passes by.

A. Swallow.

Crocus and early Daffodils

Crocus and early Daffodils for planting in the grass, by the margins of streams, beneath orchard trees, or by woodland walks for spring effects should be ordered now and planted immediately the ground will admit of its being done. Aconites, Snowdrops, Spanish and other Scillas, Anemones, such as Appenina, Robinsoniana, fulgens, and its many charming forms should not be overlooked for this purpose.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Rock gardens at Chelsea

My reply to "S. I. B." seems to have brought down on me an avalanche of epithets. I gather from the united efforts of Messrs. Ingwersen, Painton, and John Wood that I am "dogmatic, scathing, extreme, unkind, insincere, irresponsible"—all in the narrow limits of one little letter. How one learns!

Mr. John Wood is a sort of horticultural Lattimer among my critics. He has the effect of saying always "You are young, young man, very young."

There are one or two points which emerge clearly. Mr. Wood wants to know why I harp on one man's style. If I did, it was probably for the same reason that a man would pay little heed to lesser hills when a giant peak demanded his attention, or that a jeweller has scant notice for lesser jewels when a diamond of unusual lustre has got in among them.

The rock garden and torrent by Mr. G. G. Whitelegg at Chelsea this year, in which many Pyrenean plants were flowering

Mr. Wood may complain again of my superlatives, but superlatives are justified on occasion, and I think the occasion is here.

Again, Mr. Wood complains of the "flat and monotonous prettiness" of Mr. Whitelegg's exhibit. The impression I carried away was one of great and imposing height and of unusual boldness. It is strange, too, how the expressed opinions mentioned by him conflict with those I heard. I took the trouble to obtain verdicts from leading exhibitors, not rock workers, of lesser lights, and of private persons, and with one exception they declared Mr. Whitelegg's exhibit to be the outstanding feature of the rock bank. I have two large-sized photographs of the work in question before me as I write, and they confirm my first impression of unusual height and boldness, and tend to disprove Mr. Wood's charge of flatness.

I should like to ask Mr. Wood, too, whether rock gardens at Chelsea are not built with an eye rather to the near view than the distant. Mr. De Smet's work in a garden differs greatly from his Chelsea work, as the garden differs from the show.

Of the other two letters I have little complaint to make. They are both courteous in their tone and fair in spirit. I am acquainted with Mr. Ingwersen's views on rock gardens. He speaks always, though he disclaims it, from the plantsman's point of view first.

As to Mr. Painton, who thinks I am "unkind," I am sorry to incur his bad opinion. I am deliberately provocative with a view to drawing discussion, and my justification must be his invaluable contribution. The views of the ordinary reader and spectator, with no axe to grind, are always valuable.

He has unerringly placed his finger on the principal defect in Mr. Whitelegg's exhibit—overplanting. It is an ancient weakness to try to put all one's goods in the shop window. I hope Mr. Whitelegg will forgive the criticism.

I must apologise for running to such length, but my three doughty opponents are not to be dismissed in as many paragraphs.

Taplow. C. Penrose.

Ceanothus again

In travelling up and down the countryside of California, the wanderer is struck with the many different species of Ceanothus—Californian "Wild Lilac." In the mountains are clouds of the foamy bloom of C. integerrimus and the plume-like sprays of white (sometimes pale blue or pink) flowers never fail to give a buoyant uplifting feeling to the passer by, for they cover whole mountain sides with drifted snow. Higher still grows C. prostratus on slopes half shaded by Fir trees. This delightful little trailer forms a thick ground cover. The leaves are leathery and evergreen, and the bright blue flowers are followed by conspicuous three-horned scarlet fruits.

Upon the hills and lower mountains many other Ceanothi are found. One of tl
abundant is C. cuneatus, which fo
covers the dry, hot ridges and
valleys, where it forms extensive a
penetrable thickets. The bush i
barked, rigid and unyielding, the leav
and stiff, and the flowers white an
scented.

C. spinosus grows in profusion
mountains near the coast. It is a
straggling shrub, with yellowis
branches, and thin, light green leave
flowers are either pale blue or white
not so forbidding a shrub as its na
plies, for the spines are frequently
lacking.

In the redwood region of cent
northern coastal California, one
loveliest of the Ceanothi forms a v
portant part of the natural shrubbe
thyrsiflorus has shiny evergreen leav
dark green. The fragrant blossoms a
in large clusters and vary from pale
blue shades to the richest dark blue
shrub sometimes attains tree size, an
given room develops into a most a
bush.

Of recent introduction into the ga
California (it is surprising how v
native plants are found in our garden
beautiful C. cyaneus, which was di
in the mountains of San Diego count
shrub is similar to C. thyrsiflorus,
still larger trusses of bloom of a de
blue. It is a late and an almost
bloomer.

C. rigidus and C. dentatus are
known in English gardens. A white-
bush of C. rigidus is sometimes foun
the massed formation of laven
flowered plants, but it is never very c
Similar to C. dentatus, but talle
papillosus, of the Santa Cruz mo
It has the same revolute leaves and
of the same dark blue shade, but
much larger clusters.

C. foliosus is a most attractive dw
the mountains north of San Franc
has small, very shiny, leathery lea
clusters of blue flowers.

C. verrucosus is indigenous to t
of San Diego country, where on
promontories it forms dense thicke
like the rather similar, but taller, C
carpus (found growing north and ea
has the small, thick, stiff leaves, gre
and greyish-white beneath, that are
teristic of many of the gregarious
Ceanothus. The flowers of both are

From the islands off the coast of
California comes C. arboreus, used
gardens perhaps more than an
Ceanothus. It forms a small tree,
a distinct trunk and rounded crow
flowers are fragrant and pale blue,
large leaves grey-green, with a soft,
quality.

These are only a few of the 30
distinct species of Ceanothus that
far, already been determined. T
many varieties also, and probably n
to be classified. The different spe
frequently found to interming
hybridise. Lester Row

Carmel, California.

The hardiest Helianthemu

With reference to Mr. Bunyard's
Helianthemums (issue August 3rd, p
it might interest your readers to k
we have a large patch of Helia
seedlings sown two years ago, of a
to 300 plants, in a fully exposed
every one of which, with the
of, possibly, one or two plant
through absolutely untouched.
also the following named varieties (t

nts) which are also in an exposed part ursery, with no shelter from the north whatever, and all have flowered and profusely this year:—Fire Dragon, mere, Garibaldi, Gold Crest, Wisley se, and H. tomentosum.

gh, Bucks. A. BALFOUR.

A tree Spiræa

LOSED is a photograph of a re- rkably fine tree Spiræa now in bloom. is something over 10 feet high, as by the girl holding the 3-foot rule. ee flourishes well in very damp soil ightly clayey nature where little else ow successfully. A. F. ROBERTSON.

illo Cottage, Broughty Ferry.

avender Grappenhall Variety

e years ago I put in a few cuttings of der Grappenhall Variety culled hap- ly from a friend's garden, and they grown remarkably well. I have just red a plant (August 13th), and find it is high to the top of the flower-heads and more in width. On one of the plants ted 354 spikes of flowers, omitting a r of smaller and partially developed The plants are growing alongside a path, and, at the time of writing, pre- picturesque sight, the grey-green acting as a pleasing foil to the in- able spikes of flowers supported on 20 inches to 24 inches in length, ex- a beautiful fragrance as one passes J. L.

ingham.

Flavour in fruit

egustibus non disputandum is exempli- ith a vengeance by your correspondent ides his talents under the pseudonym sularia."

to be hoped that your readers who are nt of, and seeking for, well-flavoured fruits will not be thus hoodwinked lanting up their gardens with Goose- . In spite of an anonymous opinion oseberry will continue to be, as it de- e in quite the back row of the dessert chorus. The most delicate and de- ly flavoured of all our garden fruits is ctarine, so aptly named, and I put the second, although the Apricot is good, pronounced and rather exotic flavour s lacks appeal to some. The same re- may apply to Grape Muscat of Alex- . Generally speaking, however, the is, as a fruit of flavour, rather over- though undoubtedly the most refresh- all.

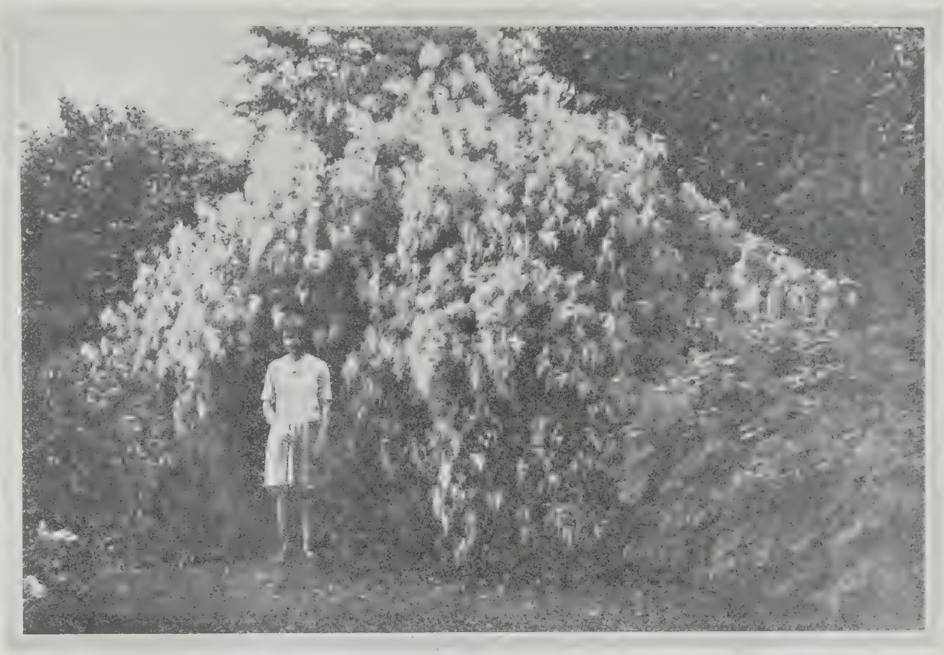
ink that I am acquainted with most leading authorities on flavour, in both nd vegetables, and I have a few views own, so that I am the less likely to w the opinions (or the Gooseberries!) r correspondent without being aware identity. F. HERBERT CHAPMAN.

lium Philippinense formosanum

as interested in your correspondent, ceæ's," remarks on the above Lily in ssue of August 10th. It may interest of your readers to know that here in ire seedling plants of Price's Var. of ily put out last summer in a border ed from north and east, and partially , survived the recent winter with no ion whatever, notwithstanding that mperature fell to zero on at least one n and the border was frozen to the of a foot for more than a month. have been flowering for the past week. plant is an attractive one and seems to ry accommodating as well. It was planted without any preparation of the site, and has never been watered throughout the long spring and summer drought.

ARTHUR E. FARRELL.

Birchenholt, Crowthorne, Berks.



A shrubby Spiræa at its best

The Roses of 1929 in a Scottish garden

Last season I was sternly rebuked by a correspondent in these columns for daring to state that many varieties of Roses were affected considerably by the nature of the season, my critic ("J. R. K.") maintaining that a Rose was either good or bad, no matter what the climatic conditions were. This, at the time, I refused to endorse, and the present summer has more than proved that "J. R. K." was absurdly wrong, and that Roses that were magnificent under the cool and sunless conditions of 1928 are practical failures under the dry, sunny conditions of 1929. Last year both Ophelia and Mme. Butterfly were superb in form, size, and colour. This year they are about the most miserable looking flowers in the garden. Roselandia has been lovely this year, while in 1928 it was so poor that it was marked down for removal unless it was better another year. Lady Pirrie, one of the most lovely of all Roses in former years, is an absolute "wash-out" this year. These are but three examples, but they could be multiplied many times, and it will be interesting to know how it is possible to say that a Rose is either good or bad, let the season be what it likes. A long experience has shown me that very few varieties are unaffected by weather conditions. The only varieties here that can be said to do really well every season are Caroline Testout, General McArthur, Lady Roundway, W. E. Wallace, Wm. F. Dreer, Christine, Mrs. Henry Morse, Lady Elphinstone, and Covent Garden. All others are, more or less, affected by the climatic conditions. The best varieties this year, with a long spell of drought and with bright sunshine almost continuously during the first flowering season, have been Angele Pernet, Augustus Hartmann, Emma Wright, Etoile de Hollande, Frances Gaunt, Golden Gleam, Hortulanus Budde, Hugh Dickson, Lady Inchiquin, Lamia, Los Angeles, Mabel Morse, Mme. E. Herriot, Mrs. A. R. Barraclough, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Mrs. John Laing, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, Norman Lambert, Shot Silk, Sovereign, Scarlet Glory, Sun Star, William Korder, and Viscountess Folkestone. Good Roses that have been disappointing include Betty Uprichard, Charles P. Kilham, Clovelly, Colonel Oswald Fitzgerald, Dame Edith Helen, Golden Emblem, Gwyneth Jones, Lady Pirrie, Lieutenant Chauré, Mme. Butterfly, Mme. Melanie Soupert, Mme. Segond Weber, Marcia Stanhope, Miss C. E. Van Rossem, Mrs. Edward Powell, Ophelia, Padre, Pharisaer, and W. C. Gaunt. Many of these will, in all probability, give a good autumn display, as growth is fairly satisfactory, while the heavy rains during the last few days will help to cheer them on. Up till now (August 7th) mildew has been entirely absent, and until within the last fortnight Green Fly had never appeared. This latter, however, is now endeavouring to make up for lost time, and threatens, therefore, to be a bit of a nuisance.

Climbing Roses have, in nearly every case, been exceedingly fine. These include American Pillar, Climbing Caroline Testout, Climbing Mrs. W. J. Grant, Mme. Isaac Periere, Excelsa, Crimson Rambler, Dorothy Perkins, and Gruss an Teplitz. C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

The "Mummy" Pea

Once again, and just the other day, I renewed my acquaintance with that old friend of my more innocent days, the Mummy Pea. The grower of this particular example of that venerable fraud told me exactly the same venerable yarn concerning his specimens—how the seed was found in the hand of a mummy of unknown antiquity, how the discoverer had given some of the seed to a friend, and how the friend had shared his treasure with the present grower. Very indignant was the latter when I told him that, although I implicitly believed in his good faith, both he and his friend had been the victims of an imposition. I have not the least doubt that seeds of Peas and of Wheat which have grown under cultivation have been found in the hands of mummies, but these seeds were placed there by unscrupulous persons for their own profit, and were not, as some even yet believe, placed there in remote ages. Such seeds may occasionally be found in mummy cases, and have been placed there originally, but their vitality is as extinct as that of the mummy. I believe that 30 years is the outside limit of the retention of vitality by Peas, or, indeed, of any seeds. But it is curious how the Mummy Pea myth persists. A. S. G.

Meconopsis aculeata

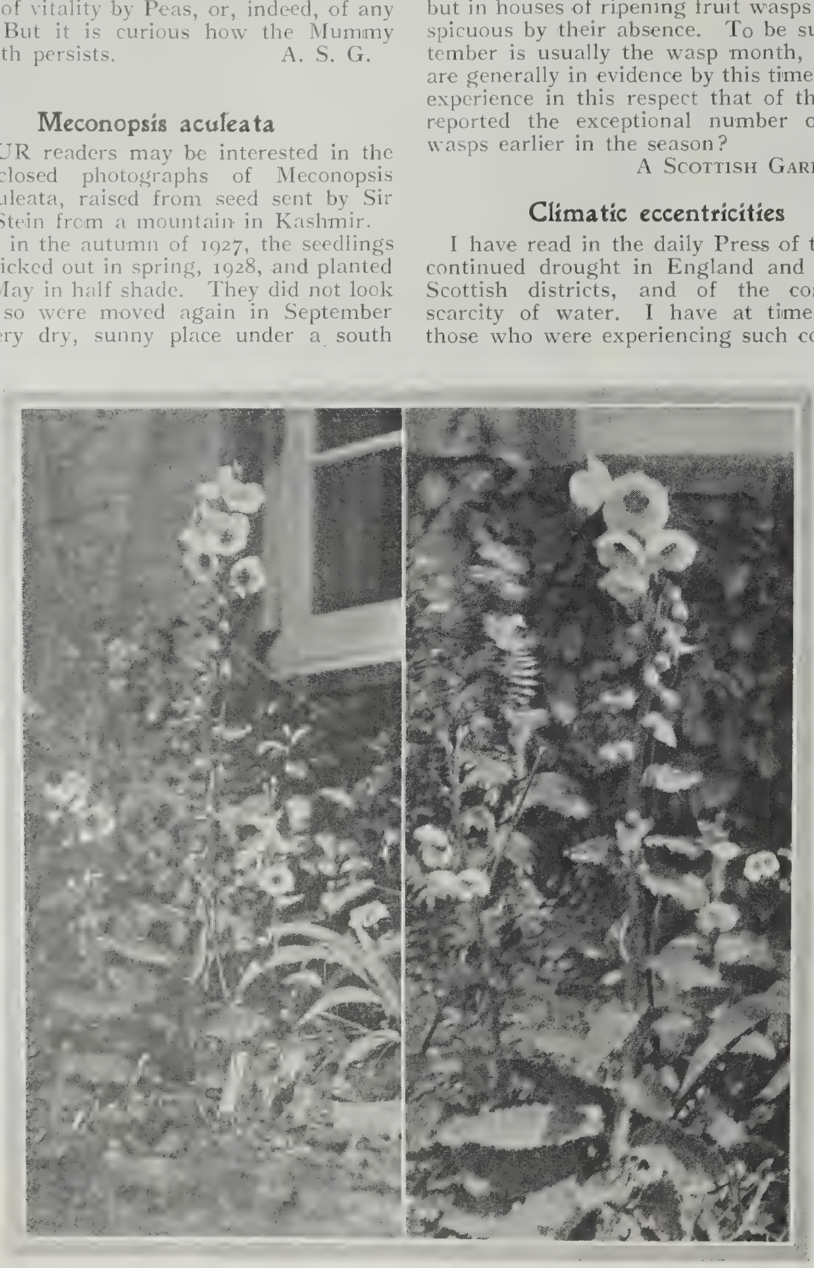
YOUR readers may be interested in the enclosed photographs of Meconopsis aculeata, raised from seed sent by Sir Amrel Stein from a mountain in Kashmir.

Sown in the autumn of 1927, the seedlings were pricked out in spring, 1928, and planted out in May in half shade. They did not look happy, so were moved again in September to a very dry, sunny place under a south window, where they have flowered all this summer. The finest had a stem 39 inches high, and besides the cluster of flowers at the top every leaflet has its accompanying bud all the way up the stem.

The flowers are extraordinarily beautiful, about 3 inches in diameter, a pale turquoise-blue, paler than Gentian Farreri, and of a wonderful translucent texture. The stamens are a brownish-purple, tipped with gold.

I. A. CRESWELL.

Ewhurst, Surrey.



Meconopsis aculeata, native of Kashmir

From photographs sent by Mrs. Creswell, Ewhurst, Surrey

Wasps

Like other contributors to GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, I was struck by the abnormal number of queen wasps during early spring. Not for many years have so many been seen or killed, and I was quite prepared for a plague of these dangerous insects at a later date. To my surprise I find that there are very few in evidence. I have only found two nests, and a vigilant outlook is kept for these, owing to the fact that the destruction of a nest means a florin to the discoverer and destroyer. It is, perhaps, too soon to halloo, but in houses of ripening fruit wasps are conspicuous by their absence. To be sure, September is usually the wasp month, but they are generally in evidence by this time. Is my experience in this respect that of those who reported the exceptional number of queen wasps earlier in the season?

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Climatic eccentricities

I have read in the daily Press of the long-continued drought in England and in some Scottish districts, and of the consequent scarcity of water. I have at times envied those who were experiencing such conditions when, in this neighbourhood, we have had a surfeit of rain day after day. For an example of this the following may suffice. I have a large area of short grass—lawns, etc.—with which to deal, and for years I have set Wednesday of each week apart for this purpose. By putting four machines to the work it is possible, with diligence, to complete the cutting on that day. Since the machines were put in commission in April only on one occasion has it been possible to cut the grass on the day appointed, owing to rain, and on no fewer than three occasions it was impossible to attend to the grass until Friday—that is, both Wednesday and Thursday, on these occasions, were hopelessly wet. I have given up trying to account for the vagaries of the weather, but of one thing I am sure, we in this neighbourhood need never, apparently, dread a water famine.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Smother fires

This is a term applied more particu
garden rubbish fires. In large establis
where there is a considerable amount
refuse the smother fire is kept ali
months together. Unfortunately, su
are by no means pleasant near d
houses, and many allotment groups
consequence, debarred from the adv
to be gained from them. The ashe
smother fires are a great help in the
of crops, and one of the reasons—in f
chief reason—for smothering the flam
induce smouldering instead of quick b
In this way the manurial value of th
is preserved to its fullest extent.

The autumn is, of course, the sea
accumulating garden rubbish of all
tions, some of it useful for returning
soil in a rotted condition and some of
of service after it has been burned, in
diseased Potato tops, Cabbage
prunings, and other woody substances
bearing seeds, etc. A rubbish fir
matchless cleanser in the garden. Di
must be used, however, and all
which, when rotted, may safely be
to the soil without conveying seeds o
of fungus diseases, should be thrown
compost heap as, by burning, much
manurial value is lost. Some ga
practice digging in most of the res
former crops, together with weeds an
rubbish, and, providing that this i
judiciously, much good will result,
advantage of the smother fire should
overlooked. G. W

VEGETABLES

Green-back Tomatoes

EVERY grower has trouble at tim
green-back Tomatoes. Such fru
quite normal in size, and they co
well save for patches round the stalk.
remain green and hard, spoil the appe
and reduce the culinary value of the
toes. There are two leading causes.
a violent fluctuation in temperature,
may occur in unheated greenhouses
time. Very often if a little heat is
to circulate in the hot-water pipes th
will colour evenly. Perhaps a more
cause of green-back is a lack of po
the soil. This element is vital
Tomato at ripening time. It occur
convenient, available, and cheap form
phate of potash, and I would adv
application of this substance to all pla
which green-backs appear. If the pla
growing in borders, the application
be at the rate of 1 oz. per lineal ya
they are in pots, half an ounce per
sufficient. This treatment should
tinued until the end of the season.

G. H

Mushrooms

The heavy rains, following a long
hot weather, should be responsible i
places for good crops of Mushrooms,
are hardly hoping for them in this
Twenty years ago it was a commo
to see folks returning from the mead
the early morning laden with large
filled with Mushrooms, but of late yea
might search over a large area and
find one. Local opinion puts the
to the fact that so few horses are nov
found in the meadows, but I do not
if this is so. Perhaps some gar
reader can solve the problem.

Romneya Coulteri

'OULD these photographs of Romneya
Coulteri be of interest to you? [Thank
you, they are most welcome.—Ed.]
rub is on a border protected by the
f an outbuilding and is protected by
ıll from N. and S.W. winds, the latter
d we have very strong at times here, the
nd of the I. of W. It was planted
u 20 years ago and faces S.E. These
raphs were taken two or three years
, nd this year the Romneya is in full
n now. It occupies a space on the wall
o feet long. B. A. Thornycroft.

ne, Bembridge, Isle of Wight.

The Californian Tree Poppy (Romneya Coulteri) at Bembridge, Isle of Wight

West Country Jottings

IE beneficent rain came just in time to
ıve many garden annuals from
isaster. Those plants which were
ıing to set their seeds before an un-
end have taken a new lease of life,
he removal of precocious seed vessels
ıl ensure a definite prolongation of the
ing period. During the period of floral
y the gardener's notebook often con-
records of pleasing colour combinations
he has observed in his own and in
people's gardens, and these notes have
cial value at planting time. Harking
to a note made last spring, I remember
much impressed by a bed made up of
Aubrietias and golden Alyssum, with
ad edging of white Arabis. Another
effect was made by May-flowering
is and Trollius europæus. One of the
est summer combinations I have seen
ome time was that made by a large
of purple Delphiniums and Lilium
m, the Orange Lily.

long reign of the Gladiolus was well
some two or three weeks ago, and the
r-spikes are opening up fast since the
it of rain. Those of the Primulinus section seem to revel in moisture, which is easily understood when we remember their place of origin. The most important point to bear in mind when planting Gladioli is to select sorts which have different flowering periods, then when any quantity is grown we can rely on having some flowers to cut from early in July until late in October. Among the first to open up this year were the following noteworthy Primulinus hybrids:—Golden Girl (pure yellow), Scarlet Banner (glowing scarlet, partially overlaid with crimson), Marion Cran (pale yellow, tinged rosy-carmine), Phyllis Kelway (creamy-yellow), and Mrs. James Kelway (white, with reddish-purple line on the inner segments).

Hardy Geraniums seemed to enjoy thoroughly the recent drought. G. grandiflorum has been a mass of blue for some weeks, and the purple-flowered armenum has been equally floriferous. Although these plants are good drought-resisters they appear to do equally well in wet seasons. A very pretty native is the Viper's Bugloss (Echium vulgare). The flowers open up a rich purple and change later to a dazzling blue. I do not often see this plant in gardens, but when planted in the mass it is very effective, and dry weather suits it well. Those who are looking for a good edging plant should make a note of this. Nepeta macrantha likewise looks well in the mass, and will stand the severest drought. The Salvia-shaped flowers are bluish-mauve.

A few days ago, amongst a collection of espalier Apple trees, I noticed some of them with sickly yellow foliage, whilst others growing on the same ground were quite healthy in appearance. The subsoil was a stiff clay, and the trees with the yellow foliage were grafted on the Paradise stock, whilst the healthy trees were on the Crab stock. The deduction is obvious. In the same garden were some fine old espalier Apples which were planted just over 100 years ago and which were bearing heavy crops of fruit. The longevity of the Apple is, of course, well known. In another garden I noticed some trees of Blenheim Orange with scarcely any fruit on them. I was told that the trees were severely pruned two years ago. I wonder if it is generally understood that this variety of Apple is much averse from pruning? When growth is too crowded the obvious plan is to remove some of the branches entirely. H. Greaves.

Helianthemum umbellatum

In general appearance this resembles a small-leaved Rosemary. It is one of the easiest plants to grow on a sun-baked spot in the rock garden or in wide fissures between two rocks closely packed with gritty loam. It grows about 1 foot high, is evergreen, and bears an endless succession of flowers in summer. The flowers are white, with a patch of yellow at the base of each petal, which adds considerably to their charm. In spite of the fluting character of the flowers they are effective for a short time and are succeeded by a similar crop next day.

The plant thrives in the sunniest position in a soil of moderate quality and is easily increased by cuttings. It is advisable to grow the plants on in pots for the first year in arid quarters in a cold frame, ultimately plunging in ashes in the open air. Transfer to permanent quarters in autumn or spring.

H. Stevens.

Notes from a Cornish Garden

A GROUP of Primula anisodora, one of the later flowers, is now in bloom. Of the Candelabra section, it grows 2 feet to 3 feet high, and has three or four whorls of dark, velvety crimson flowers, some 15 to a whorl, on the tall green stem. The bells are not very large, and though they have a yellow eye, do not display it, as they hang down. It is not so showy as most of the series, and to get its full effect should be planted where one can look up at it, and this is difficult unless one has a stream descending from a height over a waterfall, as it is a bog plant. Mr. Darnell says that it is best treated as a biennial, for it produces abundant seed, and often dies after flowering.

The Royal Horticultural Society sent me last year two plants of Mr. Comber's collecting in the Andes. One of these is apparently Calceolaria Penthamii, which has rugose leaves and a few small, yellow flowers on slender stems. My plant is still in a pot, for I do not know how hardy it is. The other is most likely Adesnia muricata, a small sub-shrub with pinnate leaves and clusters of yellow pea flowers lined with red. It has only previously been reported from Patagonia, and in the absence of fruit cannot be accurately determined. A pretty little plant which seems to like a dry place in the sun.

The later Rhododendrons are good this year. R. crassum has been generous with its white, scented flowers, and the one plant of R. Wasonii, a low-growing, sturdy, spreading bush bought long ago at Coombe Wood, has excelled itself. The flowers are violet-rose with a dense crimson spotting on the upper lobes, and the leaves stiff and leathery, with a thick cinnamon tomentum on their lower surface. The bush is about 6 feet across and 30 inches high.

The small-growing orange R. apodectum and the orange form of R. dichroanthum, which does not grow as tall as the pink form, have likewise bloomed well. Of the high Alpines R. salignum, introduced from Sikkim by Sir Joseph Hooker, is showing its dull yellow flowers. Interesting and rare as it is, it is not particularly striking, and is only likely to be met with in collections. Another dwarf shrub is R. obovatum, of the lepidotum series, the small flowers of which are dark crimson.

Then there is R. Griersonianum, of a peculiar shade of red, approaching to salmon-scarlet, and described by Forrest as geranium-red. It is a very beautiful plant, with soft lanceolate leaves covered with short hairs, but is not well satisfied with its place here, some plants being in too dry a spot, and others, perhaps, are too much shaded.

Lastly, there are R. eriogynum and R. facetum, which appear to be the same thing, and have truly magnificent dark, fleshy-red flowers in big round trusses. But, alas! they are both somewhat tender, and will hardly succeed save in the warmer counties.

Still, they and R. Griersonianum may give us some colour in the late-flowering hybrids. Of these, R. Souliei x discolor has just opened its first and only flower. It is pink in bud, fading to white, with a larg son blotch at the base, and flowers truss 3 inches by 4½ inches, seven openly campanulate, and should acquisition when it develops.

Magnolia parviflora has bloomed w round, white flowers with crimson s being a pretty sight, and one hopes th hot, dry summer may induce it to ripe of its curved pink fruits, the seeds of should be sown as soon as ripe, a vitality is short. A seedling M. ro

Above: **Rhododendron Tyermannii, a tender species with large white flowers**
Below: **Rhododendron discolor, the parent of some good late-flowering hybrids**

which was planted out in May in go with a mulching of leaves, is makin growth and evidently appreciates its from a pot. If all is well, M. Nichols is to go not far from it in the autum that particular spot has 3 feet to 4 good loam, shelter, and plenty of sun.

Rosa Moyesii has flowered well, b plant has lost all its leaves, whilst a ese Cherry given me by Mr. Farr planted near it is dead, which looks the roots of both had got down to som deleterious, for the drought here has n sufficient to cause decease.

Not far off Rosa macrophylla is fl ing, and R. pteracantha, which ha cut to the ground, is sending out long beset with broad based red prickles, are its chief beauty, and which lose colour as the branches become mature

During the winter I picked some p the Australian Bluebell Creeper, heterophylla, from a plant apparentl by the frost. The seeds germinated didly, and I have been able to prick box for this garden and send the bala the Royal Horticultural Society for di tion. "Peter the Herm

Lilium candidum

Obtain and plant on well-prepared b heavily manured ground the lovely Ma choosing a sunny position and one sh from cutting winds. Before plantin damp the bulbs, and, whilst wet, roll in sulphur. Plant so that the crown bulb is about 3 inches beneath the s and use a fair quantity of old lime-ru the soil.

Aubrietias

er propagation for next spring's beauty

not only to the owner of a rock garat Aubrietias are looked upon as indispensable in the spring display, to those who have rockeries, rough nd banks about their gardens, where plants in their season bring such sheets of colour. Unfortunately, k upon the time immediately they ased to bloom as being the best for ttings of one's own stock, or in a sowing of seed with the object of ther varieties. As a rule, most of rd spring and autumn as the two opagating seasons, and overlook the t just after Aubrietias have bloomed take cuttings and be assured that, re, they will take root. This is better erring the matter until early autumn, here is often more risk in cuttings out of doors. Just now there is an upply of shoots on old plants, and it all to the good if some of them are away. They will root quite easily out rs in ordinary garden soil, provided, it be heavy, some coarse sand is mixed and the cuttings are shaded for about or so, and not allowed to flag for f water. It may be found more conto strike cuttings in pans or boxes the open ground, and those about s deep will be suitable. In taking s cut them off near a joint. The old ill then break out afresh. A sowing l can also be made now in pans, them in a cold frame. When large to shift they should be pricked off her pans or planted out into the posithey are designed to fill. Where ias are wanted to grow in a rough ten the most success follows sowing the niches in sandy loam. They grow better than when young plants pt in later, the roots of seedlings findir way into small spaces and growing n cramped environment.

LEAHURST.

Fritillaria imperialis

illaria imperialis, or the Crown Imhs it is still called in many gardens, is, as, the oldest, and is certainly one of y best, of the family. It is the gay te of cottage gardens, and is one of blest and most brilliant of the genus. ccess achieved with this flower in such es is due in a large measure to the fact e bulbs are allowed to remain unred for a number of years. It deeply disturbance, and it is only from wellhed examples that the full beauty of ssoms is revealed.

ls should be planted in autumn. They curious, rugged outline, with a deep in the centre on the top side. A very t and not altogether pleasant smell is aracteristic, but happily this is not itted to the flowers. Owing to their atively large size the bulbs ought to ted not less than 5 inches deep and in lonies, allowing about 1 foot between bs. Where the soil is heavy and wet lvisable to surround them with some sand or ashes, and in any circumit is necessary to plant them on their . If planted upright the cavity previeferred to becomes filled with water frequent source of decay.

llaria imperialis is an excellent border nd suitable for all soils. It begins to in April and lasts for many weeks in on. The only fault I can find with oble plants is their untidy appearance in summer, but this may be remedied by planting them in close proximity to some late-flowering subject and so fill the hiatus that would otherwise occur. Few plants are better for picturesque groupings in the pleasure ground or the woodland. With a fairly open space and with deep, rich soil it forms handsome groups.

To my mind these plants never show their full beauty in the border. They ask for the surroundings of the woodland and, with these conditions, are delightful. This Fritillary may now be had in a number of orange, red, and yellow shades.

H. STEVENS.

A contrast in Magnolias

FEW flowers furnish such a contrast in any two varieties as Magnolias macrophylla and fuscata—the one a hardy or semi-hardy tree with larger flowers and foliage than any other tree in English gardens, and the other a greenhouse plant with small foliage and small, insignificant flowers, emitting a strong but delightful perfume. Indeed, so strong is this perfume that the presence of one half-expanded flower will be quite noticeable at some distance from the house in which it is grown. The only hardy plant I know producing a flower at all like its perfume (in a minor degree) is the Allspice shrub, Calycanthus floridus. M. fuscata is a native of China, from whence it was introduced many years ago, but is not often seen in gardens. It is of slow growth until it is established, when it produces its thin shoots freely, but never growing what one would call luxuriously, and I have never known it to flower very freely. However, to those who like a flower for the sake of its perfume, it is well worth a small space on the back wall of a greenhouse or as a pot plant if a wall is not available. A mixture of turfy loam peat with a little sand will be found a suitable compost. With respect to macrophylla, with its very large flowers and foliage, I cannot say it looks very happy in its surroundings in an English pleasure-ground, and seems as if it would be more at home in a place like the temperate house at Kew. On the very rare occasions I have seen it outside it has been in a shady position, where possibly the wood was not ripened thoroughly, as the flowers were only produced very sparingly. Another deciduous member of the family, Magnolia acuminata, a native of the Northern United States, where it is, I believe, known as the Cucumber tree, grows into quite a tall, shapely tree in England, occasional specimens being over 40 feet high.

E. BURRELL.

Magnolia parvifolia
Round white flowers with crimson stamens

Lifting and potting Chrysanthemums for indoor blooming

It has become a common practice among amateurs who grow Chrysanthemums for the supply of cut flowers in late autumn to bed the plants out for the summer and then in the autumn lift and put them in boxes or stand them on the floor of the greenhouse, placing soil round them. This practice has its good points, in that it saves the use of large pots, and, what is perhaps important to one with little room at his disposal, enables more plants to be got under cover. It is unwise, however, to dig up plants and put them straight in the greenhouse, as to do so generally results in the loss of many of the lower leaves and a temporary collapse of some. For a few days before removal is effected each plant should be partly raised with a spade. This will give it a temporary check, but otherwise will not injure it, and where the roots have to be cramped into a confined space, as in a pot or box, it will be found better than attempting to lift plants bodily with all the roots attached. It will depend on the weather and locality when such removal from open ground to greenhouse should be made. In a very mild autumn one is sometimes safe in waiting until nearly the end of September, but in others the middle of the month should see the work done. Where Chrysanthemums have not been properly staked in the ground great care needs to be taken in lifting them, otherwise it is an easy matter to break shoots in the lifting. It will pay to stake them as far as possible, even at this early date, before attempting to lift from the ground. It may be necessary to shade the house for a few days after the change has been made and to water rather more liberally, but at the same time ventilation must be given both day and night.

LEAHURST.

Saponarias

There are few plants of a trailing habit that are easier to grow or give a more bountiful display of bloom in so short a time as the Saponarias. I wonder sometimes why those who have old stone walls about their gardens, or rough banks, do not make more use of them. Not many plants about a rock garden get into their stride quicker, once rooting has taken place. Here is a note about two plants which are growing in my garden. Took cuttings in July, 1927. Planted in permanent quarters in spring, 1928. Commenced to bloom in June. This year they are 4 feet across, with thousands of blooms. The only difficulty about them is to restrain them by cutting after they have ceased to flower. Saponarias will grow in any ordinary garden soil, but like one in which sand is found. S. ocymoides—the one alluded to—has bright rosy pink flowers, which spring from narrow, deep green leaves. I write this note to advise anyone who may have plants which have flowered to cut away at once the spent seed pods, and so give the plants a chance of getting light and air. There are plenty of cuttings to be had on flowered-out plants, and if these are inserted in pots of sandy soil, kept moist and shaded, they will not be very long in rooting. Such cuttings will start blooming next year. They can be planted in final quarters either in October or spring.

W. F.

A bouquet of Everlasting Flowers

For winter decoration when fresh flowers have to be purchased by those who have no greenhouses there are some plants easy enough to grow in the garden that give us blossoms which, owing to their dried character, we call "everlastings." Some of them are perennial and quite hardy, among them being Statice, with broad, spreading panicles; Echinops, or Globe Thistles; Eryngiums, known as Sea Hollies; Physalises, with orange and red pods; also Catananches, or Cupidones, which yield blue flowers. One plant among biennials is a favourite with many, as it is not without value as a garden flower, but is accounted more because of its silvery pods, which enclose the seed—it is Honesty. Two very pretty annuals which can be grown in any sunny garden in quite ordinary soil are Helichrysums and Acrocliniums. The flowers are Daisy-like in build. All everlasting flowers mentioned, except Physalises and Honesty, should be gathered when half-expanded and dried, as afterwards they expand a little. Bunched together and arranged with a few grasses or Bracken one may contrive a bouquet that is better than an empty vase and serves to remind us of summer beauty in our garden.

MIDLANDER.

Asarum europæum

It seems strange that so useful a plant as Asarabacea should be so seldom seen in gardens, for nothing can be better where a low-growing plant of neatest habit is desired. The flower is of no importance; greenish, of no beauty, and hidden deep down under the leaves. The use of the plant is for its neat masses of brightly polished, deep green leaves, in shape much like that of Cyclamen. In light soils it is especially useful, and is only too willing to grow, for it quickly expands into its sheets of brightly shining foliage. It is best in shade or half-shade. It is a pleasant plant to handle, for it gives off a good scent something like the spiciest part of the smell of pepper. Planting in joints of stone paving and steps has been sometimes overdone, but when the right plant comes in the right place it may have a happy effect, as when the Asarum in the picture came of its own accord at the foot of a stone-built box that holds a ball-trimmed bush of Box.

G. J.

Asarum europæum

FRUIT GARDEN

Feeding fruit trees

In the cultivation of fruit, feeding is of great importance, particularly with regard to regularity in bearing. When a tree reaches bearing age and is well furnished with fruit spurs there are only three causes that can prevent it from bearing a crop of fruit in any season. The first, of course, is unfavourable weather when the trees are in bloom, the second is insect pests or disease, and the third insufficient nourishment. Provided the tree escapes the first two, what is there but lack of vigour that can prevent it from carrying a crop to maturity?

Among gardeners one often hears the remark: "The trees bore well last year, but this season they have missed." This is simply because the heavy cropping has been a great strain on the trees, leaving them with insufficient vigour to form and perfect the fruit-buds for next year's crop. The result is a season's rest from fruit-bearing to form more fruit-buds. Those who study the matter thoroughly find that fruit-buds form early in the season; in fact, about three weeks or a month after the fall of the bloom. If the tree has sufficient vigour those buds are fed by the tree in autumn; that is to say, they are "plumped up" for fruiting. Therefore a tree carrying a heavy crop needs assistance in early autumn to enable it to perfect its fruit-buds.

For some years now feeding has been my practice, with satisfactory results, but I must confess that not in every case has the biennial cropping been overcome. The right time to feed trees bearing a heavy crop is through August and the first part of September. I favour a quick-acting fertiliser, one that supplies three of the essential plant foods—ammonia or nitrogen, potash, and phosphates. A good guano answers well, as do also many of the good general fertilisers. Last autumn, I used a fertiliser containing 5 per cent. ammonia, 24 per cent. total phosphates, about 7 per cent. soluble in water, and 7 per cent. potash. About ¾ oz. was
given to each square yard, the dress
reaching beyond the spread of the br

Trees that are healthy but not ca
crop do not need this help, but if in
state through starvation or disease a
will be of great benefit. If the t
giving a healthy growth it is, of co
pected they are going to crop next y
therefore do not require help. I hav
noticed that as the result of th
autumn feeding the leaves remain la
trees, and after they have fallen t
buds look very prominent. The fl
the following spring also are la
strong, and, given suitable weather,

Of course, this treatment is only
that are in bearing. Young trees n
borne a full crop and making
growth cannot be made to crop by m
It would, in fact, delay their fruit
make them still more vigorous, whi
desirable as fruiting does not st
annual growth becomes modified
It should be quite understood that t
autumn treatment is entirely to feed
buds, and is not in place of th
manuring with bulky material lik
manure. The chief object of winter
is to maintain the trees in a healt
ing state. It is not required if th
making good, healthy, new shoots
foot in length, for it is easy to
tree out of fruiting by too liberal ap
of manure, which encourages rank
A medium growth is the best bea
dition, and manuring should aim a
condition.

Late Grapes

Up to the time of writing late
have needed very careful airing t
mer owing to the tropical heat and
of atmospheric moisture. Strong
Vines, such as Alnwick Seedling a
Maroc, which usually ripen their frui
tember, are now swelling rapidly,
growing in inside borders must be fr
and liberally supplied with water.
equals farmyard liquid-manure, th
approved artificial fertilizer is goo
change. A thorough soaking of th
should always be given immediatel
colouring commences, after which th
should be well mulched with spen
room manure or old hot-bed refuse
serve the moisture. Many of the fa
the culture of late Grapes are due
dicious airing. It is very importan
little air be admitted in the vinery
as the sun shines upon it in the
and that, too, without having any s
gard as to how the thermometer sta
lay in this matter is often answerab
figurement of the berries, as it cau
to sweat and the bloom to run. Sp
vineries running north and south
have air admitted to them early in t
or, say, 6.30 a.m.—in order to pr
temperature from rising too rapidly
to leave a chink of air on overnigh
ing the pipes a little if the external
ture is low. This will act as a sa
and prevent condensed moisture se
the berries; then the amount ma
creased at 7 a.m. The roof-glass o
House should be slightly shaded wi
ning mixed with milk, to pre
shoulders of the bunches getting
Houses containing late Grapes sh
closed tolerably early on sunny af
as this, combined with plenty of atm
moisture charged with ammonia,
sary in order to ensure thorough
of the fruit by the first week in Se
Unless ripe by that time they do
satisfactorily.

uchsias as pot plants

Neapolitan pots of a good old de-
stand at the edge of a paved terrace
above a tank. Some years they are
h Geraniums, but the last year or
have found that Fuchsias are satis-
y. The kind is Ballet Girl, red and
e white sufficiently doubled but not
n, as in some other kinds. An
good Fuchsia of the same colouring
it, a pretty plant raised in Messrs.
nursery. It is much like the old
ornellison, but dwarfer in habit.
it may be a seedling from that
uand useful old Fuchsia. The plants
nn the illustration are not yet well in
. For that we have to wait till later on
t and September. G. J.

rdy and other Fuchsias

NG the hosts of flowering shrubs
e is not one more graceful, more
itiful, or so continuous blooming as
sia, and yet its merits are but poorly
d in many gardens, both great and
The tufts of hardy Fuchsias are
pride of the cottage gardens, and
look, though perhaps they have
the same spot for many years.
here (Suffolk) the Fuchsia seems to
urite flower with the cottagers, for,
ion to the bushes of hardy kinds,
w well in their little beds and borders
e which we place in houses.
ently see the old Rose of Castile,
shall, Lord Beaconsfield, and Mme.
n in a cottage garden. These
e taken up when frost comes, potted,
ed away in a cellar, or other con-
lace, till spring comes again. Some
cottagers often point with pride to
s that they have so treated and kept
epast 10 or 12 years. Among the
nds there are several that, especially
outhern and western parts of the
will grow into great bushes, and
come the most conspicuous, as well
most ornamental, feature of the

saw isolated upon a lawn a bush of
globosa, which was 10 feet high and
rough. Standing alone upon a nice
f turf, it was simply magnificent.
a and F. Riccartoni are two of the
tand most common kinds, as they
o huge bushes, which are rarely
frost. On the other hand, some
killed to the ground every winter,
is no disadvantage, for they have
to be treated as herbaceous plants,
g them down to the ground, and if
protecting the rootstocks with a
. When they start again next sea-
surprising how rapidly they develop
ceful and beautiful bushes. F.
one of this type, for it is killed to
nd nearly every winter, yet such is
that in a single season it will often
eet high, especially in a moist dis-
e shoots are slender and of arching
ilst the blooms are long and borne
stalks.

addition to reputed hardy kinds,
hose we grow in houses, well treated
eous plants, live through the win-
in specially favoured districts some
s bushes.

ornellison, the old and well-known
hite, is one that may be so treated,
sult is far superior to anything that
starting the plants under glass and
ng them in the open air. In fact,
pends upon all the growth being
the open air, and that is why the
in cottage gardens previously
are so good, for, when growth starts, the cottager has no glass convenience to bring the plants on, but he has to find a sheltered spot—perhaps the sunny side of the house, or some other nook—where the plants make a slow but steady start, and lay a good foundation upon which, when planted out, they will build up their mounds of blossom. We have also some other greenhouse Fuchsias that were put in a border last year and left throughout the winter, not being wanted. Upon going in the spring to dig them up, thinking them quite dead, as, indeed, all the wood was, I found vigorous shoots starting from the roots, some of them as thick as my little finger. Of course, I then left the plants alone, and the healthy growth which has been made since, with the profuseness of fine flowers, is as surprising and convincing as it is beautiful.

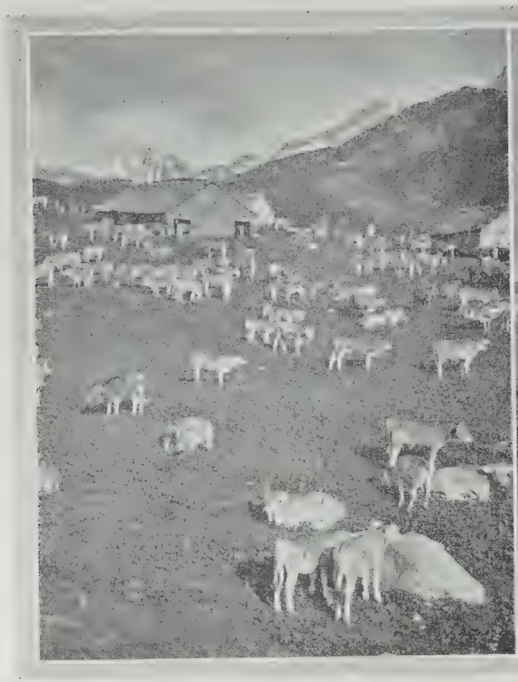
As the Fuchsias have the great and most desirable merit of lasting in beauty the whole season through, it follows that they are capable of playing an important part in flower garden arrangements, both of a permanent and temporary character. The essentially hardy kinds can be devoted to a variety of permanent uses. Fine specimens like the one before mentioned are desirable, also bold groups in association with shrubs or vigorous hardy plants. Where hedges of an informal character are desired, nothing could be more beautiful than one formed with Fuchsias. F. gracilis makes a regular, but graceful summer hedge, whilst F. globosa will make a permanent one. Another way in which I have seen this last-named kind effectively used is to train the leading shoots to the wall, and the little branches then depend in a graceful and charming manner; but they should be pruned hard back each year, and as the main shoots gather strength with age, these wall Fuchsias become conspicuously beautiful objects. The larger-flowered greenhouse Fuchsias would, if more freely used in the temporary or summer floral arrangements, do much towards increasing variety, interest, and beauty, and their graceful and fine form, whether as bush, pyramid, or standard, would diversify and relieve the flatness and monotony of the beds and the flower garden generally. One thing in respect to these last should be ever borne in mind, and that is, to let them make their growth in the open air, and they might with advantage be planted in their intended position much earlier than the tenderer things with which they are to be afterwards associated. A. H.

Fuchsia Ballet Girl

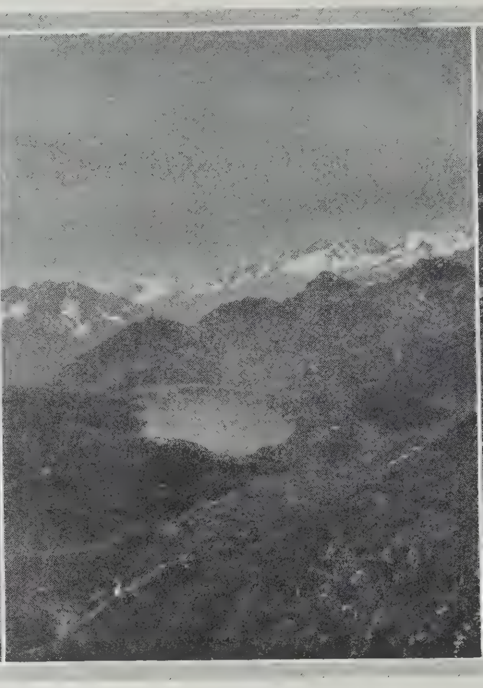
A new disease of Campanula pusilla

Growers of Campanulas whose plants of C. pusilla (or Bellardi) are now passing out of flower may be well advised to give their last blooms a keen scrutiny to see if any of them show within the corolla the tell-tale black spores of Peronospora corollæ, a fungus which, as far as the writer is aware, has not previously been recorded in Britain. It has been detected here on both C. pusilla and its white variety alba, and is doubtlessly able to infect the others like Miranda and purpurea. It appears to perenniate within the rootstock of its host, but gives no outward sign of its presence till the plant begins flowering. Then many of the buds fail to develop properly, some remaining pinched and shut, while those which expand are ugly and malformed. Examined carefully, they are found to be specked inside with numerous minute conidia of oval outline which arise from filaments passing back through the tissue of the corolla to the ovary wall. These infected flowers do not as a rule set seed, but a few open widely enough to allow the visits of insects, which, passing from plant to plant, may spread the disease. This remains to be proved. Badly infested flowers often bear spores on the outside as well as on the inside of the corolla, though none can be found elsewhere. This distortion of the flowers excepted, Peronospora corollæ inflicts little damage of any note, affected plants growing as vigorously as sound ones, although the grower is cheated of his proper reward. It is not easy at the moment to suggest any measures of prevention or cure other than the common-sense one of scrapping and burning every plant on which the fungus makes its appearance. Luckily Campanula pusilla is cheap and may be easily replaced should such a drastic procedure become necessary. W. T. STEARN.

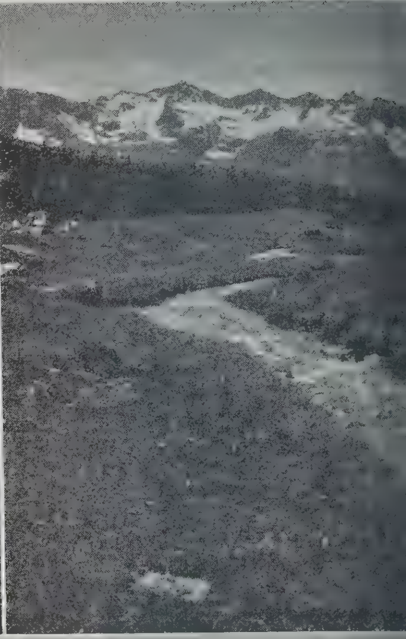
Cambridge.



Herd of cattle at Cadagno



Lago Ritom, looking south



Stream between Lago Tom an
Lago Ritom

Ten Days in Leventina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

(*Continued from page 548*)

THURSDAY, JULY 5TH.

HEAVY mists and ominous clouds mark the approach of stormy weather. Rain comes from the direction of St. Gotthard.

Small children with very large umbrellas bring a herd of cows and calves down the slopes to the shelters at Cadagno.

The cattle look fine on the sky-line and as they cross in front of the cascade. There are good pictures to be made here, and I arrange camera in readiness for the moving herd, but the light is not good, and I spend much time in an endeavour to secure a good snap. A young bull, little more than half-grown, eyes me with suspicion. He strongly disapproves, lowers his head, straightens his tail, and charges down the slope. I pick up camera and dodge behind a rock. The bull rejoins the herd. Later I discover that I have made two exposures on one film.

Shepherd boy with load on the track to Santa Maria

The most beautiful flower seen to-day is Anemone sulphurea (or should it be sulfurea?). Was ever a flower lovelier or more fittingly named than this? Of all the floral treasures in the high pastures of Piora surely this is the most beautiful. I have tried to think of other living things of the same luminous quality as A. sulphurea, but can recall nothing of just the same tone of colour. It reminds me of Œnothera in soft evening light, or a brimstone butterfly on a June morning.

I found one pure white form in a colony of Anemone sulphurea. The pure white is Anemone alpina, a calcareous species, while the sulphur-flowered species belongs to the granitic and siliceous formations, such as we have around Piora.

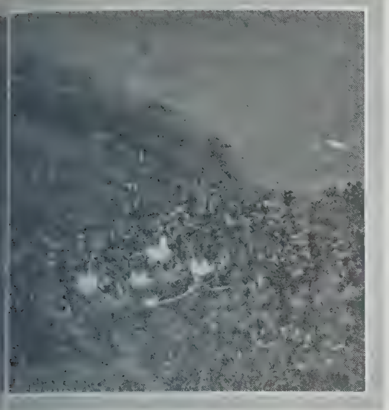
Four men are working on the slopes of Fongio making a track. Is this the beginning of a larger road of which we have heard rumours? A road is in contemplation from Santa Maria to Airola which would pass round Lago Ritom, and the proposal is to make a village where Hotel Piora now stands. It is said that the slopes between Piora and Airola are too steep for road-making. Let us hope it is so, for a road would spoil the charm and peace of this delightful spot.

I overtake a shepherd boy coming down from Cadagno. He is carrying a
heavy for such young shoulders. Th
these youngsters carry is surprising
an intelligent boy and I am interest
names for birds and flowers. A bi
to be a redstart is, to him, russo.
for the Stinging Nettle is Urtēēca
The Thistle to him is Cardoo.
Tobacco, Arnēēca (Arnica). The
is Rhododendron. He knows, to
biflora and Primula farinosa by th
names, and his pronunciation is
correct, though not easy for me t
Then, again, he knows the good qu
some plants and the poison nature
like Aconite, which is all too ple
these pastures. He knows, also,
way of catching trout without rod a

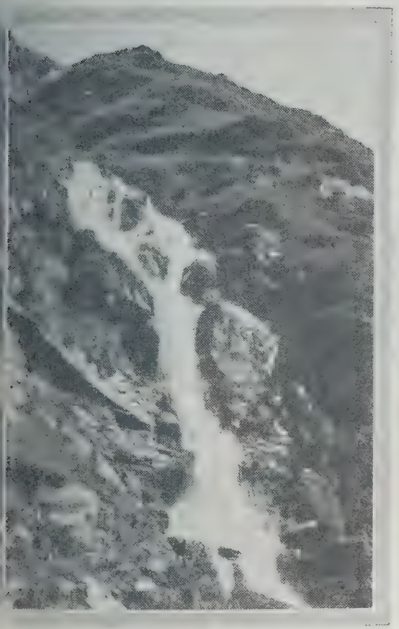
(*To be continued.*)

Cattle on the brow strongly dis
of the camera

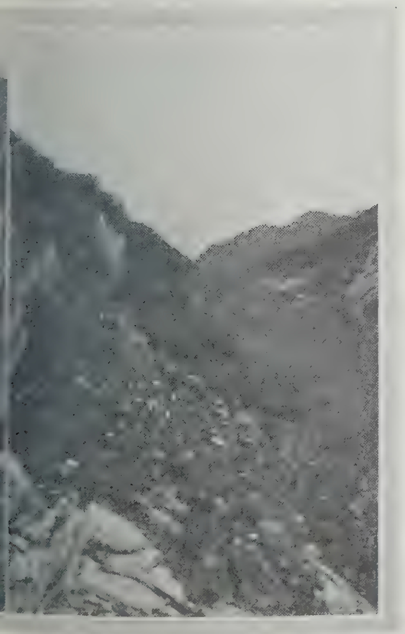
ERS OF THE PIORA DISTRICT



Anemone sulphurea



Cascade above Lago Ritom



octopetala on rocky ledge near the track to Santa Maria

Irreconcilable Alpines

IN the days long ago, when mountains were visited but seldom and avoided whenever possible, it was assumed that the plants from those remote, unfamiliar heights would hardly consent to grow in lowlands gardens, although, as a matter of fact, the Alpine Auricula and a form of Gentiana acaulis were well established in cultivation in the days of Queen Elizabeth.

Nowadays our attitude is very different, and perhaps we tend to swing over to the opposite extreme and to expect any Alpine to grow for us as soon as we have built for it a rock garden that recalls (for us at least) the pleasantest features of its natural habitat. But the problem of cultivation is not so easily solved. We may build a miniature Mont Blanc, tether a nanny goat on its lower slopes, and teach the garden boy to yodel, but not by these means shall we succeed in disguising from Eritrichium nanum the fact that it is being asked to grow in England. Eritrichium is an extreme example, but it is interesting, though it may not tempt us, as the most notoriously intransigeant of the high Alpines, for it will not flourish even in the cold greenhouse, where it can be ensured the long, dry, dormant season in winter, which will reconcile most Alpines to cultivation. There is no quite obvious explanation of the difficulty in growing this plant. It has no particular affection for high altitudes since it grows almost within reach of the waves at Spitzbergen, nor is it the last species of a dying race, for it has, I believe, a great many weedy and undesirable relations in the lowlands. Of course, it is not impossible to grow it, and from time to time determined specialists woo it into flower and rush it off to Vincent Square, where it usually dies on the show bench from the humiliation of being mistaken for an undersized Forget-me-not.

I suppose we must learn from these Alpines that the successful cultivation of a highly specialised plant does not depend upon the extent to which we reproduce its natural surroundings, for a highly specialised plant may be difficult in cultivation, not because it lacks the conditions to which it is specialised, but because its specialisation lays it open to injury in the environment in which we are trying to grow it. I have seen scree plants growing in pure, chopped Sphagnum in the moist air of Cumberland without a stone within reach of their long rootlets. And we may notice that Genista radiata, which has adapted itself to the long summer drought of Dalmatia by dropping all its leaves at the end of spring, still continues to take this precaution here, but is quite indifferent to the wetness of our summers, in spite of the high degree of its specialisation.

Many of the high Alpines wear a fluffy covering of hairs, which serves, presumably, to maintain an air space between the leaves and the surrounding snow in winter, and such plants are notoriously liable to suffer from our wet winters. But fluffiness in itself does not seem to expose a plant to injury from the damp, for one of the woolliest plants in the garden, that vigorous, handsome weed, Lamb's Ears (Stachys lanata), which protects itself against the heat and drought of the Persian mountains with a woolly burnous, does not mind being soaked and bedraggled for months on end. On the whole, it is tempting to think that it is not fluffiness that makes certain Alpines intolerant of our winters, but some other factor, such, we might suppose, as a thinness and delicacy of the leaves beneath the woolly covering, for it is noticeable that high Alpines which are not so protected usually have tough and waterproof leaves.

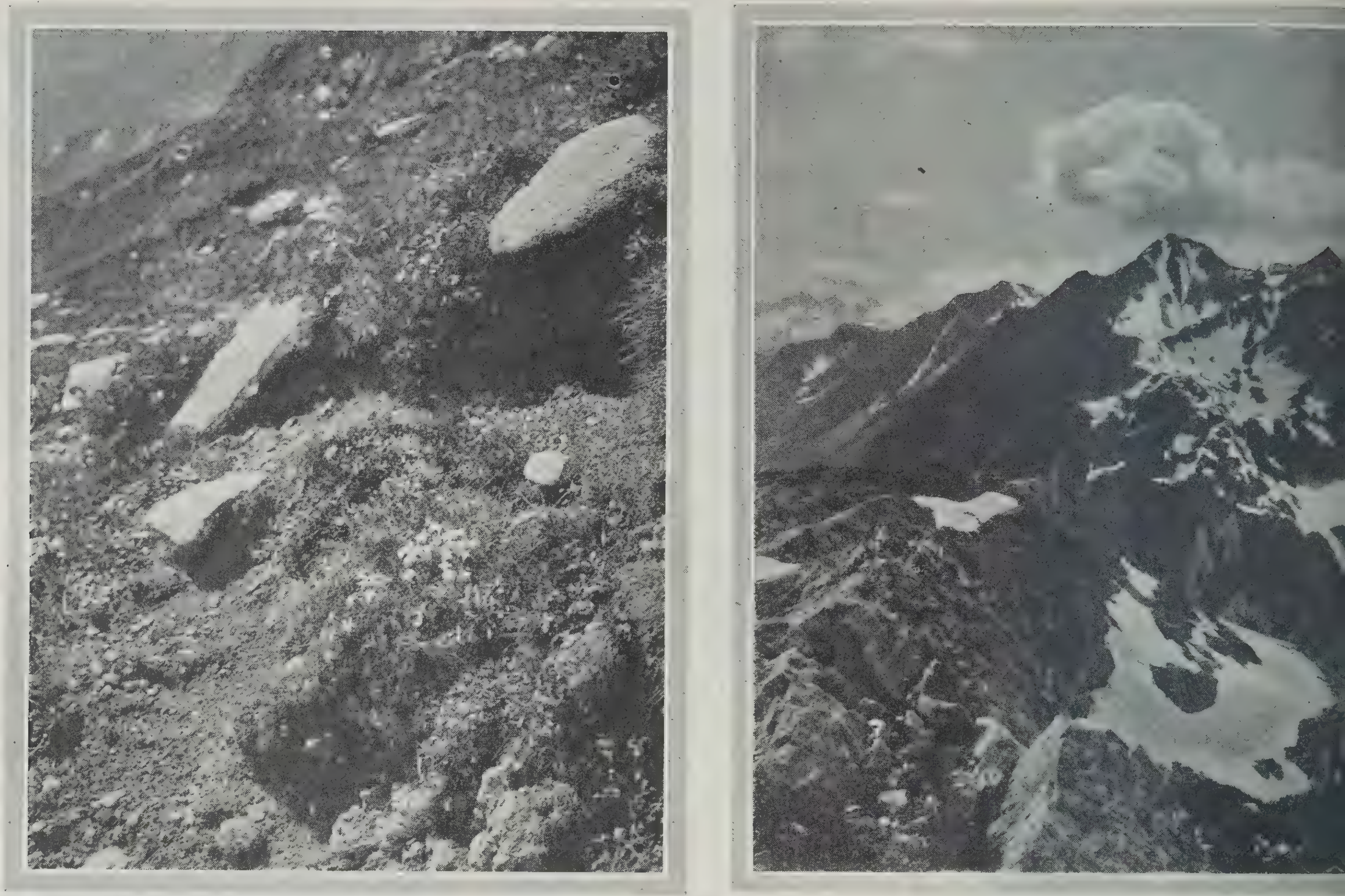
It is not only the high Alpines which do

Gentiana bavarica, flowers intense blue, in grass near Lago Cadagno

Alpenrose (Rhododendron ferrugineum) and Anemone sulphurea

Elevation about 7,000 feet

Daphne Cneorum fills the air with its delicious fragrance near Lago Dentro



IN THE ALTA LEVENTINA

Gentiana brachyphylla in the high pastures of Lago Dentro

View above Lago Scuro, 10,000 feet

not take readily to cultivation (many of them, indeed, are quite easy), for an even more obstinate reluctance is encountered among our own native Alpines. One of them, the Cloud Berry (Rubus Chamæmorus), is said to be quite intractable in the garden. I do not know how far this is true, for it is not a plant likely to evoke very persistent attempts to cultivate it, but I do know that I have always failed with it myself, and have never tasted in this country its deep yellow Raspberries, which are so delicious in Scandinavia.

Silene acaulis is another native Alpine that is difficult in a way. It is true that it will grow fairly readily, but it very seldom flowers at all freely in the rock garden. Mr. Clarence Elliott, however, says that he has a collected form which is not only superior to the type in the purity of its pink, but is really floriferous, and I always believe unhesitatingly whatever Mr. Elliott says—about horticulture. Dryas octopetala has the same shortcoming as Silene acaulis, for in most gardens it is very niggardly of its large and distinguished flowers.

Our native Alpines all occur again in the Arctic, and I have an impression, which may be incorrect, that a rather large proportion of the species which are common to the Alps and the Arctic are difficult to cultivate, and, if this is true, I should be very interested to hear an explanation of it. F. A. H.

Peaches in the open

Overhead syringings should cease immediately the fruits develop colour, but plenty of moisture at the root is still essential. Those from which the crop has already been gathered may be syringed vigorously in order to check Red Spider.

Ornamental kinds of Ash

AMONGST our forest trees none are more variable than the Ash, the different varieties of which are almost endless, and the same may be said of the American kinds. The American Ash is, as a rule, lighter-coloured both in foliage and bark than ours, but the colour varies a good deal in individual specimens. There being so many varieties of the common Ash, I will divide them into groups according to their peculiarities, and take those first distinguished by

REMARKABLE HABIT.—The Weeping Ash, from its peculiar manner of growth, is often used for covering, or rather forming, arbours, as, if supported, the branches may be made to extend horizontally to a great distance. Of this there is a form having bark of a bright golden colour, which is very showy, especially in winter. The Crested Ash (Fraxinus excelsior cristata) is a dwarf variety, often with fasciated Cockscomb-like stems, more curious than ornamental. Spectabilis, a fine form of the common Ash, is stouter and more upright-growing than the type. Crispa or nana is a small-growing kind, in which the leaves are very dark green and much curled, in many cases surrounding the stems, as in Salix annularis. Globosa is dwarf and globular in growth, forming a miniature tree. Dimorpha is so small in all its parts as to form a twiggy shrub, but one in no way stunted in appearance.

FOLIAGE DISTINCTIONS next come under notice. Amongst these the variegated forms of Ash, as a rule, withstand the sun with impunity, being rarely scorched, however exposed. In alba variegata and aurea variegata the leaves are marked with white and yellow respectively. In lutea the foliage is wholly of a golden colour. Heterophylla variegata
is a variegated form of a very distinct
in which the leaflets are generally u
as to form one large leaf. Concavifoli
gata has peculiarly concave leaflets.
well-marked varieties are angustifo
leaflets of which are very narrow, and
phylla laciniata, very much cut in the
In scolopendrifolia the leaflets are
into one, and cut into long, strap-li
ments. Aurea has golden, and j
striped, wood. In verrucosa the bar
rough and rugged as that of the co
Elm, and in this respect very distin
foliage is like that of the common A
the American Ash (Fraxinus ame
we have a fine variegated form—a
folia, seldom seen in English g
Juglandifolia, salicifolia, sambucifo
the names which explain the peculiar
the species represented by them. C
has peculiar hood-shaped leaflets.
rangulata, sometimes known as tetrag
a fine regular-growing tree, the bran
which are conspicuously quadrangular
cumstance which gives it a very disti
pearance. Fraxinus lentiscifolia, a n
Asia Minor, is a pretty species, with n
sharp-pointed, and much serrated leafle
one that cannot be confounded with
the foregoing.

Show notice

The entries for the Sandy Flower
close on August 19th. This big event,
will be held on the 29th, attracts a cr
about 16,000, and is the August show
Midlands. A first-class schedule ha
issued with liberal classification, an
under excellent management. The pr
is such an attractive one that entries
be well up to the standard.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

outhern and Midland

herbaceous border

rything should now be done to im-
the effect of borders devoted to hardy
ial flowers, and thereby prolong their
, such as the removal of all dowdy
s, seed-pods, and perished foliage.
of the late-flowering plants will re-
further supports, and these should be
before rough winds break them off.
ant moisture is necessary, especially
the plants are growing in sandy or
poor soils, and the free use of the hoe
n them is of the utmost importance,
free hoeing evaporation is reduced.
plants of Delphiniums, when cut down
iately their first flowers are over, will
again, this second flowering often
more handsome than the first.

first great burst of bloom has gone,
he old flower clusters should be cut
away down to the first or second
buds. This will not only improve
pearance of the beds, but assist the
ing blooms. Water freely and apply
stimulant where possible, in addition
free use of the hoe among Roses not
ed with other flowers. Where such
rpeted the smaller plants throw off the
ne and hoeing is of less importance;
, unnecessary.

tion layers

se should be kept moist by overhead
ngs every evening following hot days.
ction will then develop more rapidly
e foliage will assume a clean, healthy
Those layered in frames should be
up into 60-sized pots and placed in a
d partially shaded frame, where they
e kept close for about 10 days, when
st be given gradually.

Lilies

these clean by hand-weeding where
ater is shallow. Where it is too
scythe or long-handled swap hook
found useful, as the work must be
out from a boat or barge, it being
al that dense-growing pond weeds
be cut as low down as possible. For
rpose we use a large, half-circular
feet wide, which is attached to one
a small barge and which is rotated
he inside of the latter. This can be
or lowered at will by releasing a
and is extremely useful where large
ave to be cleaned. In small ponds
there is a tendency for the leaves to
he whole surface, I advise the cutting
f a portion of the leaves, as no harm
ise from so doing and the effect will
ly improved.

nthemums

igs are already troublesome and
e trapped with short lengths of
Bean-stalks, which may be pushed
the growths and stakes, each to be
ied and their contents blown out every
g into pails of water containing a
troleum. Stopping and tying is con-
ork which must not be neglected, and
g must be freely indulged in if the
re to be kept in a clean and healthy
tion. A weekly application of weak
-water will now be advisable.

nthus

of one or more of the many beauti-
ins of this fine indoor plant may now
in pans of light soil and raised in a
cool frame. Avoid high, close temperatures, and when the seedlings are large enough prick them off singly or in threes into 3-inch pots and keep the plants close up to the glass. Grow them on under cool, airy conditions. Clarkias and more Mignonette may also be sown and treated similarly.

Spring Cabbage

Stir up the soil between the lines of those sown last month and sow a few more to furnish plants for late work. Turnips and Spinach for winter use may still be sown on good and well-prepared ground.

Late Peas and Celery

These should be abundantly supplied with water, including generous overhead watering, and given occasional doses of liquid-manure. The same applies to Scarlet Runner Beans, which take a lot out of the soil. Keep the older Beans removed from the Vines, otherwise there will be a tendency towards light cropping and flower-dropping.

Asparagus

Frequent applications of manure-water are advisable to assist the plants in the building up of strong crowns for next year's crop. This is liable to be neglected at this season.

Tomatoes in the open

Keep the plants to one leader, feed liberally, and reduce the leaves below the fruits to half their length. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Border Carnations

The layering of these must now be pushed forward with all speed or rooting before the advent of cold weather will be impossible if delayed much longer. Should the dry weather continue, much watering will be necessary to encourage the rapid formation of roots. Birds sometimes cause much damage by scratching away the soil from the layers. In bad cases netting is the only remedy.

Pentstemons

In many cases Pentstemons throw up their central flower-spike much too early, and this, naturally, encourages the rapid development of side shoots. These now show flower, which, while ensuring a display, makes it very hard in autumn to find suitable cuttings. It will be advisable, therefore, to secure any suitable growths as they appear, and this will encourage the plants to push out others that, in turn, may be found of great value.

Pansies and Violas

These have had a "rocky" time of recent weeks, so every cutting procurable will be welcome in many gardens. As with Pentstemons, do not wait until the usual propagating season, but secure every one as it becomes fit. When forced to insert these cuttings in small quantities it is most satisfactory to insert in boxes.

Prepare for autumn propagating

Although early enough for the general autumn propagation of the various subjects, stocks of which are increased or perpetuated by this means, it is yet well to have everything ready, as far as can be managed, before the actual work of taking cuttings begins. Frames should be overhauled and broken glass repaired, so that all may be watertight. Boxes, also, should be repaired thoroughly, while pots should be scrubbed clean and set aside to dry.

Roses

To encourage the production of a fine crop of autumn flowers all spent flowers should be periodically removed, while frequent hoeing of the surface between the plants, besides keeping down weeds, is excellent for the Roses. As a rule, the modern Rose produces, in most cases, far more buds than it is possible to develop properly, so a rigorous thinning of these should be systematically carried out, and the resulting improvement in the size and colour of the flowers will more than compensate for the little time expended.

Climbing Roses

As these go out of flower the old, worn-out wood should be cut clean out and the strong, young rods springing from near the bottoms of the trees tied loosely, but securely, to the supports. Any weakly growths should also be cut away in order that all the available strength may go to such as are required to cover walls or trellis. When planted against walls these Roses are especially apt to suffer from dryness at the roots, so a thorough soaking of clean water, followed the next day with a further drenching of liquid-manure, will effect a great improvement.

Black Currants

As a rule, the bushes are now cleared of fruit, therefore when time can be spared any necessary pruning should be carried out. This simply means that old, worn-out branches should be cut back to near the ground-level and thus provide more space for the young, strong growths that spring from the centres of the bushes. The ground should also be cleared of weeds, and all prunings burned at once.

Housing fruit nets

Immediately a crop is gathered, the ends of the nets resting on the ground should be freed of any foreign matter and then thrown up to dry. The moment they reach the "bone-dry" state have them taken down, neatly pleated, then rolled into as small bulk as possible, and finally hung in some perfectly dry shed until again required.

Potatoes

Continue to dig up these as they become ripe, for to leave them in the ground for any length of time after this stage is reached is to run the risk of loss from disease and vermin. Select such quantities as may be required for "seed" of the different varieties. Medium-sized, shapely tubers are best for this purpose, and should be placed in shallow boxes and be well "greened" before being stored away for the winter in some cool, light, and frostproof shed or cellar.

Plant spring Cabbages

Plants from seeds sown early in July are now fit for planting out in their permanent quarters. The site recently vacated by early Potatoes is about the best possible spot for these Cabbages, and should not be dug. All weeds and débris should be removed and the surface well hoed and levelled. Allow about 18 inches from plant to plant each way.

Sowing vegetables

Where such vegetables as Cabbages, Brussels Sprouts, Savoys, and curled greens can be got to survive the winter in the open the present time is very suitable for getting in the seeds. Sow thinly, broadcast, and select rather poor ground for the purpose. Cauliflower may also be sown now, but the seedlings, when large enough, must be pricked into a cold frame for the winter.

C. BLAIR.

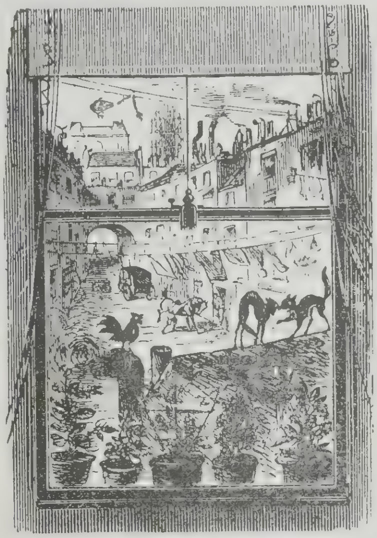
Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

From Gardening Illustrated

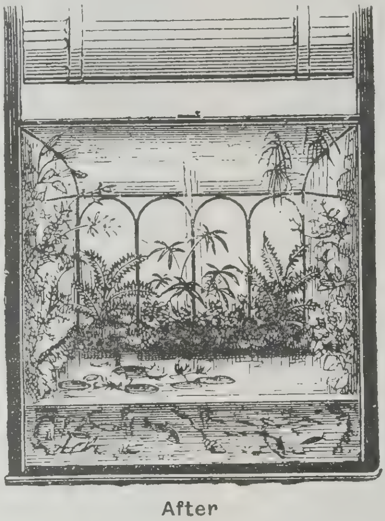
Fifty Years Ago

London window gardening

THE annexed woodcuts, sent to us by Messrs. Dick Radclyffe and Co., High Holborn, suggest how the dismal look-out of many a London window may be obviated, and even rendered attractive, by a case of beautiful Ferns or other plants.



Before



After

Vegetable Marrows on railway embankments

We notice that Vegetable Marrows grow vigorously on railway embankments on the south side of London. They have a deep and, as a rule, a loose soil in which to grow, and, being in an exposed and sunny position, they not only grow well, but fruit with marvellous freedom. Bare spaces of this kind might be more frequently devoted to the growth of this vegetable, which, if left to ripen and stored, will furnish wholesome food all through the winter and go far to compensate for the losses sustained by the failure of the Potato crop.

How to destroy ants

Take an ordinary flower-pot, say, a 5-inch pot, and turn it upside down on or near the place or places most infested with ants, and in the course of two or three days the ants will have three parts filled the pots with soil, and thousands of both the working ants and the male and female ants, with thousands of eggs, may at once be destroyed by means of boiling water. With a funnel pour it through the hole in the bottom of the pots, and in half-an-hour take off the pot, level down the soil, and replace the pot, and so follow up with boiling water in this way and your place will soon be cleared of ants.—August 16th, 1879.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Diseased Phlox

(E. R. Stevenson).—The specimen Phlox sent for examination is affected with Stem Canker, a fungus which attacks the plants just about the soil level. The result of an attack is that the stems develop a cankered appearance, the leaves turn yellow, and the attacked growths frequently break off. As the fungus is deeply seated within the tissues of the attacked shoots, control is difficult. The only successful method is to cut out and burn the affected growths. Surrounding growths should be sprayed with a weak solution of liver of sulphur. It is probable that a thorough soaking with a solution of Cheshunt Compound would deal with any loose spores lying about on the soil.

Diseased Tulips

(D. Wolseley).—The Tulips were taken out of the soil too early, with the result that they have failed to ripen properly. Saprophytic fungi have gained an entrance to t
ripened bulbs and destroyed them.
do nothing now except to sort over t
and throw away those affected.
ought to be left in their flowering
until the foliage shows signs of ripen
lift earlier is always at the risk o
many of the bulbs.

Flowering Stocks

(H. Lower).—From your note w
that your Stocks have been attacked
of the Foot Rot fungi. This group
attack many kinds of plants, and
Stocks in particular. The fungi c
gain an entrance at the collars of th
and the mycelium runs in the tiss
blocks up the water-conducting ce
the plants "wilt." Foot Rot fung
Stocks in all stages of growth, from
pan to the flowering stage, and e
when the plants are growing in
damp, or shady conditions. In
where Foot Rot is troublesome a so
Cheshunt Compound should be us
all the soil in which the plants grov
pans, pricking out soil, and the fina
ing quarters should all receive a
soaking.

Annuals for a dry gravelly soil

(Orchard).—To grow even good a
is essential that the soil should be
heart. You would probably find th
ing satisfactory:—Cornflowers in
Lavatera (Sutton's Loneliness), Om
linifolia, Fedia cornucopiæ, Arctotis
Anthemis arabica, Acroclinium
Madia elegans, Rhodanthes mangles
maculata, Kaulfussia amelloides,
grandiflorum rubrum, Alonsoa Wars
Whitlania grandiflora, Argemone m
Linaria antirrhinifolia, Collinsia
Shirley Poppies, Hunnemannia fum
Sweet Scabious, Ursina ant
(Sphenogyne), Ursina pulchra,
Suworowi, Nigella damascena, Nol
plicifolia, Gilia tricolor, G. de
Lychnis cœlirosa, Leptosyne St
Gnaphalium fœtidum, Gaillardia, D
theca aurantiaca.

White Martagon failing

I have a white Martagon Lily w
the last two or three years has dw
size, though it has come up and
every year. At first it used to rea
or 5 feet in height, but this year it
had two or three small shoots about
high. I think of taking it up in Au
perhaps moving it. It is now under
wall, sheltered by a shrub from the
gets sun in spring and summer for
the day. Does it require peat, and
be likely to do better in full sun?

Somerset. K. M. D.

[Without examining the bulb it is
ble to state definitely the cause of fai
may be faulty drainage, insufficient
wireworm, or some other garden
again, soil conditions may not be
If the small shoots to which you re
already died down lift the bulb wit
lay, examine minutely, removing al
and rotted scales. If top growth
green do not lift until next month.
moisture will frequently occasion
deterioration, while poor drainag
allows moisture to collect around th
the bulb will bring about destructio
examination you find the bulb shriv
dry replant in a compost of equal pa
and leaf-mould, with the addition
sand. Plant about 5 inches deep, i
tion, if possible, where the bulb wi
the cooling protection of dwarf shrub
growing plants, and where the s
flowers have the benefit of the sun

he day. Although it is generally ed that base-rooting Lilies do not re- much in the way of ground cover, it en noted that the finest heads are found on bulbs growing under cool ons. Peat is not necessary. Full sun e satisfactory, providing you have a ool root-run where the bulb is not dried Partial shade, however, is to be pre- e]

oli diseased

Clifford).—Your Gladioli are affected fungus of the Sclerotium type, but we able to state whether or no the corms affected when bought. In the speci- s sent the underground portions are ty, but we think that it is likely that a rms failed earlier in the season, and it n these that the infection has spread. e afraid that at this stage you can do xcept to spray the plants with a weak n of lime of sulphur or some such ide. You might try the effect of giving l in which the plants are growing a ig with Cheshunt Compound. Up to esent time the control recommended 's disease is to soak the corms for 30 s in a 5 per cent. solution of formal- , then wash thoroughly in clean water ant in clean ground. You might like this treatment next spring.

GREENHOUSE

olaria

Constant Reader ").—You doubtless Calceolaria fuchsiæfolia, a greenhouse en variety. It is rather a troublesome being like some others of similar habit, asily upset by too frequent watering, t it detests getting dry at the roots. t rich compost, consisting of fresh, loam, leaf-mould, and sand, with the n of a little very fibrous brown peat, it its requirements. Pot rather lightly in quite a cool house, shading from ht sunshine. Cuttings of half-ripened about this time and again in early usually root in time, but considerable e and watchfulness are necessary.

igid Anemones

S.).—The St. Brigid Anemone does e very kindly to greenhouse culture, planting the roots in autumn in pots s of light compost, setting these in a me over winter, and in spring moving tle warmth in the greenhouse they induced to bloom fairly well. Place ms quite close together, but do not overcrowd. If placed in boxes, about s apart would be a suitable distance. tle water will be required all winter.

as in pots

gonias ").—While the Begonia dis- ld draughts it even more quickly re- damp, stuffy atmosphere, and, without g your treatment of your plants, we e inclined to think that this is causing s to drop. Under glass the Begonia shaded from the sun and be carefully . It should never be allowed to get ry, but at the same time to keep the stantly saturated is bad for the plant.

ROSE GARDEN

ed Roses

lia).—There is no fungus present in e specimens sent. Thrips are present tity, but we think it unlikely that this the actual cause of the trouble. A kely cause would be night insects, earwigs. Some such creatures are he buds in a young stage, and the l buds fail to develop satisfactorily. e the plants at night with a light, and try and catch the culprits at work. If earwigs are the cause of the trouble they can be trapped by placing inverted flower-pots loosely stuffed with hay near their haunts. The traps should be examined once a day and the earwigs collected can be destroyed. If Thrips is the sole cause of the damage the pest may be kept under control by copious syringing with cold water, but in bad cases it is as well to commence operations by using a good insecticide first and then follow on with the water treatment.

Rose diseases

(M. F. Ebbs).—Your Rose specimens are affected mainly with mildew, but there is a little Black Spot present. Many sprays have been recommended as controls for Rose mildew, most of which, if used often enough, will give a fair measure of success. We have lately seen good results obtained by using sodium bicarbonate 1 oz., water 10 gallons. The bicarbonate is dissolved in a little water and then made up to 10 gallons with clean, soft water. This spray fluid is known as a "hitting spray," *i.e.*, it only kills the mildew that it wets. If this is remembered it is apparent that fairly frequent sprayings are necessary, beginning fairly early in the season as a preventative and continuing throughout the growing season as occasion demands. If you used the above spray regularly from the beginning of the season you should be able to keep the Black Spot under control. Basic slag should be applied at the rate of 4 ozs. per square yard in autumn before the forking over is carried out. Under your conditions sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard should be used instead of potash salts at 4 ozs. per square yard. The sulphate of potash might be applied in February next as a top-dressing and hoed in. If you are unable to obtain soft water considerably more bicarbonate should be added, because your district is noted for its hard water.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Hollies dying

(Capt. J. Whitworth Jones).—You do not say how long your Hollies have been planted, therefore we presume them to be established plants and not suffering from drought. Have you examined the base of the stems for trouble by mice or rabbits, as these often bark them, and once the bark is nibbled off all round the shrub is sure to die? Insect life will sometimes cause a large amount of disfigurement, but rarely kills the shrub outright. Examine the trees for moisture at the roots, and spray them thoroughly with half a pint of paraffin to 5 gallons of water, the paraffin being first mixed with a small quantity of boiling water, as it will not mix with cold. We know of no other reason for the behaviour of your shrubs.

FRUIT

Strawberry plants

(Anglesey).—We have examined your specimen Strawberry plants and can find no fungus present which would account for the failure. A little Leaf Spot (Sphærella fragariæ) was present, but not in sufficient quantity to cause damage. The root-systems were in both cases sound. The failure of the plants appears to us to be due to an attack of an insect, probably a capsid. Now that the plants have finished fruiting you should go over the bed and cut away all dead tissue, and also all the old and discoloured foliage, and the material so cut away should be burnt and the ash returned to the bed. Go over the plants and make sure that they are firmly established, and if any are showing the crown of the plant any distance above ground-level soil should be drawn up to the collar so that the crown is just clear of the soil. Previous to earthing-up the plants that require it give the whole bed a dressing of superphosphate at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard. Sulphate of potash applied in early spring, also at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard, would help the plants. Spraying the plants from time to time with a nicotine wash would control any insect pest present.

Cracked Apples

(E. B. Lister).—The specimens you have sent for examination are affected with Apple Scab, a condition brought about by an attack of the fungus Venturia ineaqualis. This fungus attacks the wood, leaves, and fruit of the Apple, and can be controlled by spraying with Bordeaux Mixture or lime sulphur. The control commences when the flowers are in the so-called "Pink Bud" stage, *i.e.*, when the flowers are showing colour, but before the petals begin to open. A thorough spray, using one of the above fluids, should be given. A second spray should be given when most of the petals have dropped from the flowers, and a third dressing three weeks later. You can do nothing at this stage to improve your fruit, but if you carry out the spraying recommended above you should be able to prevent such unsightly fruits another season. You will find that the Leaflet No. 131, Apple and Pear Pests, to be obtained post free from The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1, would be useful.

Excrescences on Apple wood

(Mrs. Harbord).—The specimen Apple growth sent for examination is showing a number of aerial roots. Such growths are quite normal on certain varieties of Apples and need cause you no undue alarm. There is one old variety called Bur-Knot which produces these aerial roots in great numbers, and this variety will root very well if the shoots are cut off and inserted as cuttings. Many varieties of Apples produce these roots to a greater or less degree, *e.g.*, Warner's King is sometimes covered with them. A good tar oil wash applied during the winter would ensure that any hibernating insects sheltering within the growths would be killed off. Apart from the shelter given to insect life by the aerial roots they cause no other trouble.

Apple trees

("Niko").—Good non-poisonous insecticides are "Katakilla" and "Volck," and these, if properly used, should rid your trees of vermin in late spring or summer, but it is less easy to suggest a non-poisonous preparation for winter use. However, a safe, and if carefully applied a quite satisfactory, winter wash is made by slaking 18 lbs. of lime and then adding 4 gallons of water. In another vessel dissolve 3 lbs. of salt and 1 lb. of waterglass, then mix the two together and thoroughly spray the trees with this solution during February.

Diseased Apples

(E. R. Stevenson).—Your specimen Apple is badly affected with Apple Canker, a fungus which causes a lot of trouble amongst Apples, especially certain varieties on some types of soil. The only control is to cut out and burn the affected branches below the cankered portion. All cuts made should be coated over with white lead paint or grafting-wax, and the work is best done during the growing season. If the tree is an old one it would probably pay you to grub it and replace with a variety which is not prone to canker. The Ministry of Agriculture states: "Amongst the varieties usually less susceptible may be mentioned Annie Elizabeth, Beauty of Kent, Blenheim Orange, Bismarck, Bramley Seedling, Lane's Prince Albert, Mr. Gladstone, and Newton Wonder." All varieties are liable to canker on badly drained soil, and also when too much nitrogenous manure is applied.

Morello Cherries

(A. C. S. S.).—It is seldom that there is any necessity for root-pruning the Morello Cherry unless it has been planted in extra rich soil. On no account cut away the shoots you mention, but train in as many as you can find space for, but not, of course, overcrowding. Such as space cannot be found for can be cut away. Young trees are seldom fruitful, but in time usually settle down to produce heavy annual crops.

Quince tree

(G. S. Eastment).—Although you have given water to the Quince tree it is more than likely that dryness is the cause of the fruits dropping. This fruit only thrives properly when the roots are in very moist soil. Planted near the edge of a stream or pond, where the roots can find their way to the water, they seldom fail.

Currant cuttings

("Propagator").—While, doubtless, cuttings inserted now would root all right, we fail to see how any advantage is to be gained by doing so. The usual and entirely satisfactory time for carrying out this work is just after the leaves fall. The process is simple. Select fairly strong, straight shoots of the current season's growth, cut through just under a joint, and carefully trim off all eyes or buds from the lower part of the stem, in the case of Gooseberries and Red and White currants leaving only three or four eyes near the top. Black Currants should have all eyes retained. With a spade make a notch some 4 inches deep where it is desired to plant the cuttings. Stand the cuttings upright in the notch, return the soil, and tread down very firmly. If the soil is very heavy a layer of sharp sand should be scattered in the bottom of the notch, and on this the bases of the cuttings should rest.

Peaches stone-splitting

(Y. A. T.).—Permitting the soil to get dry and then applying copious drenchings of water will account for stone-splitting. So would too strong doses of liquid-manure or artificial fertiliser. Some varieties of Peach, however, are liable to this trouble, and only great care in watering, airing, and feeding will avert it.

Diseased Peaches

(F. Calvert).—In connection with the specimens sent in for examination, there are two diseases present. The rotted fruit was affected with Brown Rot, a fungus common on Plums, Cherries, and, to a less extent, Peaches. The fungus attacks in turn flowers, leaves, wood, and fruit, but is perhaps most common on flowers and fruit. When pruning, look carefully for dead snags of tissue and dead tips of young wood; all these should be removed and burnt. All fruits affected should be removed from the tree so soon as detected. If taken in time, most of the fruit could be used for culinary purposes, but the actual diseased portion should be burnt. Fungicides have proved of little value in connection with this disease; cutting out and burning the affected portions is the better way. All the foliage sent is affected with another fungus, Puccinia pruni, which causes a leaf rust, and attacks Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, Almond, and Blackthorn. Nectarine, being only a variety of the Peach, is also attacked. One of your fruits was badly spotted with this disease. You can do nothing to control the disease until after the fruit is picked, then spray the tree with dilute lime sulphur. After the leaves fall, they should all be raked up and burnt. Spray again at intervals next season, beginning when the leaves are expanding, using again dilute lime sulphur.

Scalded Grapes

(W. H. Barber).—The details of cultivation given appear to us to be in order, but you must remember that it is never easy to grow Vines and Peaches well in the same structure. We do not think your trouble has much connection with ventilation, but your local adviser should be in the best condition to judge. We notice that in your manurial treatment no mention is made of potash, and that the manure used is mainly nitrogenous in character. We think that if you give sulphate of potash each year at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard, both to the inside border and also to those roots growing outside, you will get a gradual reduction of the "shanking." The berries splitting just before getting ripe points to the Vines getting too much water during the final stage of ripening. Are the roots actually near enough to the little stream to obtain water from it? If so, it might explain matters. The sulphate of potash mentioned above should be applied in addition to the manures you are already using.

VEGETABLES

Cabbage Caterpillar

(Meiktila).—The caterpillars you sent are those of the Turnip Moth (Agrotis segetum). The creature is one of the so-called "Cutworms," which is the name given to the caterpillars of certain moths, the larvæ of which eat through plants just at the collar, cutting off the plant at ground-level. "Cutworms" spend the day in the soil and feed at night, sometimes feeding on foliage, but more generally upon the fleshy stems. The Vaporite given last year could have no effect on the pest because it was probably not then present. Another dressing of Vaporite would be a good control if applied now. The pests may easily be killed by using poisoned bait, but in view of the Protection of Animals Act, 1911, it would appear that the treatment can only be used where all reasonable precautions are taken to keep away cats, dogs, fowls, and other domestic animals. A successful recipe is: Bran, 1 bushel; Paris green, 1 lb. The Bran and Paris green are first well mixed together dry and then water is added to make a fairly dry mash. The mash should be broadcast on the soil towards evening. The mixture is sown at the rate of 2 bushels per acre, and this rate would work out at about ½ peck per 200 square yards. Gloves should be worn when mixing and sowing the poison bait. A bushel of bran equals 17 lbs.

Early Peas

("Little Welshman").—It is only very early varieties that you can hope to have fit for market in May and June. If sown in October, occasionally, The Pilot will come safely through the winter and become fit for use by May. For spring sowing this variety should also prove satisfactory. Sown in February it should be in use in June. It is 3½ feet to 4 feet in height. The dwarf sorts, Peter Pan, William Hurst, and The Lincoln, are all very early sorts, and if sown early in March should be fit during May and June. The last-named is about 2 feet high, the others 15 inches to 18 inches, and all are good bearers. If sown about the middle of March, King Marrowfat and Senator should be ready during the latter half of June, and both are very heavy croppers and average
about 3½ feet to 4 feet high. Most se
stock these, but if you have any difficu
can get all from Mr. John Down
Shandwick Place, Edinburgh. C
Velocity is offered by Messrs. Ale
Dickson and Sons, Ltd., "Hawl
Belfast. Your artificial mixture app
be quite suitable for the purpose ment

Leeks dying

(Geo. W., Halstead).—Your Leek
been attacked by the Onion Fly, and
sent contained many of its maggots n
roots, which, by pressing the base
growth, are easily seen. Pull up all s
signs of wilting and burn them, and
those remaining every 10 days with
ter of a pint of paraffin to 3 gallons of
The paraffin must be mixed with
small quantity of boiling water first a
added to the remainder, as it will n
with cold water. Give the soil a dres
sulphate of ammonia at the rate of
to each square yard, and thus endea
set up a more vigorous growth in ord
your plants may quickly grow beyo
critical stage. It is rarely that Lee
attacked in this way.

Diseased Onions

(Scout).—Your Onions are affecte
White Rot, which is caused by the
Sclerotium cepivorum. This fungus
tremely troublesome in some gardens,
ally where Onions and allied pla
grown often on the same land. So f
known the fungus over-winters in the
commences its operations towards the
May and the beginning of June. At
plant is attacked here and there in the
the disease very quickly radiates fr
original centres of infection and
widespread. All diseased Onions sh
lifted and burned, and Onions sh
grown next year as far removed fr
affected plot as is possible. The 193
Onions should be watched very carefu
at the first sign of attack the affecte
should be removed and burned, and
rounding plants thoroughly soaked
solution of Cheshunt Compound. The
with this fungus is that the resting
have extremely hard coats and the
known fungicide which will kill the
the other hand, if you wait until the
bodies are growing and then use C
Compound you should be able to con
disease. You do not state the vari
are growing. Some varieties show
resistance to the disease. We beli
Improved White Spanish is good in
spect. The disease is called "Mouldy
in some parts of England.

MISCELLANEOUS

Wool shoddy

(E. C. Yates).—Wool shoddy for fe
can be obtained from The Farm and
Universal Fertiliser Co., 415, Smi
Road, Liverpool.

Liverwort on lawn

(Mrs. Harbord).—The growth o
lawn is that of a Liverwort, and is
quent source of trouble to the garde
Liverwort is very common on badly
lawns, and before carrying out
measures you should ensure that the
age of your lawn is correct. If the d
is good you should be able to cont
Liverwort by vigorously brushin
growths with a stiff besom and then
ing a dressing of a good lawn seed.
the treatment if you find it necessary.
wort will always cause you trouble
drainage is wrong.

is

ve noticed by a particular Blackberry at fairly regular intervals, pieces of adder skin. I once saw the snake, was a big one, glide into this same berry bush. To-day I found by the a complete cast-off skin, which es 37½ inches long. I have often gone etly to the bush in the hopes of being surprise and kill the snake, but with- ccess. On the one occasion which I it, I had nothing with me with which with it. As this bush is close to a th where children are walking and laying, I am particularly anxious to adder. Also, a bite from one of this uld, I should think, be fatal. This is gardening question, but I wonder if any of your staff know anything about bits of adders and the best time of me to wait for it or stalk it? Also have ever heard of a way of trapping oning them?

D. V. Peyton Ward.

Hants.

you sure that the snake you have seen dder Vipera berus, because the length inches is unusual. Thirty-two inches posed to be about the extreme length dder, but the grass snake is often over in length. If you have any doubts the identity of the specimen, why not aturalist have a look at the cast skin? e of the adder rarely proves fatal, but son causes much pain and inflamma- which lasts for a considerable time. d of the adder consists chiefly of frogs ice, and as these are, we believe, taken alive, poisoning the creature out of the question. All snakes are nd of lying in the sun, and it is probable that on the occasion you saw the snake you had disturbed it while lying in the sun. Your only chance of destroying the snake is to proceed very quietly to the spot when the sun is shining and attempt to kill by striking it. You will be most likely to find the snake lying in the sun towards noon, Greenwich time. If it is only a grass snake you should let it live, as they are valued friends for the gardener. We do not think you are likely to have much success in lying in wait for the creature. Your best chance will be to surprise it.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

R. M. Staveley.—Gladiolus Halley.

Miss F. Mordaunt.—Spiræa discolor.

"*Cutler.*"—Achillea Ptarmica The Pearl.

W. R. J., Cornwall.—1, Rosa rugosa alba; 2, Eryngium giganteum; 3, Verbascum Hattoni; 4, Tradescantia virginica rubra.

J. O.—Olearia nummularifolia.

A. Andrews.—This appears to be a plant which has in some way been crossed with another member of the Cabbage tribe. We have not seen anything like it before, and it might be worth your while to allow it to seed and see what comes of it next season. We can give no reason for its appearance among your crops, other than that of a chance seedling.

Amateur.—1, *Mauve,* Funkia ovata; 2, *yellow,* Inula grandiflora.

A. E. L.—Linaria purpurea.

H. Mills.—1, Gentiana septemfida; 2, Erica vagans var. St. Keverne; 3, Œnothera missouriensis; 4, Potentilla Mons. Rouillard.

Marmion.—1, Ribes nigrum, probably a seedling (fruits squashed); 2, Veronica Cananillesi; 3, Sedum spurium; 4, Pink, seedling variety; 5, Pink Desdemona; 6, Onopordon illyricum; 7, Spiræa discolor.

I. A. C.—1, Gwen Nash (probably); 2, Dorothy Dennison; 3, Francois Juranville; 4, flowers faded, probably Evangeline.

E. F., Hereford.—1, Saxifraga oppositifolia (poor specimen); 2, Salvia officinalis var. purpurea; 3, A. Philadelphus, but with no flower we cannot say which; 4, Saxifraga cæsia.

LATE NOTE

Plum crops in Worcestershire

The crop of Pershore Plums is stated to show marked variations not only between adjoining plantations, but also between individual trees within the plantations, and this fact renders the estimation of the weight of the crop a matter of considerable difficulty. In the Evesham and Pershore district the Pershore Plum crop is reported to be of fair quality. The yield is estimated at approximately 2 tons per acre, which is considered by the reporters to be a light crop. In the Worcester and Stourport district Pershore Plums are reported to be of fair quality, but the yield is very light and is estimated at only about ¾ ton per acre, though possibly this figure may be exceeded in the area to the west of the Severn. Taking the area as a whole, it is estimated that there is a good average crop of coloured Plums.

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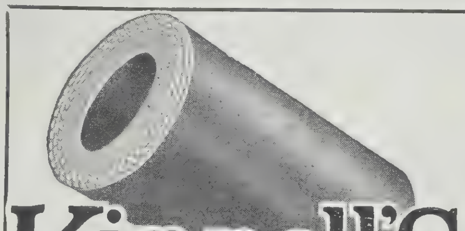

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.—No. 2633

Saturday, August 24, 1929

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GARDENS designed, laid out, and planted.—H. & W. EVANS, Hardy Plant Nursery, Llanishen, Cardiff.

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Applicants must have experience in Kitchen and Landscape gardening.

Preference given to good Cricketers and Footballers.

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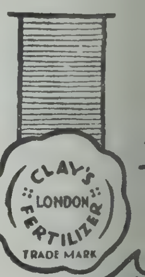

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New and interesting List of all he best varieties with cultural istructions including all other seful Berries. Also Fruit-tree Catalogue with helpful information, free on application.
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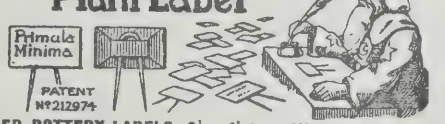

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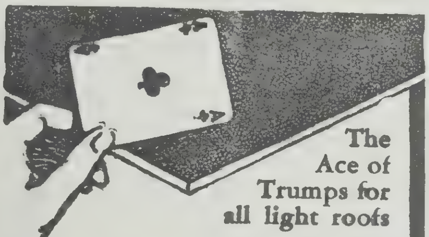

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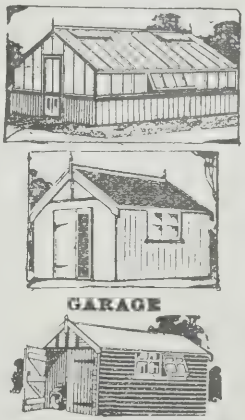

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ALNWICK HORTICULTURAL, BOTANICAL, AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY
WILL HOLD
THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION
ON
Saturday, September 7th, 1929
Secretary—G. T. BONNER, Suncroft, Alnwick.

10th ANNUAL SHOW of the
GORRINGE PARK, MITCHAM, AND DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION
To be held on ***Saturday, September 7th, 1929***
in ***St. Barnabas Hall,***
Gorringe Park Avenue, Mitcham.
Opening at 4 p.m.
Full particulars from Hon. Sec.—
E. F. HEDGE, 76, Links Road, Tooting Junction, S.W. 17.

STRATHEARN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
GRAND ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
will be held on
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 1929
in PORTEOUS HALL, CRIEFF
Entries by Saturday, August 31st.
Schedules from Hon. Sec. and Treas.—J. KELLEY, St. Margarets, Crieff

---

Shettleston & District Horticultural Assocn.
ANNUAL SHOW
Vegetables, Flowers, Pot Plants, & Industrial Classes
to be held in
Miners' Welfare Institute, Amulree St.,
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 1929
Entries close Friday, August 30th, 1929.
Schedules from Hon. Secretary—R. HODGE, 47, Westbank Terrace, Shettleston, Glasgow.

WEST BROMWICH
Horticultural and Allotments Society Ltd
TWELFTH ANNUAL
FLORAL FETE
will be held in the
DARTMOUTH PARK, **West Bromwich, on**
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, SEPT. 6th & 7th, 1929
Secretary—C. MYATT, 5, Legge Street, West Bromwich.

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No queries can be answered by post.

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Editor, "Gardening Illustrated,"
Bouverie House, Fleet Street,
London, E.C. 4

Lenton and District Horticultural Society
ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW
(Classes open to ALL ENGLAND)
to be held in
ABBEY LANE FIELD
on SATURDAY, SUNDAY, and MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 8th, and 9th, 1929
Schedules and Entry Forms from Secretary (Competitive)—Mr. C. A. BURTON, 197, Castle Boulevard, Lenton.

Twickenham Horticultural & Allotment Holders Assn.
ANNUAL EXHIBITION & GARDEN FETE
to be held at
POULETT LODGE, CROSS DEEP, TWICKENHAM,
on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11th, 1929
OPEN 2.30 P.M.
The Society's Challenge Cup for highest number of points in open classes and other valuable awards.
Schedules from—B. EDE, 19, Belmont Road, Twickenham.

Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society
(Incorporated by Royal Charters in 1824 and 1898.)
AUTUMN SHOW
will be held at WAVERLEY MARKET, EDINBURGH
on SEPTEMBER 11th and 12th, 1929
The Thomson Challenge Trophy for Grapes.
The Phillips Memorial Challenge Trophy for Roses.
The "Abol" Challenge Trophy for Plant Breeding.
Schedules from Secretary—DONALD MACKENZIE, 4A, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

STOCKPORT
EXHIBITION OF ALLOTMENT AND COTTAGE GARDEN PRODUCE to be held in the **ARMOURY, STOCKPORT,**
on SEPTEMBER 13th and 14th, 1929
LOCAL CLASSES: Vegetables, Fruit, Flowers.
OPEN CLASSES: Table Decoration, Hardy Cut Blooms, Honey, Wax, Observatory Hives.
Schedules from—G. CARTER, Town Hall, Stockport.

East Lothian Horticultural Society
THE ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION
will be held in the CORN EXCHANGE, HADDINGTON, on
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th
Schedules from Secretary—J. W. WILLIAMSON, Solicitor, Haddington.

THE NATIONAL CARNATION AND PICOTEE SOCIETY
(*Northern Section*)

The subscription to the above Society is 5/- per annum, minimum. The first fifty readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED who make application for membership will receive Carnation plants to the value of half the subscription paid. These plants will be forwarded in the Autumn.

Applications for membership, mentioning "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED offer," should be addressed to the Secretary—**Mr. W. SECKER, 11, Longley Avenue, Norwood, Sheffield.**

PITMASTON ALLOTMENT HOLDERS' ASSOCIATI
ANNUAL SHOW will be held
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
AT
VINCENT STREET SCHOOL
Doors open at 4.30 prompt. Two Challenge Cup
Medal, and R.H.S. Banksian Medal.
Schedules may be obtained from Secretary—A
39, Longbridge Road, Balsall Heath, Birmingham.

Lichfield & District Allotments, G
and Smallholdings Society
Ninth Grand Dahlia, Early-flowering, Chr
mum, Fruit, Vegetable, Bee and Hon
SHOW
will be held in the GUILDHALL, LICHFIE
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st,
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W. ARMSTON, 27, Ivanhoe Road, Lichfield.

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HORTICULTURAL SOC
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WINTER GARDENS, HARROG
Wednesday, Thursday, and Frida
SEPTEMBER 25th, 26th, and 27t

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ENTRIES CLOSE AUGUST
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President: RT. HON. LORD DARESBUR
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GRAND FLORAL EXHIBITION.
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CLASS 482. An arrangement of **POT PLANTS** or **CUT FLOWERS,** arranged on a gro space 15 feet by 5 feet. PRIZES—£6, and Challenge Cup to be won three times be becoming property of winner; £5; £3.

Points for judging:

Beauty of arrangement, 6; harmony of colour, 5; quality and culture 5; general finish, Total, 20.

also: Trade Flower Display, 5 Floral Table Decoration Classes and 12 Flower Classes.

Entries close 29th August, to:

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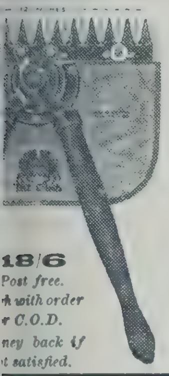

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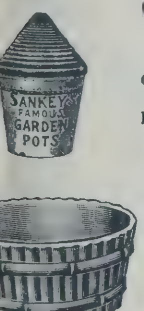

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1/- 2/ 3/6 6/6 12/- 27/6
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Usual prices 9/6 and 18/- respectively.
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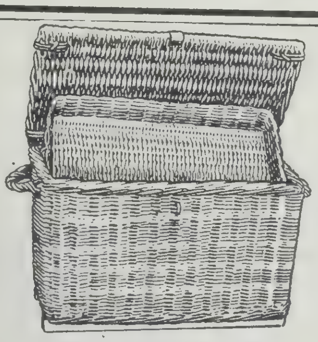

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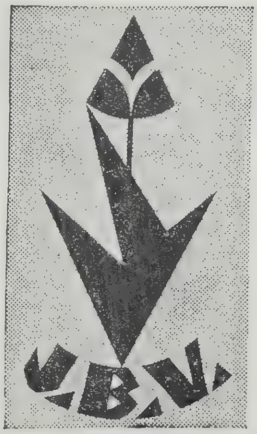

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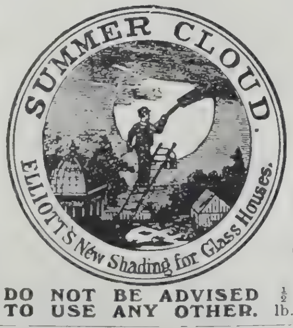
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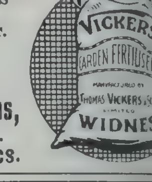

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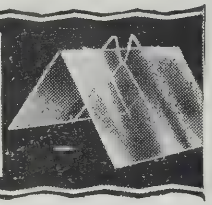

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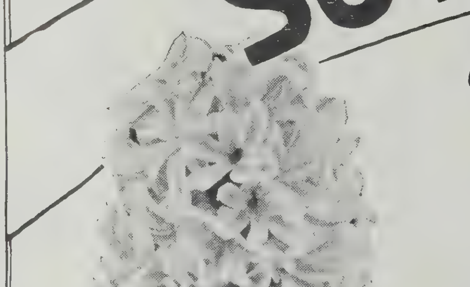

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The Gladiolus Show

New varieties at Greycoat Street

ERALLY speaking, the weather ditions this year have not been good Gladioli. The frosts in February did arm to corms that were not more than protected, and losses of stock from use have been reported from every the country. As a further result of d weather, the ground in many disid not warm through as early as and the earlier-planted corms were germinating in consequence. For ason the successive plantings neceshen a show is in view were not foly successive blooming, and many of y-planted corms flowered before those in the beginning of April. The long in July also contributed to irregular especially in those districts where onomy of water was essential.

te of these disadvantages, the displayed at the Royal Horti- Society's New Hall on 13th were exceedingly good, quality and quantity. Fully the Hall was devoted to this

purposes of description and t the exhibits must be into two sections: those he auspices of the Royal tural Society, and those n the many classes of the Exhibition of the British s Society.

ormer consisted of trade exd the annual competition for remarke" Cup.

e trade exhibits, highest went to Mr. W. J. of Histon, Cambridge, foly the two Wisbech firms, R. H. Bath and Prins, and Kelway and Son, of Langmerset.

main reason for Mr. Unccess was that he not only d flowers, but he staged ther as a display than as a of Gladioli. The secret, m the firm's "flair" in this , seems to be Smilax, s plumosus, and space, hese the most important is Gladioli, particularly the s varieties, lose half their ess if bunched too closely while the large-flowered take very little crowding to mass of colours, often gorours, in which the individu- the flowers themselves is lost.

Messrs. Kelway's exhibit demonstrated this only too well. Their topmost tier, set out with a background of Copper Beech, caught the eye from a distance, and intensified the beauty of the varieties so staged —especially Orby, a magnificent red—but one had to be quite close before one appreciated the charms of Curiosity and Margie Kelly.

Prominent among Mr. Unwin's group were the older primulinus varieties, whose charm of colouring and form still remain unbeaten commercially, Xanthia, Souvenir, Citronella, and Hermione, while among the large-flowered varieties one noticed fine baskets of Catherina and Red Emperor.

Red Emperor naturally calls to mind Red Empress, which was well shown by Messrs. Bath, as were Break o' Day, Nydia, and Salmonea.

Messrs. Prins had quite a number of "blue" varieties, all of which showed to advantage—Mrs. Van Konynenberg, Heavenly Blue, Mr. Marks, and Rev. Ewbank. Another variety shown by this firm was a true primulinus, somewhat curiously called Mauve, a soft rose-carmine, flaked with old rose; a most attractive flower, particularly for decorative purposes.

The spikes shown by Mr. W. E. Phillips, the winner of the Foremarke Cup, were truly magnificent, and those of Vilchenblau, Bertie Snow, Queen Mary (see illustration, page 574), Roi Alexandra, and Gertrude can seldom have been better staged. Messrs. Langridge, the runners-up, had beautiful specimens of Master Weitse, Sappho, and Flaming Sword. Of the other entrants, the most striking spikes were all exhibited by Messrs. Prins, who were placed third. They were Eighth Wonder, a remarkable shade of greyish-brown, Duchess of York (Mair), and Othello, the latter a very fine blue.

Gladiolus Copper Bronze, a primulinus variety with wide spreading petals of a wonderful glowing copper colour, shading to bronze-purple at the edges

Exhibited by Major G. Churcher at the British Gladioli Society's Show

Turning to the British Gladiolus Society, the most interesting class was that in the Open Section for 18 distinct varieties of primulinus (all sections) of sorts introduced since 1926, and/or seedlings. This was well won by Messrs. R. H. Bath, prominent in whose exhibit were two seedlings, Bronze Delight and Spitfire. Major Churcher, the runner-up, had more of the newer varieties already in commerce, the best being Oranco, Mandarin (Decorah), and Polphymnia. A curious white laciniated primulinus, Aquila, and the beautiful Copper Bronze here illustrated, were also of interest.

Premier honours in the other larger classes went to Mr. Unwin with more or less well-known commercial varieties, a few of which, particularly Byron L. Smith, did not appear to be up to the usual high standard of this firm. In the classes for three spikes of a certain colour some old favourites were well shown, noticeably Purple Glory and Souvenir.

Major Churcher, as usual, showed several of the newer American varieties in his exhibits, chief among which were Purple Spot, Trooper, Gladdie Boy, Forest Sprite, Remarkable, Mrs. W. E. Clark, Leen Wone, and Virginia Lou. A word of praise is due to this exhibitor as the only amateur in the open classes. He held his own well besides enabling less experienced growers to gain prizes in the amateur section.

These classes were well filled and showed blooms of surprisingly good quality. The chief prize winners were Mrs. Hennell, Miss Anderson, Messrs. Beauchop, Pritchard, Gregg, Long, Amos, Adkins, Hoyle, and Captain Churcher. The flowers staged were, naturally, mainly of the older type, with an occasional seedling, while of the newer varieties, Dante, Dewdrop, Ethelyn, Taurus, Sheila, and Cygnus were attractive enough to give rise to the hope that they will be more numerous in the future.

In the classes for table decoration several good vases and bowls of both types were shown, Mrs. Yandell carrying off chief honours. In the class for three vases or bowls for sideboard decoration it is a matter for regret that the absence of sideboards detracts largely from the general effect. Had these exhibits actually been shown on sideboards one feels that the positions of first and second would have been reversed, or that the manner of treating these bowls would have been different. In all except one entry a very large sideboard would have been needed to accommodate the bowls without overcrowding.

A very fine collection of seedlings was shown by Mr. Unwin, of which Colin, deep peach, large-flowered, Ruffles, bronze, ruffled primulinus, A. St. Clair Amos, pure shell pink, and Hilda, mother-of-pearl, large-flowered, were the best, and, with Constance, Mamie, Peggy, and What Joy, were awarded Cards of Commendation.

Cards of Commendation were also awarded to Messrs. Kelway for Geoffrey Henslow, scarlet, with white blotch primulinus grandiflorus, and Pamela, a pale magenta Langprim; Messrs. Bath for Pink Gem, coral-pink, with primrose blotch primulinus grandiflorus; and Major Churcher for Anne Croke, a pink, large-flowered Lacinatus type.

Awards of Merit were awarded to Messrs. Bath for Radiance, red, large-flowered; Distinction, scarlet, large-flowered; Rival, white, small magenta blotch, primulinus grandiflorus; Old Rose, old rose, primulinus grandiflorus; Messrs. Kelway for Tapestry, rose-salmon, heavily flaked purple, large-flowered; Major Churcher for Leen Wone, vivid orange self primulinus.

Gladioli for exhibition

Nearly all horticultural societies include classes for these flowers in their schedules. No doubt many thousands of corms have been planted this year by amateurs with an eye to exhibiting. If the soil is fairly good and the drainage efficient, really nice spikes of flowers may be grown, but for competition purposes the spikes must be perfect, without a blemish. To make quite sure of this the plants must be protected from strong winds. This protection must be provided in good time and may take the form of rows of such things as Sweet Peas, Runner Beans, or culinary Peas at a suitable distance. The work of staking also must be performed in good time. It is better to use two neat stakes, and the tying material should be soft and used in such a way that it does not interfere with their growth. When the flowers begin to open, protection must be provided from wind and rain. This may be done by fixing strong cardboard to strong stakes in such a way that the spikes are also afforded protection from strong sun. Fix the screens securely, otherwise they may be loosened and seriously damage the spikes. F. H.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

A random commentary on the fortnightly show

ON stepping out of the August sunshine into the different blaze of colour in the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall on Tuesday and looking down on an exhibit of African Marigolds and along aisles of Gladiolus I began to feel how wonderful were the works of man. It was impossible not to admire the masterfulness which had made the simple Marigold so extraordinarily like an india-rubber sponge, made Dahlias like Sea Anemones, and Gladioli like tidies on a Victorian lady's dressing-table. Some people may say that such transformations are undesirable, and complain that they are out of harmony with Nature; indeed they are, but, after all, a florist's flower is not required to be in harmony with anything but ourselves.

Gladiolus Queen Mary, one of the spikes for which the Foramarke Cup was presented

Flowers pale pink, nine expanded blooms on one spike. Shown by Mr. W. E. Phillips, Wood Green, N. 22

Let us take these African Marigolds. They are plants that I once cordially disliked, and even now they seem as out of place in a garden as an Axminster carpet would be there, but in the house they seem to me now to harmonise with their surroundings just because they are stylised and conventional, like the flowers on our fabrics and wallpaper. And piled up under the cool vault of the hall
they accomplished, in their abrupt
of orange and lemon-yellow, anothe
that of a patch of broken sunlight.
say that I have succeeded in lik
peculiar smell, but M. Vilmorin
their leaves make a passable subs
Tarragon, and if this is true it i
point in their favour—as long as nu
remain so reluctant to give us the t

As for the Gladioli, at their lar
most vulgar they provide an "effe
play," which is, no doubt, admirab
that sort of display is called for,
general, the artificial improvement
is incontestable. One particular li
provement was illustrated by the
in the middle of a bank of the nam
ties, of a bunch of Gladiolus primuli
which looked like the timid author
cessful musical comedy taking his c
middle of an exuberant beauty ch
primulinus tries my strong affection
species rather high, for the prolon
its upper, hooded petal out of prop
the outer segments gives the flowe
nosed and somewhat tapir-like cast
tenance, which is enhanced by its
carriage. The large hood may be
should like to think, a neat protectio
the spray of the Zambesi Falls,
hybridists are to be congratulated o
induced it to abandon this precaut
and to assume a more jaunty poise.

It is, surely, a pity that the sof
which G. primulinus has imparte
hybrids should have been given that
"art shades," and therefore, one p
accepted undiscriminatingly as beau
this classification can be the only re
the perpetuation of certain unfortu
smudgy combinations of pink and
On the other hand, I was impresse
beauty of certain white Primulinus
which, it seemed to me, would look
cately beautiful in the garden as in th

The large-flowered Gladioli seen
acquiring new, unflower-like colour
would probably appear to better adva
a setting of inlaid furniture and su
embroidery than in the naked austeri
show bench. One that stood out in a
pany was Paul Pfitzer, whose l
magenta glowed like a piece of stain
especially when it could be seen with
shining through it.

Summer is still with us, so it was
for the Dahlias, but they were alrea
ing their amazing variety, from th
simplicity of the Mignons to th
formality of the Pompons and the
tentacles of the Cactus group. Ar
was one so huge that it would sca
into a dust-bin, for which, in other
it was not altogether unqualified.

The renovation of cordon Goos

Although one can hardly agree
eulogistic note on page 543 of GA
ILLUSTRATED, and would be disposed
mit that from a flavour standpoint th
berry must yield the palm to sever
fruits, there is no doubt that it has
increased in favour of late years, e
since the cordon system has become
for this has many advantages—the
protect from birds in winter and in
from attacks on buds and fruit, and
picking fruit and pruning trees. I ha
it stated that the constant hard pru
cordons is a bar to their longevity,
is not so, for with careful attention
had them in good bearing condition

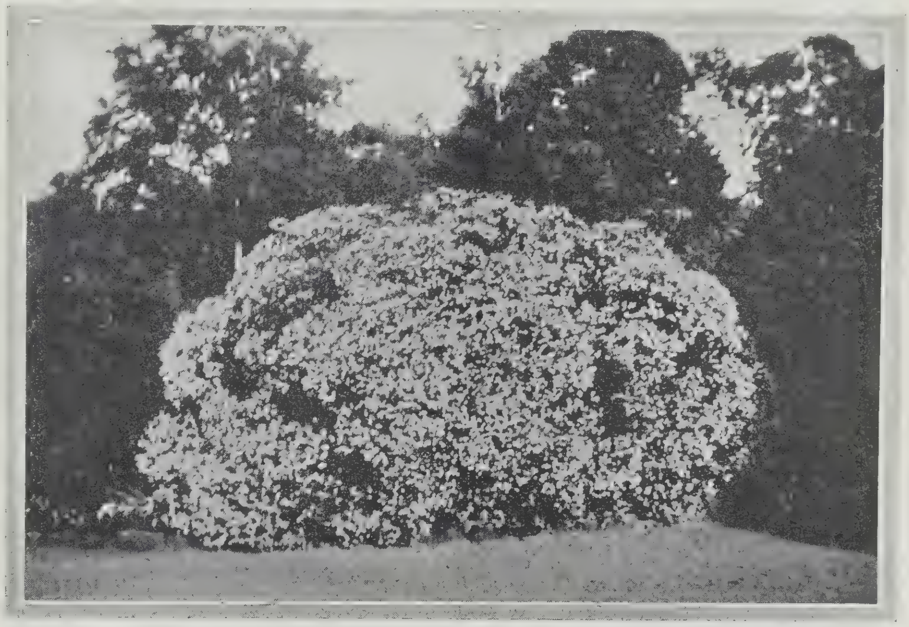
which is not a bad record. Of course,
term of years the spurs are apt to get
nd ragged, and when this is so the
f renovation should begin. A few of
rs should be cut back annually, cut-
near the main stems as possible, but
one or two buds for a back break,
ien young shoots make their appear-
e next spring they can be treated as
thers at the first planting of the
, or, if preferred, some young shoots
run up from the base to replace in
e existing stems, three, four, or five,
case may be. As the ground about
dons is much more exposed to the in-
of the sun than in the case of bushes
e found necessary in hot, dry seasons
a good surface mulching. Any loose
better than nothing if good manure is
ailable. It should be applied when
t is about half-size. E. BURRELL.

A shrubby Veronica

ay interest you to use the enclosed
ograph of a Veronica in the garden
rs. A. F. Wedgwood, The Grange,
n, near Sevenoaks, Kent. The
aph was taken by her gardener, Mr.
. (My house is in the grounds of
edgwood's garden. I have planted
garden a Judas tree, a Paulownia
lis, and a Tulip Tree, the two latter
ng decidedly well—this in explana-
my writing.) The Veronica, which
ergreen, was a sight to see this year.

MARY L. LONGSTAFF.

am, Near Sevenoaks, Kent.



Shrubby Veronica in flower at Ightham, near Sevenoaks

It is over 9 feet high and nearly 15 feet across

Dianthus x Enid

ence Mr. S. Arnott's note *re* above in
gust 10th issue of your paper, the
lid not originate at Lissadell, and
is known as to its parentage. It was
us some years ago by a kind corre-
t in Wales. MANAGER.

dell.

la pulverulenta Bartley Strain

ider any plant capable of standing up
gs. of frost can be claimed as hardy.
many people who grow this Primula
or two have written to stand up for
ly it has more supporters than this?
gladly give plants to someone who
w it to be able to prove that it is
laim for it. Who will do this? The
is the best time to plant to get them
ed before the winter, as the new
growing fast.

G. H. DALRYMPLE.

urseries, Bartley.

have been much interested in the
elating to the hardiness of Primula
enta. Here, in Devon, which has a
r mild winters, I have had over 100
r the past four years, which flourish
dge of a pond and have been divided
nes. But last winter we experienced
22 degs. of frost, and the plants
better than ever in the spring, with
ction at all. Primula Bulleyana also
rough splendidly, but Sikkimensis
look so happy. This garden rarely
15 degs. of frost in any winter, so
iness of Primula pulverulenta must
proved. B. M. N.

pton, Devon.

Annuals this year

der what success other gardeners
with annuals this year. Inspired
rticle on little-known annuals, I
atches of Venidium, Bartonia, and
sum, all of which have been a great
Among those well known, Viscaria
was a great failure, going to seed at once, and the much-praised Phlox Drummondii is disappointing, only odd flowers appearing at one time. Nemesia has been brilliant, and has lasted unusually well. But on the whole all these are only suited for out-of-the-way borders, as one can never tell from year to year how they will last. I wonder if others find the same? NORTH RIDING.

Rock gardens at Chelsea

Replying shortly to Mr. Penrose, I would say that he is quite right in assuming that I regard him as a very young man—as, indeed, anyone might assume from his letters. They are youthful in that they convey a delightful sense of irresponsibility of argument, and a frisky disregard of the position of the point at issue. All this results in his giving vent to statements in almost the very language used on the Chelsea Showgrounds of 1912 and 1913—" when all was young." In other words, we should all be prepared to envy Mr. Penrose his youth if his ideas were young also, and more commensurate with the standard of art decoration we have arrived at in the garden to-day. The youth of years means nothing—except foolishness sometimes—but the young and freshly-born creative idea is everything.

Mr. P. has not yet answered my query as to why he harps on one man's style—he has only explained his appreciation of one man's instance of that style. He has compared an instance of a majestic style with an instance of a pretty one, and my last reply to him did not intend to be the least bit personal, but merely to direct his attention to the fact that a good critic must not compare instances of unlike styles. A fitting reply to this would be that a good art critic does not exist (though many a bad one lives in the lap of luxury).

Mr. P. says he took the trouble to obtain the opinions from exhibitors, " of lesser lights," etc., and with one exception they declared the exhibit in question to be the outstanding feature, etc., etc.

I suggest that Mr. P. should have consulted some of the " greater lights "; it would have shown more fortitude and confidence. I note that your correspondent has large-sized photographs before him as he writes. I would also point out to him that the unusual height of a piece of rockwork in a limited space is more likely to make the result look " flat " than otherwise. The word " flat " is used to express the blurred effect on the eyes caused by any piece of work having failed to convey sufficiently distinct form, composition, and design.

For Mr. P.'s further instruction, I would like to say that all artists in clay, paint, or rock garden stone are in the habit of stepping back from their work to view it at a distance in order to see how it " holds together." The high lights then shout, the shadows hum, and if all are in harmony there is a good piece of music. One cannot say what the view-point of a Chelsea rock garden is going to be. Whilst looking at a very good piece of work in the last show, I had to line up with others —my right foot rather sore and the unconscious, but painful, tread of a Chelsea pensioner on the other—and with undamped enthusiasm and a stoical and patriotic disregard of physical pain, declare to the artist my appreciation of his effort.

In one part of Mr. P.'s article he seems to imply that people who disagree with him have an axe to grind, a suspicion common to youth, and, indeed, if I believed in awards, I would give Mr. P. first prize for his delicious egotism—a literary Adonis, lightly prancing through the vulcanic glens of those whose work it is to merely dam the streams and blast the mountains of this our earthly Paradise. J. WOOD.

4, *Fitzroy Street, W. 1.*

In praise of magenta

What is the reason for the prejudice against this colour? In Victorian times it was apparently regarded as a " dreadful colour, my dear, so flaunting and vulgar," but why so many people refuse to have this colour in their gardens to-day passes my comprehension. Even Miss Jekyll, in the article she recently wrote in your paper, stated that with so many fine reds available, magenta could well be dispensed with. As magenta can hardly be called a red, I do not understand her condemnation of it on this score.

If we refuse to countenance this colour, we must deprive ourselves of the wonderfully rich and glowing tints of Phlox Reichsgraf von Hochberg, Eclaireur, and Prof. Went, Erodium Manescavi, Geranium sanguineum, Calendrinia umbellata, Gladiolus Jacoba von Beierm, Primula Beesiana, and many others, many perennial Asters, Incarvillea grandiflora, Liatris pycnostachys, and the Lythrums, to mention only a few, and these plants are in my opinion much too useful for giving variety to the general colour scheme of the garden to be discarded. If a little thought is given when placing these plants, most pleasing effects can be produced. Magenta tones well with some pinks (do I hear feminine shrieks of disgust) and blues, and contrasts splendidly with yellow, orange, and white. Even orange-scarlet looks well with it.

Magenta, in its various shades, is a most useful and satisfying colour for creating richness and variety in the garden colour palette, and these few words in its defence are, I think, very much overdue.

N. Leslie Cave.

Putney.

Carpenteria californica

As many of your correspondents seem to be in doubt as to the hardiness of Carpenteria californica, which we have been most successful in growing and flowering for the past 15 years, having withstood 30 degs. of frost, I am prompted to write you a few notes about this good shrub. I also have great pleasure in sending its photograph, taken on July 18th last. Flowering quite a fortnight later than usual owing to climatic conditions, it is certainly one of the most beautiful of hardy evergreen flowering shrubs, and ought to be better known, as its merits deserve. On the ends of the current year's wood it bears in great profusion pure white Anemone-like flowers, 3 inches across, with showy yellow stamens. It is a most attractive shrub, especially when grown in an open border.

The plants enjoy a cool root-run and water in plenty during the growing season, and in spells of drought as we have had for the past three months here, but good drainage is most important. Not being able to dig peat on this estate, we had to use at planting time two-thirds sandy loam and one-third of decayed leaf-mould and manure. An annual top-dressing of the same compost greatly benefits the plants in spring. My object for this note is to convince lovers of choice shrubs who seem to be in doubt as to the hardiness of this shrub that it can be grown successfully even here in East Essex. Experience is the best teacher.

The three plants in question were planted 15 years ago in a south border, backed up by suitable evergreen and deciduous flowering trees and shrubs to protect the plants
from the N.E. winds. Summer-leafin
planted some distance away afford the
sary shade so essential during the
part of the day. This prolongs its flo
season. A few evergreens only afford
tection to the plants last winter,
the S.E. biting winds reached them
registered 32 degs. of frost here on tw
sions last winter, which ought to be
as to the shrub being hardy in the
parts of the British Isles.

The stock is readily increased by l
in early autumn and cutting of half-
wood in August. No pruning have ou
received beyond removing the dead
stems when past their best, to preve
forming. The illustration shows the
of the treatment given. S. K

The Gardens, Faulkbourne Hall,
Witham, Essex.

Carpenteria californica flowering magnificently in Mr. and Mrs. Parker's garden at Faulkbourne Hall, Witham, Essex

Lilium Philippinense formosan

I notice your correspondent from
writes of above. I sowed seeds Marc
Several flowered last year, and they
survived last winter in this northern
Yorkshire, and are full of flower buds

They were planted in a west bo
heavy soil where Primulas flourish, a
I think, a great encouragement to gro
Lilies from seed, and I am now tryin
varieties. "North Ri

Some cuttings to be taken

The Pelargonium is a popular pla
more especially amongst those wh
town gardens with small greenhouses,
have window-boxes. It is a useful p
indoors, and one should not miss the
tunity which presents itself at this
the year of taking cuttings. Augus
splendid time for taking these cutti
much less trouble is incurred, the
being that it is not necessary to re
artificial heat. Naturally, it seems
pity to attack plants when they are ju
ing so well, but it is really worth wh
not only will there be a greater nu
plants later on, but many assert t
parent plant is so stimulated that the
ing period is much prolonged. Pr
few boxes by filling them with a fairl
soil, then take off shoots from the Ge
plant, and cut these through clean
below the joint; poke these shoots i
soil of the boxes to a depth of about $2\frac{1}{2}$
then water gently, and leave them
doors. Remember to water them eve
and again, then the roots should
quickly. There should be no diffic
getting these Geranium cuttings to
and when the weather is suitable they
make good growth. About the last
September it will be necessary to brin
in, either into the greenhouse or i
house. The best plants should be pic
for house plants, and will be found
most useful as flowers later on. Pans
Violas should also be increased just
the taking of cuttings. Take shoots
are growing up from the base of the
and be careful to see that strong o
chosen, avoiding those hollow ones
grew up in the middle of the plant.
shoots across cleanly just below the
and take off leaves growing near this
joint. Put these cuttings in a frame
fine soil by making a small hole f
and inserting them in it, but take c
to make the hole deeper than is requ
the base of a cutting must always to
soil firmly. These cuttings sho
watered, and then, when the frame h
closed, they should be left for a few

sure to shade them if the sun is hot.
week or so the frame may be opened,
plants should be ready for planting
ere they are required by the end of
ber or beginning of October.

P. K.

edars in English gardens

illustration of Cedrus Atlantica
in a recent number of "GARDENING
ATED" reminds one of the different
f Cedars adaptable for different sites
ish gardens. This particular variety
ble for a small lawn, as it does not
o large size, either in height or bulk,
lanted in an open space it is sym-
l in outline and the branches are well
l at the base. With its silvery foliage,
en the hundreds of tiny cones are
their golden dust, the tree is very
l. The only drawback I have found
when in an exposed position the leader
be crippled, as in the case of another
of the Conifera (Cryptomeria
), necessitating a little support in its
ages to preserve the erect position.
not seem to be generally realised that
a striking difference in the growth
Lebanon Cedar, whether planted as
ted specimen or in clumps of three
together. The first demands a wide
itself owing to its horizontal growth,
en, as is often the case, the branches
ost at right-angles from the trunk,
is necessary to prevent snapping off
avy snows. I have seen them on
an one occasion going straight out
e trunk to a distance of over 30 feet.
other hand, when this Cedar is
in small groups of three or four trees
close proximity it loses its lower
s and goes up with a long, straight
affording with age fine pieces of
more after the style of the Deodar or
Cedar. I should think it very prob-
t the Almond tree of Scripture was
nd of Cedar, for Biblical students will
er that the ships bound to Ophir for
d Almug trees started from Ezion-
t the head of the Red Sea, which
hat their destination was either India
ast coast of Africa, and a traveller
tter region reported recently the dis-
f vast forests of what he took to be
s of Cedar. E. BURRELL.

Rosmarinus officinalis

well-known, fragrant, hardy ever-
rub, popularly known as Rosemary,
much appreciated, and is grown in
very medium or large-sized garden,
the herb border, kitchen garden, or
rubbery. Hailing from the Mediter-
region, it has been cultivated in
gardens from time immemorial. It
dense evergreen shrub, well-grown
s attaining a height of 6 feet to 7
l as much in diameter. The plant is
d with small leaves, dark, glossy
bove and white-felted beneath, aro-
y fragrant when crushed. The pale
e and white flowers are produced
in clusters of two or three in the leaf
the previous years shoots. Old speci-
velop short, rugged trunks, which
added charm to this fine shrub. It
ly species of the genus, but there are
distinct forms in cultivation. Rose-
closely related to the Lavender, and
quently associated with the latter
gardens. It is not in great demand
ary purposes, but the leaves contain
nt essential oil in considerable quanti-
h used in perfumery, preparations of
shes, and for Oil of Rosemary.
y speaking, it is not quite so hardy
der, though it is very rarely injured.

It is, nevertheless, an excellent plant to cultivate, and especially so where bees are kept. Bees are partial to the plant, and the honey produced from Rosemary flowers is considered to be of a distinct and most pleasing flavour. Rosemary is particularly easy to cultivate and will succeed on almost any soil, but the best results are obtained by planting in a well-drained, sunny position. Plants may be raised from seeds sown in shallow drills on a warm, sunny border. Propagation is also effected by cuttings made from young shoots taken off at any time during the summer; these should be inserted in a shady border, where they will soon form roots and be fit to plant out the following spring. To keep plants in robust health, a top-dressing of manure should be applied annually in the autumn and forked in at the beginning of the year. J. L.

Water Lilies and other aquatics have been remarkably well shown by Mr. Amos Perry at recent meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society

In this illustration Nymphæas in many colours are seen at their best

Summer pruning

Trees bearing their fruit on spurs should have their energy directed to the building-up of the buds at the base of the current year's shoots, and those who have not carried out their summer pruning should do so at once, cutting the shoots back to five leaves. There is little danger after this date of secondary growth being made, and many prefer to do the operation in August rather than at an earlier period. Raspberries will also claim attention. All the old fruiting canes should be removed and the weak ones of this year's growth that overcrowd to the detriment of the future crop. Some defer this thinning-out until winter, and even to spring. This is a great mistake, and is paid for dearly in diminished crops. Preserve carefully all the leaves on the canes left, and remove all weeds. If attention is given to these details at this season it will bring its reward in the shape of better and more crops next year.

F. H.

Thame Show

Thame Show, which goes back as far as 1855, anticipates a big event this year on September 19th. Usually about 30,000 people attend the show, and something like £2,000 is offered in prizes. One of the most attractive classes is for an arrangement of pot plants or cut flowers on ground space 15 feet by 5 feet, open to amateurs, including gentlemen's gardeners; the first prize in this section is £6, together with Challenge Cup. There are excellent opportunities for the trade to make displays. Entries should be made to Mr. E. Colston Bush, Thame, Oxon, before August 29th.

The Schizanthus and How to Grow It

WHILE Schizanthus, the finest of all annuals for pot culture, can be raised at almost any season of the year, there can be no doubt that August sowing gives by far the best results if proper treatment be accorded the seedlings. During the second or third weeks in August the seeds are sown thinly in pans of light, sandy soil, set in a cold frame, and shaded from all sunshine until germination takes place, which is usually in five days. As soon as the little seedlings are noticed, have the pans raised up close to the glass to prevent them drawing up weak and spindly and with long joints, instead of sturdy, dwarf little "chaps" with firm, upright stems, which is what one desires as a foundation for the future graceful specimens. As soon as the plants are fit to handle, have them pricked off into ordinary cutting boxes, or, better still, into 3-inch pots, where they must remain until February. If pricked into boxes they must, before winter sets in, be transferred to 3-inch pots. In this, and indeed also in later stages, do not be tempted to use rich soil. The best medium I find is three parts turfy loam, two parts leaf mould, and one part clean, coarse sand. Should the loam be of poor quality, a very small quantity of Ichthemic Guano, say a 3½-inch potful to each barrow-load of the other ingredients, may be given. Make the soil moderately firm, water through a rosed can, and return to the frame, keeping close and shaded for a week to permit of the roots taking a proper grip of the new soil. When sharp frosts are likely, remove the plants to a shelf near to the roof glass in a house or pit from which frost is excluded. By the time this stage is reached, the little plants will be 3 inches to 4 inches high, and should have the points pinched out, so as to induce a bushy form of growth. Further pinching will be necessary as fresh growths spring up, and this must be attended to until mid-February, when sufficient branches should have been produced to furnish good specimens. During winter very careful watering is necessary, the Schizanthus quickly resenting constant saturation of the soil, while dryness at the roots is almost equally destructive. At the time of first pinching, a small, thin stake should be placed to each plant, or they are apt to tumble over and become ungainly. About the middle of February the plants should have a shift into larger pots. If only for decorative purposes, this may very well be the final move, as splendid plants can be grown in 5-inch pots, 5½-inch, and 6-inch pots The pots must be quite clean, and have a fair amount of well-arranged drainage provided. The compost must not be very rich, or rank, long-jointed growth will result. Three parts turfy loam, two parts leaf-mould, and one part coarse sand will do admirably, although a little bone meal may, with advantage, be added. Pot moderately firmly and return to same house, and as close to the roof glass as can be arranged. Water very carefully, and before the shoots begin to tumble about, shake neatly, bamboo tips being excellent for this purpose. As growth advances, continue tying to the stakes as becomes necessary, and should there be any lack of vigour after the pots are well filled with roots, a little gentle feeding may be administered. Soot water is good, and a dessert-spoonful of Ichthemic Guano in a gallon of water is also excellent if given about once a week. Abundance of fresh air on every favourable occasion will keep the plants in good health and improve the colour and brightness of the flowers. Cold draughts, however, must be guarded against, or mildew will soon disfigure the plants and destroy the freshness of the flowers. Treated in this way, the plants will be decorative for nine to twelve weeks. If large specimens are aimed at, the strongest plants should be chosen, and these be given several shifts, until the 8-inch or 9-inch size of pot be reached. These, also, may have more frequent supplies of liquid nourishment after the pots are filled with roots. Some growers, to ensure having large specimen plants, place three good healthy plants in each pot, and so effect their purpose. In any case, a good strain should be grown, as it is just as easy to manage as an inferior one, while the satisfaction experienced at flowering-time more than compensates for
extra cost of the seed. There ar
good strains, but the widely-kno
Badger's is very difficult to equal, e
size of bloom, freedom of blooming, c
and diversity of colouring. C.

Viburnum plicatum

Viburnum plicatum

THIS grand shrub is one of the be
in the garden in the middle
when its many branches are loa
the large white balls of bloom.
variety of V. tomentosum, a native
and Japan, the flower of which i
umbel. The V. plicatum of our gar
in the case of our well-known Gueld
is the better flower for the same
namely, that the inner, fertile flov
absent, but are replaced by a fillin
showier sterile florets, so forming t
some ball of bloom which is from 2
to 3 inches across.

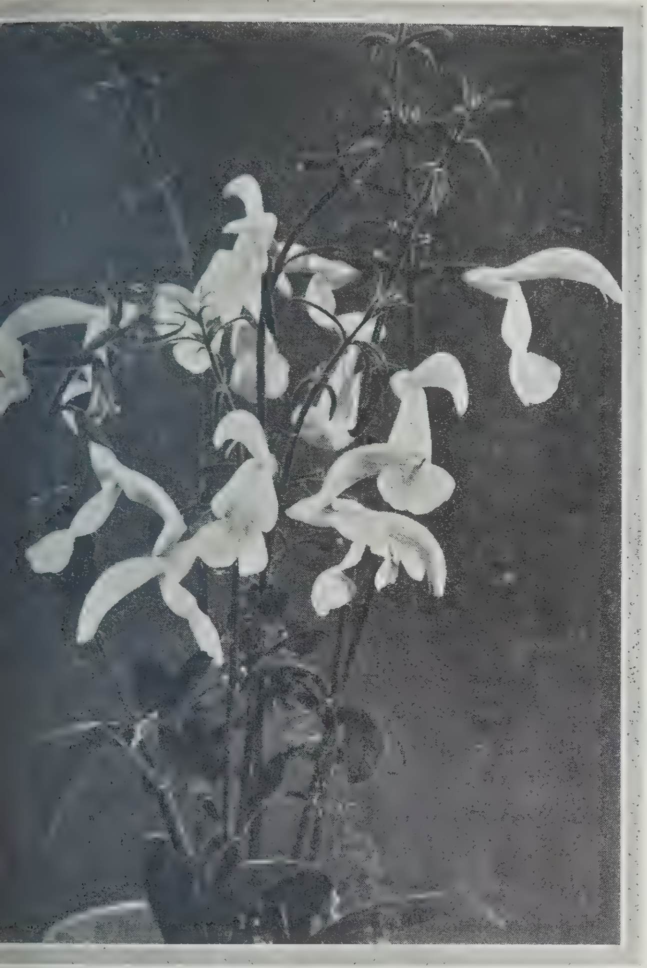
Paliurus aculeatus

This curious and interesting shru
very widely distributed, and is seld
with in private gardens. It is no
fastidious, and thrives in any sort
providing the soil is efficiently draine
perfectly hardy and is not a slow gro
its varietal name implies, it is pric
the prickles are arrayed in a peculi
ner. There are two to each no
premier one being erect on the up
side, and the other on the lower si
recurved and only half the length
former. The leaves are alternate, ov
serrulate, and are so arranged as to
shrub a flattened and semi-pendulous
ance. This shrub flowers on woo
current year's growth, and is usual
best during July. The flowers, whic
a greenish-yellow colour, are bo
axillary pedicels, and are arrayed
umbels. The seed-vessel is of an un
shape, and somewhat resembles a
which is resting a broad-brimmed h
cording to my observations, as a rule
no propensity to set much seed, a
which it does set invariably has no
nating power. Propagation of Paliu
be effected by means of layers, or by
of the roots taken just before the sa
to rise in early spring, cut in short
and inserted vertically in pots of sa
and plunged in a propagating ca
moderate temperature. This shrub
called Christ's Thorn, owing to early
declaring that the crown of thorns
the Crucifixion were obtained fr
shrub. Its natural habitat is aro
Mediterranean regions, and it was int
to cultivation several centuries ago.
specie of Paliurus, and one of mor
introduction, P. aubletia syn. virgatus
but little from the former, but flower
what later, and is a native of South

Ripley, Surrey. A.

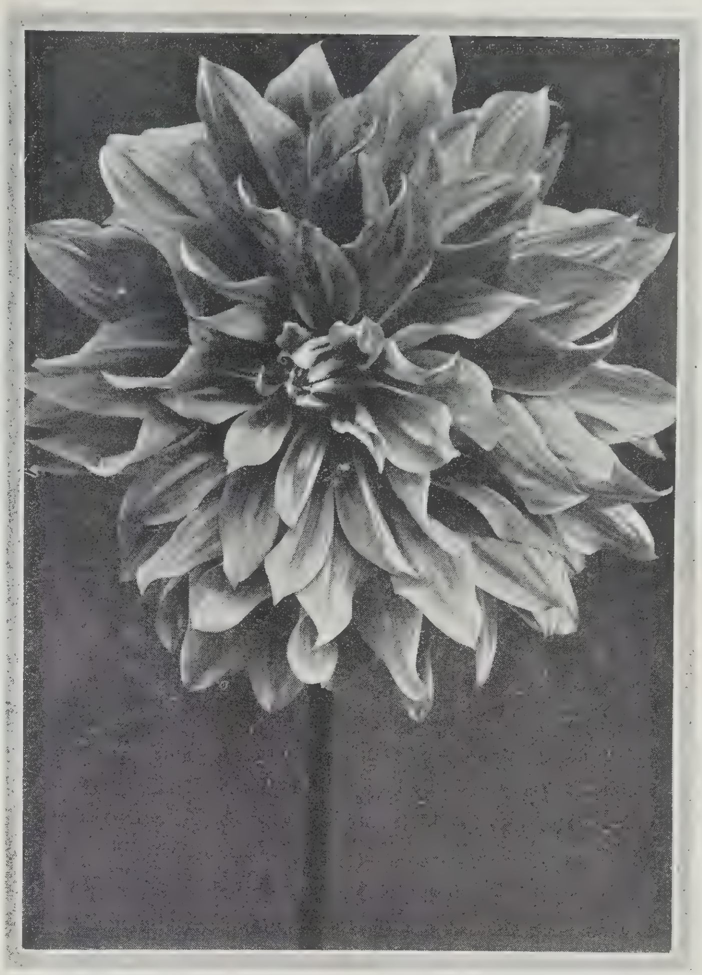
Seed saving

Many choice plants are now ripeni
and a portion of those most treasure
be saved when fully ripe and dry.
case of Romneya Coulteri and simi
jects it is advisable to thin out the se
early, leaving a few only to mature,
they will do if the summer continues
dry. The seeds of many choice shru
also be saved and form the means
vigorous young stocks of plants
raised to take the place of worn-ou
mens. Viburnums, the rare Honey
St. John's Worts, Barberries, Roses,
spermums, and a host of lovely thin
be raised from seed by anyone poss
little patience.



lvia patens Cambridge Blue, a new and delightful plant
at everyone wants. Half-hardy perennial. Recommended
for summer bedding

Shown by Mr. T. Hay, Hyde Park. Award of Merit



New Dahlia Mrs. Durham, a very large glowing bright pink decorative variety with a long stiff stem. Selected for trial at Wisley

Shown by J. Stredwick and Son

New Selected Dahlias

E first meeting of the Joint Committee
the Royal Horticultural Society and
tional Dahlia Society of the current
was held in the New Hall of the
Society on Tuesday, the 13th inst.,
uite an interesting series of novelties
ubmitted for adjudication. The fol-
new varieties were selected for trial
ey next year.

NIE (to be renamed).—This is a dis-
promising Cactus Dahlia suitable for
on and for the garden. It is a large
some 8 inches to 9 inches across,
long florets twisting, and forked
building a flower of beautiful Cactus-
rm. Colour, flesh-pink with creamy-
base. Strong, erect flower-stalk.

W. E. Phillips.—A massive-looking,
lecorative, of good form, having broad
twisted and pointed at the ends,
g a flower of splendid quality some
s to 9 inches across. Colour, bright

DOVE (to be renamed).—Another
ng Cactus Dahlia, having its blooms
n long, stiff, erect flower-stalks. The
are long and narrow, slightly incurv-
ilding a bloom of attractive form.
rose-pink on creamy-yellow ground.

D. Durham (illustrated).—This is a
ge decorative, with very broad florets
arranged, building a massive bloom
quality, quite devoid of coarseness.
Colour, a pretty bright pink, slightly paling towards the end of the florets. A special note should be made of this variety, as the blooms develop at a pleasing angle on the flower-stalk. The foregoing four varieties were all shown by Messrs. James Stredwick and Son, Silverhill Park, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Mabel Crossley.—A charming little small-flowered Pæony Dahlia of good form. Florets fairly broad for so small a flower, evenly arranged round a pretty disc or centre. Colour, rich orange. Dark foliage. A useful plant for the border, being between 2 feet and 3 feet high. Shown by Mr. A. J. Cobb, University Gardens, Reading.

Mrs. Musgrave Hoyle.—This is a plant of promise, and is said to be a cross between Coltness Gem and Vrijbuiter. It is classed as a "charm" or miniature-flowered Pæony, and is said to be a plant 18 inches high and does not require staking, therefore ideal for bedding. The colour may be described as crimson-scarlet with yellowish disc. Shown by Mr. F. Smith, Morecambe Bay.

D. B. C.

Successful display of Herbaceous Phlox

It is an undoubted achievement to be awarded two Gold Medals of the Royal Horticultural Society in one season for the same subject, and this has been accomplished by Mr. H. J. Jones, of Lewisham, S.E. This well-known grower staged a most noteworthy group of herbaceous Phlox in great variety at the fortnightly meeting held on July 30th last, and well merited the Gold Medal awarded to it at that meeting. He staged an even larger and more comprehensive group at the meeting of the R.H.S. held on the 13th inst., and was again awarded a Gold Medal for his superb display of these beautiful hardy flowers. This latter group was 36 feet long and 10 feet deep, and contained no fewer than 65 large stands and baskets arranged in an artistic manner, with a frontage of well-grown Maidenhair Ferns as a finish. Similar plants were also interspersed among the nearer stands most effectively. The display served to illustrate the great development that has taken place in this subject: the colours were pleasingly diverse, and some of the markings of the more fancy flowers most attractive. It may be well to mention some of the more noteworthy varieties, such as Maiden's Blush, blush-pink, rose eye; Antoine Merci, soft mauve, creamy-white eye; Europe, white, with distinct carmine eye; Mrs. H. J. Jones, mauve, shaded pink, carmine eye; Le Mahdi Improved, violet-blue; Attraction, a great improvement on the last-named; Winnie Magor, deep rosy mauve; Evangeline, a greatly improved Elizabeth Campbell, salmon-pink, with whitish centre; F. A. Buchner, pure white; Leo Schlageter, brilliant carmine, a most effective flower; Miss E. L. Billett, clear mauve; Mrs. T. Hay, a shade of rosy-mauve, paler centre; Thor, bright salmon-red, carmine centre; W. M. Jacobs, distinct colour of rich carmine; Mrs. A. F. Godfrey, satin-pink, soft carmine centre; Saladin, a glowing orange-scarlet, blood-red eye; Mrs. Geoffrey Curwen, a beautiful salmon-pink Ondine; and a host of others far too numerous to mention in this short note.

D. B. Crane.

Gardens in Ancient Greece

The Greeks of old cultivated flowers, not merely for the sake of their beauty, but on account of the immense use made of them in religious ceremonies and in daily life generally. The lover, going to visit his mistress, crowned himself with flowers, hung garlands of flowers upon her door, and adorned with wreaths the statues of the divinities who were supposed to preside over love or marriage. The worshippers in the temples, the audiences at the theatres, all, or almost all, wore garlands. At private parties also the guests were crowned with flowers, and often reclined upon masses of roses.

The Greeks idea of a garden included vegetables, fruit trees, and flowers, so arranged that the flowers were the most conspicuous part of the garden, the vegetables and fruit trees being fenced off and screened from observation by copses of Rhododendrons, Myrtle, and other shrubs. Popular flowers amongst the Greeks included such modern favourites as the Gillyflower, Pink, Carnation, Violet, Rose, Narcissus, and Hyacinth.

Lovers of gardens will appreciate the following lines written by a Greek poet called Chaeremon, who was named the "Flower poet." He was describing Grecian maidens sporting by moonlight, and follows on with this beautiful verse:—

"And slumbering near them others lay, on beds of sweetest flowers;
The dusky petaled Violet, the Rose of Paphian bowers,
The Inula* and Saffron-flower, which on their garments cast,
And veils, such hues as deck the sky when day is ebbing fast;
While far and near, tall Marjoram bedecked the fairy ground,
Loading with sweets the vagrant winds that frolicked all around."

N. C. W. Edge.

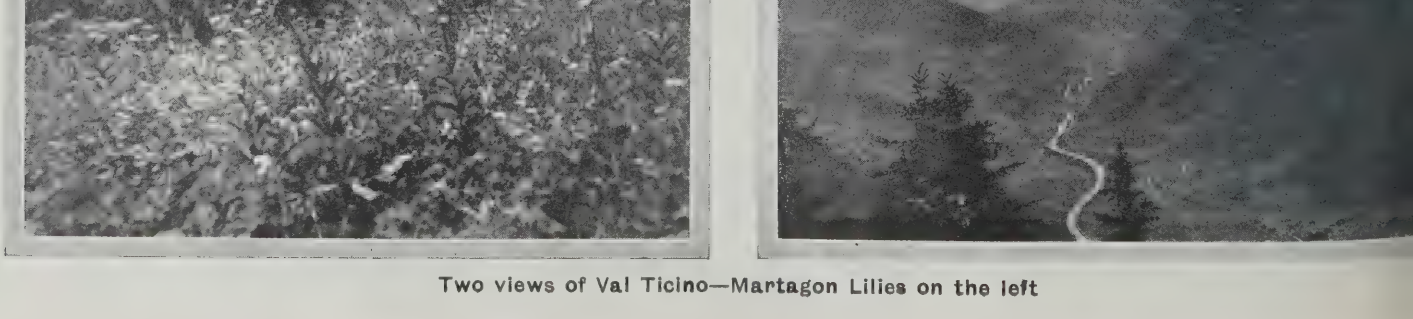
A great find in Val Ticino: Lilium Martagon with dark mahogany-coloured flowers

Suitable fences for the garden

There are few gardens in which fencing does not play some part, and this fact, unfortunately, often brings a note of discord into the garden, for one sees those horrible erections of wall topped with glass, or unsightly barbed wire, or iron constructions, in too many gardens. Cats and dogs must certainly be kept out of many a garden, and sometimes neighbours as well, but whether it is best to suffer their intrusion or to make the garden hideous by such "works of art" is very open to argument. There are many kinds of fencing for the garden which will harmonise with their surroundings, and at the same time would seem to be equally useful. The person with a large garden has a greater choice in fences, but even for the small garden there are quite a number which
will not detract from the restfulness
place in any way. The rustic fence is
the most charming; one often sees it
tage gardens, and one would do well
this type of fence, for it is easily mad
when covered with ramblers will give
pleasing effect. Many people make
by putting in oak posts firmly at in
and then nailing good, strong laths to
this makes a splendid fence and look
with Ramblers or Creepers growing
A most suitable fence is one made
Oak, and made very simply. It must
with this that the uprights are firmly
but when one is assured of this there
fear for the fence's durability, for
oak has been well-seasoned it will
years. Stone walls may be had as
but they are often monotonous, as a
brick walls, but both are very usefu
garden boundary. For the suburban
there are many types of fences on th
ket. Light, flimsy arrangements m
them are, and one should take care
something that is strong and durable
though it means expending a little m
it, for there are many good kinds to
without touching the badly built types
would do well to study our fences mo
beauty of the English landscape depe
them more than we think. Many a be
bit has been spoilt by an ugly iron
but if every individual refused to put u
thing that was an eyesore we should
towards keeping the countryside f
blemish. P

Xerophyllum asphodeloide

Although not so well known as it d
to be, this handsome hardy peren
worthy of a place where conditions s
to its requirements can be obtained.
plant is really a semi-aquatic, but flo
best in a soil of a peaty nature, in
and damp situation not subjected to st
moisture. It is a monotypic genus
North America, belonging to the
Liliacea. When out of flower it is an
spicuous object, its leaves forming a s
ing grassy tuft. The flower-stems ris
the centre of the tuft to a height of
1 foot to 4 feet, and terminate in a
raceme of numerous whitish flow
inches to 6 inches in length. In May,
it throws up its tall flower spikes, it
that this plant attracts attention,
greatly admired for its unique and
mental appearance. J



Two views of Val Ticino—Martagon Lilies on the left

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* Another name for Elecampane.

lta Leventina: A good-natured cow affords shelter from the wind at Bucco di Fongio

Peter R. Barr among the Martagon Lilies above Madrano

Ten Days in Leventina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

(*Continued from page 566*)

A field day among Lilies

AY, JULY 6TH.

DE an early start for the high slopes
oove Cadagno. Crossing a steep
1ow patch found Crocus vernus in
and in bud. It grows freely right up
p slope by the side of the snow. It
t and cold, and the Crocus flowers
nmistakably weatherbeaten. Heavy
rain came on; the wind was so strong
not stand against it. I was glad to
under rocks. The wind increased,
rain turned to driving hail. As soon
uld, I returned to Piora—drenched,
time to miss a violent thunderstorm.
id lightning made the electric lights
hotel splutter—a phenomenon I had
efore seen. All current was then
d off for safety. A terrific hailstorm
l, and later snow. The snow and
fted against the walls and windows at
Higher up the snowdrifts were 4 feet
nd this on July 6th! In the after-
e greeted the first arrivals of a party
ers from Zurich. At intervals others
usually in pairs—about 60 in all—all
men, equipped for climbing. They
l drenched, and they stood in their
ddles, while Madame, at her wits'
ndered where on earth she was going
them all. They slept on the floors
close together.

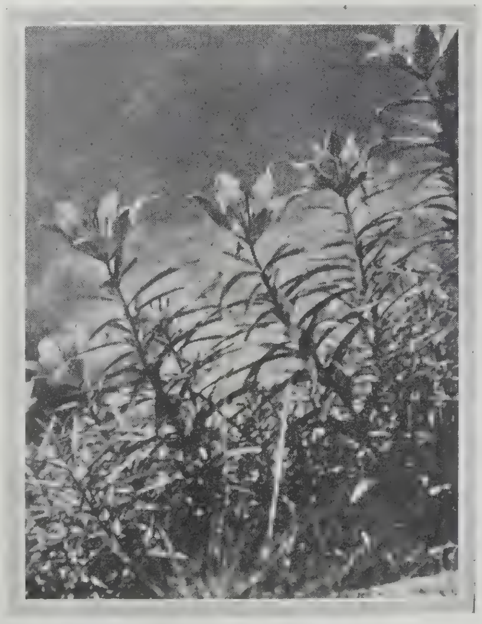
f the party—poor fellow—was struck
lling rock, and was carried down to
o.

. JULY 7TH.

e mountains covered in snow after
rm. Small avalanches were con-
falling from the heights. I descend
ascio, Brugnasco, and Madrano to
These hamlets are protected from
hes by belts of Larch and Spruce
in terraces on the slopes. The track
rough—indeed, I could not find it in
It is an interesting descent, and the
p and down the Ticino Valley are

y slopes are thick with a species of Ophioglossum or Adder's Tongue Fern and Campanula barbata, the latter showing considerable variation.

On the slopes the Orange Lily, which I take to be Lilium croceum, grows very freely. It was in full flower, sometimes solitary flowered and others two or three flowered. We did not observe any bulbils on this Lily; possibly they develop later. These large orange-coloured Lilies were gorgeous, mixed up in a tangle of Phyteuma, Campanula, Geranium, Cow Parsley, and Ox-eye Daisies. The day grew very hot, in marked contrast to the snowstorm yesterday. It was hotter still lower down the valley. Apollo and Swallow-tail butterflies were on the wing; also many Fritillary butterflies, which are common, and literally swarms of the Little Blue taking refreshment from sunny puddles on the track.



The Orange Lily (Lilium croceum) on the Alps of Ticino

Arrived in Airola to find P. R. B. and Needham at lunch—both surprised. We all returned to Madrano. Here we saw masses of Martagon Lilies, all in full bloom. They were literally growing by the acre, not in dozens, but in thousands. From a distance of about 100 yards I spotted one Lily that stood out from all others by virtue of its stature and dark colour. It was a black Martagon—a very dark form like Dalmaticum, but not woolly in the bud. It was a strong-growing, black-stemmed plant, over 5 feet high, and the flowers were entirely mahogany-purple, except the edges, which were rose-coloured.

P. R. B., camera in hand, in his eagerness to reach this noble Lily, slipped down the rough, steep, grassy slope, and would have slipped further but for the stiff Lily stems that saved him.

We were not out to collect plants, only to see and photograph them, but I could not leave this handsome Lily to waste its fragrance on the desert air. This one bulb was removed—the only one. The soil here is a good, deep, alluvial loam, and this I had to remove with my axe to a depth of a foot before reaching the golden-coloured bulb. This Lily is stem rooting, in spite of the statement made over and over again that Martagon is base rooting only.

Above Madrano the track forks, and the track to the right leads to Cop alto: At the fork I left my friends, who returned to Airola. The right hand track passes through a wood, in which the White Martagon is abundant. It appears to replace the type. It is not a good form of Martagon album—some flowers are pure, others nearly so; even the best specimens I saw would not compare favourably with the White Martagon in cultivation. Nevertheless, it was interesting to see this albino as a wilding.

In the same wood grows Paris quadrifolia, with five leaves! Above the woods Aster alpinus was flowering well near colonies of Paradisia Liliastrum.

Although the day was hot down in the Ticino Valley, it was bitterly cold when I reached Fongio, and I was beginning to feel the effects of a strenuous day. Two children were sheltering from the cold wind under a good-natured cow while their mother near by was milking.

Happily I was here able to get a can of

milk warm from the cow, after which I proceeded on my way refreshed and with a light heart—or, as Autolycus would say—

> A merry heart goes all the way
> Your sad tires in a mile-a.

(To be continued.)

Double White Narcissus

THE Gardenia-flowered Narcissus (N. poeticus fl.-pl.) is at once one of the most prized, and, to many, because of the so-called "blindness" to which in certain conditions of soils it is prone, certainly one of the most disappointing of the comprehensive race of bulbous-rooted plants to which it belongs. In season late in the Daffodil year, when the flower wealth of its tribe is over, it is ever esteemed on that account, though in increasing measure, perhaps, because of a purity, fragrance, and general utility which render it admissible into many phases of cut flower and decorative work. Great, however, as is the value attaching to it for these reasons, it would be small, indeed, compared with what might be were the variety amenable to the same treatment as the majority of its race, succeeding well under intelligent garden cultivation and affording a crop of flowers annually as the reward of the labour and the cultivation bestowed. It is not so, however, while its lack of reliability places a heavy discount on its value. Disappointing to market growers and others, and peculiarly unprofitable commercially to those gardening on sandy, light, and stony soils, it is just as disappointing to a large number of amateurs who, in other circumstances, would value it at its full worth.

As the moment is opportune for planting the Narcissi no apology is offered for giving particulars as to the idiosyncrasies of the variety under review, with some of the causes leading up to the so-called "blindness." A quarter of a century or more ago this failing to flower was much discussed in gardening journals by leading market men and prominent amateurs, who variously attributed it to "late spring frosts," "drying east winds," and things akin after the flowering scapes were prominent above ground. Blind flowers, so-called, were abundant, albeit the foliage was healthy, the scapes (flowering stems) strong. The variety flowered late, *i.e.*, in May, when conditions of dryness and increasing solar heat were but natural. The soil was good, light loam, fifty years old pasture recently brought into cultivation, though much drained by reason of a deep bed of gravel and sand below, which in summer rendered it dust dry. With such conditions obtaining, it was noticed—and the fact would be obvious to the most casual observer—that leaf maturity in the case of the Double White was much earlier reached than was the case with other sorts flowering weeks in advance of it, and, knowing that in the Narcissi the germ of any season's flowering is virtually laid with the maturing of the leaf growth in the previous year, caused me to decide that I had touched the root of the whole matter. In other words, I decided that the late flowering of the variety, the much-drained soil, absence of atmospheric and root moisture, with increasing heat combining to an appreciably shortened period for the manuring of bulb and foliage, were the chief factors of the failing. In fine, that imperfectly-formed flower-buds being laid, blindness was assured practically a year in advance of its becoming apparent. Subsequent experiments with bulbs in pits sheltered from the weather and treated on a semi-aquatic plan proved the contention right. A year or two later, in a private garden I came upon a few scattered groups of it at a pond-side and in fine flower. The Narcissi had been there for years, and without care or attention came up and flowered well annually. In winter they were many times under water, and at other times always in cool or moist soil. The pond-side soil was stiff, the quality poor, the former, the constant moisture and a permanent tenure of the soil favouring the vigour and good flowering of the plants. Since that time I have repeatedly urged deep planting of the variety in cool or moist loams, or where the root-fibres would be practically in touch with moisture with, as I know in many instances, the best results.

Obviously, root and atmospheric dryness is abhorrent to it, and this, in conjunction with summer heat, impelling premature ripening of the growth directly responsible for the failing known as "blindness." Hence the remedy should be clear. Deep planting, *i.e.*, 6 inches below ground, is also desirable. A let-alone principle, too, is best. In other words, annual lifting and drying-off are wrong. This and other poeticus varieties are almost perpetual in their rooting, and suffer if long kept out of the soil. Of the variety N. p. ornatus a noted grower once declared that "five minutes out of the ground was four minutes too long for it," a neat way of saying that, in his opinion, it should only be lifted as occasion demanded, and be replanted without drying off and with as little delay as possible. Much the same thing applies to the Double White, which, while useless for forcing, is of especial value for late work, and doubly so if treated on the lines indicated in order that the so-called "blindness," which is still rife in the land, may be averted.

J. S. S.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

How to dig

AN indifferent man will simply shuffle over the ground, inserting his spade at an angle of 45 degs., and turning the soil over to a depth of about 6 inches, whilst a man who understands how to dig and perform his work properly will keep a straight and open trench, put his spade in perpendicularly, take thin spits, and turn the soil over thoroughly, breaking it well as he goes on, and do the work generally as it should be done. There is a vast difference between good and bad digging, and I never met with a labourer out of a garden who knew how to dig, however good a workman he might be in other respects. If the soil is broken up well in the trench I never care about the surface being a little rough; a raked surface among vegetable crops is an unmitigated evil at any time.—August 23rd, 1879.

Bulbs for forcing

Get the main batch of these potted or boxed up, as the case may be, and plunge them in ashes at the north side of a wall or fence. The labels should stand well above the plunging material so that each kind may be easily recognised. A few Lilies should also be included, and may be plunged in the same way, those of the longiflorum type being, perhaps, the most suitable.

Better Leeks

It is generally conceded that Le
among the easiest and most profit
vegetables to grow for a general crop
table for winter. Unlike the Onion,
not subject to the ravages of the fly
consequences which follow, and wh
they are planted in rich ground
not call for very much attention. Th
of a moderate-sized garden may not
garded them as a crop needing spe
ture, but the difference between
sticking plants in " and leaving them
their chance, and plants which ha
given stimulating food, and helped by
the soil drawn round them, keeping
the hearts, and going a step further
around them stiff brown paper to
them, all shows itself when the tim
for digging them up, say, in Decem
other words, the extra attention we
pared to give Leeks in the next few
more than repays. No vegetable gr
winter responds more to good treatm
does the Leek. Let anyone who has
the habit of looking on them as s
change from winter greens take step
sure that his plants shall be allowe
what they can by a liberal diet. B
giving attention to the bleaching of th
by tying them up in the way suggest
least drawing soil carefully round th
tying them up with raffia—rather
loose side than tightly—then follow
seeing, should the weather be dry, th
do not suffer from want of water.
slops and soapsuds can be brought
quisition, and twice a week liquid-
can be administered, all of which w
mote growth and be the means of pr
more blanched stems than if left alo
the end there will not be a crop of m
Leeks, but greatly improved ones.

Thyme

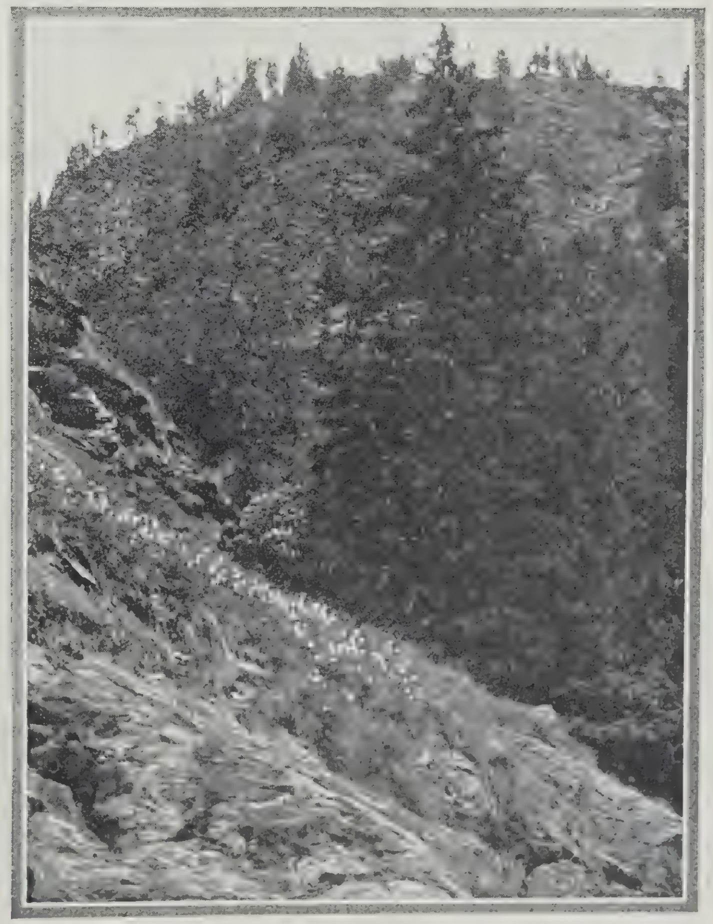
The common Thyme (Thymus vulg
one of the oldest and most appreci
herbs. Its habitat is South Europe,
has been cultivated in this country fo
500 years. The plant, which p
aromatic properties, continues in gr
mand for culinary purposes, and is m
preciated for seasoning. Not only is
for the purpose mentioned, but it
valuable as an edging plant. At one
was much in request for edging parts
kitchen garden. Of a shrubby habit
ing from 6 inches to 9 inches high, it
particularly neat and effective edging
To maintain and keep it in a health
tion the plants should be divided
planted every three or four years.
also makes an attractive subject for t
garden or border, and when planted
paratively large groups provides an o
interest from June to August, with its
ous capitate whorls of rosy-purple
The plant succeeds best in a rather
deeply worked soil and a warm sit
Propagation is readily effected by seed
in the spring, or by cuttings inserted
the summer and kept moist. The
method, however, is by division of the
during March or April, or in the
after the plants have flowered.

The fragrant Lemon Thyme (T.
dorus) is used for the same purposes
common Thyme. It is, however, less
in cold, wet districts than the latter.
sponds to the same treatment as that a
to the common Thyme, except that it
raised from seed. This is of little
ance, however, as stock can be eas
creased by division or cuttings. As a
or edging plant it is of great value,
beautiful golden foliage is particularly
ing and attractive.

FLOWERS OF EARLY JULY IN THE ALTA LEVENTINA

The valley of the Ticino, looking east and west from the same point in the Alps above Brugnasco
Lilium croceum is abundant here in a tangle of Phyteuma, Campanula, Geranium, Cow Parsley, and Ox-eye Daisies

Lilium Martagon by the track to Cop Alto



A colony of the beautiful St. Bruno's Lily (Paradisia Liliastrum)

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Apricots

These have been better than usual this season, and the crop having now been gathered, attention must be given to the tying in of strong leading shoots, some of which may be required to replace small branches which have died during the summer. All other growths may be cut back to within three or four eyes of their base. The trees should not be permitted to suffer from lack of moisture at their roots, and a brisk overhead spraying occasionally will assist in keeping them clean and healthy.

The Pear crop

This is a heavy one here, and early varieties must be netted against small birds, otherwise a large amount of the fruit will be rendered unfit for use. Wasps, too, are very troublesome at this season, and bottles or jars half-filled with sweetened beer should be hung upon the trees to attract them from the fruits. Water should be copiously given whenever possible during their final swelling.

Loganberries

Remove the old canes without delay and reduce the young ones to four or five of the best, placing stakes of some kind among them to prevent damage by rough winds. A mulch at this season will prove very beneficial. This same treatment applies to perpetual-fruiting Raspberries, the current year's canes of which are already producing nice fruits.

Black Currants

Now that the fruits have been gathered, spray the bushes with quassia and nicotine twice—at intervals of 10 days—and thus check the development of Big Bud. Give copious supplies of water, and, if not already carried out, place a mulch of some kind over their roots.

Celery

The earliest rows will now be ready for earthing up, but before fresh soil is added to the plants it is most important that a thorough soaking should be given either of water or liquid-manure, as, once earthing-up commences, both watering and feeding become more difficult. This done, choose a day when the foliage is dry and place about 4 inches of soil over the base of the plants, collecting the leaf-stalks in one hand and keeping them held tight together whilst the soil is pressed firmly about them with the other. A further addition of soil will be necessary every fortnight, and if a scattering of soot is applied among the plants after each earthing slugs will prove less troublesome.

Onions

Those transplanted from boxes to form large bulbs often develop a thick neck. To check excessive growth of this kind the stems should be very carefully bent over, as this will promote firmness and encourage the more rapid development of the bulbs. Where growth is still green and strong feeding may continue, but where the foliage has already ripened, the bulbs should be drawn out and allowed to finish in an open, airy shed.

Late Peas, Runner Beans, and salading plants

These must not be permitted to suffer from lack of moisture on any account at this season, and they will derive considerable benefit from generous applications of diluted manure-water. Insect life will be combated by generous overhead sprayings of clear water in the evening or early morning.

Dahlias

Remove all dead blooms every few days, otherwise successional flowers will be small and numerous. Add more stakes where the plants have made good or excessive growth, and keep them well supplied with diluted manure-water. A few lengths of Bean-stalks placed between stake and growth will form excellent traps for destructive earwigs.

Autumn sown annuals

Now is the time to order the seeds of any it is desirable to grow in the open, hardy kinds only being chosen. These include Cornflowers, Collinsia bicolor, C. grandiflora, and C. grandiflora carminea, a lovely thing; Godetias, Nemophila insignis, N. maculata, and the white N. atomaria, Gilia densiflorus, Omphalodes linifolia, Ionopsidium acaule, and others, including a quantity of Sweet Peas, for which trenches should now be prepared in readiness for sowing the second week in September.

Bouvardias, Salvias, Poinsettias, Coleus thyrsoides, and Eupatoriums

If these are now being prepared for flowering indoors during winter and early spring they should be encouraged in every way by careful feeding. No further stopping is necessary or advisable after this date.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Pot up Freesias

If not yet done, it is now advisable to shake the bulbs out of the old soil, selecting the largest only, for growing on again. Place about seven bulbs in a 5-inch pot, using a nice, sweet compost of about equal parts of fresh, fibrous loam and sweet, flaky leaf-mould. Enough clean, sharp sand should be added to ensure proper porosity. Set the pots after they are filled on an ash bed in a cold frame, but do not give much water until growth begins to show through the soil.

Roman Hyacinths

As soon as procurable have the necessary number potted or boxed and "plunged" under sand or very old coal ashes in some corner out of doors, there to remain for six weeks or so to permit of the bulbs producing an abundance of roots, without which but poor success will be had with this or any bulb.

Autumn propagating

It is now time to get in cuttings of such tender bedding plants as Ageratum, Heliotrope, Fuchsia, Lobelia, and Verbena. Use boxes or pots filled with fresh sandy compost. The cutting-boxes when filled should be set in cold frames, where they should be kept close and shaded from all sunshine. If given a good watering immediately they are inserted no more water should be necessary for quite a long time, although, of course, the soil must never be permitted to get really dry.

Zonal Pelargoniums

The showy "Geranium" is still quite popular in many gardens and gives a really attractive display on light, dry soils. Cuttings should now be taken wherever procurable and inserted in pots or boxes, these receptacles being filled with very sandy compost. Set in full sunshine for a few weeks, but adopt some method whereby rain can be shed from the cuttings, for to allow the soil to get really sodden is to encourage damping-off of the cuttings. Spare glass sashes raised on large pots answer the purpose adm
for, besides keeping off wet, they adm
and a circulation of air around the cu

Planting Daffodils

From now on till the middle of Se
is the best time for planting this
spring-blooming bulb. Some novice
the mistake of planting too near the
In the case of the larger bulbs 5 inche
too deep, while even the smallest
should not be nearer the surfac
3 inches. In heavy, retentive soils a
of sand or sandy compost under ea
will be very beneficial. No manure
be applied to the ground where Daffo
to be planted, this material acting like
on some of the varieties. Bone-mea
cellent for Daffodils.

Daffodils in Grass

Rough grass land is the place
Daffodils thrive best and look best.
large numbers are to be handled it
sirable to procure one of "Barr'
Planters," for by the use of this sim
the work can be carried out much fas
better than can be done with a spa
with hardly any noticeable disturbanc
turf.

Daffodils for pot culture

The finest bulbs procurable should
when growing this plant in pots. The
the bulbs can be potted the better, f
necessary to retain them in "the p
for about three months so that the
well filled with roots before being m
frame or greenhouse. A mixture c
turfy loam, leaf-mould, and sand su
Daffodil well. A fair amount of bo
is very beneficial, a 6-inch potful t
barrowload of soil being about th
quantity to employ.

Raising Hollyhocks

These stately and beautiful plants h
favour with the flower-loving public,
no doubt, because of the difficulty of
up a healthy stock. If one does d
have a number of plants certain to
well each season the Hollyhock is the
adopt. Raise a sufficient number of
each autumn, winter in a cold fram
plant out when safe to do so in spring
sown now in pans of light soil and s
cold frame kept close and shaded fr
sunshine will soon germinate. Whe
enough prick off singly into 4-inch p
turn to the frame, and keep close and
for a few days to permit of the pla
covering from the move. Before
make a bed of sifted coal-ashes in the
and plunge the pots to the rims i
Abundance of air on every favourabl
sion is imperative with this plant.

Tomatoes

To encourage the later fruits to sw
decent size the systematic feeding
plants must be attended to. O
liquid-manure is helpful, but full crop
to thrive better if given one of the a
chemical fertilisers, Thomson's Vine,
and Vegetable Manure being one of th
reliable for this purpose. Use in mod
and at intervals of three or four week

Plant more Cabbages

Plants are now in good condition
was sown early in July as advised in
notes. This will provide a good suc
to the batch set out earlier in the
Never plant autumn-sown Cabbages
ground or they will perish during the
months.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow

Horticulture in the West

JNTON'S fifty-seventh annual show rnished ample evidence of the en- usiasm of West Country folk for their ıs, and a recognition of this love of s was shown by a numerous band of growers from all parts of the country, exhibits were staged in a magnificent fty tent 220 feet in length. If it were e to estimate the influence of horicul- hows on gardens and gardeners, that nton would rank very high. The ex- ı was held in the town's spacious park, an excellent programme of music was ed by the band of the Life Guards.

ng a collection of interesting shrubs ex- by Messrs. R. Veitch and Son, of , was Escallonia Donard's Seedling. ybrid, which is not yet very common lens, originated by crossing E. langley- vith E. philippiana. It bears a profuse y of light pink blossoms, and the speci- ıown was flowering for the second time ison. A berry-bearing specimen of Sea ıorn was literally crowded with fruit. ıould be grown in proximity to a male n order to ensure a winter display of and these, Mr. Bean assures us, are aten by birds. The Bottle-brush shrub emon salignus) was a new sight to folk. It is described as a greenhouse but it thrives outdoors in several dis- n the West Country. A fine flowering of the Hoheria populnea lanceolata e attracted notice. This New Zealand s rarely seen in gardens, but it is quite plant it in warm corners in western uthern garden. It produces abun- usters of pure white flowers, and it has -toothed foliage.

rs. Maxwell and Beale, of Broadstone, made an interesting display of Heaths g in a miniature rock garden. This demonstrated how the members of scinating family may be utilised in the ı of natural effects. It is not generally that you may have Heaths of one sort ther in flower throughout the whole nd a section of the garden almost en- evoted to these plants is a worth-while tion. Although a sandy peat is ideal for lants, the lack of peat need not deter lovers from makine an attempt at ılture, as they will grow in any light, soil in which there is no lime. Two s of outstanding merit are Mrs. D. F. ll and Lyonesse. These are red and flowered forms of Erica vagans, the ı Heath. E. ciliaris hybrida is another g kind which was evolved by crossing ımon Dorset Heath with E. tetralix.

ng the big display of Gladioli staged ssrs. Kelway, of Langport, the rich tion of Orby caused much comment. ge crimson flowers are borne on im- spikes. James William Kelway is striking variety with crimson flowers. ımson-scarlet Appollus was also much l, and I was told by the attendant is variety looks exceptionally fine in light. Some well-grown spikes came essrs. Webber and Son, of Minehead, which were Souvenir and Golden e, two varieties well known to readers ARDENING ILLUSTRATED." In spite of ltitude of new varieties, some of these inds still retain their popularity. A oup of named varieties of Scabiosa ca came from Messrs. House and Son, stbury-on-Trym. The flowers had igid stems, and were perfect in sub- and colour, but it would need the eye expert to differentiate between the kinds. Ethel is a very definite im- ent on the old white-flowered kind. ouse has made the Scabious his own flower, and his desire to achieve a pink-flowered form is an open secret. He also showed some beautiful branching flower sprays of the Russian Sage. It has dainty mauve blossoms, and should be grown largely for cutting purposes.

It is good to know that there are still some Canna enthusiasts. Mr. R. J. Case, of Staplegrove Nurseries, Taunton, is one of these, and his collection of modern kinds was very cheering. Four varieties of merit were Burbank, canary-yellow, mottled throat; B. V. D. Schoot, bright yellow, spotted crimson; Heroys, orange self; and Pearl of Schwaben, dark velvety-crimson. In generously manured soil and deeply dug soils these plants make ideal summer bedders. They flower continuously and their foliage is noble in form. A praiseworthy attempt to give visitors something of educational value was made by Messrs. John Scott and Co., of Merriott, Somerset. An effective portrayal of Chinese landscape gardening was made by the planting of miniature specimens of Retinispora, Cupressus, Juniperus, and Spruce in undulating sand between rocky boulders. Some attempt was made to illustrate the effects of light, whilst those Conifers with bluish-grey foliage were employed to lend distance. Altogether one gathered the impression that one might employ dwarf Conifers much more freely in the creation of foliage effects, especially in gardens where winter effects are lacking. The merits of the Chase Continuous Cloche were amply demonstrated by the inventor, who had a series of cloches with seedlings growing under their protection. This is certainly the most economical and handy method of affording glass protection. The garden sculptuary of Mr. A. E. Sheppard, of Bath, indicated a growing taste for this mode of garden decoration. His examples were all hand-cut, and the stones after exposure to climatic influence assume a soft shade of grey. Modern Phloxes were shown well by Messrs. Rich and Cooling, of Bath. Sorts of special merit and distinction were Graf Zeppelin, an improved form of the popular Europa; Antonin Merci, large white flowers with fadeless lilac margins; and H. B. May, an immense pink variety. Messrs. Dickson, Brown, and Tait, of Manchester, are justly proud of their new giant Dahlia-flowered Zinnias. The flowers are immense and the colouration good. I conclude these notes with the names of some Roses which attracted special admiration in the collection shown by Mr. Thomas Robinson, of Nottingham: Lady Worthington Evans, blackish-crimson, semi-double, good bedder; Mabel Lynas, very fragrant, crimson with yellow base; I Zingari, orange and scarlet, semi-fragrant; Desmond Johnson, brilliant scarlet, tinged orange, early; Eva Eakins, scarlet, flushed orange, coral centre; and Golden Salmon, a fine dwarf Polyantha Rose of an intense shade.

H. GREAVES.

National Carnation and Picotee Society

The sixth annual exhibition of the Northern Section of the National Carnation and Picotee Society was held in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, on Saturday, August 10th. The show was held in conjunction with the "Sheffield Gardeners' Tribute to the Blind" Flower Show, and proved a considerable success. As a result it is expected that a good sum will be handed over to the funds of the Local Institute for the Blind.

Dr. Mead (President of the Society) at the opening ceremony pointed out that the Border Carnation was a hardy plant, and from personal experience he could say it was considerably hardier than the spring cabbage. Border Carnations were not fastidious as to soil or surroundings, many of the flowers exhibited in the show and taking first prize having been grown within one mile of the city's great steel works. Border Carnations were not, as some people imagined, greenhouse flowers.

NEW VARIETIES EXHIBITED.

The following new varieties were exhibited for certificates:—Exhibited on July 31st. Miss Horn, rose-pink, clove scented. Awarded First Class Certificate with 97 points out of a possible 100. Raised by Messrs. Torrance and Hopkins, Busby, Glasgow.

Mrs. G. Hill, white ground fancy, marked rosy-scarlet. Awarded First Class Certificate. Ben Beswick, salmon-rose self. Awarded Award of Merit. Both raised and exhibited by Mr. G. Hill, Sheffield.

Exhibited on August 10th.—Glenfarg, buff ground, suffused salmon-pink. Awarded Award of Merit. Glen Shee, white ground, heavily marked crimson. Awarded First Class Certificate. Both raised and exhibited by Mr. John Macfarlane, Airdrie, Scotland.

Jean Secker, yellow ground, marked and edged lavender and scarlet. Awarded Award of Merit. Raised by Torrance and Hopkins, Busby, Glasgow; exhibited by Mr. Wilfred Secker, Sheffield.

THE PRINCIPAL PRIZE WINNERS.

Mr. J. Macfarlane, of Airdrie, Scotland, was the most successful exhibitor at the show, and was awarded the Silver Cup for the best amateur display of Border Carnations. In his display a bowl of a dozen or so Kelso was specially attractive, and other varieties of merit were Florence Grisby, Mrs. Edmund Charrington, Sam Griffiths, Mrs. D. Thomas, and Ebor. Mr. Macfarlane took eight first prizes and one second in the open classes, and was awarded highest points and the Society's Silver Medal.

Premier prizes were awarded to Mr. J. Macfarlane for Peter, yellow self; Steerforth, white ground fancy and clove scented; Linkman, yellow ground fancy; Sam Griffith, fancy other than white or yellow ground; and to Mr. S. Rabjohn, Sheffield, for Exquisite, yellow ground Picotee. The Silver Cup presented by Mrs. G. H. Mead was awarded to Mr. Macfarlane for his Linkman, stated by the judges to be the best Carnation ever exhibited at a northern section show. This flower outclassed even Mrs. Edmund Charrington, a variety which had taken this award at all five previous shows.

In the Amateur Classes for plants grown in the open border, Mr. Wilfred Secker (Secretary) secured the chief awards, winning the President's Challenge Cup and the Society's Silver Medal for the third year in succession, and also taking the Silver Medal presented by Messrs. Torrance and Hopkins, of Glasgow, for the best bloom of Jean Secker in the show. He also won special prizes for the best bloom in the amateur Classes with Florence Grisby, a new yellow ground fancy, and for white ground fancies with a vase of Monica, Woodpark, and Mrs. Edmund Charrington. Other leading winners in the chief classes included Mr. W. H. Rhodes, Mr. H. E. Pearson, and Mr. W. Ford for plants grown under glass. Mr. S. Rabjohn was awarded the Society's Silver Medal for highest points, taking first prize in all eight classes. In the division for novices, open border grown, the principal winners were Mr. G. T. Evans, Mr. G. Cornish, Mr. G. H. Rotherham, and Mr. B. Morrison.

The "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED" Medal for highest points was awarded to Mr. G. T.

Evans. Special prizes by Torrance and Hopkins, Glasgow, went to G. H. Rotheram, G. H. Camish, and B. Morrison.

In the ladies' class for a vase of Carnations arranged for effect, the cut glass and silver Rose bowl presented by H. E. Bridgewater was awarded to Mrs. Wilfred Secker.

A Walnut competition

The Royal Horticultural Society have arranged a Nut competition to be held on November 19th. There are classes for Walnuts, Cob Nuts, and Filberts. The main object of the Walnut competition is to discover good varieties, for it is well known that the majority of Walnut trees in this country are seedlings, and, consequently, they vary considerably, for each seedling is a distinct variety. The nuts borne by many compare unfavourably with imported nuts, and as a result the bulk of the Walnuts consumed in this country are brought from abroad. One of the conditions of the competition is that successful competitors shall, if desired, supply twelve shoots from each prize-winning tree from which scions for grafting can be made. Each competitor who sends scions will in due course receive two young trees obtained from his scions, and the remainder of the young trees, if they prove satisfactory, will be used for the further propagation of the variety. The Ministry of Agriculture is providing part of the money for the prizes. Anyone who has Walnut trees may have a variety worthy of extended cultivation, and he is invited to compete and thus assist in the search for good varieties. Schedules may be obtained from the Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Remaking herbaceous border

(Aldershot).—1.—Autumn is undoubtedly the best time to remake your border, and if you can get the planting done by the end of October it will prove of great advantage to the plants, which will make fresh roots before the soil has gone too cold, and thus pass the winter safely. Growth will be much stronger than if planted in the spring. 2, Planting Carnations.—The early part of October is most certainly the best time to plant Carnations of the hardy varieties. 3, Housing Azalea indica.—They should be placed under cover the second week in September or before the end of the month at the latest. 4, Violas diseased.—This is Viola Rust, to combat which the plants should be sprayed with Bordeaux Mixture, or well dusted, when the foliage is damp, with green sulphur. It is proving very troublesome this year.

Annuals and perennials

Kindly recommend a selection of the more choice and unusual annuals and perennials that are likely to succeed in a border of light, very well-drained soil, in full sunshine and some shelter east and north. The border is roughly 40 yards in length and 3½ feet in width and backs up to a fence.

I would also like a selection of flowers for cutting to grow in similar soil and aspect—Pyrethrum, Scabiosa caucasica, Romneya Coulteri I am fond of if these would be likely to succeed.

Perhaps I ought to mention that the border appears to need some enriching, and I thought of digging in cow manure if obtainable, failing which, stable manure, in the autumn. The soil is so well-drained that it is possible to work it an hour or two after even heavy rain. FLOWER LOVER.

[It is not at all easy to choose collections such as you desire suitable for the soil and position you name. You would require to double-dig the border, adding plenty of half-rotted cow manure, for most of the following. Perennials.—Alyssum saxatile citrinum, Arabis Taplow Rose, Armeria latifolia rubra, Asters (Michaelmas Daisies), King George, Beauty of Ronsdorf, Mrs. Perry, Pink Pearl, Thompsonii, and subcœrulea, Catananche cœrulea, Cheiranthus alpinus, Dianthus neglectus, Erigeron B. Ladhams, Geum Orangeman, Heuchera brizoides, Incarvillea Delavayi, Linum narbonense, Mertensia virginica, Romneya trichocalyx, Salvia virgata nemorosa, Saxifrages of sorts, Veronica spicata Royal Blue. Annuals.—Nemesia, Dimorphotheca, Ryburgh Hybrid Poppy, Antirrhinums in great variety, Dianthus Heddewigi, Phlox Drummondii, Scabious, and Zinnias. For cut flowers.—Aquilegias, Pyrethrums, Geums, Pinks, Michaelmas Daisies, Border Chrysanthemums, Heuchera brizoides, Nepeta Mussinii, Tulips, Spanish and English Irises, Mignonette, Anemones, Gladioli, Eschscholtzias, Phloxes, Nigella, and Coreopsis grandiflora.]

Meconopsis Baileyi

If seed of above is sown now, should the plants from it bloom next spring, and should they be pricked out when fit to handle and wintered in a cold frame or in a greenhouse? A reply to these queries in your valuable paper will greatly oblige.

Salop. THOS. ALDERSEY.

[Seedlings raised this autumn will not bloom until June, 1931. They may be pricked off when large enough to handle or they may remain in the seed-pans until growth commences next spring with almost equal results, providing they are kept in a cold frame. Such plants should be ready for planting in the open in April, 1930, using a fair proportion of leaf-mould in the soil at all times, partial shade suiting them best.]

Lilium candidum

(J. W. B. W.).—See note on planting, issue August 17th, page 562.

Lily disease

(M. E. Greenwood).—Your Lilies are attacked by the so-called Lily disease, which is caused by a fungus, Botrytis sp. All the aerial portions are attacked, but the bulbs usually remain sound. The degree of attack depends to a large extent upon weather conditions. Under good growing weathe
ditions the disease is rarely epidemic,
cold, drying winds are experienced fro
north and especially north-east, the
spreads rapidly. All diseased portions
be carefully removed and burned; wh
young growth appears spray from ti
time with a weak solution of potassiu
phide. If the Turk's Cap are growin
position in any way exposed, try an
them shelter, either by lifting and repl
in a more sheltered position, or else giv
shelter in the position they are in at p

Diseased Gladioli

(Gladiolus and G. C. Barnes).—The
mens received from you both are at
by a fungus, Sclerotium sp. This
attacks the roots of the corm, causi
roots to decay. The damaged root
therefore, unable to take up water.
result of the shortage of water is th
foliage begins to yellow, turns brow
dry, and eventually the whole aerial p
become covered with saprophytic m
The saprophytic fungi are frequently a
of causing the failure, but the real ca
the fungus at the base of the plants.
fungus over-winters by forming hard,
bodies on the surface of attacked corm
spring, after the corms are planted, th
ing stage produces mycelium, which s
in the soil and attacks not only th
system of the corm carrying the inf
but also healthy plants growing ne
The treatment recommended for this
is to soak any suspected Gladioli corm
solution of 5 per cent. formalin
minutes, afterwards washing the cor
clean water, and to plant in clean g
It is possible that infection starts in th
case through planting slightly affected
imported from abroad. After Gladio
in their flowering quarters, a close
for failures should be made. All
should be searched for, lifted, and dest
It is probable that if the rest were then
a soaking with Cheshunt Compound,
measure of control could be obtained.
varieties seem very prone to the troubl

Salvias

(Miss M. J. Welsh).—You do not m
the variety of Salvia that has failed to
and this is important, as some of the
very late in showing flower. It is po
therefore, that your variety is of th
type. On the other hand, we suspec
the soil is too rich and has caused the
to grow all to wood and leaf. This
frequent occurrence, but should the au
be a fine one, these plants should blo
little later. Nothing can be done to ex
the matter, but in another year you
choose an early-flowering variety.

GREENHOUSE

Sprinkling stages with manure

(Kingdom).—The very best manure
for sprinkling over stages and betwee
to improve the colour of foliage, et
drainings from a farmyard, slightly d
to the colour of pale ale. Failing this,
of Peruvian guano to a gallon of wate
be found very effective.

Compost for Carnations in pots

(Kingdom).—The following will be
excellent for all classes of Carnations:—
thirds good maiden loam which has
stacked for at least four months, one-
of well-seasoned manure, one-twelft
wood-ash, one-twelfth of mortar rubbl
sand according to the texture of the
used. This is suitable for all sized pots
5 inches upwards, 5-inch, 6-inch, and 7
being the sizes generally employed.

ting the Aspidistra

dom).—A cool greenhouse tempera-
about 45 degs. to 50 degs. will
nd suitable for the cultivation of
plants. Pots used vary according
sizes of the plants, and for small
ns 5-inch and 6-inch pots will be
quite suitable. For larger plants,
ip to 8 inches are sometimes
These should be well-drained and a
ugh leaves or turfy loam should be
over the crocks before any soil is put
ne compost should consist of three
prous loam and one part made up of
osed leaf-mould, lime rubble, sand,
ittle bone-meal. Shade from bright
e is advisable during hot, sunny
, and an occasional syringing will
e plants clean and improve growth.
otting, a little closer atmosphere is
e for about a fortnight.

scandens

). M.-B.).—You would probably be
obtain this attractive greenhouse and
dy climbing perennial from Stuart
nd Co., Bush Hill Park, Enfield,
ex. It may be planted in June
a south or south-west wall, arch, or
light, rich soil. It will cover a con-
e space during summer, and flower
vith purple blooms. Your district
is quite favourable for its cultiva-
nd it should survive an ordinary

ALPINES

g a rock bank

randreth).—For evergreen shrubs and
f moderate growth for the rock bank
drive, any of the following will be
:—Daphne pontica, Cotoneasters
ylla and horizontalis, Veronica buxi-
assinia fulvida, Danaë racemosa and
relative Ruscus aculeatus (Butcher's
the well-known Hypericum calyci-
St. John's Wort), and Berberis
; also the common B. Aquifolium.
ring a wider space, nothing is better
avin (Juniperus sabina), a nearly
e-growing shrub, or its larger form,
ariscifolia. The common Hart's
Scolopendrium vulgare, is the best
a chalky soil.

ROSE GARDEN

l Roses

Rogers).—Your Roses are affected
m canker, due to the fungus Coni-
Fuckelli, Sacc. The only control
disease is to cut out and burn all
growths. The bushes should be
in autumn with a strong Bordeaux
All cuts made should be painted
ckholm tar.

TREES AND SHRUBS

old Holly hedge

).—Your gardener's suggestion is
edly the right one, and such treat-
duces the best result in the end, but
o not wish to reduce the height of
e, we suggest that you cut it hard
within a few inches of the main
what amounts to almost splitting
e in half, removing the side of least
ce. The branches will then send
ng young growths just behind
of severance, and if you keep the
n regularly, these will soon make
, and in due course develop into a
nse hedge. This may be done at
nt time or left until the end of April
r. The very best manure for Holly
s old farmyard which has been in
a stack for a while; this is not only relished by them, but acts as a valuable mulch also. Failing this, you could scarcely improve upon good bone-meal obtained fresh from a reliable horticultural sundriesman. This may be used at once, well soaking it in, 2 ozs. to each square yard applied every month or six weeks will prove most beneficial, and if it is possible to scarify it into the surface before water is applied, it is advisable to do so.

Beech tree trouble

(C. E. S. Bower).—Your Beech appears to us to have been badly crippled with caterpillar. At this stage it is impossible to say what caterpillar was concerned, but Winter Moth is a likely culprit. Try the effect of placing a grease band in position as you would for an Apple tree. If the tree is only 10 feet high, spraying with a tar oil wash, at 5 per cent. in January, would be useful towards improving the foliage. If you can keep the foliage good and whole for a season or two, the tree should get away. Is the drainage good?

Trimming hedges

Will you kindly advise me as to which, generally, is regarded as the best month for trimming hedges of (a) Beech, (b) Holly, (c) Yew, and also the best month for more severe pruning or shaping (as distinct from mere surface trimming). If these three subjects require to be dealt with individually at differing times of the season, perhaps you will be good enough to let me know the appropriate months for treatment of each.

D. K.

[(a), (b), and (c) should be clipped annually between July and September, and all will grow thicker and healthier if made to narrow upwards. Any harder pruning is best carried out about the first week in April, just before new growth commences.]

Berberis for name, and culture

(S. John Cookson).—The leaves and berries you send are those of Berberis Aquifolium (Oregon Grape), a native of western North America, and therefore very hardy. The berries should, when ripe, be mixed with sand, either in the open or under cover, and allowed to remain until spring, when the pulp will have decayed, and about the end of March they should be sown in sandy soil, either in boxes or in warm borders, over which a glass light should be placed, although we have raised them by sowing in shallow drills in the open. This fine shrub may be used as a hedge, for it will reach a height of 6 feet when permitted to do so. It is not, however, used for this purpose generally, its great value being seen when used as an undergrowth beneath deciduous trees. The plants should be put out at 2 feet 6 inches apart.

Pruning shrubs

Is it a good thing to prune shrubs now, such as Prunus, Crabs, Lilacs, Syringas, Maples, Berberis, or to wait till autumn? Shall I cut them hard back, taking out all old wood, or shall I only cut the tips off? My soil is so poor and dry that they make very poor growth.

L. N.

[As your shrubs make such poor growth, why prune them at all? The main object in pruning flowering shrubs is the removal of old and exhausted wood, in order to allow the young and vigorous shoots (upon which so much of the future display of bloom depends) ample space for their development. This should be done immediately after flowering. No purpose is served by cutting off the tips, the result being simply to arrest the development of good, clean shoots, which in their turn will produce a crop of blossom. The thin shoots crowded towards the centre of the plants should be cut out in their entirety, but you must not remove enough to spoil the appearance of the specimen. If cut back now or in the autumn, this will be done at the expense of blossoms, and a season will be completely lost. That pruning is not needed to ensure plenty of flower is shown by the profusion with which many subjects bloom when growing wild, yet the removal of exhausted shoots ensures finer blossoms. We should advise you to leave your shrubs till the next flowering season, and then limit the pruning to the old shoots, as above detailed.]

Erica carnea

(S. W.).—The true species is a deep rosy-red. There is also a very pretty variety called rosea. The best pink we know is the one called Pink Pearl, a really lovely plant. W. H. Backhouse, King George, Winter Beauty, and præcox rubra are beautiful in every way, the two latter being the earliest of this fine group to bloom. Any of the above could be obtained from Mr. H. White, Sunningdale Nurseries, Windlesham, Surrey, or Mr. James Smith, Darley Dale Nurseries, Matlock, Derbyshire.

FRUIT

Pear Scab

(G. W. B., Northampton).—The specimen fruits Doyenne du Comice and Santa Claus are affected with Pear Scab, which is caused by the fungus Venturia pirina. The fungus attacks in turn the foliage, fruits, and young wood of the Pear. If the wood of the trees is affected, such portions should be cut away and burned. When the leaves have fallen in autumn they, too, should be raked up and burned. During the growing season three sprayings with Bordeaux Mixture should be given, using for the first a 4 : 4 : 50 formula, *i.e.*, 4 lbs. of copper sulphate, 4 lbs. of quicklime, and 50 gallons of water, while for the second and third sprayings 12½ lbs. of quicklime should be used instead of 4 lbs. The first spraying should be given when the flowers are in the "pink bud" stage, the second when the majority of the petals have fallen, and the third three weeks later. The "pink bud" stage is that at which the flowers are showing colour, but the petals are not unfolded. If the fungus is to be prevented from marking the fruit, it is important that the second spraying be not delayed beyond the time stated above. A few days' delay often means that the majority of fruits are badly marked instead of a few fruits being slightly scabbed. The fungus on Pear foliage is mainly confined to the undersides of the leaves; it is therefore important that the spray fluid is driven well under the leaves.

Vine failing

(Gardener).—From the specimens sent we can gather no information as to the cause of your trouble, but from your letter we gather that defective root action is the sole cause of the trouble. The Vine foliage sent shows no sign of disease, and we do not think the rod is likely to cause any trouble to the rest of the Vines, and you could cut away the rod at pruning time. Does the root of the plant get sufficient water, or, alternatively, does it get too much? Either condition could cause the trouble. You should examine the condition of the border and root system this winter, and if you care to send us along your observations afterwards, perhaps we could advise. A dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard applied and well watered in would help the Vine if the border is not water-logged.

White Currant scale

(Gardener).—The specimens you have sent for examination are those of the Currant Brown Scale, Lecanium ribis. The young females begin to lay their eggs while the body is still soft and distended. As the egg laying proceeds, the insect develops a cavity beneath it, and the eggs are contained within the cavity. In the end the insect dies and her body forms a scale over the eggs. Later the eggs hatch, and the young leave the original scale and establish themselves on other parts of the host. The woolly material is exuded from the old scale as the young hatch. As a matter of fact, the specimens you sent were in the process of hatching, and the whole parcel was alive with hundreds of young lice, and our office table is covered with them at the time of writing. If you have cut away the affected branches, you should have removed the greater part of the pest, but it would be wise to spray the trees and walls with a solution of lime-sulphur 1-100. You do not say what winter wash was used, but you should continue to use a winter wash, and that wash should be a tar oil at 5 per cent. Drive this wash well under the branches of the trees growing on the wall.

Diseased Plum

(R. Dodgson).—Your Plum specimen sent for examination appears to be attacked by the die-back disease of fruit trees, which is caused by a fungus named Cytospora. The only control is to cut out and burn all the portions attacked. Spores are liberated in great numbers from all the dead tissue, and the disease soon becomes rampant. You will notice that in the attacked portions the wood is stained brown. This discoloration is due to the fungus running in the wood. All this brown stained wood must be cut away, and as this frequently runs into the main stem the destruction of the entire tree is often the only remedy. It appears to us that the land you are trying to grow the Plums on is badly drained, and, if so, this condition would make your Plums very easy victims of the fungus concerned. Drainage would greatly improve your land and the Plums. The only way to deal with Marestail is to drain the land and to hoe off the aerial portions so soon as they appear. Marestail is never troublesome on really well drained land.

VEGETABLES

Diseased Potatoes

(M. H.).—The piece of Potato sent for examination is insufficient for the purpose. If you can send us one or two complete tubers we should be pleased to examine them for you. The piece of tuber sent is so contaminated with bacteria and fungi that it is impossible to separate out any one organism as being responsible. It is possible that some cultural detail is at fault. Have you given any manures? If so, state the kind and quantity used.

Sowing Asparagus

(Miss Burt).—The seeds should remain on the plants until they are ripe, after which they should be gathered, spread out on a sunny shelf in the greenhouse, until quite dry. They are then stored in a dry but cool place until April, when they can either be sown where they are to remain permanently or else on well-prepared ground in another part of the garden, there to remain for a year or two to gather strength. The seeds are sown thinly in shallow drills, about 15 inches or 18 inches apart. To give full directions on the cultivation of Asparagus would take up far too much space, but we have seasonable articles on this, as on all other vegetables, in these pages; so you will get all necessary information if you keep an eye on the paper from week to week.

MISCELLANEOUS

Capsid Bugs

(A. H.).—There are many kinds of Capsid Bugs, and you do not state which Capsid you have in mind. The species found on Apples and Currants are Plesiocoris rugicollis, Lygus pabulinus, Psallus ambiguus, Orthotylus marginalis, Atractotomus mali, and Calocoris fulvomaculatus. Of these Plesiocoris rugicollis, the Apple Capsid, and Lygus pabulinus, the Currant Capsid, are most common, and serious damage is largely confined to these species. All species may be controlled by using a good nicotine wash early in May. The spray should be repeated if necessary.

Caterpillars

(S. W.).—If you spray your plants with quassia and nicotine you will render the plants distasteful to the caterpillars which the spraying does not hit direct. Those which are reached by the spray will be killed, and if you give the plants a second spraying in a week following the first application you should have them under control. Obtain the quassia and nicotine from a reliable house such as Messrs. Bentley and Sons, Barrow-on-Humber, Hull, or from Messrs. Willis Bros., Harpenden, Herts., both of whom will give printed instructions for its use.

Weed in lawn and grass turning brown

(Duffer).—The weed is the Common Yarrow (Achillea millefolium), which revels in poor, barren land. This weed will continue to trouble you until you have enriched the soil of that part of the lawn in which it is growing. A dressing of lawn sand applied towards the end of September, at the rate of 3 ozs. to each square yard, will kill a certain amount of it, and a further application in March will so encourage the grasses that the Yarrow will practically disappear. The real cure, however, rests with the soil, and if you require a good sward of grass which will not seriously brown during spells of drought, then you must proceed as follows :—Lift the turf from that part of the lawn showing distress and place on one side, then remove the soil to a depth of 6 inches to 9 inches, as this is useless for growing good grass. Now replace the latter with good top spit from a pasture, adding a little bonemeal as the filling in proceeds, make the whole firm by rolling, and relay the turf. This will effect a vast improvement and give you a lawn worthy of the name. Unfortunately, too many so-called lawns are made in the manner you describe, only to become a permanent nuisance to their possessor. Levelling a stretch of ground and making a lawn are very different matters. All turf should have at least 9 inches to 1 foot of good loam beneath it.

Cheshunt Compound

(K. Hely-Hutchinson).—Cheshunt Compound should be mixed to the proportion of 1 oz. to 2 gallons of water.

SHORT REPLY

M. B.—Emilia flammea is a half hardy annual, with showy orange-scarlet flowers. Statice Suworowii is also a half hardy annual.

NAMES OF PLANTS

A. R. Hallett.—The yellow flower is Alstromeria aurantiaca. The shrub is one of the Robinias, probably R. hispida (Rose Acacia). A flower is, however, ne
before naming with certainty.

S. H. B.—Physostegia virginicum.

Ernest Roshard, Rotherham.—1,
bryanthemum uncinatum; 2, Sedum r

R. N. T., Auchlochan.—1, Eu
Lathyris (Caper Spurge); 2, Sedum
3, Potentilla dubia.

R., Studio.—The plant from B
Downs is the Common Marjoram (Or
vulgare). It prefers open and sunny
on the chalk downs. If it gr
shade, it is only because it gets overgr
its taller neighbours.

K. J., Littlehampton.—1, The Pea-f
plant is Swainsona galegifolia (son
named S. Osborni in gardens); 2, the
leaved plant is Sedum roseum or Ros
It is named Rhodiola rosea in so
books. It is merely a diœcious Sedu

A. M. Wolryche-Whitmore.—St
trifolia (American Bladder Nut).

W. M. H.—Achillea Eupatoria.

T. F. M. D.—1, Phlox, Iris; 2, E
(Amos Perry).

F. E. S.—1, Veronica amethystin
2, Lysimachia clethroides; 3, Sym
caucasicum.

A. H.—The white Rose is " Bath.
red Rose is Deuil de Paul Fontaine.

Devon.—Asperula longifolia.

J. L.—Scabiosa (atropurpurea) mino
fl.-pl.

Harry Curd.—We regret our inab
name the Zonal Pelargonium, of wh
send a specimen. It is most probably
ling, and is rather a poor thing Ar
nurseryman will supply you with Aza
conservatory decoration.

S. W.—Gladiolus—Souvenir, deep
yellow; Citronella, canary yellow;
linus (Maid of the Mist), soft primrose

G., Co. Dublin (M.P.).—1, Veronica
alba; 2, Potentilla Tonguei; 3, S
rigida; 4, Sidalcea Listeri; 5,
Powelli alba; 6, Decaisnea Fargesi; 9
Rubin.

Mona.—1, Nandina domestica, a ne
quite hardy shrubs; *2, apparently B
villea glabra variegata, specimen ve
(greenhouse); 3, Tradescantia discolor
4, Panax Balfourii (stove); 5, Sa
nobilis (stove); 6, Gesnera coccinea
†7, an Aglaonema species or allied
(stove); *8, Calathea or Maranta
(stove); *9, apparently Nelumbium
sum (stove). * Material sent not su
† Can only be certified by compariso
other species.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMEN

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dening world for " Glenskot " Scotch
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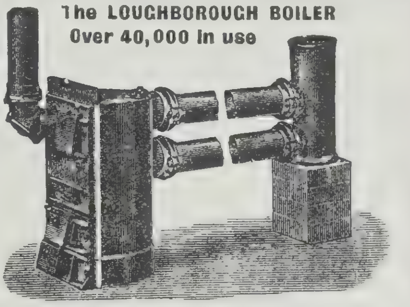

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.—No. 2634

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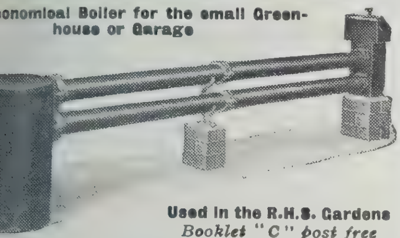

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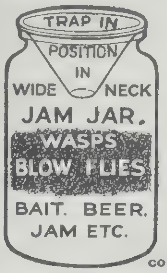
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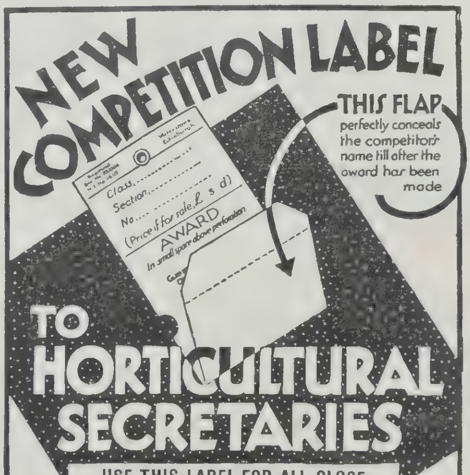
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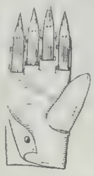

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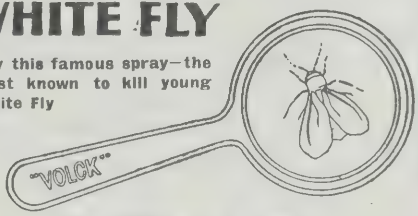

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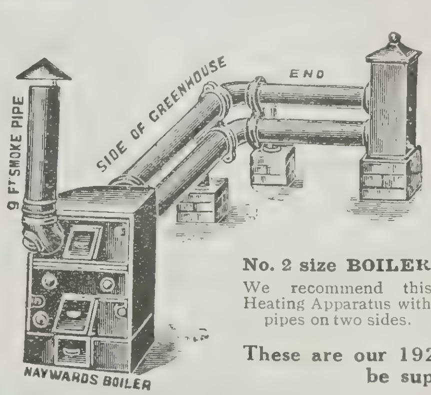

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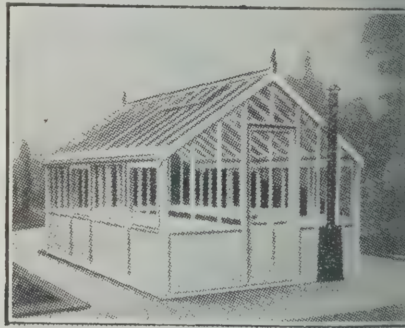

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10 ft.	No. 2	7	10	0	No. 2	6	0	0
12 ft.	No. 2	7	15	0	No. 2	6	10	0
15 ft.	No. 2	8	10	0	No. 2	7	5	0
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8 ft.	5 ft.	9	9	0	0	13	0	1	0	0
9 ft.	6 ft.	11	11	0	0	15	0	1	2	6
10 ft.	7 ft.	15	10	0	0	17	0	1	5	0
10 ft.	8 ft.	16	10	0	0	18	0	1	5	0
12 ft.	8 ft.	17	10	0	1	0	0	1	10	0
15 ft.	9 ft.	23	19	0	1	4	0	1	17	6
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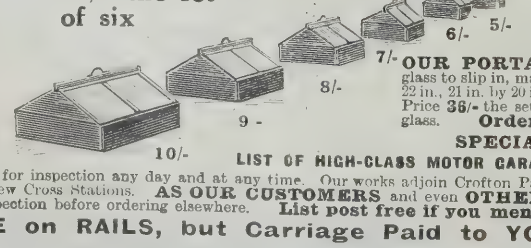

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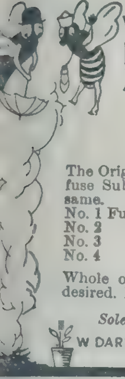

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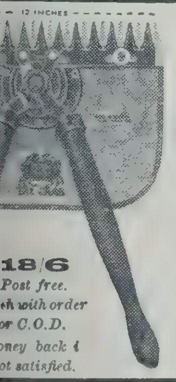

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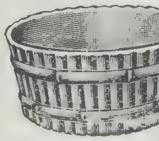

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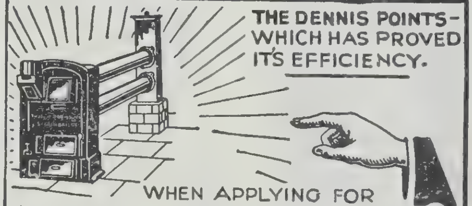

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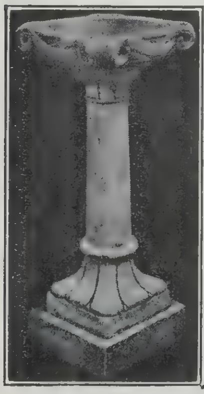

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The Bulb List

By SIR WILLIAM LAWRENCE, BART.

Jean-de-Luz in August the flowers
t and blaze. Lagerstrœmia indica,
ranth, cherry-pink, and magenta—
al colours are the same as in Bou-
—forms glorious bushes 15 feet and
gh. In even greater variety are the
l double Hibiscus syriacus; Tamar-
and white Oleanders, and tall Mag-
nplete the picture. The terra-cotta
of Bignonia cover the walls.
Coleus, Zinnias, and Scarlet Salvias
eds. Sitting in the tonnelle of
planes I think of March in England
on the bulb lists. A few Hyacinths
have. They leave me a little cold;
est the association of marble and
named after the famous Letairae of
Never have I seen Hyacinths look
han arranged as a great parquet
arble hall of Sir Philip Sassoon's
se. Not that Hyacinths are, as a
fact, named after Athenian
love. Countess of Derby is
all-round Hyacinth, and the
cinth The Hon. Mr. Balfour
ination for me, especially in
entious catalogues which re-
lordly progress and call the
he Earl of Balfour. All
are adorable. At Burford we
eight little formal beds, all
fountain on the lawn. Now
ull of Gazanias, pure white,
a black ring, pure lemon
nd lemon with a black ring.
they shall be Crocuses, two
whites, two violets, and two
recent introduction, Queen
es, is the loveliest Crocus. It
in price and forces remark-

s my favourites are, apart
ies, Darwins, Lily-shaped,
s. This year I have ordered
two Darwin Tulips which
t favourites of the Rev. J.
eries, and Petrus Hondius.
s was always very keen on
pure white Darwin. Up to
t Zwanenburg is the best
is quoted per 100. Not that
rwin attracts me. I like the
ks and the new yellows, the
expensive. The Lily Tulips
aceful. T. retroflexa, yellow,
pink, are as good as any, and
nable in price. Parrots are
grow satisfactorily; the use
s with Tulips seems wrong.
me reader who has been suc-
h these gay flowers will tell
us how best to organise the jazz orchestra! And of all Tulips, to me the noblest is the old T. Gesneriana spathulata, by tradition carpeted with Forget-me-not, although blue does not go with flaming scarlet, and a white carpeter were better. Before we consider Daffodils, let us look at the Lachenalias. The Cape Cowslip is ideal as a pot plant, inasmuch as it forces easily and increases rapidly. The forms of L. pendula are amongst the earliest to flower, and the hybrid L. Boundii, raised by Mr. Bound, of Redhill, is in flower by Christmas, and bright red. The varieties raised by the Rev. J. Jacob from L. Nelsoni and others are very good; L. Siam is perhaps the best. A stock of any can be worked up rapidly.

In my case, if I go to the Daffodil Show it means I do not get any Daffodils at all because I invariably select those sold per bulb by the pound sterling, and compared with these incomparable flowers the cheaper varieties seem unprofitable. So I order a few of the well known forcing varieties, Glory of Noordwijk, Golden Spur, King Alfred, Van Waveren's Giant (rather dear, but a good pot plant), and my old favourite Van Sion. Irene Copeland I shall like when its price drops. Most of all I prize Venetia, which was given me by the generous raiser, Mr. Cranfield. Nearly all the small-flowered Narcissi lend themselves to pot culture, notably N. Bulbocodium, N. cyclamineus, N. triandrus, and their forms and hybrids. Of Freesias I prefer F. refracta Excelsior, cream with orange blotch, to the white form of F. refracta. Of the coloured Freesias Buttercup and, though still a little expensive, Wisteria are very good.

Venetia, a triandrus hybrid raised by Mr. W. B. Cranfield

With the exception of the ordinary form of I. reticulata and of I. tuberosa, bulbous Irises require individual attention if they are not to disappear. I. reticulata Cantab, unlike the type, seems to want a heavy soil. It does well and increases in my sister's garden at Cambridge. I. Danfordiæ I thought I had lost, but after many blank years two bulbs flowered this spring, doubtless seedlings. I. Vartani, white and blue, flowers well in pots and is early; I. Heldreichi, I. Tauri, I. Histrio, and I. Histrioides are all good for pot work, and can be established out-of-doors where they require watching.

There are one or two Colchicums which flower early, C. montana, small white blooms with black anthers, listed by Mrs. Dykes, C. hydrophyllum, with mauve flowers, a good doer, and C. luteum, only to be obtained by favour!

It is dinner time, and though beef and mutton are as tough as the mountains on which they live, the Cantaloupes, Peaches, Nectarines, Greengages—nothing approaches a good Reine Claude—golden Muscats and golden Pears are luscious and comforting. WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

The Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

The Autumn Show of this Society will be held on September 11th and 12th In the Waverley Market, Edinburgh. In addition to increased cash prizes there is the John Phillips Memorial Challenge Trophy, valued at 60 guineas, presented by Mrs. Phillips in memory of her husband, who died in 1917 while President of the Scottish Horticultural As-

Mrs. Dykes' new white Tulip

The flowers, which are very fragrant, are cream white, slightly deeper at the base, and with yellow anthers

sociation, which is now incorporated with this Society. The trophy is for six bowls of Roses, not more than 12 blooms in each bowl, and not less than six varieties. In addition, there is the Thomson Challenge Trophy for Grapes, the first prize being the Challenge Trophy (to be won three times) and £5 in cash and a gold badge.

A special feature of this year's Show is the "Abol" Challenge Trophy for plant breeding. This 75-guinea Trophy is offered for the exhibit which demonstrates the greatest advancement since the war in any one family or kind of flower, fruit, vegetable, tree, shrub, or foliage plant. The trophy has previously been awarded to Harkness's Regal strain of Lupins and Hemsley's strain of Sidalceas. This is the principal Show in Scotland and is well supported by the trade. From the number of entries already received it is assured that the Show this year will be a record one. Prize schedules may be obtained from the Secretary of the Society, 4a, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

The Wood Lilies (Trillium)

These have bloomed profusely beneath large Magnolias, which provide the light shade essential to the successful culture of the beautiful plants. Their stations were prepared some years ago by taking out the natural sticky soil to a depth of 18 inches, and this was made good with a lighter soil, peat, sand, and leafy material, in order to secure the most natural conditions possible. This treatment has been quite a success, the plants annually producing luxuriant foliage and flowers. Seen at their best amid semi-wild surroundings, the Trilliums (Trinity Flowers) owe their name to the threefold arrangement of their parts, leaves, sepals, and petals. They love the shady, moist conditions usually associated with thin woodland, but care should be taken that the roots of trees do not rob them severely. A generous top-dressing of leafy and sandy material should be given them each year to maintain and encourage vigorous growth. Once they becom
lished under these conditions, very li
ther attention is required. There a
a dozen wild kinds, some of which a
in Japan, through Northern Asia
Himalayas, but the majority inha
peaty forests of North America.

After the first year or two th
become more vigorous, and, as a
consequence, the flowers are improv
in size and depth of colour.

T. grandiflorum and its beautiful
var. (T. g. roseum) are, perhaps, t
and most easily grown of this ren
genus, often succeeding where oth
revelling in moist, shady places.
drift of this beautiful Lily seen du
April and May beneath thin summe
trees is a joy indeed, and one not e
gotten. These attain to a height of
to 2 feet, and display their ha
crinkled, three-petalled flowers (each
across) of Lily-white and rosy shade
kind abounds in the forests of Nor
lina, Wisconsin, and Kentucky, wh
said to be as plentiful as the Anem
Primrose of our own woods.

Nomocharis—a new Chines

This genus intermediate between
and Fritillaria is among the add
garden plants from China. In 1916
of it in flower was shown at one
meetings of the R.H.S. by Professo
Balfour. Two species of Nomocha
been described, namely, N. me
found on the Mekong, in Szech
Soulie, and N. pardanthina, fo
Delavay on Mount Koulapo, in
Nomocharis differs botanically fro
Lilium and Fritillaria in the f
characters. The inner segments
corolla are much wider than the o
lower part of the filaments being infl
hollow.

Madia elegans

A choice annual flower is this, w
ish, hairy leaves, and elegant 2-feet
ing spikes of bloom which stand ere
flowers are at their best at the end
and the early part of August. T
borne in loose, open clusters which t
the growths, each flowering 2 inche
yellow in colour, with a chocolate di
base, reminding one somewhat of
the Coreopsis. The sprays are mo
able for cutting and of unusual in
the border. E. MAR

Colchicum montana

A lovely pure white spring-flowering species from Croatica, with black anthers and a slight rosy tinge on some flowers

Colchicum luteum

Flowers, including anthers, intense yellow; about 2 inches high

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

e Comfrey and bumble bees

photograph of Blue Comfrey here duced shows only a small bit of I would fain call a bush, for it was cross and bearing over 500 cymes in once. The flowers themselves ran usands, being rosy-pink in bud, ng into plump bells of a sweet and ue. In these days of colour con- one hardly dare specify what blue, say Love-in-a-Mist, faintly washed vender. "The English Flower describes the Comfrey tribe as bold, somewhat coarse plants," but nothing bold or coarse about mine. close by is a near relation, of rather nder growth, more pointed leaves, r bells of sapphire-blue. Kew identi- r me as Symphytum caucasicum, lding that it was "rather rare." a mystery about its birth. I know pale blue form came from, but this m simply "growed." Both kinds, seed freely and have nice families up around their feet. Both plants beloved of bumble bees; indeed, med to be a "gathering of the or every bumble bee within miles Most noticeable of all was the nded Carder bee, a handsome n such glory of chestnut and sable at "Tiger" she became at first "Tiger" she remains to me for Strictly speaking, it should be ," but try calling a bee that name ow it sticks on the tongue.) She crowds, always in a hurry, her hum cut off clean in the middle unged her head into flower after and out, in and out, at the in- ate of thirty a minute.

were other sorts also, large and ck and chestnut, all blacks, black w, black and lemon-tipped, and the bumbledom of East Kent ch other in their eagerness, not for , as far as a human tongue could re was none in the flower tubes. for pollen, then the gathering was is, except in the case of one tiny yellow bumble in miniature, bear- takable cream lumps on its legs, h an odd likeness to little loaves.

hours by the Comfrey in early vatching the various bees, learning rent hums by heart, until at last ll when a new sort of visitor had y the new noise. The plants n and on for weeks, and a few ve even appeared again since the n. A. H. TULLOCH.

of 1929 in a Scottish garden

candid criticisms of the egregious n Mr. Blair's article last year have me" is abundantly clear from his e issue for August 17th. In this, is former "replies" to my critic- ole defence or refutation of my es in the utter evasion of the real d, far worse be it said, in the re- f a gross misstatement of my nd further letters on the subject. er, page 559, Mr. Blair repeats his ong attribution to me of a state- h I never made, or even suggested. *id* say, as I have had to remind e, was that most of the "faults ncies he mentioned were 'consti- nd not 'seasonal,' and in an alto- erent category from lack of colour . . ., etc., which soil, locality, or season may and do exaggerate and show up."

In his article of August 25th, 1928, Mr. Blair set out to discuss "seasonal" failings in some Roses he has. What he really did was to become utterly confused between "seasonal" and "constitutional" failings to such a degree as to make his opening paragraph or two a futile absurdity! It was upon this that I chiefly criticised him, and, amongst other examples, cited the case of the hanging of their heads by Geo. Dickson and Los Angeles, which habit he deplored in an article purporting to discuss the effects of the season! I asked Mr. Blair plain questions, such as "What had last season in particular to do with G. Dickson or Los Angeles hanging their heads?" and "Was this the first and only time these Roses had displayed this fault?" To not one of my questions has he ever replied. The fact is, and he evidently does not relish it, he cannot do so without acknowledging his error and confusion in his article.

Blue Comfrey, much beloved of bumble bees

I note that in order to alleviate his injured feelings at being in a hole Mr. Blair commits himself to a still further repetition of his misassertions! "It will be interesting to know," he says, "how it is possible to say that a Rose is either good or bad, let the season be what it likes!" His interest is easily satisfied! All he needs to learn is the difference between Los Angeles hanging its head every year and Betty Uprichard being variable in colour, between "constitutional" and "seasonal" failings!

Skipton, Yorks. J. R. K.

Dianthus Atkinsoni

This, as I recently saw it, is an exquisitely lovely plant, quite one of the aristocrats of a large, varied, and beautiful family. The silver-grey Carnation-like leaves are in lovely contrast with the large single rosy-crimson, almost scarlet, flowers, and a few plants will provide a feature rich in beauty and full of interest. This very fine and rather scarce hybrid will enjoy a position in full sunshine and a root-run of gritty loam. Another Pink of merit is Dianthus x Spark, a few inches in height, with green foliage and large single blossoms coloured a full, rich crimson. It is not as yet very plentiful, but when better known should be assured of more than an ordinary measure of popularity, as it is a "good doer" and free-flowering.

Dianthus barbatus magnificus is in reality a dwarf, compact Sweet William, carrying a profusion of small, double crimson flowers. It is, I believe, a true perennial, but my own experience is that a batch of cuttings rooted annually will give the best results. This is a first-rate plant for providing a drift of bright and vivid colour upon the rock garden, and like its ubiquitous relative, it grows and flowers freely in any ordinarily good soil. A soil not too rich is, perhaps, preferable for this interesting Dianthus. Cuttings root with great rapidity and much ease, so that a considerable stock is easily acquired. It is a pity that the old favourite, Napoleon III., is not more frequently encountered, but it was ever a rather difficult matter to maintain a stock of it; its tireless flowering militated against the production of growths suitable for cuttings, so that the brilliant double flowers carried upon the neat plants are not so often seen as one would like. I used to obtain a fair number of cuttings by assiduously removing the flower-buds from a plant or two, and even then a great proportion of the resultant growths "showed for flower" immediately.

Yet another hybrid Pink brought to my notice this summer is Dianthus x Chelsea, of upright growth, 6 inches or 7 inches high, the flowers a somewhat strident shade of rosy-red, with a suspicion of magenta. It is, however, a brilliant plant of free growth, and one easily capable of some fine colour effects in the rock garden, providing its neighbours are chosen with care.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Cirencester, Glos.

Mechanical cultivation

I regret that pressure of work in other directions has prevented my replying to the remarks of "A Scottish Gardener" on page 511 of the issue of "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED" for July 27th.

"A Scottish Gardener" states that "I fear he" (Jack) "cannot have read carefully the question raised by 'A. D. D. G.' My recollection is that specifically he desired information not for the commercial gardens to which 'Jack' refers, but for a private garden in order that the latter may 'pay its way.'" I fail to see any great distinction between a commercial garden and a private garden that is made to "pay its way." Surely a commercial one has to do that? I know that if a commercial garden does not pay its way the owner very soon goes out of business, and also that sometimes a gardener in a private place that is supposed to pay its way fails to achieve that object.

"A Scottish Gardener," of course, has not used mechanical cultivation sufficiently to test it, or he would not fail to see the need sometimes of going over the work twice. Going over the work twice allows the mechanical cultivator to go over the hard places twice, and after the second time over the whole area is cultivated evenly to the required depth.

May I with all seriousness assure the critic of mechanical cultivation that garden boys are using mechanical cultivators, and that it is customary, both in commercial gardens and in private gardens which do pay their way, to use the cheapest labour to do any given job, provided the said work is done efficiently.

Finally, I had no axe to grind. I have never sold a mechanical cultivator in my

The pool in the rock garden

Canterbury Bells in many colours

IN A COLCHESTER GARDEN

life, but my object was to pass on my experience of mechanical cultivators which seemed to differ somewhat to that of "A Scottish Gardener." JACK.

Yucca recurva

The noble Yucca which you figured (issue August 3rd, page 535) in fine flower, under the name of Yucca gloriosa, is in reality Y. recurva, as may be seen by the leaves, which reflex elegantly, which is not the case with the stiff, bayonet-like leaves of Yucca gloriosa. Moreover, Y. gloriosa is a late autumn flower. Yucca recurva is by far the best plant for most English gardens. It is the hardiest and also the freest in flower.

EDWARD H. WOODALL.

Scarborough.

Fritillaria imperialis

The praise bestowed on the Crown Imperials by Mr. H. Stevens (page 563) is well deserved. Their rapid development in the spring is always a delight and their fresh foliage and flowers are very welcome. It is indeed fortunate that the disagreeable smell of the bulb—very similar to that emitted by bruised leaves of some species of Codonopsis—is not noticeable in other parts of the plant.

The reason for the present note is that the writer's experience with Crown Imperials is very different, in some respects, from that of Mr. Stevens. The idea that they strongly object to being lifted and replanted frequently is a common one, but the fact that the bulb has a short period of complete dormancy, during which the flowering stem and all the roots decay, suggests that lifting may not be harmful if carried out at the right time. The practice adopted by the writer is to lift the bulbs annually as soon as the foliage has withered and to lay them out in a light, airy shed. The white skin rapidly assumes a bright purple colour, and after a few days the old stem may be pulled out of the bulb, bringing with it the few remaining dead roots, and thus leaving a circular hole through the bulb and not merely the cavity to which Mr. Stevens refers. The bulb is in no way injured by this treatment. Replanting must take place before new roots appear—the first or second week in August is an appropriate time—and providing the bulbs are well surrounded by sand, there should be no necessity to plant them on their sides. So treated, the flowering and rate of increase leave nothing to be desired. N. K. G.

Wisley, Surrey.

A Colchester garden

I ENCLOSE two photographs of my garden. The pool in the rock garden has been made by my gardener. It is 10 feet long and from 4½ feet to 5 feet wide, depth at one end 4 feet and 18 inches. It is surrounded by a bank on one side of various Ferns and Primroses and on the other side with Rhododendrons. The other picture is of Canterbury Bells, double or Cup-and-saucer. This bed, about 50 plants, was a beautiful show of colour, pale pink, salmon, white, pale cream, cream, mauve, pale mauve, and one plant in mauve almost black. These plants were grown by R. Rogers, gardener at Eastwell House, Colchester, and the seeds supplied from Sutton and Sons, Reading. MRS. DES BARRES.

Colchester.

Lilium philippinense formosanum Price's Variety

It is gratifying to find that this beautiful Lily has proved so generally hardy. Unfortunately, in the south it makes its growth too early, and may be injured by late frosts, but in the greater part of Scotland, where it has been tried, it does not suffer in this way, and is becoming more and more appreciated by those who have seen it. It may interest growers or would-be growers of this Lily to learn that it does very well in the south-west of Scotland, not only in mild places, such as Logan, but even in the Dumfriesshire hills some 350 feet above sea level. For three or four years I have observed a colony of Price's Variety of this Lily in the latter place, and it does not appear to have suffered at all, although it has been unprotected during even the past winter. It is exceedingly fine, growing from 2 feet to 3 feet high, and bearing large trumpet-shaped flowers with prettily reflexed tips, and shaded externally with crimson-brown. It has
also the merit of fragrance. It sh
planted about 6 inches deep and th
covered with sand. S. A

Saxifraga signata

The other day, during a short
Messrs. Oliver and Hunter's nur
Moniaive, Mr. Adamson drew my atte
a new Saxifrage, received under th
of S. signata. It is not a plant wh
be appreciated by the many, but it i
while to mention it in case anyone
purchase it because of the name and i
rare or novel. Mr. Adamson's verd
the same as my own, that S. signat
a plant which will generally appe
origin was not known, but from its
appearance I imagine that it is one
American species, few of which are
tive plants. It is of erect habit, wi
lance-shaped leaves and leafy stems
6 inches to 9 inches high, bearing
summit several flowers of a colou
may be described as a dull crimson
if that will convey anything to the
Crimson would carry the impres
greater brightness than the blooms
It is one of the moisture-loving Sa
and is apparently quite hardy.

S. A

Annuals this year

The note over the *nom de plume*
Riding" (page 575 in the issue of
24th) interested me in a special de
cause, by a coincidence, I had been t
just before "GARDENING ILLUST
came to my hands that evening, h
well the majority of hardy annuals-
sown—had done in the course of the
season. Like the writer, I have ha
success with many of these showy s
like him, also, in an outstanding w
the Hound's Tongue (Cynoglossum).
never known Lavatera trimestris t
fine. I have a hedge, literally,
beautiful Mallow, which, by actual m
ment, is 8 feet 9 inches in heigh
which is simply a mass of bloom.
passes anything which I have previou
The hedge is 25 yards in length, an
the time of writing, more showy th

eet Peas. Calendula officinalis, the old
Scottish Marigold, is exuberant,
ria calabrica is very fine indeed,
hila insignis is equally effective, and if
a bicolor is now on the wane, it pro-
n excellent display over a prolonged
Bartonea aurea, a trifle straggling
, Poppies of kinds, and including my
te P. umbrosum, as well as the popu-
rley, have been more than usually
us, while the dwarf Nasturtium, Em-
f India, in a border 150 yards in
is smothered with its deeply crimson
Half-hardy annuals have not been
. Nemesia, though brilliant for a
is now bedraggled. Asters and
too, are "under the weather."
ds, and especially Legion of Honour,
, are more than good, while long
of Antirrhinums are, as usual, the
of the basket." By the by, Mig-
has with me been an utter and un-
d failure this season, much to my

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

lium pardalinum giganteum

UM PARDALINUM is one of the
American Lilies, being frequently
cribed as such in British publications.
usually referred to as a California
ubtless many of your readers will be
d to learn that some of the choicest
f it are from the adjoining State of

ccompanying illustrations show what
w as Lilium pardalinum giganteum
g in the gardens of M. Lloyd Frank,
hy Portland merchant, whose estate
ifully situated in the hills overlook-
City and the Willamette River.
ilies in early July supply the domi-
te in the gardens, where they grow
ll, over-topping everything else then
r. They are the particular pride of
as. H. Smith, superintendent of the
an Englishman, formerly with the
rrers, of Leicestershire, and at Wad-
ussex.

pardalinum giganteum, a superior
orm in colour and stature

Lilium pardalinum giganteum, 9 feet tall, over-topping all else in the flower border

This Lily, which is much superior to the ordinary L. pardalinum, both in colour and stature, has but recently been commercially grown. It has been flourishing in a country home garden near Portland for 40 years, according to the family who have lived there during that time. They did not plant it, and do not know its origin. Dr. David Griffiths, senior horticulturist of the U.S. Bureau of Plant Industry, thinks it may contain blood of Lilium Humboldtii, being possibly a natural hybrid. The bulb grows to enormous size, retaining the rhizomatious character common to Bog Lilies.

Illustrative of the great vigour of this variety is the fact that when the old bulbs were dug, about five years ago, they were found to be approximately 3 feet deep, having sent up their spikes through that depth of soil annually. Apparently they had been gradually covered in the course of years by soil from an overhanging bank.

The natural range of Lilium pardalinum lies west of the Cascades and Sierras, as far north as the Umpqua Valley in Oregon, and southward to Monterey County, California.

CARLETON YEREX.

Tigard, Oregon, U.S.A.

Bulbs direct from Holland

The above phrase seems to lure many of our amateur growers into sending their orders to Holland instead of giving them to an English retailing firm. As a member of one of the latter, I would like to point out some of the reasons for giving the Englishman the first chance.

The matter of price is probably the first thing which tempts the buyer. I have carefully studied the lists of many retailing Dutch firms, and find that the best of these, who really cultivate a large area of land and are able to offer bulbs of their own growing, are little, if any, cheaper than progressive English firms.

There is another class of Dutch grower who floods us with bulb lists, whose prices are ridiculously low, but what kind of bulbs do these men send out? Answer, any kind of stuff they can pick up at sales, which may be true to name, but very often is not. I have seen bulbs sent from one of these firms. They were Hyacinths still in their babyhood which might have made saleable bulbs in another year or two, but as sent out were absolutely useless. The man who bought them brought flowers to show me, and the spikes had about three or four miserable blooms on them. He was so disgusted that he pulled them up and threw them on the rubbish heap!

Again, last year, a Dutch firm was advertising Tulips at very low rates. A Dutch friend of mine asked me to buy a few and test them. I did so. Results: Narcissus Victoria turned out to be princeps, and not very good. Some Polyanthus Narcissi were very poor; and of some seven varieties of bedding Tulips, not one was true to name, and most of them not even the same class of colour. Bright red for purple, white for pink, etc., was the order of the day! Further, we hear so much about Dutch bulbs that some get to think that every bulb in creation is grown to perfection in Holland; but this is not so. The Dutch are wonderful growers, and I would be the last to say otherwise, but their soil and climate are not suitable for all bulbous subjects. Freesias, Paper-white Narcissi, and many Lilies are grown in France and Japan, while Daffodils and May-flowering Tulips can be grown quite as well and even better on British soil. I claim, therefore, that the English retailer, having the pick of the whole of Holland, France, Guernsey, Japan, and England to select from, is in as good a position, or even better, to sell the best of bulbs as is any Dutchman. Again, have the people who send their orders "direct to Holland" ever thought how many trades are affected in addition to the bulb merchant? Boxmakers, bag and papermakers, spring makers, printers, and last, but not least, the British working man, are all losers by this rush to deal with the foreigner rather than the home firm.

I would, therefore, urge that the amateur who intends to send an order to Holland for his bulbs should, first, carefully consider if he is really going to benefit by doing so, and, secondly, how much good money he will be

Othonnopsis cheirifolia on stone wall at Munstead Wood

sending abroad which might be shared by his own countrymen in various walks of life.

Support home industries!

An English Grower and Retailer of Bulbs.

Polygonum campanulatum

In reply to A. M. D. H. Rogers, *re* Polygonum campanulatum (page 543), I am able to say that a plant growing on the top of the rock garden here came through the winter quite unharmed, and without protection.

Southwell, Notts. H. J.

Rock gardens at Chelsea

Mr. Wood's "short" reply to my recent letter seems to me to be an agglomeration of evasions, misunderstandings, and contradictions. He says I compare the "majestic" with the "pretty" style, and that a good critic must not compare instances of unlike styles. I do not accept the classification, and I say here and now that he is guilty of infringing his own dictum. In a previous letter he says of these same two styles: "I preferred the 'severity' and 'imitation' of the one to the flat and rather monotonous prettiness of the other." That is a rather good instance of Mr. Wood's controversial methods. Here is another.

He perverts my words to make it seem that I took the opinion on this matter of "lesser lights" only, and suggests that I was too much afraid of what their answer would be to seek that of "greater lights." My actual words were "verdicts from leading exhibitors, lesser lights, and private persons"—three distinct categories, thus ensuring a fairly representative consensus of opinion. I suggest that my opponent should at least do me the justice of reading my letters carefully before answering them.

I have to thank Mr. Wood for his lesson in the technique of painting. I confess quite freely that in common with most other exponents of rock work I know little or nothing of that branch of art, and less of the technical terms used. I confess, too, that because of that I did misunderstand Mr. Wood's use of "flat." But I fail to see that a knowledge of technical terms is necessary to a right appreciation of art. Even with Mr. Wood's elucidation of the term, I cannot agree that De Smet's work was "flat."

Further, Mr. Wood knows, as well as I do, that, as my photograph of the show will make plain, the viewpoint at Chelsea is strictly limited. What with crowds of people and crowded exhibits, one has at most times to stand right in front of a garden before one can obtain a good view of it. A distant view is more or less of an impossibility.

To conclude, I admit the charge of youth, and glory in it. Mr. De Smet is about my own age, and has already won for his work a silver-gilt and two gold medals, a silver cup, and the Sherwood Cup. Of course, Mr. Wood's notable contempt for awards will enable him to overlook this otherwise clear testimony to the value of De Smet's work.

Taplow. P. Penrose.

Exhibition Gladioli

I most cordially agree with "H." (page 574) in his outspoken criticism of the Gladioli which came under his notice at the "fortnightly" of the Royal Horticultural Society. Although I did not see the exhibits, I have not the least difficulty in visualising them in my mind's eye—I am too familiar with these heavy and over-grown spikes. Size—size—size. Such appears to be the aim of exhibitors of Gladioli, not only at the R.H.S. show but at every little village exhibition. For real beauty the Primulinus section is far and away superior to the florid bloom and the stiff spikes of the florist's (or exhibitor's) Gladiolus. No doubt "H." will suffer for his temerity, but he is right. I envy him his droll gift of description: "A bunch of Gladiolus primulinus type, which looked like the timid author of a successful musical comedy taking his call in the middle of an exuberant beauty chorus." "H.," in addition to his gift of shrewd criticism, has also the gift of humour. More power to him.

A Scottish Gardener.

Asarum europæum

I was interested in a note in a recent issue in connection with this little-known plant. The writer tells us that this Asarum is useful for dry situations. No doubt it is;
also found it very useful indeed in dam
semi-boggy, places in which nothing el
satisfactory. The leaves, to some exte
semble those of the Cyclamen—they a
dark green colour and very glossy.

A Scottish Garde

Othonnopsis cheirifolia

FOR a warm place in any kind of
or rockwork there is no more ef
plant than this native of the
African coasts. Happily it may be
sidered hardy in all but the least favo
of the climates and conditions of our is
The severe cold of the last winter c
some of our plants and killed a few he
there in South-West Surrey, but the il
tion shows how a good plant growing
top of a range of dry walling has su
and is flinging its long growths dow
face of the wall. The bunches of
shaped leaves of thick, leathery textur
its glaucous colouring always make it
common and interesting plant. The p
the late winter seems to have check
production of the usual strong, yellow,
shaped flowers, but the plant is so good
out them that their absence is hardly
regretted. G

Tropæolum speciosum in Wal

When seen in really good condition
well nigh impossible to describe in too
ing terms the beauty of this grand per
climber. In Scotland it invariably grow
flowers splendidly, but in the drie
mosphere and more sunny climate of
land it is seldom seen in a thriving con
on account of being planted in dry,
soils. If, however, planted in ordinary
soils, with a clay sub-soil to retain mo
and the growth is allowed to ramble
shrubs or a framework of Pea sticks,
results may be secured in most district

It was my good fortune recently,
leisurely enjoying the romantic scen
North Wales, to come unexpectedly in
of a luxurious plant in all its go
beauty. This was growing in wild pro
over the walls of a whitewashed c
situated on a terrace-like ridge at the b
one of the numerous mountains in the
bourhood of Bettws-y-Coed. The aspec
a northern one, and the numerous
around the cottage rendered the p
rather shady. These favourable cond
combined with the high rainfall of th
trict had induced this moisture-
Tropæolum to exhibit its best form.
shoots along the greater part of their
were wreaths of brilliant scarlet fl
which could have no better foundati
which to display their charms than the
green foliage of the plant and the whit
beneath and around. No stranger coul
that cottage without giving its br
creeper more than a passing notice. B
that fact I think the good housewife,
I noticed within, would have been in
to regard my glaring admiration as a
warranted display of inquisitiveness.

Later in the day I saw many other
of this Tropæolum growing on w
cottages, and it is evident that the c
of North Wales is well adapted for it
ture, which might with advantage be g
extended in the Principality.

Thousands of British people go each
to other lands to enjoy the invigo
breezes and diverting scenes of mounta
regions, but until they have been in Bet
Coed and along the valley which runs
it to Llangollen, they have not seen th
their native land can show, and who, h
seen, would not be delighted with the

ıks, fairy glens, shady vales, rock- vaterfalls, and broad, sparkling lakes s? H. D.

he popularity of Violas

one sees Violas in mass in scores of thoroughly well done there is no as to the reason for their popularity, in addition to their freedom and tinued blooming season, they give in riety almost every shade of colour exception of scarlet, and this has he exclusion of many dwarf plants used at one time but now shelved in of the Pansies, as the dwarfest n, Gazania splendens, Tagetes and the white Alyssum. Those re- ither supply a shade unknown in the as in Linum grandiflorum, or have arity of their own, as in Cuphea tra. A grand point in favour of the of these Pansies is their adaptability ation with so many different plants, rdy and tender, as Roses and Pent- in the one and Fuchsias and Be- n the other, and many other things as *bonâ fide* greenhouse or stove at are occasionally used in the flower I noted above the free and continu- ming of these Pansies, but it must nbered that this is only obtained by culture and making sure that the ways fairly moist, the latter secured d soaking and a surface mulching if her prove hot and dry. In addition many different shades commonly nd planted, some new varieties have roduced in recent years in copper vn which serve as capital carpet Roses of similar hue.

E. B. S. H.

Chimney Bellflower (Campanula pyramidalis)

is a fine subject for the decoration large conservatory, as shown in the npanying photograph taken in the ory at Audleys Wood, Basingstoke, ence of Mrs. L. de L. Simonds.

eds from which these plants were ere sown during the summer of young plants being wintered in a ne and planted out in the garden ving spring, where they remained pring of this year, the only protec- received being a covering of Fir during the abnormally severe of last winter.

otting up into their flowering pots ime, the plants were placed in a ne, where they soon started fresh being subsequently removed to the where they did very well, with ttention as regards watering, a nount of liquid manure, consisting soot-water, being afforded, under eatment the plants have developed ging from 5 feet to 7 feet in height, literally covered with flowers, some are blue and some white.

dvisable in selecting a piece of or growing the plants during the mer to choose that which is of a ure, as, if the soil is of a clayey e plants are liable to develop a leaf which denudes the plants of a con- amount of their foliage, and etracts from their appearance, so e soil is heavy it should be made the addition of grit or similar as there is very little room for soil in the pots when the plants up into their flowering pots, which t 12 inches in diameter inside

R. W. Dean.

Wood Gardens, Basingstoke.

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine and its different forms

Few plants have attained such a hold on popular favour as Begonia Gloire de Lorraine, for it is still largely grown both in private gardens and in nurseries where flowering plants of a decorative character are cultivated, while the amateur with but a single glass structure finds it equally useful, supplying as it does a bit of bright colour in early winter. It was raised by M. Lemoine, of Nancy, in 1891, and distributed two years later. The parents were B. socotrana (which has since given us many beautiful winter-flowering hybrids) and B. Dregei, an old species native of South Africa. It is questionable if the raiser ever anticipated the great popularity that B. Gloire de Lorraine would attain; indeed, it was, I believe, very scarce in France till one or two of our large market growers took it in hand and turned out model little specimens full of flower, which gained the admiration of everyone. From that time its culture extended, till now there is no other variety of Begonia grown to anything like the same extent as this is. The typical form, with its bright rosy-pink blossoms, remained for some time the only representative of this section, till in 1889 two sports therefrom were brought before the public. They were Mrs. Leopold de Rothschild and Caledonia. The first-named is a good deal in the way of the type, but differs therefrom in its rather more compact habit and larger flowers, but particularly in its colour, which is of a clear pink, and affords a pleasing variety to the commoner kind.

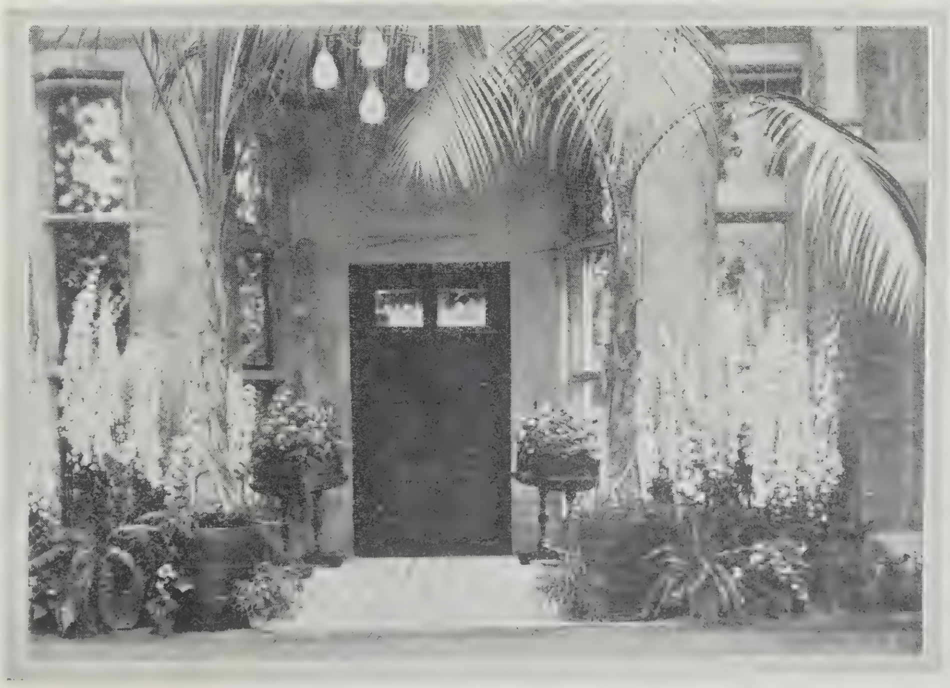
Caledonia was, when first distributed, spoken of as a pure white Gloire de Lorraine, but the older flowers are tinged on the exterior with a dull pink, a shade that finds favour with very few people, hence it never became popular, for it proved to be a weak, unsatisfactory grower and very liable to die off. This objection cannot, however, be urged against the later sport, Turnford Hall, which was first shown at a meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society in October, 1901. It differs from the typical Gloire de Lorraine in being more vigorous, and with somewhat larger blossoms, which are in colour white, tinged with rose.

Cultivation.—The culture of the Gloire de Lorraine race of Begonias is not at all exacting, the principal difficulty being to obtain good cuttings in the spring, as the plant is so free-flowering that it will continue to bloom instead of growing, and it is useless to propagate from cuttings of the flowering shoots, as they will not branch out, but continue to produce blossoms. The best cuttings are obtained from old plants that have done flowering, and if they are shortened back about February they will in time push out young shoots from the base. When these shoots are from $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 2 inches long they make the best of cuttings, particularly if taken off close to the old stem. Put into well-drained pots of light, sandy soil, pressed down only moderately firm, they will soon root if placed in a close propagating case in a gentle heat. Care must be taken not to over-water, otherwise the cuttings are liable to damp off. Directly they are rooted more air must be given, and though the young plants succeed best in a gentle heat early in the year, later on they may be grown in a greenhouse or frame, though when the nights get cold in autumn a little heat is again necessary. A mixture of loam and leaf-mould, with a sprinkling of sand, will suit this Begonia, but when the pots get full of roots an occasional dose of liquid manure is of great service.

White-fruited Billardiera fruticosa

We have long been acquainted with the beautiful dark blue fruits of B. longiflora from Tasmania, and now, thanks to a friend, I have a fine plant of the white-fruited kind, which in its way is equally attractive. As the blue-fruited kind is liable to get touched with frost during severe weather, I decided to grow the white one in a large jar, keeping it in a cool house during the winter and until part of its fruits had set, when it was stood out in the open. This has proved very successful, the plant having set a large quantity of handsome white fruits which are slightly stained with blue. The plant is about 3 feet in height and 2 feet through, the fruits being suspended in an airy and very beautiful manner.

E. Markham.



The Chimney Campanula (C. pyramidalis)

A window box at Walworth and a back garden near Southwark Bridge

Gardening in the East End

We publish this article with the express object of calling attention to the good work done by the London Children's Gardens Fund. The Secretary is Lady Lyons, 4, Adelaide Mansions, Queen's Gate, S.W. 7

Cinders and brickbats, gravel and soot!
Poor soil for gardening, do you say?
Not a bit of it! Come along to the East End and see how we do it.
Your chauffeur won't mind? I'll show him the way.

" Commercial Road. The name seems familiar. Oh, yes! Thomas Burke, ' Limehouse Nights,' etc. Yes! It's always rather crowded in the day time. Horse traffic, you see."

We creep past the shops.

Apfelbaum — Krilowsky — Screzeny — Bluthmann—Abrahamovitch . . . .

" Oh to be in England! "

" First to the left—now right—we'll stop here; you can't turn at the bottom."

A passage dives under the houses and we mount the steps to a solid and well-locked door.

A knock brings the lady guardian who inspires and directs this hallowed acre.

" The children will be here soon; they spend most of the evening here. There's nowhere else for them to play, except in the streets."

Small, grave-like plots extend over the whole area and are edged around with bricks set at an angle to give a serrated edging, and in each a small peg proclaims the owner's name. Vegetables, of course, come first: Onions, Spinach, Lettuce, Parsnips, and Radishes, of course, their quick maturity endearing them to youthful gardeners.

Turnips—here they are. No signs of flea; strong vigorous leaves!

" No manure except soot, which costs us nothing."

" Our worst pests are thieves and cats—live cats, that is. Our local knowledge enables us to return the dead ones."

And after the vegetables—the Marigolds. Marigolds everywhere lifting their courageous gold above the grime.

Virginian Stock fills the borders with its cheery stars. Runner beans mount the walls hopefully, giving a welcome note of colour.

A rush of feet and a sound of shrill voices. Through the gate they come, clean and dirty, small and smaller, elder sisters, grave with the responsibility of families.

Like exhibitors at the country show when judging is done, they spread out and rush, each to his own plot.

Has that Marigold bud opened yet?

Will those Radishes have attained a size which will gain consent for their gathering?

All gardeners know this dear, familiar thrill after a short absence!

Then to watering! Now this is what we really like. From the shed we take our numbered cans and join the queue at the water tap. And when we water, we do it well.

Not merely is the dry earth well soaked, but each leaf must glisten with refreshing drops and take on a richer green for our trouble. And then the paths, too! Why should they be dry and dusty? Back to the tap again!

But we must leave the busy clamour; there is our newest plot to be seen. You will then know with what sort of material we start.

And so, to the streets again. Past the small two-storied houses which stretch interminably, it seem, on right and left. We turn down a side street, and, after an amicable discussion as to priority with a lorry driver in a narrow turning, we stop at a newly-fenced corner site—" our recreation ground " —soon to be a garden.

A wilderness of bricks and rubble, all that
was not worth taking away after t
struction of buildings which, for perh
century or more, have kept the light
Mother Earth.

Poor, starved soil, what can we
from you after these years; a cent
darkness and neglect?

" Remove the bricks," says Mother
" dig me over, and in a year I shal
regained my fertility."

And so the incredible happens, witho
well-rotted manure and humus whic
spoiled countrymen consider indispe
this marvellous regeneration begins.

Though on this present plot, starte
in the spring, there are but six newly-p
Marigolds, drooping to earth in the
heat, yet these are enough to encoura
army of eager enthusiasts. Spades and
are wielded with fury, water-cans con
to lay the dust, and those weaker br
whose faith does not carry them to the
of next year's hope, may build the hou
their dreams in a secluded corner.

Such is the good work of the London
dren's Gardens and Recreation Fund,
limited income is spent in rent, rates
expenses of the garden supervisors.

More power to their civilising efforts
we hope that in the clearing of the
now proceeding a thought will be gi
such gardens. Let us not give up to a
the entire playing spaces, but prese
small area of open soil for such activ
enthusiastic gardeners.

But our time is up, and we make f
car which now stands with its bonnet
westward, and a visible hope of deliv
on the chauffeur's face.

As we pass the gate we are stopped.
is it? Something we have missed?

Towards us comes an elder sister su
ing a small and rather grubby young
man whose newly-acquired art of w
has not yet the finish which comes f
year's practice.

With the grim concentration, chara
tic of his years, he clutches an old t

A small back garden, good from every point of view, in the heart of London

ch we are reluctantly allowed to ex-
It is half-filled with soil from which
a hopeful crop of Mustard and Cress.
happy and valiant young gardener.
ck to your efforts in the coming

ing Snake's-head Fritillarias

aria Meleagris and other chequered
e so happy in meadow or copse, and
tiful withal that, being so inexpen-
uch more should be done with them
and similar places. The more inter-
nd rarer kinds, in a general way,
found content in good garden soil and
oam especially. Others that come to
warmer, sunnier climes may be given
e hottest place in the garden without
doing them harm. Early autumn is
planting season for the dry roots,
time should now be lost in conclud-
important work. The following are
nore deserving of general cultiva-

RENAICA.—If of a rather dull purple
colour externally, there is an elegant
about this good hardy kind, and the
is relieved by the beauty of the inside
lower. The perianth, too, is finely
at the mouth, and this, in greater
reveals the fine reticulations within.
nt grows 15 inches high, and some
inches through at base, in a stony
r well-drained soil, have remained
ears without disturbance. The in-
not rapid, but steady. Pyrenees.

CURVA.—A well-grown spike of this
e or well-nigh unique species is hard
to beat. Unique in rich scarlet of the perianth, which is finely recurved at the point of the segments, it is also remarkable for the minor markings of yellow with which it is endowed. Rising to 12 inches, and sometimes as many as 18 inches, the spikes will bear three, or possibly three times this number, of its lovely flowers. It is a Californian species, and, therefore, delights in a warm position. At the same time a good depth of soil should be given it, and a soil mixture of peat, loam, and leaf-soil about equally, with a liberal addition of sharp sand. As a pot plant, or a plant to grow among rare things whose hardiness may leave room for doubt, this has much to commend it. In the open only the sunniest spot should be given it.

F. VERTICILLATA THUNBERGI, from China and Japan, is a neat plant whose long, narrow lineal leaves, each of which terminates with a recurved-like tendril, always attracts attention. The solitary pendent bell-shaped flowers are mottled with pale purple on a greenish ground.

F. WALUJEWI.—A handsome species from Central Asia, the exterior of the perianth silvery-grey and internally nearly blood-red. The flowers are large and handsome, and the colour distinct and good. It is not lacking either in beauty or novelty of colouring. The plant is about 1 foot high.

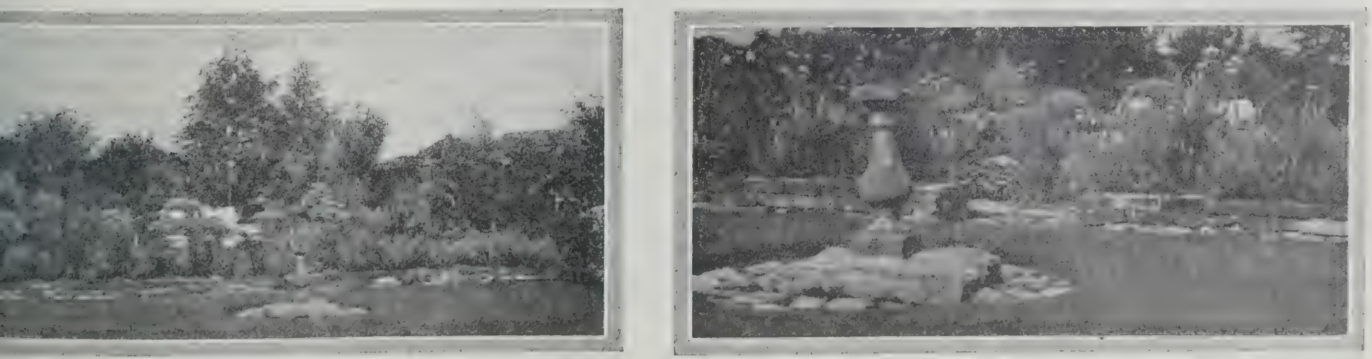
F. WHITTALLI is a beautiful kind worthy of association with the last-named. Its flowers are beautifully tesselated, both inside and outside, with reddish-crimson on a greenish yellow ground.

The above by no means exhaust the list of the curious and beautiful forms of this genus, but a pleasing selection may be obtained therefrom, giving flowers for quite a lengthened period in the spring months of the year.

Scabiosa pterocephala

This charming little plant is a native of Greece. It is a dwarf, tufted perennial, and a most desirable and worthy subject, well adapted for growing in the rock garden, dry wall, or even in the flower border; it may also be employed successfully as an edging plant in some situations where conditions prevail necessitating the use of a rather uncommon plant which possesses the characteristic qualities of being both neat and ornamental. Undoubtedly a good place for this plant is a sunny wall, or a warm position on rock work, growing the plants in groups with a view to producing a massed effect. It is an ideal subject for growing in association with other grey foliage plants, such as Achillea umbellata, Artemisia sericea, Nepeta Mussini, dwarf Lavender, Santolina incana, the Lavender Cotton, and others. The plant forms a dense mass of somewhat greyish foliage which in summer is surmounted by numerous fairly large mauve-purple flower-heads from 1 inch to 1½ inches in diameter, supported on short, stout stems about 3 inches to 4 inches long. Although a comparatively easy plant to cultivate in ordinary garden soil, it succeeds best in a light, warm soil in an open, sunny position. This plant is also known and goes occasionally under the name of Pterocephalus parnassi.

J. L.



vell-planned London back garden, with lawn, sundial, low stone wall, and rock garden. Nepeta Messini, Lavatera, and Antirrhinums make a fine show in this garden

THE CHEDDAR GORGE

This fine view is worthy of careful study. It has been an inspiration to the builders of rock gardens on bold and natural lines

Delphinium Cultivation

THE Delphinium is every year being more grown, and some amazing effects are to be seen in a variety of positions; in fact, there is no part of the garden where the plant is out of place. When we come to the question of its culture the first point to be considered is the preparation of the soil. The Delphinium in this respect displays a truly wonderful adaptability, for it will thrive just as well on heavy soil as on a light and warm one, provided it is well prepared and planting carried out at the best time. There are two distinct periods for planting, according to the nature of the soil. The month of September is the best time for planting on light, warm soils, as the roots then get a good hold in their new position and fine spikes are secured the first season after planting. To plant at such a time upon a cold, heavy soil would spell disaster, and the end of March or early April is the best time. At this period there is a gradual but steady warming of the soil, which provides just the conditions for the plants to re-establish themselves, even though there is something lost in stature and quality of the flowers the first year.

To plant a Delphinium properly entails as much care as does a choice Rose or fruit tree, therefore a really large hole should be taken out so that the roots may be spread out to their full length. There must be deep digging of the soil, at the same time working in a generous supply of good, well-decayed manure, for the clumps will not be disturbed again for some years. Directly planting is finished cover the crowns with sharp sand or ashes, or the slugs and snails will soon commit havoc with the young shoots, which they regard as a great dainty. If their attacks are not frustrated the plants will be absolutely ruined. Those who have an eye for the exhibition stage will require extra large spikes, therefore there must be thinning out of the stems in early spring to three or four of the strongest on each plant, and during the time the flower-spikes are growing there must be generous supplies of liquid-manure. The bearing of seed makes a very great demand on the roots, therefore unless these are really required the faded flower-spikes should be removed directly they are past their best. If the plants are cut down to within 6 inches of the ground immediately the first spikes are faded a second flowering is obtained in autumn. This treatment means the starting of the dormant eyes at the base, and growth quickly follows. The fact must not be lost sight of, however, that this practice places a great strain on the plants, and in the long-run will tell, no matter how you may try to compensate by extra supplies of food. The raising of plants from seed is a most interesting method of increasing one's collection, but it is as well to remember that the plant is so sportive that very few of the seedlings will bear any resemblance to the parents. A border or bed should be devoted to them for their first flowering—which is about 15 months after sowing—so that all the inferior ones are weeded out and only the very best retained for the garden borders. Choice named varieties are propagated by division, which requires care. The best plan I have found is to cut the plants down to within 6 inches of the soil when flowering is over, and then to pile over the crowns some light, rich soil about 18 inches high. The dormant buds start up from the base, and the growths coming up through the mound of soil emit roots on their way, and so division is greatly facilitated. Named varieties are literally legion, and some are very expensive, but in the following list I shall only name good forms which may be recommended with every confidence and can be obtained at a
moderate price:—Eva, pale blue,
centre, 3½ feet; Col. Sir Wyndham Mu
bright blue, white centre, 5½ feet; The A
purplish-blue, 4½ feet; Lavanda,
lavender, white centre, 5 feet; Mrs.
Watson, deep mauve, black centre, 7
Queen Mary, nemophila-blue, white ce
3½ feet; Rev. E. Lascelles, royal blue,
centre, 5 feet; Lilacina, deep lilac-m
4½ feet; Lord Curzon, marine-blue, white
4½ feet; Baroness H. Van Knoyll, sky-
5 feet; Harry Smetham, porcelain-
5 feet; and Francis F. Fox, dark blue, 5

F.

Spring-flowering shrubs for t
gardens

The owner of the moderate, or small t
garden does not always remember the
of spring-flowering shrubs, looking
them as something quite beyond his
It has, however, to be borne in mind
some of the most popular, though
grown in bush form, can be brought int
as climbers for walls and fences just as
Presently we shall be on the eve of the p
ing season, and a review of some o
plants most serviceable for the town gar
is here suggested. Let it be said at the
set that the plants afterwards enume
will thrive in quite ordinary soil, and,
established, the chief thing is to keep
within proper bounds by judicious pru
Our walls are drab enough during the
few months of the year, yet they need n
if we take advantage to plant the
known Jasminum nudiflorum and Fors
suspensa, both of which will envelope
yellow flowers before their leaves ap
Ere spring gives signs of her pre
Daphne Mezereum, with its spikes stu
with sweetly scented flowers of rosy-pu
opens. There is a white form, too.

As the season advances other favou
come into beauty. Who does not know

ing Currant (Ribes), often to be seen
try gardens in huge bushes with pun-
aves and flowers, and that other coun-
den tenant, the Jew's Mallow (Kerria
a flore-pleno)? Both these may be so
, if started young, that they will climb
and cover it with beauty in May,
h oftener seen as a shrub proper in
orm. Some shrubs that we should
include, as, for instance, the Lilac
ooms, often grow out of bounds in a
arden, and, unless one is prepared to
their growth, should be left out of
or something more staid. There is
hrub which ought to find more favour
own garden than it does, not because
lowers only, but for the bunches of
fruit which follow and remain a long
ne Cotoneasters. Of these one thinks
uxifolia as being very serviceable and
ve in a garden. Among compact-
little shrubs for a border there are
utzias, blooming in late spring and
mmer, like the old variety D. gracilis
crenata, with white flowers. And
e the Ceanothuses, which flower in
and on into autumn, loving a sunny
as a south wall border, or trained up
wall itself. There are many sorts in
shades of blue, from C. azureus to
autiful Gloire de Versailles and
nus. The choice of flowering shrubs
t end here. There are many others
serviceable, but enough has been said
ote prompts but a few readers to look
rubs for a town garden in a more
ole light.

MIDLANDER.

Gentiana lagodechiana

ne several forms of G. septemfida this
ne of the most distinct. It is, practi-
y speaking, a dwarf variety of that
being shorter and more slender in its
and smaller in all its parts. The
also rather more procumbent, but the
f blossom are held erect, and these
y as good in colour as those of the
lor are they more than a trifle smaller
e average specimen of the latter
s. G. lagodechiana usually flowers
ame time as G. septemfida. That is,
into bloom when the more familiar
pring Gentians have ceased, and will
ntinue to give masses of colour until
flowers of the autumn bloomers are
All forms of G. septemfida are
miable and truthworthy plants,
ng under almost any conditions with
of good will, and the very large,
en, bell-shaped flowers are of a shade
bright blue which is very attractive.
grown these Gentians for years in a
border just above a retaining wall,
en garden soil, and in a rather ill-
clayey medium at the margin of
nd in all cases they have done ad-
In a few years they form big
which, if lifted as soon as growth
spring, may be readily increased by
These plants are never given lime
orm or peat, but the soil is usually
ented with a little leaf-mould.

A. T. J.

his was first seen by me soon after
duction in the garden of Sir Herbert
, and I was glad to learn at that time
Herbert that this was a really good
Since I have grown it I have
to admire it, both from the point of
its beauty and also because it is such
actory grower in the rock garden.
it near the base, and it is well in
s this is written (August 16th), being
ter than usual with me. Farrer tells
t is a dwarf G. septemfida, and one
lisposed to dispute his opinion, at
ing the point of view of a gardener.
It has much the same habit as that valuable Gentian, with the advantage for the small rock garden of a dwarfer and neater habit. It has the same deep blue flowers, and at this season its flowers are highly acceptable. To add to this, it is exceedingly easy to grow. It is thriving well here in rather heavy loam and sand and on a level at the base of the rock garden. It does not appear to have any penchant for peat, leaf-soil, or lime.

S. ARNOTT.

Polygonum affine

A pretty, dwarf species from the Himalayas, P. affine is a most interesting and useful plant, providing a beautiful touch of colour from late summer onwards throughout autumn, and in favourable seasons well into the winter. The rosy-red flowers are produced in dense spikes on erect stems less than a foot high with the greatest freedom. These flowers rise from a dense mass of rich foliage, aptly described by one writer as lamb-tail-shaped, soft as down, and smell like heather. During the summer and early autumn the leaves are a pleasing bright green, which later in the season turn to a rich brick-red, and being persistent, the plant continues to be ornamental until the winter is well advanced. It is a rampant grower, with a natural creeping habit, rooting as it goes. On this account it is as well to plant it in a position where it can grow unrestricted without encroaching on other dwarf and less robust subjects. It is an easy plant to cultivate, and may be grown in any kind of soil, and almost any position, but it delights in a situation exposed to full sunshine. For growing on shelving portions on the upper parts of rock work, where the clumps can spread and overhang, it forms an ideal subject, with its fine flowers and beautiful lasting autumnal tints.

J. L.

The Loosestrifes (Lysimachia)

The value of the Loosestrifes is considerable, especially in damp places, such as by the side of a pond or stream. They vary much in height and appearance, from the tall, 3 feet L. vulgaris to the old plant known to many as the Moneywort, or Creeping Jenny (L. Nummularia).

A handsome June and July flower is L. barystachys, with spikes, some 18 inches high, of waving white Veronica-like flowers. L. clethroides is of about the same height and has curling spikes of white flowers. It is rather bolder than the foregoing, and is a good border plant for the same season. L. dahurica, 2 feet high, with sulphur-yellow flowers in pyramidal spikes, is a rare species of considerable beauty in summer, when it blooms. A little known Loosestrife, L. Henryi, which hails from China, is about 9 inches high, and is a welcome addition to the yellow species. It is suited to the damper parts of the rock garden or the border, and has clusters of good-sized yellow flowers in summer. L. Fortunei, 2 feet or so high, has drooping spikes of white in August and September. The fact of its foliage assuming a scarlet tint in autumn gives it additional value. It is almost unnecessary to say anything about L. Nummularia, the Moneywort, or Creeping Jenny, an old and popular trailing plant with rounded leaves and yellow flowers. The variety aurea has charming yellow foliage. That called minor is a miniature of the type, both leaves and flowers being only about half the size of those of the type. L. thyrsiflora, with close, small yellow flowers, is not one we care much for. It is 2 feet high and flowers in May and June. L. velutina, yellow, 2 feet high, blooming in summer, and the tall yellow L. vulgaris, flowering in July, are both suitable for the wild garden.

Roses from cuttings

Many of the climbing and rambling Roses, and also a few of the dwarfs, succeed admirably on their own roots. The present time is very suitable for securing cuttings. Shoots of moderate strength, secured with a " heel," are most certain to root. They may be inserted in pots of very sandy compost and set in a cold frame or else in a sheltered corner out-of-doors. In the latter case, see that the soil is pressed very firmly round each. When the cuttings are planted in the open it is necessary to insert a much larger number, as the percentage that will root is sometimes not very high.

Gentiana septemfida flowering in the corner of an old stone trough in a small enclosed garden

This good-natured Gentian is free flowering and the most amenable to cultivation

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine

The time has arrived for the final potting of this fine winter-flowering plant, a few of the strongest being selected to form extra large specimens. The compost should consist of three parts fine turfy loam, with the remainder made up of leaf-mould, a little peat and sand, and a little bone-meal. Pot moderately firm and take the utmost care to see that drainage is good. Continue to grow on in a brisk temperature, removing all flowers as they appear, and applying light stakes if necessary.

Gloxinias, Achimenes

These and similar subjects should, as they pass out of flower, be transferred to cool frames. Water, however, must be given as required until the plants develop signs of their foliage ripening, when it must be gradually withheld.

Cyclamens

Cyclamens now making robust growth should be assisted with an occasional weak stimulant and free syringing among their foliage following hot days. On no account should their foliage be allowed to wilt as the result of exposing them to hot sunshine and dry conditions.

Pelargoniums

Those prepared for blooming indoors during the winter months should now be housed, either in a cool greenhouse or frame to which air may be freely admitted. A little soot-water applied from time to time will improve both the health and colour of the plants.

Schizanthus, Mignonette, and Clarkia

Make a further sowing of these annual flowers for blooming in the New Year. The most satisfactory method is that of sowing about five or six seeds in a 3-inch pot and reducing them later to the required number before potting on into larger sizes. In the case of Mignonette it is, perhaps, preferable to sow direct into 5-inch and 6-inch pots filled with a good, rich, open compost. As Mignonette does not transplant well, the seeds should be raised in a cool frame.

Chrysanthemums

Pay strict attention to the stopping, disbudding, and tying, and do not fail to syringe the plants vigorously once daily. Should the weather continue hot and dry, the final result will depend to a large extent upon present treatment, therefore feed the plants twice weekly in order that a fine, strong and clean, but not coarse, growth may be developed.

Grapes

The later varieties are now colouring, and this colouring will improve if a little sulphate of iron is added to the water occasionally. Air should be freely given when the outside temperature admits of this being done, although it would be unwise to allow the thermometer to drop below 60 degs. until the Grapes are three parts coloured, as a sudden fall in temperature will cause shanking to set in.

Melons, Cucumbers, and Tomatoes

These are all carrying heavy crops and should be fed liberally. The temperature in Melon houses should not fall below 65 degs., and ripening fruits must be removed when three parts coloured and smelling freely. Gather the Cucumbers daily, also Tomatoes as they colour, and thus throw the whole strength of the plants into oncoming fruits. Too much moisture, coupled with low temperatures, will cause splitting among ripening Tomatoes and Melons.

Strawberries

Remove the newly-rooted runners from the parent plants and place them in rows close together, preferably on a bed of ashes, until required for potting on in readiness for forcing or for planting in the open. Water freely, and do not overlook the requirements of the old plants in this respect, otherwise they will exhibit signs of distress.

Early Pears and Apples

Generally best when gathered direct from the trees for the table are these fruits, but as this is not always possible, remove a few fruits each day a little in advance of ripening and allow them to finish in a cool, clean storeroom.

Corn Salad

A sowing must now be made, either in shallow drills at 9 inches apart or broadcast in 4-feet wide beds so that it may be conveniently cut during the winter months. A last sowing of Spinach should also be made.

Autumn sown annuals

Ground in readiness for these must now be prepared and should be sown before the 15th of the month. Over-rich ground is neither necessary nor desirable, providing it is of fair substance. Many and varied are the beautiful things at our disposal, and all should be sown thinly, and, for picturesque effects, broadcast. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Figs under glass

Any fruits that show now should be immediately rubbed off, as they have not the slightest chance of developing. In houses where the fruits are ripening, a dry, buoyant atmosphere should be maintained. Plants in pots that may require a shift into a larger size should now have attention. A very moderate shift should be given, however, so as not to encourage too rampant growth.

Orchard-house trees

Any re-potting necessary should be carried out before the leaves fall, the presence of these being a great aid to the roots in taking possession of the new compost. This should consist mainly of the best, fresh, fibrous loam, and used in a rough state, especially for the "stone" fruits. The addition of a good quantity of mortar rubbish from an old building is very desirable. Bone-meal, too, can be freely used, but animal manures should be avoided. Ram the soil very firmly and afterwards give water with great care.

Late Melons

Much care is necessary with the late batch, especially in the way of watering, for any carelessness in this respect will almost certainly be followed by canker at the necks of the plants. Water should not be allowed to touch the stems near the ground, and yet the roots must not suffer from dryness. Maintain a fairly high temperature or the quality of the fruits will suffer.

Tomatoes

It is a mistake to keep the house close shut at any time while this crop is ripening, for it is almost certain that such treatment will cause numbers of the fruits to drop before they are anything like ripe. A gentle warmth in the pipes and plenty of air will, as a rule, ensure perfect ripening, and course, good flavour.

Propagating Pelargoniums

This dry season has been favourable to old-fashioned, yet useful, subject, and t is likely to be a considerable increase in number of plants raised this autumn. earlier now that cuttings can be secured better is likely to be the percentage that root. Set the pots or boxes in full sunsh but provide something for placing over t during heavy rains.

Other tender plants

All the more tender plants used in sum bedding that are raised by means of cutt should be propagated now. These shoul inserted firmly in boxes of very sandy set in a cold frame, and carefully sh from the sun for a few weeks. While soil must never get really dry, too freq applications of water will do even more h than dryness.

Pentstemons

Very shortly full stocks of cutting these must be secured, and in the mean every available shoot suitable for the pur should be taken of any scarce or espec fine variety, as by so doing the plants be induced to throw out other fresh gro that may later also be secured. While cuttings, if well cared for, will succee placed in boxes, best results are usually when a bed of sweet, sandy compost is n up for them under a cold frame.

Pansies and Violas

Cuttings of these are to be very scarc many gardens this autumn owing to the longed drought of the summer. It be well, therefore, to start at once and all the available cuttings, which will the plants to produce further growths t or four weeks hence,

Nepeta Mussini

This is one of the indispensable sum flowering plants nowadays. Plants always at their best the second year, an it is a good plan to raise a number of ones each year. Cuttings taken within next two or three weeks root freely quickly if inserted in boxes of sandy com and set in a cold frame. One-year-old pl are seldom killed in winter, whereas o specimens are frequently wiped out, o best considerably damaged, damp b apparently their chief enemy.

Strawberries

In many of our northern districts it is possible to have well-rooted "runne ready in time for autumn planting, so only thing to do is carefully to lift t "runners" which are well rooted before middle of September and lay them in clo together on a nice sunny border, transfer them to their permanent quarters in M or early April. In this way, of course fruit should be allowed the first year, fine plants will be built up for future c ping.

Feeding Chrysanthemums

The pots are now quite full of roots judicious feeding of the plants is desir "Little and often" is always the safe in the end the most satisfactory met Soot-water, liquid made from sheep or c droppings, and Ichthemic Guano are all g and may be used on alternate weeks. C results are had and much labour saved using Thomson's Top-dressing Manure.

C. BLAI

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

SHREWSBURY SHOW

EWSBURY FLOWER SHOW,
h some of us have known for over
years as the premier provincial
ural exhibition in the country, has
allenged in recent years, but the
re Horticultural Society, under
uspices this great flower show is
not taking it lying down, as the
at Shrewsbury on Wednesday and
of last week in the Quarry Grounds
lemonstrated, for it was, in the
f many, the finest of the long series
r a period of more than half a
That the Show has lost none of
on the garden-loving public was
y the vast masses that attended on
s; it will give some idea of the
hat attended when we state that
,200 was taken in gate money. If
there were too many visitors for
ity of the tents, and the committee
to think seriously of providing more
ler canvas, especially for the cut
nd vegetables, these being staged in
ch too small to see the exhibits in
And such vegetables; no show
duce finer.

rge marquee covering over 1 acre
urse, the chief centre of attraction,
es the competitive floral and fruit
t accommodated imposing displays
many of the principal trade firms.
meant a long wait in a queue, 100
ore long and standing four or five
eminding one of the crowds waiting
at the seedling Rose tent in the
t's Park Exhibitions of the N.R.S.

s of ornamental indoor plants are
he outstanding exhibits at this big
such redoubtable competitors as
enrick and James Cypher and Sons,
Holmes, have had many a battle
the premier honours, but this year
Holmes. There were, however,
s in Mr. W. R. Manning and Mr.
tch. Sir George won in the big
for 300 square feet, with Cyphers
t the position was reversed in the
ass for 250 square feet, in which
. Manning was third. Taking the
these group classes, they occupied
able amount of space, for there
big groups in all.

oses, both in the competitive
nd the traders' groups, were
ne quality, and the standard of
ems to improve each year. The
ered in the open class for a collec-
ying a space of 20 feet by 4 feet
y Messrs. Gunn and Sons, Olton,
xhibit of outstanding merit. The
whole was grand. In the centre
basket filled with blooms of Lady
and other fine sorts well displayed
Silk, Geo. Dickson, William F.
. R. Barraclough, Margaret
and Betty Uprichard. Bees, Ltd.,
d and Messrs. Horton Bros. third.
lection of 18 vases, distinct, the
was awarded to Messrs. Walter
Son, Ledbury, followed by Mr. J.

et Pea exhibits were staged in the
wer tent. There were some grand
hcoming in the three classes, the
ich was for a collection in a space
by 6 feet. The very liberal sum
s offered as first prize in this class
to a trophy valued at 15 guineas.
secured by Messrs. E. Leigh and
nson, Stoke-on-Trent, whose best
Powerscourt, Mrs. W. Wright,
Searles, Model, Gleneagles, and
second, Messrs. Herd Bros., whose exhibit was most tastefully arranged; third, Mr. R. Challenger, Balterley.

There were many meritorious exhibits in the class for 12 distinct varieties, in which Miss K. A. Hughes, Gresford, excelled, outstanding varieties of Sweet Peas being Powerscourt, Magnet, Blue Bell, Susan, Youth, Valetta, and Royal Mauve; second, Mrs. N. M. Richards (gardener, Mr. S. Horton).

The best six distinct sorts of Sweet Peas were put up by Mr. S. J. Haycocks, Wrexham, who showed Magnet, Powerscourt, Gorgeous, Royal Mauve, Jessie, and Mrs. Searles; second, Mr. A. Smith, Crewe.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

A cure for rheumatism

NUMEROUS cures of rheumatism by the use of Celery have recently been announced in English papers, but the following, more in detail, is given on the authority of the *New York Times:* "New discoveries or what claim to be discoveries—of the healing virtues of plants are continually making. One of the latest is that Celery is a cure for rheumatism; indeed, it is asserted that the disease is impossible if the vegetable be cooked and freely eaten. The fact that it is always put on the table raw prevents its therapeutic powers from becoming known. The Celery should be cut into bits, boiled in water until soft, and the water drunk by the patient. Put new milk, with a little flour and nutmeg, into a saucepan with the boiled Celery, serve it warm with pieces of toast, eat it with Potatoes, and the painful ailment will soon yield. Such is the declaration of a physician who has again and again tried the experiment and with uniform success. He adds that cold and damp never produce, but develop the disease, of which acid blood is the primary and sustaining cause, and that while the blood is alkaline there can be neither rheumatism nor gout. . . . Smallpox, so much dreaded, is not half so destructive as rheumatism, which, it is maintained by many physicians, can be prevented by obeying Nature's laws in diet. But if you have incurred it, boiled Celery is pronounced unhesitatingly to be a specific."—*August 30th, 1879.*

Perpetual-flowering Carnations were well represented. Mr. C. Engelmann had the field to himself in the class for a collection staged on the ground, in a space of 18 feet by 5 feet, with a first prize of £25. Mr. Engelmann was at his best, which means that the exhibit was as near perfection as possible. Altogether he put up 3,000 blooms in 75 varieties, which shows how comprehensive the collection was. The apricot-coloured Madge was shown in grand form. There was better competition in the class for a group 10 feet by 5 feet, in which Mr. Chas. Wall, Bath, was first, Messrs. Stuart Low and Co. second, and Mr. William Chandler, Rolvenden, third.

The best group of hardy herbaceous flowers was staged by Mr. H. Clarke, Taunton, a local exhibitor, Mr. E. J. Bayley, Shrewsbury, being second, and Mr. J. R. Sands, Wem, third. Mr. Clarke had excellent Zinnias, fine Clarkias, beautiful Larkspurs, choice Lavatera rosea splendens, and other showy border flowers.

Grand Phloxes were shown by Mr. A. D. Pitcairn-Campbell, Bangor-on-Dee, in a class for 12 varieties. The heads of blooms were of very large size and the individual pips equally substantial; indeed, they were some of the finest Phloxes we have seen for several seasons. His sorts included Aviator Bleriot, Ethel Prichard, Olive P. Campbell, Ian Pitcairn-Campbell, G. R. Stronlein, Deedside, and Saladin.

The 15 guinea trophy and money prize of £25 for a collection of herbaceous plants, flowers, foliage, etc., arranged in a space of 25 square feet, was won by Messrs. Bees, Ltd.

There was a new class for a miniature rock garden arranged on tabling 8 feet by 3 feet in which the three prizes amounted to £32, the first being £15. The judges awarded the premier prize to Mr. T. R. Hayes, Ambleside, who made the most of the small space by piling the rock work at the back and making it fall naturally to the foreground; second, Messrs. Maurice Prichard and Sons, Ltd.; third, Messrs. Bakers.

The standard in all the other flower classes was high generally. Limitations of space prevent reference to them in detail.

Shrewsbury has always attracted the best fruit-growers, and whilst we think indoor fruits have been shown better at some previous exhibitions, there were, nevertheless, many collections of great merit. The decorated fruit tables were, as usual, a feature of the show, and the high value of the prizes make it worth while to compete, for in addition to a trophy valued at 15 guineas, the first prize in money was £30 and the second £25, there being four prizes in all. Chief honours fell to the Earl of Rosebery, Leighton Buzzard, who showed, amongst other fruits, splendid Sea Eagle and Gros Mignonne Peaches, Humboldt and Pineapple Nectarines, Brown Turkey Figs, Muscat of Alexandria and Chasselas Napoleon Grapes, Melon Universal, and Souvenir du Congres Pears; second, Lady Kathleen Curzon Herrick, Loughborough; third, Lord Belper.

Mr. R. J. Corbett, Towyn, was first in the class for 12 bunches of Grapes in four or more varieties, with Messrs. J. Webber and Son second. The "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED" Medal, offered for four bunches of Grapes, two of black and two of white sorts, was won by Lord Swathling (gardener, Mr. F. J. Rose), who also showed the best two bunches of Madresfield Court.

The vegetables, as already stated, were splendid throughout. Seed firms offered valuable money prizes for collections of nine kinds, and some of the exhibits in these classes reached the highest exhibition standard. First prizes were won as follows:—Sutton and Sons' class, Lord Riddell (gardener, Mr. A. Payne); James Carter and Co.'s, Mr. T. M. Jones, Llandilo; Clibrans, Ltd., class, Mr. W. Robinson, Garstang; Dickson and Robinson's class, Mrs. F. Emmott, Lancaster; Messrs. John Peed and Sons' class, Mr. Jno. Evans, Llandilo.

In the Society's class for a collection of 12 distinct kinds, Messrs. J. Jones and Son, Ammanford, were the winners of the first prize with Ailsa Craig Onions, V.C. Peas, Prizewinner Beans, Summer Delicacy Cucumbers, Student Parsnips, Acquisition Leeks, Superb Pink Celery, and Scarlet Intermediate Carrots.

Whilst the competitive classes to which we have referred briefly were of great interest and importance, the non-competitive displays also helped largely to make the show such a success. The President, Sir George Holcroft, Bart., offered a special trophy, valued at £25, for the finest exhibit in the show. With Mr. Edwin Beckett, V.M.H., exhibiting one of his unsurpassable collections of vegetables, no one was surprised to find that the judges had singled this out for the honour, especially as it was Beckett at his best. Quite near was another grand exhibit of vegetables by Sutton and Sons, to which was awarded a special trophy, and another outstanding non-competitive exhibit of a rock garden, stream and heather-thatched summer-house likewise received a special trophy. Other awards were made to non-competitive exhibits as follows :—

Large Gold Medals.—Blackmore and Langdon, Bath, group of Begonias, Phlox, Delphiniums, etc. ; Dickson and Sons, Marks Tey, group of Roses ; Dickson and Robinson, Manchester, Dahlias, Stocks, etc. ; Dobbie and Co., Ltd., Edinburgh, Dahlias and Roses ; Kelway and Son, Langport, Gladioli ; King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd., Hereford, fruit trees, Roses, Chrysanthemums ; John Peed and Sons, London, stove and greenhouse plants ; Thomas Robinson, Nottingham, cut Roses ; W. J. Unwin, Ltd., Histon, Gladioli ; E. Webb and Sons (Stourbridge), Ltd., annual flowers and Gladioli.

Gold Medals.—Allwood Brothers, Haywards Heath, Carnations and Pinks ; Daniels Brothers, Ltd., Norwich, vegetables, etc. ; Dickson's Nurseries, Ltd., Chester, fruit trees and hardy flowers ; Jarman and Co., Chard, hardy flowers, etc. ; John Klinkert, Richmond, topiary ; W. Lowe and Son, Beeston, Roses ; McGredy and Son, Portadown, Roses ; Edwin Murrell, Shrewsbury, Roses ; F. Rich, collection of Phlox, etc. ; W. H. Simpson and Sons, Birmingham, Antirrhinums, etc.

Silver-gilt Medals.—William Chandler, Rolvenden, for Statice, Profusa, Variety Superba in pots ; H. Clarke, Taunton, Dahlias ; Eames and Sons, Peterborough, Gladioli and other hardy flowers ; Ellisons, West Bromwich, Ferns ; Hewett and Co., Ltd., Solihull, Roses ; Prichard and Sons, Shrewsbury, Alpines, etc. ; Rich and Cooling, Ltd., Bath, hardy flowers, chiefly Phlox ; C. Vickers, Leicester, floral designs ; W. Wells, junior, Merstham, hardy flowers ; H. Woolman, Birmingham, topiary.

Sweet Peas at Utley Show

The striking progress made by Utley (Keighley) Annual Flower Show since its institution 10 years ago was demonstrated by the fine display of blooms and vegetables on Saturday, August 10th.

The entries numbered close upon 400, considerably more than last year, and prizes to the value of £70 were offered.

Mr. M. Stansfield (Cononley) followed up previous successes by carrying off for the third time in succession the J. W. Dunderdale (President) cup and gold medal for most points in the open classes. The cup thus became his own property.

The Mrs. Craven Laycock cup and medal for most points in the local classes went to Mr. H. Keighley, of Utley. In the seven open Sweet Pea classes Mr. W. A. Weston (Cononley) had remarkable success, carrying off the first prize in each class. Mr. Weston's Sweet Peas were remarkably fine, and constituted an attractive feature of the Show. He showed the varieties Gleneagles, Mary Pickford, Patience, and Blue Bird to great advantage.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plan be named should send fair examples of eac stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of and points of shoots are useless.) Not more four plants should be sent in any one week same correspondent. Where more than one is sent they should be numbered. Of conife cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in dif stages of colour and size of the same kind g assist in its determination. Single, unrip deformed specimens are difficult to name do not undertake to name more than varieties at one time.*

FLOWER GARDEN

Definition of herbaceous plants

I should be grateful if you would give a definition of " herbaceous " which can be quoted as authoritative. At a recent local show in a class for herbaceous blooms, six vases, the first prize was given to a collection which included one vase each of Lilium regale, Lilium candidum, and Gladioli. Was the award of the judges correct? OUTIS.

[Herbaceous plants are perennials whose stems die back to the ground each year after flowering. Strictly speaking, bulbs such as Lilies and Gladioli are herbaceous. Many schedules contain the words " bulbous flowers excluded." In the absence of such wording it is probable the judges might be wrong in disqualifying. Many of the schedules are worded in such a way that judges find it difficult to decide as to what the local committee intended. It is quite possible in the case in point that the local society intended to exclude bulbous plants and the judges may have been so informed. It would be a good plan if local Horticultural Societies would insert in their schedules a small paragraph calling the attention to the herbaceous classes where bulbous plants are to be included.]

Meconopsis Wallichii in Scotland

Does this Blue Himalayan Poppy flower out-of-doors in Scotland? Here, in East Lothian, the plants come up year by year and look healthy, but have no blooms.

G. W. H.

[This Blue Himalayan Poppy flowers well in several parts of Scotland, but appears to bloom best in the districts which have a fairly heavy rainfall. It should flower with you, but probably requires more moisture than it receives in an ordinary season in your district. If you cannot give the plants a moister and richer soil, give them a little shade and occasional soakings of water in spring.]

Pentstemon

(Reginald J. Hope).—We do not know Pentstemon Cyanea, but your description answers to that of P. cyanthus, a beautiful plant from the Rocky Mountains, which bears dense clusters of blue flowers. This plant is closely related to P. Glaber.

Iris Kæmpferi

I shall be obliged if you will tell me when the water should be withdrawn from the Iris Kæmpferi—now that they have finished flowering or not till later in the autumn? A neighbour of mine leaves his in the water all through the winter, and they seem to do equally well, although I have always understood that they need to be dried off for some months. H. L. GAYE.

Seaton, Devon.

[The water should be withdrawn about the end of October and brought on again about the first week in April. This Iris is not always happy with its toes in water winter, and we think your suggestion one.]

Rose of Jericho

I should be much obliged if you wo me know the botanical name and order Rose of Jericho? I bought a specimen the other day, and now that expanded and turned green in water.

E. R

[The Rose of Jericho, otherwise kno Resurrection Plant, is Anastatica chuntica. It is an annual indigenous Egyptian deserts, and belongs to the order Cruciferæ. When full grown thi contracts its rigid branches into a rou and is then tossed about by the wind sands. When it alights in water or on ground the branches relax and open if its life was renewed, hence the nam surrection Plant. It is increased by see this country it requires protection durin months. Selaginella lepidophylla is known as the Resurrection Plant.]

Diseased Iris

(Ruth Skelton).—It is difficult at this to account for the death of your Iris. formalin treatment should not have kil rhizomes if they had been unaffecte the disease. Naturally, the drastic tre recommended for the cases of Soft Rot you quote were only recommended persons who had actually sent us in ma and from this we were able to judge th only chance of saving the stock was to and attempt to find some healthy par off any bacteria adhering to these h parts, and replanting them in fresh so the cases quoted there was just a chan the treatment might save the vari taken in time. If they had been left to plete their growth the rhizomes woul all gone. Another time do please se specimens before adopting treatment mended to someone else. Formalin at cent. is now recommended for the tre of various bulbs, corms, and rhizomes a with various diseases, and provided th is carried out well no harm results. is, of course, no control for either or the bacteria rots if the organis actually got into the whole of the h pieces of healthy material can be sterilised and replanted, then it is pos save the variety. Let us examine diseased Phlox ; it may not be eelw there are other causes of failure.

Trillium seed

I had a fine display of Trillium American Wood Lily) this year, and th pods have ripened nicely. Should the be sown now, or when, and at what Is any special treatment necessary?

RENFREWSH

[It is usual to sow seeds of the Trilli soon as ripe, but if you have a quan seed we would advise retaining part of i nd sowing this in a frame. There is t difficulty in raising these plants. efer light soil, which should be well ip, and a little leaf mould mixed with v thinly, and cover just slightly han the depth of the seed itself. ff separately after growth starts in

Helichrysums

M. Talbot).—Cut the flowers on a ay when perfectly dry. Tie them in ndles near the base of the stems and m heads downwards in a cool, dry, until the leaves have quite withered.

of Dahlia "stools" during winter

either (after drying) place these in in a box in a dry, frost-proof shed same up in a dry cellar. Can you lvise me which is the better and ethod to adopt? I find that amped like Potatoes under straw with soil so many stools are be rotten in the spring.

"ANERAWD."

roots are properly dry and the soil perfectly dry also, we favour the of the Dahlia roots in the box, good results are had by laying them out covering of any kind, in a dry, f shed or cellar, and in such a posi- are easily examined during the ason.]

cuttings

u kindly tell me the best time to ngs of Calceolarias, Salvias, and tes? Will they do all right if I put oxes in a cold frame and just give pe heat to keep out frost at night so, should they be put into small they are rooted, or left till spring? and they do not require to be put greenhouse at all, but simply left me all the winter. Is this correct? ill you please advise me the best al with the matter right through? ter should be given these things nter? NOVICE.

cuttings of the Marguerite at once, those of the Calceolaria until the ptember. You do not say which refer to. The blue variety, S. best cultivated by lifting and pot- oxing the old plants in September ng them in a cool, yet frost-proof e or frame and securing cuttings e in spring. It can also be easily m seeds sown in the greenhouse The red, S. splendens, is best a half-hardy annual, the seeds in March in the greenhouse. The alceolaria should be given a cold. artificial warmth of any kind essary. Given water when in- se latter should require no more h. The others should only have n the soil is approaching dryness. Marguerites in spring.]

GREENHOUSE

um cuttings

o my Geraniums (Paul Crampel, naking much growth this year, I t present I cannot take any cut- out cutting the plants right down and and spoiling the nice show of ave. Will you please tell me if I until the end of September (when all) and take the cuttings then and oxes of soil and put in the heated , should they root all right then? ot up what is left of the old plants hem in 5-inch pots in a heated , will they give good blooms next What water is required by these plants, also the newly-rotted cuttings during winter, and when should I start to encourage new growth to get them ready to bloom from the end of May. NOVICE.

[You can easily root your Geranium (Zonal Pelargonium) cuttings at the end of September if frost has not damaged them by inserting in boxes of very sandy compost and setting them in a slightly heated greenhouse. Do not shade these cuttings, and be very sparing with water all autumn and winter, always allowing the soil to be pretty dry before giving more, but when it is necessary to do so, enough thoroughly to moisten the whole of the soil must be given. The old plants can be potted up, using soil similar to that in which the cuttings are inserted, and, as with the cuttings, giving water sparingly. In February you can begin to encourage growth, so as to have good plants for setting out at end of May. Do not, however, employ too much heat.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Pruning Lavender

Could you tell me the best time to prune Lavender hedges? The last two years I have had hardly any bloom. I have pruned it after flowering. Could you also tell me the best time to prune Veronica bushes? Should the old wood be cut out or the bush shortened? I find mine hardly flower at all if I cut them back. ROSEWARNE.

Mawnan.

[Lavender requires no actual pruning, but after flowering the old flower stalks should be trimmed off with shears, and any unruly branch cut right back. Unfortunately, you do not state the species or varieties of Veronica you wish to prune. Some require very little pruning, while others should be well cut back after flowering. If you will acquaint us with the names of the varieties we will do our best to assist you in this matter.]

Lavender bushes unhealthy

(Scot).—We advise you to cut hard back all the plants affected, as this will encourage fresh, healthy young growth to develop from the base, unless the roots have been too seriously damaged. We can give no reason for the plants' behaviour unless the roots have come into contact with some deadly substance in the soil, such as weed-killer, etc. A chalky sub-soil should be all in their favour.

FRUIT

Diseased Cherries

(Puzzled).—Your Cherries are affected with a fungus called Sclerotinia cinerea, which affects Plums and Cherries. In turn it attacks the flowers, fruit, and wood of both its hosts. When attacking the flowers the disease is called Blossom Wilt; fruit, Brown Rot; while the attacked wood is called Wither Tip. There are two specialised varieties of the fungus concerned, because one type attacks Apples in all three stages and the other Plums and Cherries; thus the Apple form will not affect Plum or Cherry, and the Plum and Cherry form cannot attack Apple. The control for the disease is to remove and burn all affected portions, paying attention to dead spurs as well as the affected fruits and dead tips of the young wood. The cutting out can best be done during the growing season. The fungus over-winters in all the portions attacked, but especially in the mummified fruit on the ground or still attached to the tree. The spraying to be carried out consists in applying a winter wash immediately before the swelling of the buds. The formula for the wash is :—Soft soap 1 lb., caustic soda 1 lb., water 10 gallons. Lime sulphur applied from time to time at summer strength helps to keep the disease in check in bad cases. Usually the fungus can be kept under control by "cutting out," if the work is well done.

Mildew on Grapes

(H. J. M.).—You are probably aware that dryness at the roots will sometimes predispose a Vine to an attack of Mildew, whether growing indoors or out, and it has occurred to the writer that such conditions may have had something to do with your trouble. However, we strongly suspect that it is a case of management, especially during the early stages, as the berries appear to have set very freely. We advise you to call in a professional gardener who is successful in the culture of Grapes before another season, as such advice as he would be able to give—seeing the local surroundings—would prove valuable to you and worth your while. This season dust all the foliage and fruits with green sulphur, keep the house drier, but not the roots, avoid draughty conditions at all times, and dress the surface of the inside of the house with sulphur, even pointing it into the border. All other conditions correct, the early closing and spraying of the Vines, also the dripping water from the leaves when tapping the rods early in the morning is what good growers like to see, certainly the writer of these notes; but the spraying should always be done early enough to admit of the Vines drying before night. The drops you refer to are gathered from the atmosphere later. You must air the house on the sheltered side only at all times. Spray the structure with potassium sulphide.

Diseased Melons

(Perplexed).—Your Melons are not affected by canker, but by a fungus called Verticillium albo-atrum, which produces the well-known Verticillium Wilt of Melon, Cucumber, Tomato, and many other plants. The fungus concerned makes most headway under low temperature conditions, and therefore is troublesome in spring and autumn. We do not quite understand from whence your plants became infected, because you state that you used sterilised soil. It may be that the cause of infection was the water supply. It is important when growing Melons thoroughly to clean down the houses at least once a year, and all water tanks should be cleaned out and sterilised at the same time, because Verticillium is able to over-winter on rotting wood and organic remains of all descriptions. It is sometimes possible to save an infected crop if control measures are undertaken in time. So soon as Verticillium Wilt appears the average temperature of the house should be raised to 77 degs. F. This can be done by boiler-heat and by closing down the houses earlier in the day. A light dressing of whitewash should be applied to the glass, and, if possible, no water should be given to the roots. The plants should be lightly sprayed overhead and encouraged to make fresh roots above the diseased portion by placing new soil around the collars of the plants. We expect that your plants have gone too far for you to adopt these controls with success, but they are useful if taken in time. Watering with Cheshunt Compound from time to time as a preventative helps to keep the fungus down in places when it is troublesome. This disease is quite distinct from Melon Canker.

Diseased Pear

(G. G.).—Your Pear foliage is affected with Pear Scab. Please see reply to "G. W. B.," Northampton, on page 587 of our issue for August 24th. With such a bad attack, it would be advisable to spray the tree at once, if it is not carrying any fruits or immediately the fruit is picked, with a solution of lime sulphur, using 1 gallon of concentrated wash in 29 gallons of water. Rake up and burn all the diseased foliage as it falls, and cut away the attacked wood. Spraying as advised to "G. W. B.," Northampton, will control the trouble, but do not be too disappointed if the control is only partial the first season; you have a bad attack.

Pear Scab

(E. Shaw).—The disease on your Beurre Superfin Pears is due to Pear Scab. Please see replies as above.

Nectarines

Will you be kind enough to give me the name of a Nectarine that would come in about the same time as Elruge, or perhaps a little later? I am not particular about the size of the fruit if it is a good flavour.

MAC.

[A first-rate Nectarine, ripening about the same time as Elruge, is Lord Napier, while Humboldt is also very reliable.]

Old Gooseberry bushes

("Deanyers").—Without seeing these old Gooseberry bushes it is impossible to say whether it would be worth while retaining them. Seeing they are so old, however, we would be inclined to grub them up and burn them. In making a new plantation, select a spot where Gooseberries have not been grown for some years, if ever, and dig it well, but unless the soil is very poor, give no manure, as this material causes rank, unfruitful growth. Good varieties are numerous, but Whinham's Industry, Crown Bob, Whitesmith, Warrington Red, Hedgehog, and Early Sulphur are all reliable and early croppers. Plant in November or February.

MISCELLANEOUS

Converting gravel to grass path

("Deanyers").—You must first remove the gravel, stones, etc., which are usually employed for making a walk, the cavity thus made being filled with not too rich soil, but quite free from weeds. This soil must be made very firm and the surface level. The turves from the meadow may, or may not, be suitable for this purpose; it all depends on the nature of the grasses. Some are so coarse growing that no amount of mowing and rolling will ever bring them to form a nice sward, while others in time turn out quite satisfactory.

Potting soil

("Gardener").—We have examined your sample of soil, and find that it does not contain a trace of lime (calcium). It appears to us likely that the lime shortage is the cause of your failure, with the material as a potting medium. Soil which "greens" very readily is nearly always short of lime, even under outside conditions, and when used for pot work the trouble is worse. The hard water could not have the effect of turning your soil green. Very hard water is, of course, bad for pot plants, and where such is the only source of supply the water should be run into tanks and allowed to stand for a period before being used. Write us again if we can assist you further. Please see reply to "Anxious."

(Anxious).—We have examined the sample of soil and specimens of Gloxinia, Begonias, etc. We find that the soil is slightly on the acid side, and although this would account for some plants doing badly when potted in it, we do not think that the acidity would affect the plants you have sent. As a matter of fact, we find that all the roots of the plants sent are dead, and in the case of the Begonia Lorraine the stem is decayed an inch or so above ground level. It appears to us that perhaps something was put into the potting mixture, which has burnt the roots. Is it possible to shake out the plants and repot them in a fresh mixture? You will appreciate the fact that all the roots are in a bad way, and that little water is required beyond lightly syringing the plants until a new root system is formed. If all your Lorraine Begonias are like the one sent we fear there is little hope for them. When turf from old pasture is taken for potting purposes, it is wise to give a dressing of quicklime before the turf is lifted, or the turf should be well sprinkled with lime when it is stacked to rot. As stated above, we do not think the acidity of the turf has had much to do with these plants going wrong. We are arranging for an article to appear shortly on the cultivation of Begonia Gloire de Lorraine.

Bare patches on lawns

(Montague Bethune).—Any good seed merchant will supply you with a suitable mixture of grass seeds for making good the bare patches in your tennis court, but if you have any difficulty, write to Messrs. Sutton and Sons, Reading, who specialise in lawn grasses, and who also supply an anti-Clover dressing that would greatly reduce the Clover you complain of. The last half of September would be a suitable time for sowing the seeds, or else about mid-April if the former is unsuitable. It is much more difficult to deal with the Couch grass. Should it only be encroaching on one side it would be advisable to lift the turf and 9 inches or 12 inches of the soil underneath, as far as the roots of this grass extends, making up with fresh, clean soil and turf. Otherwise there is no cure for this trouble.

Various questions

(L. T. Handsworth).—(1) Just make the measure full without any pressing down. (2) You can mix the materials named by weight. (3) No; bone-meal and dissolved bones are quite differently prepared. If you cannot get the latter, use superphosphate of lime for the same purpose and at the same rate. (4) Yes; 4 inches of ashes, if well firmed, should prevent worms entering the pots placed on them. (5) Half an ounce of potassium sulphide to 3 gallons of water is safe while the foliage is tender. Later, this may be increased to nearly double that amount. We would not care to risk spraying while the plants were in flower. (6) To make paraffin jelly, the proper proportions are:—1 gallon paraffin oil, $1\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. soft soap, 2 gallons water. This jelly can be used at the rate of about 1 lb. to 4 gallons of water, applied as a fine spray.

An unsatisfactory lawn

(M. A.).—It appears to us that the work of laying out your garden, more especially the lawn part, has been mismanaged. The main reason for the grass failing is that the more fertile portions, viz., the surface soil removed with the turf, has left nothing for the roots of the young grass to feed on, the hard, inert, clayey soil being quite unfit for the purpose. Before sowing the seeds, an inch or two of fine, fresh soil ought to have been spread evenly all over the surface, as in this the young grass plants would have rooted freely, and as they gained strength the said roots would have been able to penetrate the hard surface underneath and so got well established. As the ground has sunk so much in parts, the workmanship has been at fault, or, more likely, the want of experience in such work of the labour employed is responsible. The laying down of a lawn requires more than a little knowledge of such work, but as we have no idea as to the terms of the contract you had with the firm who carried out the work, we are not
in a position to advise as to whether
compel the firm to put the thing right,
are afraid that you will have to dig
whole of the ground, levelling it
and then firming it uniformly. It
the ground, instead of being all
dug, as it ought to have been at
simply been levelled, with the
sult, the spots merely filled up have
while the portions undug are naturally
and so have retained their original
Merely to spread fresh soil all over th
face might do some good, but it is
possible by this means to properly
the low portions, so that there would
be the chance of such spots again
The ground should be moist, but not
wet, when this work is being carried

LEGAL POINT

Gardener's notice

(W. A.).—We are afraid you are
If you entered upon the employment
agreement for a month's notice you are
by that. The fact that you are paid
makes no difference whatever to the
of notice required.

NAMES OF PLANTS

A. Bass.—Funkia ovata.

"*Shrub.*"—1, Grislinia littoralis
Olearia macrodonta; 3, Olearia Haas
Rose Lamarque, a lovely Tea.

G.—1, Linaria purpurea; 2,
Michauxi; 3, Clematis Vitacella; 4, El
argentea; 5, not recognised.

M. Holmes.—1 and 2, Veronica spic
a Veronica, but must have a better sp
in flower to name.

A. J. B.—1, Polygonum Aubert
Tamarisk gallica; 3, Ceratostigma G
T. L., Birmingham.—1, Cam
cæspitosa; 2, Achillea herba rota; 3,
incana.

Alec Short.—1, Sedum altissimu
Achillea Ægyptiaca; 3, Viola Alannah

M. O., Holywood.—Statice latifolia.

Clyde.—1, Sedum rupestre; 2, Sedum
3, Sedum Telephium; 4, Lysimachia vu

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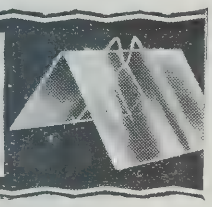

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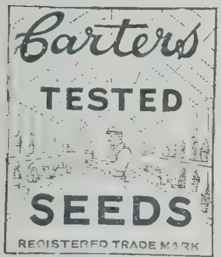

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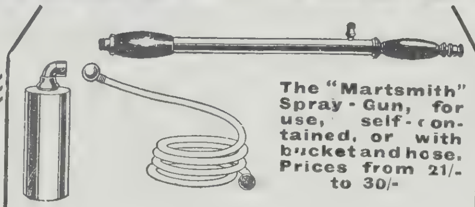

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

—No. 2635 Saturday, September 7, 1929 TWOPENCE

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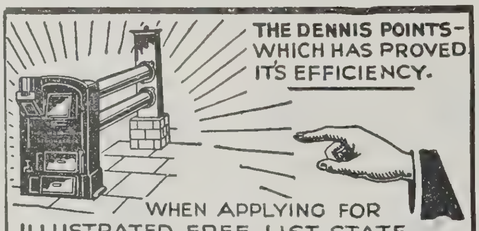
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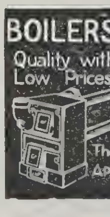

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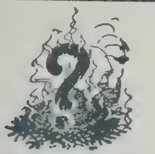

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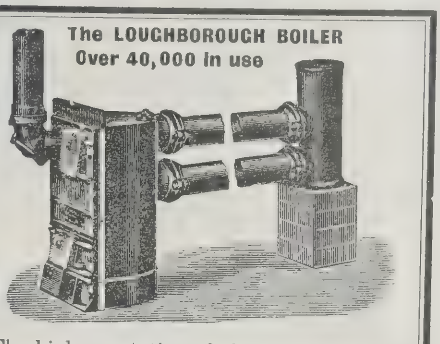

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C.385f

forcing. A warm greenhouse, with shelves near the glass, is the place for these most useful winter-flowering plants.

Sparmannia africana is one of those good old-fashioned plants that ought to be found in every greenhouse. I give the plants of it a good shift after they have done flowering in spring, and return them to the greenhouse until the summer is fairly advanced, when they are set out-of-doors and kept well watered until September; then they will be covered with flower-buds and must be returned to the conservatory, where they will flower all through the winter.

The white Abutilon Boule de Neige I treat in the same way, and it is never out of bloom, every leaf having a bunch of pure white flowers at its axil. C. S.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Sweet Peas in readers' gardens

YOU may possibly think the enclosed photograph worthy of a place in your paper. Unfortunately, owing to a fruit cage close by it was not possible to get a very satisfactory photograph. These Sweet Peas were grown in my garden this year and produced some very fine blooms. The seeds were obtained from Messrs. Dobbie and Co.

(REV.) C. H. WILSON.

Swanmore Vicarage,
Bishop's Waltham, Hants.

For a prolonged display of good Sweet Peas I find that rows of spring-sown plants are valuable to succeed the autumn-sown. The ground is prepared in the winter by deep trenching, adding some well-rotted manure, with a sprinkle of bone-meal, and if available a dressing of lime rubble all well worked into the soil during the digging. Seed is sown in early February in pots or boxes, placed in a greenhouse with slight heat. The seeds soon germinate, and when the plants are nicely through they are taken out and placed in a cold frame. They are potted up singly when well rooted and grown along in frames with abundance of air, the lights taken off on every occasion during mild weather. I find the following a good dozen:—Model, What Joy, Pinkie, Charming, Grenadier, Powerscourt, Susan, Youth, Jack Hobbs, Royal Purple, Mrs. A. Searles, and Magnet.

T. H. WATERS.
(Head Gardener to
Sir Ernest Benn, Bart.)
Blunt House Gardens, Oxted.

Sweet Peas at Swanmore Vicarage, Bishop's Waltham, Hants

Roses of 1929 in a Scottish garden

"J. R. K.," when defeated in argument, endeavours to cover up his discomfiture by accusing his opponent of the very fault into which he himself has fallen. He states that I have never replied to certain questions he propounded last autumn, but as I certainly did, to the best of my recollection, answer such of his points as emerged from the labyrinth of high-sounding phrases with which he was pleased to clothe them, this somewhat hackneyed method of trying to get himself out of his difficulties does not "cut much ice."

At the very first, "J. R. K.," if not in so many words, certainly by inference, wished me to believe that a Rose was either good or bad, no matter what the season happened to be. He may not, as he now asserts, have meant to convey this impression of his meaning, but if, instead of going "miles around" the matter, he had simply stated what he did mean, then there would have been no confusion. For I simply stated, and emphatically repeat, that the season has a good deal to do with the behaviour of the great majority of Roses. Even the last paragraph (page 591) of "J. R. K.'s" latest effusion is by no means so terribly conclusive, as our friend fondly imagines. Los Angeles does not always hang its head. We have had some lovely blooms of this variety this season, while the weather was dry, that stood up beautifully, so what about "constitutional" and "seasonal" failings now? A plain statement of one's experience ought not to throw "J. R. K." into a state whereby he must arise and, figuratively speaking, wipe out the one with whom he disagrees.

C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Bulbs direct from Holland

The late William Bateson called in some years ago at Stevens' Auction Rooms in King Street, Covent Garden, to look at a sale of Japanese prints. In another room a sale of bulbs "direct from Holland" was in progress, and Bateson thought he might buy a few bulbs to plant round the lawn at the back of "The Manor House." He selected some lots of pink and white Tulips which were knocked down to him, much to his surprise, for a few pence. The explanation of the price was clear when the bulbs bloomed in the spring—the Tulips were all double green with a few flakes of white and pink. Fortunately they had come into the hands of the one man in the world who enjoyed both the Tulips and the adventure.

People who buy bulbs are quite safe when they deal with firms of good repute, whether in Holland or England, and as the "English Retailer," issue August 31st, page 593, rightly says, the decision is generally influenced by the question of price. This, however, varies most unreasonably. Take the common pink Hyacinth, Countess of Derby, I have looked through some 15 English and Dutch lists and find this Hyacinth quoted, first size, at prices varying from a ma
of 1s. 3d. a bulb, or 12s. a dozen, t
bulb, or 5s. a dozen.

Sweet Peas, spring sown, at Bl
House Gardens, Oxted

I occasionally find myself in hot w
trade horticultural papers—by the
should like to take this opportunity of
ing my anonymous and faithful cor
dent who at intervals gives me in
pleasure by sending me cuttings, w
offensive matter underlined, from th
Press—for criticising or offering sug
to nurserymen. Clearly, however, thi
duty of amateurs, and the trade who
please must please to live. Instead
stuff and slogans, if the English hou
many of them do, send out catalogu
plants fully described and reasonably
especially for quantities, I am sure e
would be prepared to deal with
nurserymen, and the Dutch trade will
increasingly a wholesale trade.

As an example of price, I do not th
first size Hyacinth should cost more t
a single bulb, 8s. a dozen, and less
With regard to catalogues, the han
issued by firms such as Barr, Walla
Perry are most convenient. Perso
dislike the large quartos which foll
lines of the big seed lists. The real d
is in describing the colour of flowe
until colour printing* is much cheape
not see how this is to be easily got o
this connection I miss very much t
that used to be planted in Hyde Pa
along Park Lane; from these it was
easy to ascertain which was the best
for bedding purposes, especially in t
of Hyacinths. I look to see the R.H
duce a series of colour photo prints
best Tulips. The set might be sup
nurserymen and others at cost price.

WILLIAM LAWR

Guano and Green Fly

In an article entitled "Looking
ward," by Mr. Thackeray Turner, pa
issue of your paper July 20th, men
made of the use of guano water to e

---

* The pictures of Tulips in Sir Daniel Hall's
book are too small; the best reproductions I have s
are to be found in "Pæonies"—the manual of the
Pæony Society.—W. L.

Fly on Roses. I should be greatly
l if you will tell me :—(1) Is Peruvian
meant? (2) At about what strength
ife to use to water the roots?

A. A. SMITH.

is inquiry has been sent to Mr.
eray Turner, who very kindly replies :
answer to the above question is a
obacco tin full in 30 gallons of
kept well stirred up. Yes, Peru-
uano. But the whole point is that
Fly cannot live on a healthy plant,
the ground is well watered with liquid
e it does just as well, if not better.
ound is best hoed first. This has been
lerful summer with us, no Green Fly,
ck Fly even on Broad Beans, and no
—THACKERAY TURNER, Godalming.]

My garden

Y garden is my own creation entirely
—six years work on a bare patch of
ground.

s rather difficult to describe many
e flowers in the border. (Pre-
als please forgive possible wrong
g.) The outstanding groups are :—
foreground—Erigeron Quakeress,
by Anthemis tinctoria. Behind them,
a Rose Queen, with a large group of
nium Rev. E. Lascelles in front of it.
m Rose Queen in front again, and
on the edge a mass of Pentstemon
hyllus (true blue). The large groups
distance left and right are Anthemis
a and variety alba.

ight-hand foreground are Anthemis
chillea Cerise Queen, growing prac-
ogether in one clump (sounds hideous,
is not). Just beyond, on the edge a
clump of Helianthemum Crimson
backed by a blue and white Aconitum,
large clump of Lilium croceum sitting
them. Beyond again (on the edge) a
ovely group of deep purple Phlox (I
nting some Lilium chalcedonicum
it next year). About centre right
group of Verbascum Cotswold Gem
behind which are a group of Lilium
um and Delphinium Monarch of
Sidalcea behind again. The tall,
king heads in the background are
Eupatorium. It is almost impossible
out the real treasures of the border
mall a photograph, the length being
100 feet. I should be most delighted
ne who is passing this way cares to
next year will be better; it is going
w, rather). Please do not expect
s—it is only an old grey-walled garden
niddle of the town.

MARY C. LEONARD LEES.

e Selyff, Brecon, S. Wales.

Polygonum campanulatum

f three plants in my garden, one, in
und, perished. The other two, grow-
bank less than 100 feet higher above
l, survived the winter, and are mak-
allant effort to survive the summer.
ecies likes plenty of moisture. Of a
but even finer Polygonum, whose
name, I believe, is polystachyum,
erience has been much the same. In
und it has perished after ramping for
rs or more to an embarrassing extent;
higher level, partly sheltered by a
is still hearty and is even flowering,
the soil is like dust. This stately
evidently less affected by drought
campanulatum. Some of the para-
effects of last winter are no doubt
ccounted for by its unusual dryness.
a very dry bank I did not lose even
lbidus and C. monspeliensis, and on
e bank two out of four plants of Convolvulus mauretanicus which were growing side by side were unscathed, one disappeared, and the fourth, which was taken up and potted in case of accidents, perished in a cold frame.

ARTHUR F. HORT.

Hurstborne Tarrant, Andover.

Primula pulverulenta Bartley Strain

When I offered to give plants of Primula pulverulenta Bartley Strain away, I did not expect such a response. I cannot possibly answer each applicant. Several applicants were considerate enough to pay postage. I naturally gave them preference, for the expense of lifting, packing, and posting several dozen parcels is considerable. I hope to have a good report of the plants in the early summer of next year.

G. H. DALRYMPLE.

Bartley, near Southampton.

Tropæolum speciosum

This plant does extraordinarily well with me, planted among Rhododendrons in a heavy soil made up with plenty of leaf-mould. Five small groups were planted 18 months ago, each group had about six or seven pieces of root in it. The plant has spread all over the bed, smothered the Rhododendrons, covered Pea-sticks at least 7 feet high, and spread in every direction far away from the original groups, and all this in spite of a continuous drought. It has been in flower for many weeks, and the berries are now beginning to colour. I am often asked what I do to make the wonderful growth. I do nothing. I just leave it alone.

H.

Hants.

In Mrs. Lee's garden, Cantre Selyff, Brecon, S. Wales

Sweet Peas of recent introduction in a Wigtownshire garden

The Sweet Pea has long been recognised by floral experts as the finest of all annuals and the most floriferous. From the confines of July till the end of November—at least in this peninsular region of Scotland—its flowering is continuous. It now embraces a great variety of charming and exquisite colours, ranging from the purest white to the deepest purple, as in the striking example of Baron Hulot, and brightest orange-scarlet, as in the notable instances of Royal Scot and Flamingo, both of which were raised by Messrs. Dobbie, of Edinburgh, who have always made a speciality of this impressive (and accommodating) flower. Though its original fragrance has suffered perceptibly, through the influence of excessive hybridisation, this element having been sacrificed by enterprising raisers on the altar of size (while modern Roses have lost the same incomparable attribute in a similar way), there are still left a considerable number of the grandiflora varieties that can be obtained. There are many cultivators who have no special desire that the really odorous Sweet Peas, to which I have alluded (and whose form is also artistic), should be utterly extinguished. Next year, therefore, I intend to grow some of the most effective in colour, and not the least fragrant, of the finer grandifloras.

Of the new varieties, which, of course, are large and crenulated, and have in certain instances four flowers on a stem, some of the most conspicuous are Flamingo, Carnival, Idyl, Kitty Price, Reflection, and Winnie Morse, all of which, with the exception of Flamingo, were raised at the great nurseries of Mr. Lester Morse, near San Francisco, whose chief superintendent is Mr. Frank Cuthbertson. While all of these varieties have gracious attributes and various delicate shades of glowing pink, to me the most fascinating has been Reflection, whose colour is a wonderful Delphinium blue. This is the most distinctive Sweet Pea I have had the privilege of seeing for many years. Atmospheric influences for its perfect evolution have not been inspiring.

DAVID R. WILLIAMSON.

Effective colours of Pink Roses, Nepeta Mussini, and other flowers

Outside my window where I am writing there is a border of Roses, consisting chiefly of varieties comprising rose and pink shades of colours—Caroline Testout, Mme. Abel Chatenay, Mrs. Henry Morse, and others. A number of these are at present in full bloom. This border is edged with Nepeta Mussini, also a mass of bloom, framing the Roses with its grey aromatic foliage and lavender-coloured flowers. Looked at from a distance, the subdued hazy colour effect produced by the lavender and pink is particularly pleasing to the eye. The Nepeta is planted alternately with clumps of Dianthus hybridus roseus, but the latter finished flowering at the end of July, when the old flower-stems were removed. This pink made an extremely fine show during June and July, and here again the Nepeta and pink being in bloom together made a pretty effective edging to the border, which was greatly admired. Another charming and effective display was obtained from June onwards by several large drifts of Dianthus deltoides and Nepeta Mussini growing adjacent to each other on gently sloping ground, broken at intervals by a few large stones placed at irregular distances. Here we have this Catmint growing in various aspects and situations, and in all of them the plants seem quite at home, flourishing and producing masses of bloom. Small plants replanted in the spring are now 1½ feet to 2 feet across and simply covered with the labiate lavender-coloured flowers. The soil in this district is a strong clayey loam, inclined to heaviness, but these plants simply revel in it. Catmint is a most accommodating plant and makes a fine subject for the top of a dry wall, elevated positions on the rockery, or used as an edging to paths and borders. Its culture is of the easiest, although it certainly appreciates a sunny position. Cuttings root readily any time in summer and autumn. It may also be increased by division of established clumps in the spring, when they will soon form bushy plants. If these are transplanted to the positions they are intended to occupy in early summer they will quickly make good plants and continue to flower for the remainder of the season. J. L.

Rose Cupid

I ENCLOSE a photograph of Rose Cupid. One could hardly see the leaves for the quantity of bloom of a bright fawny-pink colour. I have observed that Roses like Cupid so often grow splendidly when their roots are under stone flags. L. KNOX.

Midhurst, Sussex.

Calendulas or Pot Marigolds

Very many amateurs take cognisance of the Calendulas in spring when they sow seeds of other annuals, and overlook the advantage there is in getting the seed in at this season. If sown out-of-doors now, one may have plants which will commence to flower by the following May, and will yield many blossoms long before spring-sown plants come to beauty. Calendulas also are one of the most useful plants one can have for flowering in a cold frame or cold greenhouse during winter or early spring.

In a house which can be heated, the merest suggestion of warmth sufficient to dispel damp will bring plants into bloom by Christmas. This is my plan with them. In August I prepare soil from old potting material, mixed with a little garden soil and sand, and after well crocking some 6-inch pots, sow two or three seeds in each, selecting the strongest seedling, and growing it on, one plant to a pot. The pots are stood outside until about the end of September if the weather is not too bad, and then they are brought in a cold house and kept on a shelf near the glass which affords abundance of air night and day. Not until the weather gets very cold do I bring the plants indoors, as on more than one occasion the late autumn has been so mild that, stood under a south wall, they have not been brought under cover until October. The plants are hardy, and it is only because one runs a risk with the buds becoming frosted that it is needful to watch the weather. Calendulas give us bright orange and yellow blooms so lavishly, and are so delightful for cutting, that it has always been a puzzle to me why more do not make a sowing in August. They dislike a stuffy, overheated atmosphere, and only ask to be kept from actual fros bloom them late in the year. No anna more simple to deal with, whilst none a greater reward of blossoms. W.

"Gardening a Hobby"

A broadcast talk given on Aug. 27 by Col. F. R. Durham, Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society. Published by permission of the British Broadcasting Corporation.

"GOD ALMIGHTY first planted a garden, and, indeed, it is the purest of human pleasures. It is the greatest refreshment to the spirits of man without which buildings and palaces are but gross handywork."

Thus wrote that wise philosopher, Bacon, in the sixteenth century.

Do not be alarmed, a text does not mean a sermon. I am no preacher, no speaker. I am just at home with a microphone simply gazing at me open-mouthed, so to speak, ready to swallow wholesale what I choose to confess, all without questioning or interruption. And you are all supplied with such a simple remedy to defend yourselves. How we do all like silent admiration.

Rose Cupid on a suitable wall

I fear I have little excuse to speak to-night unless it be in my capacity as Secretary of the Royal Horticultural Society.

Why speak on a hobby? You who exercise it know all its virtues and vices so well you do not want platitudes; you who do not, will not want to. But between the "you do's and you don't's" there are "you who might's," and you may be interested. I am not a great gardener, may be, not a good gardener. I was once reported to have said that you cannot be a good gardener until you are over sixty. That was a misunderstanding. I am not sixty, but gardening is my hobby and recreation.

Now to be a little more serious.

Gardening has been the first hobby of mankind. My text tells you so. Let me strip from the days of the Garden of Eden and get down to more recent times. Let me tell you of the Society which has accomplished more to inspire the cultivation of this hobby than anything I can say or the little I can do in assisting its activities.

On March 7th, 1804, over 125 years there met at Hatchards, the well-kr booksellers in Piccadilly, six men, eminent in the science of botany and l culture, to found the Horticultural Sc of London. The objects were "to c every information respecting the culture treatment of all plants and trees, as culinary as ornamental," to foster and courage every branch of horticulture an the arts connected with it, and "that it be considered within the intentions of Society to give premiums for improven in horticulture wherever it should be pedient to do so."

I scarcely need to prove to you that have succeeded. Our gardens have bee riched by the collectors sent out in t early days and are still being enriche further plant expeditions. Our cultiv has been improved, the advance in be of our garden flowers has been one continuous triumph, the improvement of fruits and vegetables are enjoyed by all, the premiums, the awards to these imp ments, carry a world-wide standard of e lence quoted throughout the horticul literature, both scientific and trade. Ou that small beginning there has grown Royal Horticultural Society, the oldest largest horticultural society in the w with nearly 28,000 Fellows and Assoc and 600 kindred societies affiliated. now there is no nation in the world that brought gardening to such perfection as country, providing a recreation throug the length and breadth of the land in w rich and poor, young and old, meet tog in competition to enjoy the great gift Nature.

Why, then, if such success is establi is it necessary to praise or plead for hobby?

The answer is in my text, "It is the p of human pleasures."

John Habberton years ago wrote a b "Helen's Babies." "I want to see wheels go round," says Budge. "Wa shee the wheels go round," echoed To and so it echoes on.

We live in a mechanical age where tendency is to be more and more subser to mechanism. Nevertheless, I believe, I say so watching the development of Society, I believe sincerely that this fact of mechanical development will lea a quicker appreciation of the wonders garden, and the more "Robotic" our lives become, the more shall we strive to away and seek the seclusion of a ga where we can with our efforts in our way work with our hands to produce create, to find that refreshment of our spi And what have our opportunities been, what may they be so that this entran hobby-horse may ride on, gaining one cess after another?

The opportunities we have had, and opportunities that lay before us, are no all one and the same. First the hobb inbred in our nature and only requires gr for its further development.

This country is a favoured country. contains nearly the whole range of the logical strata known, and the weatherin rocks and their disintegration have prov variation of cultivatable soils suited :inds of plant life. This country has abused climate, but however much the climate is temperate, free from reme ranges of temperature, the torrid d rigorous cold of continents. Plant ys itself. Plants brought from nearly ıtries thrive, the half-hardy annuals the summer, the delicate rock plants e mountains and plateau, with a little on survive the winter, and the sub- plants enjoy the mild sea coast warmed under the influence of the ream.

are the permanent opportunities on ve may build our hopes.

ow for those opportunities we have and must maintain.

onstruction of our housing, the lay- the dwelling quarters of our cities, and villages, the self-contained house a piece of land, the detached and ached houses, with their little gar- ck and front, and the country house pleasure grounds and park, all these en the nursery of our hobby. The self-contained apartment house, the easing blocks of flats, and the multi- easy-going boarding-houses, all eir labour-saving devices and paved d courts, fit only for the cultivation ray cat, all these are obstacles in the our hobby. "Gross handyworks"

pressing insistence for the recon- of districts of our cities and towns ed for one reason or another, let us our love for the self-contained home of land, and demand its fulfilment. along our new trunk roads, if we ve ribbon development, let it be a ent with ample garden space, both back, the front to help the humbler architecture and beautify the road- back for the peace and contentment ves after the daily routine is done. ample ribbon development will he care and protection desired by the eautifying Association in their work. of a beautiful tree will be installed nds, and the destruction of the road- ting of the Kingston by-pass road r recur.

ne word more, although the ideal se with a garden cannot be attained ed city areas, I would put it in the those interested in the reconstruc- ousing the more humbler section of ulation (I hate the hard word) that there may be a possibility of a "community" garden. This is by the wonderful gardens made in mews, on building sites waiting ent, or little open spaces in between nest streets in London where the Children's Garden and Recreation as its being. The little crops of s, Carrots, Turnips, Radishes, etc., bunches of flowers, all grown and by the children of these mean bring as much pleasure to these ildren to gather and take home as ition of a rare or wonderful hybrid the Society's fortnightly meetings he more fortunate owner.

me not forget a gardener's thanks organisations affiliated to my such as the many allotment societies London Gardens Guild, all working preservation and development to city garden possibilities.

games the keenest are those who not the spectator. If we want a we want the picture we like, and do the picture dealer to decorate our We must be our own gardener, and idle spectator watching professionals; that is to say, if we really want to enjoy the hobby. Our grateful audience is always to be found in our co-hobbyists and those who wish for a rest and have no gardens. The garden then has an individuality; it has its own pride. Often wandering round the intimate gardens, how easy is it to know the character of the owner. Let the garden be in part the expression of your character; it will help to form it. Flowers never quarrel or make quarrels, they are soul of contentment and peace.

A garden may become a collection of beautiful flowers, a collection of choice fruits, or a collection of luscious vegetables, all and every one well grown, healthy and fruitful, will provide beauty and pleasure. It is only a matter of arrangement, the expression of the individual's taste. Perhaps the most fascinating form of the hobby—I speak selfishly of my own little garden—is the collection of pleasant reminiscences, of travels, of gifts, and even of hardships. What is more delightful than the Latin names so troublesome to many of us, than the history of the acquisition of plants, the person who gave it us, the prize it won at a local show, and the place and circumstances from whence it was obtained? And the chance seedling found in the garden. This chance seedling may be the pride of the garden, many, many of the hybrids treasured by so many of us obtained from gardens of our friends, selected and bought at flower shows, have their origin as a seedling in a garden, a little gift of Nature.

My little garden has acquired quite a number of plants, seeds brought by the wind, by the birds, or by some unknown vehicle, sown where it pleased them. Nothing valuable, but still interesting.

And this brings me to the subject of weeding, the routine of the tidy garden.

How often have I wished that some great gardener would give us a lecture on "intelligent weeding." Weeding is often thought to be a bore, an unkindness displayed by Nature towards our efforts. Weeding, I maintain, is not nearly so dreadful in spite of all its knee bending and back breaking. Weeding really brings you in contact with your garden. Routine work means the knowledge of detail, and the knowledge of detail builds up the whole work. No matter, by the way, whether it be gardening or any daily work.

Weeding in the garden gives the whole opportunity of plant life study; we observe the habit of the plants we grow, we learn their root requirements, we can observe the insect life, find the insects which destroy those injurious to our plants, we can watch the bees and the ants; in fact, natural history opens its pages of wonders to us. Weeding should not be dull. We learn the small seed leaves of plants, we distinguish between the good and the bad, we find the chance seedling as something novel, as something which will replace a lost plant. In fact, gardening by ourselves may be described as Hadji Baba describes the start of his voyage from Persia to England, "We cast the anchor of Curiosity into the harbour of Expectation." Weeding, in fact, is the incentive to greater efforts. And when the dormant season comes, winter with Nature's rest for the recuperation to be divulged in spring time, gardening as a hobby can still hold its own. It is a game that can always be played; it is like a newly acquired foreign language; it has a literature of its own well worth reading and studying, arousing interest in the works of travels to learn of countries where plants have been brought from, and of the fascinating stories of natural history. There are, too, the catalogues inviting you to make up lists and seeds of plants, with the only disappointment as a rule that Christmas expenses forbid the sum total of your innermost wishes. Gardening is indeed a fine hobby, and, if exercised with devotion, will leave the golf clubs, tennis rackets, lacrosse sticks, croquet mallets, and the like to decorate the hall, whilst the rooms will be gay with flowers and table furnished with fruits and vegetables.

I began with a text. I will end with a definition and a text.

Johnson's dictum on hobbies was, "Hobbies, Sir, are the means by which men prolong their own lives and bore others to death."

Therefore, with the words of Voltaire: "Cultivate the garden."

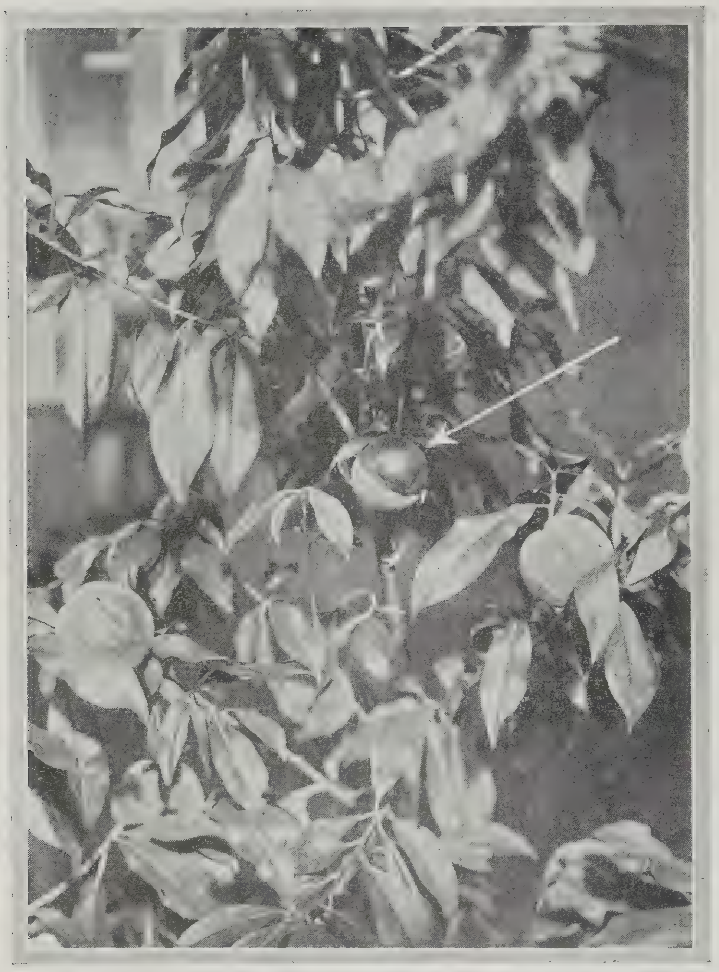
Cleaning the greenhouse

Where greenhouses have been occupied during the summer with a variety of flowering plants that presently will have to give place to other plants quartered in frames or open ground for winter blooming, as, for instance, Chrysanthemums, Zonal Pelargoniums, Primulas, Cinerarias, and the like, it is advisable that the house should be rendered clean for their reception. It is doubly important that the place should be thoroughly cleansed if it has been occupied by Tomatoes or Cucumbers. First, then, it is best to choose a dry day for the job, and after removing all plants to frames or standing them in the open, to disinfect the house. I know of nothing more searching and calculated to kill pests of all sorts, including White Fly and Red Spider, than ordinary brimstone. It can be purchased for about 4d. per lb., and if it is pounded up it is ready for use. It is a good plan to put a fire in the stove on such occasions, as then one can take a few shovels of hot coke, placing it on the floor of the house or in tins, throwing over this, while hot, the brimstone and immediately coming out and closing the door. The ventilators should be closed, of course, and any crevices stopped up. About seven or eight hours of such fumigation will destroy pests of all sorts, and if done at night it will be found by next morning to have cleared the house. It will then be ready for cleaning after the house has been well aired by leaving the ventilators wide open. All sash bars and wood-work should be washed down in soap and water, and opportunity ought to be taken after the wood is dry to do any puttying and painting needed before any plants are brought indoors.

MIDLANDER.

Sedum spectabile

This is the true Japanese Stonecrop, worthy of a place in any garden, especially if it can be given a shady spot. It is a favourite old plant with many, thriving in quite ordinary soil, but liking best one in which humus is prevalent, such as that in which is placed occasionally old manure or well-decayed vegetable refuse. As is known by those who grow it, the leaves are broad and glaucous, borne on erect stems, and the rosy-purple flowers, which appear at the extremities of the shoots, come in early autumn and last in good condition for some weeks. It is a plant which stands cold with impunity, hence those who thought that last spring, when so many things were cut off by frost, it would surely kill this Sedum, were agreeably surprised to find, although late in appearing, that it eventually pushed its shoots out of the ground, and this year promises to bloom just as freely. Roots can be planted in late autumn, but spring is an ideal time for removal. MIDLANDER.



Half Peach, half Nectarine!

A Peregrine Peach tree bearing one fruit, indicated by an arrow, the top half of which is identical in appearance with that of Humbolt Nectarine. The demarcation is clearly defined along the suture of the fruit from the stem to the nipple. All other fruits on this Peach tree were normal. It was a well-fruited tree shown by Mr. J. C. Allgrove. Incidentally, it might be observed that the Nectarine first occurred as a sport from the Peach. The flavour of the Nectarine is distinct from that of the Peach, and it is only on very rare occasions that such a sport has been recorded

A Random Commentary

THERE was a slight feeling of waiting for the tide at the last fortnightly show in Greycoat Street, as though the summer flowers were over and the autumn season had not yet begun; but this impression was partly attributable, no doubt, to a natural reluctance on the part of nurserymen to stage expensive and elaborate exhibits when there were so few people in Town to see them. Yet although the number of exhibits was small, there was nothing perfunctory about them. Messrs. Sutton showed their China Asters perfectly and competently so as to bring out their quality to the full, and they are flowers, as most people will agree, which are best in their own company.

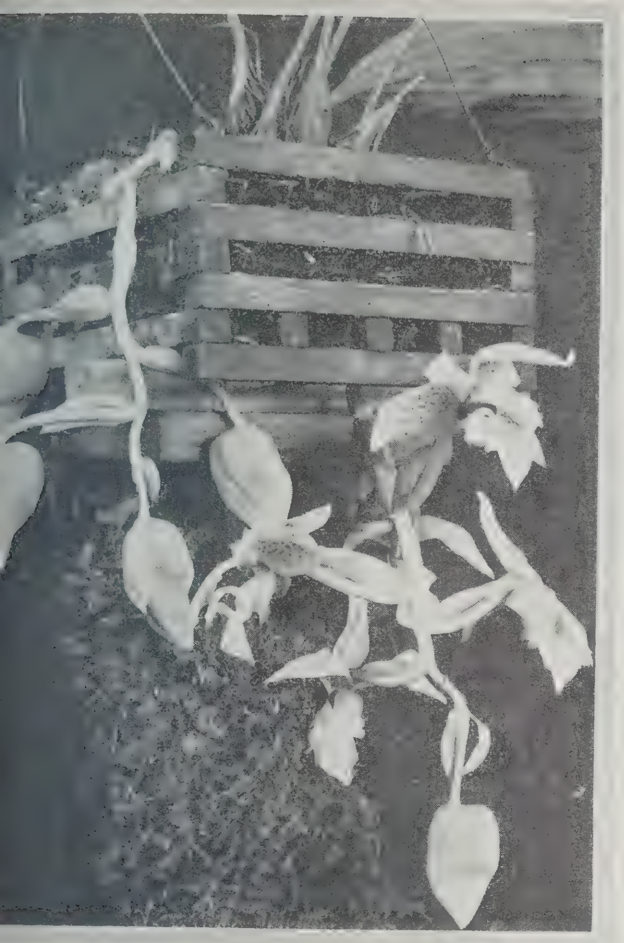
The Dahlias gave a remarkable exhibition of docility, some of them looked as though they had stepped off the dust cover of a lurid novel, while the exquisite little Pompons took on the tender shades of a melting strawberry ice, *bois de rose*, or palest fawn, while one of them whose petals were of pale yellow edged with red and faintly bloomed over with lavender, looked like a piece of Dresden china which had caught the glow of an Alpine sunset. One Cactus Dahlia was quite hideous, with a greenish-yellow centre and tentacles of sickly pink; but there were very few ugly Dahlias to be seen, which does credit to the taste of the raisers, for the Dahlia seems to have no will of its own, and can be as ugly as anyone cares to make it.

Dahlias, Asters, and garden Roses not only lend themselves to exhibition, but positively ask for it. On the other hand, the shrubs shown by Messrs. Notcutt needed a close examination to reveal quality. It must be very difficult to show flowering shrubs in a way as to suggest their full beauty; it might be done, one sup by giving a specially chosen vase and ample space to each spe branch, but few exhibitors can afford to sacrifice the square feet al to them, which they must use to illustrate as many good items their catalogue as possible. One good item was Romneya hy which has the effect of R. Coulteri, but is said to be more co and orderly in its habit of growth. Another was Abelia Schuma with large flowers of pinkish lavender and a spicy scent. It s to ask for a warm corner or a specially favoured locality, wh well deserves for a refinement that is not common in its fa Perofskia atriplicifolia is said to cover far too many miles of co in the Southern States with Sage Brush, but it is all too s seen in this country, where its white stems and leaves, into the intense violet of the flowers finds its way, are strikingly bea to our unaccustomed eye.

The plants illustrated on this page and on the page opposite were shown at the Royal Horticultural Society's fortnightly meeting held on August 27th

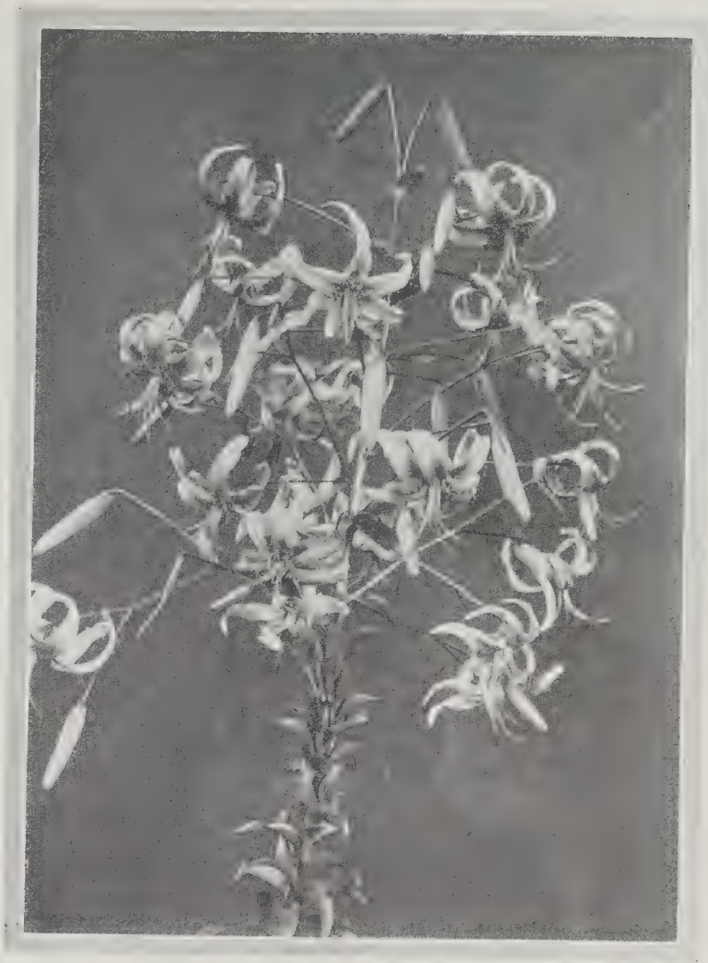
Hedychium Gardnerianum with about 120 flowers!

This enormous inflorescence of a well-known greenhouse plant shown by Mr. F. Kemp, Haywards Heath, and received an Award Merit. Flowers bright yellow, with long, protruding red stame arranged in perpendicular rows, as clearly seen in the illustration



flowered plant of Stanhopea Wardii var., a remarkable Orchid from Mexico, shown by Sanders

vers, produced on pendulous stems, one of which is seen coming
the bottom of the basket, are cream coloured with small purple
spots and a large black blotch



This remarkable inflorescence of the orange-coloured Lilium Henryi, carrying about 80 flowers, was shown at the last meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society

don Gardens Exhibition

ndon Gardens Exhibition held their
nnual show in the Royal Horticul-
ety's New Hall on August 30th and
his exhibition is organised by the
Gardens Guild. The quality of the
nd the standard of cultivation were
h higher than in previous years.
re some exceptionally fine blooms of
Asters, too, were in good form,
scarcely to be believed that such
flowers of Lilium auratum and
ncifolium could bloom in the dis-
ermondsey.

am spirit is encouraged by the
ardens Guild, and splendid groups
ed by the Bermondsey and Rother-
ticultural Society and the Borough
rwell. The groups consisted of
vers, and very fine specimens were
en of Dahlias, Lilium auratum,
belia tenuior, Asters, Chrysanthe-
olden Rod, Delphiniums, Lupins,
and Pentstemons, as well as
as and Roses. A goodly number
-fashioned Pom-pom Dahlias were
e in particular being Glow.

easing exhibits were those of the
ration, some with one variety and
y, and others with two or more
f flowers and colours, but the chief
his exhibit was the fact that the
e too crowded, consequently giving
y appearance.

ut not least, children are en-
n this great scheme to beautify London, and the Kensington Schools staged a group of flowers grown by school children. After visiting such a remarkable exhibition one felt that there was not very much wrong with the London soil, for London's Flower Show has proved a great success.

The Western Catalpa (C. speciosa)

The Catalpas are blooming rather freely this year, and a few days ago I saw a very handsome specimen, 30 feet or more in height, laden with beautiful flowers. The panicles are about 6 inches in length, while the individual flowers, resembling a Streptocarpus, were each over 2 inches across, white, with yellow throat, and streaked with purple, each flower prettily frilled. The handsome, soft green leaves were a foot in length and 6 inches in width. The tree was growing in a moist, sheltered valley bordering a Sussex woodland, the occasional bursts of sunshine at the time of my visit lighting up its flowery head to great advantage. We possess a few young, healthy trees of this species, but they have yet to attain the flowering stage, which, judging by their rapid growth, should not be far distant. Catalpa speciosa is a native of the Southern Central United States, and was introduced in 1880. C. S. Sargent, in his manual of the trees of North America, mentions this tree as reaching 120 feet high in the forest, its timber being much used for fence posts, rails, telegraph and telephone poles, and occasionally for furniture and the interior finish of houses. Gate posts have been known to stand in perfect preservation 50 to 100 years, according to Mr. W. J. Bean, such is the remarkable enduring quality of its timber when sunk in the earth.

E. M.

David's Lily (Lilium Davidii)

This graceful and refined Lily is now blooming with me and promises to become a permanent occupant of the garden, having endured the two past winters safely and unprotected. It increases in strength with each succeeding year. The tallest plant here is about 5 feet in height and carries 17 flowers and buds. The flowers, each about the size of a Tiger Lily, are of a soft orange shade, with many black spots, the rather pointed segments spreading out and curling back, and the flowers being nicely spaced on the stem. In many respects this charming species resembles a Tiger Lily, but it is more refined, less woolly about the stem, and without bulbils in the leaf axils. It flowers during the third year from seed. With me it is growing in a bed, the soil of which is composed to a large extent of leaf-mould and surface woodland material.

Sussex. E. MARKHAM.

China Asters

The great points in the successful cultivation of Asters are to give them a very rich soil at all stages, and never allow the plants to receive a check in any way. Plant out carefully into beds of good, rich, and deeply dug soil. From 8 inches to 10 inches apart is a good distance for the dwarf kinds, and 1 foot or more for the tall growers.

Ten Days in Leventina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

At the request of many readers, this diary is continued over a slightly longer period than was originally intended

(*Continued from page 582*)

Botanising with a Barometer — The Climb to Lago Dentro

SUNDAY, JULY 7TH (*continued*).

WHEN I got back to Hotel Piora in the evening the contents of my vasculum soon aroused the curiosity of a party of new arrivals from England—not the least of the charms of Piora is the number of interesting people one is sure to meet there. Although less than two dozen in the hotel, the guests included botanists, entomologists, geologists, ornithologists, in addition to those who were on their way to the Cadlimohutte for climbing, and those who had come for trout fishing.

To return to the contents of my vasculum, which were tipped out on a table, the flowers of the White Martagon and the bulb of the Black Martagon thrilled the botanists to the core, and those, together with the five-leaved Paris quadrifolia, formed the chief topic of conversation.

The pioneer of this very select party was a doctor, a tall man, of athletic build. From Lilies the conversation turned to Campanulas, Primulas, Gentians, and Androsaces. Two plants that the doctor seemed most anxious to find were Androsace helvetica and Linaria alpina alba. He was obviously an enthusiast in albinos. The next question fired at me somewhat suddenly was, "Have you ever seen Allioni alba?" Much to the astonishment of the doctor I was able to say that I had seen it, both in cultivation and in the wild state in Nature. I had visions of limestone cliffs in the Maritime Alps, where the rare Primula Allioni grows, tightly wedged in the hard, whitish rock. I had seen it there and the white form not many miles from San d'Almazzo di Tenda. To my dismay my reply was received with very grave doubts, not only by the doctor, but also by his gardener, a stout and trustworthy man, who accompanied him. Could it possibly occur at so low an altitude? The doctor shook his head as only a doctor can. I referred to the type plant as being very rare—doubtless a dying species—to which the doctor replied that it grew by the acre, and he could name at least twenty stations for it. The discussion grew heated, and some guests in the hotel, including an old gentleman with a butterfly net, expressed astonishment that two Englishmen not known to one another could get so heated over the natural distribution of a harmless flower, which after all was only there to attract moths and butterflies. Never before had I been involved in such a discussion; our views were irreconcilable. I would not give way, though I carefully avoided disclosing the exact whereabouts of a plant which I knew to be so very rare and much sought after by collectors.

MONDAY, JULY 8TH.

Early this morning I met the doctor on the staircase. "Ah!" said he, with light in his eye that comes only by inspiration, "I've been thinking that we were at cross purposes last night. The plant you had in mind was Primula Allioni alba." "Certainly," said I, "what else could it be?" "Well," said he, "I did not mention the genus Primula, the plant I was discussing, was Campanula Allioni alba!" Thus our confusion ended.

[N.B.—Can any reader throw light upon the whereabouts of Campanula Allioni alba? This plant occurred as a seedling in Dr. Jenken's garden at Hindhead, but so far as I know there is no record of it having occurred anywhere in the Alps.]

My new acquaintance proved to be Dr. Jenken, with whose name I was at once familiar; indeed, he is known throughout Europe and beyond to enthusiasts among Alpine plants. Had I not seen wonderful pans of Gentians from him at Vincent Square, and other treasures from him in the Alpine House at Wisley?

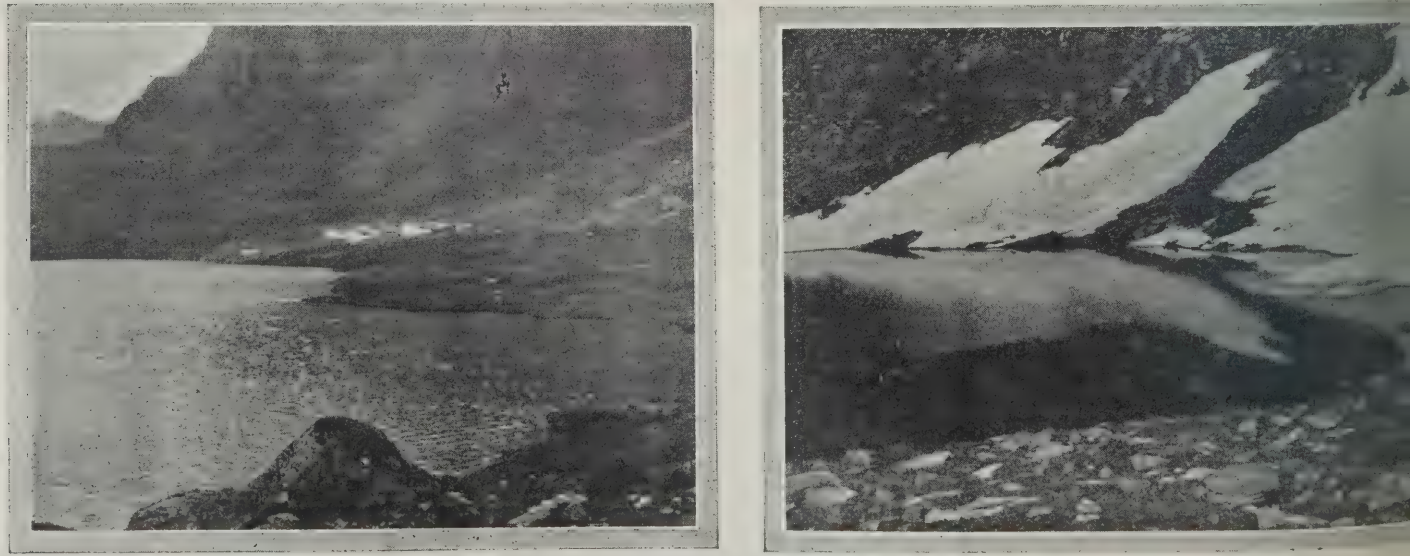
Luckily for me I was able to join the doctor's party for Lago Dentro and the heights of Tanedo. Moreover, I hoped that if snow had cleared sufficiently we might get through to the Cadlimohutte.

The doctor, I observed, was
methodical. Before leaving the ho
carefully examined his watch. Indee
looked at his watch many times
climbed up the steep, grassy slopes of
doni, and particularly when we came
a plant of special interest. It was som
before I discovered that it was not a
to which constant reference was mad
a pocket aneroid barometer—watch
with altitude scale for measuring h
When we came upon a plant we we
certain about, the first thing the doct
was to look at his barometer. No; it
not be such and such a species, the a
was too low, and it could not be som
else because it was too high; theref
must be—*Q.E.D.* We were botanising
the aid of a barometer, a very good g
the hands of one who, like the doctor,
how to use it, and that only comes with
experience. We are all familiar wi
learned-looking botanist who, whene
plant is brought to him for identific
automatically takes out his lens and
the hairs on the underside of the
Future botanists, please note. You a
pected to bring your own barographs!

Our objective this day was Lago D
a high mountain lake east of Cadagn
considerably higher. We were a long
getting there. Wandering to and fro
the slopes of Corandoni, we stopped
mire and photograph Anemone su
Gentians, Dryas, Dianthus, and Da
in variety previously recorded.

The map does not show a continuous
all the way from Lago Ritom to
Dentro—the track is broken in many
The day was hot, and we were longi
the luncheon interval. At length we
up the track, and after a further cli
sighted our lake. This was the sign
luncheon, and having each selected hi
particular cushion of Silene acaulis on
to sit, we were very soon engrossed e
his own nosebag.

After lunch I sighted a traveller, th
one we had seen all day. He was comi
the track towards us. The doctor a
time was sleeping—with one eye
When the stranger reached us he inqu
he were on the right track for Santa
I assured him that if he continued o
track he would find himself at the
Plombo, high up in the mountains a
mines that had long since been des
With the aid of my map I pointed



IN ALTA LEVENTINA

Lago Cadagno and the deserted village Cadagno

Lago di Dentro, 7,663 feet

k near Cadagno, on which is growing many Alpines,
ding Sempervivums, Saxifrages, Silene acaulis, and
Achillea moschata

On the slopes of Corandoni

Dr. Jenken (in shorts) with his friends Mr. and Mrs. Kirby and his good gardener, West

ger that he was on the wrong track,
his way lay far to the east. Alas!
fraid he had taken the wrong direc-
it was imperative that he reached
ria that evening. To the east lay
mountain barrier; he must change
in that direction and hope for the
ooked a hopeless task. I bade him
l, and I did not envy him his lonely
cross wild-looking and impenetrable
s in search for the mountain pass
st.

wenty minutes later the doctor sat
ubbed his eyes; then with sudden
he looked at his barometer.
nakes!" he cried, "you have sent
v in the wrong direction." I took
to the doctor, but he was in no
maps or argument. "Fetch him
exclaimed, "before it is too late."
bled to the top of the nearest crest.
re I could see the stranger much
ff than I thought possible. He
e a small black and white insect
manfully scaling the dark, precipi-
tain cliffs. Fortunately, my good
. R. B." had left among other
s police whistle, and after shrill
the whistle I was able to attract
erer's attention. He understood,
scrambled down the rocks, which
t sorry to do. When he returned,
took the situation in hand and
that we were now only at 7,400
eas Lago Dentro was 7,663 feet.
we were not at Lago Dentro, but
r and smaller lake lower down.
ler was on his right track and we
g, and so it proved to be.

not been for the doctor and his
d the help of the police whistle,
bouts of that traveller would, I
been on my conscience to the end
.

(*To be concluded.*)

Pratia angulata

the Lobelia, this pretty little
ant, growing only an inch or so
s a neat subject for carpeting the
partially shaded places in the rock
may be grown quite well in well-
sitions on the flat, but it is seen
etter advantage when growing on
lope about the level of the eye.
Like most New Zealand plants, it is hardy only in sheltered positions in the more exposed parts of the country, but in the south and west it survives the winter unscathed. It succeeds best in moist districts, covering the ground with its creeping, slender, matted stems, clothed with rather thick, coarsely toothed leaves. Its numerous white flowers, similar to those of a dwarf Lobelia, are produced in autumn, followed by violet-coloured berries. This plant appreciates a soil of a vegetable character, such as peat and leaf-soil, to which a little loam and sand is added. Grown in fairly large patches it makes a pretty and charming sight. J. L.

Ranunculus glacialis flowering freely in the water from the melting snows at Passo dell Uomo leading to Santa Maria

Potato blight

Although the country is remarkably clear of Potato Blight this season so far, it is only right and prudent to carry out the spraying programme as intended; the disease is almost certain to come along later.

Bordeaux Mixture is usually employed, and is preferable to powder, which is only used where there is a shortage of water. It is made with 4 lbs. of copper sulphate, 2 lbs. of quick lime, and 40 gallons of water; enough for one-third of an acre. The 4 lbs. of copper sulphate is dissolved in about 35 gallons of water, and the 2 lbs. of lime slaked slowly and separately, the other 5 gallons of water being added to it, stirring all the time. The 5 gallons of lime-water is then strained through a fine sieve and added to the 35 gallons of copper sulphate solution, the whole being vigorously stirred in the process. This mixture will cost about 2s. The cost of spraying an acre once is put at 5s., and if three sprayings are made and Potato Blight thereby kept away at a cost of 15s., the extra crop per acre will probably be not less than 1 ton. If the mixture is bought ready-made, or if powder is used, it should be seen to contain not less than 15 per cent. of metallic copper.

Martineau and Smith, of Birmingham, make an excellent spraying machine suitable for the purpose.

A closer view of the beautiful Ranunculus glacialis

About 7,500 feet

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Lavender

Hedges and large groups of this favourite shrub, both tall and dwarf, will, if inclined to become thin and worn at the base, benefit from a rather severe cutting back at this season. Young growths will then develop lower down and the plants become more bushy. If it is necessary to renew any of these or increase one's stock, the present is a good time to do so by tearing off healthy young shoots of the past season's growth, with a heel attached, and inserting them very firmly in sandy soil, either in the open or on a partially-shaded border, where they will soon root and form nice bushy plants for next season's planting out.

Propagating Trees and Shrubs

The majority of these may now be propagated by means of the sand frame, now so popular and valuable. Both evergreen and deciduous species may be attempted, using cuttings made of partially-ripened wood, and taken from the plants or bushes with a heel attached. The heel is not absolutely necessary, and many strike freely if cut below a joint, but it is advisable to remove with a heel where possible. Those who do not possess a sand frame for this purpose should get a fairly deep box (about 14 inches or so) and place therein 5 inches of clean, sharp sand. Cover it with glass, the important point being that of keeping it airtight. If damped over frequently no shade will be necessary this year.

Furnishing summer beds

Pentstemons, Snapdragons, Calceolarias, Evening Primroses, Tufted Pansies, Veronicas, and Mesembryanthemums used for the furnishing of summer beds must now be taken in hand, and cuttings about 4 inches in length inserted in boxes filled with sandy soil in quantities. These will strike freely in cool, closed frames if dewed lightly over to prevent wilting in the afternoon following sunny days. Too much moisture, however, must be guarded against, or damping will set in.

Prepare Carnation beds

Prepare beds in readiness for the planting of Carnations, which will shortly be ready, using a little old lime rubble in soil which is inclined to be heavy, or, failing this, freshly-slaked lime will do. Seedlings of good kinds raised in March are ready now, and should be planted without delay, but those which were layered will require a little longer before being lifted from the layering ground.

Sweet Peas

Prepare the ground by deep trenching, enriching same with manure and a little lime in readiness for these, which, to obtain the best results, should be sown before the 20th of the month. A little fresh maiden loam, to which has been added a sprinkling of wood ash and bone-meal, should constitute the upper foot of surface and be brought to a fairly fine tilth.

Strawberries

The ground having been prepared earlier and allowed to settle down, is now ready for the young layers, which should be planted without further delay. A very good distance is 2 feet all ways between the plants, and it is essential to plant firmly with a good soaking afterwards. Those intended for forcing should be placed in their fruiting pots, and stood close together on a bed of ashes in full sunshine.

Apples and Pears

The early varieties require almost daily attention if they are to be used at their best, and fruits gathered so are preferable to those taken in bulk, as so many of the latter are deficient in quality before they can be used. Plums, too, should be gathered daily where several varieties are grown.

Raspberries

Encourage growth by liberal applications of weak manure water, as these plants, being so shallow rooting, suffer quickly from drought. Remove all old canes where not already done, and thin out the young growths in order that sunshine and air may penetrate and harden the remainder. Perpetual varieties are cropping abundantly.

Potatoes

Lift and store second earlies, as no object is gained by their remaining longer in the soil. These are very fine and clean this year, as are all this group, at least, in this district, and I do not anticipate any great losses in future, as disease appears to be non-existent.

Lettuces

Make a final sowing of Trocadero, Hardy Winter White, and Winter Beauty, to plant out later in cold frames, and on sunny borders protected from easterly winds. These will prove a boon in the early months of next year when salads are scarce.

The fruit store

Cleanliness is most important here, and before the heavy supplies are ready for storing both walls and woodwork should be thoroughly cleansed and limewashed.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Propagating bedding plants

This matter demands considerable time at this season and should not be unduly delayed, for even the hardier subjects are, to say the least of it, not improved by being frosted before the cuttings are secured. It is getting just late enough for the more tender kinds, but if secured now and the boxes or pots of cuttings set in a slightly heated pit or other glass structure and kept close and shaded, rooting should eventually take place.

Pansies and Violas

As has frequently been mentioned in these columns, these popular dwarf plants have suffered very considerably with the prolonged drought. Where cuttings can be secured, now is a good time for inserting them. Only the young shoots that spring up in the centres of the plants are of much use as regards cuttings, and sufficient quantities of such should now be taken off and dibbled into a bed of sandy compost under a cold frame. These cuttings succeed all right in ordinary cutting boxes if these are set in a cold frame.

Pentstemons

Best results are had with this fine plant by propagating annually at this time. Side shoots that show no sign of flower-buds in the points are by far the best for this purpose. From 4 inches to 5 inches is a suitable length for these cuttings, and many of them may be secured with a slight "heel," which is a great advantage, although shoots of good, firm growth, not too thick, if cut through close under a joint, make excellent cuttings, given decent treatment. While the cuttings may be placed in boxes, they succeed much better when a bed of fresh,
compost is made up for them under
frame.

Plant Daffodils

The earlier now these are plant
better, especially when the site is in
land or under trees. When planting
garden, be careful not to put any fresh
yard manure into the soil, this material
absolute poison to many of the varietie
unnecessary in any case. Should the
at all poor, a dusting of bone-meal and
slag will do a deal of good to the Daf
Four ounces of slag and about an oun
a half of bone-meal per square yard i
dressing to apply. They should be sca
over the surface after the ground has
dug and lightly forked in before pl
takes place.

Lifting border Chrysanthemums

Many fine varieties, even in a good
here in the North fail to open their f
early enough, and so are frequently
by frost unless they can be lifted and
or boxed. Some care is necessary
lifting to retain a decent amount
around the roots. The pots should be
drained, clean and dry, and should be
close to the plants to be lifted, as this
extra moving about and so less dam
the roots. Make quite firm in the pot
when finished set them on the north
a high wall, thus protecting them from
age by the sun's rays. Do not remo
doors until hard frost threatens.
treated in this way will produce qua
of fine flowers for cutting.

Pot up early-flowering Bulbs

Roman Hyacinths, Polyanthus, Nar
and Daffodils should all now be pott
if this has not already been done.
best plunged in the open air, the Da
for three months and the others f
weeks, it being important to have all
rooted before being brought into the li

Young Gloxinias

Sometimes some of the plants rai
spring fail to bloom the first season,
dry these off in the usual way freq
means that many are lost, the bulbs
so small. If, therefore, instead of
holding water the little plants are
slowly all winter they will make sp
plants early in the following summer.
best pot in which to winter the plants
5-inch size. Careful watering is imp
and a warmth of between 55 degs.
degs. will ensure healthy, if very
growth. In February a move into 7-in
will give very fine results if the temp
is raised 10 degs.

Plant more Cabbages

To provide a succession to the earlier
ings a further and final batch should
set out in the open garden. The soil
only be moderately rich and should b
Flower of Spring is a good variety f
purpose.

Onions

The "necks" of those not making
attempt to mature should now be g
twist and the tops bent over to the
Bulbs that have ripened should be tak
and laid on a hard surface in full su
to dry thoroughly before being stored.
batch sown a few weeks ago should ha
hoe plied frequently between the ro
encourage sturdy, firm growth.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow

Azaleas

me wooded ground adjoining the
of a West Surrey garden, a space
leared for a planting of Azaleas of
ild character. It is on hilly ground
sandy soil and a natural growth of
Whortleberry, and Bracken; the
art has an informal planting of
Some of the larger kinds are now
gh and drifts of the natural Whortle-
ere left, so that the planting dies
turally into the untouched woodland
The Azaleas are planted, some in
nd some a good way apart. Be-
d among them are small shrubs of a
character, Vaccinium, Cistus,
and so on. The planting is kept as
as possible, with here and there
hes of the wild Heath and Whortle-
that the effect is as if the Azaleas
there naturally, merging easily into
r woodland. G. J.

Indian Azaleas

wering of these Azaleas in spring
epends upon the treatment they re-
ummer. The best place for Azaleas
e time they are placed out-of-doors
artially-shaded place. I do not like
e altogether in the shade, as in such
the growth does not ripen so well as
y get a few hours' sun daily. Those
hich have flowered later must be
he greenhouse for some time longer
ct, until the flower-buds are formed
oung growth. In a general way,
ot till the end of July, but no de-
e can be stated, as much depends
eatment they receive. A distinction
ways be made between those which
early and the later ones, as if the
med plants are kept under glass
h temperature they will begin to
in a very irregular manner in the
so that when their proper time of
comes round, their effectiveness
poilt. Azaleas suffer a good deal
s through careless watering when
n the open air. Sometimes the roots
ated with moisture, and at others
n need of it. When there is a pro-
ontinued wet weather all small and
ized plants should be laid on their
a few days, and large specimens
care, be tilted over a little, so as
the rain-water to drain away
With regard to stimulants, I am
re that the plants are benefited by
ecially when making growth, or,
natter, at any other time, if they
judiciously in liquid form; but I
so much injury done to this class
by giving the stimulants too strong
not recommend them unless they
d by someone who is familiar with
At all events it is better for the
o allow his stock to depend on the
nich they grow for the sustenance
ire. Given a good, fibrous peat,
proportion of sand mixed with it,
ner, careful watering, Azaleas may
in a successful manner without
provided other things be equally
ded to. H. A

Sea Hollies

ng feature of the Sea Hollies, or
s, is the peculiar and almost
olouring of the flower heads, or
d upper parts of the stems. These
the different varieties vary from a
nyst-blue to a pure ivory-white, and
ddition to the spring character of
makes for a remarkable effect.
a Hollies are quite hardy and more
gorous and robust in growth. Any
len soil suits them, although they
certainly thrive best in deep, good loam of a rather light or sandy character. Provided there is a sufficient depth of soil, they do admirably on a dry bank. The dwarfer kinds, such as E. Bourgati, do well with me on the rockery. The best time to plant is in spring, about April as a rule, and increase is usually by division. Most of the best kinds, however, may be raised from seed. A few good species are E. maritinum, E. amethystinum, E. giganteum, E. alpinum, E. Bourgati, and E. planum. F. H.

Azalea Daviesii

Hiawatha Rose

Roses come and go. Some are heard of for a few years, and then they fall into line with many others possessing qualities nearly alike. Some seem to retain their special points which made them popular at the time they made their debut, and are not forgotten easily. Hiawatha is an instance of a Rose that is a good stayer once its cultivation has been entered upon. As is well known, it is a single sort, crimson in colour, with golden anthers. When these drop they leave a white centre visible, and as it blooms in clusters it is a favourite for arches and pergolas. I do not know of any crimson rose that lasts so long in a good state as Hiawatha; indeed, I question if there are many which last nearly as long. Four weeks I have had the clusters in good condition, and in some seasons beyond this time. Its continuity of flowering is one of its distinguishing characteristics, and those who have not included this sort amongst their climbers should plant one or more this autumn. MIDLANDER.

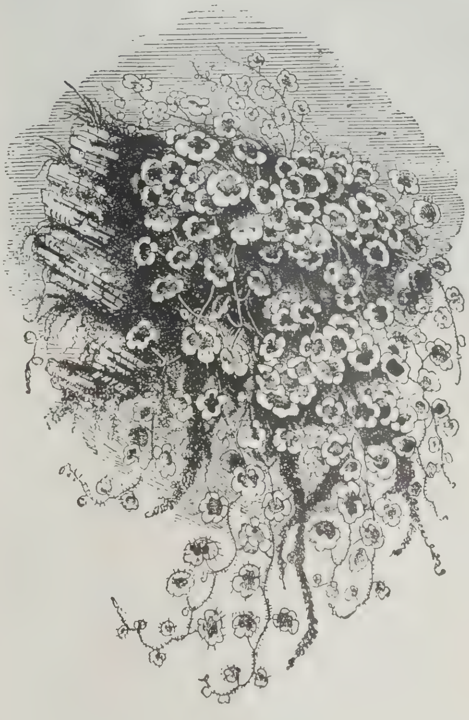
A native American Azalea in a West Surrey garden

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

The variegated Cornish Moneywort

THE Cornish Moneywort is a modest little plant, long grown in ferneries and among Alpine plants, owing to its graceful form and interesting character as a British plant. Nevertheless, not possessing any brilliancy of flower it has never become a very popular plant. Its delicate fresh green, however, and the facility with which it grows in any place where hardy Ferns succeed should make it more popular. We have seen it thrive vigorously in a London area, the plant falling down and draping the pot with a mantle of charming verdure. In a wild state it creeps about in shady places, the banks of rills, and like positions along the western coasts of Europe, extending as far north as the southern parts of England and Ireland. It is found also in the Channel Islands. This comparatively new variegated form is likely to be much more popular. Its leaves are prettily margined with white, and this marking seems in all cases regular. Our illustration, however, gives a good idea of the variegation and general character of the plant. It will probably, in addition to the purposes for which the green Sibthorpia is grown, be found desirable for surfacing pots and baskets in the greenhouse and fernery, and for concealing pots and other objectionable surfaces, its dense mantle of leaves keeping very close to the surface and the growth being of such a nature that it will not rob the soil of the nutriment required by other plants.—*September 6th,* 1879.



A peril near home

Lately grave cases of poisoning by supposed Mushrooms gathered in Hyde Park and Regent's Park have fallen under treatment at Middlesex Hospital. The symptoms were urgent, and included violent delirium, though happily the patients recovered under treatment. This is a matter of general interest, because it is quite possible that some of the Mushrooms supplied by costermongers, and even family greengrocers, may be obtained from the same localities; and it is by no means so easy as is generally supposed to distinguish the genuine edible from the poisonous fungi. The public should be warned.—*October* 25, 1879.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Diseased Plums

(T. C. C.).—We have examined your Plums, and although most of the small, black creatures had escaped during the journey to our office, we were able to find two of the specimens. These are a species of Mite which usually live freely on Plum and Apple trees. So far as we are aware, the creatures are quite harmless, and your finding them in the hole "where the stem was" is just a coincidence. The Plums you sent were affected with Brown Rot, and this fungus was the cause of their dropping off. It is usual for fruits attacked by Brown Rot to remain attached to the tree, but the wind you mentioned probably fetched them down. Please see reply to "Puzzled" in this week's issue.

Apple trouble

(North Countrywoman).—We hav amined the soil and also the specimen Red Spider is certainly part of the t but not all. To deal with the spider p first get a supply of the insecticide Vol use it according to the makers' dire Apples on south walls are frequently t with Spider, and, bearing this in thorough syringing during the growin son should be given, and if this pro sufficient fall back upon a good insect control the spider. We are som troubled by the fact that you say wate not get away easily from the roots o trees, and we fear that defective root may be part of your trouble. From y scription of the "lay" of the site it seem easy for you to put in a drai would ensure the water getting Apples do not like badly drained soi notice that the foliage shows signs of shortage, and also that the soil appear one in which little potash is presen advise you to apply this autumn an mixture of kainit and basic slag at t of 8 ozs. per square yard. Dress t several yards out from the wall and n the base of the trees. Write again if assist you further.

Vine mildew

(W. P. P.).—Vine mildew can b trolled, but it is essential that the measures be adopted before the fung made much headway. We can und that you failed with your sprays. Y not start early enough in the season. mildew is caused by a fungus. Wh fungus is present its spread is more under certain atmospheric condition cultural details play a big part as to or no the trouble becomes epidemic lect and burn as much of the d material as you can. Give the hou Vine a thorough clean-down this wint former with hot water and carbolic so latter with Gishurst Compound. growth commences next year ob Campbell's Sulphur Vaporiser, and u apparatus from time to time throug year's growing season. If no sign of shows itself you can safely wait unti 12 days before the flowers open. when in bloom and again at interv you can keep the disease away for o you should have no more trouble w fungus unless you reintroduce it. An horticultural sundriesman will supp with Campbell's Vaporiser. Full tions are issued with the apparatus.

Apple scab

(E. H. K.).—The only successful for the fungus causing Apple Scab is t with either lime sulphur or Bordeau ture. We cannot agree with your st that spraying is useless, but we d with the statement if you add "und tain conditions." The conditions which spraying is useless is when the spray is used or the right spray used wrong time. To obtain control of the it is essential that the trees are spraye the pink bud stage, (2) when most petals have dropped from the flowe three weeks later. If the spray fluid plied at the above three periods ther difficulty in obtaining control. Furth effect of spraying is cumulative, so th a spraying programme has been carr for several years more and more co obtained. We can understand the e the farmyard manure. This wou courage the trees to make more le wood growth, and therefore the fung cerned had more area over which to itself, a condition of which the fungus

o take advantage. In addition to
your usual manures you should give
e of potash at the rate of from 3 cwts.
vts. per acre. This material would
harden up your growth and enable it
t disease. There is no treatment of
l which will enable you to control
icab. Lime is good for fruit trees on
turally deficient in lime. If you can-
end on your gardener doing the spray-
perly a change would seem desirable.

erry failure

stone).—Your Strawberry plants have
ttacked by insects, probably Aphis.
tack has weakened the plants, with
ılt that they have gradually gone like
cimens you send. Strawberries are
present time difficult to grow, mainly
Aphis, Red Spider, and other
es are allowed to attack the crowns
plants and weaken them. If the
are carefully examined you will pro-
nd that there is no sign of insect life
weak plants. The damage has been
arlier, and the creatures concerned
ıoved on, probably to the healthy
and these, in turn, will go the same
ntually. All weakly plants should be
l from a Strawberry bed the moment
e detected. It is not sufficient merely
propagate from such plants. Healthy
should be kept so by giving them an
ıal spray with a good nicotine insecti-
f you practised the above recom-
ion for a season or two we think that
uld be able to grow healthy plants
ain heavy crops. Early planting of
rry runners is essential so that the
can become well established before
comes along. The ashes from a gar-
e should not be detrimental to the
of Strawberries provided, of course,
e not used in excess. The ashes con-
ash, and this chemical in the correct
on helps to keep plants free from
Your varieties are all good.

pider on Peach leaves

.—The specimens you have sent for
ation are very badly affected with Red
Your best plan will be to obtain a
of Volck Insecticide, details of which
l find in our advertisement columns.
insecticide according to the makers'
ıs. It will be necessary to repeat the
several times, and no time should
before the first application is applied,
the spider will soon be going into
quarters. In autumn the house should
a thorough clean down with hot
nd carbolic soap. When the trees
to growth next year they should be
inged twice a day with water, morn-
afternoon. Red Spider on any plant
lass is due to dry aerial conditions,
have an attack as yours points to
neglect of the trees. Well-syringed
e never seriously affected with spider.
l realise that after such an attack of
ider the trees will be considerably
d. You must endeavour to free the
tirely of spider and then nurse the
ck to health. After using the Volck,
or hose down the trees daily until
the Volck again.

erry bushes

).—In pruning Gooseberry bushes
ıove all weak or old growth, and if
y some of the remaining growth, in
admit of sunshine and air pene-
to all parts, an eye being always
the shape and equal balance of the
This done, spur in all side shoots
n five or six buds of their base and
he leading growths made during the
year to within 6 inches or 8 inches
of their base. The centre of the bush should be left even more open than the sides, as growth always tends to fill up the centre. February or early March is the time to prune. Properly cared-for bushes may be kept for many years, 10 or 15 years being quite usual. Spring Cabbage should be sown in the south of England on July 27th.

VEGETABLES

Diseased Potatoes

(Weybridge).—Your specimen Potatoes are affected with Surface Scab, due to an attack of the fungus Actinomyces scabies. It is probable that the "seed" was quite free from this disease. The fungus concerned is one which is very generally distributed, being present in almost all types of soil. Under normal conditions the fungus lives on decaying matter in the soil, but when organic matter is in short supply and Potatoes are grown the fungus turns its attention to the Potatoes, attacking them, causing the well-known "Scabby Potatoes." This explains the fact that Surface Scab is always most prevalent in light soil, such soils being notoriously short of organic matter. From the description of your soil we gather that it is of a light, gravelly nature, and this being so we should expect that this disease would be prevalent. The control for Surface Scab is the addition of plenty of organic matter to the soil. Research workers have shown that clean Potatoes can be grown on bad "Scab" land by the addition of lawn grass cuttings at the rate of 20 tons per acre. Almost any organic matter will answer the same purpose. Your best plan will be to lift the crop so soon as the skin is set. Dry them thoroughly by allowing the crop to remain in the sun for a few hours and then store. If this is done you will find that the crop will keep well, and the "Scab," after all, only spoils the appearance of the tubers until they are peeled. When the crop has been lifted try sowing a crop of Mustard broadcast. There may be just time for this crop to grow and make enough top to dig in as "green" manure. If you could obtain a fair growth of Mustard and dig it in it would help the organic content of the soil to a great extent. No matter what crop you intend to put on the land next year the supply of this organic matter is one that requires attention before you can hope for much success. The cow manure was quite in order, and it has had nothing to do with the Scab. Your land is short of organic matter, and your need is to make up the deficiency by adding farmyard manure, garden rubbish, or by growing a crop and digging it in as manure. This information has been given you by your growing the Potato crop, so that the experiment was worth while, because you may have tried to grow many other crops before you found out the real cause of your soil not producing exactly what you hoped for.

Tomatoes of good flavour wanted

Could you tell me of a Tomato with a really good flavour. I am tired of growing beautiful looking fruit, so appetising to look at, but so disappointing when eaten. I am told that the yellow varieties have more flavour. Is this so? H. F. S.

Yorks.

[We hold a very high opinion of some of the yellow varieties, and would draw your attention to Chiswick Peach, Yellow, and Orange Sunrise, the latter one of the finest flavoured Tomatoes in cultivation. Webb's Jewel (red) and Bountiful (red).]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Copper Beech

Each autumn I generally add a tree or two to my garden, as need arises. This time I wish to add a little colour, for instance, Copper Beech, but in looking over my catalogue I notice only Purple Beech is listed. In this district I have noticed a very dark purple and a red or reddish copper colour, brighter, and the latter more the shade I wish. Does the latter have any distinguishing name for use when ordering to get what I desire, and can you suggest a likely house who stock same? In your issue, January 12th, page 24, I notice an article on grouping different coloured foliage trees for effect. Scarlets and purples in Geans are mentioned. Is the latter a local name, as I cannot find any trees listed as Geans? I notice a tree on an estate here with blue-grey leaves and very white on the underside, and when rustled by the wind it looks very striking. Would this be the White Beam or Service Tree mentioned in the article? My most striking foliage (colour) trees are Cedar atlantica glauca and Acer negundo alba variegata, also atropurpurea, but I would like more contrast. I have Poplars, Black Italian and Lombardy. Would the Abele Poplar mentioned, also Norway Maple, give me more variety (in colour)?

Near Birmingham. A. G. BRADY.

[Yes, the two are quite distinct, the name of the Copper Beech being Fagus sylvatica cuprea, and the dark purple form to which you also refer is Fagus sylvatica purpurea, the leaves of the former being of a coppery red, whereas those of the latter are deep purple when mature, but in spring of a beautiful pale red. The Gean is our native Wild Cherry, Prunus avium, Gean being the common name. This beautiful tree in spring, when laden with bloom, and again in autumn, when its leaves turn fiery red, is a sight to behold. From your description, the other tree you mention would probably be the White Beam (Pyrus aria) remarkable alike for its leaves, flowers, and fruits. The Norway Maple (Acer platanoides) and the Silver Maple (A. dasycarpum) and A. ginnala are all beautiful subjects, and with regard to the Poplars you could scarcely surpass P. canescens (Grey Poplar) for effect, or P. trichocarpa for fragrance, both winter and summer. We also suggest the following:—Abies nobilis, A. pungens glauca pendula, Cupressus macrocarpa aurea, Cupressus lawsoniana lutea, Carya tomentosa, Ginkgo biloba, Quercus coccinea, Pyrus arbutifolia, Parrotia persica, Liquidamber styraciflua, Nyssa sylvatica, Liriodendron tulipifera, also a few of the gorgeous Vines such as Vitis coignettiæ, V. vinifera purpurea, V. Engelmanni, etc. All the above are offered by Messrs. Waterer, Sons, and Crisp, Twyford Nurseries, Berks.

Oak tree losing condition

(Mrs. L. Knox).—If your Oak is carpeted with grass the latter should be taken off for a distance of 6 yards from the trunk all round, laid aside, and the soil dug out and removed to a depth of 1 foot. This should be replaced with good maiden loam, adding one cartload of farmyard manure to every six cartloads of the loam, solidified by ramming, and the turf replaced. This would vastly improve the condition of the tree. Failing this, apply a dressing of bone-meal or Peruvian Guano, at the rate of 3 ozs. to each square yard every five weeks until three dressings have been given, watering it in thoroughly should the weather prove hot and dry. Drainings from farmyards (diluted) are also excellent for bringing colour and vigour back into trees.

Shrubs not flowering

I should be so grateful if you could tell me why these three shrubs (samples enclosed) do not flower. (1) Drimys Winteri; (2) Carpenteria californica; (3) Magnolia species. They are all healthy looking, in a sheltered shrubbery—perhaps too crowded and too shady. (1) is about 12 feet high. Other Magnolias flower well. S. M. M.

Co. Cork.

[(1), (2), and (3) are all lovers of abundant sunshine and should bloom freely every year. Cease all pruning if you are in the habit of doing so, and expose all to full sunshine and they should bloom in due course. The Magnolia is probably M. soulangeana.]

Shrubs for naming

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—Small-leaved shrub not recognised. No. 1, evergreen climber. This is Tacsonia mollisima, and the shoot sent is covered with scale, the latter responsible for the dirty black surface of the leaves. Instead of fumigating, spray the plant frequently with paraffin soap as sold by horticultural sundriesmen, who give directions for its use (it is also offered as paraffin emulsion). The spraying should take place in the evening or early morning, when the sun is not upon the plants. The scale will spread upon all plants brought near unless it is destroyed. It would do no harm to prune it back hard during the winter, and when this is done it should be sponged all over with the paraffin soap. In this way you ought to get rid of the pest altogether.

Evergreens for conservatory, and depth of soil for same

(S. M. M., Co. Cork).—Rhyncospermum jasminoides, R. japonicum, Clematis indivisa, Lapageria alba and rosea, Streptosolen Jamesonii, Mandevilla suaveolens, Sollya heterophylla, Clianthus puniceus, Acacia Baileyana, Abutilon megapotamicum, Allamanda Hendersoni, Lonicera Hildebrandtii, Asparagus racemosus, Beaumontia grandiflora, Hoya imperialis, Ruscus Androgyna, Stephanotis floribunda. Two feet of good, rich, and well-drained soil will be sufficient for any of the above.

GREENHOUSE

Plants for decoration

By next Easter I want to have as many plants as possible for house decoration. Will you please advise me how to set about it, and when? I have a small greenhouse heated with a slow combustion stove, and I try to keep the temperature about 60 degs. I am not particular as to colours. White flowers are not specially required. HELIOTROPE.

[By the date mentioned it should be quite easy to obtain many things in flower, such as Marguerites, Azalea indica vars., Azalea mollis, Heliotrope, Mignonette, Hydrangea, scarlet Geraniums in plenty, and many bulbous things, such as Tulips, Hyacinths, and Narcissus, that would, if potted and kept cool, come into flower more or less naturally at the time required. But getting these things into flower at such a time will depend not on one thing or two, but many. For example, we have no proof of your stove maintaining the heat you mention, and its failures may bring not a few things to grief. Your wisest course will be to grow a few things and feel your way. Say you go in for Zonal Pelargoniums, of these, if you had a couple of dozen small plants in 3-inch pots, you could pot them into 5-inch, and make them very firm. Water sparingly, and pick out the flowers until the end of January. Such plants on a light, warm shelf in the greenhouse would make nice bushes. A similar remark would apply to Marguerites and Heliotropes. The Azalea indica, well budded, may be brought in now and grown on in the greenhouse, while the A. mollis kinds should be potted up during October and put into the greenhouse in the middle of January. Hydrangea the same. Spiræa japonica, Solomon's Seal, require starting in January in warmth, and Mignonette. Acrocliniums should now be sown in pots of 5 inches or 6 inches across. For two months longer these would do in a cold frame with any Tulips, Daffodils, Hyacinths you like to grow. Some bulbs of Lilium longiflorum would flower if potted at once. Then, again, there is the Arum Lily, an indispensable plant for the purpose that, given strong plants, would hardly fail to be in bloom. The bulbous plants would naturally require some watching, and may need forwarding in the last days, or perhaps retarding or only shaded. To the plants already named you would require some foliage subjects, such as Ferns and grasses. Of the former, Maidenhair, Asplenium bulbiferum, Pteris tremula, P. serrulata vars., these and a few Eulalias, Araucaria excelsa, would make a useful variety for your purpose.]

ORCHIDS

Orchid leaves

("Gardener").—There appear to be no vermin attacking the leaves sent, and so most probably the damage is caused by some mistake in treatment. Exposure to the sun, syringing with "hard" water, sponging or syringing with too strong insecticides are all likely causes. The addition of some Sphagnum Moss to the peat with which the Orchids are potted might be a help to the plants.

ROSES

Roses of a climbing nature in pots

Between the Rose garden and a rather ugly part of the house is an area of concrete. We want to stand on this some large pots or boxes and grow Roses in them to hide or relieve the ugliness of the house. Would you kindly indicate some Roses suitable for this purpose and give details of treatment of the contents of the pot? (Also treatment of the trees themselves if it differs from the ordinary.) No glass of any kind is available. Needless to say, ramblers would be more convenient than bushes. Are most ordinary garden Roses amenable to this kind of treatment? "S. S."

Waylands.

[We advise you to use half-barrels for this, as, apart from their greater soil space, there arises the question of frost, which might split pots in winter. Suitable soil consists of the following:—Turfy loam three parts and one part made up of well-rotted manure, a little bone-meal and lime-rubble, the whole made moderately firm. The tubs should, of course, have holes drilled in the bottom and should receive a layer of crocks over the base for drainage. Most Roses are amenable to this method of culture, but owing to the confined space do not make the same amount of growth as when planted in outside borders. The following are desirable kinds:—Mermaid, Cupid, Flora Mitton, Mrs. Rosalie Wrinch, Paul's Scarlet Climber, Alberic Barbier, Lady Godiva, Climbing Lady Hillingdon, Climbing Mme. Abel Chatenay, Lemon Pillar, Mme. Alfred Carriere, Sarah Bernhardt, Una, Tausendschon, Dr. W. Van Fleet, Emily Gray, Excelsa, Hiawatha, Leontine Gervais, and Yvonne.]

FLOWER GARDEN

Plants for streamside

My garden is bounded on the east side by a stream about 2 yards wide. I have built a rough retaining wall against my bank so as to form a border about 2 feet wide just below the top of same. I thought of planting some Primula japonica and moisture-loving Iris in this border. Can you advise me wha would thrive there? I should say th opposite bank is densely screened by El Beech trees, fully grown, which kee morning sun off my side to a great also that the stream when in flood (it is dry now) comes practically to the top wall. "WATERL

[The following would thrive in the p you mention, providing the shade dense:—Iris aurea, I. Delavayi, I. leuca, I. Monnieri, I. sibirica in vari Kæmpferi in variety, I. chrysographes Lilies (Hemerocallis) in variety, Flowers (Trollius), Primulas, all the growing kinds, such as P. Florind japonica, P. pulverulenta, P. Smithia helodoxa, P. cashmeriana, etc., and of the smaller kinds, Kingcups, inc Caltha Tyermanni, C. polypetala, palmata, Senecio Veitchianus, Lysi vulgaris, Lythrums, Mimulus luteus, C longus, Saxifraga peltata, and Os regalis (the Royal Fern)].

Anemone Alpina

(N. Y. L., Tunwells).—The plants be put out about the first week in A full sun and in a well-drained but light soil. Good loam three parts, wi part made up of leaf-mould and san suit this plant admirably. Anemone is not a difficult plant to grow.

Fasciation of Heleniums

(W. J. O.).—Would you like to sen specimen of your fasciated Heler After actual examination of the specim might be possible for us to tell you a the cause of the fasciation. In most fasciation is caused by injudicious f the plants obtaining thereby too muc material. A plant so fed has its equil disturbed and behaves abnormally. this occurs it is usual to find the whol affected. However, fasciation fre occurs in a single branch or flower of a and some cause other than over-feedin be operating. A fungus invading the of a plant so that the normal transfer food material from one part of the p another is a frequent cause of ab growth, which may reach the stage of tion. The bacteria disease, Crown G quently causes fasciation in certain Injury to growing points by animals, mites and insects, is another frequent of fasciation. If you could send a sp we could at least advise you whether was advisable to destroy the plants.

Diseased Phlox

(C. I. M.).—The specimens of Ph affected with Phlox Stem Canker, a which seems to be especially prevale season. Control of the portions actu fected is impossible, because the fung deeply in the tissues and it is imposs apply a fungicide strong enough to r Go over the plants and cut away all th affected. The healthy parts should be with a weak solution of lime sulphur. year an occasional soaking with a solu Cheshunt Compound would help you trol the disease. This solution should plied early in the season, and if the afterwards shows any sign of its p the affected parts should be cut away healthy portions sprayed as above. plants frequently fall into a low vitality by keeping the clumps grow long in the same situation. To k plants healthy they should be repro fairly often. Cuttings taken in sprin the growths are about 2 inches in leng good method of raising plants. The c should be dibbled into cold frames and from bright sun until rooted. When s should be hardened off, planted out ummer to strengthen in nursery bed, into flowering quarters during the autumn or spring.

nula Rust

Hodge).—Your plants are affected mpanula Rust, which is caused by the Coleosporium campanulæ. The ortions are the uredospore stage of se, and these spores remain attached ants or on the soil nearby and attack ampanulas next season. If the s as bad as you say, it would seem to burn them all and not to attempt ulas in the same part of the garden r. In any case you must cut away attacked portions and burn the material; any apparently healthy could be sprayed with a weak solu- ver of sulphur. This control should, e, have been adopted earlier in the Spraying with a weak fungicide as tative would be advisable another

Sargentiæ

years ago I was given some Lilium æum?) bulblets which have grown y, but I now feel doubtful as to ng Sargentiæ, as I cannot find it any of my lists. I should be most if you would enlighten me as to hape of flower, etc., of this variety.

SARGENTIÆ.

n Sargentiæ, a Chinese species in- by Mr. Wilson some years nd originally distributed under the L. Browni leucanthemum, is a mag- species which attains a height of 5 feet when established. Flowers ral habit are between L. regale and ureum. Funnel-shaped, milk-white , suffused golden yellow at the base. y, deep wine-red or reddish-brown, an regale, and flowers ten days to eks later, but is usually over before flowers of L. sulphureum open. o reason why your Lily should not be the true L. Sargentiæ. The fact g bulblets points to its being either ntiæ or L. sulphureum, as these are two funnel-shaped Lilies to produce n the leaf axils. The true charac- plant is hardly to be expected from ee to four years old.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Bug

—At this time of the year your best be to obtain a good insecticide and cording to the makers' directions. his treatment by using calcium uring the dormant season. Full de- the correct dosage and manner of n can be obtained from Messrs. ro, Ltd., Covent Garden, London. gh cleaning down of the house e given as advised under reply ider.

scullery

ertrude A. Traill).—By sprinkling h lime round the places where the r you will prevent their gaining an Salt used in the same way would effective. It is probable that they the overflow pipe, and this should ean.

m in soil

oyd).—As you have already lost so nts from this pest, we advise you your bed now, applying a dressing ne at the rate of 10 cwt. of fresh o half an acre of land, turning over the soil on three or four occasions during the autumn and winter, and deferring any planting until spring, as this substance is dangerous to vegetation. Strawson's Vaporite could be used, but must be dug into the soil at once, as the fumes ascend, not descend, and if this was applied and left for a few weeks the planting could be done this autumn. We consider, however, that in your case the former suggestion is preferable. Planting will be quite safe in spring.

Red Spider

(" Sylvania ").—It is by no means easy to rid a house of Red Spider when once thoroughly entrenched, as yours appears to be. A thorough spraying with Volck (to be had from any nurseryman) will do a deal of good, full directions for the use of this material being printed on the tins. Painting the pipes with sulphur mixed to a thin paste with butter milk is also worth a trial. Buckland Sweetwater often succeeds quite well in the same vinery as Black Hamburgh.

Cold frame

(G. W. H.).—You can fill your frame any time now, and up till nearly the end of September, with cuttings of Antirrhinums, Pentstemons, Pansies, Violas, Nepeta Mussinis, and Calceolarias. The last-named should be left till near the end of September, but the others may be handled at once. All the kinds named will succeed in boxes filled with light sandy compost, but the Pentstemons thrive better if planted in a bed of sandy soil made under a cold frame.

SHORT REPLIES

Miss C. Beck.—(1) Fritillaria chitralensis wanted. Although we have examined all likely growers' lists we have been unable to find anyone offering this rare Fritillary. (2) Yes, wash the sea sand before using it. (3) Old potting soil, if used, should be enriched with a little fresh loam and leaf-soil, for although a free and well-drained sandy soil is desirable for this Fritillary, it should be of fairly good heart.

G. Kipling.—Phleum phleoides (Purple-stalked Cat's Tail). A very troublesome weed to get rid of. Digging and hand-weeding is the only remedy known to us. This weed will even survive dressings of weed killer.

Miss A. G. Ross.—We have searched for the plant (Sphæralcea Fendleri), but fail to find it in any catalogue. Some of the Sphæralcea are shrubby, but the majority herbaceous. All belong to the genus Malvaceæ. Some are prostrate, but the majority are very similar in growth to the Sidalceas except that they have larger leaves.

NAMES OF PLANTS

A. M. N.—1, Heliopsis scaber B. Ladhams; 2, flowers too far gone for recognition, but probably an Helenium.

Mrs. Annan Bryce.—1, Photinia serrulata; 2, Myrsine africana; 3, Cupressus macrocarpa; 4, Itea illicifolia; 5, not recognised (kindly send another specimen); 6, Osmanthus illicifolius; 7, Physostegia virginicum.

Richard H. Hutton.—Potentilla procumbens. Hand-weeding is the only remedy known to us of getting rid of this little pest.

Francis S. Vereker.—Sorbus pinnatifida (Bastard Service Tree).

Barker. Geranium atlanticum (malvæflorum).

Mrs. Reade.—Pyrus Niedzwetzkyana.

H. Mills.—1, Polygonum affine; 2, P. vaccinæfolium; 3, Linaria alpina; 4, Geranium argenteum.

OBITUARY

ARTHUR WARD

We regret to record the passing of our old contributor, " A. W.," whose articles have for many years been the source of interest and help to many readers. Mr. Ward commenced his gardening career about 1869 at Stoke Edith Park, Herefordshire, where his father was then head gardener. After the usual course of elementary instruction he went to Chatsworth as journeyman; from there to Tortworth Court, Gloucestershire, the seat of the Earl of Ducie, first as journeyman and later as foreman. Four years later he moved to Euston Hall, Norfolk, as general foreman. After two years there he was appointed head gardener by the late Earl of Winchilsea at Haverholme Priory. During the period that he was at this establishment he remodelled the grounds, carried out a large amount of planting, and superintended the erection of a range of vineries, etc., supplying the plans and specifications in each case.

After four years' service at Haverholme Priory he succeeded his father at Stoke Edith Park and occupied that position for 17 years until the death of Lady Emily Foley.

He later entered the service of the late Mr. G. A. Dodd at Godenton Park, Ashford, and remained with him about 16 years.

During the Great War he rendered service at the Royal Botanical Gardens and gave lectures to plot-holders in various parts of London.

After the War he took up duty at the King Edward VII. Sanatorium, Midhurst, where he carried out various improvements in the gardens and grounds. During the time he was there he had the honour of conducting His Majesty the King on a tour of inspection of the gardens and grounds.

On September 14th, 1926, he retired on account of failing eyesight, and from then until the time of his death he resided at Wembley.

During his professional career he acted as judge at the principal shows, *i.e.*, Crystal Palace, Chelsea, Holland House, R.H.S. Hall, and others. He was known personally to many of the best-known gardeners and nurserymen, and was one of the oldest contributors to " GARDENING ILLUSTRATED."

He died suddenly from heart failure on August 22nd, aged 74 years, and leaves a widow and five daughters.

Report on condition of horticultural crops

VEGETABLES.

Beans, Kidney Runner.—Good average generally, though in places lack of rain has been responsible for poor crops.

Beet.—Crops average on the whole.

Broccoli.—Where rain has fallen good progress is now being made; elsewhere growth is still slow. Plants short in Cornwall owing to flea and maggot damage.

Brussels Sprouts.—Making satisfactory growth generally, but late plantings are backward.

Cabbage (spring-sown).—Improved; now hearting well generally, but in places crops are still patchy.

Cabbage (autumn-sown).—Germination good.

Carrots.—Average crop generally.

Cauliflower.—Improved in places, but still below average on the whole.

Celery.—Backward, but progress has improved where rain has fallen.

Cucumbers (under glass).—Average crops.

Cucumbers (outdoors).—Satisfactory in Middlesex, but in most places only moderate.

Kale.—Patchy; progress slow in places owing to drought.

Leeks.—Growth slow generally.

Lettuce.—Average crops.

Marrows.—Much improved in most parts and crops now about average.

Onions.—Variable, but on the whole rather below average. Bulbs on the small side.

Parsnips.—Average crops generally.

Savoys.—Variable; in most places progress is slow owing to lack of rain.

Sea Kale.—Satisfactory in Middlesex.

Spinach.—Average.

Tomatoes (under glass).—Crops well up to average.

Tomatoes (outdoor).—Satisfactory.

Turnips.—Patchy.

FRUIT.

Apples.—Generally clean and sound, but on the small side owing to lack of rain. Crops appear to be very variable, but about average on the whole.

(Culinary varieties).—Bramley's Seedling good in Kent, Middlesex, and parts of Somerset; elsewhere very patchy. Newton Wonder, fair; Lord Derby, light to fair; Grenadier, good; Lane's Prince Albert, above average on the whole.

(Dessert varieties).—Worcester Pearmain, very good in some parts and generally above average; Cox's Orange Pippin, light to fair; Allington Pippin, good; James Grieve, fair to good; Blenheim Orange, light.

(Cider varieties).—Crops are moderate in Herefordshire and Somerset, but only light in Devon, Gloucestershire, and Worcestershire.

Pears.—Crops are patchy and generally only light. Conference, heavy in Kent, and elsewhere fair to average; Fertility, fair; Jules Guyot, fair to average; Williams' Bon Chrétien, light; Catillac, light to moderate.

Plums (ordinary).—Fruit is sound and of good quality, but crops are only moderate. Victoria, fair to average; Monarch and Pond's Seedling, fair.

Plums (Gages).—Good in a few districts, but generally only fair.

Plums (Damsons).—Crops good in Kent, Norfolk, Isle of Ely, and Worcestershire. Fair in Cambs. and Middlesex.

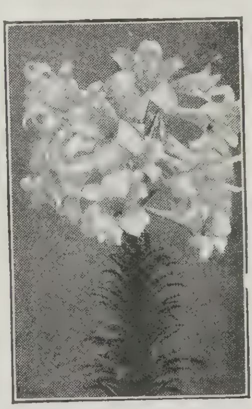
Puschkinias

It always appears to the writer that many of the smaller bulbous plants which are little grown in the average garden would well repay more consideration of their beauties, especially for planting in the rock garden. I am aware that there are many lovers of rock gardens who look askance upon bulbs on account of the "untidiness" caused by the leaves lying about until they become ripe for removal. The present writer has in mind an old and ardent lover of rock plants who absolutely refused to admit bulbs to his rock garden because, as he said, they were "dirty" plants, this referring to the withering foliage. But one cannot have everything, and it would be a pity were all to deprive themselves of the joy given by these dwarf bulbs, even at the cost of a little untidiness. They can also be grown through some dwarf carpeting plant, and if the leaves of the bulbs are removed when they become yellow they will not suffer, and the rock garden will then show no signs of their presence while at rest.

This is a general plea for Scillas, Dwarf Daffodils, Muscaris, Brodiæas, Crocuses, Snowdrops, and other genera called colloquially "bulbs." My present purpose is to deal especially with and suggest the extended culture of the Puschkinias, charming little bulbous plants allied to the Scillas, but of distinct appearance. I may be told standard work on gardening tells u these bulbs require a little protect winter. I have not found this to be th and have seen them doing well in Edi for a series of years, and have grow myself for quite a number, and, even past winter, the Puschkinias did not in the least, although not protected way. They should, however, be pla light, sandy, well-drained soil at a d 3 inches and the bulbs about 2 inches Opinions differ respecting the num species, but for practical purposes the of P. scilloides may be held to cover ferent Puschkinias in cultivation. the name of P. libanotica there is fre sold a form with slightly larger flowe a compactly-flowered variety is kno P. libanotica compacta, but it may occasionally simply as P. scilloides con These Puschkinias have pale blue or flowers about April. They are prettil with darker blue. There is also a variety, P. s. alba. The flowers r height of from 4 inches to 8 inches a in racemes. The channelled leaves are shaped and deep green. S. Ar

Perpetual-flowering Carnat

These must now be brought under where they may be protected from rains. Before doing so, however, order to clear away Red Spider, the should be laid on a sheet of galvanis on their sides, and sprayed with a lit and water. Cool, airy conditions are able, the ventilators being kept ope night and day for the present. Large of Malmaisons which were potted on similar treatment, but young layered may remain in cool frames for the pre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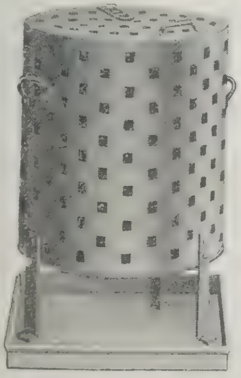

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(Miscellaneous Adverts. continued from page ii.)

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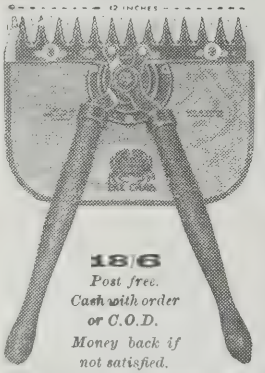

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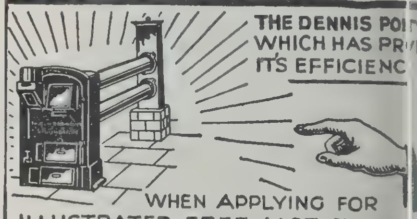

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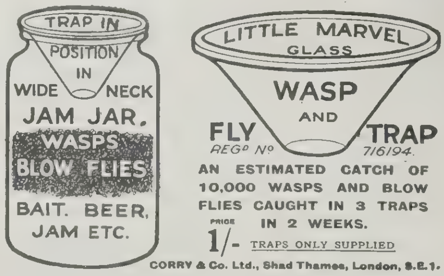

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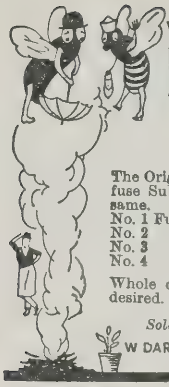

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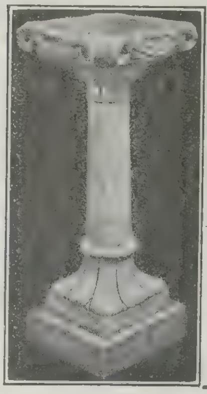

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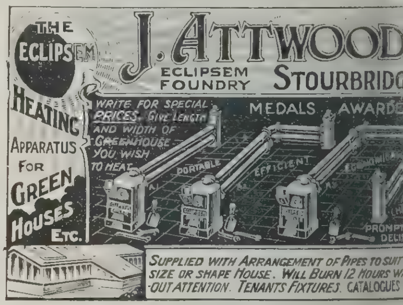
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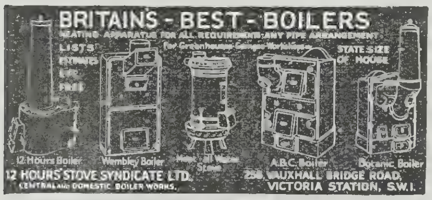

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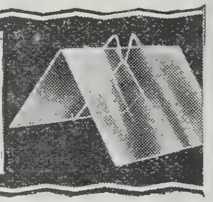

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Norfolk and Montbretias

WHERE in England—in fact, we ight say nowhere in the world—has ich strides been made in the improve- of this flower as in Norfolk.

ee employers and three gardeners stand the picture. Colonel B. J. Petre, ick House, whose gardener, Geo. n, made the first stride, the late Mr. y Morris, Earlham Hall, with e Mr. Geo. Henley as his gar- took up the flower when West- went more into fruit than s, and now we find them being r improved in Mrs. Edwin gu's charming place at Breccles nder the wizard-like hand of E. Fitt.

se who have had the good for- o see the plants this year have uch an advancement in colour perhaps even the first-named ist did not foresee.

rly September they are seen at best. Red, bronze, yellow, icolors, and clear colours, vy- ith each other for attention, up to 3½ feet long, individual s up to 4 inches in diameter, t looking coarse at that.

ick a few of some of the recent ns, we should say for depth of E. A. Bowles stands out first. tthew Wilson is a clear, deep imbus is a yellow bicolor, very in the flower, R. C. Notcutt to warm one by its colour. worth notice are Mrs. Edwin gu, Lady Wilson (see illustra- nd Phyllis.

J. Fitt tells us he raises hun- of seedlings every year, which ally get reduced to three or four of merit.

is energetic and enthusiastic, e might say has youth in his . Therefore we are confident ith of the possibilities of Mont- has not yet been reached.

w days ago Messrs. Barr and ent from their Taplow Nur- a selection of tall and stately m Montbretias of recent intro- . The varieties received were ajesty, Queen Alexandra, Apricot , Fiery Cross, and Red Knight.

e can be no doubt that these new mark a tremendous improvement on varieties, being twice as large, more , and in every way more desirable, at the same time being little or no ifficult to cultivate. They make ad- border plants, especially the variety ajesty, being extremely decorative over a period of several weeks, and are also admirably suited for cutting.

The fact that Montbretias, which commence to bloom early in September, are charming for cutting for vases, etc., their yellow and golden blossoms, set off by bronzy-tinted foliage, looking lovely on the table, should be a sufficient inducement to many to grow them, but when to this one can add that they last a long time when cut and placed in water—longer, indeed, than many other flowers—it is really surprising that they are not seen more frequently in our gardens. We have not found Montbretias particular as to soil. They do equally well in sandy soils as in heavy loam. The corms may be planted in October and November, and should be carefully divided every few years, otherwise they are apt to become weak. We say carefully divided advisedly, because there is a danger of breaking the brittle roots.

New Montbretia Lady Wilson, a worthy descendant of the famous Earlham Strain

Flowers very large, bright yellow with orange sheen

Select the largest corms and put into the position where they are required to flower, planting the others in a spare part of the garden so as to become strong. To have Montbretias do well they must never be allowed to get too thick, and to obviate this it is a good plan to divide them at least every second year, some people advising that this be done every year.

The Royal Horticultural Society's Autumn Show on September 19th & 20th

FOR some years the Royal Horticultural Society has held a great Autumn Show, and until 1927 it took place in Holland Park Hall. Last year, upon the completion of the Society's New Hall in Greycoat Street, Westminster, the Show was transferred to the Society's own buildings, and held partly in the New Hall and partly in the old one in Vincent Square. But the demand for space for all the varied subjects which are in their beauty in the autumn was so great that the available space was hardly sufficient. Consequently, the Council decided to hold four separate shows in the autumn of 1929, three for ornamental plants, and one for fruit and vegetables. The first of these shows, which is intended chiefly for open air plants and Roses, will take place on Thursday and Friday, September 19th and 20th. The others, which will be chiefly for shrubs, Orchids, and glasshouse plants, and fruit and vegetables, will follow in October.

The show on September 19th and 20th promises to be a very fine display of open air plants and Roses. While it has been possible to give most applicants larger sites than they have hitherto had, the demand for space has been so heavy that few have been able to obtain all they could fill. No doubt the effect of this will be that everyone will show only of their best.

For the convenience of visitors, exhibits of a similar character will, as far as possible, be grouped together. Dahlias and herbaceous plants will be the outstanding subjects in the New Hall, where Gladioli, early-flowering Chrysanthemums, and Begonias will
]

also be found. Roses will be staged in the Vincent Square hall, and, as the wall space is insufficient to accommodate all intending exhibitors, some groups will be placed against a specially-erected background. The body of the Vincent Square Hall will be filled with exhibits of rock gardens and water-garden plants. New or noteworthy plants which receive awards, together with any other novelties submitted to the Committee, will be shown on special tables on the dais in the new hall.

In order to give two full days for Fellows and others to see the exhibits, staging will be completed by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, September 18th, and judging will take place that afternoon. The show will open at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 19th, and close at 7 p.m. On Friday, September 20th, it will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. Fellows' and Associates' tickets will give free admission at any time when the show is open, but there will be no private view, the public being admitted by payment on both days.

The Fruit and Vegetable, Floral, and Orchid Committees will meet in the New Hall at 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 19th, and plants for their inspection must be entered with the Secretaries of the Committees by 10 a.m. that day. The Joint Dahlia Committee will meet in the New Hall at 10 a.m., and new Dahlias for its inspection must be entered with the Secretary of the Committee by 9.30 a.m. As the pressure on the clerical staff is likely to be heavy if all entries are left till the morning of the Committee meetings, it is hoped that whenever possible exhibitors will make their entries on the preceding afternoon. The Scientific Committee will meet in the Library at 4 p.m. on Thursday, September 19th.

The Great Autumn Rose Show

The National Rose Society's Great Autumn Rose Show is being held in the Royal Horticultural Society's New Hall, Greycoat Place, Westminster, S.W., the dates fixed for the exhibition being Friday and Saturday, September 13th and 14th.

This annual exhibition is without doubt the most extensive, beautiful, and varied display of autumn Roses to be seen in any part of the world.

Entries received from all parts of England, Scotland, and N. Ireland include a
of new Roses. In the artistic clas
competition this year is very keen, an
very attractive exhibits are to be seen.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Perofskia atriplicifolia

"H," IN writing in your last week's issue, under the heading, "A Random Commentary," is surely mistaken in speaking of Perofskia atriplicifolia covering too many miles of country in the Southern States with Sage Brush.

The so-called Sage Brush of the Southern States consists largely of various Artemisias, and especially the tall, shrubby Artemisia tridentata, known in America as Sage Brush, and sometimes as Purple Sage. This, despite the fact that the flowers of this plant are at best grey and not purple, the purple effect being due to distant effects in the way that distant mountain ranges appear purple and possibly, to a slight extent, to the faint purple tints developed on the foliage of this bush. Perofskia atriplicifolia (the name is variously spelt Perowskia and Perovskia, and is derived from a former Russian Governor of the Province of Orenburg) is a native of Afghanistan, the Western Himalayas, and W. Tibet, and occasionally referred to as Himalayan Sage. It is a most beautiful and showy plant at this time of year, and, as "H." correctly states, "all too seldom seen in this country." There are two very fine groups of it at Gravetye Gardens, near here, in utmost perfection just now and alone worthy of a visit to these notable gardens. W. E. TH. INGWERSEN.

Near East Grinstead, Sussex.

Perofskia atriplicifolia

A garden of annuals

To cover a large extent of bare soil very rapidly with a blaze of flowers is an achievement not always easily attained, so I
to send you some lines that may
indicate the great success attained a
borough near the Holbeck Tower
south bay. Inspired, perhaps, by w
had seen on the Riviera last season, th
gardener boldly sowed or planted a
patch of newly turned earth in April ar
with annuals both hardy and half-har
properly and carefully named. The
thriven amazingly, and it is quite a
to see the numbers of visitors down o
knees reading the names in their sur
the brilliance of the colouring. The g
wisely sowed blocks of bold thing
Mallows, Cornflowers, and Gladiol
wards the back, and broke up the
with groups of Cineraria mariti
Centaurea candidissima, and also li
Mignonette to separate the groups of d
annuals in front. All the best and
annuals were used, the tender ones
raised in pots and planted out. At l
or 60 labels must have been written
benefit of passers-by, and I heard
thusiast say it is a "liberal educat
gardening," so that will give an idea
interest it has aroused. I hope it may
peated another season as a depart
public garden planting.

EDWARD H. WOO

The National Carnation and Pi Society

For the information of your reader
in order to clear up the doubt at prese
isting in the minds of prospective me
and thus avoid further confusion, I th
necessary to intimate that there is on
National Carnation and Picotee Soci
which I am the hon. secretary), and
has no sections. There is a Northern
tion Society, with headquarters at Sh
which is often wrongly referred to
N.C.P.S., Northern Section, but tha
has no connection with the N.C.P.S.
than that of an ordinary affiliated socie

I understand many persons are und
impression that by joining the No
Carnation Society they are actually me
of the N.C.P.S. and are therefore enti
the various benefits offered by that S
but this is not so.

Membership forms and subscriptio
tended for the National Carnation and
tee Society should be sent to me
Bergholt Road, Colchester, or to the
Assistant Secretary, Miss J. B. Wells,
lawn, Jeffrey's Road, Clapham, S.W.

A. E. A

Flavour in Gooseberries

A few weeks ago one of your cor
dents, "Grossularia," cast a seasona
in claiming the Gooseberry as the
flavoured fruit. Except for an imm
rise from Mr. F. H. Chapman, who
generally to be found on the feed, h
not seem to have had much sport. W
no means entirely agreeing with "G
laria "—indeed, I should greatly prefe
of Mr. Chapman's Nectarines and Pea
yet, bearing in mind the definition of a
man as one "who does not want mor

an get," I am, in my small garden, with alls and very little sun, content to make best of the Gooseberry. But Gooseses vary greatly in flavour. Will one of correspondents tell me which is the Is there anything better than Lancer?

W. B.

mula pulverulenta Bartley Strain

have been away from home, so missed ng GARDENING ILLUSTRATED till now. I it is not too late to write and stand up nese most beautiful Primulas. Not only ney come true from seed, but I have them perfectly hardy, and in the last ears I do not think I have lost one plant.

N. HAY.

rney Hill, Christchurch, Hants.

Lilium Henryi—a remarkable specimen

M enclosing herewith a photograph of lium Henryi which has made remarke growth in two years. The Lily has grown by Mr. J. Louis de Faye, of ca, St. Lukes, Jersey, and he writes us lows: "I thought it might interest you ow that one of the Lilium Henryi bulbs ght from you two years ago has deve- in a most phenomenal manner. It is 7 inches high, and the stalk at the top rly 4 inches wide. At present it has s than 237 fully developed buds and a at the top containing several dozen The lower ring of bulbs are about 3 long and showing colour. It is a fully shaped specimen, but, unfortun- we had a gale of wind, and notwith- ng I had it carefully propped up with it snapped off about 6 feet above the d. It has been greatly admired."

R. W. WALLACE.

Old Gardens,
Tunbridge Wells.

Narcissus Venetia

inadvertence Sir Wm. Lawrence (issue t 31st, page 589) has attributed to me ising of the Narcissus Venetia, pro- the best triandrus hybrid available. It aised by Mr. Henry Backhouse. The was acquired by me at one of the Mid- Daffodil Society's shows many years

aps you will kindly make the correc-

W. B. CRANFIELD.

eld Chase.

A correspondent in your paper makes roneous statement that the Daffodil a was raised by Mr. Cranfield. Mr. Backhouse, of Bournemouth, was, , the raiser. You will, I am sure, hat the raiser of a thing of this sort proportionate reward, and that the , instead of squandering money on courts for their pupils, might make grants to raisers of fine things, or ut up a statue to Horsefield!

E. T. McGOWAN.

ey, Surrey.

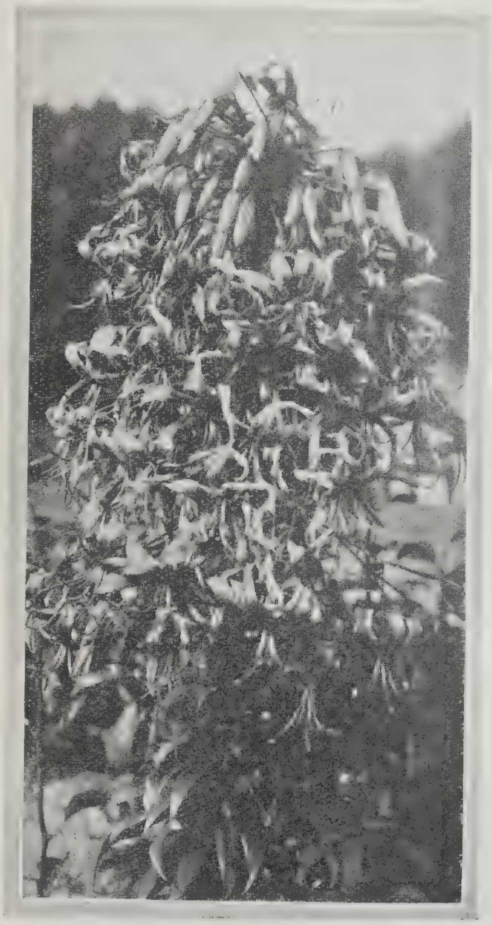
et Peas of recent introduction

ch regret that, in my recent contribu- n this subject, on page 607 of ENING ILLUSTRATED," "Baron " appeared inadvertently instead of ction," the variety I intended to erise. There can be no question that mer occupies, by reason of its effec- l distinctive purplish colour, the same position among Gladioli that Reflec- w does among modern Sweet Peas. probably, the unconscious error to have referred.

DAVID R. WILLIAMSON.

Southport's Great Flower Show

THE Corporation of Southport claim to have the largest and the finest summer show in the world. The show started five years ago, and was supported by the great horticultural trade firms. From the point of view of a flower show it was a great success, but financially there was a heavy loss. Yet the Corporation had the courage to continue, and from the second year there has been a series of successes, both in magnificent floral displays and huge profits. Last year's attendance was over 80,000, and the receipts £11,275, against this year's just under 100,000 and £13,040. Moreover, this season has seen Society and county patrons from all over the British Isles in far greater numbers, and fully substantiates the claims and aspirations of the Corporation and the high ambitious aim with which they set out. Arranged with taste, the Southport Show of 1929 is easily a record for size, quality, magnificence, and every other laudable adjective. The Corporation's organisation has been a series of wonderful achievements without a mistake. The volume of business is such that year after year the permanency of Southport's future success is assured. Impartially considered, this is the most amazing achievement in the horticultural world, the dominance of all the summer flower shows in so short a space of time. In the space allotted, it is not possible to do anything like justice to Southport, but the brief history above will help readers to realise better what this show was like. The outstanding exhibit, an exposition of the highest cultural skill and technique, was staged by King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd., and consisted of fruit trees grown in pots in the open. The Apples (Gascoyne's, Peasgood, Emperor Alexander, Herring's, James Grieve, Charles Ross, Rival, etc.), the Pears (Pitmaston, Doyenne Boussoch, Marillat, Beurre Hardy, etc.), and Grapes (Black Alicante) were shown in the pink of perfection as very rarely seen. They were accompanied by other fruits in dishes. In the same section of tent were displayed on both sides a long line of stove plants, with Crotons, Dracænas, Lilies, and Orchids, a wonderful sight. Further on, Russell's Water Lilies, Clematis, and rare shrubs, and the Donard Nurseries with superb varied display in which the dominating feature was Dierama. The Sweet Pea Society, with competitive classes, comprehensive in extent, showed the best Sweet Peas of the year, the quality being exceptional. The British Gladiolus Society's varied exhibits were of superb quality, notwithstanding the adverse season. The newest creations of great merit included David Prior, Starbright (a yellow Prim. with red rays), Golden Frills (another yellow Prim.), Gloriana (salmon-pink), Refulgence (scarlet), and Jap Lady (bishop's purple). The Roses were very good indeed, and solicited great delight and admiration from all visitors. The Hon. Vicary Gibb's display of vegetables was of as high an order as ever. The fruit-decorated tables were really wonderful, including some almost faultless Muscat of Alexandria Grapes from Glamis Castle. The Grapes, a whole section to themselves, were good. Dobbie and Co. showed new Orchid-flowered Dahlias of fascination and charm which are certain of great popularity. They included Chameleon, Firefly, Goldfinch, Lapwing, Starfish, Ruby, and a host of others typical of the strain. Several exhibits of Chrysanthemums were staged by trade firms and were of fine quality. Dickson and Robinson made a grand group with Dahlias, Gladioli, and Chrysanthemums. Sutton and Sons staged as a central feature Gloxinias, with Ferns and other decorative subjects. The herbaceous and other plants in the great marquee must be passed over in favour of the other tents. Perry's Ferns, Water Lilies, and aquatic plants in large glass urns cannot be omitted, the latter quite new in horticultural exhibits, these aquatics of graceful Fern-like foliage, with goldfish swimming among them, attracted keen attention. Mr. W. B. Cranfield again easily carried off the chief trophy and firsts in almost all the Fern competitions. Though the season at Enfield has been bad for them, he showed Athyrium f.f. Clorissima, never before seen in such perfection.



Lilium Henryi with over 237 flowers

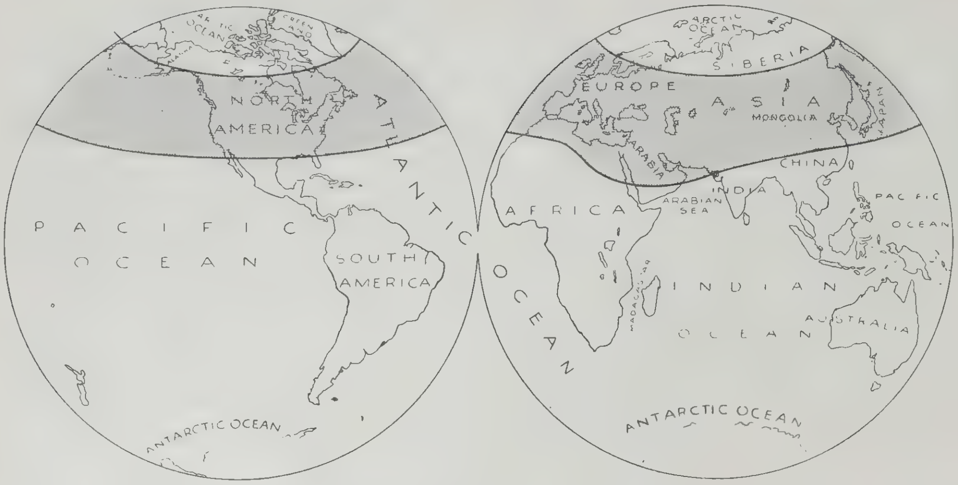
Vegetables, Pansies, and Violas as can only be generally seen in the North had a tent to themselves, the table decorations all in a further tent, bouquets and baskets another, and another even for wild flowers. The Lancashire County Council's Educational Exhibit, advertising the scientific and commercial side of horticulture, deserved great credit.

C. A. J.

Masters' Memorial Lectures

Two lectures on "The Relationship between Scion and Root-stock, with special reference to the Tree Fruits" will be delivered by Mr. R. G. Hatton, M.A., on November 5th and December 10th, at 3 p.m., in the New R.H.S. Hall.

The Masters' Memorial Lectures were founded in 1909 in commemoration of Dr. Maxwell T. Masters, F.R.S., the great advocate of "science with practice."



The natural distribution of the genus Iris

The shaded portion from Japan in the east to the Californian coast in the west

The Girdle of Iris

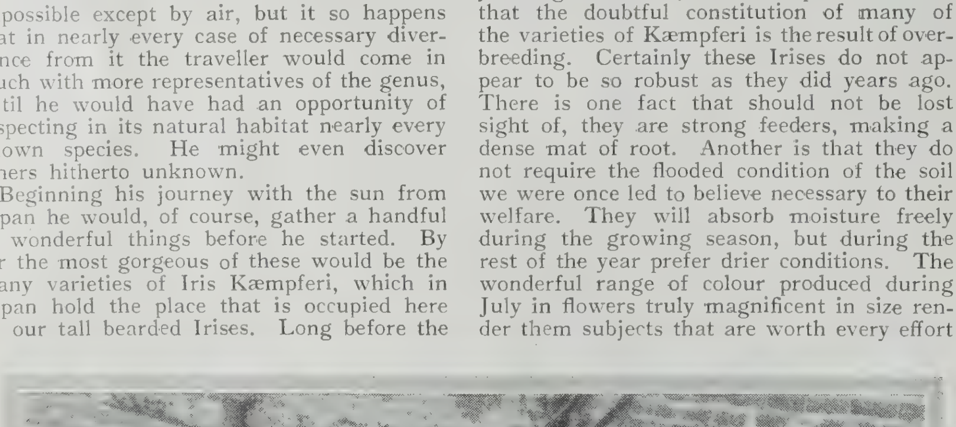
An Iris journey round the world with the sun

IF an ardent lover of Irises decided to make a journey round the world and never, as far as the land areas are concerned, be out of touch with his favourite genus, he could do it by taking an almost direct line from Japan in the east to the Californian coast in the west. The physical conditions of the earth make this direct line impossible except by air, but it so happens that in nearly every case of necessary divergence from it the traveller would come in touch with more representatives of the genus, until he would have had an opportunity of inspecting in its natural habitat nearly every known species. He might even discover others hitherto unknown.

Beginning his journey with the sun from Japan he would, of course, gather a handful of wonderful things before he started. By far the most gorgeous of these would be the many varieties of Iris Kæmpferi, which in Japan hold the place that is occupied here by our tall bearded Irises. Long before the intensive hybridising that is prevalent to-day in England began; indeed, whilst Britain was yet a land of fortified castles and moated granges, the Japanese must have been busy with their Kæmpferi. The result is that the production of really distinct varieties in Iris Kæmpferi appears to have reached its limit years ago. In fact, one is compelled to think that the doubtful constitution of many of the varieties of Kæmpferi is the result of over-breeding. Certainly these Irises do not appear to be so robust as they did years ago. There is one fact that should not be lost sight of, they are strong feeders, making a dense mat of root. Another is that they do not require the flooded condition of the soil we were once led to believe necessary to their welfare. They will absorb moisture freely during the growing season, but during the rest of the year prefer drier conditions. The wonderful range of colour produced during July in flowers truly magnificent in size render them subjects that are worth every effort
that may be made to grow them a
should be. The idea that they require
or even wet conditions to grow i
doubtedly arose from the fact that for
time it was thought they were desce
from the species Iris lævigata, which is
bog plant, but it has now been reco
that they are a different species and th
Kæmpferi is not truly a bog plant.

Before leaving Japan our traveller
probably gather a few of the true Iri
gata and also its white form, althou
might probably wait for the former u
had traversed the sea and arrived in
Siberia, Manchuria, or Corea, whe
would also find it growing wild. It is
waterside plant, and to it is allied
beautiful form that is known as
purpurea, a selected form of which is
purpurea Colchesterense, which is pr
the most desirable of the whole grou
will grow actually in shallow water. A
Iris our traveller would certainly wish
lect, because he will find it growing
nowhere else, and which belongs to q
different group, is the tiny Iris gra
This beautiful little plant belongs to the
group of "crested" Irises known
Evansia section. Grown in a som
shady spot it is one of the most ench
of the whole genus. He would also fi
or two relatives of this species, some o
not very near relatives perhaps, but
ously allied. Iris tectorum is one, alt
it is possible that it was imported fro
Chinese mainland many generations ago
tainly it has been grown in Japan for
hundred years on the thatched roofs
houses. A beautiful plant in the E
garden, it is said to be valued by the
of Japan on account of its root being
and ground for face powder. Anoth
tant relative is Iris japonica, which
possibly came from China originally.
best form of this for English gardens
known as Iris japonica (or fim
Ledger's Variety, the first piece of w
believe came to England from a gar
Pekin.

Leaving Japan and travelling with t
quite a number of species would be fo
that vast territory called China. First,
would be some of the Evansia secti
which Iris tectorum, mentioned above,
be one; then Iris Wattii, a beautiful Ir
seems in some respects almost a
edition of Iris fimbriata, but cannot
pended upon to flower in the open
after a very mild winter. It mak
flowering growth one year, and if thi
vives the frost the flowers open durin
following April. It can be grown in
house quite successfully. It has been
distributed over many thousands of
miles, but never in very great quantity
Milesii, another species belonging to th
tion, has not, I believe, so far been fo
China, although it probably exists i
south in a wild state. It was intr
originally from the southern slopes
Himalayas. It is a good garden pla
very dainty in form and colour. The f
are not large, but have all the gr
elegance of its little cousin, Iris gra
If it were a dwarf grower it would be
appreciated, but an Iris that grows
high and only produces a small flower
many people as lacking proportion.
is another Iris that may or may not
to the same section—Iris speculatrix
was found many years ago in Hong K
little plant growing about a foot high
red, purple, and white flowers. It is s
known that its exact relation to the E
section is not determined. I have no
able to trace that anyone has got it to s
a winter in England. Although the tr
would still have a long distance to go

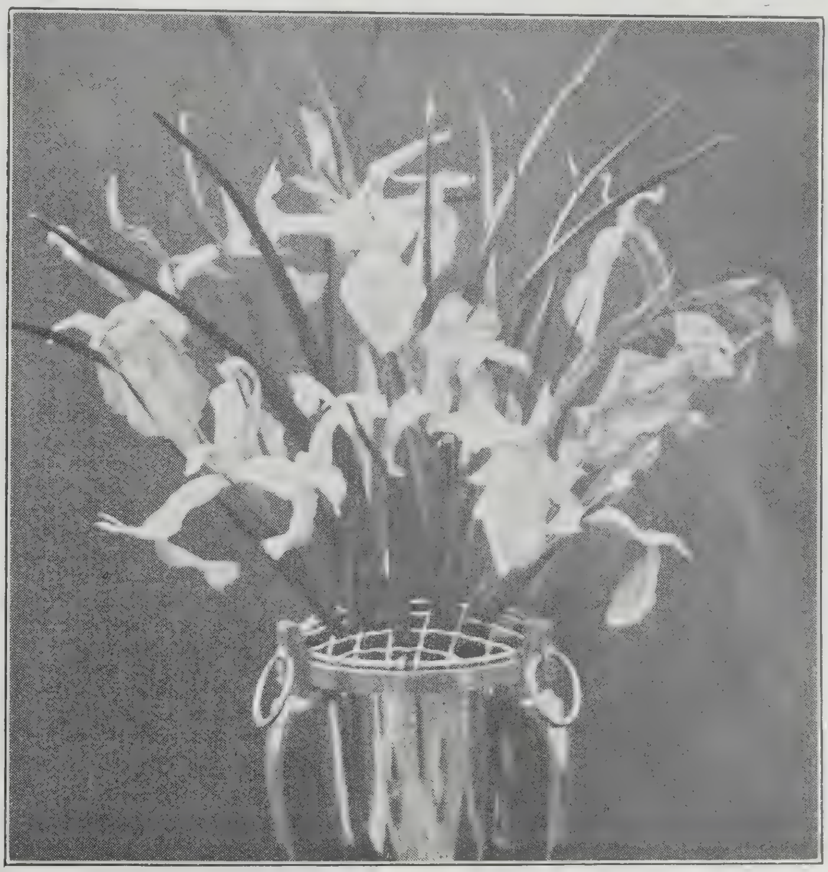


Iris pumila, native of Austria

journey's end he would probably come ss no more representatives of this section l he neared the end of his travels. He ld, however, meet many other friends be- he left China, the most important being e known as the Sibirica sub-section. true Iris Sibirica is a European plant, its near and distant relatives are spread the earth from Corea, Mongolia, and churia right across to Tibet. Nearly y exploring traveller who has searched hills and valleys over this vast area has d one or more species new to cultiva- , and although it is impossible to mention n all, the following have proved good gar- plants in England:—Iris orientalis, Iris avayi, Iris chrysographes, Iris Wilsoni, Forrestii, and a form presumed to be of rid origin, Iris Bulleyana, although it is known whether it was a natural cross in na or occurred after being imported to land.

ll these plants belong to the moisture- g class, and to them can be added Iris eri, which belongs to the sub-section ria. It will be noticed that nearly (but quite) all those mentioned so far belong he fibrous-rooted Irises as differing from e with a fleshy rhizome or bulbous root, as the traveller journeys towards the iterranean through Kashmir, Persia, and Asia Minor he would find this condition ging. He would have to spread himself ewhat, as he would be finding species Siberia in the north to the Arabian Sea he south. Here he would find the vast rity of the bulbous species and a very proportion of the rhizomatous section, also a number of fibrous-rooted species. would have entered the area extending Tibet and Western China to the ern seaboard of Southern Europe that produced the parents of all the wonder- garden Irises of to-day, known as the ded section. Obviously this is a collec- so rich that it is impossible to enumerate whole range, but by the time he had com- d his search the traveller would have ired representatives of the Oncocyclus on, and these would include Iris Susiana, Mourning Iris, known to cultivators in pe over 400 years and which was pro- y cultivated in Egypt 3,000 years earlier, Iberica, Iris Lortetii, Iris paradoxa, Iris , Iris Gatesii, and several others. Closely d to this section are the few known lia species, of which Iris Korolkowi and nifera are, perhaps, the best known, to this section belongs the beautiful Iris giana, a plant for every garden. The test attraction in both the Oncocyclus Regelia Irises lies in the wonderful vein- nd marking in the flowers. They are not asy to grow, but most of them can be n quite successfully with a little care. Nepalensis would be picked up en route. greatest finds would, however, be gst the bulbous Irises, Iris reticulata others belonging to the same section, as Iris Bakeriana, Iris Histrioides, Iris rio, Iris Vartani, and Iris Danfordiæ. our traveller would look round for re- ntatives of the Juno section, to which g Iris Persica, Iris Palestina, Iris arensis, Iris Willmottiana, Iris oides, Iris Bucharica, and last, but not , the early flowering, richly coloured Iris nbachiana. Of the Spuria sub-section ould find Iris Aurea, Iris Ochroleuca, Iris Monnieri. These with the type ia have been the parents of some very garden plants, and each is worthy of a in any garden on its own merits.

ere is one section of the genus of which mber of species would be found here and le farther westwards, and that would not once the traveller had crossed the tic. It does not occur in a wild state in America nor would he have encountered it in Eastern China or Japan, and yet it is the section that has produced the most valuable garden plants of the whole genus. It is not too much to say that it is the section that has made the Iris a popular plant, founded the Iris Society, and makes the Iris Show one of the most important events of the horticultural year. This is the Pogoniris or bearded section. Curiously enough this is the section that has actually set the United States aflame from Columbia to California, from the Pacific to the Atlantic coasts, and made of the Iris one of the most popular flowers in America. Moreover, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada all find it possible to grow them successfully. It is impossible to mention all the species that would be found between, say, Tibet and the Mediterranean. Iris Flavissima, Iris Alberti, Iris Kashmiriana, Iris Biliotti, Iris Junonia, Iris Mesopotamica, Iris Cypriana, and Iris Ricardi are some of them, and they have all had their influence on the modern garden Iris and are species that our traveller would desire to inspect and collect. But this influence has been the more remarkable because it has been mingled with the blood of those found growing farther west still, and although we have not seen half the species in Western Asia we must pass on to Europe.


The Tangier Iris (Iris tingitana)

Of the bearded Irises of Europe there is practically the whole Pumila section, the species Aphylla, Pallida, Albicans, Variegata, and the tall branching Trojana, which may be of Asiatic origin, but the distribution of which as a wild plant is not known. These species and others similar are found in various districts right through Southern Europe and Western Asia, from the Caucasus to the Atlantic.

Another section that would be noticed in the journey west, or rather two sections, Xiphium and Xiphoides. These include the Spanish and English Irises, and to obtain representatives of all the species involved we should have to visit the islands of the Mediterranean Sea and the northern coast of Africa. To this section belongs the wonderful golden-yellow Iris juncea, the real beauty of which I never appreciated until this year, when I saw it growing in the nurseries of Messrs. Stewart and Son at Wimborne. Iris Boissieri is another beautiful species in the Xiphium section, but is reputed to be none too hardy; Iris filifolia is a species that has had a decided influence in hybridising; Iris Tingitana is a fine market plant when it can be flowered early and successfully, which is not always the case.

Whilst in Europe we must also mention Iris Unguicularis, better known, perhaps, as Stylosa, which occurs in certain forms, but is found more plentifully in Northern Africa, and our wild native species, Iris fœtidissima, one of the few Irises that will flower in the shade. Nor must we ignore various species in the sub-section Spuria, Iris Graminea, the beautiful little Iris Sintenisii, Iris Urumovii, Iris Spuria, etc.

A pause to appreciate the work of man in alliance with Nature on these species, and to realise how much they have contributed towards making the garden beautiful, and our traveller must continue his journey across the Atlantic to North America. Here he would find representatives of most of, but not all, the sections he has already encountered, and he would also find that though they may be akin botanically they differ in important characteristics. One of the first things he would notice would be the reappearance of the Evansia section in Iris cristata. This is a moisture-loving species, dwarfer in habit than even its cousin, Iris gracilipes, found at the beginning of the journey in Japan. There is another form of it that occurs farther north called Iris Lacustris, also a

Iris Lord of June

plant for the bog garden. The Sibirica sub-section also reappears in Iris prismatica, the only American representative of this group so far known.

By far the most interesting Irises encountered would be those in the Californian sub-section. Iris bracteata, Iris Douglasiana, Iris Tenuis, Iris Tenax, and Iris Purdyi are some of the best known. Then another series called the Longipetala section would attract the traveller, and in addition to the type Iris longipetala he would collect Iris Missouriensis, Iris montana, Iris Arizonica, and probably one or two species as yet unknown to commerce. Searching the river banks he might discover Iris Fulva, Iris Foliosa (the crossing of which produced the beautiful hybrid Iris Fulvala), and Iris Hexagona, a rather tender plant in English gardens.

Other species occurring in North America are Iris setosa (that might just as well have been gathered at the beginning of the journey in Japan or Kamtchatka) and Iris verna.

It would be folly to suggest that even all the *sections* that would be seen on such a journey have been mentioned. For instance, no mention has been made of Iris Pseudo-acorus, the golden-yellow water Iris that would be met with at most stages of the journey in Siberia, Asia Minor, North Africa, and all over Europe, and a purple counterpart of it throughout a large part of North America as Iris versicolor.

However, all journeys must end, and, continuing with the sun, he should re-arrive in Japan, having traced an Iris journey round the earth. During the journey the mere species encountered would number thousands as widely diverse as the little Gracilipes and Verna are from the giant Ochroleuca or the biggest of the modern bearded Iris. Every colour and every intermediate shade and blend of colour would be met with, and forms so different that it can scarcely be believed they really belong to the same genus. At no point would it be necessary to leave the northern zones of the earth. With very few exceptions every species met with can be grown in an English garden without protection, and if one could take such a journey and plant the produce of it in geographical order it would make opportunities for many other interesting journeys in the garden of memory. GEO. DILLISTONE.

Iris Lord of June

MANY new Bearded Irises have been raised within the last few years, and sooner or later we must harden our hearts and dismiss with a blessing many of the older varieties which have done service for years but are now far superseded.

One of the most remarkable creations in Irises is Lord of June, raised by Mr. Yeld. This is a good time for planting Irises, and those who are doing so should not fail to include the famous Lord of June. For the benefit of those who are not familiar with this variety we reproduce herewith a group of this bold, outstanding Iris. It is an exceedingly handsome variety of noble proportions, standards are lavender-blue, and the falls are rich violet-blue. Growing to a height of 3 feet to 4 feet, it is very bold and of vigorous habit. It is one of the comparatively few Irises that have gained the distinction of the Award of Merit from the R.H.S. As its name implies, it is June flowering, and according to the Iris
classification of the R.H.S., it belon
Class 4, *i.e.*, purple bicolors, varieti
which the standards are paler than the
The variety has a good constitution, and
in time become as popular as the well-k
Iris pallida dalmatica. H.

Iris orientalis var. Empero

For beauty and rich colouring this ren
able variety reigns supreme among
sibirica forms, a veritable Emperor w
right of place few would care to gai

One catalogue describes it as " deep
blue." It appeals to me rather as " im
purple." Wondrously rich and quite a
like all the Oriental forms, it is tall
good, most effective in the picture. Al
self-coloured throughout, a fact which
immeasurably to it from the display poi
view, it is the size and the ovately-inc
character of the falls which impress o
its value at closer quarters, renderi
unique among its fellows. Amiably disp
a strong grower, attaining 4 feet to 5
high, though not increasing at the pro
rate of such as Snow Queen, for exa
it is to be recommended to all who g
with the best of these plants. I have
found it revel at the waterside as
I. sibirica do, though perfectly happy in
rich loam and vegetable soils, and wat
near that want of it is never felt by
plant.

The type does well where I treat it f
but if grown on the let-alone principl
a few years, in the same way that is
ticable with the Germanica varieties, it
vitality and the flower-stems are few
weak. Treated liberally it is one of
noblest hardy plants we have. My s
light, but provided we get a fair amou
rain, I get a good show of bloom.
garden not more than 100 yards from
and where most things do very well,
Iris, planted in the lowest and, conseque
dampest position in the place, absolutel
fused to bloom. There it grew into a
and very healthy clump, but for some re
it did not throw up any flower-stems.
advised the owner to move it on to hi
ground, but he was disgusted and passe
plants on to me. Three things are appar
necessary—food, a certain amount of
ture, and exposure to sun and air. To
this Iris in its finest form it is, in a ge

Iris Sheik in Mr. G. P. Baker's garden at Sevenoaks necessary to divide and transplant into ground every fourth year. This should, ver, be done in autumn or not later December. Planted in spring, the sulk and do not make growth for two .

East Surrey.

Iris pallida dalmatica

HIS stately Iris is almost too well nown to need description. It was nown in cultivation as early as in the teenth century. Great as is the number es of high quality that has been brought late years, this fine thing holds its own of the best and loveliest. It is tall and ful. Each bloom measures a good nes, both high and wide, and is set at a istance apart. Fortunately for raisers, a good seed-bearer, for it is the parent ny of the newer kinds. It is also one best for border planting, for, unlike eater number of the Bearded Irises, it its handsome sheaves of leaves well he late summer.

G. J.

The Iris season

By Robert W. Wallace.

IE past Iris season has been full of terest. After the dry summer of last ear one expected a good show of flower low, but the intervening cold and dry which followed gave doubts as to what esults would be. However, the cold, pring was very beneficial, for I have known better growth and flower and ce from disease, except that cases of " occurred in several quarters, due, I ure, to frost on badly rooted plants. winters evidently produce rhizome rot.

Iris enthusiasts the Iris Show in the Hall of the R.H.S. was the event of the . Few expected such a result. The groups were very good, as usual, but idening of interest shown by the in-d amateur exhibits was a great source isfaction, whilst the attendance was also ent.

vards the end of the season, being in eighbourhood of Liverpool and a night are, I found a splendid host in Mr. ey Pilkington. I have always wanted how and where he grew his Irises. I an old garden enclosed on three sides, g and open to the south, a light, rich, cultivated, well-drained soil; in fact, of his Irises are grown on what has een vegetables for many years. South wall garden and still sloping were long f the finest varieties, a mass of bloom hard grass walks between, the lower screened by belts of trees keeping off scorching winds. If to these conditions d "G. L. P.'s" intense personal in-in the family and his intimate know-of each individual variety and its needs ed not wonder at the fine displays he .

, such fine results from good culture ithin reach of most growers who will ains.

as interested to see the growth of his dis. They are very fine, but to me huge flowers and foliage all staked are spiring. For some years now I have ursing and growing a number of seed-ll bred from finest types, and this sum-e had a feast of flower and a foretaste d things to come. The weather was d dry and windy, and seedlings that and up all day under such conditions eded.

y of the new pink art shades have but substance. Pink as a colour does not lly make for substance, but purple Witness Mme. Gaudichau. She will up through all wind and wet. These are the types to breed. Four good reds are on the way, and we had a fine tall yellow, very deep in colour, which struck a fine note. One more note, it was a pleasure to meet such an enthusiastic American Iris "fan" as Dr. Ayres. He is devoting much time and thought on scientific lines to produce certain colours, and will probably "get there." In spite of the dry summer I find Irises are making enormous new root-action at this season, which promises well for next season.

Robt. W. Wallace.

Iris pallida dalmatica

Irises in Canada

By William Miles

Reprinted from Iris Society's Bulletin No. 7

As a very successful and enjoyable Iris blooming season is drawing to a close, a few notes regarding Iris doings in Ontario may be of interest to you.

One of the most representative collections in this Province is that which has been assembled during the last few years by Mr. H. H. Groff, of Simcoe, Ontario. Mr. Groff, who has gained a world-wide reputation as a hybridiser of the Gladiolus, is going to work at his new hobby along the same lines that enabled him to achieve such outstanding results with his earlier fancy. The first crop of seedlings to be raised here will not flower till next year, and the main interest was the large collection of the finest varieties collected from all sources.

It may surprise one who perhaps regards Canada as a land of snow and ice to know that many of the Californian mesopotamica hybrids flower freely in the open garden, with no more protection than a light covering of Pæony tops to prevent alternate thawing and freezing in the early spring. Conquistador, growing well over 4 feet, the enormous flowers of Bravura, and the excellent habit of Alvarado instantly drew one's attention, while later in the season the reddish Esplendido was very outstanding. In this climate with its hot days, a very large flower needs to have very good substance if it is to stand up. Some of the mesopotamica hybrids fail in this respect, although they are no worse than Lord of June or Leonato.

Among the "Dominions" the outstanding varieties from a garden decorative standpoint were Tenebrae and Duke of Bedford, while Pioneer, which was new to most of us, was very highly thought of.

Having heard such glowing descriptions of Peerless it was indeed a pleasure to find a mass of it in full bloom, with its large flowers standing up on a hot day. It was a little under 3 feet, and in the opinion of all present a magnificent Iris for Ontario conditions.

The flower of them all, though, to my taste, was Britoness. Such a clear, clean-cut flower of a distinct breakaway in form from the usual run of yellows, very free, and a first-class garden plant. Growing nearby was Cayeux' little Bastien Le Page, the deepest of the yellows, and while small, a flower of great quality and substance.

In the garden of Mr. J. W. Crow at Simcoe we found two of the finest seedlings that we had run into this season, one along the lines of Cardinal, the other with more blue in its make up, both of good size and wonderful substance.

On June 11th the London Horticultural Society put on a very good show of Irises. The quality of the blooms was of a very high order, and there was a good representation of the best commercial kinds. The major interest, however, was in the seedling classes, perhaps a quarter of the staging being taken up with these. First and second prizes went to two seedlings of Dominion type shown by Mr. Cousins, both of which would be a credit to their raiser in any company.

Mr. Cousins has raised a large number of very fine seedlings, mostly with flowers above the average in size, some of which will doubtless be heard of again. Some of the outstanding varieties were several yellow and bronze blends, along the lines of Mrs. H. F. Bowles, but with much larger flowers.

Mr. S. F. Wood, the very able judge, had on display some of the very fine things that we have been watching in his garden for several years. Particularly fine was his No. 326, very deep purple, with the falls of most excellent substance, and almost black. This is good every year, and is one of the coming varieties for Ontario gardens. No. 5176, a pink and yellow blend, with heavily veined falls and a prominent orange beard, is always good in the garden. A piece of this in my own garden is one of the most satisfactory plants I have.

No gardener ever visits London without

going to see the garden of our well-known Canadian horticulturist and naturalist, Mr. W. E. Saunders. This year he had among a large crowd of good things Le Correge, which captivated us all, and also a good clump of Mr. Dykes' Moonlight. Two years ago Micheline Charraire flowered well in this garden, and after loafing for a year came again this year with some magnificent flowers, and it is the best white Iris we have seen this season.

In my own garden the Iris season started on April 14th with Sind-pers and will wind up with Aurea, which is now showing colour. Last year some seedling Pumilas very obligingly flowered in the autumn. Perhaps the most satisfactory newcomer was the T. B. Cardinal, which stood up and retained its form tolerably well in a storm that reduced Bruno and Duke of Bedford to pulp.

Iris lovers in Ontario are paying more and more attention to performance in the garden. A fine flower is a great attraction, but of what avail is that if the plant lacks constitution, or blooms only in the most favourable season?

Your A.M.'s at Wisley went to good garden plants, but here Lord of June is altogether too floppy. One has to see it before breakfast, and then one has a taste of what it would be at home.

A small selection of bulbs for pots and spring bedding

AFTER visiting the Alpine-house at Kew several times last spring, and making many notes on the spring bedding displays in the parks, I came to the conclusion that there were very many choice bulbs and plants of easy culture that were too seldom seen in private gardens.

For pots this year I suggest the following, in addition, of course, to the usual Hyacinths, Tulips, and Daffodils:—Iris Vartani, a delightful little slaty-blue Iris which, if planted now and given cold frame treatment, will bloom about mid-November; I. reticulata and I. tuberosa, both excellent in pots with cold frame treatment, reticulata blooming in January and tuberosa about early March—the latter is seldom seen and a very distinct flower of green and black. I. tingitana is useful for early work, but I have not found it too reliable. Jonquils one must have in variety, they are so bright and sweetly scented. The miniature Daffodils are delightful when grown in pots in frames or cold house, Cyclamineus and the white and sulphur Hoop Petticoats being particularly good for this purpose. Fritillaria aurea and F. pudica make charming pots. Bulbocodium vernum, like a small rosy-purple Colchicum, looks well in large pans. Hyacinthus azureus and Puschkinia Libanotica (the Lebanon Squill) are two gems for pots or pans. Crocus versicolor var. picturatus and Crocus corsica, also C. imperati, do well with cold frame treatment, and bloom in early spring, Imperati in January. Of Tulips, Kauffmaniana, the type, and its two varieties, Brilliant and Gaiety, are superb. A few pots of these, when fully open on a sunny March day, are worth going a long way to see. I mean to grow several pots of these this year and also Iris Sind-pers, a lovely thing of pale mauve.

Snake's-head or Widow Iris (Iris tuberosa)
Flowers green and black

For outside, Iris filifolia Imperator, a fine, large, early, blue form of Spanish Iris, makes a fine bed and is very cheap. A small bed of Caltha palustris flore-pleno (the double Marsh Marigold) associated with blue Forget-me-not looks lovely. Tulip La Candeur with Dr. Mules Aubrietia looks wonderfully well. This year I am trying Afterglow with Silene as a groundwork. Arabis Double White and Double White Daisies and Pansy Bronze Queen or Viola Arkwright's Ruby are other suggested carpeters. ATHELSTAN L. WARNER.

"Westway," Sawbridgeworth.

Cultivation of Lilium Harrisi

This being the time of year when bulbs of the Bermuda Easter Lily (Lilium longiflorum Harrisi) arrive, a few notes on the cultivation of this well-known greenhouse Lily should prove helpful to many.

When the bulbs are received they should be potted into suitable-sized, well-drained flower pots, using a compost of three parts of good fibrous loam to one part of well-decayed horse or cow manure. The pots should be filled about one-half full of compost, and at a later date, when active growth has begun, a rich top-dressing of equal parts of loam and cow manure should be added.

When the Lilies are first potted they should be placed in a dark, cool place and watered thoroughly. Under such conditions the bulbs will root readily. Before hard frosts they should be removed to a greenhouse and given a temperature of 45 degs. to 50 degs. F. at night for a week or 10 days. When top growth commences a steady temperature of 60 degs. F. is desirable. This should be raised to 65 degs. F. during the day. They should be given abundant ventilation and the plants should be freely watered on bright mornings, but the foliage should be kept fairly dry during the night.

It will require approximately 13 weeks from the time that the plants are brought into the house to get them into flower. In order to have Lilies in their prime for Easter the buds should show about six weeks previous to that date. They may then be gradually developed, but if they develop too rapidly they may be placed in a cooler temperature.

For the best success in growing Lilies the water used for watering should be warmed to about 65 degs. F.

When the Lilies begin to show buds a weekly application of liquid-manure may be given, using 1 bushel of cow manure to 50 gallons of water. If the growth is very slow 1 oz. sodium nitrate may be added to each gallon of water.

"Consider the Lilies"*

A new handbook on garden Lilies
some years been wanted. The las
dealt with the subject comprehensive
from the pen of Miss Jekyll, and som
later a small work by Mr. Grove wa
lished. The former has never been
up to date, and the limitations of
paratively small publication prevent
latter from dealing very exhaustivel
the genus as a whole. "Consid
Lilies," by Mr. W. E. Marshall, goes
than either, and whilst not pretendin
a complete monograph, covers an en
area of ground not hitherto attempte
book for the ordinary gardener as apa
the specialist. How and where to pla
paration of the soil, where the
species will best succeed, what they a
where they come from, propagation
seed, bulbils and scales, and a host o
information is given concisely and
Diseases and their remedy are dealt
and various excellent tables given.
author advocates and gives a list of
fifteen varieties or so for the rock
and this will probably shock certai
garden purists.

Up to the time of publication the
clature appears to be careful and c
in fact, it is probaby the most correct
work of the sort yet published. The
and varieties are dealt with alphabe
and the descriptions are obviously fro
personal experience of the author. He
largely to his colour plates to conv
values of most of them. As there a
varieties in the index, and over 90 of
are illustrated in colour, it will be
understood that colour printing has fa
quite "get there" in some cases. Co
ing the difficulties and magnitude
task, the amazing thing is that so m
them are really successful. Very few
convey a correct impression of the fl
and these are unimportant exceptions
some cases these colour plates are rea
ceptionally good. The few black and
illustrations used are uniformly good
the two pages giving portraits of 17 di
types of bulbs and rhizomes are not onl
interesting, but valuable. Altogether
a valuable addition to the gardener's li
a handy-sized, informative book that
Lily lover will want, and every garden
should have, because so they will b
on the way to become Lily lovers. One
is certain—no book containing the il
tions this one does could possibly b
lished at the price and show a profit.

The Iris Society's Bulleti

We have just received from the Edito
Geo. Dillistone, a copy of the Iris So
Bulletin for July, 1929. In additi
being a record of the year's work o
young but growing Society, it conta
great deal of valuable information f
Iris growers, or those who would ent
ranks of them. Mrs. Olive Murrell re
the novelties of various raisers,
visited their gardens for the purpose, and
an expert knowledge that all Iris lovers
come to respect, criticises freely and
nearly 50 new seedlings she came acr
her journeyings. Mr. W. Miles contr
notes on Irises in Canada (reprinted i
issue), Mr. Geo. Yeld deals faithfully wi
Siberian section, Mr. Frank Burton
pares the Rose with the Iris from v
standpoints, and, amongst other articles
Whitehead contributes some practica
formation based on his success in gr

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* "Consider the Lilies," by W. E. Marshall. Pri
A. T. De la Mare Company, New York City, and obt
in England from W. A. Constable, Paddock Wood,
5s. 6d. post free.

Iris histrioides, ideal for a cold house
May be had in flower for Christmas

Susiana. The balance-sheet for the year,
a full detailed report of the Iris Show
on June 6th and 7th, with descriptions
ew seedlings certificated, are also in-
ed. The Bulletin can be obtained by non-
ibers on application to the Hon.
etary, Mr. G. L. Pilkington, Lower Lee,
lton, near Liverpool, from whom forms
application for membership can also be
ined. The subscription is 10s. 6d. per
um.

ting and planting bulbous Irises

ANISH Irises and the newer race
of Dutch Irises may be grown in pots
as well as in borders. Although they will
stand hard forcing, it is possible to have
plants in bloom several weeks before
grown in the open borders, if care be
n in regard to watering and airing. If
n in pots the compost should be made
f sandy loam with plenty of fibre in it,
leaf-soil with sand. A small quantity
tted manure should be placed with some
e rougher portion of the compost over
crocks. The bulbs must be put in just
enough apart to allow of sufficient space
out undue crowding when they are fully
n. Water directly the planting is
ned, and place the pots in a cool quarter,
ld-frame being a suitable situation for
. These Irises are hardy, but it is
sable to keep them quite safe from frost.
-drained pots are essential, so, also, is
ist rooting medium, but stagnant water
d cause mischief, and for that reason
ugh drainage must be the rule. At no
must the soil be allowed to become dry,
ially after the bulbs have commenced to
. Feeding must be done regularly after
ots are well filled with roots. Much
e is made long before the flowers
ar, so that the inexperienced cultivator
not be alarmed at the non-appearance
e flowers for a considerable time. A
e heat when the plants are growing
will do much good, but at no time
d they be subjected to a high tempera-
and close atmosphere.

e most suitable position in open borders
e which is constantly moist, but which
not hold water for any length of time. The soil should be deeply dug, and, if of a clayey nature, road grit or old potting soil should be freely mixed with it. Those plants grown in pots may be had in flower during the latter part of March and during April and May. Those grown in the open border will bloom at the end of May and throughout June, according to the situation in which they are placed. Pot and plant fairly early in the autumn, and be sure that purchased bulbs are not allowed to become very dry before they are either potted or planted, as they would lose much strength. Really fine bulbs may be purchased at a very low cost, so that the cultivator need not stint himself as regards numbers when purchasing them.

These bulbous Irises have much in common. That is to say, that in the majority of instances they require—or pay for—annual lifting and a moderately long season of rest. The bulbs mature in July and are usually ripe and ready for lifting after the middle of that month. During the resting period the bulbs should occupy a well-aired place in shed or outhouse, where they would be protected from sun heat. Cleaning and the removal of the " spawn " (bulblets), numerous in some varieties, should follow in due course. Replanting may be done any time after September is out; to delay it long, to defer planting into the winter months, when the soil is both wet and cold, is to court inferior results at flowering time. A moderately rich, deeply-cultivated, loamy soil suits them well. If manure be added, keep it well below the planting level of the bulbs. A good planting depth over all is 4 inches, though the more vigorously-constituted sorts do not object to being planted 6 inches deep. Some varieties of the Spanish set are dwarf-habited, and have quite small bulbs; others, like the tall and vigorous Thunderbolt (Gold Cup) are larger. The new Dutch Irises also vary in this respect, the later-flowering English Irises having larger and longer bulbs with much coarser tunics. These last-named are characterised by stronger stems, bigger flowers, and coarser-arching, deeply-channelled leaves. Valuable in the garden for succeeding the others named, they lack their elegance and utility in the cut state, and for these reasons are less popular.

New certificated Chrysanthemums

The first meeting of the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society of the current season was held at the New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society, Greycoat Street, Westminster, S.W. Mr. D. B. Crane was again elected chairman, this being for the twenty-eighth consecutive year.

No fewer than 20 novelties were submitted for adjudication. We believe there have never been so many new sorts placed before the Committee at its first meeting. Each of the following varieties gained the Society's much-coveted first class certificate.

WINNIE AVERY.—A flower of good form, having florets of good length and breadth and of good substance, building a flower nearly 5 inches across. Colour, old gold. Shown by Mr. C. T. Kipping, Althorne, near Colchester. (This variety also gained the Award of Merit of the R.H.S. on August 27th last.)

ALMEDA.—This is a promising variety. The florets are fairly broad and are of good substance, building a bloom rather more than 4½ inches across. Colour, light bronze. Also shown by Mr. Kipping.

CRIMSON FOUREX.—A quite distinct, pretty Japanese bloom, having rather narrow florets, of good substance, building a full flower about 3½ inches across and of pleasing form. Colour, crimson with rich golden centre. The plant is said to be about 3 feet in height. Shown by Mr. J. Barrell.

KINGCUP.—This is a striking plant suitable for border culture. The flowers are borne in pretty sprays and are made up of rather narrow florets, building pretty blossoms of a reflexing character. Colour, rich golden yellow —a colour badly wanted in the outdoor sorts.

Van Ravesteyn, a new Dutch (Xiphium) Iris
Standards pale blue, tinged grey, falls light sulphur and deep yellow

The plant attains a height of about 4 feet. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Jnr., Mayford, near Woking.

A variety which did not obtain a certificate, but which is of good quality and of considerable promise, is

ASSURANCE. It is a flower about 4 inches or rather more in diameter, having rather broad florets that build a flower of even form. Colour, chestnut crimson with golden reverse.

D. B. C.

Epilobium chlorifolium

Farrer begins his descriptions of the Epilobiums, or Willow Herbs, with a strong condemnation of the genus for the garden. He says they are "a most fearsome race of rampant weeds, usually either 5 feet high or perfectly flat upon the floor, but in all cases weeds of the worst, even when pretty." He modifies his censure considerably, however, when he comes to deal with some of the species, and when he speaks of the New Zealanders he seems inclined to a more favourable view, characterising the flowers of some as "rather pretty." E. chlorifolium does not find a place in "The English Rock Garden," but it is quite a pretty little subject for those who desire a low, carpeting plant for the rock garden, especially in a cool, rather shady place. It grows close to the ground and produces a charming carpet of small glossy leaves, spangled over with white flowers, which are occasionally tinged with pink. E. chlorifolium found a place in my garden in the autumn of 1927, and I am glad to see that it has become an established favourite with other members of my household besides myself. I am growing it here in a north-west exposure and in two places on rockwork, one at the base and the other about 8 feet above the ground level. It is doing well in both places and stood the last two winters without harm. It is raised from seeds or increased by division. S. ARNOTT.

Trolliuses (the Globe Flowers)

One of the hardiest plants which will thrive and do well in bleak, exposed gardens, the flowers of which, as they appear, are connecting links between spring and summer, is the Trollius, or Globe Flower. They will grow in sun or partial shade, and will give good results if planted in ordinary soil, but they appreciate a rich soil, and soon show it by quicker growth and enhanced quality of the blooms. During May and June you may ensure the flowers if you get in the clumps in October. Frost affects them little, if at all, and anyone having a north border should not forget that though the blossoms may be a week or so later than plants growing in a sunny position, some of them are worth planting in cool quarters. To have the best from them, Trolliuses ought to be planted in soil in which old manure or decayed vegetable refuse has been worked in order to provide a certain amount of humus which they like. This is the best time of the year to plant, as it is also the convenient opportunity to propagate by division of roots, quite small pieces when given suitable soil making good-sized clumps in a couple of seasons. Let those who may not grow them, and who like a spring display of bulbs, Wallflowers, and Forget-me-nots, remember that Trolliuses bring a rich glow of colour to a garden, contemporary with the blooming of things mentioned, and are a real acquisition to any garden when their showy heads appear. Here are some of the varieties which are worthy of culture, and from a long experience of them as late spring flowers, I have no hesitation in recommending them to the consideration of anyone with a moderate-sized garden:—Orange Globe (light orange), Excelsior (large yellow), Golden Queen (deep yellow), Gibsoni (yellow with black zone), Fire Globe (semi-double, deep orange), and Empire Day (one of the earliest, large, light orange yellow). WOODBASTWICK.

Iris trials at Wisley

The following awards, issued on September 9th, have been made to the undermentioned Bearded Irises by the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society after trial at Wisley :—

AWARD OF MERIT.

CLASS II.A a(1).

Blue Chintz	Sent by Mr. F. Burton.

CLASS IV.a.

Sir Michael	Sent by Messrs. Orpington Nurseries.
Yeoman	Sent by Messrs. Orpington Nurseries.
Rhein Traube	Sent by Messrs, Waterer and Crisp.

FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE.

CLASS IV.b.

Souvenir de Mme. Gaudichau	Sent by Messrs. Wallace.
,, ,, ,,	,, ,, Mr. G. P. Baker.

AWARD OF MERIT.

CLASS IV.b.

Abdera	Sent by Messrs. Perry.
Centurian..	,, ,, ,, Orpington Nurseries.
Lent A. Williamson	Sent by Messrs. Orpington Nurseries.
India	Sent by Mr. G. L. Pilkington.

CLASS IV.c.

Romalo	Sent by Messrs. Orpington Nurseries,

Plicata seedling Blue Chintz
Award of Merit at Wisley

CLASS V.a.

Mlle. Yvonne Pelletier ..	Sent by Messrs. Ca
Norma	,, ,, ,, Pe
Bluet	,, ,, ,, Or Nurseries.
Benbow	Sent by Mr. A, J. Bl
Pallida dalmatica	,, ,, The R.H.S.
,, ,, ...	,, ,, Messrs. For
,, ,, ...	,, ,, ,, R.
Pallida Shotsham variety ..	,, ,, ,, Orp Nurseries.

CLASS V.b.

Harmony	Sent by Messrs. O Nurseries.
Parc de Neuilly	Sent by Messrs. Bar

CLASS V.c.

Aphrodite..	Sent by Messrs. O Nurseries.
Mrs. Marion Cran	Sent by Messrs. Per

CLASS VI.a (1).

Nemoralia	Sent by Messrs. Per
Hemodus..	,, ,, ,, Per

CLASS VI.c (1).

Lord Lambourne	Sent by Messrs. Per
Bruno	,, ,, ,, Wa

CLASS VI.c (2).

Mr. H. F. Bowles	Sent by Messrs. Per
Iris King	,, ,, ,, Barr
,, ,, ...	,, ,, ,, Per

CLASS VII.c.

Rialgar	Sent by Miss Sturtev

CLASS VII.d.

Flaming Sword	Sent by Messrs. Or Nurseries.

CLASS VIII.a.

Gold Imperial	Sent by Miss Sturtev

CLASS VIII.b.

Flutter-by..	Sent by Miss Sturtev

Sweet Pea notes for the nov

WHEN comparing home-grown
Peas with those seen on the e
tion table, there are several s
points which should not be overlooked
perhaps it would be as well to deal with
in the order in which they naturally fall.
first detail which calls for attention i
actual seed itself. It should be under
that there are two distinct kinds of
Pea flowers cultivated at the present
the grandiflora type and the Spencer
These are differentiated by the form t
by the standard; that is, the largest
uppermost petal. In the case of the gr
flora this petal is perfectly plain, whils
Spencer Pea has a waved or frilled stan
which greatly enhances the appearanc
the flower. To emulate the success o
exhibitor it is necessary to commence
the correct type of seed rather than to
on a packet of nondescript grandifloras.
cheapness of the latter is no doubt du
the diminishing demand for it, and alsc
fact that it sets its seeds much more f
than the Spencer varieties. There is
another factor which must not be overlo
in connection with the seed, and tha
quality. Sweet Pea seeds possess cer
characteristics which, although not alv
infallible, are, nevertheless, looked for by
experienced eye as an indication of t
worthiness. With a little observation
beginner soon becomes familiar with t
details, the first one of which is that a g
selection of seeds of one variety conta
specimens of fairly equal size. Undoubt
the best procedure at the beginning is
obtain seed from a source which can be re
upon to furnish sound material. The
adage that the cheapest usually proves
dearest in the long run is as true in conn
tion with Sweet Peas as most other thin
Second grade seeds involve the same amo
of time and labour in their cultivation,
the results fall far below the desired st
dard. There is no time like the present
deciding upon the varieties which one
tends to grow next year. At the major
of shows and exhibitions can be seen ma
of the most recent introductions to co
merce, side by side with the best of the ol
and well-tried varieties, and a few notes ma
now prove very useful when the time

seed arrives. The majority of en-
asts like to provide accommodation for
any novelties as possible, but it is erron-
to think that the newer the variety the
the flowers. There are at present on
narket Sweet Peas with sterling quali-
which took years to produce, and which
take many more years of endeavour to
ss. For instance, in the report on the
ea exhibits of this year, "GARDENING
TRATED" drew attention to the merits
R. F. Felton (still the best lavender),
l Mauve, Austin Frederick Improved,
ance Hinton, Powerscourt, Youth,
Picture, still one of the most charming
t Peas." When well-grown and
ically staged, Sweet Peas of an orange
lmon shade attract much attention on
nt of their exquisite colouring. It is
however, that the innocent onlooker
fall into a trap. To obtain these colours
rfection it is necessary to take precau-
against strong sunlight, and many of
looms seen at an exhibition have either
grown in a greenhouse or provided with
iate arrangements for shading. Such
ies as Gold Crest, George Shawyer, and
ado when expanding in the open gar-
under two days of strong sunshine are
e same in appearance as their relatives
e show bench. All Sweet Peas are more
s susceptible to the influence of the sun,
e tendency to fade is most marked in
olours mentioned. However, this is a
em still engaging the attention of the
dist, who has every hope of his efforts
eventually rewarded by the production
igorous and fadeless orange Sweet Pea.
o more essentials should now arise for
vation, namely, the appropriate times
owing the seed, and the thorough pre-
ion of the site the plants will occupy.
, however, are perhaps best dealt with
eir proper season. For the present it
uffice to explain briefly how exhibition
rs are grown. It would be futile to
the seeds in the ground, surround them
pea-sticks as in the case of culinary
and allow the plants to develop at their
ree will. Such a procedure is excellent
garden decoration is the object in view,
for obtaining choice, first-class cut
s it will not answer the purpose. The
lowers are cut from plants trained on
'cordon" or single-stem system, a
d which is about as unsuitable for
n adornment as naturally-grown plants
r the production of prize flowers. This
d entails the provision of a separate
rt for each individual plant—a tall
o cane for preference. As the stem of
ant increases in height it is loosely tied
cane at appropriate intervals, a neces-
aused by the removal of all tendrils
dition to these, the side-growths which
ate from the leaf-axils are pinched out
n as they are large enough to be con-
tly handled. Thus the full benefits of
ctivity in a specially prepared medium
nfined to one channel, the result being
ter haulm, more expansive leaves, and
and stronger stems bearing larger
s. Furthermore, a greater percentage
stems carry four blooms each.

A. E. W.

eClarkia as a pot plant

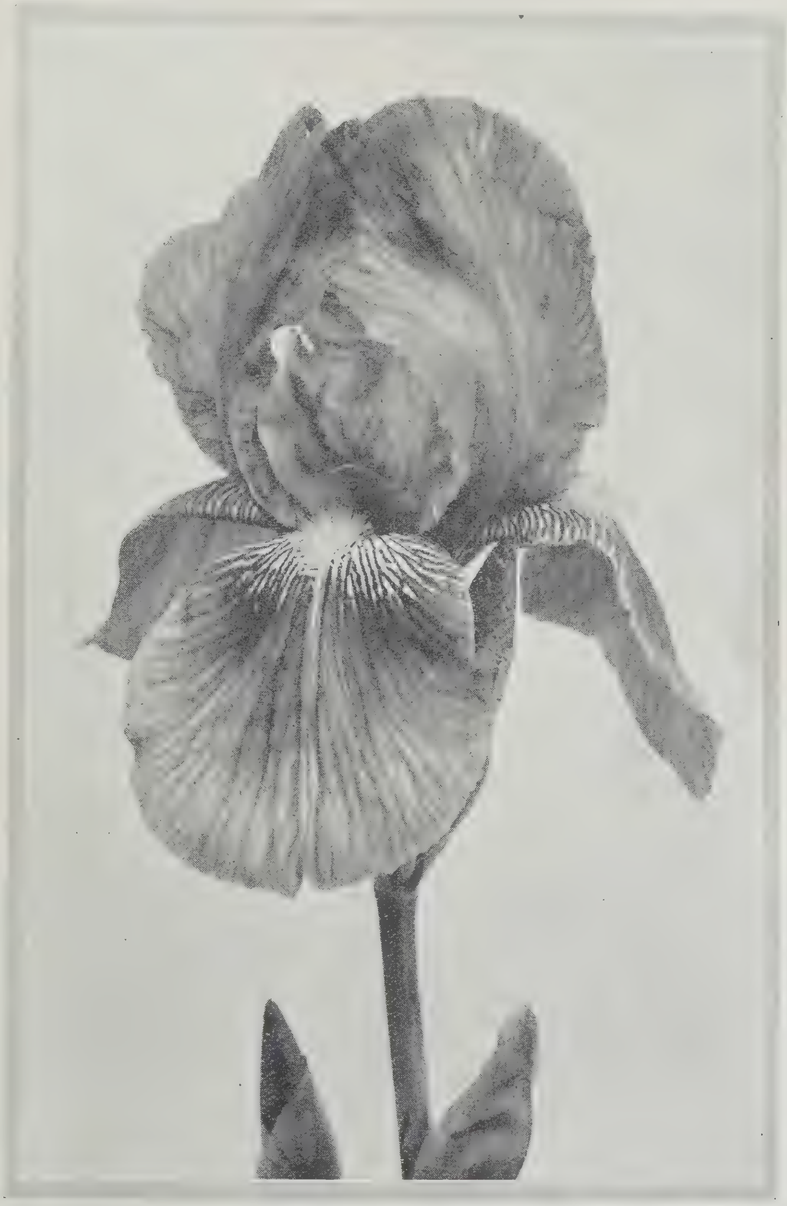
early flowering, autumn-raised plants
stinctly the best. The seedlings raised
ionth should now be pricked off, three
placed round the edge of each 3-inch
When these small pots become full of
a shift into the 4½-inch size should be
After the beginning of October a
hear the roof glass of a cool greenhouse
e the best place for these plants, very
l watering being necessary at all times
ny will be lost through damping.

Iris Amber Wave

Shekinah x a sister seedling of Mrs. V. West

THIS seedling was sent us by Mr. Bliss in 1923 for trial. He considered that the form of the flower was almost perfect in size and poise, but was a little doubtful about the colour, which he thought dull. The standards are buff shot with bronze, and the falls a peculiar violet puce colour, very velvety in texture. When this Iris flowered we agreed with Mr. Bliss that the colour was not sufficiently striking, and we decided that although it was almost a perfect Iris in size, shape, and texture, we could not name it. We hoped that by using it for hybridising we could improve the colour in some way. In 1925, therefore, I hybridised Shekinah and Mr. Bliss' seedling, using the pollen both ways. I naturally hoped to obtain some seed from both crosses. Nature decided otherwise, however, and the result was four seeds only germinated from Shekinah's seed-pod. The first of these flowered in 1927 and was Amber Wave. An unexpected and extraordinary result. I aimed and hoped to get a Dominion variegata, imagining that the yellow in Shekinah would intensify the buff standards in Mr. Bliss' seedling. Actually I got an amber yellow self. This is a correct and bald description of one of the most beautiful and unusual Irises I have ever seen. The colouring is most subtle and elusive, and can be more fully described as amber-yellow suffused and shot with palest olive-bronze. The falls have a lovely faint velvety violet-blue flush at the haft which is all Shekinah has allowed to be perpetuated of Mr. Bliss's wonderful Dominion velvety fall. Not an Iris for the man in the street, but an Iris which will delight the flower-lover with a discerning eye who can appreciate something subtle, quaint, and unusual.

OLIVE MURRELL.



Iris Amber Wave

"The Anatomy of Dessert"

Mr. E. A. Bunyard's new book, "The Anatomy of Dessert," is to be published on October 1st. The book is written for the gourmet, whether gardener or not, and is the first of its kind, no guide to the dessert having yet been published. The edition is limited to 1000 copies signed by the author, price 10s. 6d. Great care has been taken in the selection of paper and type, and the frontispiece by John Nash adds distinction to the format. The publishers are Messrs. Dulau and Co., Ltd., 32, New Bond Street, London, W. 1.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Sweet Violets

The plants which have been prepared for flowering under glass should now be lifted with a ball of earth and transplanted in well-prepared beds in cool frames. The soil for these should consist of a fair proportion of maiden loam and well-decayed manure to which has been added a little lime-rubble and wood ash. If the plants have been seriously troubled with Red Spider during their growing season it will be advisable to dip their foliage in a pail of insecticide before transplanting, and after the latter has had time to dry a copious watering should be given. Keep the lights off the frames for the present and damp the foliage over daily at about 4 p.m.

Spring-flowering bulbs

A large variety of these may now be planted, including Crocus, Snowdrops, Snowflakes, Muscari, Fritillaria, Anemones, Daffodils, Tulips, Scillas, especially S. hispanica, S. campanulata rosea, S. taurica, and S. sibirica, Aconites, such as cilicica and Tubergeni, and that charming little flower from Buenos Aires, Tritelia uniflora, Sternbergia lutea, Tropæolum polyphyllum, Trilliums in partial shade and in a leafy soil may also be planted now, nor is it too late to plant the beautiful Madonna Lily and its Nankeen hybrid, L. testaceum.

Autumn-sown annuals

The ground having been prepared no time should be lost in sowing the seeds, which, however, should be sown thinly. Merely scatter the seeds on the surface and rake them in. They include Collinsias, Bartonia aurea, Godetias, Nemophilas, Cornflowers, Linums, Lupins, Eschscholtzias, Clarkias, Larkspurs, Nigella, Gilia densiflorus, Lavatera, Platystemon californicum, and Violet Cress (Ionopsidium acaule).

Repairs and painting of glasshouses and frames

This necessary work must be no longer delayed, as all such structures will shortly be required for the housing of the many and varied forms of plant life which it would be unsafe to leave in the open air, and houses or frames which, owing to wear and tear, are dripping during inclement weather, are unsatisfactory. All necessary overhauls to the heating apparatus should also be taken in hand now.

Chrysanthemums

The buds of Chrysanthemums which are showing colour must now be placed under cover, a cool, airy house, such as an orchard house, being the most suitable. Attend constantly to the disbudding of later kinds, and where not already done give the plants their final top-dressing, add more stakes if necessary. Large bush plants are vigorous feeders and must be liberally fed with changes of stimulating food.

Late Peas

These are very fine, but mildew is persistent, and must be frustrated by occasional sprayings of anti-mildew wash, which is obtainable from all good horticultural sundriesmen. Ample moisture must be provided and generally by hand, for even following a fairly heavy downpour of rain a dense yard-wide row of Peas will often be found to be quite dry at the root. This also applies to Runner Beans.

Sweet Corn

Much appreciated when well grown is this favourite American vegetable, the cultivation of which is often misunderstood, but in no way difficult. A well-manured piece of ground and a little protection from strong winds, which, owing to the weight of the cobs, will often topple the plants over, is all that is necessary. This is an ideal food for replacing sweet, young Peas where the latter cannot be grown, but a fair amount of moisture is necessary.

Turnips

Several vacancies will now occur where crops have been ripened and removed, and if a scattering of Turnip seed is made, quite a lot of sweet young roots will become available for use during winter, and even if not so required may be dug into the ground later.

Winter Onions, Lettuce, and Spring Cabbage

Sown last month, these should be dusted over occasionally with soot in order to check the ravages of slugs and encourage quick, clean growth. The same applies to late-sown Carrots.

Fruit houses

Expose all which have been relieved of their fruits to air and sunshine in order that the wood may become thoroughly ripened, not overlooking the importance of watering at any time. Vineries containing late Grapes should, however, be kept somewhat drier and more buoyant than of late.

E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Pansy and Viola cuttings

This is probably the most favourable time for securing and inserting cuttings of these popular dwarf plants. They are very scarce as a rule this year, so there is all the more reason for exercising care in both taking them off the plants and in planting them in the frames. Boxes are handy if the number to be handled is only moderate, while in spring it is easy to move them about when the frame is required for more delicate subjects. Label each sort properly and correctly so as to avoid confusion when planting time comes round.

Pentstemon cuttings

The plants, which at one period threatened to be poor, eventually flowered magnificently. So many of the finer varieties, however, have failed to produce many cuttings, and so it will be necessary to hunt carefully through the plants and so secure every shoot that it is possible to make into a cutting. This plant seldom does well if the cuttings are placed in boxes, so wherever possible prepare a bed of nice sweet sandy compost under a cold frame and plant the cuttings firmly in this, allowing 3 inches to 4 inches between them each way. Keep the frame close for a few weeks and shade carefully from all sunshine.

The Scotch Rocket

This delightful plant is by no means easy to increase at any time, but where it is possible to obtain cuttings, this is the best means for attaining this object. Even under favourable conditions the cuttings are very short and demand some care to get them firmed in the soil. A " heel " of the old wood is a great help, so wherever possible sever the cutting in such a way as to secure this. Well-drained, clean 5-inch pots are quite suitable, and should be filled with very sandy compost. The cuttings should be placed round the edges and made as firm as circumstances will permit. Set in a cool
greenhouse, shading from all sunshin
rooted.

General work in the flower garde

Although at times sharp frost abou
date puts " period " to the floral displ
other seasons summer lingers righ
October, so there should always be
deavour to keep everything in the
garden as trim and clean as possible.
and spent flowers should be remove
walks and lawns kept tidy.

Herbaceous Calceolarias

If these be kept in a cool, moist
and protected from the sun, they will
rapid progress and be but little trouble
vermin. If still in 3-inch pots a mov
the 5-inch size will be advisable. Ret
the same frame for a few weeks, on
moving to a frost-proof glasshouse
severe frost is likely.

Schizanthus

If seeds were sown last month the
ing plants will now be fit for transf
to 3-inch pots. Rich soil should not be
and unless for the production of large
mens, one plant to each pot is desi
Where it is determined to grow large p
three seedlings should be planted roun
edge of each 3-inch pot, these in turn
weeks hence being moved to the 4½-inch
Return to the frame until frost thre
when a move to a cool greenhouse w
safer.

The use of the Dutch hoe

As long as the soil remains dry enou
the surface to work freely, this tool sho
regularly plied between rows of L
Onions, Cabbages, Spinach, Wallflo
and indeed everything requiring to be st
built up for winter. Its use also keeps
in check.

Continue to earth up Celery

This crop usually grows very rapidly
ing this month, so some fresh soil shou
added as often as is necessary. A dry
with the soil working freely, should al
be selected for this work. To prevent
getting into the centres of the plants,
one should be tied round with a stri
raffia, but this must be removed agair
mediately the earthing-up is finished.

Late Peas

Where these appear to be unlikely t
well, some little assistance may be g
On light, dry soils a soaking of clean
at the roots, followed next day with a si
drenching of liquid manure, will help
siderably, while the pinching out of the p
of the plants is also likely in all case
assist and expedite the swelling of the p

Spring-sown Onions

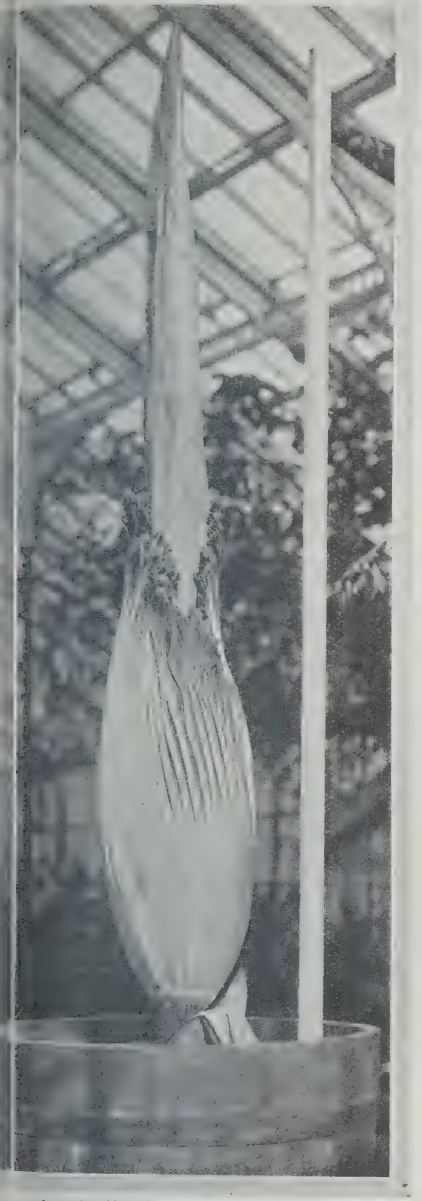
This crop is in rather a backward c
tion in some quarters, so a little aid sh
be afforded the plants in the ripening pro
The " necks " should be twisted a little
the tops bent over towards the north.
may require to be repeated every thre
four days to be really effective.

Strawberry "runners" for spring planting

Rooted " runners " are very late in b
fit to lift this autumn, but it will now
advisable to select the very best available
lay them in nursery rows on an open, s
border, where they will very soon bec
established, and whence they can be m
to their permanent quarters in March
April.

C. Bla

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.



rphophallus titanum, 6 feet high
ow flowering in the Victoria Regia
House at Kew

phophallus titanum (Beccari)

S remarkable plant, now flowering
the Victoria Regia House at Kew, is
giant of the family of Aroids, to
our native Cuckoo-pint belongs. It is
e of Sumatra, and is one of the veget-
nders of the world. During its period
th the plant consists of a tuber and
leaf. The leaf is renewed biennially
e plant reaches the flowering stage.
ber has been known to attain a cir-
ence of 6½ feet, the blade of the leaf a
erence of 45 feet, and the whole plant
t of 45 feet. The first plant to blos-
Europe was raised from seed and
its flower in this house in June, 1889,
er before flowering weighing 57 lbs.
wer (properly the spathe) was 3 feet
d 4 feet across; the spadix, or central
on which the true flowers are set,
feet high and 10 inches in diameter.
athe remains open a few hours only,
ring this time emits a nauseating
The specimen illustrated was received
r. Kock, Sumatra, in May, 1927.
ria Regia is now flowering in the
ouse. The largest leaf in the accom-
illustration is 6½ feet across and 17
nd.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

ALPINES

Time to plant Alpine flowers

(Mona).—Early October is the best time to plant these flowers, which quickly take hold of the still warm soil and become established. Planted earlier there is the danger of the plants becoming dried out unless one is prepared to stand over them with the watering-can.

Fifty Alpine plants

(Mona).—Gentiana lagodechiana, G. Farreri, G. sino-ornata, G. Purdomi, G. prolata, Veronica Bidwillii, V. filifolia, V. Lyalli, Vancouveria hexandra, Trollius pumila Wargrave var., Thymus Serpyllum var. coccineum, Teucrium dubia, Trifolium alpinum, Verbena radicans, Viola bosniaca Crimson King, V. gracilis citrina, V. Rose Queen, Wahlenbergia serpyllifolia major, Stachys corsica, Azorella pedunculata, Pentstemon cristatus, Oxalis lobata, Œnothera riparia, Lupinus lepidus, Linum salsoloides, Lobelia linnæoides, Iris Hookeri, Heuchera sanguinea Oxfordii, Gypsophila fratensis, Campanula Miranda, C. Steveni, C. Warley, Lewisia rediviva, Achillea aurea, Æthionema Warley Rose, Geranium Farreri, Aquilegia suaveolens, Sisyrinchium grandiflorum, Silene Hookeri, Sedum spathulifolium purpureum, Cotyledon simplicifolia, Onosma Taurica, Saxifraga (Mossy) Crimson King, S. (Mossy) Queen of the Belgians, S. Myra, S. burseriana major Wargrave var., S. Stracheyi, Raoulia glabra, Rosa Roulettii, Richea scoparia, Primula Juliana Wanda, P. J. Purple Splendour, Potentilla verna, P. fragiformis, Helipterum anthemioides, Polygala veyradæ, Phlox Douglasi superba, P. subulata Newry Gem.

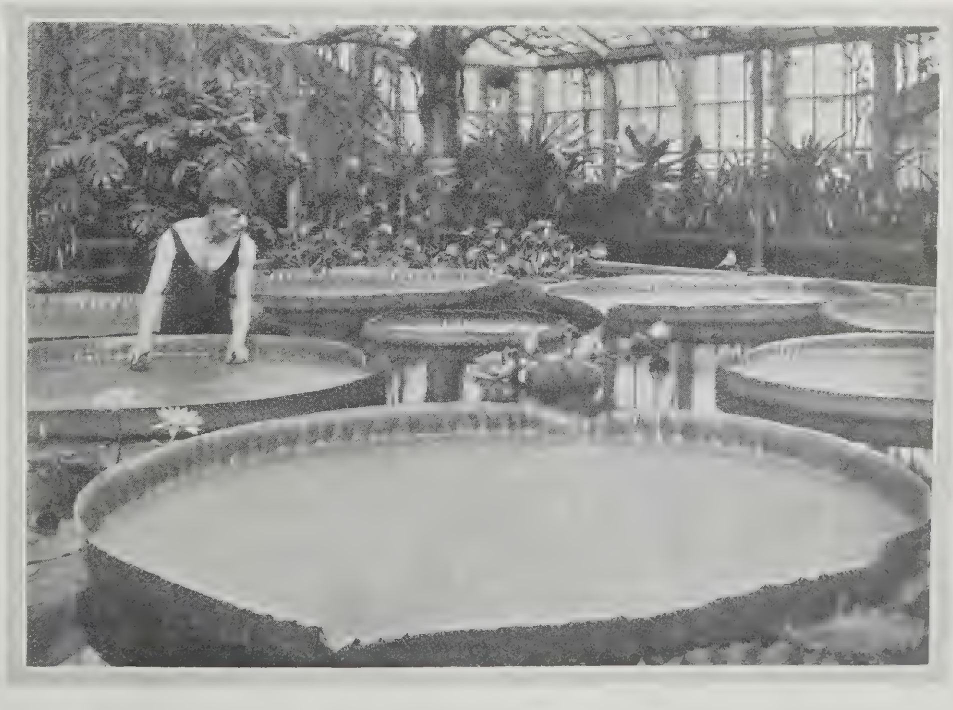
FLOWER GARDEN

Primula foliage

(B. Nash, Surrey).—Your Primula foliage has been attacked by some insect which punctures the leaf and sucks out the cell sap. We have carefully examined the specimens sent, but can find no trace of an insect. It is possible that the damage occurred earlier in the season, and that the insects have left the plants, or that the insect attacks the young foliage as the younger leaves appear. Search your plants carefully and see if you can discover the culprits. Aphis, Capsid Bug or Mite are the most likely creatures to cause this type of damage. Very light fumigation with a Campbell's Sulphur Vaporiser throughout the season would be more likely to assist you than using either liver of sulphur or Bordeaux Mixture. A Campbell Vaporiser can be supplied by any horticultural sundriesman.

Diseased Antirrhinum

(S. L.).—Your Antirrhinum flower spikes are affected with a fungus, Botrytis sp. Fungi of the Botrytis type are common in most gardens, and they usually live as saprophytes, but under some conditions they become parasitic. It occurs to us that the soil



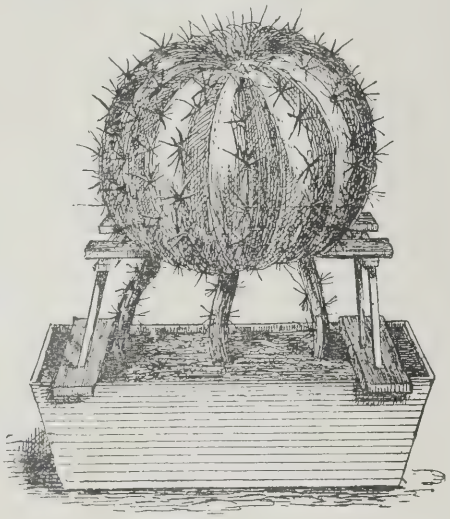
Victoria Regia at Kew
The flowers are seen in the centre of the pool. Leaves are over 6 feet across

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

A three-legged Cactus

THE subject of the annexed engraving (Echinocactus Pottsii) is one of the monster globe Cacti of California. It is a vegetable curiosity grafted on three stems of Cereus tortuosus, its flowers are yellow, its spines are an inch long and are arranged in sets of seven, one being in the centre. The angles, or ribs, are about 3 inches apart, and the skin, which is thin, is of a beautiful shiny, metallic green.



The head, which measures 18 inches in diameter, is much too heavy for the thin leaves on which it is grafted, and therefore additional support has been given it in the shape of a light framework or stool fixed on the box in which the roots grow. Extensive as Mr. Peacock's collection of Cacti is, no plant in it has been more admired than this, or considered to be, in its way, a greater curiosity.—J. C.—*September 27th*, 1879.

Iris Kæmpferi

This Iris and its varieties are now flowering profusely in Mr. Barr's grounds at Tooting, where there are plants sufficient to produce from 1000 to 2000 blooms, thus furnishing an unprecedented display. One variety, of a rich claret colour, has flowers measuring 7 inches in diameter, its broad falls giving it more the appearance of a large-flowered Clematis than an Iris. English Irises are also flowering abundantly just now in the same grounds.—*August 2nd*, 1879.

Irises in a cut state

What beautiful shades of colour one sees amongst Irises! Spikes of them, cut and put in vases, garnished with a little delicate foliage, are even more effective than the choicest Orchids, both as regards form and colour. Irises are gradually coming to the front again, and it is well they should do so, if for no other purpose than that of supplying flowers in a cut state.—J. G.—*August 2nd*, 1879.

We give it up!

We really do not understand it. It is quite beyond our powers of guessing why people should do so. Here is a Strawberry grower who sends a carefully written letter, the " hand " being neater and plainer than often comes to us. He tells us his method of culture and complains that for three or four years he has had poor crops, and says: " Now being the time to plant, I would like to know what you think is the trouble, and how to remedy it." We could have answered these questions at once on a postcard. " Now being the time of planting," he wants his answer " now "—but he merely signs his letter " A. W. L. ! " Another is in want of a book of recipes. He gives us in full his idea of the kind of book he wants, and finishes his letter by " J. H., City." While an answer to this, being purely personal, would be out of place in our columns, we would have willingly sent it by mail, but " J. H., City," is scarcely definite enough. We have repeated it so often that it should be understood that letters or postal cards without full names merely represent time and trouble lost by the senders.—*October 25th*, 1879.

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in which the Antirrhinums are growing is on the rich side, having received this season, or in past seasons, fairly heavy dressings of manures rich in nitrogen. Plants never say " No " to nitrogen, but if this element is applied in excess, strong, soft growth, which is easily attacked by fungi, is the result. You can do nothing now to check the trouble other than to cut off and burn the affected portions. When the bed is cleared give the soil a dressing of basic slag at the rate of 4 ozs. to 6 ozs. per square yard, and well dig it in; follow this by giving a dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard prior to putting out your next lot of plants.

Primroses failing

(Northerner).—Your Primroses are badly attacked with Red Spider, which has caused the leaves to wither, and unless destroyed, the young, tender leaves now appearing will be disfigured also. This pest has been exceedingly troublesome this season and revels in dry, hot surroundings. Paraffin soap, used at the rate of half a pint to two gallons of water and sprayed over the plants with a fine rose will effect a cure, although two or three dressings may be necessary at intervals of 10 days. Tobacco powder is also effective if dusted over the crowns whilst the latter are damp. Plenty of moisture about the plants is desirable at all times.

Sweet Peas not opening

(H. L. B.).—The most probable cause of your trouble is over-manuring, for whereas some varieties may be able to develop under such a variety of artificials, others would succumb. It is very probable that the roots of the variety in question have at some period of their growth been damaged by the strong acidity of the manures. Another season confine this variety to natural manures, such as
cow manure augmented with a littl
meal, and you should meet with grea
cess.

Blue Iris to bloom in still water

(J. E. Webb).—None of the Iris li
feet in water all through the year, bu
can make a small bed of soil at each
which could be kept from flooding du
winter you could grow either of the
ing:—I. chrysographes, I. sikkime
Delavayi, I. Sibirica Bleu Cele
Sibirica Emperor, I. Monspur Ca
Blue, I. Kæmpferi, and I. lævigata.

Seedling Gentians not flourishing

(I. F. Cummins).—This frequently
among Gentians raised from se
whilst the seedlings are very small,
reason for this yellowing of the leave
always easy to define. All the Genti
a rich loamy soil containing a good
tion of decayed leaf-mould and sand.
often happens that Eel Worm exists
soils and causes some of the trou
speak of among the weaker and slowe
ing kinds, whereas the stronger o
away all right. We advise you to l
plants and clean them as far as p
transplanting them into clean, fresh s
as recommended above. Keep the
growing in the open at present.

How to grow Carum Carvi

(H. H.).—Obtain the seeds from
seedsman in order to have them fr
those sold by grocers may be all ri
domestic use, but quite unsuitable fo
vation. The seeds should be sown i
in May or June, and when the seedli
large enough they should be thinned
9 inches apart. Except for an occ
hoeing and keeping the plants fre
weeds, no further attention is necessa
the crop is gathered in July of the fo
year. By sowing some of the seed
as it is ripe plants may be raised wh
run to seed in the summer of the fo
year, and a month or two may thus b
in the cultivation of the crop as co
with the ordinary mode of sowing.
flowers are white.

Dividing and replanting Saxifrag

(H. Mills).—Early October is the be
to carry out this work, the divided
quickly taking hold of the soil wh
latter is still warm.

GREENHOUSE

Time to pot Anthurium Roths anum

(Anthurium).—Potting should be
out before the end of September, ot
it is better left until the middle of Mar
year. The compost should consist of
turfy loam and broken peat in equa
with a few handfuls of Sphagnum
chopped to about an inch in length;
broken potherbs and a little sand shou
be mixed with the compost. Press th
post moderately firm among the ro
grow on in a brisk temperature for
weeks until the roots have taken hold
new compost.

Sowing single Begonias now

(I. E. Mobbs).—Better results will
early spring sowing, and we advise
defer doing so until then. Yes, the
will bloom during the following Au
sown in March or April.

Geranium and Pelargonium

(I. E. Mobbs).—The true Geraniu
hardy herbaceous flowers, and Pelarg
tender greenhouse flowers, the latte
generally referred to—though errone

eraniums. Early spring is the best time ow Pelargoniums, which should bloom ame year. It is rather doubtful whether, u sow now, you will be able to get the s to germinate, but if you do, they ld certainly bloom next year.

nium trouble

heshire Cat).—The Geranium leaves ed in a very dried up condition and d have been better for examination pur- s if packed in a small tin box. As far e can see, the trouble is due solely to pillar attack. Many kinds of caterpillar fall to the ground if the host plant is ly shaken; you might try this plan. If ls, try spraying the plants with a good ticide. The "frass" from the cater- s is usually an indication of the where- ts of the culprits.

TREES AND SHRUBS

ning a trellis

r light and well-drained soil in sunny t I want to clothe some 12 yards of s about 5 feet 6 inches high. Roses, of e, immediately suggest themselves, but e climbing sports of the various Teas H.T.'s make sufficient growth ade- ly to clothe a trellis, or would I do to rely on Wichuraianas? Roses are he sole idea I am prepared to consider, f you can suggest alternatives I shall be ful. What I am looking for is fragrance, r, good foliage, and a fairly vigorous th. Perhaps a tall order, but maybe you give me a list of Roses and such other s as you may think will fill the bill.

FLOWER LOVER.

here can be no doubt about the vigour ny of the climbing sports of some of our known Roses, and we should expect, Climbing Caroline Testout, C. Mrs. J. Grant, C. Mme. Isaac Periere, C. ral Macarthur, C. Ophelia, C. Mme. Chatenay, C. Gloire de Dijon, C. Mme. ie Soupert, C. Zephirine Drouhin, and merican Pillar to give you pretty much you aim at. Regarding an alternative of other climbing plants, this is not so as your specification embraces so many practically unattainable in any parti- plant. However, we personally would r planting some of the hardier Clematis en the Roses, thus securing much r variety of form and colour, although l of these have fragrance. Some of the es are very beautiful in their season, lso lack scent.]

ering shrubs for town garden in oor soil

).—Spiræa arguta, Caragana ar- ens, Cytisus scoparius, Teucrium ns, Hypericum patulum var. Henryi, eia variabilis magnifica, Kerria ica, Rosmarinus officinalis, Ulex eus flore pleno, Cistus ladaniferus, C. iensis, Rhododendron pontica, Osman- quifolium, Berberis Mahonia, Berberis is.

s Pissardii

Howard).—It is not unusual for this s to produce fruit such as the one y you.

tis dying off suddenly

anything be done to prevent Clematis down? I have planted dozens during st six years and I find that they in- ly die down within a few months of g out. They usually start up again the bottom, but sometimes die down three times before making up their to go ahead. I have one that has just own to the ground, but is throwing out new buds from the bottom. It was planted three years ago and is a Jackmanii. It has covered a wall 10 feet by 7 feet twice in that time and then died right down again. The sub-soil here is chalk, with very little soil above, but I always dig a good pit for them and fill it with rotted turf and sand.

"MEIKTILA."

[Your experience with this beautiful genus is, unfortunately, that of many others, and we are, at present, as far away as ever from a cure. Some of our best authorities who have been experimenting with them for many years attribute this dying off to grafting, the stocks used being unsuitable. Over this point a great deal of controversy has arisen from time to time. Own root plants, however, should be obtained whenever possible, as these certainly appear to have a much longer life. Plants may be layered in March. In Nature the Clematis thrives on the fringes of woods and copses, generally spreading its canopy of bloom over the branches of low-growing trees and shrubs, its roots and main stems being protected from sun and wind. The Clematis has several enemies, which are sometimes the cause of its death, but this sudden dying off, even when in full bloom, is a very common and more serious matter, for which, up to the present, there is no certain preventative. Many people have, for this same reason, given up trying to grow this lovely race of climbers. We advise you to grow species, some of which, if smaller individually as regards their flowers, bloom with such remarkable profusion that in effect they are equally beautiful and have none of the failings above described.]

Bark bound

(M. N. Norris.)—Your trees must either be planted in too rich soil, or else the ground is badly drained. The latter, in particular, very frequently causes the trouble you complain of. The remedy is obviously to have the ground properly drained, should the last-named be the cause, while over-richness will in time remedy itself, if no more manure be applied. We do not favour scoring the bark, as this so frequently leads to canker, which is, of course, worse than the trouble it is hoped to cure.

Creepers for north-west and north-east walls

(Shrub).—For the north-west we suggest the following:—Clematis Armandii, C. Nellie Moser, C. Ville de Lyon, Aristolochia sipho, Actinidia Henryi, Paul's Scarlet Climber Rose, Rose Mermaid, Lonicera etrusca gigantea, Jasminum officinale, and Stauntonia latifolia. For north-east:—Trachelospernum divaricatum, Vitis Coignettiæ, Ceanothus dentatus, Clematis Jackmanni superba, C. montana rubens, Actinidia arguta, Lonicera, late Red Dutch, Rose Bouquet d'Or, Wistaria chinensis.

VEGETABLES

Shallots

I have grown some Shallots from seed. Some have grown rather large and some are a nice planting size. I have been told that if I plant these they will do no good, and will run to seed next year. Should be pleased if you could give any advice on this.

J. W.

[We do not favour raising Shallots from seed, mainly because this plant never breeds true, but we do not think that if you plant fair-sized bulbs raised in this way that they will run to seed. Plant in rich, well-worked soil.]

Uneven Cauliflowers

(H. W. Hobbs).—Cauliflowers dislike loose soil, so it may be you have failed to have the ground firm enough. Giving water in driblets, even if every day, is useless. What you should do is to give a thorough soaking about twice weekly during dry weather. If the ground was really well manured, no further feeding should be required, but in the event of the plants showing any sign of want of vigour an occasional soaking of liquid manure should do a world of good, this being applied the day following a soaking of clean water. Again, you may be growing inferior varieties. Have you tried Early London, Early Dwarf, Erfurt, Sutton's Favourite, and Veitch's Autumn Giant? These are all excellent, well-tried sorts.

Potato Scab

(Gardener, Monmouth).—The Potato specimen sent for examination is affected with Common or Surface Scab. Please see reply to "Weybridge," on page 617 of our issue for September 7th. Your best plan would be to sow a crop of Mustard, give the crop a dressing of one part sulphate of ammonia, one part sulphate of potash, and three parts superphosphate at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard when the crop is well through the soil. You will know your own district; if you think it is not too late, sow the Mustard at once, but if you are doubtful about the crop growing big enough to make it worth digging in, defer the sowing until early spring. It appears to us that your soil is in very poor condition.

FRUIT

Bitter Pit of Apple

(Gardener, Monmouth, and S. C. W., Wimbledon).—Your Apples are affected with Bitter Pit, a trouble not due to fungi, but to some physiological cause, probably in both cases soil deficiency. This autumn give the trees a dressing with an equal mixture of a good grade basic slag and kainit. Mix the two manures thoroughly together and apply at the rate of 6 ozs. to 8 ozs. per square yard. After application, fork in the mixture several inches deep. This manure should be used in addition to any other manure you usually apply. Repeat the slag and kainit treatment for several years if you can see any improvement in the growth of the trees and the condition of the crop.

Small Apples

("Gardener").—One of two things has happened to cause your Irish Peach Apple to behave in the way it is doing—either the ground is badly drained and the roots have got into sour and inert soil, or else it is so impoverished that the tree has not a chance to thrive. If the last-named trouble is likely to be the true one, a generous mulching of well-rotted farmyard manure all over the roots would quickly help matters, but bad drainage is more difficult to tackle. We are afraid that nothing can be done to save the old tree you mention. Remove all dead wood from both trees.

MISCELLANEOUS

Corrugated iron and plants

(Rev. A. L. Kynaston).—No, the iron will have little or no effect upon the plants unless exposed sheets of it stood erect with plants touching it in exceptionally hot weather, when there might be a tendency to a scorching of foliage actually touching the metal, which, as you are probably aware, gets exceedingly hot. There will certainly be no ill-effects from its contact with the soil.

Cheshunt Compound

(I. A. C.).—Cheshunt Compound can be used in solution either as a soil drench to vacant ground or to growing plants. Because of varying local conditions it is always a wise precaution to test all fungicides on a small scale at first, and we advise you to try the material on a few plants. If you find that the foliage, as well as the roots, will stand the solution, it would be an additional advantage. Usually Cheshunt Compound is not used on foliage.

Insect pests in India

(P., Lancaster).—In England the only practical way of dealing with wasps and hornets is to search for and destroy the nests. As you say, the pest can be dealt with on a small scale by bagging fruits, but on a large scale it is unpractical. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1, publish a useful leaflet on wasps. The leaflet is styled, "Miscellaneous Publication No. 44." A copy can be obtained from the above address at the price of 4d. post free in England. Under our conditions, the larvæ of the Cockchafer beetles do much damage to the roots of plants, but the adults feed almost entirely above ground. The best control for Cockchafer larvæ is to apply crude naphthalene at the rate of 4 cwts. per acre. Apply the chemical evenly over the surface of the soil and then dig it in as deeply as possible.

Cesspool

(Puzzled).—The contents of a cesspool if diluted and used on certain crops is a valuable form of manure, provided it can be used in places where the smell is not objectionable. The material is often used on land which is vacant, and after the liquid has drained into the land the solid portion is dug in. Most frequently, perhaps, the material is used on grass land and allowed to wash in. Mixing a disinfectant with the material would spoil it for garden or farm use. We think your best plan would be to consult an expert sanitary engineer, who would be able to advise you as to the best method of dealing with the cesspool. The construction of a septic tank seems to us advisable if you cannot deal with the material as outlined above.

Enquiry correction

Diseased Plums ("T. C. C."). Last sentence on page 616 of our issue for September 7th should read: Please see reply to "Puzzled" in our issue for August 31st.

NAMES OF PLANTS

W. Peachey.—1, Senecio clivorum; 2, Centaurea glastifolia; 3, C. macrocephala.

W. D. Linsell.—Silene orientalis.

Meiktila.—Cannabis sativa (Hemp Plant), a vigorous annual, largely cultivated for its fibre.

J. F. Cummins.—1, Campanula Steveni; 2, C. muralis; 3 and 4, Gentiana lagodechiana, which varies slightly when raised from seed.

William Myall.—1, Sedum kamschaticum; 2, S. grandiflorum.

D. Moran.—The shrub is most probably Rhododendron amœna, but flowers are necessary.

H. Mills.—1, Gentiana asclepiadea (the Willow Gentian); 2, Thymus Serpyllum; 3, a Veronica, but flowers are necessary; 4, Convolvulus mauritanicus.

L. C.—1, Phyteuma orbiculare (Rampion), found on chalk hills of S.E. England; 2, Galium verum Lady's Bedstraw; 3, Scabiosa columbaria, found on calcareous soil; 4, Comfrey Symphytum officinale.

Young, Milngavie.—Specimen dried up. Probably Lilium testaceum syn. L. excelsum, the stately Nankeen Lily.

D. G. M.—Probably Spergula sativa (Corn Spurry). Not uncommon in cornfields.

"Anthurium."—Fern Onoclea sensibilis.

D. G. M.—A lax form of Scleranthus annuus L. Knawel, a well-known British plant not uncommon in sandy and heathy ground. Family, Illecebraceæ.

M. E. Feenyson.—Hypericum kalmianum.

T. W. Collins.—1, Probably Pyracantha coccinea, but a better specimen is necessary; 2, Berberis vulgaris; 3, Euonymus europæus; 4, Acer negunda.

W. J. Colwell.—Leycesteria formosa.

A. J. B.—1, Salvia pratensis Tenorei; 2, Rudbeckia purpurea; 3, Helenium grandicephalum striatum; 4, Centaurea montana rubra; 5, Centranthus rubra; 6, Helenium Riverton Gem.

Dartmoor.—1, Epilobium mummularifolium; 2, Hydrangea paniculata.

NAMES OF FRUITS

A. W. F.—Apple Beauty of Bath.

G. C.—1, Mannington Pearmain; 2, Stirling Castle; 3, Worcester Pearmain; 4, Ecklinville.

W. B., Chigwell Row.—A, Brown Beurré; D, Princess. Others immature and not recognised. Kindly follow conditions for naming fruit and send fair samples.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

W. J. Unwin, Ltd., Histon, Cambs.—Sweet Peas, bulbs, and Roses.

Benjamin R. Cant and Sons, Ltd., The Old Rose Gardens, Colchester.—Roses.

Wm. Power and Co., Waterford.—Bulbs.

T. Smith, Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry, N. Ireland.—Roses.

Persian Cyclamen

A WELL-GROWN batch of this beautiful winter-flowering plant is a joy to all flower lovers, and as the best time for making a start is in late August or early September, a few notes on the necessary procedure to ensure success may not be out of place at this time. Those having very good, lightish, fibrous loam will find that this good sweet leaf-mould and sufficient silver or other clean, sharp sand will give excellent results, using three parts, two parts, and one part respectively. Others not so happily placed would do well to include a little brown fibrous peat in the mixture. Thoroughly clean and dry 9-inch pans are very suitable for this purpose and should have the drainage carefully arranged, and this again covered with the fibrous portions retained in the riddle when sifting the soil. A ¼-inch riddle should be used, and all ingredients well mixed together. Fill the pans to within about half-an-inch of the brims and make nicely firm. If one has patience and plenty of time to spare the seeds can be put in singly half-an-inch apart, but otherwise scatter thinly and evenly, pressing gently into the soil, and then covering with about one-eighth of an inch of the compost. Again press down moderately, leaving the surface nice and level. Give a gentle watering through a fine rose, cover each pan with a piece of glass, and lay over that a sheet of newspaper. A house or pit having a gentle warmth of about 60 degs. will suit nicely for germinating the seeds in, and indeed for bringing on the seedlings during the winter. While the soil must never get really dry, too frequent applications of water are very harmful. Some growers advocate the pricking-off of the seedlings as soon as fit to handle, but I think that equally good results are had by deferring this operation until the little plants show four leaves, this being usually in February. At whatever time pricking-off is carried out, I think that thumb pots filled with soil very similar to that advised for sowing the seeds in should be prepared, a very slight dusting of Ichthemic Guano being added unless the loam is of specially fine quality. Return to the same temperature for a week or two until the tiny plants recover from the shift, but when growing freely move to a house hav
somewhat cooler temperature. From n
lightly spray the little plants overhead
daily. As soon as the thumb pots are
filled with roots, move to those of the
or 3½-inch size, giving the same compo
used in a rather rougher state. Very
watering is necessary all through the gr
and flowering seasons, while shade fr
direct sunshine is imperative. The
shift must take place when the 3-inc
are well filled with roots and not before
same ingredients should be used, but
occasion no riddling should be atte
unless to eliminate some of the finer p
of the soil. Should there be an undue qu
of such present, the whole may be
with a ¼-inch riddle, the rough porti
course, being retained. Good resul
sometimes had by including about one-
a part of quite dry cow manure, but I
favour a 5½-inch potful of Thomson's
Manure to each barrow load of the ot
gredients, while, in any case, a 6-inch
of bone-meal to the same quantity
should be included. For the strongest
6-inch pots should be used, medium
mens being afforded the 5½-inch size, a
weaker ones the 5-inch. All should be
clean and dry, and with a fair quan
carefully arranged crocks in each so
ensure thorough drainage. Return to
quarters, water with the greatest car
shade from all sunshine. During su
a shady cold frame will suit the pla
care be taken in watering, airing, and
ing. When the pots get well filled with
a little gentle feeding may be given, b
must not be over-done, either in reg
strength or frequency. Green Fly,
and the Begonia Mite are sometimes tr
some, but an occasional vaporising with
tine will prevent these pests doing
harm. During winter watering must b
carefully carried out and in such a way
prevent any moisture settling in the
of the plants, for when it does d
follows, the flower-buds all shrivelli
and so failing to open. C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Fuchsia gracilis

The interesting note on hardy Fuch
a recent number of GARDENING ILLUS
reminds me of a very pleasing disp
which F. gracilis plays a prominent p
a cottage hard by. I am very fond
old plant, for the habit is so light and
ful and it adapts itself to almost any
situation, although naturally prefer
sunny spot. It also flowers freely an
tinuously until the advent of frost.
case under notice the plants occupy a
about 3 feet wide on either side of a
window on the south-west side of the c
and are just about 6 feet in height.
main stems are loosely confined to th
and are away some 3 feet from the w
the base. The entire height of 6 fe
mass of the tiny flowers, insignifican
haps, but I think very beautiful. The
has no idea how long the plants hav
there. In such a situation they a
course, sheltered from the coldest spel
make a strong annual appearance.
get a slight top-dressing every autum
cutting down and an occasional water
very dry weather. Old-established pla
this Fuchsia lightly staked may be
occasionally at the back of large bord
companions to clumps of Pyrethrum u
sum, the white Japanese Anemone, a
taller Starwort. Returning briefly
cottage front, I may note that the spa
tween the Fuchsias and immediately b
the window were planted with very

(Continued on page 638)

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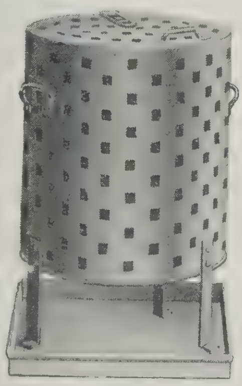

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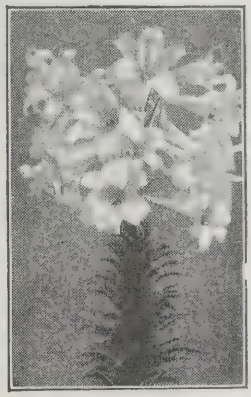

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pure white Antirrhinums, and there is also a window-box planted with a dwarf Fuchsia and a trailing Campanula, the arrangement, as a whole, giving a very pleasing effect.

E. BURRELL.

Removal of Cinerarias from frame to greenhouse

AMONG plants which make for beauty in the greenhouse during winter and spring, few excel in point of splendour the rich, spreading panicles of Cinerarias. Many grow them well up to a certain period, and then failure sets in, and this is often due to a reversal of treatment from open air or cold frame culture. It is this radical change to indoor conditions which marks the retrograde movement of many promising plants. Those who have grown Cinerarias successively know quite well how impatient they are of sunlight falling on the leaves when in a cold frame in summer, how the leaves soon commence to flag, and it is not until evening, when cooler conditions prevail, that they resume their normal conditions. A good grower will see to it that pots are stood on cool material, such as ashes, in order that moisture may be conserved about the roots, and further, that abundance of air is given the plants by tilting, or removal of lights during some portion of the day and on warm, summer nights. As far as is possible this condition of things should be continued when removal is effected to the house. The question is sometimes asked, "Can I keep Cinerarias in frames until late in autumn?" Obviously it depends on several things, the first being the locality where one lives. If mild, one can often keep them in frames until October, but preparations ought to be made to afford them shelter with bags or mats should the nights be very sharp. If the plants are small it is best to err on the side of earlier housing than run any chance of losing any by frost. Plants that have become established, say, in 6-inch or 7-inch pots, and the roots of which have got well round, may be left to the last, although if there is room available in the house there is no very great gain in keeping plants in frames that would be more secure when removed. The greenhouse stage may be made up of wood laths. It is not convenient to put zinc trays on it, but a good makeshift will be found by partly filling shallow boxes with fine ashes or grit and standing pots in these. When Cinerarias are placed on stages with heat pipes running under, it tends to excite them, and they commence to go limp and lack vigour. The cooler they are kept when in the greenhouse the better, just enough heat being given to dispel damp and frost. Many a day in autumn the house may be freely ventilated, and even at night roof ventilators ought not to be entirely closed. It is customary to grow the plants either for autumn or spring flowering by sowing seeds in February or May, but in whatever stage the plants may be at the moment, ere long greenhouse shelter will be needful.

Cinerarias, when the roots have permeated the soil, take a good deal of moisture in the shape of clear water, followed by weak applications twice a week of liquid-manure, and this ought to be given in a morning to allow for evaporation. Further than this, it is important to give each plant what room is possible, avoiding at all costs packing them close to each other, as, to do so, either breaks or bruises the leaves, which add charm to good panicles. After many years as a grower I have found out that if plants are given a long period in a cold frame in summer under cool conditions as described, and this is aimed at as far as practicable when removal to a greenhouse is effected, there is more satisfaction in the long-run than when the treatment is reversed. Cinerarias are almost hardy, and if one goes beyond this point by placing them in dry, heated structures, one is almost sure to court the entry of either Green Fly or Red Spider. There are excellent strains one can select to-day, from large-flowered to Cactus, and stellata, with a great range of colour, which will keep a greenhouse very gay over many months if seed is sown at intervals.

MIDLANDER.

Planting and cropping

THE most economical system in the vegetable garden is rotation cropping, both as regards the produce and the soil in which it is grown. By this method every square yard may be made to produce two main crops in the year—from spring to spring. If adhered to for three years the results will be very good, but a change every two years will be better than growing the same sort of vegetable on the same plot year after year. Many a plot is now being cleared of Potatoes and will form the largest to be recropped. All the haulm and weeds having been disposed of by burning, it only remains to level the ground before planting the next crop. There is no need to add any manure, for the soil will be in good condition for winter greens. Where the soil is of a clayey, retentive nature, there is no necessity for firming, but where the staple is light, a good treading will be of great benefit. At this season of the year the growth should not be forced too much, for if the coming winter should prove to be severe, most of the gross plants would be killed. For winter greens a moderately manured, firm soil is ideal. I notice in many gardens that winter greens are frequently planted between rows of late Potatoes, a very bad system indeed. Where this method is in practice the Potatoes should be lifted with the least possible disturbance of the roots of the plants. Afterwards tread the soil firmly about the stems of the plants and draw the soil up to them as if they were a row of Potatoes. Where the stems have become unduly drawn up frost always attacks them, therefore earthing-up not only steadies them, but protects them from severe frost later on. Before planting the greens it is a good plan to dress the plot with soot, raking it well in. It is not too late to plant Brussels Sprouts to yield a crop in late spring. For these and Broccoli the distance between the rows should be 3 feet and 2 feet between the plants in the rows. For Savoys 6 inches less will do, but the Drumhead variety requires the former space.

Winter greens to "follow Peas" do remarkably well. In the case of there not being any ground occupied by Peas, and the plot to be devoted to them is poor, fowl manure, if possible, should be used, say, at the rate of two pecks to the square rod. It should be buried quite 8 inches or 9 inches deep, as, being of a very burning nature, it must not come in direct contact with the roots when newly-planted. Spring Cabbages do well after Onions. The soil for the Onions is well manured and trenched, therefore there is no need for further manuring. When the surface has been cleaned of weeds, apply two pecks of lime per square rod. Dig the lime well in, break up and level the surface, tread and rake it. It may then be left until planting time in September. If Cabbages are not required, the plot may be planted with Sprouting Broccoli or Savoys. One of the most valuable crops in the vegetable garden are autumn Onions. These will give nice firm bulbs in June, when stored Onions are past their best. They may occupy the site of the Peas. Where the soil is naturally good, only a small q of manure need be dug in a foot deep ing the surface with soot. The seed sown on the plot and the thinnings planted on another site similarly prep the end of September or beginning o ber. Except on very heavy, clayey some treading will be required, doi at sowing time in August.

On a plot cleared of Shallots a most green crop to plant is Rosette Colewor the rows be 2 feet apart and 18 inche inches between the plants in the row surface only will need loosening, ground will be firm enough. If the fairly rich it will only need dressin soot. As Coleworts are really mi Cabbage, they may be used for greens they form hearts.

Very valuable are the two crops and Winter Lettuce, not only in the garden, but in the small one of the an They may be raised from seed very and do not take a great deal out of th Transplant the Lettuces as soon as p into their permanent quarters, allow inches each way between the plants. good varieties are Continuity and Year-Round. Vacant Potato groun suit them admirably, and if organic m was used for the Potatoes the soil quite rich enough. The seeds shou sown for the latest crops, both Lettu Endive, on the plot on which they mature. The best kinds for wint Batavian and Green Curled, which sta weather very well. Plant out or thin a distance of a foot each way. Turni do well after Potatoes. Some growers cate sowing broadcast, but I do not co it a good method, as the cleaning of th cannot be properly carried out. Th should be levelled and cleaned so th crop may be properly attended to as t ing, clearing, and thinning-out, th having been sown in drills. The roo be ready for use in about two months or may be stored for several months.

F.

Celery and Leeks

The earthing-up of these important tables demands constant attention a more than 4 inches of soil should be ad any one operation. The stems havin been gathered closely together the new must be pressed very firmly around Watering is now more difficult, but overhead waterings will eventually find way to the roots and maintain the pla a healthy condition. Spray the plants anti-rust periodically.

LATE NOTES

Michaelmas Daisies

These should be carefully staked befo September gales commence, for onc plants have been beaten to the ground i be impossible to stake them with satisfa When staking, endeavour to spread ope centres of the plants in a light and gr manner, and thereby add greatly to beauty when in bloom. Plenty of moi about their roots and a little stimulant sionally will prove most beneficial.

Double biennial Wallflowers

These seldom survive the winter nor the Tweed, but they make splendid pot p if lifted now with good balls of eart tached to the roots. If the plants are a size the 7-inch size of pot will be foun cellent, while the 6-inch will accomm those of lesser size. Pot firmly, using good compost for the purpose, and set shady place until the effects of the liftin thrown off.

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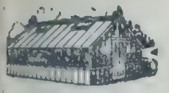

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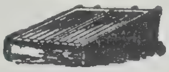

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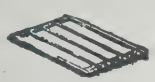

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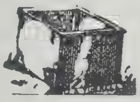

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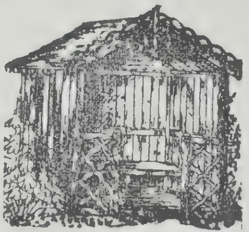

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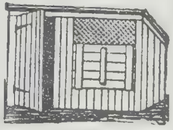

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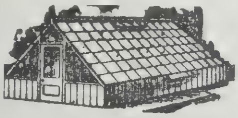

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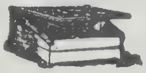

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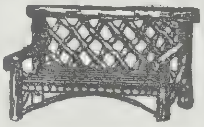

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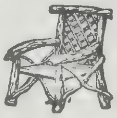

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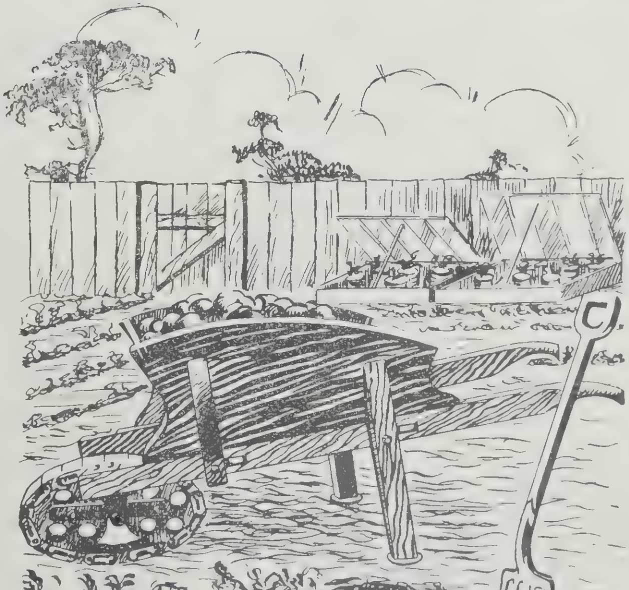

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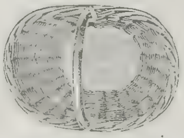

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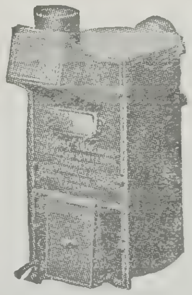

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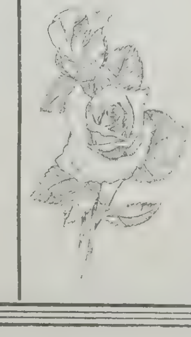

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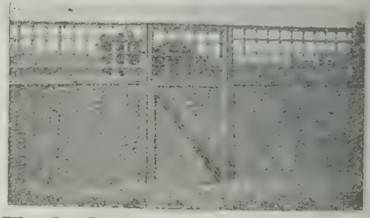

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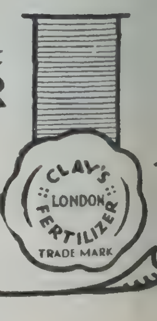

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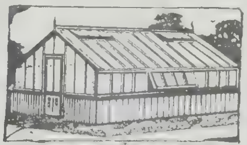

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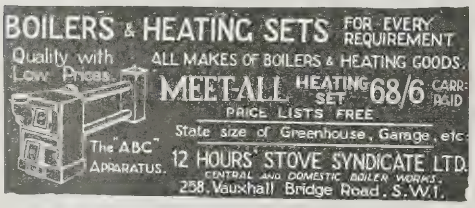

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AUTUMN SHOW

AT THE

TOWN HALL

ON

Wednesday & Thursday, October 30th & 31st

Schedules and Particulars from the Hon. Secretary, E. CHAMBERLAIN, Lansdowne, Bournemouth.

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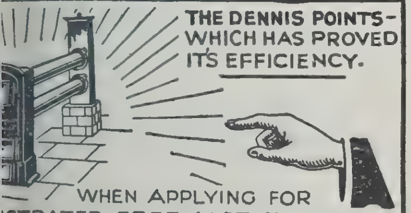

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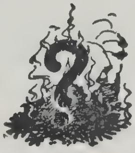

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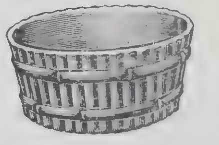

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as grass
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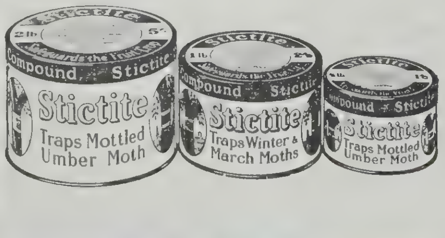

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Autumn Crocuses

many gardens the Crocus is only
n as a flower of spring; not as one
will also light up the garden when
arf flowers are few and far between,
r plants dreary-looking and forlorn.
uld not be, for, given a warm and
pot, the autumn-flowering species
the greatest pleasure. It is true
not a satisfactory yellow-flowered
for autumn, but we have blues,
urples, and whites, with zones,
and pencillings of various kinds to
eir beauty. More refined
way than the Colchi-
Meadow Saffrons, so
led "Autumn Crocuses,"
e charms and graces to
he most fastidious and
admirer of garden
It is difficult to draw a
ich will separate the
flowering Croci from
hich bloom in winter.
rge almost imperceptibly
other, but only those are
ere which usually bloom
gust until the beginning
mber, when what, for
ce' sake, are called the
wering species come into
Even in those late days,
ittle sun appears to per-
e flowers to open, the
cones are pleasing.

various species and varie-
ese Croci, there are four
vhich no one should be
Others ought to be
t C. iridiflorus of Maw
us of Baker), C. pulchel-
peciosus, and C. zonatus
t be omitted when pur-
They are named alpha-
each is so beautiful that
nvidious to arrange them
way.

IRIDIFLORUS BYZAN-
he outer segments are a
purple, the inner being much smaller
lilac in colour. The stigmata are
d longer than the orange-coloured
e filament being lilac. The flower
pecies is very large, and a clump
very beautiful appearance when in
September and October. The next
r is

HELLUS, which is an exquisite little
ffering entirely in appearance from
oing and charming us more by its
t than its brilliancy. The typical
the flower is described as bright
ac, with the outside of the outer
self-coloured, the inner segments being marked with five narrow dark purple lines. There is also a white variety. The flowers vary much, ranging from almost white to the bluish lilac, which is the typical colour. C. pulchellus flowers very freely from September onward, and increases quickly by young corms and by seeds, which are very freely produced. Besides occurring on Mount Olympus, it is said to be plentiful in the thickets bordering the Bosphorus. The third species—

C. SPECIOSUS—is, perhaps, the best known of the four. This Crocus is very distinct in appearance from the foregoing, and from its colouring and the size of its flowers is remarkably effective when grown in quantity. It is an early bloomer, flowering generally early in September. The flowers, which are large and open widely to the sun, are of a colour variously described as bluish violet, bluish purple, and bright lilac. Possibly the second most nearly approaches the shade. The segments are prettily marked with dark purple veins. These, with the bright orange anthers and stigmata, add much to the effect and beauty of the flowers. It is widely spread in a wild state, occurring in North Persia, Georgia, the Caucasus, the Crimea, Hungary, and Transylvania. Although the best known, and said by Maw to be a common garden plant, there are thousands of gardens where it is unknown, and where it would be a cherished flower planted in the grass, the borders, or the rock garden. C. speciosus Aitchisoni is an exceedingly fine variety, eclipsing in size the type. Generally speaking, there does not seem to be much variation in C. speciosus. Of the last of the four—

Autumn Crocuses (Crocus speciosus) and Ferns

C. ZONATUS—it is hardly possible to speak too highly. It is an exquisite little Crocus, with rosy lilac flowers, with an orange-scarlet base. It flowers early—from the middle of September in good positions. It comes from Cilicia, where it was discovered in 1855. This beautiful little member of the genus requires little or no care, and will give much pleasure to its owner from year to year.

A desire to speak at greater length of four fine Crocuses such as these must necessarily reduce the space available for the numerous species not yet mentioned. Among the white autumn Croci we have Boryi; cancellatus, which has a purple base, and of which there are several varieties, including some with lilac flowers; hadriaticus, with its variety chrysobelonicus, which has a yellow throat; and ochroleucus, a creamy white flower with orange base.

C. ASTURICUS, of which there are some good varieties, varying from purple to lilac, is also a good Crocus.

C. LONGIFLORUS is a pretty, free-blooming species from South Italy, with soft rose-lilac flowers.

C. CLUSII is a good Crocus with comparatively large flowers and quite hardy, although it increases rather slowly. The rare

C. VALLICOLA is difficult to establish and is rather disappointing. It is thin in the segments, and the flowers are neither pure white nor a good cream colour. It has the reputation of being among the earliest to flower. A coveted species is

C. SCHAROJANI, which, did it thrive, would give us the yellow species we desire among the autumnal Crocuses. Coming from an altitude of 7,000 feet, it should grow with us in Great Britain, but one must wait for fresh importations.

C. NUDIFLORUS is a fairly well known

species in some districts, and is said to be naturalised near Nottingham. It has bluish purple flowers.

C. SALZMANNI has lilac flowers and dark-coloured feathering.

C. MEDIUS is purple-lilac, and

C. TOURNEFORTI has delicately tinted rose-lilac flowers. The old Saffron Crocus—

C. SATIVUS—is fastidious in its ways, and in many gardens refuses to bloom after the first year. Possibly lifting annually and drying off might remedy this, but with so many other good Crocuses it is hardly worth while to trouble doing this.

CULTIVATION.

Their great requirements in our climate are sun, shelter, and a rather light soil. The first two are of primary importance for flowers coming when sunlight is becoming scarce and when the winds of autumn are playing havoc with the flowers. Sheltered sunny places on the grass, cosy corners in the rock garden, or borders sheltered from high winds will suit them well. If the grower care to be at the trouble, he will find that a bell-glass or sheet of glass overhead some choice Crocus will give him the enjoyment he seeks ofttimes when without it the flower would remained closed. With a few clumps of such flowers as these showing among the grass or through some mossy Saxifrage or other surface-rooting plant, the shortening days need be no longer unrelieved by the brightness of dwarfer flowers than the Asters and their few companions of tall growth, which form the sole interest of many gardens at these times.

Colchicum Bornmuellerii magnificum

The finest of my Colchicums at present is the one called C. Bornmuellerii magnificum, which emanated from Van Tubergen's nurseries. It was exceedingly fine last year, but this autumn it is even finer and surpasses any of the good Dutch hybrids which I have. C. B. magnificum has very large cup-shaped flowers of glowing purple and with an ivory white centre. It came in a little later than the typical C. Bornmuellerii, but I think all the Meadow Saffrons are earlier than usual with me this year. S. ARNOTT.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Rose Mme. Alfred Carriere

AMONG the older Roses is one which, if space can be given it to develop, should be in every garden. Mme. Alfred Carriere has all the best virtues of the queen of flowers. Healthy, free, and graceful in growth, the flower is blush, shading to white, and is also fragrant, long-stalked, and lasting in water. Besides giving a mass of bloom in early summer, the bush can be relied on to provide us with a second supply in autumn, lasting till frosts put an end to its activities.

Like most of its family, it prefers a fairly heavy soil, but does quite well on a light one. Except for cutting out dead wood, the pruning should be of the lightest. K. M. R.

Tilmanstone.

In Mrs. Rice's garden at North Court, Eastry, Kent

A glorious Dahlia

I wish to call special attention to a beautiful Pæony-flowered Dahlia named Radium. This variety is classified as a miniature-flowered Pæony, but it is really too large glorious Dahlia planted together, and they present an appearance that I think it would be difficult to beat. The plant attains a height sent an appearance that I think it would be difficult to beat. The plant attains a height of about 3 feet, and flowers quite freely. Each bloom is carried on a stiff, erect footstalk, and looks you honestly in the face. With me the blooms are fully 5 inches in diameter, and their rich and brilliant crimson-scarlet colouring is the richest I know among all the Dahlias. If I had only one Dahlia to grow, this variety would be my selection. D. B. CRANE.

Roses for a five-foot fence

In a recent article on friendships which have begun by the accidental discovery of like tastes in the garden, attention was drawn to the lack of appreciation of the red semi-climbing Rose Souvenir de Claudius Denoyel. May I emphasise the fact that this is a neglect both to be regretted and to be remedied in the coming planting season, and also to express my own thanks to an unknown correspondent in "GARDENING ILLUSTRATED" who pointed out the value of this excellent Rose about 18 months ago?

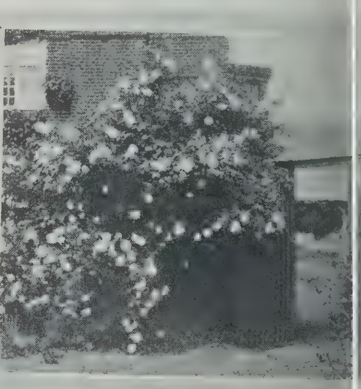
I had a fence planted with Gruss an Teplitz for about 10 years, and satisfactory as the old stagers generally proved, they became somewhat worn out. I replaced them, rather loathly, with Souvenir de Claudius Denoyel and Pax. I had seen neither, but had that supreme faith in next year's results which is the life-blood of all true gardening. Both were a delightful success from the first, and in gratitude I should like to hand them on to those who are seeking something unhackneyed for a 5-foot fence. The short-named Rose is not new, but is also neglected beyond its great deserts. On a poor Rose soil with me the habit of growth, length of flowering season, beauty of flower are all most satisfactory. The op are rather thin—no, let us be qui Mr. Editor, they are more than r but the opening buds in sprays of si well spaced and individually very sh of an exquisite pure cream. In ad foliage is excellent in constitution ing in appearance.

I have used the word satisfact scribing these Roses; it is not a word, but, then, I am not compili logue, and I would like to leave it they are indeed satisfactory.

E. Yorks. "GRA

Strawberry runners for spring

My frend, Mr. Blair, rightly sa issue of September 14th, in his "Weekly Notes") that runners late in being fit to lift this autumn not an infrequent occurrence in ou climate, and, a good many years ag a scarcity of the orthodox runners an experiment which proved so en



Rose Mme. Alfred Carriere North Court

cessful that I have adhered to it e Briefly, in renewing Strawberry pl instead of depending upon runners, strong and healthy plants and divi into single crowns, just as one d herbaceous border plants. Thes crowns, I am convinced, give equally returns as runners, and as they cropped in the succeeding year the to me, appears to be commendabl method of renewing Strawberry bed sanction of our predecessors.

A SCOTTISH GAR

Flavour in Gooseberries

Although "W. B." (page 622) leg, I will try and be as helpful to I can. He asks which is the best Gooseberry. If he will write to Mess yard, The Nurseries, Maidstone, fo of their fruit list, he will find no 57 varieties there, fully described, a tion is, in each case, made of the fl the variety. F. HERBERT CH

—— Thank you, "W. B.," for t bouquet. Gooseberries pay for g tivation. I will not trouble you wit list of Gooseberries, but mention th which, when well grown, are extrem in flavour, viz.: Langley Gage Langley Beauty (pale yellow), ar favourite, Lancer (large, pale green)

GROSSU

—— It is, I think, agreed tha Scotland produce the best flavoured berries, just as it is agreed that our further south in Lancashire prod largest members of that family. As case of Pears, the question of fla erries must, necessarily, be largely individual taste. Personally, I am rtial to Early Sulphur, equally so en Gascoigne. Whitesmith and nith are good dessert varieties; so, the old Gretna Green and Hedge- f red Gooseberries, no one can cavil flavour of Warrington or of Whin- ndustry, but these must be dead ripe operly appreciated. Other good ber- far as flavour is concerned, are Lion, Keene's Seedling, and the old ng Red—the latter synonymous, I with Ironmonger—being delicious solutely ripe. But, as I have said, ch depends upon the taste of the r. A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Hop (Humulus lupulus)

OOD variety of this native plant, h as is grown in the Hop grounds of Kent and Sussex, should find a place ere in the garden; nothing is better ring any rough fence or hedge. An e unsightly wire fencing of the tall ibable" class covered with a Hop ome a beautiful object in the late In some suitable place in the gar- lant can be led up an arrangement tall bean poles driven into the ground a way as to come together about 3 and then spread into an equal tri- th the tops 5 feet apart at the top, e Hop is guided to form garlands to top and also to fall in flowering at the sides. Fresh growth is made ar, and so vigorously from a well- ed stool that a good number of the rowths should be removed when it a yard high. The upper leaves that ong the flowers are small and un- and show the relationship of the plant to the common Nettle and to the Elm; but the lower leaves are large, five-parted, and much like Vine leaves. It can also be made to serve in various ways for room decoration. G. J.

op trained on three poles

Hop used for room decoration

Fritillaria chitralensis

With reference to the correspondence on page 619, issue September 7th, regarding Miss Beck's inquiry for Fritillaria chitralensis, we list this Fritillaria at 3s. 6d. each, and shall be very pleased to forward a bulb list to Miss Beck, if requested.

GAVIN JONES.
The Nurseries, Letchworth, Herts.

Mechanical cultivation

I have been much interested in the letters on this subject by "A Scottish Gardener" and "Jack." My sympathies are naturally with the latter, as my object in writing the original letter was to elucidate opinions, which I hoped would be favourable, and experience, which I hoped would be comprehensive. But none of the hundreds of users of motor cultivators of whom "Jack" speaks have so far given their experiences, and it is in the hope of elucidating these that I now write.

It may be useful to enlarge on my position. The garden in question lies in the north-east of Scotland and during the war was very much let down. The arrears of those years, especially in "the policies," have hardly been overtaken. The garden being considerably larger than my purse, the staff cannot be increased. The only way to overtake arrears is by a larger output of work. The only way to achieve this, an increase of staff being barred, is by mechanical means. A motor mower was the first investment, and soon proved its worth. A mechanical saw was the next. This, while not foolproof, has been working two years and has proved its worth. One or two smaller devices have been effective, so that my experience of four or five years has been that mechanical contrivances, generally, are worth their cost and do decidedly increase the output.

But my experience has also been that it is best not to entrust such to the garden boy! As regards the mechanical cultivator for the garden, I have not by me, here abroad, the yearly analysis I keep of time devoted to garden and outside work (such as hay, paths, shrubberies), but I know that "digging" runs to a very high percentage of the garden time, and in our stern climate, where frost and snow do actually prevent digging for weeks together, it seems as if a mechanical digger, by taking advantage of favourable times, would get the "necessary" done more easily and more quickly, and thus release the staff for other work; in other words, would increase the output. I believe it best not to mention specific types, but I have so far only heard of two more or less suitable. One is too large and too expensive and is for the market gardener on a large scale. The other may be suitable, but I have not met a user. The other various types which must exist I cannot hear of. Of course, having been abroad all summer I have not been in a good position for inquiry; indeed, I had hoped that your columns would be the most effective means of obtaining information.

One last word. We do not hope to make our garden pay its whole way, for much time must be spent on wholly "unproductive" work, but we already go a good step towards it. A. D. G. G.
Switzerland.

Morphixia paniculata

This iridaceous plant is seldom met with, yet it is a beautiful and interesting ally of Sparaxis. About 1 foot in height, the long, narrow leaves provide a graceful foil to the slender flower-spike. The pretty pale buff flowers possess remarkably long tubes, and are charmingly arranged upon the scape. The variety alba is pure white and black centred, and rosea is coloured a delightful shade of apricot-pink, both being extremely desirable plants. Flowering April-June, these Morphixias require the same treatment as Ixias and Sparaxis. They are charming when grown in pots or pans for the cold greenhouse. Like the majority of South African bulbs, they require a well-defined period of rest, without which they cannot give of their best.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.
Cirencester, Glos.

A Random Commentary

FOR the last fortnight London has been —almost literally—a focus of heat waves, and tempers have been short, and criticism has tended to be a trifle captious. But on Monday night a cool wind set in from Scotland, and on Tuesday morning its mollifying effects were evident in Greycoat Street, when even these specialists who are inclined to regard the Dahlia as the worst mistake in horticulture since Adam ate the Apple, might have been heard to say that " Dahlias *will* be Dahlias " in a beautiful spirit of toleration.

Yet it is difficult to see what fault any gardener could find with the miniature Pæony-flowered Dahlias that were selected for trial at Chelsea. Darjeeling (of Messrs. Cheal) might very appropriately have been called Flame, if that name had not been so often used and misused, for its flamboyant petals of a peculiarly clear orange, shading down to yellow, looked almost alive and flickering. Schneider, shown by the same firm, may have been so named for purposes of publicity, but it called up an image congruous with its name in the lurid crimson of its ray florets, shaded almost to smoky black, and its hot yellow centre. The subject of names inclines one to ask why a bright pink Gladiolus was called Angel's Eyes; we are led to suppose that angels are white, but it seems unreasonable to conclude from this that they are albinos.

Down in the centre of the hall there was a reminder of a bygone fashion in a vast bed of scented Pelargoniums. This collection, which has been built up by the Hon. Vicary Gibbs and Mr. Beckett, is probably unique to-day in richness and variety, and some of us hope that it may stimulate an interest in these good old plants, whose flowers may be brilliant, bizarre, or inconspicuous, but are never quite dull (but, in fairness, it must be said that those who have been captivated by the Geranaciæ find it difficult to confess that any of them are quite dull or dowdy), and whose leaves always give out some odd scent or other the whole year through. The air round the exhibit was heavy with the soft scent of labdanum, which some of the species give off as freely as a Balsam Poplar in spring or Cistus creticus in a hot summer, but a discreet pinch here and there (for which the exhibitor is, apologetically, asked forgiveness) reveals scents which range from Rose, Lemon, Peppermint, and Hazel to Tansy and Tarragon.

Close to the Pelargoniums was another exhibit which recalled the past. It was a forest of fruit trees in pots, laden with Grapes, Apples, Figs, and purple Plums, and shown by the firm of Rivers and Sons. It struck one at first as just a high-water mark of horticultural skill, and then it suggested the opulent, leisured days of mid-Victorian gardening, when the rich spent their money in growing Peaches and Pineapples instead of running high-powered cars. Whether it is more commendable to eat your money or to burn it, I hesitate to say; but, if I were a millionaire I think that I would call on the traditional skill of Messrs. Rivers and eat my dinner under my own Vine and Fig tree in the winter garden. But, putting such fantasies on one side, such an exhibit shows what can be done (with skill) in a small space and suggests an admirable hobby whose triumphs any of one's friends would be pleased to share.

There was a very promising new-comer to the garden shown, where many good plants have made their debut, in Messrs. Perry's exhibit. This was Aster Frikartii, a hybrid raised on the Continent from Aster Thomsoni, from which it inherits an early-flowering habit and slightly greyish foliage. Its flowers are very large, about the size of the Michaelmas Daisy King George (but perhaps rather neater and more refined), and of a luminous clear lavender.

Among the " New and Noteworthy Plants " was a specimen of Clerodendron fœtidum, whose inclusion in this category serves to call attention to an excellent, but somewhat neglected, late-flowering shrub rather than startle us with novelty. It must have been named by a botanist who habitually looked on the worst side of things, for, though its leaves smell of over-roast beef and Elder, its flowers exhale the sweetness of Freesias.

I am sorry that I said in these notes that Perovskia atriplicifolia was the American Sage Brush. There is no excuse for such mistakes, even in a heat wave, and I am very grateful to Mr. Ingwersen, to whose genial erudition I have so often resorted, for his kindly correction. M.

Clerodendron fœtidum

An excellent late-flowering shrub that must have been named by a botanist who habitually looked on the worst side of things

Thalictrum dipterocarpum

There are some fascinating plants among the Thalictrums, or Meadow Rues, but none can, I consider, bear off the palm as superior in beauty to T. dipterocarpum. A most lovely plant, at times it is as much as 4 feet or 5 feet high, with rather sparsely-produced foliage for such a tall plant. It bears on sprays, branching out from the main stem a lavish abundance of rose-lilac flowers of the characteristic form of the race, and possesses creamy-yellow stamens, which add to the charms of the flowers. It is one of our finest border plants. The white variety, T. d. album, is exceedingly lovely, forming a fitting companion to the typical plant, and good specimens of either supply subjects which arouse the enthusiastic praise of all flower lovers. Unfortunately, T. dipterocarpum sometimes refuses to make itself at home in the garden. The strain of producing flowers and seeds appears to exhaust its energies, and its owner is left lamenting the loss of one of his favourite flowers. It is not easy to provide the fare and situation, of which Farrer speaks when he says (" English Rock Garden," page 391) :—" Th. dipterocarpum is
the most magnificent of all in the Ch
group, and to prosper as it wants sh
the stony soil and subterranean m
warm places which this section pr
on which this particular member
Herein, I imagine, lies the difficult
average gardener, who may be abl
vide the stony soil, but is utterly
supply the underground moisture up
as Farrer says, this exquisite plant "
I speak with feeling, as several tim
lost plants of T. dipterocarpum aft
ing, where they were planted in s
but could not receive this moistu
question arises, can we not, by g
Thalictrum a stony but retentive sc
it in health and happiness? The
I saw some very fine plants of thi
trum, and its exquisite white variet
fect health and flower at a nursery
average rainfall is about 40 inches,
no underground moisture could be gi
enquiry, I learned that these particu
had been in the same position for t
and that they did not lose plants aft
ing. In my own case I gave my
stony soil and a warm situation,
inclined to give T. dipterocarpum
trial and to plant in a cool place, w
coolness would allow the soil to
moister during the summer and
Such an exquisite Chinese plant des
trouble to grow with success. S. A

China Asters at Wisl

May I be allowed to advise every
is interested in annuals, in bedding
baceous borders, and in cut flowers
once to Wisley to see the trial
Asters. 21,000 plants out of single
put out in the spring; they have b
and kept free from weeds, but have
no water. They are now in full flo
there is hardly a " miss " in the 21,

This trial ground is passed by a
of visitors, as it is just outside, t
say, above and on the other side of t
of, the trial ground proper. On ent
garden you go straight ahead past th
and when you get to the top of th
path turn to the left through the he

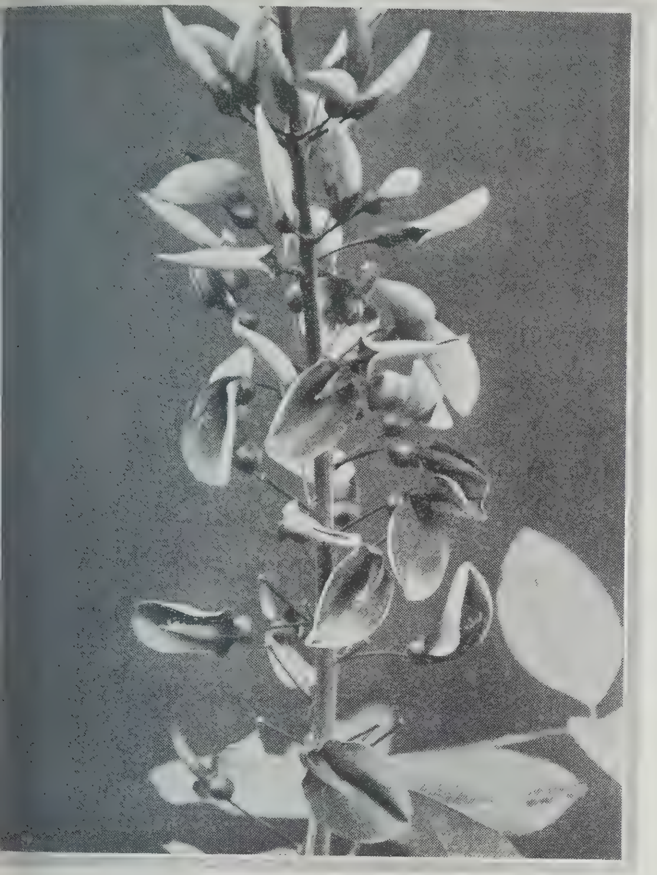
Everyone will choose their own fa
but I was very much struck with o
Terracotta, sent by a number of s
and well " fixed." The shade is ra
mon than terra-cotta. There are m
beautiful Triumph Chrysanthemu
Pæony-flowered varieties, but ther
viously considerable difficulty in o
true stocks, as many sorts are m
rogues.

In the trial ground proper the G
are very interesting, and among t
especially to be noted alba margin
rose with a white border; Ambly
warm red; and Indian Chief, whi
fies its name. There are also beds
and double Gaillardias.

The standard collection of Mi
Daisies is instructive, and I think
has almost been reached in the dev
of this flower. WILLIAM LAW

Sambucus racemosa

The scarlet-berried Elder is not of
in perfection in English gardens, but
writing from near the Cheviot Hills
he has it in very fine form this year,
ceptionally large berries. As it is
form a very ornamental shrub a
worthy of inclusion in any planting
haps one of your Scotch corres
might tell us of the conditions in
appears at its best north of the Twee



Erythrina Crista-galli var. compacta

dwarf form of the Cock's-comb Coral Tree. Flowers coral red, hading to dark crimson within. Shown by Charles Turner, Slough

Glint, a new Charm or Miniature Pæony Dahlia selected for trial at Wisley

Flowers apricot orange-scarlet with golden brown centre, and borne erect on stiff, wiry stems. Shown by J. Burrell and Co., Cambridge

National Dahlia Society

A noteworthy exhibition

E Annual Exhibition of the National
ahlia Society took place on Wednesday,
eptember 11th, and for the first time
rranged in the New Hall of the Royal
cultural Society, Greycoat Place, West-
er, S.W. The executive were anxious
eir first show in the ample accommo-
afforded in the New Hall should be a
s, and they were not disappointed. The
displays were arranged against the
of this large building, and were suffi-
in number and extent to completely
the whole of the wall space. Viewed
the dais these trade groups made a
ful framework to the exhibition as a
and if only it had been possible to
owered some backgrounds to staging
for the show of the R.H.S. on the day
liately preceding, the floral picture
have been more complete and dis-
more satisfactory. The trade rose to
casion. They set up groups compris-
ge exhibition blooms as well as those
for garden embellishment, and almost
type of the Dahlia was represented in
rious groups. There were 14 or 15 of
striking displays from the trade, and
were of unfailing interest to visitors
the show remained open. Messrs.
and Co. well merited the large gold
they were awarded for their remark-
isplay of several of the better types of
ahlia. They were particularly strong
e miniature-flowered Pæony and
tte types, and set up these dainty
most effectively. Gold medals were also awarded to Mr. J. B. Riding and Mr. H. J. Jones. The former showed a wonderful lot of the large-flowered novelties, some of them of huge proportions, while the latter had a beautiful arrangement in which both new and established favourites were well represented. Messrs. Carter Page and Co., Mr. J. T. West, Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., Messrs. Jarman and Co., King's Acre Nurseries, Ltd., Mr. W. Yandell, The Dutch Dahlia Society, Messrs. J. G. Ballego and Sons, Leiden, Holland, and other well-known growers all showed well, each firm well maintaining the high position they have reached in association with the Dahlia. The Dutch growers put up some remarkably well grown flowers, and much surprise was generally expressed that the blooms were in such fresh condition. There was one new class to which special reference should be made. This was for 12 blooms, distinct, to represent the larger-flowered types of the Dahlia. There were no fewer than seven exhibits, huge blooms winning first prize for Mr. G. F. Drayson, a Buckhurst Hill, Essex, amateur, who covered himself with glory with his wonderful exhibit. The varieties shown were Marmion, Grace Curling, W. D. Cartwright, Trantonian, Sola Mio, Mabel Lawrence, Golden Fleece, Starlight, Mr. J. de Van Warner, Ellinor Vanderveer, Faith Garibaldi, and a monster bloom of Elite Glory—all outstanding.

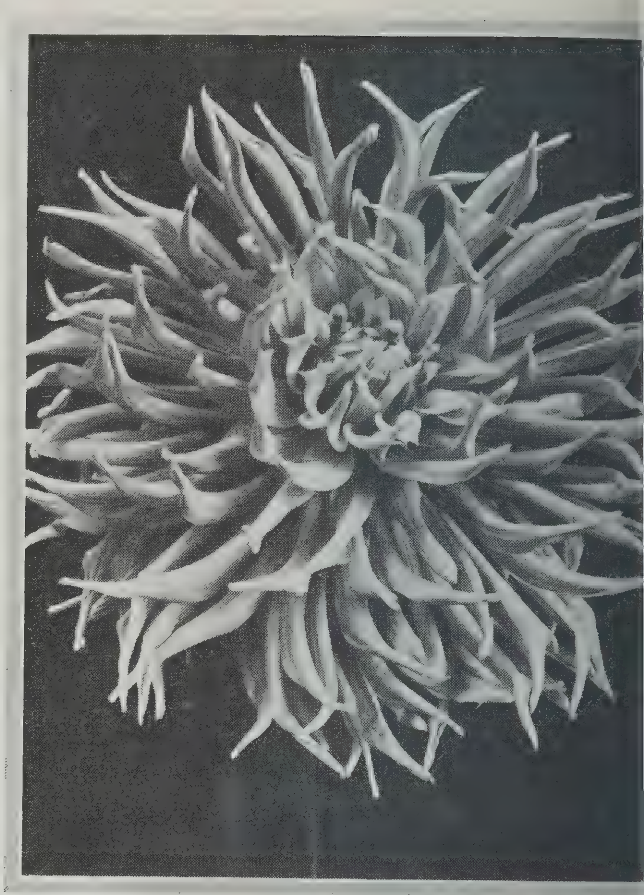
Another excellent competition was that for the Monro Challenge Cup for 12 vases, distinct varieties, any number of blooms, for market purposes. There were six or seven splendid lots, Mr. J. Emberson, Walthamstow, repeating his success of the year before by winning premier honours. His varieties were Cheal's Pink, Reginald Godfrey, Mrs. Linford, Jersey Beauty, President Wilson, Feodora, Crimson Flag, Lord Ullswater, Mr. H. C. Drusselhuys, Snowdrift (beautiful for groundwork for wreaths), Glut, and another. Mr. J. B. Riding was a most uncomfortable second. Pompon sorts were freely shown, more freely than usual. Competition was keen in the class for 12 varieties, six blooms of each variety. Mr. C. Luckin, of East Grinstead, was placed first with well proportioned blooms of Johnnie, Raider, Glow, Tommy Keith, Little Beeswing, Adelaide, Madeline, Little Marvel, Tommy Laing, Queen of Whites, Daisy, and Princess. A quite good standard of size was observed by the judges.

The chief competitive class for Cactus Dahlias was that for 12 varieties, distinct, six blooms of each variety. Owing to the extremely trying weather of late, these blooms were not up to the usual standard. First prize was awarded to Mr. H. Woolman, Shirley, Birmingham. He showed the following varieties:—Edgar Jackson, Patriot, Sydney Jones, Mary Purrier, Yellow Bird, Mammoth, Silverhill Park, Harry Strutt, Ballet Girl, Virginian, Thos. Want, and Mayflower. The foregoing was an open class.

The decorative classes were well contested. These classes provided representations of Star Dahlia, Mignon, and another class for any other Dahlias except Star and Mignon varieties. Mrs. Tisdall won first prize in the Star decorated table; Mrs.

New Cactus-flowered Dahlia Katherine Valentine Smith, bright cerise or pink, white centre, of perfect form

Shown by J. G. Ballego and Sons, Leiden, Holland. Selected for trial at Wisley



Golden Sun, a superb Cactus-flowered Dahlia, of war apricot hue and bright yellow centre. Flowers borne hi on erect stems

Shown by Carter Page, London Wall

Courtney Page the table for any other Dahlias than Star and Mignon, showing the pretty little buff small-flowered Pæony variety named Tiny, raised by Mr. J. T. West. The writer was placed first out of five entrants for a sideboard decoration, using brilliantly coloured crimson and scarlet Dahlias with Asparagus plumosus and beautiful grasses as an embellishment.

It is not possible to refer to the many beautiful and noteworthy exhibits set up in this splendid show. There were as many as 66 classes, and in almost every instance the competition was quite good. The once popular globular blooms of the show and fancy types were represented, but, oh! so different to what the great florists of, say, 40 years ago used to do. Ample compensation for their loss is found in the many beautiful new types of the flower, all of which are so highly decorative, both in the home and garden. The show was opened by Lady Denman.

D. B. Crane.

New Dahlias

Novelties selected for trial at Wisley

Two meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society's and National Dahlia Society's Joint Committee took place on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 10th and 11th, respectively. On the first day there was an excellent display of novelties, but on the second day there were no fewer than 56 new varieties submitted to the adjudication of this Joint Committee. The under-mentioned sorts were selected for trial next year in the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society at Wisley, Surrey.

September 10th.

The Ranee.—A promising miniature-flowered Pæony Dahlia, having fairly broad blunt-pointed florets building a flower about 3 inches across. Colour, scarlet, dark stems and foliage. Shown by Mr. A. J. Cobb, University Gardens, Reading.

Faygate Star.—A rather small-flowered star Dahlia. The flowers are about 2½ inches in diameter and are of good form, and are borne on erect stems. Colour, bright crimson-scarlet. Shown by Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., Crawley, Sussex.

Bhopal.—A useful miniature-flowered Pæony variety. The florets are broad and are evenly arranged, making a bloom 3 inches in diameter. Also shown by Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons.

Darjeeling.—Another interesting decorative flower of miniature Pæony form. Florets medium and pointed, building a bloom rather less than 4 inches across. Colour, brilliant scarlet with yellow centre. Shown by Messrs. Cheal.

Schneider.—A promising miniature-flowered Pæony with fairly broad florets, developing a flower from 3½ inches to 4 inches in diameter. Colour, rich, deep velvety crimson with a beautiful sheen. Shown by Messrs. Cheal.

Tunis.—A very small Pompon sort of good form, with shell-like florets. Colour, crimson and scarlet. Erect stems. Shown by Messrs. Cheal.

September 11th.

Jamboree.—A promising large-flowered decorative, having long, broad, blunt-pointed florets that develop a bloom about 8 inches across, of good, even form. Colour, rosy crimson. Shown by Messrs. J. Stredwick and Son, Silverhill Park, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Laconia.—A very large, Cactus-lik corative, of good form, with long, pointed florets, building a massive-lo bloom. Colour, a pleasing soft pink. shown by Messrs. J. Stredwick and So

Avis Cowdrey.—Another large deco of good form and massive build, fully 8 in diameter. Florets very broad and po A really handsome white sort. Show Messrs. Stredwick.

Dora.—An attractive miniature-flo Pæony of good form. Florets broad f size of flower, about 3½ inches a rounded at the ends. Colour, centre crimson, passing to a crimson buff sha the ends of the florets. Shown by M E. Burrell and Co., Howe House Nurs Cambridge.

Glint.—See illustration. A distinct of miniature Pæony form. The floret fairly broad, slightly twisted, and pointed, building a charming flower of what novel form and about 4 inches a Colour, a distinct shade of scarlet. stem. Shown by Messrs. Burrell.

Senley.—Another pretty minia flowered Pæony. Florets broad and rou at the tip. Colour, rich velvety crimson. blooms are between 3½ inches and 4 i in diameter and are borne on erect, coloured stems. Shown by Messrs. Bu

Lurid.—Still another brilliant s miniature-flowered Pæony. Florets broad and rounded at the ends, build flower about 3½ inches across. Erect s Also shown by Messrs. Burrell.

Claret.—A welcome addition to the s flowered decorative section. Florets broad and rather pointed, building a f of good form about 4 inches across. Co he name denotes, claret. Shown by rs. Burrell.

u O. Bracht.—A large and attractive r of Cactus form. Some may regard new sort as a decorative. The florets are l and prettily twisted, building a beauti- refined flower nearly 9 inches across. ur, primrose. The blooms were ex- les of the highest culture. Shown by srs. J. G. Ballego and Son, Leiden, and.

therine Valentine Smith.—See illus- on. This is a Cactus Dahlia of ideal and character, the flowers, fully 7 es in diameter, being borne on stiff, erect s, and poised at an ideal angle. Long lar-like florets, prettily twisted. Colour, rich pink with white centre. Also shown by Messrs. J. G. Ballego and Son.

Mrs. A. E. Breuls.—This is a Cactus-like decorative Dahlia of medium size and beautiful form. Florets fairly broad, tapering off to a point. Its chief charm is its colour, and this may be described as bright cerise pink, paling off to the centre. Shown by Messrs. W. Topvoort, Ltd., Aalsmere, Holland.

Florence M. Davis.—Another large decorative, some 8 inches in diameter. Florets broad and blunt-pointed, long, erect stems, building a flower of good form. Colour, bronzy-orange. Shown by Messrs. W. Treseder, Ltd., The Nurseries, Cardiff.

D. B. Crane.

National Rose Society

HE New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society at Greycoat Place, Westminster, S.W., proved how well suited to display the great autumn show of National Rose Society. Exhibitors were to set up their Roses in comfort, and rally accommodation was ample.

oking up the hall from the dais groups oses were arranged against the walls on eft and at the end of the building. On right further groups were displayed nst a high background, shutting out the on the right. These groups come from trade, and consisted of cut Roses nged in stands of various devices. These groups are always a source of much est to the Rose-loving public as they invariably display many old favourites and a host of new and choice varieties.

There were six exhibits in the leading class for groups of a representative character, each exhibit showing well. Messrs. McGredy and Son were in excellent form and condition, staging beautiful blooms of high quality. Included in their group was a grand lot of Mrs. Charles Lamplough, the beautiful soft lemon Hybrid Tea, one bloom of which (illustrated page 647) was selected as the best Rose in the nurserymen's classes. This firm was placed first in the premier class. Messrs. Chaplin and Sons were second and Mr. J. H. Pemberton third.

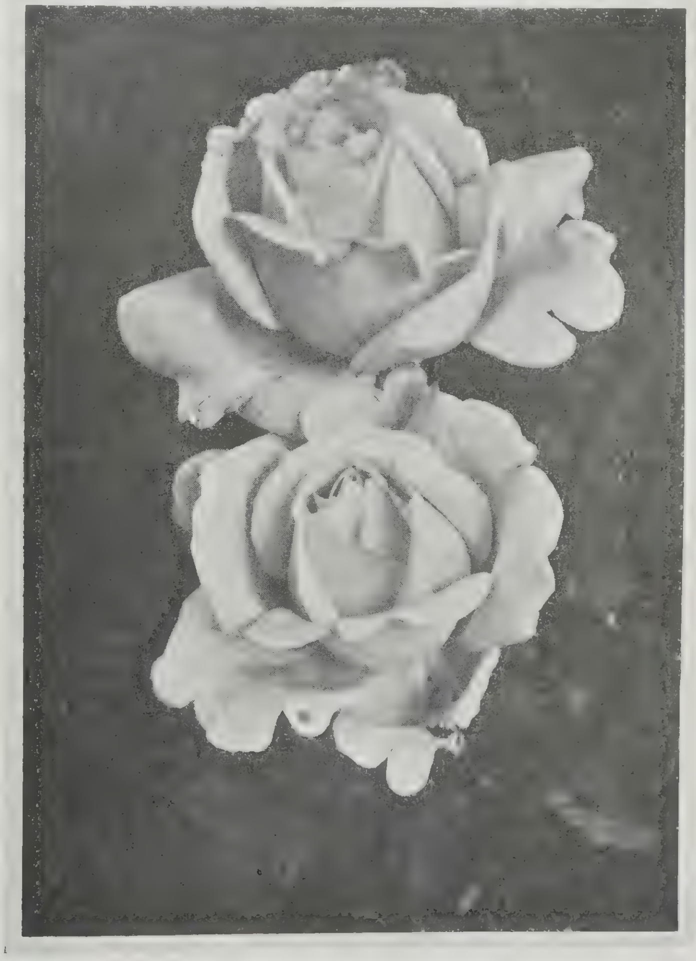
In the next class for a rather smaller representative group of Roses there were also six exhibits, Messrs. D. Prior and Son being first with a beautiful lot of Roses, Messrs. R. Harkness and Co. second, and Dowty's Nursery third, all showing exceptionally well. The five exhibits in the third class for a group of a representative cut Rose found Mr. John Mattock leading, followed by Messrs. A. Reeves and Co. and Mr. Henry Drew. These 17 trade groups were the great feature of the show.

It may be of interest to readers to mention just a few of the more popular Roses set up by the competitors in the above-mentioned three classes. They were the following varieties:—Dame Edith Helen, Los Angeles, Betty Uprichard, Mrs. A. R. Barraclough, Mrs. Samuel McGredy, Hortulanus Budde, McGredy's Ivory, Norman Lambert, Mme. Butterfly, Waltham Cross, Golden Emblem, W. E. Chaplin, K. of K., Mrs. Henry Bowles, Mrs. Henry Morse, Independence Day, Etoile de Hollande, Mabel Morse, Mons. E. Herriot, and the beautiful singles, Dainty Bess and L'Innocence. Dwarf Polyantha Roses, such as Kirsten Poulsen, Else Poulsen, Alice, Coral Cluster, and many others were frequently in evidence.

Much interest centred around the class for 24 distinct cut Roses. A series of blooms of beautiful quality and noteworthy colour, although somewhat overdressed, won first prize for Messrs. Thos. Smith and Sons, Stranraer. The advantages of a cooler and moister climate were here denoted. The better blooms in this prize-winning stand were Mme. Butterfly, Dame Edith Helen, George Dickson, Mabel Morse, Augustus Hartmann, Golden Emblem, Lady Inchiquin,

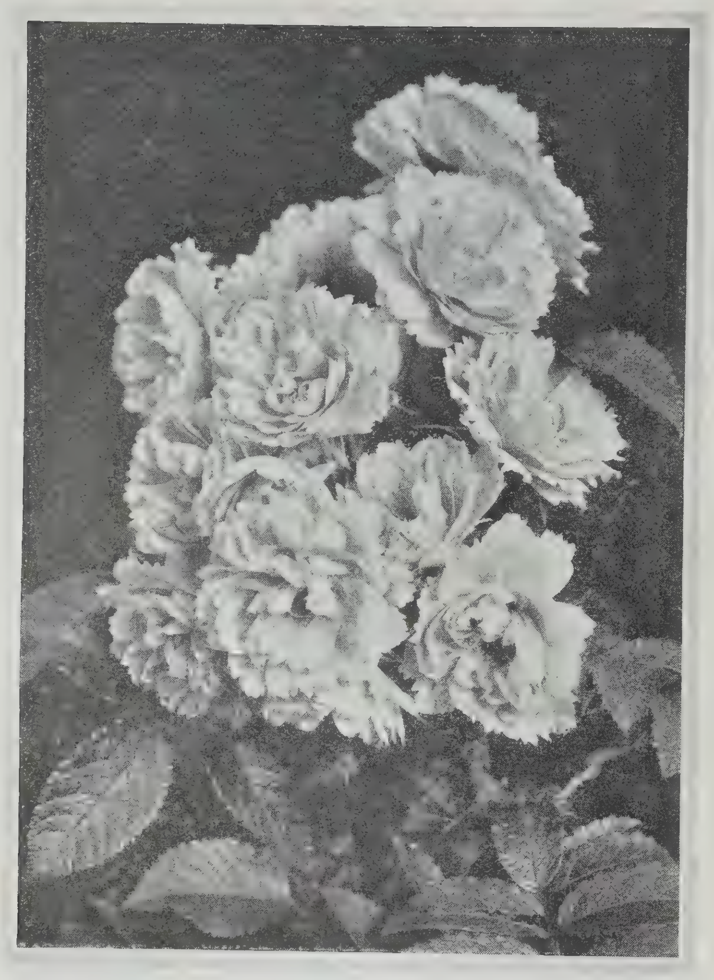
The Rose Show in the New R.H.S. Hall

The view from the dais looking down upon the decorated tables of Roses



Golden Dawn, a new cream-coloured H.T., of good size and substance, and very fragrant

Shown by D. Prior and Son. Certificate of Merit



Rose Pink Grootendorst

Clusters of fimbriated flowers like pink Carnations and the rough foliage of Rosa rugosa. A very free-flowering dwarf Rose, listed as a Polyantha but obviously of rugosa origin. Shown by George Prince, Oxford

A basket of Mrs. Sam McGredy, one of the outstanding Roses at the show

Flowers scarlet coppery orange, heavily flushed with red on th outside of the petals. The foliage is of dark bronzy green. It i a distinct and most beautiful novelty

Lord Allenby, Imperial Potentate, Mabel McGredy, and Lord Stair.

An interesting class was that for three baskets of Polyantha Roses. Messrs. D. Prior and Son, Ltd., showed well and won first prize with superb examples of Kirsten Poulsen and Else Poulsen and Alice Amos. Generally speaking, competition in both nurserymen and amateur classes was quite satisfactory, taking into consideration the extraordinary dryness of the current year.

There was a good array of new seedling Roses, but none of them gained the much-coveted distinction of a Gold Medal. Only three new varieties even succeeded in obtaining a Certificate of Merit. They were as follows :—

James Gibson.—A Hybrid Tea of beautiful form and good quality. The florets are of good substance and the colour may be described as rich velvety-crimson. It is described as free and bushy.

Golden Dawn (see illustration).—This is a promising autumn-flowering Hybrid Tea of good form and substance, very slightly scented. Colour, pale yellow, outer florets tinted rose. Vigorous grower.

D. T. Poulsen.—This new Rose is described as a dwarf Polyantha and is borne in attractive clusters of semi-double flowers. Colour, bright velvety-crimson. Described as robust and upright.

The decorative character of the Rose was amply illustrated in several competitions in which table decorations, bowls, and vases were attractively displayed. In the nurserymen's section there were five good table decorations, Mrs. C. Tisdall, South Woodford, winning first prize with a superbly arranged decoration in which the yellow variety, Roselandia, in the pink of condition, easily made it the best table decoration in the whole show. There were no fewer than six table decorations in the amateur section, the same variety again being seen in the first prize exhibit. The fourth prize exhibit in this latter section, in which grand blooms of Mme. Butterfly were most artistically arranged, was worthy of a much better position.

It would be a distinct relief if exhibitors would illustrate the charms of other varieties of Roses than those usually seen in these competitions. Mme. Butterfly and Roselandia are invariably represented time after time, and such Roses are usually the product of the market gardeners, grown under ideal conditions such as few amateurs could produce in their own gardens. It is rather misleading, however, to the general public, who can never hope to produce such Roses in their own gardens. It would be better were competitions provided where Roses, the product of the exhibitor's own garden, could be utilised to make the display. This might result in there being represented at these shows many Roses of a highly decorative character, such as are never seen in the table decorations of the N.R.S. to-day. The baskets and bowls were interesting, some being distinctly good. Generally speaking, however, they were much too large for use in the home, and surely this is what these classes are intended to illustrate.

Deutzia Veitchii

This is quite the best of the pink-flov Deutzias, being of deeper colour and la flowered than D. longifolia, and a shru moderate growth. It is a charming and able addition to the May-flowering decid shrubs. It is very beautiful when g against a wall, and is equally effective i shrub border, or as an isolated specimen, a grouping of several plants is wholly lightful. The corymbs of flowers are g fully disposed along the arching growth colour bright rose, with deeper shading. shrub grows well in a loam soil enriched leaf-mould and manure, and is, undoubt one of the most beautiful of the myriad introductions from China. It quite wor commemorates the great firm to whom owe so many garden treasures.

Ralph E. Arnol

Border Carnations

Wherever possible, the layers shoul planted in well prepared beds, but it is portant that such work be done early while the soil is still warm. The new la will then become firmly established in new soil before winter is upon them. If is not possible, or the land too wet du the winter, as, for instance, in low-lying tricts and on heavy clay soils, then it is m better to pot them up into 3-inch pots, wi in frames, and plant out at the beginnin April.

Eichornea crassipes (syn. E. speciosa)

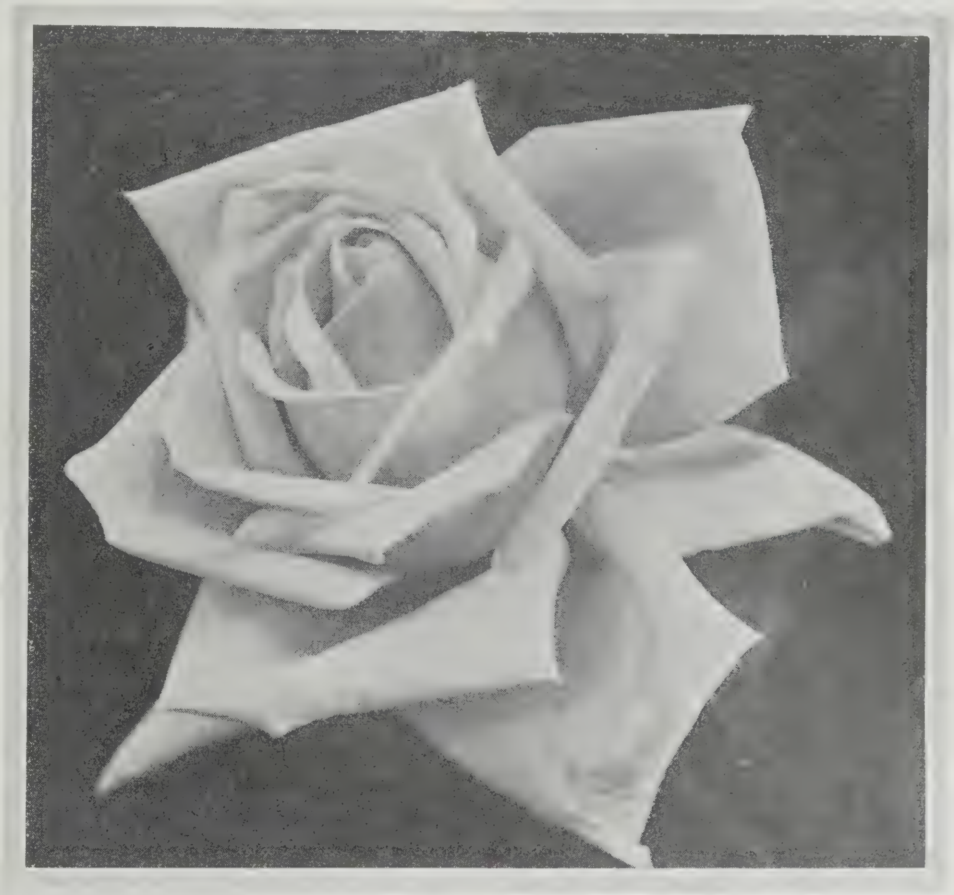
This charming and interesting stove aqua-
is a member of the Natural Order Ponte-
riaceæ. It is a native of South America
d tropical Africa, and the plant has also
en found growing in Queensland, where it
oves itself a veritable pest in some rivers
blocking them and rendering navigation
fficult. A prominent feature about E.
assipes is the curiously inflated leaf-stalks.
nese, no doubt, assist the plants very greatly
floating. The root system is two-fold. In
ep water it produces roots in abundance,
it these never reach the soil, and the plant
mains a free floating perennial. In shallow
ater anchoring roots appear about flowering
ne. The inflorescence is a loose spike
eraging six to eight blooms, and consisting
six segments. These are pale violet in
lour, the upper one having a dark blotch.
Because of its great similarity to a Hya-
nth, this plant has received the name
'ater Hyacinth. E. crassipes remains
flower rarely more than 24 hours. In dull
eather it may last just a few hours longer.
fter the flowering period has expired, the
alk begins to bend, and ultimately places
e flower below water. The plant never
oduces seed in this country. This is, per-
ips, because the insects which pay visits are
osent. The cultivation is comparatively
mple, providing one has the necessary
aterial at hand. A fairly rich compost
ould be given so that the roots may derive
me nourishment. The plants should be
commodated in a warm tank in the stove
other suitable house. E. crassipes repro-
ices itself very quickly by means of offsets,
that it must be restricted somewhat or
se it becomes crowded. F. H. Wright.

Antholyza paniculata

The tall spikes of brilliantly-coloured Mont-
etia-like flowers produced by this Cape bulb
late summer are very beautiful, and a
odly colony of the great sword-like leaves,
ith the orange-red flowers showing above
em, will create a garden picture of beauty
d distinction. Like the majority of South
rican plants, A. paniculata must have sun-
ine, and plenty of it, and so its ideal posi-
on is a border at the base of a south or
uth-west wall. A border at the base of a
eenhouse wall will provide a home for many
autiful bulbs from the South African
easure-land. A light, well-drained, and
erably rich soil should be provided, and in
e milder districts the bulbs may remain
disturbed for some years, with a handful
dry litter to ensure their safety in winter.
me authorities recommend an annual lift-
g so as to separate the small bulbs, replant-
g in October, November, or February, but
have experienced better results when the
lbs have remained undisturbed. In the
lder districts, an annual lifting is impera-
e or the bulbs may be planted in a cold
use. I recently saw a generous mass of
paniculata in fine form, and with it were
ch treasures as Gladiolus dracocephalus, a
eenish-yellow flower suffused and striped
ownish-red, thus imparting to it a snaky
pearance, the Lily of the Incas, Alstrœ-
eria pelegrina alba, and many fine
inums. It is a border of outstanding
auty and interest, and with many more fine
rden features worthily commemorates the
e Mr. H. J. Elwes who, at Colesborne,
thered together so many beautiful and rare
ants. The older Antholyza crocosmioides
a fine plant, but scarcely so bright or effec-
e as A. paniculata. The flowers of the
ter are, too, larger and more widely ex-
nded. Ralph E. Arnold.

Edinburgh Flower Show

THE Flower Show held in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh, and organised by the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society, the oldest and parent Scottish society, was a great success. The entries constituted a record, and the organisation was taxed to its limit in the preparation which was not so well conducted as last year. Considering, however, that 24 hours before a market was held there, some lenience must be allowed to the officials who had to prepare for the finest and largest exhibition ever held in the market. If, as last year, this Autumn Show was the finest held in the kingdom, this year's display was still further a great advance on that of the year previous. Almost every section and class was of the highest standard of excellence. Though the Sweet Peas at Southport were considered by the experts to be the finest seen this season, those at Edinburgh were still finer. The standard of exhibits, trade and amateur, were of such high excellence that there was no single exhibit standing out as a leader above the others. All were of superb quality, whether it was Dobbie's Dahlias, with that new section of Orchid-flowered blooms of such alluring charm, the Roses, which were magnificent, the Begonias, a truly splendid lot, the herbaceous section, the Chrysanthemums, fruit (including Grapes), Carnations, or the vegetables, of which Austin and McAslan, of Glasgow, put up a grand display. Mention must be made of Phloxes, of which two exhibits particularly merit attention. One staged by Fairbairn and Sons, of Carlisle, contained new novelties, including Joan Fairbairn (rose), Border Gem (purple), Lady Lynch Blosse (pink and white), and The King (parma). There were some notable rockwork exhibits. Maxwell and Beale showed a new light rose-coloured Heath of great merit; the form, though totally different to the type, was of remarkable beauty. Open and bushy, spread out, horizontal, near to the ground, with one or two strong central shoots standing up perpendicularly, their bases surrounded by rayed sub-shoots like the spokes of a wheel, and the centre straight up, clothed nearly half way up with a mass of light rose blossoms. These, with the rayed laterals at the base and all the horizontal shoots, were smothered in blossom of the purest colour. This plant is destined to capture all who see it and become very popular. The fruit, unlike last year, was well coloured, above normal size, and in the pink of condition. Apples, Pears, Plums, and bush fruit were grand. Among Plum novelties, Gage Baskerville, a seedling of Washington Gage, was given a provisional Award of Merit pending further details. The decorated tables of fruit, and particularly the Grapes, are deservedly famous at Edinburgh. This year they were of tip-top standard; both Mr. Anderson's and Mr. McInnes' bunches of Muscat of Alexandria were practically faultless, and there was a slight tinting of rose on some of the berries, a most unusual occurrence for Scotland. There was a record gate, and more county and society people attended, consequently the trade did more business than in former years. This is a remarkable achievement considering that Glasgow, Aberdeen, and Dundee Shows attract the purchasing public, and that the



A magnificent bloom of Mrs. Charles Lamplough, awarded the Silver Gilt Medal for the best bloom shown by a nurseryman

Shown by S. McGredy and Son

Agapanthus with over 40 heads of bloom

first mentioned was held the week before. The Society must be congratulated, but there is room for improvement in organisation. It is a mistake to have gramophones playing when a splendid band is in attendance, and domestic china and pottery have their right places in shops. C. A. J.

Polygala chamæbuxus purpurea

This is a sturdy and dwarf little evergreen plant which may be grown well on fully exposed spots on the rock garden in deep, sandy peat. It grows in very dense, rounded tufts, the little stems, ascending to a height of 6 inches to 9 inches, are erect and clothed with small, bright shining green leaves. The flowers are a bright magenta-purple with a yellow centre. In spring it produces a plentiful crop of flowers, and indeed with me it is in bloom more or less the whole year round. It is difficult to increase by cuttings, these being slow in growth, and where plants exist a good plan is to work some sandy material into the tufts in autumn. Before doing so, some of the shoots should be half severed, and then work in some more soil. Many of the growths thus treated will root by the spring and quickly make plants. Cuttings made in the ordinary way are by no means certain and make plants slowly. The plant may be divided in July, but will never out-grow its position. H. Stevens.

Wasps

Some wide-mouthed bottles filled with a solution of sugar and water, with enough yeast to make it ferment, will draw all the wasps from the fruit if hung up in its vicinity. G. G. Baker-Cresswell.

Agapanthus and Belladonna Lilies

I AM sending two photographs of flowers in my garden in Cornwall that I think may interest your readers. The Agapanthus was a magnificent sight, having over 40 heads of bloom. This particular plant was first placed in an ordinary border on which I eventually built a dry wall, the result of which you see in the photograph. The second photograph is one of Belladonna Lilies in a dry, hot border.

L. Heriz-Smith.
Carsilgy, Ruan Minor, Cornwall.

Uncommon deciduous trees and shrubs

THERE are many beautiful deciduous trees and shrubs that are seldom seen except in large parks and private gardens, and yet many of them may be quite as successfully grown in the amateurs' smaller gardens. As an example, there is Köelreuteria paniculata, which is extremely useful and suitable for small gardens, as it is quite a tree in habit and yet seldom exceeds 12 feet in height. It forms a clean stem and somewhat irregular head, clothed with pretty pinnate leaves. The long spikes of yellow blossoms are produced in June and July. It grows well in any ordinary soil, but prefers a sunny position, where it can be readily increased from seeds or by cuttings of the roots taken in late autumn, inserted in sandy soil, and kept close in a cold frame. There is also Symphoricarpus racemosus, which is known as the Snowberry. It is a bush from 4 feet to 6 feet in height, which grows well in sandy soil and is suitable for shady spots. The berries, which are pure white, resemble small marbles, and are freely produced where favourably grown. They remain on the shrubs throughout the autumn and the greater part of winter. S. vulgaris, a smaller shrub than the former, bears pink flowers and white berries, which, however, are not so large and showy as those of S. racemosus. There is a variety of vulgaris which is very pretty, as the leaves are edged with yellow.

Exochorda grandiflora, known as the Pearl Bush, forms a graceful specimen 6 feet to 8 feet in height. The blooms, which are white, are very beautiful during the latter part of April and May. It is a useful shrub for clothing old walls, and may be associated with Ceanothus or others that bloom later. The best way to increase this shrub i layering some of the straggling sh which, however, take about two years to sufficiently for removal.

Desmodium penduliflorum throws slender, wand-like shoots from the base height of 6 feet or so, is clothed with tri ate leaves, and during September they terminated by large clustered masses of dish-purple blossoms, which are very att tive when few other shrubs are in blo The tree is easily increased by division, grows well in soil where most shrubs thr

Tamarix gallica, which is a very attrac loose-growing shrub, bears spikes of pr pink blossoms which are freely borne du the latter part of summer. Its great v lies in the fact that it will flourish even c to the sea, and especially along the So Coast, where it is largely used for " hedg and screens. It must be in a fairly moist when planted inland. There are sev kinds, but there is very little difference tween them, and they all root readily w cuttings are put in during autumn in open ground.

Cratægus Crus-galli, commonly called Cockspur Thorn, is distinguished from others by its huge conspicuous spines, wh render the name of Cockspur a particul appropriate one. The flowers are large somewhat late, while the berries are a d red. The leaves die off brightly coloured.

Another interesting tree is Cratæ tanacetifolia, which obtains its na from the fact that its leaves are dee cut and hoary and in many ways resem the Tansy. It is valuable for its late flow which are, as a rule, the latest of the Tho to bloom. The flowers are white, agai which the blackish anthers stand out c spicuously on close examination. The berr are greenish-yellow when ripe.

Colutea arborescens, known as the Blad Senna, is remarkable for its large, curiou inflated seed pods. It is a loose growi bush, 10 feet to 12 feet high, clothed w bright green pinnate leaves, and bears yell Pea-shaped flowers, succeeded by the curi pods already noted which are tinged w red. It grows readily in poor, stony, or soil. There are several other varieties, this I consider the best.

Rhus Cotinus is a beautiful shrub, chie noteworthy for its curiously formed florescens. Sometimes called Smoke Wig Plant. The flowers are borne on a mu

Belladonna Lilies in a dry, hot border

anched panicle, which also produces a umber of thread-like filaments clothed with ne hairs. These are sufficiently numerous envelop the greater part of the plant in asses of pinky wool-like substance during e latter part of July and August. There is so a variety named atropurpurea, which ars panicles of a purple hue. The leaves rn yellow in autumn before falling.

Hippophea rhamnoides, which is com-only known as the Sea Buckthorn owing its adaptability of growing well by the sea-le, succeeds equally as well inland. It akes a bush 6 feet to 8 feet in height, and is Willow-like leaves of a silvery whiteness nderneath. The berries, which are crowded und the shoots for nearly a foot, are about e size of Peas and of a bright orange tint. uring the latter part of autumn and in nter this is one of our brightest shrubs. ke the Aucubas, the male and female flowers e borne on separate plants, so to ensure e production of berries both sexes must be presented, one male to half-a-dozen females ing sufficient. It is a splendid shrub for anting near water, as it enjoys a cool root n.

Salisburia adiantifolia, the Maiden Hair Tree, is sometimes known under the name of Ginkgo biloba. It is a native of China and a very distinct tree. The trunk is usually straight, and the branches have an upward tendency. The minor shoots droop somewhat. The leaves are in shape like the pinnules of the Maidenhair Fern. The foliage changes from a delightful Pea-green colour to yellow in autumn, when it is most attractive. It does best in a vegetable soil or retentive loam.

Then there is Calycanthus floridus, the American Allspice, which is a compact shrub seldom growing more than 6 feet in height, and clothed with dark green, ovate leaves. The flowers, which are borne early in June, are about 2 inches across, of a peculiar lurid purple colour and pleasantly scented.

Finally there is prunifolia flore-pleno, a beautiful Spiræa, which has long, arching shoots which at the end of March and during April are smothered with clusters of small pure white double blossoms. In this stage it is very beautiful and attractive. It sometimes reaches the height of 6 feet. It prefers a deep, moisture retaining soil.

W. E. Wright.

Notes from a Cornish Garden

HE last of the Rhododendrons are now in flower: R. discolor the earliest, white and scented, from China; then Ungernii m the Caucasus, blush, and indestruct-y hardy; and lastly auriculatum, large and ite, with big leaves having an auriculate se. The old plant here was bought at ombe Wood, and is now some 11 feet high d 15 feet across. It is in partial shade and thriving, but unfortunately has never yet seed, and I hardly expect it to do so this ar, though by request I have put the pollen R. maximum on it from the extreme limit elevation of that species in the hope of tting a large-flowered hybrid hardy enough the colder parts of U.S.A.

Among the high Alpines, Rhododendron uenense is beginning again at the upper d of the Primula bank. This bank is be-ning interesting as the home of many ifs and strays, for my family are interested wild flowers and occasionally send back bring varieties and expect me to grow m. Sisyrinchium angustifolium, the e-eyed grass of Galway, is in bloom there, d Saxifraga stellaris, which my son sent m Skye, together with S. oppositifolia, ich arrived in bloom, and is now quite py.

His other finds which seem at home in-de Aspidium lonchitis, the Holly Fern, lenium viride, and the Parsley Fern, yptogramme crispa. Polypodium phego-ris, the Beech Fern, is also thriving, and t we found on Brown Willy, the highest rnish hill, on one of the wettest and most pleasant days I can remember, whilst the k Fern, Polypodium dryopteris, came up steriously in one of my Rhododendron s and has only recently been planted out. Three bits of Asplenium viride and stopteris fragilis, the Brittle Bladder Fern, apparently satisfied with the corner of a sonry wall facing north, near the stable d. The last was sent by a friend from a ll of limestone near Garve, in Ross-shire, from its present appearance promises to permanent. Not yet have we found a isfactory place for the Filmy Ferns, menophyllum unilatere and tunbridgense, though we have collected plants locally had them from Skye, the situation chosen never yet met their approval.

nother wildflower on the Primula bank Alchemilla alpina. This, from Cumbrae, been in residence for eighteen months, is fairly established, and has flowered well this year. Two of the Club Mosses, Lycopodium selago and alpinum, also from Cumbrae, are likewise happy so far, and the pale green points to their shoots suggest that they are pleased with their new home, but I notice that the slugs have been attacking these new shoots, and this may affect the result.

Lilium sp. Farrer 316 has sent up a 5-foot spike with eight of its great white trumpets, with their green interior, and in the same border against the house, facing S.E. and shaded from all except the morning sun, Tropæolum speciosum is coming up everywhere and flowering at intervals. Against the same wall Mutisia ilicifolia is blooming freely for the first time, and M. retusa is growing well, but has not yet reached the flowering stage.

In 1927 I mentioned the Tropæolum and the difficulty of establishing it. This elicited a letter from some kindly unknown friend, and this is what he says: "The roots were put into pots of leaf-mould and stone on November 27th, 1924, and the pots were plunged to the rim in leaf-mould under a north wall in the open. On April 8th the shoots were appearing. On April 28th the plants were turned out of the pots to the north side of an old Quince tree, care being taken not to break the balls of soil, leaf-mould, peat, and sand being put round. In this place the Tropæolum seems to be now quite at home. The branches of the Quince come down to the ground, and the Tropæolum runs up them, and is at present in bloom in several places in the tree."

These are his ipsissima verba, and I thought that readers of "Gardening Illustrated" would be grateful for the information contained in them.

Whilst I am on the subject of cultivation, here are some more hints which may prove useful. My kind friend, Mr. Joseph B. Gable, junior, of Stewartstown, Pa., U.S.A., sent me some seed of Epigæa repens and described how it grows in its native habitat thus: "I send it by reason of the interest in an article, which stated that it was difficult to grow in Britain. From this article it would seem that its cultivation is generally attempted in shade with you. I am familiar with this plant and have found it in many places, and in almost every situation and condition, but by far the best and most healthy looking stations are on barren hills that slope to the north and north-west. On such a slope on my property here thousands of plants grow naturally and flower profusely each year, and although an adjacent wood is full of it, there are a hundred flowers—maybe five hundred—in this old barren field to each flower in the wood. From March to September the sun shines down full on them all day long. Drought affects them not at all. You may have the equivalent of our drought in England, but I doubt if you have any equal of our intense sunshine. I have found it in full sun on south slopes, on a level hill-top in Georgian sun, and encrusting the slopes of wind-swept dunes. In short, if of course you are interested, I suggest trying Epigæa repens in full sun in Britain on barren, rocky, acid soil, where your Heather likes to grow, for from what I remember of the English and continental climate during the late war, I do not think your sunshine would ever hurt it."

"And that," said John, "is that." And may we yet hope to see fields of this charming plant in this country, thanks to Mr. Gable's information. Talking of conundrums of the sort, has anyone yet solved the problem of Ranunculus Lyallii? If someone would write from New Zealand and give such clear details as the above, it is possible that its needs might be met. A correspondent threatened to send me seed, but to my regret has failed to do so, though I hope and believe that he is growing my Rhododendron seed successfully.

"Peter the Hermit."

Storage of Potatoes

The time is at hand when gardeners will be giving consideration to the lifting of the Potato crop. Experience has taught me that it is one thing to grow a crop well, and another to store it well. So far as the storage of Potatoes is concerned, the great enemy to be feared is an outbreak of the disease known as Winter Rot. This is invariably caused by the development of acid conditions in the storage quarters. The causal organism is then given an opportunity to develop, of which it makes the most use. Some years ago I tried various specifics on a well-controlled experimental scale for the purpose of finding out which was most effective in neutralising acidity. The honours went to flowers of sulphur, which were sprinkled amongst the Potatoes as they were put into store at the rate of ½ lb. per ½ ton of tubers. In addition to being a natural corrective of acidity, flowers of sulphur are fungicidal, and to these properties combined I attributed the immunity from Winter Rot. Since then I have always used this substance, and I have no hesitation in recommending it as being effective.

G. H. C.

Proposal for International Peace Garden

If the proposal advanced at the recent Annual Convention of the International Association of Gardeners is accepted, a 400-acre international peace garden at some point on the boundary between Canada and the United States will be established. The delegates at the Convention considered the best memorial to mark the peaceful relations which have existed between the two countries for more than a century would be a spacious flower garden. The exact location of the garden is to be discussed at a future meeting. It is proposed that 200 acres shall be in United States territory and 200 acres in Canadian.

A suggestion to raise a fund of $5,000,000 for the project was advanced, the money to be raised by inviting adults in Canada and the United States to contribute 25 cents each and children 5 cents.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Spring Cabbage

The land having been liberally manured and allowed to settle down to a certain degree of firmness, it should now be planted, using the best plants from the earliest sowings and planting them at 16 inches apart all ways. This being the earliest spring vegetable for use from the open, it is important that planting should be carefully done, the base of the roots being made very firm, and not merely round the collar, as Cabbage likes firm ground. A few plants of a red variety, such as Early Red Drumhead, should be put out at the same time, as, in addition to their popularity as pickle, these are excellent when cooked in the ordinary way. Allow for a further planting later from the smaller plants sown for this purpose.

Cauliflowers

These are now plentiful, but as frosts must be expected at any time, it will be found advisable to break a few of the leaves down over their heads as a protection. A sowing of Walcheren and Magnum Bonum made at the present time will, if a cold frame can be placed over them, winter safely and provide excellent plants for growing under glass early in the new year, either with or without heat.

Endive

Protect those growing in the open if frost threatens and proceed with the blanching of well-grown specimens, for with the decline of good Lettuce these will be in greater demand. Almost anything will do for blanching which will exclude light and keep the plants dry, such as inverted pots, slates, or air-tight boxes.

Mushrooms

Where the necessary material is available it should be got together and turned frequently, a dry shed being necessary for this purpose. When ready, beds should be made up from 18 inches to 2 feet in depth and well firmed. When the temperature of the beds has receded to about 80 degrees, the spawn must be inserted and an inch of fine, new, sifted loam placed over the surface, flattened, and made tolerably firm.

Rose cuttings

Some varieties do remarkably well from cuttings, which may be prepared by all. Choose well ripened shoots about 9 inches in length which have bloomed this season, removing them from the plants, especially Teas, H.T.'s, and H.P.'s, with a heel attached. Cut away the old flower-heads and all the leaves, and plant firmly in shallow trenches, along the bottom of which has been placed 1½ inches of sharp sand. It is most important that the base of the cuttings should be made very firm. When completed, 5 inches or 6 inches of the cutting should stand clear of the soil. One good watering is usually sufficient. These will make nice plants by the end of July next year, from which time they will provide a quantity of beautiful fresh blooms.

Rearranging Glasshouses, Vineries, and Peach houses

These are often used during the late summer for stove and greenhouse plants in order to relieve congestion in those houses which for a time are required for the accommodation of tuberous-rooted plants such as Caladiums, Achimenes, and Tuberoses. Most of these are now ripening off and may be placed in cooler quarters, and in order that space may become available for the great mass of pot-grown plants which have been grown in the open, it will be necessary to re-arrange the former in their original houses. Ferns, Palms, and Dracænas benefit considerably for this temporary change, but must return without delay.

Bedding plants

Continue to take cuttings of these until the required number is safely rooted. It may be advisable, in the case of very unusual specimens, to lift and pot up and place in safety should frost threaten. This applies to those of a soft-wooded nature, which are easily disfigured.

Vineries

In Vineries where late Muscats and other varieties are only partially coloured, a little fire heat will be found necessary from this date, owing to the declining power of the sun. Light is also important in the case of the former, and a drier atmosphere than of late must be the order.

Hardy fruits

Hardy fruits, such as Apples and Pears, growing on walls frequently suffer from lack of moisture when the fruit is undergoing its final swelling. It is, therefore, most desirable that such trees should be occasionally soaked, and those carrying heavy crops assisted with applications of liquid manure. Pears are of fine quality and abundant, the early kinds being gathered slightly in advance of their actual ripening in order that their fine flavour may be preserved.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The Melon house

In the majority of cases Melons are over for the year, so as soon as possible after the last fruit is cut have the house or pit thoroughly cleaned before moving in the winter occupants, for the Melon almost invariably leaves a legacy of vermin which, unless drastic measures be taken, are certain to infest the newcomers. Remove all movable rubbish, therefore, wash down all glass and woodwork and limewash brickwork, all of which causes a deal of trouble, but is an absolute necessity if clean, healthy plants are to be looked for.

Ripe Grapes

As the days shorten and the outdoor conditions become damper and damper, the difficulty of keeping ripe Grapes in good condition increases greatly. Very frequent examination of the bunches is imperative, any decaying berry being removed immediately it is noticed, and so preventing further loss by contamination. A little warmth in the pipes, with abundant ventilation, is probably the best treatment.

Ripening-off Tomatoes

It very frequently happens that the houses occupied during the summer months with Tomatoes are required for late-flowering Chrysanthemums, so, as the housing of these will have to be faced very shortly, it is advisable now to get the houses in readiness to receive these at short notice, sharp frosts being liable to put in an appearance at any time. To encourage the remaining Tomatoes to ripen off quickly, allow a little warmth in the pipes and not quite so much air, while water should only be given to prevent flagging. Such treatment may not improve the quality of the fruits, but it will certainly hasten the ripening.

Prick Cauliflowers into frames

If seeds were sown in the open last mo the seedlings should now be in good condi for pricking into beds of light soil unde cold frame. Make the soil nice and firm allow 3 inches between the plants. W well, close the frame for several days, shade from all sunshine. After the plants have recovered from the shift, be to admit a little air and increase the volu of this gradually, for coddling is the w treatment to extend to these plants.

Lifting Potatoes

Just as soon as a variety is ripe have it up and stored in a cool, dark place. Bef storing, remove all small, diseased, and d aged tubers. The best-shaped, medium-si specimens should be selected for planting the spring. These keep best, and produce finest crops, if well " greened " in the before being stored in a light, cool place, q safe from frost.

Plant Daffodils in Grass

This is by far the best position for Daffodil, not only because it looks m natural when so planted than when in garden, but because the blooms are kept from mud splashes, which so often disfig them when wet weather comes. Many of varieties thrive well and have a very beaut effect when planted thinly under large ciduous trees.

Plant Spanish Irises

These gorgeous and graceful bulb flowers are so cheap that quite a num should be planted in every garden. Ab the present time is quite well suited for planting of the bulbs. Moderately ri rather lightish soil seems to suit them b They do quite well planted in rows 12 inc apart and the bulbs 6 inches asunder in rows. Plant 3 inches to 4 inches deep.

Attend well to the Dahlias

As these are so easily damaged by wi it is advisable to look over the plants at q frequent intervals, tying securely, yet loos to the supports. Remove spent flowers a thin the shoots if likely to become ov crowded. Should the soil threaten to beco dry at the roots of the plants, give a go soaking of clean water.

Border Chrysanthemums

These are flowering well this season, a it will be a pity if frost comes early and stroys all this brightness. If at all possib some method should be adopted whereby pa of the plants at least could be saved, stu stakes being driven in at intervals and loop with strong tar twine in such a way as support mats or something of the kind, su protection being usually sufficient to ward all but really sharp attacks.

Plant May-flowering Tulips

If the ground is available, there is reason why these very beautiful and use subjects may not now be planted. For cu ting in succession we find the following ve suitable :—William Copeland, Inglescom Pink, Clara Butt, Bronze Queen, Ingle combe Yellow, and Mme. Krelage. The are, of course, many others equally good.

Keep an eye on the Nerines

As soon as the point of the flower-stem a pears, give a little water so as gradually moisten the soil. If there is any difficulty managing this, plunge each pot for a fe minutes in a bucket of water, and so be ce tain that the whole mass has been effectivel moistened.

C. BLAIR

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

cænas Veitchii and australis from seed

HERE are but few ornamental foliaged
reenhouse plants so useful for decora-
ive purposes as these green-leaved,
-like Dracænas. They have the merit
of being easily grown and of keeping in
condition for a long time when used for
ing-room decorations. It does not ap-
to be generally known how easily and
ly they may be raised from seed, yet
s by far the best method of propaga-
Plants raised in this way make vigor-
healthy growth and quickly attain a
l size. When in a young condition the
ng plants assume a style of growth
distinct from those raised from suckers,
aves in the former case being narrow
pright in habit. In this stage they are
nely effective for dinner-table embellish-
or for arranging in bowls and vases,
hich purposes small plants are in great
nd. As the plants increase in size the

China Asters in front of the Temple of Bellona at Kew

come broader and gradually develop
drooping habit of growth. It may thus
n that by sowing seeds every year,
n giving great diversity in their form
wth may be obtained from these two
es of Dracænas.

m seed sown in January last good plants
w available in thumb pots. These will
be shifted into 3-inch pots, then by
g them in pits kept rather close and
with a little artificial heat turned on
n October, the plants will be of a use-
from November onwards. September
uitable month during which to make
ng, as with good treatment the plants
ng therefrom will be available for use
e next. To hasten germination the
should be soaked in warm water for
rs before sowing. Even then it is
ntly a month or six weeks before any
f growth is apparent, and I have no
that should the seed be rather old,
ation would not take place under three
s. I mention this to prevent dis-
tment, because sometimes seeds of this
are set down as worthless and the soil
in which they were sown consigned to the rubbish heap, when the real fault lays in the impatience of the would-be cultivator. Loam and leaf-soil or peat in equal parts, with abundance of sharp sand and a little finely broken charcoal added, the whole being passed through the ½-inch sieve, forms a suitable compost for sowing in, and one that will not easily become sour—a matter of great importance when preparing soil for seeds which germinate slowly. I sow in well-drained boxes or pans covered with a square of glass, and place where there is a brisk bottom heat at command. It is a good plan to dibble the seeds in an inch apart. The seedlings may be allowed to make good progress before being placed in pots, for they do not like being disturbed till their roots have become active. In the first potting, a compost similar to that in which the seeds were sown answers well, and for subsequent ones two parts loam to one of leaf-soil or peat, with soot, charcoal, and sand added, the whole being well mixed, will be found to give satisfactory results. As the plants increase in size and need larger pots the compost should, of course, be used in a rough state.

H. D.

Clematis orientalis tangutica

Not at all a showy Clematis, there is yet something extremely fascinating about this free-growing species. The small, golden yellow flowers are produced August-September, and are charmingly disposed along the arching growths. Some peep intriguingly from the truss of foliage, and the result is a pleasing picture, and one of distinction and interest. I recently saw this Clematis growing upon a low fence as a background to a border of choice hardy plants. Its next-door neighbour was Adlumia cirrhosa, a little-known plant bearing a close resemblance in foliage and flower to Corydalis, and a charmingly light and graceful climbing plant it is. This dainty plant and the Clematis created a fair picture and a delightful setting for the many choice plants flowering in the narrow border. There is, I believe, a neat-habited and distinct variety of C. o. tangutica known as C. o. t. obtususcula; it is very pretty as a pot plant and has been in evidence at recent exhibitions. These Clematis are quite easily grown and are usually hardy, especially the type plant.

Ralph E. Arnold.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Poisoning from Yew berries

CHILDREN are very apt to pick and swallow the attractive berries of the Yew. The practice is a most dangerous one and ought to be carefully kept in check, as is shown by the case of a little boy on whose body an inquest has been held at Oxford. The child, according to the "Daily Telegraph," had been strolling through a cemetery with his friends, and while playing about he had plucked and eaten "a handful of Yewberries." No evil effect was noticeable until next morning, when he awoke in convulsions and died before even a doctor could be fetched. The poison seems to have attacked the nerve centres, but in what specific manner it is not easy to say. Every poison is a possible remedial medicament, and therefore the Yewberry may have valuable uses. Like many other vegetable poisons, it does not seem to be made the subject of careful experiment, so that no antidote to it is known. Yet why should not toxicologists make a study of this and of several other common and baneful growths? Deaths are constantly occurring amongst children who pick and swallow these things and science might do something to protect them against the fatal effects of their ignorance.—*November 22nd, 1879.*

Warner's King Apple

This is becoming a favourite with market growers, and certainly it is a very useful fruit. Solid, firm-fleshed Apples fetch a higher price in the market than light, hollow-centred sorts, most Apples being now sold by weight. Such sorts as Lord Suffield and Cellini, planted largely a few years back, are already being discarded. Amongst early kinds, the old Keswick is about the most prolific and largely grown, as when gathered as early as possible it is a sort that amply repays good cultivation. But Warner's King is one of the Apples of the future for main crops.—J. G.—*November 1st, 1879.*

In answer to a Correspondent.

Jacob Plum

We know of no such Plum as this. The name is probably a local one and is not to be found in lists or in the "Fruit Manual," which gives, as far as possible, all the names by which certain kinds of fruit are known. If a good Damson is wanted, the best is the Crittenden of Farleigh Prolific, a very early and remarkable bearer, fruit a little larger than that of the old Damson, and ripe at the end of September.—A. D.—*October 4th, 1879.*

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Diseased Pears

(B. P. Standen).—Your Pears are affected with Pear Scab, due to the fungus Venturia pirina. Please see replies *re* Pear Scab on pages 587 and 603 in our issues for August 24th and 31st respectively. If you examine the undersides of the foliage you will find the fungus present as dark, sooty, green patches. The leaflet on Apple and Pear Scab, published by the Ministry of Agriculture, 10, Whitehall Place, S.W. 1, would be useful to you. You can obtain a single copy post free by writing to the Secretary at the address given above.

Nectarine and Peach specimens

I send three packets of leaves from my greenhouse which have been attacked by a pest of some sort, and I would be very much obliged if you will examine them and let me know what is the matter. No. 1 are from a Nectarine tree whose leaves have gone like this for two years running; the fruit does not appear to be affected. We have found Red Spider on the leaf and treated it with Volck, but do not know if this discoloration of the leaf is entirely due to Red Spider. No. 2 are from a Nectarine tree from another part of the greenhouse, and I would like to know if it is the same pest that has attacked No. 1. No. 3 are from a Peach tree in the same greenhouse and are evidently affected by something quite different. I would be very much obliged if you will give me advice as to how to treat these trees.

"SOUTH WALES."

[The appearance of the specimen labelled No. 1 is entirely due to the attack of Red Spider. We find that many of the mites have been killed, but several applications of Volck will be necessary before you can hope to control such a bad attack. Please see reply to "Bert" on page 617 of our issue for September 7th. If your trees had been given the syringing they should have had, Red Spider would never have made such headway. The specimens No. 2 are merely a repetition of No. 1. As to whether or no the infection came from No. 1 we cannot say, but it is likely. Again, lack of syringing allowed the pest to spread. The Peach leaves labelled No. 3 have been attacked by one of the Weevils, probably the Black Vine Weevil. At this time of the year this creature is in the maggot stage, feeding upon the roots of many garden plants. Early next spring the maggots pupate in the soil and the adults emerge shortly after. The adults feed upon the foliage of many plants, eating the leaves around the edges, causing the curious serrated leaves such as you send. This Weevil feeds at night, hence it is frequently overlooked. A dressing of flake naphthalene should be applied to all parts of the Peach house border so soon as the house is empty at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard. Fork the material in as deeply as possible without actually disturbing the roots. This dressing might be repeated before the house is started next spring. Any Weevils which survive this treatment, and there may be quite a number, may be trapped by placing a band of hay around the stem of the tree close to the ground level. Examine the band each morning and destroy the Weevils collected. Watch for the eaten foliage next year, and as soon as it is detected put down a white cloth during the day and then go to the trees at night with a light and give them a good shake. Some of the Weevils will fall on the cloth, and you will then know exactly what to look for in your trap. There will be very few adult Weevils at this time of the year—most of them die off after egg laying.]

Vine Mildew

(S. Walsh).—Please see reply *re* Vine Mildew on page 616 of our issue for September 7th. You will obtain control of the mildew if you use a sulphur vaporiser from time to time, not waiting, of course, for the mildew to put in an appearance, but to commence operations from the time the vines are started. Great care must be used when carrying out the operation, and the instructions accompanying the vaporiser must be carefully carried out. Other plants should be removed from the vinery during the operation unless it is known that the foliage of such plants will stand the treatment.

Peaches in a vinery

("Peaches").—You will never grow Peaches and Nectarines successfully in a vinery, the treatment necessary for the wellbeing of these being entirely different in many respects from that required by the Grape vine.

Planting Figs

I wish to plant three Fig trees. I am told that they should each be planted in concrete in a sort of large concrete "tub" made in the ground, as this prevents the roots spreading and greatly augments the fruiting of the tree. Could you kindly tell me what sort of dimensions the concrete "tub" should be that holds each tree? F. L. MARTEN.

[For each Fig tree the concrete "tub" should be 3 feet deep, 3 feet wide, and 4 feet long. The bottom, of course, must not be cemented, as free drainage is necessary. After making the "tub," therefore, place in the bottom coarse gravel or broken bricks and old mortar rubble to a depth of 1 foot, and on this lay fresh turves, grass side down, and then fill up with chopped turf mixed with mortar rubbish and broken bricks, the whole being well trodden down.]

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Large Japanese Chrysanthemums

(C. M. H.).—We hardly understand what you mean by "the leaves twisting at the point of growth," but there is nothing uncommon about buds not developing if you have permitted growth to continue. That is to say, if you have not "taken the buds," as it is only terminal buds that, speaking
generally, develop without assistanc
may be, of course, that earwigs h
tacked the points, even one small p
by these destructive creatures maki
point of a Chrysanthemum plant usel
buds never developing, and the growth
plant itself interrupted. If you coul
sent us a few of the malformed poi
might have been able to assist you m

Chrysanthemum and Primula folia

(Tyro).—We have carefully examine
specimens and can find no trace
organism likely to cause the damag
appears to us likely that some cultura
is at fault. Have you examined th
systems of the plants concerned? E
if the roots have been damaged the
would develop symptoms similar to the
mens sent. Write us again if you ca
us any more information; we could
perhaps, help you.

FLOWER GARDEN

Nierembergia rivularis and Alliu Beesianum

(C. B. M.).—(1) You may safely pla
the Nierembergia providing you do so
and thus enable the roots to take hold
soil before the warmth in the latter has
A good, fairly rich soil is desirable,
warm and rather sheltered position.
layer of coal ashes spread over the
during the winter months will prove
ficial. (2) Allium Beesianum. Thi
rather rare plant, and we advise you to
part of your stock only in the open,
warm and protected border, and gro
remainder under glass until you have
out its hardiness in your district. This
grows from 6 inches to 9 inches hig
has drooping heads of deep blue bell-s
flowers.

Asperula

(Mrs. Yonge).—Would it be possib
you to send another small fresh pie
identification, as there appears to be a
confusion about this plant, which Joh
Dictionary describes as pink-flowered?
would then go further into the matter.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Eucryphia pinnatifolia

I shall be much obliged if you will te
what is the matter with a plant of Eucr
pinnatifolia, of which I enclose a cuttin
also enclose a photo of the same pla
flower a year or two ago. It is again co
with buds about to open, but some of
are affected like the enclosed. We ha
good climate and can grow certain Chi
here. T. M. MURR

Ross-shire.

[We find nothing of an injurious n
upon the shoot sent, and strongly
pect the shrub having been kept too d
some time previous to flowering. This w
certainly cause the trouble from which
specimen is suffering. Give it a good
ing of water and apply a mulch of some
Next season mulch the shrub in May.]

BOOKS

"Every Day in My Garden"

This book appears very happily named
is just the companion for the amateur
needs helpful information which is not
exhaustive. The last chapter, giving da
day the duties of the month, ought t
very useful to the novice, ignorant or fo
ful of what cannot be neglected wit
serious loss.

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* "Every Day in My Garden," published by Alfr
Knoff, Ltd., Bedford Square, London, W.C. 1; price

Cltivating the exhibition Viola

THIS has long been a very popular flower t Scottish flower shows, and of recent ears large numbers of growers south of order have become fascinated with it. erous societies now include separate es for it at their annual shows, while al Pansy and Viola associations have formed to help to popularise this humble f plant. It can, of course, be easily l from seed, but as it never breeds true exhibitor has little use for seedling plants. n the middle of August until the middle ptember is the ideal time for the securf the cuttings, although quite good re- are had even a fortnight later. The cuttings, and indeed the only ones worth dering, are the sturdy young shoots that g from the centres of the old plants. e should be about 3 inches long. Cut gh just under a joint (pair of leaves), off the two lower pairs of leaves, and the ng is ready for planting in a bed of fresh, compost made under a cold frame. epare the bed, mix together three parts loam, two parts leaf-mould, and two clean, sharp sand. All should be passed gh a half-inch riddle and should iter be very wet nor very dry, but just in working condition. Make moderately n and level, and as soon as the cuttings eady dibble them in firmly, about 3 s apart each way. Give a good waterrough a rosed can, shut the frame, and e it thus for several weeks, shading carel from all sunshine. By the middle of ber a little air should be admitted by g the sash about an inch or so at the this chink being gradually increased nches or 6 inches. During the absence st this amount of air space should be ained day and night, while the shading d be gradually discontinued as the cut- get used to these conditions. As a rule nore watering will be required until h, but should the soil get on the dry a still, mild day should be selected on the sashes can be drawn back and a soaking of soft water given to moisten hole of the soil. When frost threatens, s the sashes. In the event of the cold being prolonged, lay a mat or two over lass. When the thaw comes do not e the mats for a day or two so as to t of the soil getting soft before expose cuttings to the light and air.

lch, of course, depends on the nature weather, but usually by the middle of ary the cuttings (now really rooted) begin gradually to wake up, and so e days the sashes should be pulled right while on wet days they should be tilted back in order that the water may be from the occupants of the frame and low a good amount of fresh air to circumong the plants. If the weather be and frost absent it is more than likely he soil will be getting dry, in which a really liberal watering will be desirnd should be repeated as often as the egins to show signs of getting dry. ff all flower-buds as they appear. At me very early planting (as early as the e of March) was the common practice, owadays mid-April is more favoured, rs have discovered that the cold winds ly spring gave a serious check to the plants, while slugs levied a heavy To give the plants a real chance, allow o inches to 12 inches between the plants way. Plant firmly, and immediately small stake, about 18 inches long, to plant and tie the stem securely, but , thereto. Plants, unless of a very habit of growth, should be restricted e stem and all flower-buds removed until a week or two before the date of the show.

The important operation of preparing the beds should begin in the late autumn. A fair dressing of well-rotted farmyard manure should be given and the whole bed, or beds, double-dug, throwing up the surface as rough as possible to permit of the elements sweetening, and pulverising it to a considerable depth. In February, should the ground be in a fairly dry state, a dusting of soot and lime should be given to the whole of the ground, and then the entire surface lightly forked over. Should the soil be of a very heavy nature, 2 inches or 3 inches of leaf-mould spread over the surface in March and forked in will give the plants every chance to make a strong and early start.

About mid-April (a little earlier in the south) the plants are set out as already detailed, and if the weather proves dry an occasional watering will prove very beneficial. By the first week in May the plants on light, dry soils will be greatly benefited by having a fairly generous mulch of very rotten manure spread all over the surface between the plants. This, besides helping to feed the plants, is of even greater value for keeping the roots cool and moist. It should, perhaps, have been stated earlier that while the Viola does fairly well in a sunny position if the soil is cool and inclined to be damp, it will thrive much better where it can have partial shade—not under trees, however.

Most experienced exhibitors have special pet fertilisers which they swear by, but the use of strong chemical stimulants must be condemned unless in the hands of an expert. Clear soot water is very good and very safe, as also is weak liquid manure made with sheep or cattle droppings. Always incline to weak solutions and apply these frequently in preference to a strong dose at long intervals. Where really large blooms are wanted, side-shoots must be removed while still in a small state, and so must flower-buds until within a few weeks of the show. As no one can gauge the weather for any length of time in advance, it is impossible to say just when the removal of buds should be stopped. To ensure having a number of flowers from which to select, it is necessary to grow several plants of each variety—not less than three—while the number of varieties must be considerably in excess of the number it is intended to stage. It is only by attending the various shows and studying the winning exhibits that one can hope to get to understand just what is required in the way of varieties and the method in which they should be shown. C. BLAIR.

Hibiscus syriacus

Undoubtedly one of the most beautiful of the large-flowered autumn-blooming shrubs, this old favourite is deserving of cultivation if only for the reason that it blooms at a season when most shrubs have passed out of flower. A deciduous shrub, with more or less erect-growing branches, it does, nevertheless, assume a bushy habit. The leaves are variable in size, and range from about 2 inches to 4 inches in length, ovate in outline, three-lobed, and coarsely toothed. Its large flowers are produced singly on short stalks from the leaf-axils towards the end of the branch. In favourable situations it attains a height of 8 feet to 10 feet. Although perfectly hardy in most parts of Britain, owing to its rather late flowering, it is often necessary to give it the protection of a wall, or grow it in a sheltered position, especially in the more exposed and late parts of the country, in order that its flowers may develop under the most favourable conditions. The type has bluish-purple flowers with crimson centres, but there are numerous forms in which the colour is exceedingly variable, including white, red, blue, purple, and striped. There are also forms with double or semi-double flowers.

According to Mr. Bean in "Trees and Shrubs Hardy in the British Isles," he says: "The date of the introduction of this shrub to Britain is not known, but it was included by Gerard among the garden shrubs of his time. It has been cultivated here for more than 310 years. In early times it was known as the Syrian Ketmie, and in the specific name Linnæus suggested that it was from Syria, but it has never been found truly wild except in India and China. In Syria, as in the more western countries, it exists as a cultivated plant only."

When planting is contemplated, a well-drained site should be selected, which is not too dry. It will thrive in any ordinary good soil of moderate quality in a sunny position. In the more favoured localities, for example, in the south, it makes an effective subject for hedges. It requires little attention as regards pruning, but if this becomes necessary owing to the plants out-growing their positions, they may be pruned back in April.

The following selection of varieties is considered to be a representative few of approved merit; this includes both single and double-flowered kinds:—Admiral Dewey (double), pure white; Boule de Feu (double), red; Cœleste (single), purplish-blue; grandiflorus superbus (single), rose; La Reine (single), rose; Monstrosus (single), white, with dark purple centre; pulcherrimus (double), pink and white; puniceus (double), red; Rubis (single), ruby; Totus albus (single), pure white. This shrub is occasionally listed under the name of Althœa frutex. J. L.

Omphalodes Luciliæ

Where this plant thrives it is one of the most exquisite of all Alpines, yet one always more or less difficult to keep, and still more difficult to increase to any extent. Slugs are particularly fond of its leaves, and will quickly clear off every vestige of growth. Usually under cultivation the plant will succeed in a mixture of peat and loam, with an addition of finely broken brick and some sand. In the rock garden a deep crevice filled with this soil would also suit it. Where the plant exists a few seeds may be saved each year, and though the seedlings present some variation of foliage, the greyish tint at times being absent, the flowers are much the same. The plant should never be disturbed in autumn or winter, but in April or May for careful division.

SHORT REPLY

Aldershot.—Green sulphur may be obtained from Messrs. Willis Bros., Harpenden, Herts, the price being about 1s. per lb. Yes, Violas may be planted if you deeply dig the ground and work a good dressing of lime and leaf-mould into the soil.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Kroone and Van Der Eng, Hillegom, Holland.—Comprehensive catalogue of bulbs grown on their own farms.

G. Beckwith and Son, The Nurseries, Hoddesdon, Herts.—Roses and Carnations.

Samuel McGredy and Son, Royal Nurseries, Portadown, N. Ireland.—Roses, fruits, bulbs, trees, shrubs, herbaceous and other plants.

Wm. Watson and Sons, Ltd., Killiney Nurseries, Killiney, Co. Dublin.—Roses.

Toogood and Sons, Ltd., Southampton.—Bulbs for winter and spring flowering.

LATE REPLIES

White Fly

(W. E. S.).—The small white insects are, doubtless, the destructive " snow flies," and these are most difficult to get rid of. Ordinary vaporising has but little effect on this little pest, while the various special preparations sold for the sole purpose of destroying it, while fairly effective, are somewhat dangerous to use, because they destroy, or at least damage, some kinds of plants. Chrysanthemums, Cinerarias, Salvias, Dahlias, and a few others must never be subjected to these fumes, whereas Tomatoes, Pelargoniums, Primulas, Cyclamens, and many others receive no damage whatever.

Fuchsias in cool greenhouse

(Helen Enderby).—In October you should gradually withhold water and the leaves will soon drop. During winter no water should be given if the plant is set in a cool, dry, but frost-proof place. In spring the plant should be lightly pruned and returned to the greenhouse. Syringe overhead daily, but give little or no water until growth begins to show, when the soil should be moistened, and as growth advances more water will be required.

Rust on Chrysanthemums

(L. T.).—Your Chrysanthemums are attacked by what is known as " Rust." It, as you have noticed, affects certain varieties, others being apparently immune. You should remove the badly marked leaves and burn them, while the plants affected should then be sprayed with diluted Bordeaux Mixture.

Omphalodes Luciliæ leaves disfigured

(Firbeck).—The leaves are attacked by fungus, to check which the plants should be sprayed with weak Bordeaux Mixture every 10 days until it is stamped out. If you experience any difficulty in obtaining Bordeaux Mixture dust the plants when moist with yellow sulphur, care being taken to see that the sulphur reaches all parts of the plant. We are interested to hear that this capricious plant grows well with you.

Gladioli failing; Pyrus and Plum for names

(Betty Sibley).—Your Gladioli are suffering from impoverishment and also from streak disease. There is no cure for the latter, and we advise you to lift and destroy them. Allow the remainder to ripen off, following which lift them, cut away the growth, and remove the old corm, which will be found at the base of the corm made this year. The best of the latter should then be stored for the winter in a cool, frost-proof room and planted out on well-prepared ground at the end of March. These Gladioli are so cheap that it is really more profitable to procure fresh corms each year. The Crab is probably Pyrus malus floribunda, but flowers are necessary to verify this. We do not think its fruits are suitable for jelly. The Plum was smashed to a pulp. It may be the true Bullace, which is wild in your district and is a very good edible fruit.

Lilium Harrisii

This flowered well in June, and it has now (September) put out three strong shoots well budded. Is this unusual, as before the same Lilies have only flowered once a year?

H. H.

[Bulbs of Lilium longiflorum Harrisii and other varieties of this Lily will occasionally throw second flowers in early autumn. Providing bulbs are of good size and in healthy condition, and grown cool, it is possible to arrange for a second crop of flowers by cutting the stems close to the surface immediately the first flowers open. It cannot be looked upon as a reliable method of
ing flowers for autumn, but quite a
will respond to this treatment. Prev
the practice of retarding bulbs of the t
Lily for autumn effect, flowers are o
by cutting down stems as soon as b
peared. This caused dormant side cro
push their growth, which more ofte
not terminated in good heads of bl
September and October. We do not
this is possible in the case of bulbs
have been forced.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

Synnott.—Geranium molle (Dov
Cranesbill).

Hereford.—1, Clematis tanghuti
Vitis Thomsoni; 3, Clematis, a poor
Edouard Andre; 4, Zauschneria me
5, Origanum hybridum; 6, Linaria
alba; 7, Pentstemon isophyllus; 8,
Pycnostachya.

W. E. S.—The Fuchsia flowers
withered and crushed when they reac
that we can only guess at the names.
might be White Phenomenal, No. 2
Girl, No. 4 Favourite.

L. T.—1, Begonia President Carno
variety of Asplenium. These are so
ous and many so similar that it is diff
just place them correctly.

Miss Dee.—1, Bignonia grandiflo
Ceanothus azureus; 3, probably P
tanacetiflora (bloom dried up); 4, Ophi
jaburan; 5, Phygelius capensis (Cap
wort).

H. L., Frome.—A, Salvia farinac
S. uliginosa. Both may be obtained
Messrs. W. Ingwersen, Ltd., Birch
Nursery, Sharpthorne, East Gri
Sussex.

E. Morgan.—1, Dryas octopeta
Olearia illicifolia; 3, Gentiana ascle
alba; 4, Antirrhinum asarina.

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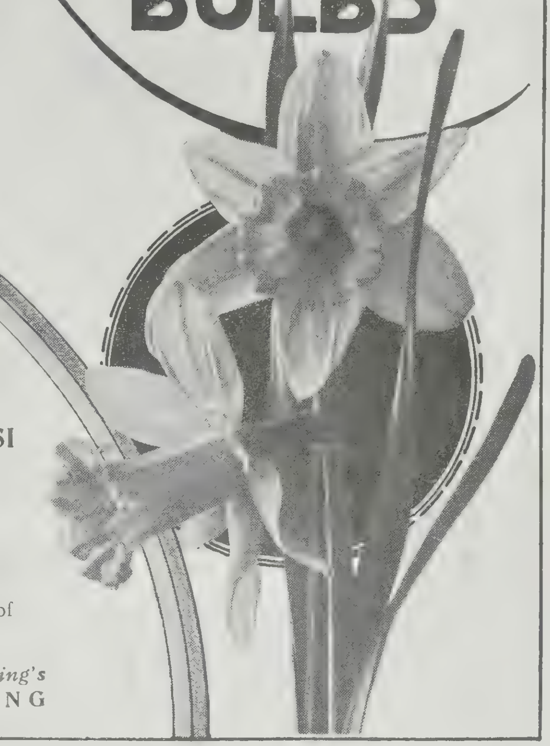

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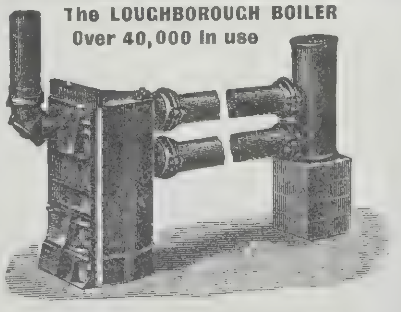

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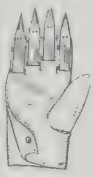
34th ANNUAL EXHIBITION
at the
DRILL HALL, COVENTRY
VEMBER 14th, 15th, & 16th, 1929
Secretary: G. GRIFFIN, Coundon, Coventry.

Guildford & District Chrysanthemum Society
(Affiliated to the National Chrysanthemum Society).
The Thirty-Seventh ANNUAL EXHIBITION
will be held in
THE BOROUGH HALL, GUILDFORD
On Wednesday & Thursday, November 6th & 7th, 1929
Entries close October 30th.
Schedules may be obtained from the Secretary, WALTER MILES, Ashbrook, Cadogan Road, Surbiton.



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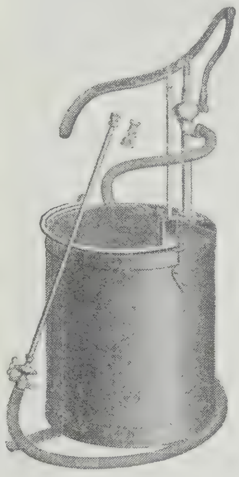

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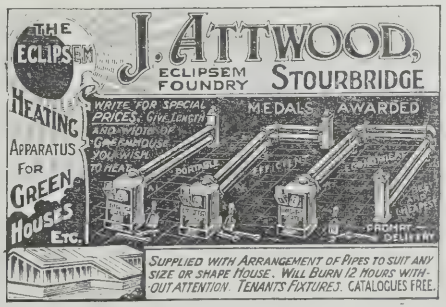
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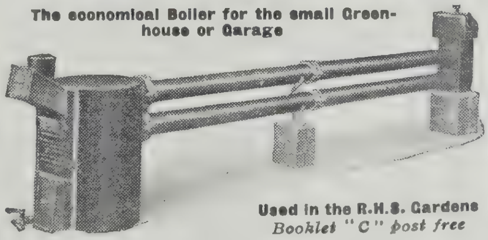

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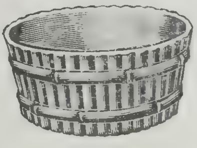

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(Miscellaneous Adverts. continued from page ii.)

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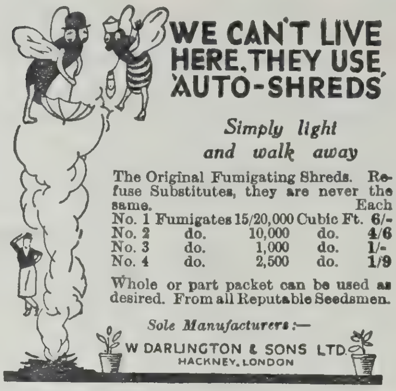
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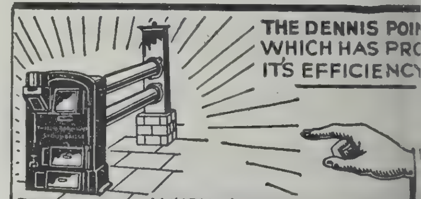

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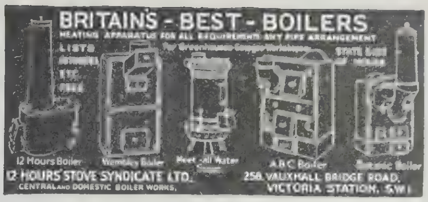

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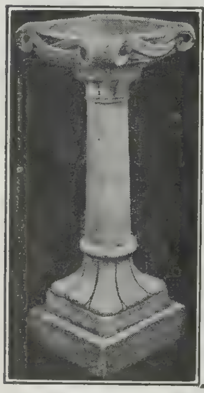

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

2638 —Vol. LI. SEPTEMBER 28, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

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American Roses in English Gardens

does not always happen that plants ich do well in one country do equally ll in another, though the climatic differ- may not be great, but most of the ican Roses which have been imported England have been very successful. are not many of them; in a list of 150 best varieties grown in English gar- at the present time only 19 are of ican origin. But all of these are good, superlatively good.

earliest of the o cross the tic was Dorothy ns, introduced by on and Perkins or. It was one ne first of the uraianas, and by eauty and pro- of its rose-pink ers and the uriance of its h it created a tion. Though it een followed by others, it still its own, and are few English ns in which it is rown. One well- wn grower tly says in his gue, "Fault: niversally d." In shel- positions it is t evergreen.

Groombridge Place, Sussex: The moat and front entrance

The bridge takes the place of the old drawbridge. The house was designed by Wren, and some of the trees were planted by Evelyn

next American ortation, an y fine one in a nt way, was al McArthur, a d Tea raised by Hill Company in The flower with advantage little longer, ike most reds, it blues after a time, but arried on a stout stalk and is deliciously d. Forming a strong and even bush, owering throughout the season, General thur is the best bedder in existence. In vn garden there is a bed of 30 of the , which have been there for 14 years re still as vigorous and as floriferous as In the same year the same Company ver another charming red (light crim- Hybrid Tea, Richmond. It is a popular n Rose, but perhaps better under glass n the open air. It is largely grown as plant. The flowers are hardly of ex- on size, but excellent for vases or buttonholes. They are delightfully perfumed.

In 1909 the fine climbing Polyantha, American Pillar, came from Conrad and Jones. During its season, which is, unfortunately, rather short, it is a magnificent sight, its glossy foliage almost hidden by the huge trusses of single rose flowers with pink centres. It is already nearly as ubiquitous as the older Dorothy Perkins. It was followed the next year by the beautiful pink climber raised by Dr. van Fleet and named after himself. It is usually described as a hybrid Wichuraiana, and it has the vigorous growth, the glossy foliage, and the numerous flowers of a Wichuraiana, but in their size and fragrance it more nearly resembles a Hybrid Tea, which was evidently one of its parents. It is a fine climber.

A welcome addition to the Hybrid Teas was the rich pink Mrs. C. E. Russell, raised by A. Montgomery in 1913. It bears such large flowers that it could not be expected to have many, but they stand up well and are very sweet-scented. The war years were naturally a lean time for Rose growers. Only one American variety was imported into England, the Hybrid Tea Hoosier Beauty, raised by Dormer and Son in 1915. Its dark crimson colour is very attractive. It is fragrant and well shaped, but as it is a weak grower it is better under glass than in the open ground. Los Angeles came from Howard and Smith in 1918. Pink and yellow in colour, fragrant and perfect in shape, it was rich in promise, but in English gardens it dies back badly, so, in spite of its great merits, it must be classed among the Roses which are difficult to manage, especially as it is very susceptible to Black Spot.

The close of the second decade of the century brought many more novelties from America. Pride of place must be given to the salmon-coloured Hybrid Tea, Mme. Butterfly, which at the present time is the most popular bush Rose in English gardens. It was obtained in 1920 by the Hill Company as a "sport" from the English Ophelia, which it much resembles, though the colour is deeper, especially in autumn. With fragrant flowers beautiful in shape as well as in colour, carried on strong stalks, and with firm petals which withstand rain and wind, it is a perfect garden Rose, and seems likely to retain for many years its position at the head of the list. In 1926 the Boston Rose Company introduced a climbing Mme. Butterfly, which should become as great a favourite as the bush form. W. F. Dreer, another Hybrid Tea, cream with salmon centre, arrived the same year from Howard and Smith. It has been described as an improved Mme. Melanie Soupert. It is a pity that it was not differently named, as it might be confused with another Rose of the same name, a Wichuraiana brought out by Hoopes and Thomas in 1903.

The following year brought two more Hybrid Teas, both strongly perfumed—Hadley from Montgomery and Co., and Columbia from the Hill Company. The former has most of the good qualities of General McArthur, and is preferred by some gardeners for bedding. The colour is deeper and the shape is rather better. Columbia is a charming rose-pink, and as it has a similar habit to Mme. Butterfly it is already a general favourite. In a damp climate varieties which are not quickly spoiled by rain have a decided advantage over others that are.

Only two more American Roses remain to be mentioned, both of them raised by Dr. van Fleet, both of them described as hybrid Wichuraianas, yet with flowers as large as many Hybrid Teas—Mary Wallace (1924) and Heart of Gold (1926). The former is rose-pink shaded salmon, and the latter a beautiful crimson with white centre and golden anthers. They are still too new to be common in English gardens. H. C. D.

The herbaceous borders

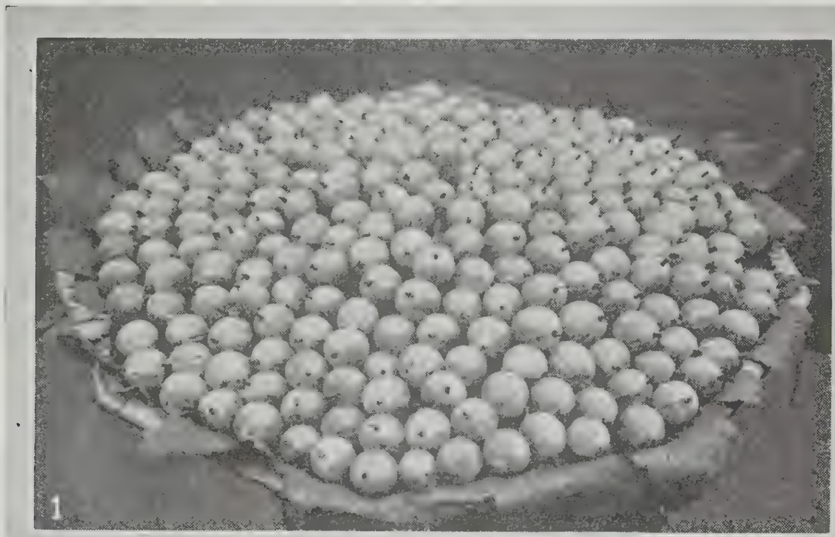
These have lost their brightness, and quite a number of flower heads may with advantage—both to the plants and to the appearance of the beds—be removed. The borders should then be given a final cleaning and hoeing, and any extra staking required among late flowering Michaelmas Daisies should be attended to at the same time in order that the borders may be kept interesting as long as possible.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Flavour in Gooseberries

In answer to " W. B.," who wrote lately about Gooseberries of good flavour, if he will grow Langley Gage he will not be disappointed. It is an early kind, not large, greenish-yellow, of the highest quality and flavour. Another excellent Gooseberry of rich, brisk flavour is Red Champagne. Both of these can be confidently recommended. His praise of Lancer as a large, rather late, smooth green of good quality is well deserved. G. J.


1

3

There are Gooseberries and Gooseberries !

1. A large exhibition basket of Langley Gage, pale green, one of the best.

2. Double cordon Trumpeter—a large oval Pear-shaped yellow fruit.

3. A bush of Leveller—a prolific yellow variety combining quality with fertility.

The National Carnation and Picotee Society

The information supplied to your readers by Mr. A. E. Amos in your issue of September 14th, page 622, much more than clearing any doubts at present existing in the minds of prospective members, is little less than a deliberate and unprovoked charge of misrepresentation and misappropriation against the Northern Society.

Evidence supports the assertion that the only Society entitled to use the title cl
by your correspondent has long been de
yet it is interesting to add that it w
northern Society operating from Manc
and formed in 1874. During its peri
existence the Southern Society, found
1877, was " an ordinary affiliated Socie

This is merely history of yesterday, a
of little moment. The southern body c
conceivably offer any advantages ove
Northern Society for a resident of the
lands and North.

The latter Society lays no claim to b
cater for interested gardeners out of its t
tory, but its members justifiably take ex
tion to a cheap advertisement at the exp
of their interests.

John A. Hewitt, Hon. Treasurer,
National Border Carnation and
Picotee Society (Northern Sectio

The natural distribution of Veroni and Celmisias

In your issue of June 15th I notice a co
spondent claiming that New Zealand sta

ıe in the Universe for its wonderful
ety of Veronicas and Celmisias. I
ays considered this little bit of the Em-
was rich in the plants mentioned, but I
ıld not like to propound such a very wide
m. A. E. GRINROD.
uckland, N.Z.

Rhus Cotinus (the Venetian Sumach)

is not too often that one meets with
eally fine specimens of this delightful
mall tree or shrub, and in many cases
ıre to secure freely flowering plants of it
due to planting in too rich or moist soil
in too shady positions.

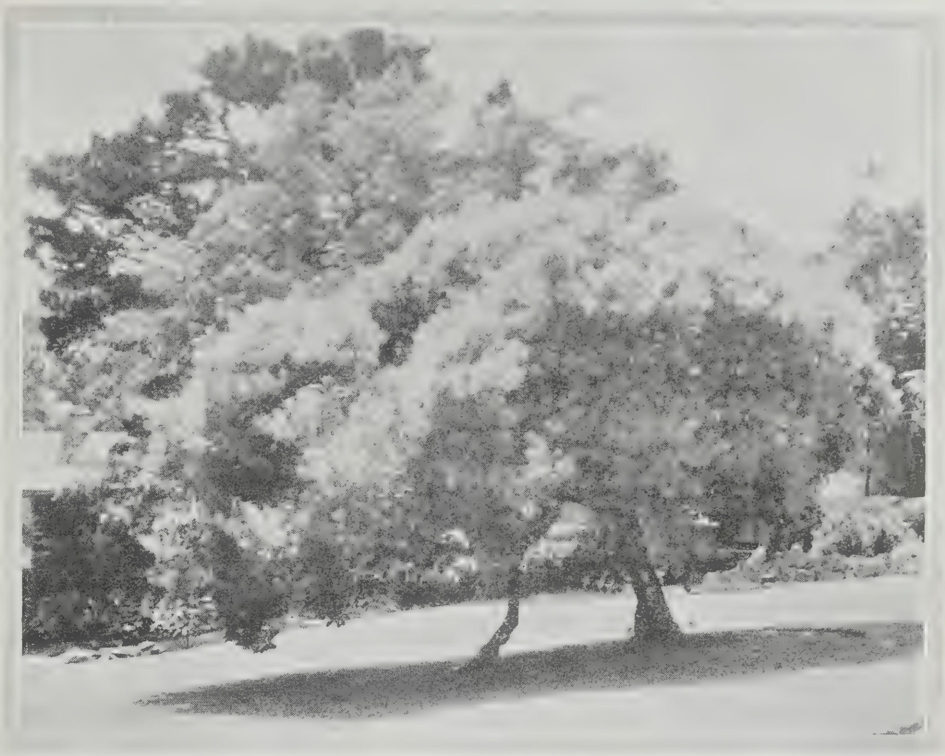
aving only lately returned from a longish
ıt-hunting expedition in the Balkan
insula, where, on the dry and stony
ıntain sides Venetian Sumach and vari-
Scrub Oaks form the chief woody vege-
ɔn, I can fully realise the positions and
wing conditions preferred by this tree,
was greatly pleased recently to see the
aordinary fine specimen, illustrated in
accompanying photographs, in the fine
len of Miss Cavendish-Bentinck at The
tage, Dawlish, South Devon.

his tree is fully 12 feet high and about
eet through, and was entirely covered by
oamy mass of its cloudy panicles of
ky purple which have earned the tree its
ular names of Smoke-tree, Wig-tree, or
ning Bush.

liss Bentinck's tree grows towards the
of a steep, sloping lawn in poor, shaley
, and fully exposed to every ray of sun,
must be very many years old, yet shows
signs of decrepitude, but promises by its
ɔrous condition to increase still further
ize and beauty.

he gardens of The Cottage are notable
many fine specimens of rare shrubs and
s, and a very rich collection of Alpine
ıts, besides the many rare plants, such
Lapagerias, Lonicera Hildebrandtii,
negranate, Tricuspidarias of huge size,
notable clumps of Hedychium Gardner-
ım, which are impossible in less-favoured
dens.

marvellous row of some six huge old
imens of Pinus radiata (Pinus insignis),
Monterey Pine, close upon 100 years old,
alone worth a visit to these gardens, and
s Bentinck is to be congratulated upon
manner in which she has added in more
nt years to the older vegetation of this
rming garden. W. E. TH. I.



The two illustrations on this page are of the Venetian Sumach (Rhus Cotinus) in the garden of Miss Cavendish-Bentinck, Dawlish, South Devon

Fifty years ago

You may be interested to learn that your paper has afforded help and instruction since its first issue, as my mother, who was a keen gardener, subscribed to the first number, and a copy has been taken in weekly practically ever since by one or other of the family. I am very interested by the "Jubilee" facsimiles of the woodcuts and extracts published from week to week, as these call to my memory some of the first impressions I had of the hobby of gardening, and were enshrined in three cloth volumes bound up in green. W. J. O.

Whitgarth, Cunningham Hill,
St. Albans.

What is wrong with the modern Rose?

What is the matter with the modern Rose? The position is a serious one for the would-be Rose grower and quite as much so for the producer.

Fifty years ago the Rose went on from year to year. Granted it was a flat rosette and was only required to bloom for two or three months at the outside.

Twenty years ago the Hybrid Tea also went on from year to year.

Nowadays where are the Roses of two years ago—even of last year? On the rubbish-heap and their names vanished from the catalogues.

What is one to think when one buys six plants of a kind, five die, the sixth flourishes, all have the same soil, the same culture? One hears only too often nowadays, Oh! we can't grow Roses.

Far too many Roses are rushed on the market. It would pay growers much better to place a few sorts well tried out in their own nurseries than the spindly, sickly specimens they now send out. In taking notes for the garden I now say, If I see this Rose shown again in three years' time I'll order it, otherwise it is waste of money to try new sorts. M. I. BUXTON.

[We have considerable sympathy with our correspondent, but can hardly see how the matter is to be mended, the craze for change having invaded the realm of flowers as much as it has other spheres of human activities. We hardly agree, however, that all Roses sent out are of so ephemeral a character. Many present-day varieties were raised years ago and are still offered in every Rose catalogue. What about Hugh Dickson, Caroline Testout, Mme. Melanie Soupert, Mrs. Henry Morse, Pharisaer, General McArthur, Frances Gaunt, Ophelia, Mrs. David McKee, Mrs. Wemyss Quinn, and many others? All these are really good Roses, fit for any garden, while such lovely, later-raised sorts as Lady Roundway, Lady Pirrie, Golden Gleam, Lady Inchiquin, Mme. Butterfly, Covent Garden, Mrs. Henry Bowles, Wm. F. Dreer, Una Wallace, Betty Uprichard, etc., give every promise of having "come to stay." One reason why so many Roses die annually is due to unsuitable stocks on which they have been worked. That is, the particular stock may not be suited to the soil of certain gardens and yet may produce excellent results in others. As an example of what a suitable stock can do we know of a bed of Caroline Testout planted over 25 years ago and which is annually a treat for several months. We do not know what the stock is. In the same garden Mme. Abel Chatenay simply refuses to grow.—ED.]

Gardens in Ancient Greece

I should be very interested to hear what is Mr. Edge's authority for the statement (issue August 24th, page 580) that the Greeks of classical times cultivated gardens to any extent, and also where the lines, translated from Chaeremon—the Greek tragedian, presumably—appear.

I had always had the impression that the Greeks, suffering, like all city-dwellers, from the evils of overcrowding, had little space for horticulture, and consequently no doubt showed little taste for it. There is, of course, ample evidence of their love of flowers, but it would seem rather to have been a love of wild flowers or of flowers for decoration or the making of garlands.

Of gardens such as the wealthier Romans made, I cannot recollect any mention, except in Longus, who was many centuries later. There is, too, I imagine, still a good deal of uncertainty as to the botanical nomenclature of Greek literature. The Greeks of classical times knew little or nothing of botany, and plants of the same species are given quite distinct names. There is, for instance, good ground for believing that the Greek Hyacinth was in reality the beautiful little Iris alata that appears in the first days of spring all over the regions surrounding the Mediterranean. The Rhododendron of the Greeks was much more probably the Oleander, and even their Violets and their Lilies are under suspicion of being something different from what we mean by them.

It would be of great interest to have the latest authoritative views on the subject. I should like to believe that the Greeks, who were capable of doing whatever they set their hands to as well at least as we can, were a nation who loved flowers and made gardens, and, if so, must at least have done it better than their descendants. I should also like to believe that all the lovers' garlands which they twined were something more graceful and artistic than the weird tangles they must have been if we are to take the tiresome old bore, Athenæus, as a speaker of the truth.

But I own I am a little sceptical. If the Greeks really had a passion for gardening, if they had, as every true gardener has, a love of growing flowers—as opposed to wearing them round their necks or putting them into buttonholes—someone or other, Xenophon or Aristophanes, would surely have mentioned it.

I own my classics are not what they were, but I do not now recall a single passage. R. E. S. Spender.

Bagley Wood, Oxford.

Perennial Aster King George, a low-growing variety of the Amellus section

The source of great attraction to Painted Ladies, Red Admirals, and other butterflies

Omphalodes Luciliæ

I am interested in your notes on the beautiful and difficult Omphalodes Luciliæ (issue September 21st, pages 653 and 654). I lay no claim to knowledge about Alpine plants, but happen to grow this one successfully in, perhaps, a peculiar way. I have it blooming well on date of writing (September 21st), and it has been in bloom all the summer.

I grow it on a heap of limestone chips with no soil at all and practically in full shade. The stone chips are kept watered and, when growing, I give it, every now and then, a watering with weak liquid-manure. I have always understood it is a lime lover. Slugs will not go over the stone chips. C. B.

Near Farnham.

Old-fashioned flowers

As an old reader of Gardening Illustrated and a very keen amateur gardener all my life in a very small way, I am distressed to note how many of the old-fashioned and most beautiful flowers seem practically to be extinct, notably, double Primroses, in mauve, white, and grey; Sweet - scented Rockets. Are these last Hesperis matronalis? Once I had 15 double Primroses and Polyanthuses, now I have only 10 varieties, and very few of most of them. "Old double Rose" or " Rose du Barri " does well here, and I have a good stock of it. It sells at what I consider a prohibitive price. I have a large collection of Primulas, but they are not in the same rank as double Primroses.

Netta Lendrum.

Corkil, Kilskeery,
Co. Tyrone, Ireland.

The Baneberries

Actæa spicata and its varieties are plants well adapted for moist and half-shaded situations in the wild garden, where their plentiful fruits will in autumn create a pleasing feature. They are plants of vigorous growth, some 3 feet high, with attractive foliage not unlike that of many Umbellifers. A. spicata, the common Baneberry, is generally distributed throughout the Northern Hemisphere and is plentiful in North America. It has also been recorded from one or two stations in Northern England. The terminal raceme of whitish flowers is followed by a plentitude of nearly black fruits. Most attractive varieties are A. spicata fructo-rubra, with bright red berries, and A. spicata fructo-alba, with dense spikes of large milk-white fruits. The last-named plant I recently saw in some quantity and in fine form, and thought it decidedly attractive, being of good compact habit, with nice foliage and a fine cr showy fruits. I would not admit these berries into a border of choice plants, as are somewhat obtrusive, but they are fine subjects for the wild garden, thin land where a moist soil exists, or for g ing in the stream garden. A. spica known as Herb Christopher, and there other species, A. racemosa—the Bugba Snakeroot—in cultivation. An added a tion to the white-fruited form is th stalks to the berries, and this little b colouring invests the plant with a pleasing distinction. Ralph E. Arno

Michaelmas Daisies

THIS is proving an excellent yea Michaelmas Daisies, and is showing again the value of these plants in th baceous border. I have a good collecti my garden, and I thought it would be ful if I were to communicate the nam a few of the best of these to our rea Ethel Ballard is a most profuse blo whose pyramidal growth attains a heig 5 feet to 6 feet. The flowers are of a l shell-pink hue. One of the finest Mic mas Daisies in cultivation is seen in variety King George. The flowers ar large size and perfect form, while the c is a beautiful violet blue. As this Mic mas Daisy only attains a height of 3 fe is excellent for small gardens. Though variety Chastity has been grown for s years, it is one of the best whites in cul tion. It attains the convenient height feet. The Hon. Edith Gibbs is, in my j ment, one of our best lilac-coloured v ties, and the habit of growth is all that c be desired. There is something of an world effect about the pale blue flower the variety Simplicity, and in the f coloured blooms of Coombe Fishacre t is represented the very essence of refinem The three last-named varieties grow height of 4 feet. I find that where Mich mas Daisies are concerned, thorough w ing of the soil and liberal enrichment manure are the leading cultural factors. is an advantage to do the work of plan during early November to give the roo chance of establishing themselves, triennial transplanting should be pract for the purpose of maintaining constituti vigour. G. H.

A few well-known Delphiniu

Few plants give more charm to the ga than Delphiniums, and the following s tion of choice varieties may prove usefu the would-be grower :—

D. Nudicaule, a gem from a colour p of view, and most useful because of thi the rock garden or for a group in the bor

D. Cardinale, another fine kind w flowers later and is taller. Many years I grew both, raising them from seed, an sowing every other year always had n vigorous plants. The seed was sown e in the year in pots, pricked out in boxe pots, and the next spring planted out. obtain the best results the plants nee sheltered spot.

D. Grandiflora.—The dwarf form, kn as the double Siberian, is a lovely deep b In a sheltered position it seldom attai more than 18 inches to 20 inches in heig

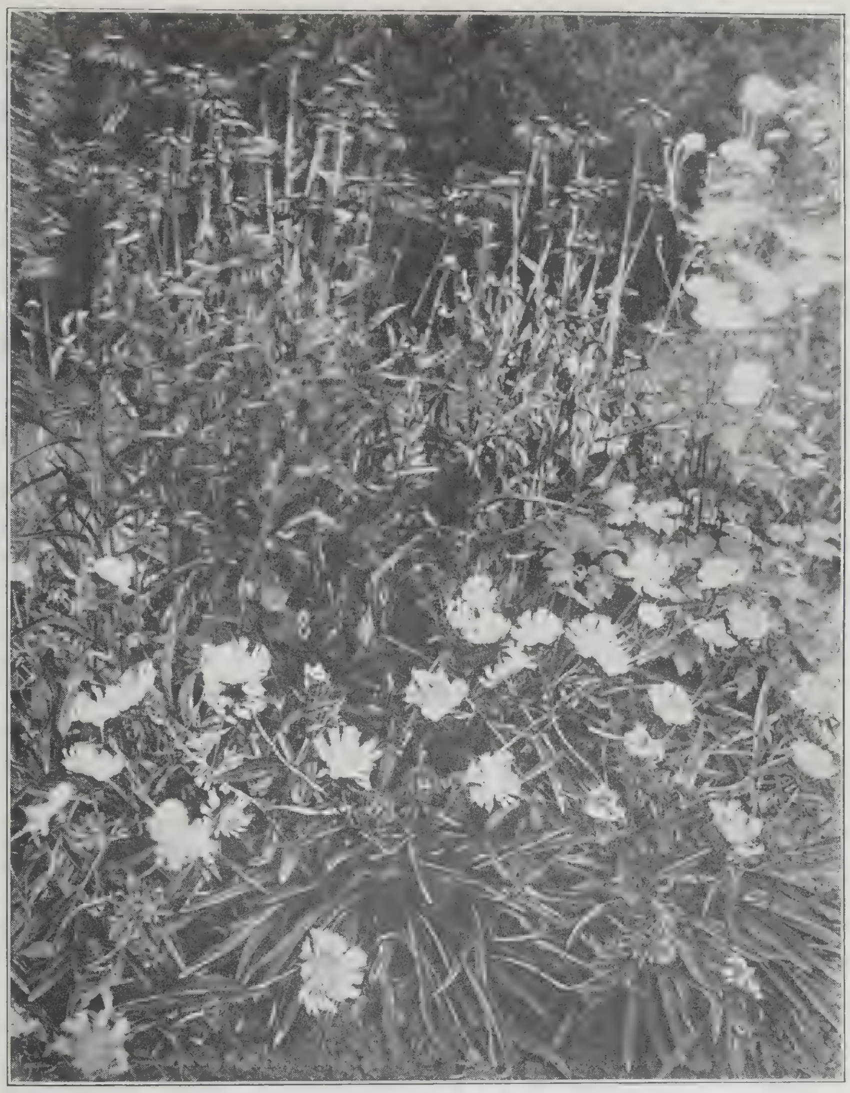
D. Belladonna, although an old kind not excelled as a light blue, and especiall wanted for cutting.

D. Hendersoni (dark blue), which is fine. In my early days we used to call th plants Oxford and Cambridge. When s in big groups or en masse the effect is fine and they are useful in giving colour the conservatory. J. C

Beaconsfield.

Stokesia cyanea

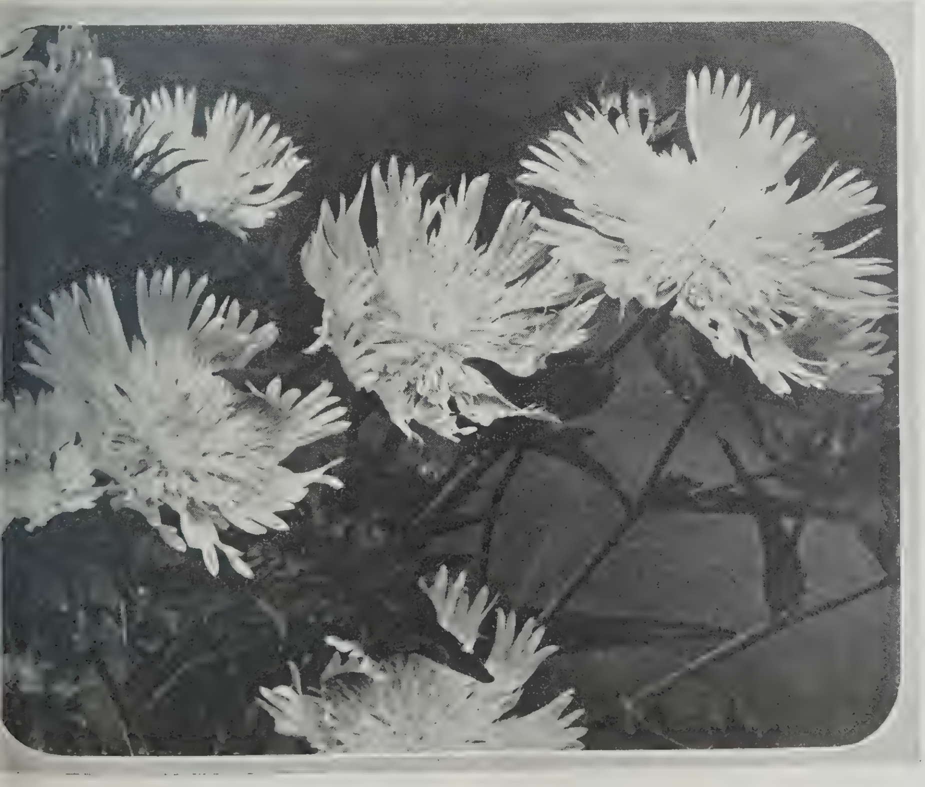
HERE are two forms of Stokesia
cyanea, differing only in time of flower-
ing. The older one flowers in late
ımn and, except in warm localities, fre-
ntly fails to bloom owing to early frosts.
as at one time largely grown in Scotland
exhibitors of hardy herbaceous flowers,
in most seasons had to be potted and
ed under glass to be in time for August
early September shows. This older
n went largely out of cultivation in cold
ricts owing to this frequent failure to
er and its late blooming when it did open
erly. Within, I think, the last five-and-
nty years a form which blooms early was
oduced under the name of S. cyanea
cox, and this blooms in good time and
s for a long period in flower. By the
, there was a very rare white variety of
old form, and there is also one of the
y one. S. ARNOTT.



The early-flowering form of Stokesia cyanea, in association with Coneflowers and Anemone japonica

argoniums with fragrant leaves

seems a far cry to the day when scented-
ed Geraniums formed part of the collec-
of plants found in most greenhouses,
it would almost seem that interest in this
s had died out to a large extent, yet
ly among lovers of old favourite
aniums, these have a claim. One of the
ivors is the well-known dark green Oak-
ed—Nelson by name—and there is a
te veined variety of this. Royal Oak has
ery pungent smell, with small crimson
ers. Citrodorum, as its name implies,
itron scented. One very ancient sort is
rant of peppermint, and is named Bulls-
Clorinda. It has about it the fragrance
he Oak-leaved varieties, but yields many
-pink flowers. This is worth looking
r because of its pendulous habit, which
es it useful for hanging baskets and
dow boxes; also for growing as stan-
ls. Crispum, with very small leaves
ch lie close together—the plant growing
n upright fashion and highly perfumed—
another of these once-thought-much-of
aniums. As window plants they are worth bearing in mind in this, their propagating season, as with little warmth they can be kept in the window of a room the year round where the conditions do not fall much below 55 degrees. That is why one meets with these scented-leaved plants of a bygone generation in many out of the way villages as window plants, sometimes growing to a huge size. WOODBASTWICK.



A nearer view of Stokesia cyanea

The Anthemis

This plant is of the composite order and nearly allied to the Chrysanthemum and Matricaria. Several of the species are hardy native plants. A. nobilis is the common Camomile of cottage gardens, and A. arvensis the Corn Camomile. The most elegant of all, however, is A. tinctoria, with large yellow flowers, which has been cultivated in gardens for many years on account of its pretty blossoms. Few plants are more easily cultivated than the Anthemis; any kind of soil will suit them, but on the whole they prefer a fairly light one and are not particular as to position.

The usual way of increasing stock is by cuttings, but as they produce seed freely they may be increased by this means also, but seedlings of the choice named kinds cannot be depended upon to come true. A. aizoon is only 3 inches to 4 inches high, with small white flowers. It is a very pretty little Alpine plant. A. canescens, with foliage and white blossoms, is a trailing or prostrate plant.

F. H.

THE ROYAL·HORTICULTURAL·SOCIETY'S GREAT·AUTUMN·SHOW

NEW POLICY OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Cloud banks of Asters—The first Autumn Show, September 19th-20th, chiefly for open-air plants and Roses

A Random Commentary

THE autumn show has inevitably lost something of its glory by sub-division, but some relief from the intolerable overcrowding of last year was imperative, and on Thursday and Friday it was possible to see the plants in comfort and almost at leisure. It was the greater pity that the lustre of the show was further slightly dimmed by the merciless drought; which has fallen hard on the late-flowering plants, since they depend upon the autumn rains for their full development.

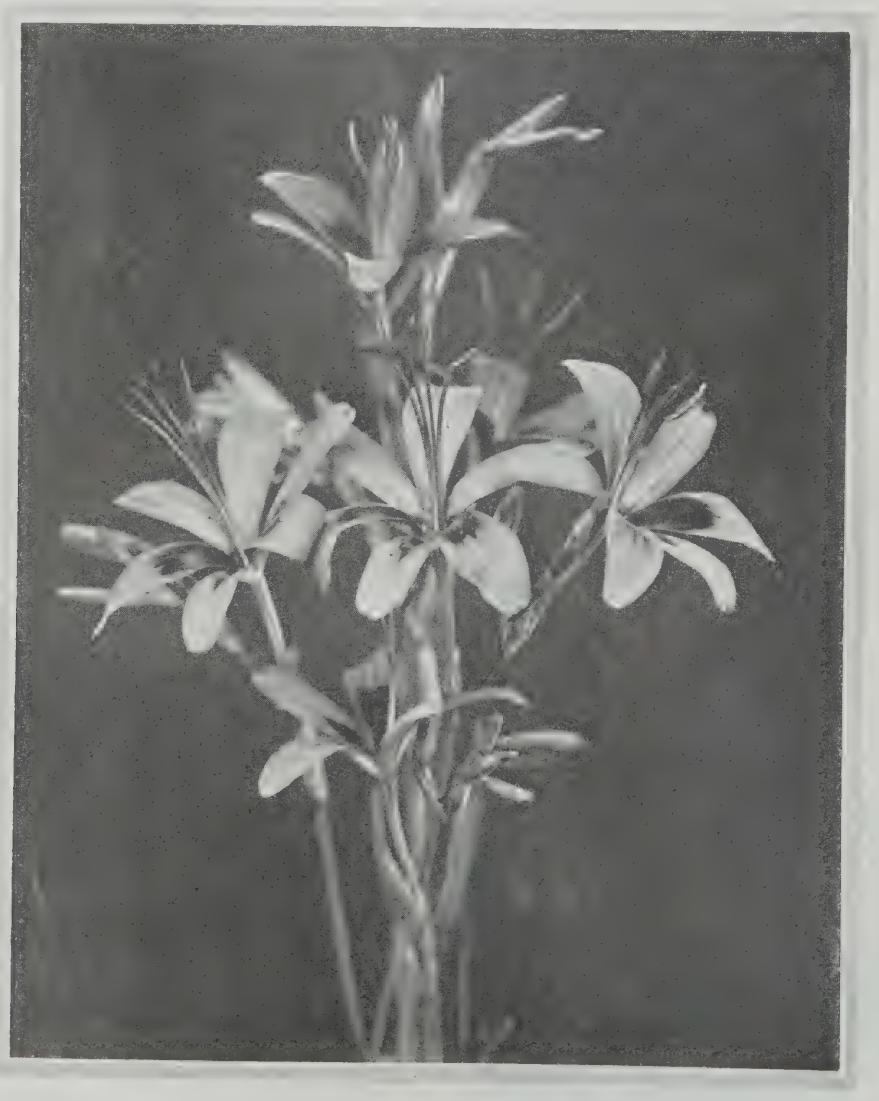
The Old Hall, which looks rather dowdy and dilapidated now beside its successor, has a homely feeling to old frequenters, and I was glad that it was not used merely as an overflow, but was given over mostly to Roses and Alpines. The Roses were not, obviously, affected by the rainless summer, but seemed to show that depth and richness
of colour in which, I think (though it
be fancy), the autumn Roses often
those of the earlier flowering. McGr
Ivory is a fine new Rose, solid, cr
tinted, and buxom, with a strong but de
Tea Rose scent. The names of the c
would be familiar to every gardener. I
ing over them in general one markec
absence of a clear, sulpur-yellow among
varied and sometimes intense colours. T
are good yellow Roses, of course, but
in the best of them there is that faint hi
brown which tends to make a yellow sli
hot and opaque.

There is among the Roses of recent i
duction a scarcity also of pure pink sh
The re-introduction of the Austrian Bri
a parent provided, with sudden facilit
vast number of Roses in blended pink
yellow. This combination of colour s
to fascinate the raisers of new flowers,
haps because it is rare in Nature, so th
is tending to become the keynote of
modern flower garden; where it has br
out in Lupins, Gladiolus, Pæonies,
Mulleins, and even the purity of
Daffodils is threatened with what the
physicians used to call a "sanguin
effusion." It is not that a blend of pink
yellow is ugly in itself—it is borne suc
fully by the somewhat reluctant Lewisi
but it is a risky mixture, especially i
setting of green, and it has the disadvant
from the point of view of pure æsthetics
suggesting something sweet and edible.

The rock garden is not at its brilliant
in September, but no one could have b
unimpressed by the delicate beauty of
rock garden made by Mr. Ingwersen v
dwarf conifers, grey rocks and shingle, g
tufts of grass and groups of "Na
Ladies" blushing together under the d
trees. This charming folk name, "Na
Ladies," is so appropriate that it has b
given to the Colchicum in almost all
countries of Europe; and it is a pity tha
plant so easy, permanent, and beaut
should not be as common in our gardens
the Daffodil. In this same grey rock g
den was an exquisite little Lupin (*Lupi*
Lyalli), 3 inches high, with silvery-gr
leaves and miniature flower-spikes in c
lavender. It is rare in cultivation, bu
welcome newcomer, for it is perfectly in p
portion and need not be compared with
quite different beauty of its tall sisters.

In the New Hall

Just inside the New Hall there was an i
posing bed of Lilies, some massive a
superb, others self-consciously elegant,
wonderfully well grown and displaying to t
full that peculiar quality of Lilies that e
dears them to most people and leaves oth
a little cold, even repelled. Perhaps t



Lapeyrousia grandiflora, native of Zomba, a beautiful bulbous plant, flowers clear scarlet with deep velvet crimson blotch at base of petals

Shown by Amos Perry. Award of Merit

An effective group of Dahlias from Crawley on the floor of the New Hall

is due merely to the great size of the
s in comparison with the design of the
a disproportion that we are liable to
sise in the garden by forgetting that
Lilies grow in long grass or out of
thick undergrowth.

nd the Lilies were cloud-banks of
lmas Daisies; not quite so fine, per-
as they were last year, but bringing
to us how much this flower has been
ed in recent years. It was not so
ng ago that our Michaelmas Daisies
not only small, but dingy, almost
lly inconspicuous in the background
shrubbery; now they come in galaxies
le-eyed flowers to bid farewell to
one. Their tones of clear, cool
r, ecclesiastical violet, and faintly
grey are so admirably suited to their
that it seems a pity that the raisers
strain so hard after a blue, and it is
re to be regretted (as correspondents
RDENING ILLUSTRATED have pointed
ently with some acrimony) that their
and imagination have so far outrun
erformance that many good Michael-
aisies are mis-named "Blue this-
d-the-other." The value of such a
ariety as Ultramarine is depreciated
idiculously misleading name.

were not many individual plants to
nd hold the eye as you walked round
ll, but in the bewildering brilliance
inevitable in a large flower show
ere one or two plants of merit that
e more conspicuous because they were
tatious. Messrs. Maxwell and Beale
a double variety of Ling with long,
flower-spikes, Erica vulgaris H. E.
which seems likely to prove a valuable
to the Heath garden. And it was
t to see in one exhibit the glistening
louds of that old-fashioned Everlast-
aphalis nubigena. Vernonia Arkan-
own by Messrs. Gavin Jones, is an
on plant that at first sight seems
ht ugly with its dark, dusty leaves
ggy flowers of reddish-purple, but it
reat deal of character and its peculiar
ould probably prove very interesting
ination with plants of similar shades.
same exhibit was our native Horned

Poppy, which surely deserves to be seen more often in gardens, and a hybrid of it, Glaucium corniculatum rubrum, whose tomato-red flowers contrast startlingly with its grey foliage.

Among the new and noteworthy plants the most striking was Lapeyrousia grandiflora, shown by Messrs. Perry, which is in effect L. (Anemotheca) cruenta doubled in size and of the same strange brilliance of vermilion and crimson. The smaller species is so much more hardy than might be expected that one is tempted to hope that L. grandiflora, though described as a greenhouse bulb, might also be willing to flourish in a sunny, sandy border. Messrs. Perry showed also a very curious new plant, Nuphar japonicum rubrum, which looks just as though our native yellow Water Lily had been modelled in green and red sealing-wax by a Japanese artist.

Ceanothus Powder Blue, a hybrid of C. thyrsiflorus and C. indigo, raised by Messrs. Burkwood and Skipworth, has flower-heads of misty, greyish-lavender and is said to be evergreen and quite hardy. H.

The Autumn Show

By Sir WILLIAM LAWRENCE, Bart.

While there is no doubt that this was a notable show, there was something not altogether pleasing in the fierce masses of colour unrelieved by shrubs. To my mind, it is unfortunate that the exigencies of space and established habits combined result in as many flowers as possible being crowded into one group. Sir Jeremiah Colman told me that he has sometimes exhibited Orchids and stove plants arranged for effect, but that such a group would have no chance of a Gold Medal as it would be considered that there were not enough plants. Until exhibitors can be allotted much larger spaces and can display their Roses, Dahlias, herbaceous flowers, etc., in large isolated baskets or vases, I am afraid we must go on as we are. To my mind the arrangement of the magnificent Roses round the Old Hall was most unpleasing, and I have hopes that next year the Roses will be arranged in the body of one or other hall—the New Hall, I hope, as Roses last so very much better in that atmosphere; the Roses in the Old Hall were full-blown by 2 p.m. on Thursday afternoon.

The exhibitors of rock gardens did their best with the material at hand, but it is clearly a mistake to try and show rock plants in September; I think it would be better to do away with this class and give the space to the firms which were cut down. This would be no hardship, as I asked one or two rock garden men what business was like, and they replied "rotten."

Just as Lord Kitchener disliked cats, I am not very fond of Dahlias, but there are exceptions to all rules, and one or two Dahlias took my fancy, especially a Dahlia called Fogo, which had a new and pleasing shape and a very fine colour; Colour Queen was a

Roses round the Old Hall in competition for the Wigan Challenge Cup for the best exhibit of Roses

most lovely thing, and some of the Pompon varieties were charming. I noticed in this class Bacchus, Rosalie, and Nerissa.

The new plants proved a very dull lot, with the exception of the beautiful Lapeyrousia grandiflora shown by Mr. Amos Perry.

It is sad to think that only one amateur staged a group at the show, and I understand that at the show of ornamental trees and shrubs on October 2nd there is not a single amateur entry. The truth is, most amateurs cannot afford to show nowadays.

William Lawrence.

LIST OF AWARDS

THE WIGAN CUP

For the best exhibit of Roses staged on an area not exceeding 100 square feet.—To Messrs. T. Robinson and Son.

GOLD MEDALS

R. H. Bath, Ltd., for Gladioli; Blackmore and Langdon, for Begonias; Alex. Dickson and Sons, Ltd., for Roses; Dobbie and Co., Ltd., for Dahlias; J. B. Riding, for Dahlias; T. Robinson and Son, for Roses.

SILVER CUP

S. McGredy and Son, for Roses.

SILVER-GILT LINDLEY MEDAL

Hon. Mrs. Montagu (gardener, Mr. J. E. Fitt), for Montbretias.

SILVER-GILT FLORA MEDALS

Dickson and Robinson, for Dahlias; J. W. Forsyth, for early-flowering Chrysanthemums; H. J. Jones, for Dahlias; K. Luxford and Co., for early-flowering Chrysanthemums; Amos Perry, for aquatic and waterside plants; G. Prince, for Roses; W. Treseder, Ltd., for Dahlias.

SILVER-GILT BANKSIAN MEDALS

T. Bones, for Michaelmas Daisies; Chaplin Bros., for Roses; Jarman and Co., for Dahlias; Kings Acre Nurseries, for Dahlias; M. Prichard and Sons, for herbaceous plants; J. Stredwick and Son, for Dahlias; R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., for Lilies and other herbaceous plants; W. Wells, Junior, for Michaelmas Daisies and other herbaceous plants; H. Woolman, for Dahlias and early-flowering Chrysanthemums.

SILVER FLORA MEDALS

Barr and Sons, for Montbretias, Michaelmas Daisies, and other herbaceous plants; Ben. R. Cant and Sons, for Roses; Carter Page and Co., Ltd., for Dahlias; Dowtys Rosery, for Roses; Gavin Jones, for herbaceous plants; B. Ladhams, Ltd., for Lobelias and other herbaceous plants; J. H. Pemberton, for Roses; M. Prichard and Sons, for rock garden plants; D. Prior and Sons, for Roses; L. R. Russell, Ltd., for water and rock garden plants; J. T. West, for Dahlias.

SILVER BANKSIAN MEDALS

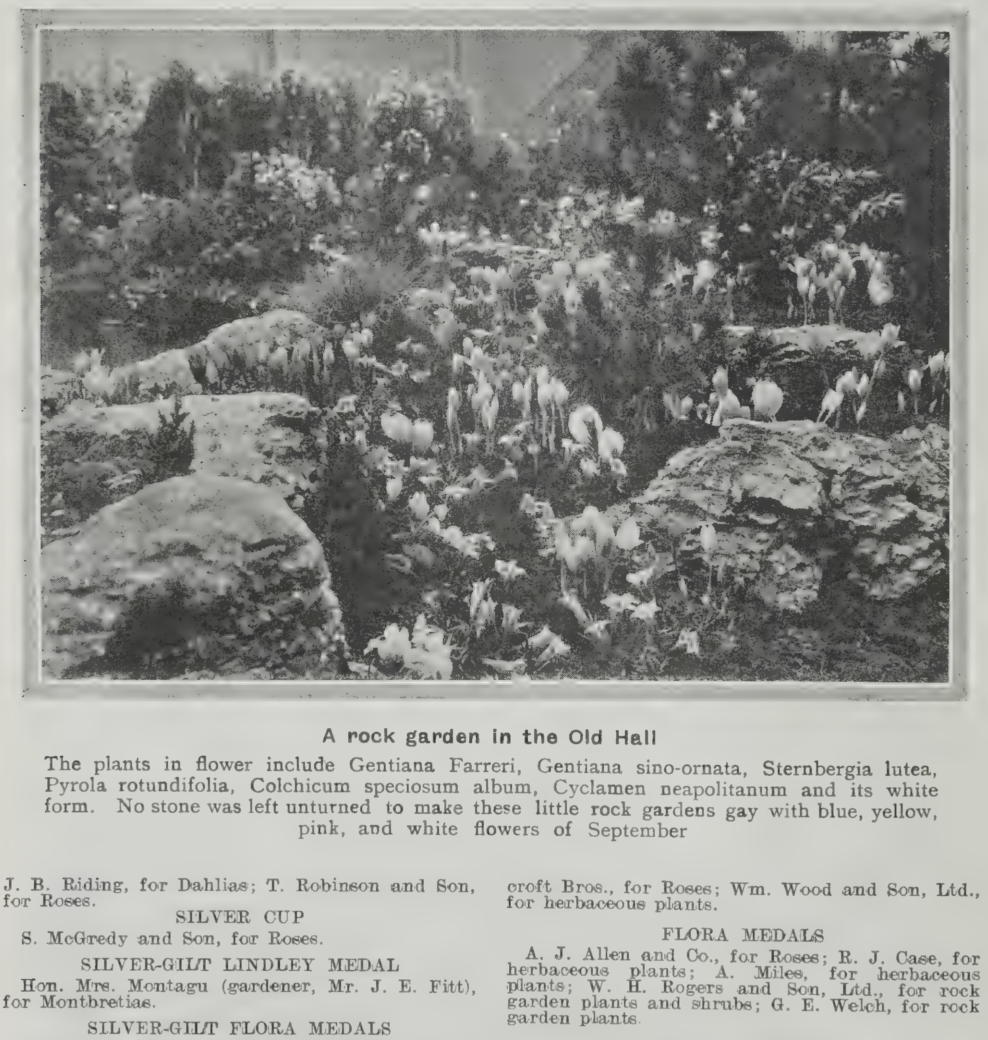
J. C. Allgrove, for Roses; Allwood Bros., for Pinks and Border Carnations; Bakers, Ltd., for herbaceous plants; E. Ballard, for Michaelmas Daisies; G. Bunyard and Co., Ltd., for Asters and other herbaceous plants; J. Cheal and Sons, for Dahlias; W. Easlea and Sons, for Roses; Clarence Elliott, Ltd., for rock garden plants and dwarf conifers; E. F. Fairbairn and Sons, for Phloxes; J. Forbes, Ltd., for Phloxes, Pentstemons, and Dahlias; Gayborder Nurseries, for Michaelmas Daisies; Harkness and Sons, for herbaceous plants and Gladioli; R. Harkness and Co., for Roses; H. Hemsley, for Dahlias and hardy flowers; Hewitt and Co., Ltd., for Roses; Hewitt and Co., Ltd., for Delphiniums; Elisha J. Hicks, for Roses; Isaac House and Son, for Scabious and Tritomas; W. E. T. Ingwersen, for rock garden plants and dwarf conifers; G. Jackman and Son, for herbaceous plants; James MacDonald, for grass garden; Maxwell and Beale, for rock garden plants; Oliver and Hunter, for herbaceous plants, bulbous and rock garden plants; Rich and Cooling, for herbaceous plants; T. Smith and Sons, for Roses; Stanway Rose Gardens, for Roses; Miss S. S. Thompson, for Cacti; Warner and Son, for Roses; Wheatcroft Bros., for Roses; Wm. Wood and Son, Ltd., for herbaceous plants.

FLORA MEDALS

A. J. Allen and Co., for Roses; R. J. Case, for herbaceous plants; A. Miles, for herbaceous plants; W. H. Rogers and Son, Ltd., for rock garden plants and shrubs; G. E. Welch, for rock garden plants.

BANKSIAN MEDALS

Backhouse Nurseries, for rock garden shrubs and plants; G. and A. Clark, Ltd., for herbaceous plants; H. Clarke, for Dahlias; W. Cutbush and Son, Ltd., for Michaelmas Daisies and Dahlias; P. Gardner, for rock garden plants; G. Gibson and Co., for rock garden plants and dwarf shrubs; S. J. Goodliffe, for Dahlias and herbaceous plants; Hillier and Sons, for water and rock garden plants; W. Keep and Co., for herbaceous plants; Kings Acre Nurseries, for early-flowering Chrysanthemums; Little Munden Nursery, for herbaceous plants and Dahlias; Orpington Nursery Co., for Gladioli; Amos Perry, for herbaceous and bulbous plants; E. J. Redgrove and Son, for herbaceous plants and Gladioli; G. Reuthe, for herbaceous and rock garden plants; F. Rich, for herbaceous plants; J. Robinson and Sons, for rock garden and hardy plants; W. H. Simpson and Sons, for Antirrhinums and Montbretias; Tuckers, Ltd., for herbaceous and rock garden plants; Charles Turner, for Dahlias; G. E. P. Wood, for rock garden plants; Wm. Yandell, for Dahlias.



A rock garden in the Old Hall

The plants in flower include Gentiana Farreri, Gentiana sino-ornata, Sternbergia lutea, Pyrola rotundifolia, Colchicum speciosum album, Cyclamen neapolitanum and its white form. No stone was left unturned to make these little rock gardens gay with blue, yellow, pink, and white flowers of September

New Dahlias

Varieties selected for trial at W

Forty-one new seedling Dahlias w mitted to the Joint Committee of th Horticultural Society and the N Dahlia Society on the occasion Great Autumn Show on Thursday, ber 19th. The following varietie selected for trial next year at Wisley:

Margate Star.—An attractive acq to the Star section. The flowers ar 3½ inches in diameter, and have rath row grooved florets, and are borne stems. Colour, yellow centre, pas bronze and rose at tips of florets. Sh Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., C Sussex.

Mysore.—A pretty small-flowered pointed, building a flower about 7 across, evenly recurving. Colour, Very stiff, erect stems, devoloping th at a good angle. Shown by Messrs. J wick and Son.

W. F. Balding.—Another very la corative Dahlia, having broad, flat quilled-like at the ends and slightly building a bloom about 9 inches in di Colour, rosy-fawn. Shown by Messrs wick.

Nagpur.—A welcome addition Camellia-flowered section. The flo fairly broad and reflex in even man veloping a bloom from 3⅛ inches to 3 in diameter. Colour, brilliant scarlet. by Messrs. Cheal.

Paulia.—A small-flowered Pæony-f Dahlia, having fairly broad florets at the ends, developing a bloom inches across. Colour, bronzy terr Shown by Messrs. E. Burrell and Co. bridge.

Eda.—Another interesting small-f Pæony, having broad, pointed florets twisted. The flowers are about 4 in diameter, and their colour may be d as bright orange, margined rosy-c Also shown by Messrs. E. Burrell an

D.

Two new certificated Chr themums

The two undermentioned early Chry mums were shown before the Flora mittee of the Royal Horticultural Soc September 19th last and both gai Award of Merit.

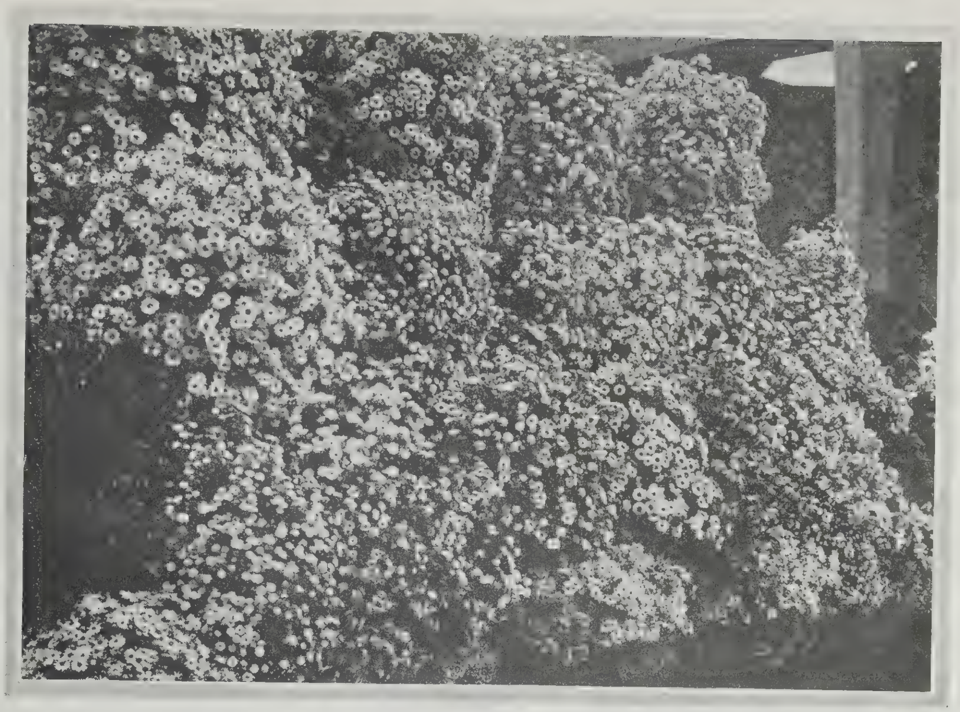
Kingcup.—An attractive variety for culture. The blossoms are borne in sprays, and individual blooms are co of narrow florets of reflexing form, b useful decorative flowers. Colour golden yellow. This variety was r certificated by the National Chrysantl Society.

Mrs. W. D. Cartwright.—A pro Early for market or for the garden florets are of medium breadth, inde the end, and develop a full reflexed bl good form about 5 inches in dia Colour, yellow. Both shown by Shoesmith, Jnr.

D. B. C

Globe Tulips

At a first glance these plants would taken for Tulips. In fact, they belong Calochortus group, of which the M Lily is a much better known represe They are pleasing plants, with dr globular flowers of white or pink or on upright stems. Each bulb carries o and from six to twelve flowers. T best in shade and are quite at home



The cloud bank of Michaelmas Daisies in the New Hall by W. Wells junr.

-d under trees and shrubs, or on the
side of the border. The soil should be
porous, and well-drained, leaf-mould
the principal constituent, with smaller
ties of loam and coarse sand. Any
n September they may be potted up for
culture. After potting, plunge them
ɔed of fibre for about seven or eight
to let them get a good start with their
ɔefore top growth makes progress. At
d of this time stand the pots in a cold
until the flowers appear, after which
hem into the greenhouse or conserva-
Give plenty of ventilation on all favour-
casions and water when required. C.
iis has flowers of a rich golden yellow
. albus a nice pearly-white. F. H.

peful signs in trying times

have had hardly any rain in this dis-
or nine months—ever since the start
long frost on January 1st. Drink-
ater is getting scarce, and is, of
prohibited for garden watering. The
pond is dry, and the nearest brook
g very low) a quarter of a mile away.
tle water one has to spare is used to
different vegetables, and so the poor
have had to take their chance, and
of them have a very sorry appearance.
, so bad are some of them that I think
case of those things one is anxious to
and which it is difficult to replace, it
advisable to give them a year in a
reserve border. Replanting on the
order in a dust-dry state, and with no
lity of watering, is quite out of the
n. Some things preserve their fresh-
nder the trying circumstances, and I
een agreeably surprised to find the
Carnations, both the old clumps and
ers, looking so fresh and well. I put
ers down in my favourite compost,
parts garden soil and one of horse
ngs, and managed to give this one
oaking, so that an occasional sprinkle
ot them fresh. They will have to re-
where they are, with no thought of
g out until a change in the weather.
not know what has been the ex-
e of flower lovers in other districts
where, like us, they have had the prolonged drought with no intervening thunderstorms and the inability to resort to artificial watering. Here it is interesting to note that some of the old flowers upon which we are, perhaps, inclined to look somewhat scornfully have come most satisfactorily through the ordeal. They have not only flowered well, but have preserved a fairly green, healthy foliage right up to the present time. Rockets, Heucheras (hardy), Fuchsias, Larkspurs, and Carnations are a few examples, whilst in annuals we have been very glad of the homely Marigolds in varying heights, dwarf Nasturtiums, and Cornflowers in different shades. "Not much variety in the above," some may say, but in a season like the present the small grower is thankful for a few things that have helped to brighten his home and garden. E. B.

Bucks.

lluna vulgaris H. E. Beale—of low spreading habit and branches wreathed with double pink flowers *(See page 661)*

Polyanthus as a pot plant

To the amateur especially do I recommend the Polyanthus as a pot plant for winter decoration. It may be grown in pots from 5 inches upwards. It is of the utmost importance that the plants are obtained from the best strains. A beginning may be made by obtaining seed, sowing under glass, and, when strong enough, pricking them off in a somewhat shady position, and in the autumn planting out in a similar place where they can bloom and be selected to colour. The following autumn these can be potted into the size needed (this should be done early), and as the days shorten they should be put under glass, where they will soon commence to flower. If there are plants enough they should be changed, as this will be helpful to them, and the following autumn they will be fine to plant in the open in any position.

Beaconsfield. J. C.

R.H.S. Examinations, 1930.

The examinations of the Royal Horticultural Society will be held in 1930, as follows :

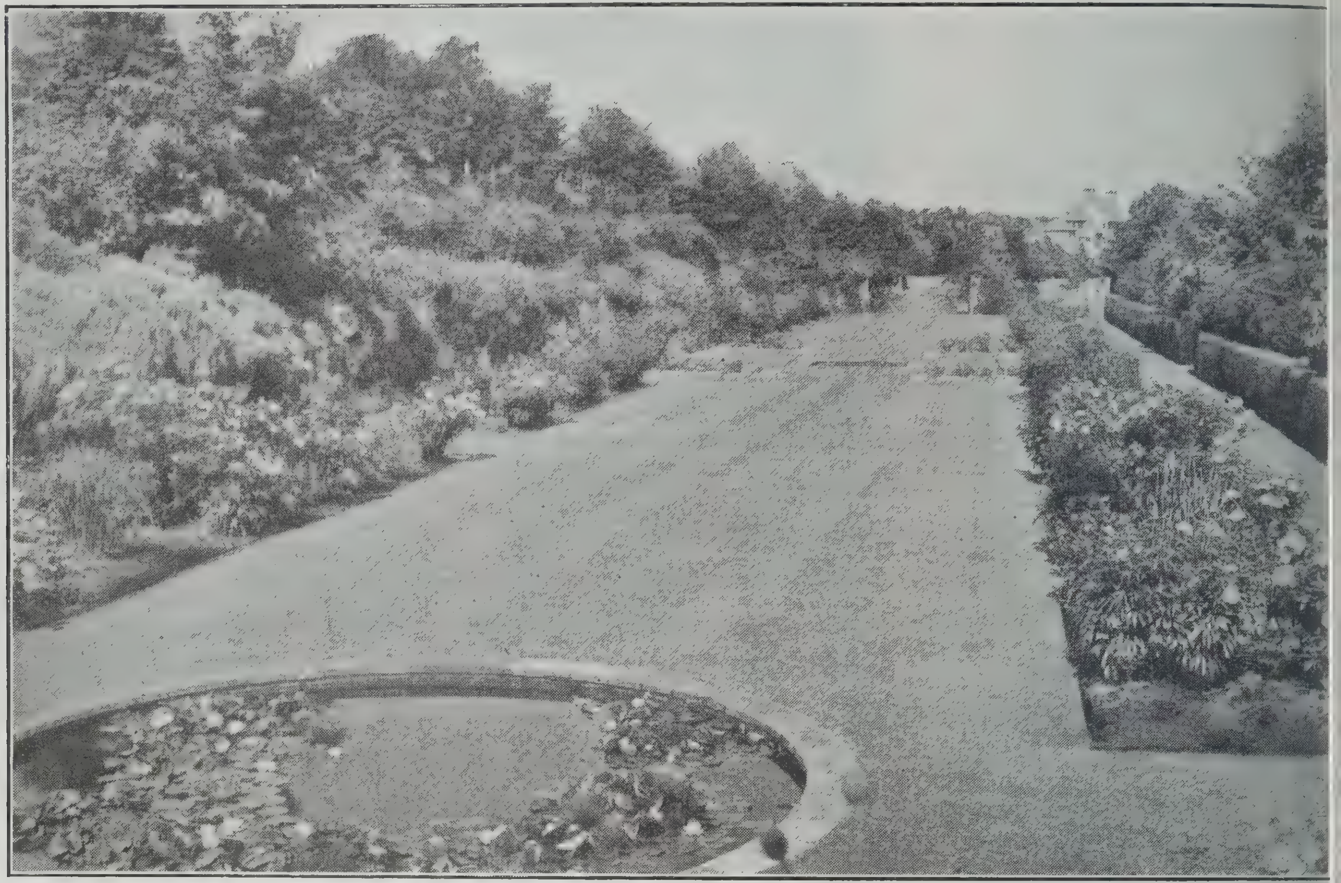
WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS.

		Entries close
General Examination (Seniors and Juniors) ..	Wed., Mar. 12th ..	Jan. 13th, 1930
Teachers (Preliminary and Advanced)	Sat , Mar. 22nd ..	Jan. 13th, 1930
Scholarship Examination	Wed., April 30th ..	Mar. 31st, 1930
National Diploma (Preliminary and Final) ..	Sat., May 3rd ..	Feb. 1st, 1930

PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Teachers' Advanced ..	Fri., June 12th
N.D.H. Preliminary ..	Tues. and Wed., June 17th and 18th
N.D.H. Final	Thurs. and Fri , June 19th and 20th

All entries, except those for the National Diploma in Horticulture, should be made on the form in the syllabus obtainable from The Secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, Vincent Square, Westminster, S W. 1.



Pæony borders, Water Lily pool, and broad grass walks in Mrs. Graham Wood's well-designed garden near Guildford, Sur

Herbaceous Pæonies: Planting in Autumn

QUITE a number of lovers of hardy plants, who formerly looked upon herbaceous Pæonies as subjects that could not be expected to flower with anything like freedom for several years after planting, are waking up to the fact that such impressions are erroneous. It has always been something of a mystery to me why such an idea got about, and I can only attribute failures with them to the unpreparedness of the soil, and in not taking advantage of getting in the clumps at the best possible time, that is the autumn. There is nothing difficult about growing these showy flowering plants, provided that the positions they are to occupy in a garden are made ready for them, but no one must expect them to become established soon and start on their flowering career who does not go to some trouble in providing for them suitable rooting medium, and what is equally important, in selecting places where the roots may be left undisturbed for several years. It should be understood that Pæonies are impatient of removal, and that if they are given a rich feeding ground from the first there is no necessity to meddle with them, because they improve from year to year, giving more and finer flowers once the roots get into good ground. It is not to be inferred from this, however, that clumps cannot be planted in spring, but greater success, with a minimum of loss, mostly follows autumn planting. I therefore counsel those who are contemplating putting down Pæonies to give them the best chance, and plant now, so that by spring, when growth begins to push out, they will not be subject to the drawbacks of a dry time to the same extent, should one follow. Pæonies thrive best in a deep, rich soil; one, for instance, which contains plenty of humus; and this being so, supposing it is intended to plant in a border, it is best to take out the existing soil to a depth of 2 feet or even 3 feet, and at the bottom work in what old manure is possible, stable, or old cow dung. Failing these two, use hop manure, incorporating with the soil any old vegetable refuse from the garden. After treading it down, put in the clumps so that the crowns are just under the surface. The point is worth emphasising that the ground to be occupied by these plants cannot be made too rich, and if it is possible to use some friable turf loam with the existing soil, it will be all to the good, as they must be regarded more in the light of permanent subjects about a garden that are best left alone when doing well. It is time well spent in making the ground suitable for them before any planting is done. If it is intended to adorn a border with them, they should be given ample room for development right from the start; there should be no cramping in order to save space, and those who are about to plant will do well to give each clump not less than 3 feet from its neighbour—more, indeed, if they are to be grown between tall growing things like Larkspurs, or avaricious feeders such as Hollyhocks and Helianthuses. Liberality in the matter of rich soil, and plenty of room for growth afterwards, will not be begrudged when Pæonies come to their beauty stage. Should the spring be dry, copious waterings will be helpful, and once the roots have become established applications of weak liquid manure will contribute to the upbuilding of the plants and in the improvement of the peerless flowers.

If it is possible to choose positions for Pæonies, it will be better to select
facing south-west, or west, for the
that if planting is carried out on grou
ing north or east, the young growths
infrequently injured by frosts in early
This may not be appreciated by the on
ing them for the first time, and rath
run such risks it is better to avoid
clumps in exposed places.

To-day there is a wide choice in Pæ
the disposal of the purchaser of clum
in double and single. The huge tru
the former and dainty colourings
groups are such as to call forth adm
when the blooms expand during Ju
July, and the charm of them is gre
hanced by the sweet perfume of
Considering the longevity of Pæoni
the fact that after some years one
crease them by root division, the init
is not very great. That they are
in popularity every year, there is no
but to plant in autumn one is more li
early success.

V

Plant Violets in frames

It will now be well to have the pla
tended for winter and spring blooming
to cold frames. Make up well-draine
of moderately rich soil under the ne
frames. Carefully lift each plant
good ball of earth attached to the roo
plant firmly in the frames. When f
the foliage should be nearly touchi
glass. Keep the sashes closed and
for a few days to encourage quic
action, but afterwards remove thes
gether until frost or heavy rains th
when they should be run on, but wel
to permit of a good circulation of fr
between the leaves.

a Gardening Illustrated

ifty Years Ago

Remedy for mildew

T a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences in San Francisco Dr. Arthur W. Sara, anta Clara, made, according to the airie Farmer," a statement of a s of experiments made by himself ung the past few years, to the effect a solution of copper, sprinkled Grape vines just before the ing of the buds, is far better than hur to prevent mildew, being per and more easily applied. He d that during no season had he any sign of mildew when he used solution, but that one year he ected to apply it, and the result that the vines were badly affected. —*ptember 27th*, 1879.

the Kentish fruit gardens

regards hardy fruits, Kentish eners have this year little to attention, for orchards from h in some years thousands of els of fruit have been sent to the don markets are this year almost less, and it is only in a few gar-, such as that of Mr. Lewis ck, of Langley, to which our visit specially made, that anything like one-third of a crop can be found. Hops, too, on which so many le in Kent depend, are this year a tful crop, being badly infested mildew and "vermin," as the n and Black Fly are called.—*ember 20th*, 1879.

nothus Gloire de Versailles

TUNATELY, this beautiful hybrid nothus is one of the hardiest, and in but the worst of the British climates grown freely in the open. It also vigorous pruning, forming short each of which carries a large cluster rey-blue bloom. As it can be easily into neat bushes it can be used with fect in flower borders of fair size, g well with white Dahlias behind and napdragons in front. It is also one nost important plants in our borders and purple flowers with a quantity of iage. G. J.

-grown Dahlias at Thame Show

of the most noteworthy features of section of the Thame (Oxon.) Show, September 19th last, was the superb of Dahlias set up in the private tent r John Walker, Thame. This old-ned firm has for generations been identified with the development of lia, and the display above referred to intained the high reputation enjoyed Dahlias that I have seen for a long st have approached the excellence of ms set up on this occasion. Minia-vered Pæony Dahlias were in ideal nd condition, a few of the better being Our Annie, Dazzle, of Llandaff, Doreen, Seafield, Nut-iory, and Winifred Walker. Form and colour were quite remarkable. Cactus-flowered Dahlias were never better shown or seen in such varieties as Mrs. A. Harvey, Johannesburg, Mary Purrier, Ballet Girl, F. W. Fellowes, Grasmere, and Edith Jones. Seldom have the Star Dahlias been seen in such beautiful form and colour, notable examples being Leigh Star, White Star, Ifield Star, and others. That charming Cactus-like decorative, Andreas Hofer, was shown in wonderful form and colour, as were others far too numerous to mention. It is good to see the present generation of the descendants of the original member of this firm giving such an excellent account of their work as that exemplified in the wonderful exhibit under review. D. B. CRANE.

Parochetus communis

Of the many good flowers about which we confess to having doubts as to whether they can be retained in our gardens through even an average winter, Parochetus communis, the Shamrock Pea, may be considered one of the most alluring. It is absolutely hardy in many gardens in the south and west of England, in the south-west and west and, in some gardens, in the east of Scotland near the sea; while the Emerald Isle can boast many districts where this lovely plant forms sheets of flower and gives no anxiety except to keep it from throttling less vigorous plants. There are, however, numerous gardens where its continued culture is hopeless unless one adopts the process of taking cuttings and pieces of the plant and keeping them under glass in winter—rather an unsatisfactory thing to practise where there is a large collection of plants.

Yet the Parochetus is worth some care, even although it may be lost in the open every few years. It quickly creates trailing, spreading masses of Clover-like leaves, decorated in late summer and autumn with many wonderfully coloured Pea-shaped flowers, solitary on each stem of 3 inches or so. The colour of these blooms is difficult to describe. It is mainly blue, with a touch of yellow, but passes off in various delightful hues and tints. It loves the sun in most places, and can also appreciate a warm, swampy place. I recollect seeing it in that once noted garden of the late Miss Anderson at Barskimming, Ayrshire, where that flower-lover grew it well in a sunny nook in a glen. In cold districts the sunny moraine affords an excellent medium where the space can be spared. If left alone it will form masses yards across. S. ARNOTT.

Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Perpetual flowering Carnations

Spraying overhead must now be discontinued except following unusually dry, warm days. Even then all foliage should be dry by night, a little moisture, however, being permitted among the pots for the present. Blooms on short stems, or any showing signs of disfigurement, should be broken out at once. Disbudding and staking will be constant and essential, but the amount of air left on the houses at night should be slightly reduced. Heavy feeding should not be indulged in at this stage, although a light stimulant may be applied to well-rooted specimens at intervals of 10 days or so.

Bouvardias, Primulas, Cinerarias, Cyclamens

Those which have been growing in cold frames should be placed in cool pits or houses where they will be secure from frosts. Heat is rarely needed at this date for either of these, but it is advisable to be prepared should occasion arise for its use. Cinerarias may still be potted on if especially large plants are desired, and a little moisture permitted among their pots. Fumigate these occasionally, and thus prevent the development of Green Fly, and if Leaf Miner proves troublesome spray the plants with Quassia and Nicotine.

Fruit trees under glass

Copious waterings are still necessary, even though all the fruit has been gathered, and of equal importance is the daily syringing of the trees, for if left to themselves Red Spider will become exceedingly troublesome, and cause a good deal of injury and disfigurement.

Tomatoes

Those grown as fill-ups in early fruit-houses are practically spent, and should be removed in order that air and light may circulate freely over all parts of the trees, and until the houses are filled with Chrysanthemums and other plants the ventilators should be thrown wide open in order that the trees may ripen and mature their wood.

Tomatoes in the open

Gather the fruits when partially coloured, and finish them on a sunny shelf, as if left in the open they are almost certain to crack. This will also enable feeding of the plants to be carried on.

Bedding plants

Bedding plants which were struck in boxes in the open should now be placed where covering lights may be drawn over them in case of need. Cold frames will be found quite suitable for the present, as the lights may be drawn over the plants should heavy and continuous rains set in.

Potatoes

Lift and store all Maincrop Potatoes, care being taken to prevent any tubers showing signs of disease being included, especially where it is necessary—as it is in my case—to store a quantity in clamps in the open. Leave all sorting for the present, as this will provide congenial employment during the dull, wet days which are sure to come. When stored in clamps air spaces must be left at the top for a time to prevent sweating.

Celery and Leeks

These crops require considerable attention now, earthing-up being frequently necessary. Care must be taken to see that the soil is pressed firmly around the stems, otherwise disfigured specimens will result. Watering these crops is a little difficult, but if the weather proves dry and hot it must be frequently given at the nearest point to the roots and allowed to soak its way in.

Late Peas

These have been plentiful, but in order to maintain a supply watering and feeding must be freely indulged in, as the vast amount of haulm throws average rains quite clear of the roots. If whitethroats and other small birds prove troublesome, ¾-inch nets will have to be spread over the rows.

The autumn programme

Various changes having been decided upon during the past season, no time should be lost in getting loam, manure, sand, and other materials placed at convenient points in readiness, so that little time may be lost once a job is started. Fruit trees may be safely moved once the leaves have begun to fall if a soaking is given on completion. New borders may be trenched and prepared in readiness for planting during the latter end of October, and plants may be ordered and heeled in in readiness.

Bulb planting

Both in beds and in grass bulb planting should now be taken seriously in hand. Crocuses are very effective when grown in broad bands around beds, also grown in quantity in mixed colours beneath deciduous trees.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Care of the Asparagus beds

As soon as the stems are ripe they should be cut over some 3 inches from the ground. Any weeds present should then be cleared off, a generous layer of stable manure placed over the whole surface of the beds, and, in very exposed positions, a few Pea stakes, or such like, laid over this to prevent its being displaced by the autumn and winter gales.

Lift and store early Beetroot

There is nothing to be gained by leaving the Globe Beets longer in the ground; so, on a dry day, have the crop harvested and stored past in a cool, dry place, using plenty of dry sand or dry sifted soil between the layers of bulbs. It is always desirable to use these Turnip Beets first, as they do not as a rule keep so well as the long sorts.

Earthing of Celery

In most cases the final earthing-up of this crop may be carried out within the next few days. Select a dry day for the job and make the soil nice and firm (not hard) around the plants. Raise the ridge a little in the centre, and beat the sides firm and smooth so as to shed as much of the rain as possible, and thus help to prevent rotting of the stalks.

Spring vegetables

Providing the surface of the ground is fairly dry, continue to hoe between rows of Cabbages, Onions, and Spinach, not only to keep down weeds, but to encourage firm, sturdy growth of the various plants, in order that they may be in proper condition to withstand the winter.

Root-pruning fruit trees

While this is a dirty, disagreeable business at the best, it will, if properly carried out on very luxurious trees, usually induce them to fruit. About this time is a very suitable season for having the work carried through, for by so doing the presence of the leaves on the trees is a great aid to th
and as they have still several weeks
really cold weather sets in, they will
abled to get a good hold of the ne
This must not be rich, but fresh and
and should be thoroughly trodden dow
the roots.

Gathering the fruit crop

While the crop, so far as I have be
to observe it, is very light, there is
all the more necessity for securing
there in the best possible condition.
variety, therefore, as soon as it ripens,
be carefully picked and laid out in t
room. To pick all at the same time
tain to result in spoiling the quali
keeping powers of some. Careless h
must never be permitted, for besides
the fruits unsightly it invariably res
such failing to keep for any length of

Training fruit trees on walls

If it is possible to get on with this,
in the end be found that much valuab
is saved by having the tying or nai
these trees to the walls carried out
The weather being comparatively mi
work can be pushed forward quite
ditiously and in fair comfort, while t
also less chance of overcrowding
branches. Tie the older branches se
but not too tightly, to the wall.

Treatment of Raspberries

If not already done, all the old
should now be cut out, and the strong,
growths of the current season tied in i
place. Do not, however, remove the
these young canes until spring, as the
at times badly damages them, water
ing in the pith, and subsequent
splitting them badly. The Raspberr
gross feeder; so it is beneficial to mul
surface generously with half-rotted far
manure.

Bedding Pelargoniums

Should there be any shortage of
stock, some of the old plants should be
from the beds and boxed or potted, a
in a cool greenhouse. Damp is their
enemy, but they must be kept safe from
Give water very sparingly and usually
percentage of the plants survive and f
a quantity of cuttings in spring.

Pot off Schizanthus

The little plants should now be trans
to 3-inch pots, if this has not already
done. The compost should be fresh
sweet, but not very rich, or the growt
suffer during the short, dull days. A
near the roof glass of a cool house and
ful watering will usually give good res

Housing Chrysanthemums

It is seldom safe to leave the plant
after the end of September, as there is a
the chance of strong wind coming alon
denly and causing havoc, while a s
sharp frost may also be experienced a
time now. After housing admit all p
air, and spray the plants overhead each
ing for a couple of weeks. Stop all fe
for 10 days, and should there be any
or Black Fly in the points of the later
ties vaporise the house once or twice.

Calceolaria cuttings

The present is about the best tim
securing these. Insert in a bed of
compost made up under a cold frame.
succeed quite well also in ordinary c
boxes set in a frame. Keep close for s
weeks and shade carefully from the su

C. BL

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Potinara Dorothy, Dell Park Variety

esult of a cross between a Sophro-Lælio-Cattleya and a Brasso--Cattleya. Colour deep yellow, with vermilion labellum over orange ground

First-Class Certificate. Shown by Baron Schröder

Silver Spray, showing flowering tips only, a light and graceful Michaelmas Daisy of the Cordifolius section

The long arching sprays are crowded with small pale-lilac flowers, producing a dainty effect. Shown at the R.H.S. Autumn Show by Mr. Ernest Ballard, the raiser of many new Asters

brief hints on the cultivation of Michaelmas Daisies

ERNEST BALLARD, of Colwall, ar Malvern, the well-known raiser of any new Asters, gives the following on the cultivation of his favourite —

not too strongly urge growers, if they get the best results, to allow at most e than three stems on each plant to in some instances one stem is t. Cut out all others and do w a score of stems to grow up, one ll give more blossom, finer flowers, er-shaped plants. You do not want ıp " with many stems.

best to lift all the stronger-growing every autumn or spring and replant strongest outside shoots, discarding lle of the plant; by so doing they are gorous and healthy, and free from

up is of great importance. Use a take for each stem. This should be rly in the summer when they are r 2 feet high, before the side sprays eloped. In this way the stakes will n.

ll the room between each plant that ble, anything up to 3 feet apart. sharp look-out for slugs, especially st planted.

Michaelmas Daisies are swamp hey are moisture lovers, therefore if plant in a damp situation.

They will grow almost anywhere, but prefer a stiff loam or even clay. If, however, only a hot, dry situation is available much may be done by giving the plants a spring mulching of long manure, or anything (mowing grass) that will help to retain moisture and keep the roots cool during the summer. In dry times they will benefit by a thorough soaking of water, but it is not necessary.

The ownership of dogs

A threefold responsibility

KEEPING a dog entails a threefold responsibility—the responsibility of the owner to himself, to his dog, and to the neighbours, using the term in its widest application. Civilisation has become so complex, and this little island of ours so crowded, that few of our hobbies or sports can be pursued without bringing us into contact with others. Good feeling dictates that nothing should be done of our own volition to cause annoyance. The unwritten laws regulating intercourse with our fellows must be observed as well as those that are embodied in Acts of Parliament.

The law gives certain privileges to dogs as well as imposes obligations upon their owners. They are not trespassers in the streets or upon the highways, and damages may be given against the driver of a vehicle who kills or injures one if, by the exercise of due care, he could have avoided doing so. Dogs that do damage to cattle or poultry or merely chase sheep may be expensive possessions, and they have no right to wander upon the premises of a neighbour, though his fences may not be in good repair. Nor are they allowed to bark incessantly to the annoyance of other residents. In some towns it is an offence to defile the pavements.

The risk of transgressing, however, can easily be reduced to a minimum by the exercise of a little forethought and consideration on the part of their owners.

So far as the responsibility of the owner to himself is concerned, it consists mainly in seeing that his dog is so trained as to become a desirable companion and a decent member of the household. He will be fully compensated for his trouble by the service and devotion that he will receive in return.

The dog is so useful to man that the least he has a right to expect is that he should be comfortably housed, fed adequately upon suitable fare, exercised daily, kept in cleanly condition, tended when he is ailing, and admitted to a share in our friendship. Perhaps the last claim is of first importance, for kindly treatment means much to a dog, who is as capable of experiencing joy and sorrow as human beings are. The happy dog is usually a healthy dog, and we shall be amply repaid for any little trouble we may take in ensuring his contentment.

During National Dog Week, which began on the 22nd of this month, efforts are being made to show how this threefold responsibility can be honoured without the imposition of irksome obligations. The Central Council, of which the Earl of Chesterfield, K.G., is President, in desiring to improve the condition of dogs generally, preaches nothing that cannot be put into action easily. Literature of an informative nature will be supplied for distribution on application to Captain H. E. Hobbs, 37-38, Temple Chambers, Temple Avenue, E.C. 4. A. CROXTON SMITH.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Cordon Apples

My cordon Apple trees, both vertical and horizontal, have got too long in the branches, owing to a little more being left on each pruning time, as is usual with pruning, so that they have almost ceased to be cordons. Will it do to cut them right back to the central stem at the right time, losing one season's fruit, of course?

ERNEST LINGFORD.

[Yes, you can trim back the branches of your cordon Apples, but not quite to the main stems. Rather leave from ½ inch to 1 inch, and this will ensure a more regular and certain production of fresh growth. This work can be carried out any time after the leaves drop until just before the sap begins to rise again.]

Apple and Pear specimens

(Hon. Lady Mahon).—We have examined the specimens sent and find that they are affected as follows:—Apple var. Lord Grosvenor—Leaf Scorch and Apple Scab. Apple var. Peasgood's Nonsuch—Apple Scab. Apple var. Peasgood's Nonsuch (cracked specimen)—Apple Scab. Apple var. James Grieve—Apple Scab. Pear var. Louise Bonne of Jersey—Pear Scab. Pear var. Williams' Bon Chretien—Pear Scab and insect attack. Pear var. Bergamont d'Esperan—Pear Scab. You will notice that in the main your troubles are confined to Apple and Pear Scab. The controls for these diseases have been frequently given during the last six weeks in our Answers to Queries columns. Please look up back numbers for details. Apple and Pear Scab cause very varied appearances of the attacked fruits according to the age of the fruit when attacked. This accounts for the different appearance of the fruits sent, but Apple and Pear Scab respectively is the organism concerned. The Leaf Scorch can be cleared up gradually by applying sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard each autumn for several years in succession. The insect attack on the Pear was probably Capsid Bug or Aphis. A good nicotine wash applied soon after the petals have dropped from the flowers would control the trouble. All the trees should be washed with tar oil in January. Write again if we can assist you further.

Apple questions

(L. W., Worcester).—(1) Your Apple wood is affected with Apple Scab, and you should adopt control measures as suggested to "E. H. K." on page 616 of our issue for September 7th. In your case we should advise you to cut back to about one-third of their length all the leaders. The laterals might be left about four buds long. All the prunings should be burnt. Carry out the spraying programme suggested to "E. H. K." In addition we advise you to give a dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard. (2) The insects attacking the Apples are Codlin Moth. Most of the caterpillars will now have gone into winter quarters so that the placing in position of haybands to encourage the larvæ to spend the winter will not be of much use. Such bands should be placed in position another season in June and burnt in October. Codlin Moth larvæ get into crevices of the bark and eat out depressions for themselves and then cover themselves over with a cocoon which looks very similar to the bark, so that when removing the hayband it is necessary to scrape the bark beneath the band with an old knife and destroy the caterpillars found. You should use a good tar oil wash at 10 per cent. about the first week in January. If the trees are old the loose bark should be removed before the tar oil is applied. Spraying with lead arsenate during the week following the dropping of the petals from the flowers is useful in controlling Codlin Moth. If applied later it is useless. Effort should be made to drive the spray into the calyx cup.

Myrobalan Plum

The red Plum-like fruits are fairly plentiful this year. This is Prunus cerasifera of botanists, known as Roblets in the Midlands

Diseased Peaches

(H. Rothery).—We have exami specimen Peaches and there is no dis sent; a cultural detail is at fault. T probable cause is that the feeding balanced. In addition to your usual r give the trees a dressing of sulphate o at the rate of 1½ ozs. per square yard attention should be paid to watering the trees are under glass, ventilatio think that the trees are over-vigoro the potash should in time put things

Black Currant

(M. A. M.).—The Black Currant Davidson's Eight is on the market, been for several years, and can be c from most nurserymen who list frui Consult our advertisement columns ar for prices to the various firms who sp in hardy fruit.

Peach foliage

(L. I. D.).—Two creatures are pre the specimens, either of which is in s number to cause you trouble. Red has been playing havoc with the Please see reply to " Bert " on page our issue for September 7th. The pest present is the Brown Scale (Le persicæ). The spray for Red Spid partially control the Scale, but this sh supplemented by using lime sulphur the winter. Collect and burn all the when it falls. After the tree is prun all the parts of the tree a good sc where such treatment will not dam buds, then spray the tree all over solution made by taking 10 gallons o and adding 3 quarts of concentrated li phur. You have a bad attack of thes and it will take some effort to get th back to health.

Plum Rust

(Beacon).—Your Plums are affecte the fungus Puccinia Pruni, which Plum Rust. Give the affected t thorough spraying with lime sulphur As the leaves fall collect and burn the peat the spraying operation several tim season, commencing just as the buds to push out, repeating at intervals o three weeks. After the first applicati a very dilute solution 1—100, *i.e.*, 1 concentrated wash added to 99 gall water. Give the trees a dressing of s of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per squar Water it in if the trees are very dry.

Cherry foliage

(A. D. Buller).—We have examin foliage sent, and the main portion damage appears to us to have been ca a leaf-eating insect, probably the coloured Weevil. If this finding is the adults have now ceased feeding season, but the larvæ are feeding in t upon the roots of the tree. If the growing in cultivated ground a dress flake naphthalene should account for m the larvæ. A grease-band put on the stem in May would prevent the getting up the tree. Please see reply Taylor in this issue *re* Strawberry gru hayband placed around the trees wo your case act as a trap. If you exami band several times each week you sho able to catch some of the culprits. T a trace of Shot Hole fungus on some leaves, but it does not appear serious. trouble is repeated next year please s some specimens earlier in the season.

Strawberry grubs

(S. Taylor).—The specimen grub that of the Clay-coloured Weevil. Th is difficult to control, and plants are da by both the larvæ and adult stage of t

\. Apply flake naphthalene at the rate ozs. per square yard. Fork in the ial near to the plants and as deep as le without actually damaging the roots. ring, when the adults emerge for egg- , traps should be laid down and those ed at the trap should be destroyed. A ul of hay laid down near to the weevil s makes a good trap.

pillar attack

Barron).—The specimen Apple and foliage has been badly attacked by illar, probably Winter Moth. The trees l be grease-banded about the first week tober. Follow this by giving the trees ough spraying the last week in January good tar oil wash, using a 10 per cent. on for the Apples and a 5 per cent. solu- or the Plums. Watch for caterpillar when the buds break next spring, and find they are present in any number the trees with an insecticide. We that there is some Apple Scab present could be controlled by following the ons given to " E. H. K." on page 616 issue for September 7th. If you added rsenate to the first spray fluid for Scab ould control any caterpillar present.

ROSE GARDEN

sed Roses

se).—Examination of the specimen shows that they are affected with a canker. Both are affected with the disease. It appears that the attack l at the point of union between stock ion, and the trouble has gradually de- d. The fungus has completely circled em, and we think that the plants will on for some years before dying out her. All the badly infected plants be burned. Those not so badly at- might be saved by cutting out the d portions, but if all are like those here seems very little hope for them, e the whole of the stem just above the seems to be affected. A good soaking Cheshunt Compound in spring might ou.

FLOWER GARDEN

for exhibition

J. Hastings).—To be certain of a sufficient number of blooms at set time you would require to many more varieties than are really ary if you wished to set up distinct es and not less than three plants of Of course, as you can, seemingly, one variety, the number of varieties ow need not exceed about six. ng competition, however, the exhibit the greatest variety, if the blooms ood, should certainly score. The fol- are all good and distinct :—Mrs. Wm. son, Mrs. T. D. Anderson, Jean Helen W. Cochrane, Betty White- Peggy Trail, Moseley Ideal, Andrew on, Mr. Ramsay, John Adamson, en Condry, Madge McKnight, Mrs. Stevenson, Mrs. McEwan, Mrs. H. , Rowan Hood, Mollie Gibb, and Jumbo. Any Viola specialist, even if s not list all the above, will procure r any other variety in commerce for The culture of these plants would re- oo much space for insertion in this out we hope to have a special article subject in the course of a few weeks.

mal Heleniums

J. O.).—We have carefully examined cimens of abnormal Heleniums which ed you to send, and are convinced e injury has been caused by insect probably Thrips, or a mite of some description, but we have failed to find any specimens. The injury was undoubtedly done at a much earlier period, and the creatures responsible have now left the plants. There is certainly no need to destroy the plants. Why not give the soil a good dressing with a soil insecticide, and then, when the plants are developing next year, an occasional spray with a very weak solution of liver of sulphur? We should like to examine some more flower buds next season just as they are developing. The suggested treatment may cure the abnormal habit, but we should have liked to have found the actual creature concerned; we should then have been sure of the track to take; as it is, we are shooting in the dark. We are glad you find GARDENING ILLUSTRATED interesting and useful.

Diseased Asters

(Donegal, E. W., Hereford, and G. T. B. B.).—Some of the above correspondents sent specimens which are insufficient to determine the real cause of the trouble because the fungus has attacked the plants at or just above the soil level and tips of growths only were sent. Judging from the three letters, the cause of the trouble is a Foot Rot. The only control is to take up affected plants and burn them. If soil sterilisation is deemed necessary, the instructions given to " Beauty Lover " should be followed. All should try a dressing of sulphate of potash this winter at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard.

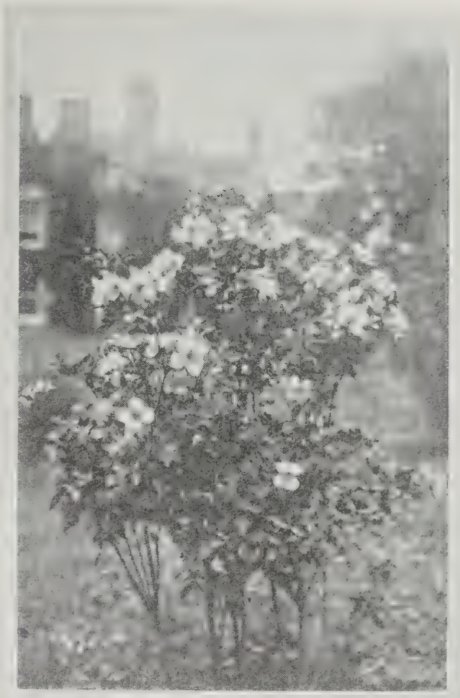
Diseased Lupin

(Mrs. G. Gibbs).—From the specimen sent it is impossible to say the exact cause of the death of your Lupin. If the plant had been sent earlier we might have isolated the organism concerned; now the whole plant has dried up, and incubation does not reveal anything but Saprophyte Fungi. From the appearance of the specimen, it has probably been attacked by a Foot Rot fungus. It would be wise to destroy the diseased plants; other plants might be planted next spring if the sites are watered with Cheshunt Compound before the new plants are put out. Lupins do well on good garden soil, good drainage being essential. Of late years Lupins seem to be troubled by Foot Rot and Eelworm attack. Burning the affected plants and sterilising the soil seem to be the only cure. We are inclined to think that the increase of disease amongst flowering plants is due to the use of unbalanced manures, especially lack of potash. Plants receiving too much nitrogen produce soft growth, which fall a ready prey to disease organism.

Diseased Daffodils

(Donegal).—The specimen bulbs sent have been attacked by the large Narcissus Fly. If you cut open the attacked bulbs you will find the large, fat grubs in the centre; at least we found one in each of the specimens sent. Before replanting, carefully examine the bulbs and destroy all those found to be affected. Damaged basal rings are sure signs of the presence of the pest. The grubs can be killed within the affected bulbs by immersing the bulbs in hot water for a period of 60 minutes; the temperature of the water should be 110 deg. Fah. No damage is done to the bulbs if they are ripened off and treated in July, August, and September. Earth up the ripening bulbs as the foliage begins to die now. Another year this treatment tends to prevent the flies crawling down to the bulbs for the purpose of egg laying.

Diseased Stocks



Eucryphia pinnatifolia flowering in a Ross-shire garden

(See page 652)

I shall be so much obliged if you will kindly give me an answer about my Ten-week Stocks. I enclose a plant for you to see the roots. I had them planted out in May in the front of a Rose border that faces south. They grow well for some time, and then suddenly begin to droop one after another when they are fine plants just coming into flower; also when they are in flower, and so on through the summer. I had over 100 plants put out in this border in May and by the end of July they had all gone off in this way but 30 plants, and now these have gone, and there are just four plants left which are still flowering. It has nothing to do with a dry or wet summer, they just go the same whichever it is. I have been told it is a fungus in the soil, and was advised to lime it last autumn and sprinkle the soil a fortnight before planting the Stocks in May with Bordeaux Mixture (½ oz. to a square yard), both of which I did, but it has done no good at all. The year before, autumn 1927, I watered the ground with formalin, but this also did no good. I hope you will be able to tell me exactly what to do to cure it as I want to treat the ground at once, and, if possible, to plant Poppy Anemones there some time in October. Some of these often go off, and perhaps it is the same thing that causes them to do so. What do you think about it? I do not mind what trouble I take if I can cure it. I love to have the Stocks in this border, as it runs beside our tennis court, and we love the scent of them when we are playing. I hope you will be able to tell me of something that will really stop the trouble and be a cure.

" BEAUTY LOVER."

[Your Stocks are affected with one of the Foot Rot Fungi. From your letter it would appear that the border is badly affected with the fungus. Partial sterilisation of the soil can be carried out by using a 2 per cent. solution of formaldehyde. The success of this treatment depends to a large extent upon the thoroughness of the operation. First of all, the solution must be made up correctly; secondly, all the soil must be thoroughly well soaked with the solution; and, thirdly, the treated soil should be covered to keep the fumes in for at least 48 hours. The operation is carried out as follows:—Clear all plants out of the border and fork the soil over to a uniform depth, breaking up the lumps as the work proceeds. Measure up the area to be treated, and for each 18 square yards take 1 gallon of commercial 40 per cent. formaldehyde and add to 49 gallons of water, stirring well. The formaldehyde should be a fresh sample, and should not be cloudy. If the sample is cloudy some of the chemical is out of solution through standing; such samples are usually unsatisfactory. After the solution has been applied, the treated soil should be covered with a tarpaulin or clean sacking to retain the vapours, such covering to be left in position for 48 hours. Plants should not be placed in a treated bed for at least a week, and during this period it is wise to turn over the soil at least twice to help the fumes out of the soil. If there is no need to hurry the planting of the next crop, it is an advantage to allow the formaldehyde fumes to remain in the soil as long as possible. Planting is safe a month after the sterilisation operation in open ground. After sterilisation it is important that care be taken not to introduce disease organisms. When raising your Stocks next year the seed boxes and soil used should be treated with formaldehyde; soil used for pricking out the seedlings should be well watered with a solution of Cheshunt Compound and allowed to drain before risking the seedlings. When the Stocks are in their flowering quarters a sharp look-out should be kept for signs of disease. At the first sign of disease the plant should be lifted and burnt. The site from which the diseased plant was taken should receive a soaking with Cheshunt Compound solution and another plant from the reserve garden can then be put into the position. Plants growing near the affected plant are safer if watered with the Cheshunt solution. We hope the above makes quite clear that formaldehyde solution must only be used on vacant ground, but that Cheshunt Compound solution can be used on growing plants. The above treatment is costly and troublesome, but if carefully carried out should have the desired result. Seed boxes and soil used for filling the seed boxes should be treated six weeks prior to seed sowing.]

Begonia foliage

(D. M. C.).—From the specimens sent it is impossible to say with any degree of certainty the cause of the trouble. We cannot find a fungus that would be likely to cause the trouble, and we are inclined to think that some root failure is the cause of the trouble. If you have only one plant affected it would be wise to burn it. Some cultural detail may be at fault, but from the evidence we have we are helpless; the leaves dried very badly in the post.

GREENHOUSE

Hedychium Gardnerianum

In your September 7th issue you have a very fine illustration of Hedychium Gardnerianum. For a number of years I have grown this plant and always have had some blossom, but for the last two or three years I have not had a bloom in either pot. I usually have at least two or three good stems in each pot. The position and treatment have not been changed; in a cold greenhouse, repotted last year in the hope it might produce blossom.

MRS. E. J. PAINE.

[This fine subject requires more warmth than is available in a cold greenhouse. A temperature of 50 degs. to 55 degs. in winter and a rather sparing supply of water will afford the plant the necessary rest period. In summer a moist atmosphere with a night temperature of 60 degs., rising to 85 degs. in the daytime, is desirable, while plenty of water at the roots is required. The best compost is loam and peat in about equal proportions with some sand and dried cow manure.]

ALPINES

Rock garden Caterpillars

(W. E. Pattman, Warwickshire).—The specimens you send are those of one of the so-called Cutworms. As they appear to "enjoy" naphthalene try them with the poison bait suggested to "Meiktila" *re* Cabbage Caterpillar, on page 572 of our issue for August 17th. Under small conditions, searching the soil surrounding an attacked plant is a good method of reducing attack. The caterpillars hide by day, but are never more than an inch down, and usually much less. A pointed stick is the best tool to use. The poison bait is the best method if your conditions will allow you to use it.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Shrubs to form slight screen at back of border

What can you suggest to make a slight screen against wind along the back of a border 15 feet by 7 feet facing S.W. in a small Devon garden? Shrubs, chiefly evergreen, that are choice and have bloom, if possible. Near the sea on a hill exposed to our S.W. gales. Would Pyrus japonica, white and pink, do for some of the plants, also Myrtles? H. B. C.

[Either of the following would answer your purpose:—Myrtus Luma, Escallonia macrantha, E. rubra, E. langleyensis, Olearia Haastii, Berberis stenophylla, B. Darwini, Baccharis patagonica, and Atriplex Halimus. It is possible that the Pyrus would thrive also, but this is not evergreen.]

VEGETABLES

Tomato trouble

(G. P. B.).—Your Tomatoes not colouring is due to insufficiency of potash in the soil and manures used for the crop. It is now rather late in the season to control matters, but you might try a good soaking with a solution containing 4 ozs. of sulphate of potash in 25 gallons of water. Another year add sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard when making up the bed. Follow this by giving a thorough soaking when the third truss is set, using the solution suggested above.

MISCELLANEOUS

Grassland problem

We had a 40-acre field sown down with permanent Grass four years ago, and this year practically all the Clover has gone. There are many plants, a sample of which we have sent you under separate cover, representing possibly 250-300 per acre. The crop was got early in July and the plants have shot up again to at least 2 feet high. This is the first year we have been troubled with them, and, subject to your advising me, I propose to drag up the field again and sow it with Corn, as I do not think a crop of Rye Grass mixture would be either useable or saleable with such a tremendous percentage of this stuff. Further, I should be glad to know whether you consider there would be an increase in quantity or whether it is only a temporary crop. W. B.

[You would have helped us considerably if you had told us the type of soil in your field. In the first place, the weed you send us is common Chicory, or Wild Endive (Cichorium Intybus). The weed is a native of Britain and a perennial. From the information we have it is impossible to state how the weed has become established, but it appears likely that it was present in the soil before down; but it may have been introduced seed mixture. We should advise you t the field alone for the time being, plo out would only tend to divide up the and propagate them. So soon as the comes soft enough go over the field and pull the Chicory. If the ground is rea you should be able to ensure the rem that little is left behind to grow again Chicory will be liable to increase something is done to control it. Th appearance of the Clover is not unus some fields, and in your case we do no that the weeds have had anything to d the failure. Try an equal mixture of and good-grade basic slag. Mix th thoroughly together and apply at once rate of 8 cwts. to 10 cwts. per acre. rain to wash in the mixture before t any stock into the field. We think t hand-pulling the weeds and applyin above manures you should be able to p field round without breaking up, but w not say definitely without actual exami of the field.]

"Where can I obtain"

Where can I obtain Tussilago fragr Winter Heliotrope roots? I want them rough, impossible patch, and my local refuse to acknowledge so humble a pla

T.

[Tussilago fragrans (Winter Heliotr offered by Mr. Maurice Prichard, church, Hants.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

J. L.—1, Melilotus arvensis (n officinalis); 2, M. alba.

A. J. L., Reigate.—Chrysanth Harvester.

M. S. E.—Dracocephalum virgin syn. Physostegia virginiana, som known as False Dragon's Head—a natured perennial, responding to or border treatment—useful for cutting best for grouping with the bolder ki hardy plants. There must still be man and choice plants in the garden to whi refer.

NAMES OF FRUITS

G. T. W.—Kerry Pippin.

Clovelly.—1, Northern Greening; 2, Geeson.

A. H. Toller.—Pyrus Niedzwetz This fruit is edible, but of very poor qu

CATALOGUE RECEIVED

Herbert G. Longford, Abingdon, Be Bulbs and autumn plants.

Annual sale of nursery stock

Messrs. Wallace, of The Old Ga Tunbridge Wells, will hold their annu of high-class nursery stock on Wed and Thursday, October 9th and 10th.

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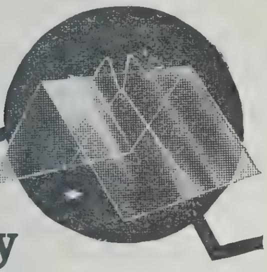

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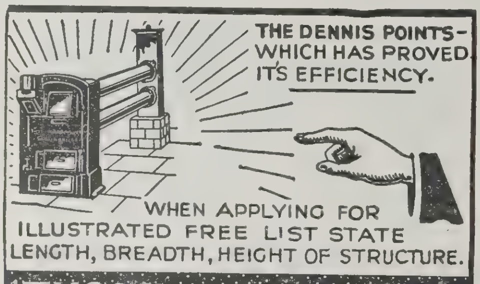
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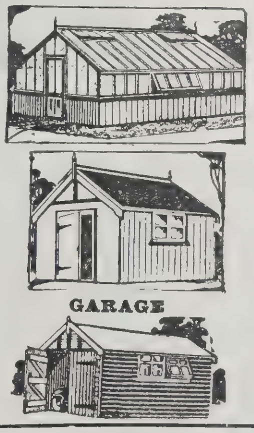

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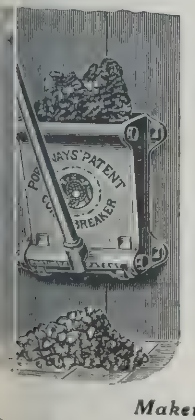

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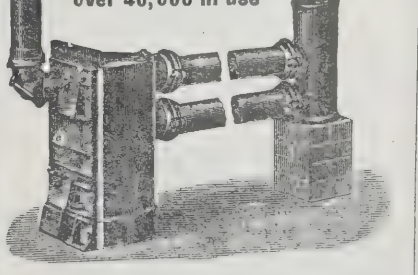

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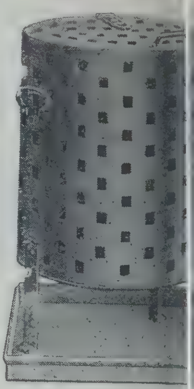

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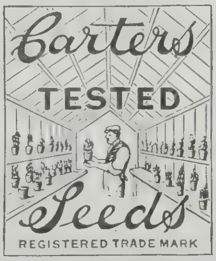

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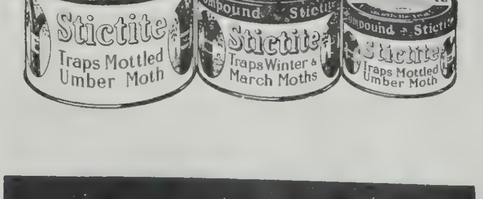

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Plants of the Antipodes

WHEN the discoverers of Australia came home and described the black swans, the hedgehogs that laid eggs, e Ferns that grew into trees to an ice that "had heard that kind of thing" they must have felt a little exas- with a Continent that carried ness too far for the credit of simple, ing men. But these travellers' tales urprisingly proved to be true, and it at first as though the old philosophers, oretold that a certain urviness would be in the undiscovered les, were not very far A closer acquaintance he plants and animals new country failed, r, to reveal anything iting as a systematic of the Northern f things; yet there re- for the observer from World, a strangeness plants and animals of tipodes which is more han mere unfamiliarity, ems to depend upon hat so many of them what they seem to be.

NEW ZEALAND VERONI- characteristic example deceptiveness is fur- by the New Zealand cas, some of which look exactly like Club until their scaly rat- erupt little Bird's-eye which proclaim them close akin to our own r Speedwells. Others le Stonecrop or a tuft of Heather, while them, Veronica cupres- gives a very successful n of a small Cypress, a pyramidal bush feet high, which can be mistaken in the for a young Conifer, especially since off a sweet scent of Cedar wood when et with rain or dew. And then in ummer it is suddenly sprinkled with avender flowers and its identity is re- Two plants are found in gardens the name V. cupressoides; one is yellowish, and without scent, while er, which is the better garden plant, believe, the rightful owner of the s larger, greyish, and sweetly scented. nately, the names of these New Zea- ronicas are at present rather confused, e botanists, to whom an engaging habit of mimicry does not greatly appeal, propose to divorce them from the Speedwells and put them in a group by themselves under the name "Hebe," there to await rearrangement. But nearly all of them are worth growing, under whatever names they appear, and V. cupressoides is specially recommendable for the small garden or for a position where its slightly formal design is desirable.

Veronica cupressoides, a successful imitation of a small Cypress

The leaves give off a sweet scent of Cedar wood, especially on dewy evenings or after a shower

COMPOSITÆ IN THE ANTIPODES.—The great and wide-spread race of Compositæ has given us some good garden plants, but it is not, as a rule, distinguished for refinement. In the Antipodes, however, the family seems to lose that tendency to a rather coarse heartiness, which is almost characteristic of it elsewhere, and at first sight is barely recognisable in its new mood.

Tasmania gives us what is probably the smallest Composite in the world in Raoulia subsericea, which has reduced and compressed its leaves until it looks more like a thin crust of wrinkled grey Lichen than a flowering plant; its flowers, indeed, are no more than minute brass buttons studding a mat of tarnished silver. Its slightly larger and more silvery relative, Raoulia australis, is well known in rock gardens, but the delicate felting of fine hair with which these plants cover themselves is a better protection against the droughts of the far south than against the rains of our sodden winters, when they need a pane of glass to ensure their life, or at least their beauty.

One of the Raoulias mounds itself up into large grey hummocks, which at a distance look very like sheep and have been known to mislead shepherds searching for strays from the flock, and on this account it is said to be called the Sheep Plant, though it seems unlikely that a deluded stock-rider would address it so mildly.

Even the Groundsels acquire a strange refinement in New Zealand, where Senecio Greyi so far forgets the dreadful dowdiness of its family that it grows into a woody shrub, with neat, oval leaves, grey above and dead white beneath. In its flowers it falls a little short of its promise, for a hint of brassiness in their yellow reminds us of the family weakness; but they are relieved by the Quakerish simplicity of their background, and Senecio Greyi is a desirable shrub in any garden.

The Celmisias, on the other hand, tend to become almost over-refined, and some of them achieve only an effect of colourlessness. Many of them, however, are very admirable; forming tufts of stiff, silvery leaves like a small Yucca, from which rise straight stems, each carrying a single, large white Daisy, cold, austere, and conventional.

AN ANTIPODEAN GARDEN.—Many of the plants from Australia and New Zealand do not make themselves at home very readily in our climate (a reluctance that is, unfortunately, not displayed by English plants in New Zealand, where Gorse and Blackberry have become as devastating as the rabbit in Australia). But enough of them are sufficiently hardy and easy to provide a group, which, without appearing academic, will bring out the subtle strangeness that is common to them all. It might include V. cupressoides, with some of its smaller relatives, such as V. pinguifolia, V. lycopodioides, or

V. buxifolia, Senecio Greyi, Celmisia coriacea (for a warm spot), one or two of the Daisy Bushes (Olearia), and we might add the curious shrub Hymenanthera crassifolia, a rather sullen-looking evergreen which claims attention on account of its piebald berries and its unexpected relationship to our Violets and Pansies. F. A. HAMPTON.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Ranunculus Lyallii in Northumberland

I WISH I could give your correspondent, "Peter the Hermit," the clear directions he asks for (page 649) as to the growing of Ranunculus Lyallii in this country. All I can say is that it has done well here in Northumberland, at 500 feet above sea level, in a bed which for about 1 foot in depth is largely composed of leaf-mould and peat, and which gets the sun nearly all day long, but is rather moist and has a gentle slope towards the north. To further indicate the nature of the soil and the position, Gentiana sino-ornata, Trientalis europæa, and Erica tetralix are also doing well in this bed.

This year one head of Ranunculus Lyallii had 17 of its lovely blooms—pure white petals surrounding a central cone of pale yellow stamens and stigmas—held on a stout stalk well above its rounded cup-shaped leaves. As each flower was about 2½ inches across, it stood out as a queen among the Buttercups in its regal splendour.

I have a fair supply of fresh seed and I am quite willing to more than "threaten" your correspondent with some of this in return for some seed of one of his treasures.

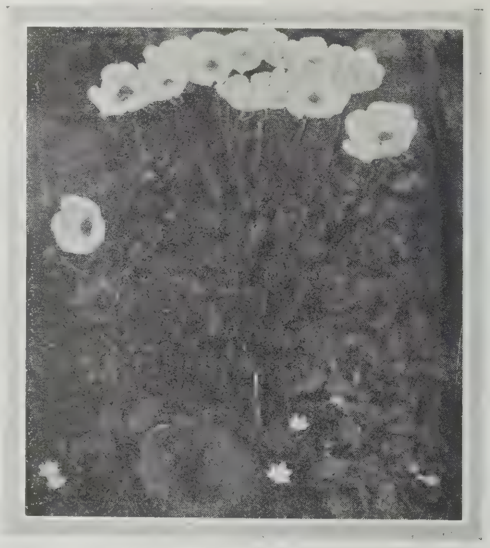
NORTHUMBRIAN.

Iris Amber Wave

Mrs. Murrell's note on her Iris seedling, Amber Wave, in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED of September 14th, is of great interest in showing both the potentialities of Iris breeding and the unexpectedness of many results, especially when the ancestry of the parents is unknown, or only partially known. I do not know the parentage of Shekinah, but from flowers I have raised I should guess that it came from a cross of a special Pallida variety or a Plicata with a self-yellow, such as Aurea or Mrs. Neubronner. The ancestry of the sister seedling of Mrs. Valerie West, which Mrs. Murrell used, includes Macrantha, Cordelia, Leonidas (a Pallida variety), Maori King, and Cypriana (Trojana). Two concurrent strains of two generations each were raised and then combined. I have not seen the flower of Amber Wave, but the very excellent illustration and Mrs. Murrell's colour description enable one to have a satisfying mental picture of it. The form of the flower is very fine, and no doubt has come largely from Dominion (= Macrantha × Cordelia), which was in the parentage of both sides of the cross from which Mrs. V. West came, and it is especially interesting to see how Macrantha still shows clearly in Amber Wave, chiefly in the form and serrated edges of the standards, though combined with so many other varieties.

My results in using Shekinah in breeding are quite in accord with Mrs. Murrell's, that is, in the great preponderance of self-yellow, or nearly self-yellow, or cream seedlings which appear. In the largest set of seedlings from a Shekinah cross (27 from one pod of seed) the flowers were all self-yellow, of varying degree, except four or five blue-violet Neglectas of Corrida type. Another noticeable characteristic of Shekinah seedlings when of the self-yellow type is a tendency for the standards to be deeper-coloured than the falls. These results were certainly unexpected and seemed extraordinary at first, but they are, perhaps, less surprising when we consider the relationships, which we now know, between Amœnas and Variegatas, and between Neglectas and Squalens. Amœnas are only colour varieties of Variegata in which the factor for yellow is absent or inhibited. Likewise for Neglectas and Squalens, the factor for yellow being present in Squalens and absent in Neglecta.

The full account of the crosses supporting these conclusions were given originally in the R.H.S. Journal, Vol. XLV., Parts 2 and 3, and in the "Gardeners' Chronicle" for February 14th, 1920. When, further, the purple in the falls is absent or inhibited, a Squalens becomes a "self-yellow," a cross of a Plicata with a self-cream Variegata-Squalens of Innocenza type produced from the same seed-pod blue-violet selfs (or Neglectas), amber-yellow selfs, and Squalens. It seems, therefore, a likely inference that the "self-yellow" of Shekinah is due rather to an inhibiting factor or factors for purple rather than to an absence of a purple colour factor. This would also account for there often being some tinge of colour at the hafts and in the reticulations in many of the seedlings, the inhibiting factor not being strong enough to entirely eliminate the purple of very deep-coloured flowers. A. J. BLISS.



Ranunculus Lyallii in Northumberland, 1929

The small white flowers in foreground are those of Trientalis europæa

The National Carnation and Picotee Society

I am sorry if the truth contained in my original communication has roused the ire of the Hon. Treasurer of the Northern Carnation Society, but I have not the time, intention, or desire to enter into acrimonious correspondence on the subject. The down to date facts, which I am more concerned with than out-of-date history, were given in my letter, and these are amply confirmed by the records of the National Carnation and Picotee Society in my possession, also by details given in the various horticultural directories. If further confirmation is
and I doubt whether it is, I would em
the fact that the Northern Carnation
is affiliated to the N.C.P.S., that it p
ordinary annual fee for this purpose,
entered in our records under the
N.C.S. Such an affiliation would
necessary if it was part of the N.C.P.

I would remind Mr. Hewitt that th
been no break in the continuity
Society's activities during recent
whilst his own became defunct duri
war, and the present organisation (N
Carnation Society) was only really re-
a few years since.

Mr. Hewitt has evidently had no
ence in the organisation of a National
society if he thinks such a body cann
more advantages than an ordinary a
society, and I would point out th
N.C.P.S. has held exhibitions in th
vinces, and will do so again, in a
manner to other National flower socie

For Mr. Hewitt's information
N.C.P.S. pays ordinary rates for its
tisements, and is not out for cheap p
as he surmises, neither has it any in
of spending money for announceme
order that the membership roll
Northern Carnation Society may be in
through your readers wrongly assumi
they are joining the National Carnati
Picotee Society.

I thank you, Sir, and appreciat
courtesy in allowing me the use
columns, and having carried out my
Hon. Secretary of the N.C.P.S. i
matter, the correspondence must n
considered closed. A. E. A

Hedychium Gardnerianum

In the note in last week's is
GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, in reply
inquiry as to this plant, it is stated
requires a winter temperature of fr
degs. to 55 degs. I think there is
apprehension as to the hardiness
plant. In South Devon and Corn
grows well in the open without wint
tection and flowers freely every year i
tember. Here I grow it in a small be
Richardia africana (the common Arun
where it can be kept moist in summe
the overflow from a pond, and no pro
whatever is given. The combination
two plants is an excellent one, as the
attractive either in foliage or flower
throughout the year, as before the foli
the Arum dies off the Hedychium com
Last winter we had 5 degs. of frost
nights, which, of course, cut the
of the Arums; these, however, so
covered. The Hedychium, which wa
mant, was quite unharmed, and bl
freely last month. C.

South Devon.

To protect special fruit from the ra of birds and insects

Various methods have been adopted t
fruit from the attacks, and consequen
by birds and insects, but each plan ev
has its drawbacks, for whatever prec
is taken, much valuable fruit is spoil
year just as it is at the ripening stage.
ing tried many plans in the past witho
appreciable success, the following
operandi has, from my personal exp
and close observation, this year prove
efficacious and has been absolutely s
ful. My present scheme is the use of
phane, which is the thin transparent m
largely used by confectioners for co
sweets and cakes, and it is generally
as an outer covering for chocolate boxe

It should be formed in the shape of a
shade, just large enough to conveniently

fruit, and it should be fastened on, by a l portion of fine wire or a thin strand of , just at the junction of the fruit to the ch and left open at the bottom to admit e current of air.

plies and Pears thus protected get the enefit of the sun's rays without any per- ble heat, and this substance is not rially affected by dampness. Cellophane e obtained from wholesale purveyors to ctioners at the moderate cost of about er large sheet, and it can, with care, be over and over again.

course, the utility of this method is practicable in the case of fruit grown e cordon system, or on espaliers; also all fruit. F. CORY.

est *Worthing.*

Eucryphia pinnatifolia

planting choice trees or shrubs there is uch need for foresight in respect of their timate dimensions in order that each have ample room for development. e who are not yet familiar with the re- ments in that respect of Eucryphia pin- olia may chance to be misled by the graph of a young specimen of this ning shrub, on page 669, into thinking it requires but moderate space. In fact, soil and climate are to its liking, it s to very ample height and breadth. I se a photograph of one planted here t 20 years ago at a distance of 12 feet its fellow countryman, Tricuspidaria olata, which may be seen in the left r of the photograph, fighting for room the Eucryphia.

ododendrons stand transplanting at st any age, owing to their compact root m, but Eucryphia is very impatient of val once it has become established. In Bean's admirable book on "Trees and bs," first published in 1914, he observes "unfortunately, although hardy, yphia is not easy to propagate or trans- "; but the difficulty of propagation has been overcome, as both this species and ordifolia when mature produce seed lantly. It is remarkable that about 20 ent. of the seedlings of E. pinnatifolia double flowers, wherein much of the iar grace of the single flowers is lost, e double flowers last much longer than ingle, and their effect on a well-grown is very satisfying.

nreith. HERBERT MAXWELL.

Lilium Harrisii

have been much interested to see the nces to Lilium Harrisii in two recent ers of your paper. With reference to ote on page 654 (issue September 21st), riter gave some bulbs in the autumn 27 to a friend, Mr. Donald Stewart, of oss Street, Finsbury, E.C. 2, and we a letter from him, dated October 19th, in which he writes :—

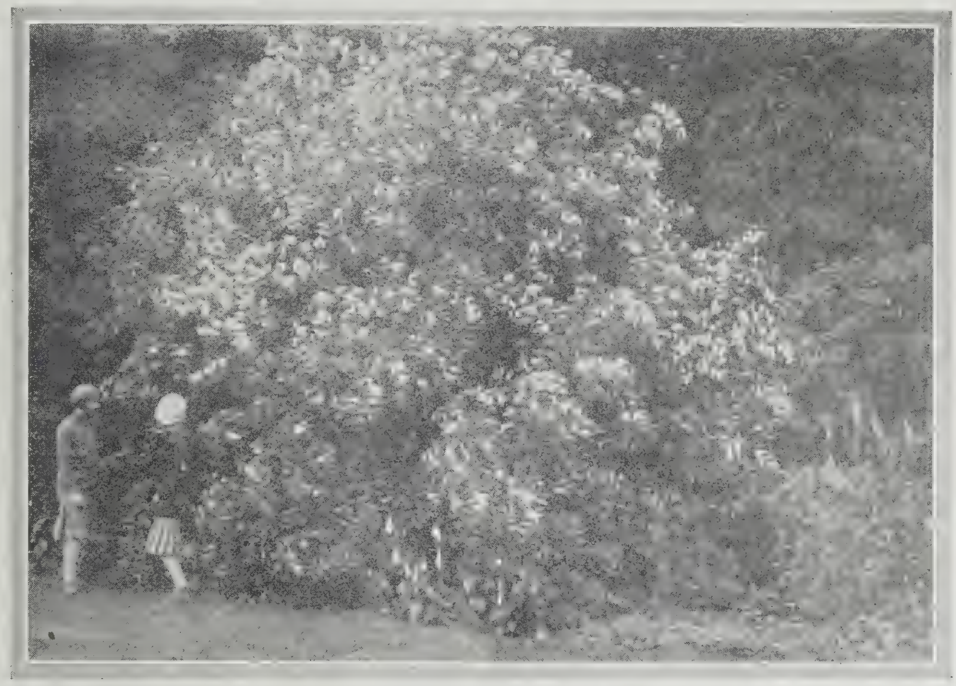
t may interest you to know that the uda Lily bulbs (Lilium Harrisii) which last year have proved a splendid lot, have had a succession of blooms from to present date, and even now have d show. The first shoots showed an ge of three blooms per head, and after I have had from each bulb a second "

Stewart goes on to say that the plants grown in an unheated greenhouse and d out in the open in May, and no al manure or other treatment was

agree with you that a second crop is likely to be obtained from plants which been grown at a natural temperature, hat it is not a matter which, in any nstances, can be controlled with certainty. The fact that the bulbs bear the Government certificate of freedom from disease has restored confidence amongst both the amateur and trade growers.

We look forward to the time when Lilium Harrisii will regain its old popularity.

ROBERT TUCKER AND CO.



Eucryphia pinnatifolia at Monreith

Making the garden "pay its way"

I regret that I was unable to assist "A. D. G. G." in his quest after a mechanical cultivator; but from the position I took up at the time I see no reason to resile. As his inquiry, and the resulting correspondence, evoked nothing of a practical description, I think it is fairly obvious that gardeners, as a whole, have not found anything which, for practical purposes and in the case of their limited area, will beat the spade. But "A. D. G. G.," in his most interesting note, raises a question which is also full of interest; and especially in these modern and utilitarian times—that is, the question of making the garden pay its way. I do not think—I may, indeed, say I am sure—that the average garden does pay its way—strictly as a garden. Labour, seeds, implements, manure, and all the various items required are vastly more expensive than they formerly were, and even then, as a commercial proposition, the expense of running a garden of even moderate size exceeded the actual commercial value of the produce. In these modern days £1000 per annum does not go far in the upkeep of a garden—fuel, where there is any great amount of glass, is not an insignificant item. I am aware that, in the case of old estates which, alas, have changed hands (not always for the better), the new proprietors consider, and perhaps not unjustly, that the garden should pay its way or, at least, show a certain percentage on the capital sum at which it is assessed. It cannot be done. A private garden, as such, cannot possibly at the end of the year show an exactly balanced account. Nor, generally speaking, is it expected to do so. In the not distant past it was customarily said that there were two departments of an estate which did not pay and which were not expected to pay. These were the "home farm" and the gardens. The former was the demesne of the laird—or, in England, the squire—in which he carried out his own ideas of cropping, breeding, and so forth. The latter was the province of the lady who, year by year, planned improvements, planted Roses, made herbaceous borders and rock gardens, experimented with Lily ponds, and, generally, proved to be a good customer to nurserymen and seedsmen. The vegetable quarters were, in a way, subordinated to, reputedly, more important things; and if the wall fruit was cherished the orchard was left to take, as one may style it, pot luck. Expense was not considered, within reasonable limits; and it may easily be inferred that, under the older régime, the garden was not a paying proposition. But, and here comes in my own personal point of view, while it was correct to state that the garden, as such, did not pay, it was almost always forgotten that, apart from strictly garden work, the gardener's staff was called upon to do innumerable other kinds of work, a fact which was usually overlooked. The keeping of avenues, the keeping of, not infrequently, a mile or two of walks, the keeping of pleasure grounds, of tennis courts, of croquet greens, of a cricket pitch, the mowing, twice a year at least, of rough grass, and the weekly or bi-weekly cutting of short grass with machines, the raking and collecting of fallen leaves, and many other items; all these were carried through by the garden staff. (I notice, too, that "A. D. G. G." mentions haymaking.) So that if the garden *qua* garden was a losing speculation, I humbly submit that the garden staff at least paid its way. Leave the production of vegetables, fruit, flowers, and pot plants for home consumption entirely out of the question—I have been told that in one modern "commercially-run private garden" these are credited to the garden at wholesale prices—yet those who desire to have a well-kept, or reasonably well-kept place, do get a good run for their money. It would be interesting to learn the views of others—of owners, such as "A. D. G. G.," as well as of my fellow craftsmen. And, in conclusion, may I venture to suggest most respectfully that those who attempt to run a private garden on commercial lines cannot, really, have any great pleasure in our gentle craft. This I beg that

" A. D. G. G. " will not misunderstand. I know, and I can appreciate his point of view—a most laudable one in these days when many who are fond of gardens and of gardening must, perforce, cut their coat according to the cloth at their disposal. I can only again express my regret that I was unable effectively to aid him.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Cynoglossum amabile

DO many people grow Cynoglossum amabile, the Blue Hound's-tongue of China?

Our own English Hound's-tongue, with its dark chocolate flowers and mousy smell, compared with this lovely lady is as a nigger to an angel. In honour of her character and her birthplace, in my own mind I call her the Celestial Hound's-tongue, or, better still, let us say the Heavenly Hound's-tongue.

For the flowers are of heaven's own tint, a purer azure than Anchusa, deeper than Myosotis. The leaves are greyish-green, and, with the sweet blue of the flowers, make a delightfully soft harmony of colour. Those who do not know the plant must imagine much magnified Forget-me-nots set on branching stalks some 18 inches high, and they must further imagine a certain velvety quality of the leaves and stalks that add charm of texture to beauty of colouring.

First catalogued as a biennial, the Cynoglossum is now, I find, described as a hardy annual—and as a half-hardy, too. It is all three. Self-sown plants will often survive the hardest winters, but there is no reckoning upon them, and I myself find the surest way is to sow the seed early in boxes and plant out later, when the flowers will be at their best in August. A succession of it in bloom can easily be had all through the summer. There are several breadths of it in my garden, some coming in, others going over.

A. H. TULLOCH.

Irreconcilable Alpines

The remarks of your correspondent, " F. A. H.," on this subject (page 567) are of great interest. I have always had the opinion that the increased atmospheric pressure in lowland gardens over that which obtains in their native habitats is a primary reason for the failure of the " irreconcilables," since we can reproduce more or less successfully all the other conditions under which they grow, and yet something is lacking. But the last paragraph of the letter of " F. A. H." reminds me that many Alpines grow in the Arctic regions, and there they come down to sea-level, so that considerably discounts the pressure theory. That some Alpines are irreconcilable and not others does not vitiate it, since the habits and constitutions of all species differ. Moreover, there are some lowland species which are notoriously difficult to cultivate. It might be difficult, if not impossible, to carry out experiments on growing plants under reduced pressure, since any apparatus to produce it would necessarily exclude ventilation, which is very necessary for their health. Perhaps those who know M. Correvon's garden at Geneva can tell us whether he is more successful with plants from high altitudes than we are in British gardens, but I do not know to what altitude his garden reaches.

A. H. WOLLEY-DOD.

Identification of fruit

I should be very much obliged if you could draw the attention of the readers of your paper to the desirability of giving full information when fruits are sent in for naming or identification. We invariably ask, when sending in fruit, that the following regulations should be conformed with :—

Of fruits send at least three perfect specimens of a variety. Do not send until the fruits are mature, and then choose specimens representative of the particular variety. Avoid sending bruised, diseased, or abnormal fruits. Include with each variety a typical shoot with foliage. Number each variety, preferably in Roman figures, by marking the skin with a hard pencil, and keep a record of the tree from which it is gathered. Labels are often displaced during transit. Wrap each fruit in paper and pack it carefully and securely in wood-wool or similar material. Flimsy cardboard boxes are usually crushed in the post, while scented soap-boxes taint the fruit and obscure the characteristic flavour. Give all the information you can respecting the age of the trees and how they are grown, *e.g.*, indoors or out, as cordons, bushes, or standards, etc.

I think you will agree with me that if a little more care by inquirers was taken, not only this Society, but many other Societies or persons asked to name or identify fruit, would be very much facilitated.

Cynoglossum amabile

F. R. DURHAM, Secretary,
Royal Horticultural Society.
Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. 1.

What is wrong with the modern Rose?

If as a novice in the art of Rose-growing I may presume to answer this question, I say nothing is wrong with the modern Rose. It is glorious, and affords me the greatest pleasure in all my endeavours to cultivate it successfully. Some of the modern Roses I consider more lovely than others, but all are beautiful. The point in your correspondent's letter which interests me most is the following passage :—" What is one to think when one buys six plants of a kind, five die, the sixth flourishes, all have the same soil, the same culture? " What I think is that there was only one good plant among the six, the other five being bad or indifferent. I have purchased many modern Roses, but the mortality among them has been practically nil. What, however, I have consta
perienced is, that if I buy six Rose
variety from any nursery of repute
three out of the six succeed better
others. Why this is so and what i
with those that are not as satisfactor
others is what I should like to know.
clearly nothing to do with the stock o
the Rose is budded, the soil, aspect,
vation, because all are grown under t
conditions, and therefore should all fa
succeed. This is the point of interes
but as a mere tyro I suggest that th
which failed were bad and the nurs
responsible for the failure. AMA

Kenya Horticultural Society: appeal

As you have so very kindly given
mission to appeal to the generosity
readers, may I explain as shortly as
the needs and hopes of the Kenya
tural Society?

This Society was started some seve
ago by a small party of very keen ga
in Nairobi. It is very much an
Horticultural Society, as profession
deners are very few and far between
colony, and practically everyone has t
whole of the skilled work of the
themselves, as the native labour avai
only of the roughest type and with t
possible knowledge of horticulture.

Climatic difficulties, strange diseas
pests, all have to be coped with and
by the garden owner, and to most of
sub-tropical plants we grow were qu
known until we arrived in Kenya,
many cases broke up virgin forest or
make our gardens.

Bearing in mind all such difficu
think we may be proud of being able
that our Horticultural Society has
steadily ahead, has paid its way fr
beginning, and has never been in debt.

We hold two shows every year in
and sometimes a third, and also
organising and running the hortic
section in the big agricultural shows.

Our present trouble is that we ha
veloped too well, and have no longer
cient space in the one possible
Nairobi, which is the Settlers'
Memorial Hall. As a result, classes
be cut down and exhibits sadly crampe

We have, therefore, started a B
Fund, and aim at collecting £5,000.
hope to build on to the existing hall, a
is land available, and the hall would
mensely improved for all sorts of us
sides those of the flower lovers.

The colony is not rich and our me
are all hard-working men and womer
very little chance of collecting so la
sum in Kenya, therefore the Com
asked me, as President, to try and
funds from sympathetic gardener
England. All subscriptions will be
gratefully welcomed and should be
direct to The Lady Muriel Jex-Blake,
House, Salisbury, which is my address
in England. MURIEL JEX-BL

The value of wasps

A day or two ago I had my cur
aroused by some half-a-dozen wasps
about on the tennis lawn about 2 inch
the grass. On giving a close observatio
a few minutes I soon saw one settle
immediately start tugging at something
all the power it had in its body, whic
closer examination proved to be a Le
Jacket, the grub of the Crane Fly or
Long-legs. I watched the same for abo
minutes and saw these wasps discover
of the grubs, kill them, and start to ea
same. For the benefit of our readers

going to secure some old rubber ground ts, saturate the ground under them, and a matter of 12 to 24 hours I have read can sweep them up in dozens.

e Gardens, Northcote, A. CARD.
Reigate, Surrey.

The garden cottage

NOW in the middle of September the borders round the cottage are a bright mass of flowers. Zinnias, African igolds, Geraniums, and Gaillardias make brightest show, with an upstanding patch ladiolus and a groundwork of China rs in shades of purple, some showy stemons, and a background, just beyond open porch, of rich, red Hollyhocks. from the road there is a glowing mass Dahlias, orange, red, and dark. The ge itself, built about 30 years ago, has ndsome timbered front after the manner e older cottages of the district; the oak ering has turned to a quiet grey, well off by the whitewashed plastering be- ven; it forms a becoming background to blaze of flowers at its foot. G. J.

The cottage garden in the middle of September, containing a show of Zinnias, China Asters, Gladioli, African Marigolds, Geraniums, and Gaillardias

Asarum europæum

y experience with this coincides with that A SCOTTISH GARDENER" (page 594). I it on a rockery which I considered to be damp for most rock plants, so re-made it much lighter soil. The result is that um europæum and certain other things died. A. H. WOLLEY-DOD.

Gentiana lagodechiana

e form of this Gentian, which I have, ers about a fortnight later than G. emfida, and has a flowering season at twice as long. I think it is the more able plant of the two, though there is to choose between them except habit. aps G. lagodechiana flowers a little e freely. I believe it is only varietally nct from G. septemfida, not a distinct ies, though I have heard this disputed.

A. H. WOLLEY-DOD.

Gardens in Ancient Greece

I have read Mr. Spender's letter, which appeared in your issue dated September 28th, with great interest.

My article was mainly intended to show that the Greeks had an even greater need of flowers than we have in these days. Undoubtedly, they cultivated gardens mainly for utilitarian reasons—the fruit and vegetables for sale and consumption, the flowers for garlands.

Classical allusions to the subject, as Mr. Spender says, are almost negligible. The earliest allusion appears to be in Homer (Od. VII., 112-130), where the garden of Alcinous is described, and this is entirely vegetable and fruit. Aristophanes (Birds, 1066) speaks of sweet-scented gardens (kepous euodeis). Demosthenes (c. Nicostr.) refers to Rose gardens. Also see Pausanias I., 19, Sec. 2.

I have come across the following sentence in an article on ancient Greece written some years ago (1864), author unknown. "Modern society can scarcely form a conception of the extent to which flowers were cultivated in Greece." Later, writing of their fondness for garlands, he says: "This taste, which prevailed more or less throughout the whole country, as well as in Magna Græcia, Sicily, and Asia Minor, may convey some idea of the extent of floral cultivation, which everywhere constituted an important branch of industry."

With regard to Chæremon, the verses are cited in Athenæus, and can be found in Nauck's "Fragmenta Tragicorum Græcorum." It is a very free translation.

Barnes, S.W. 13. N. C. W. EDGE.

Dryas octopetala in Ireland

I noticed in an article in the number for August 17th, by "F. A. H.," that he finds Dryas octopetala a shy flowerer. On my old rock garden I had a large patch of the native variety which flowered abundantly, not once, but several times during the summer. Silene acaulis, though, was shy, but Sax. oppositifolia did splendidly. All these plants I brought from our limestone mountains, where they grow luxuriantly with other Alpines.

The articles about Val Piora have filled me with a great desire to go there again. When I went we walked from Airolo, thinking we were going for a short and easy stroll. There was no railway in those days! It was June, and the wealth of flowers from the top of the St. Gothard Pass down to Airolo was beyond description. L. E. CROFTON.

Co. Sligo.

Some Shortias

These interesting plants are beautiful of flower and of foliage, and deserve to be grown wherever choice plants are appreciated. They enjoy a cool soil and a half-shaded position, but to place them in full shade—and this is often recommended—is to deprive them of one of their greatest charms, the crimson colouring of their leaves in winter. S. galacifolia was discovered over 100 years ago by Michaux in the mountains of N. Carolina and rediscovered in 1877. The plant forms runners like Galax aphylla, and, indeed, was found in company with that plant. The leaves, of rather oval form, are deep green, shaded bronze, while the lovely flowers are reminiscent of those of the Soldanella, but larger and deeply fringed, pure white, passing with age to rose-pink. S. uniflora grandiflora is a most charming Japanese species. The handsome, glossy leaves pass to bronze and red, almost scarlet, and the large bell-like flowers are deliciously coloured soft pink. The Shortias flower in spring and early summer, and are veritable treasures for a cool spot on the rock garden. Grown in pans they are exquisite ornaments for the Alpine-house or cold greenhouse.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Three views of Pzo Columbe—a typical Dolomite mountain East of Piora
The home of Androsaces Chamæjasme, obtusifolia and lactea, also Linaria alpina alba

Ten Days in Leventina

The diary of a visit to the Alps of Val Ticino and around Piora

By HERBERT COWLEY, Editor of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

At the request of many readers, this diary is continued over a slightly longer period than was originally intended

(*Concluded from page 613*)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10TH.

JOY comes in the morning. We make an early start for Pzo Columbe—not that we know anything about it, but in making our way to Lago Dentro we had seen to the west a mysterious looking mountain with rocky pinnacles rising high in the heavens like the points of the Drei Zinnen. We carefully looked it up on a large scale map and found it to be Pzo Columbe. It is so obviously dolomitic, even when seen as we only had seen it—many miles away.

The morning air is filled with sweet smells. The vanilla of Nigritella, and the aromatic fragrance of Arnica montana are unmistakable. Trifolium alpinum is another good scent. A pleasant smell, not easily defined, comes from Achillea moschata, which smothers the rocks by the side of the track with its pretty white flowers. This scent is borne on the air and at first it is not easy to detect from whence it comes. All of these plants are in full flower. By far the most powerful of all is pink Daphne, that abounds in large masses on the grassy slopes. This plant I had unhesitatingly taken to be the Garland Flower, D. Cneorum, but Dr. Jenkin, who is able to speak with authority on the mountain Daphnes, pointed out that this was D. alpina. From descriptions and illustrations I have since seen of D. alpina this must be a most variable species, both in c
and habit.

The sweet-scented Daphne alpina on the slopes of Corandoni

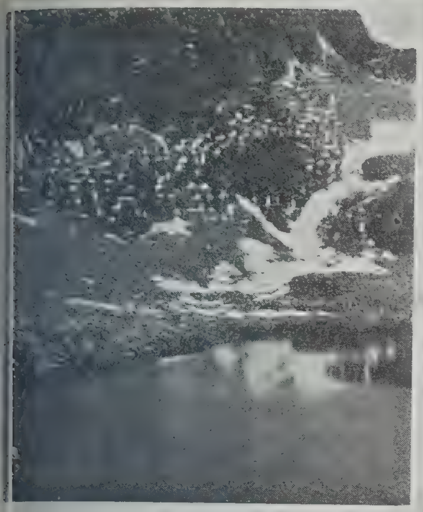
We did not find the plants we exp
around the pot holes or on the lime
pinnacles of Columbe. The high s
looked just the place for Thlaspi rot
folium, but we did not see it. As w
proached Columbe we saw less and le
the lime-hating Anemone sulfurea, A
montana, and Rhododendron ferrugin
while Azalea (Loisleuria) procumbens
abundant on Taneda, looked thoroughly
happy and gradually dwindled away a
approached the rocks of Columbe. O
the first plants to note on Columbe wa
lime-loving Hutchinsia alpina, but this
lated dolomitic mountain was not proli
species, as if the usual flora had not yet f
its way there.

We approached this mountain to the s
by the Passo Sole and then encircled it
turning to the north by Passo Columbe
is a most interesting experience to go
round the high slopes of a mountain.

It is grand to be in the Alps with
Jenkin, he is so far seeing and is abl
recognise and name the distant mount
many of which he had climbed. More
he has an eye like a hawk for minute p
in high places.

After crossing a patch of snow on the
side of Columbe I had the good fortun
alight on a real treasure; it was a
clump of Linaria alpina alba, a beau
pure white form, the very plant that
Doctor was looking for. Thus another dr
came true; and oh, the delight of findin
new plant. The more difficult a plant i
find the greater is the joy in finding it.
portion of this plant was removed, thoug
fear it has since died.

On our return in the evening we were
to learn of the arrival of an interest
visitor, Dr. Roger Smith, who had joined
select party at Piora. He was alone on
way back, after a lengthy plant-hunting
in the Balkans. He had evidently b
through a most strenuous time, scour
little-known parts of Serbia, Monteneg
Albania, and other uncomfortable corners
Europe in breathless haste with Dr. Guisep
Ingwersen, and other enthusiasts. He


Lago di Dentro

ring stories to relate of bandits in the ll and botanising with an armed escort on e lbanian frontier. He seemed well-nigh histed after his exploits, and fully appre- atl the comparatively quiet life at Piora.

[r. Roger Smith has very kindly written n ticle on his trip, which will appear in r ext issue.]

R. S. takes capital photographs in lcr of plants in their native habitats. o I wish that we could reproduce them. esent the high cost of colour printing nrs this impracticable, though by the n we celebrate our next Jubilee no doubt r illustrations will be in colour.

addition to the plants recorded, we had isday seen Saxifraga cæsia, S. crustata, osace lactea, and Draba aizoides, the t with yellow flowers on wire-like stems.

ny Gentians were also noted on the viz., Gentiana utriculosa with nine open rs on a stem, of real deep Gentian blue, nana brachyphylla, and luxuriant clumps bavarica. The glory of these Gentians s the lines by F. W. Bourdillon :—

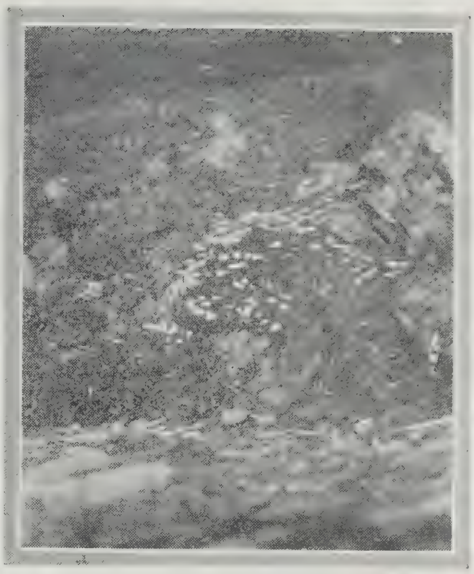
"And on the green knees of those giant scars,
Ages ere man arose to mark the hours,
The dawn descending kissed awake blue stars
Of Gentians, and all tender Alpine flowers."

With these notes my diary closes, and I look back upon Piora as the gate between earth and heaven, to be re-visited on the first opportunity.

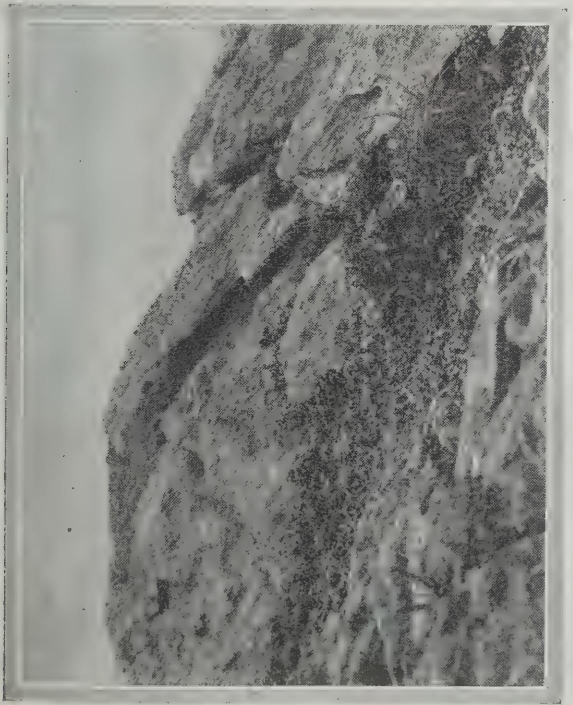
Sweet Peas in autumn

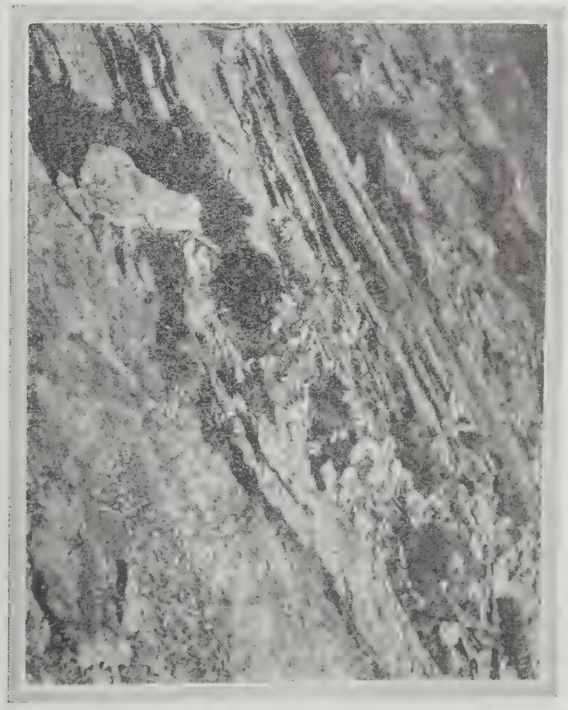
ALTHOUGH Sweet Peas were rather backward in their early stages of growth this year, they made amends during the months of July and August, and in September were as robust as ever and giving splendid blooms on long stems in most cases. In fact, I have never had plants do so well since they were taken down in July to 3 feet from 8 feet in height. Now most of the plants are again 7 feet in height. The plants have had no extra feeding other than several doses of liquid manure, soot water, Ichthemic Guano, and two feedings with sulphate of ammonia. One of the best varieties I have grown this season has been Pinkee, the very best rose pink. The colour is grand and the plant is a healthy, robust grower. Corona is another beautiful carmine-rose, with a pure white base to the petals. It is splendid when bunched. It is quite a satisfactory grower and has thrown a number of fives. Sunburst is far and away the best cream-ground Picotee. It was the first to bloom and is now in excellent condition. The colour does not run so badly as other varieties of this nature, and I strongly advise readers to give it a trial during the next season.

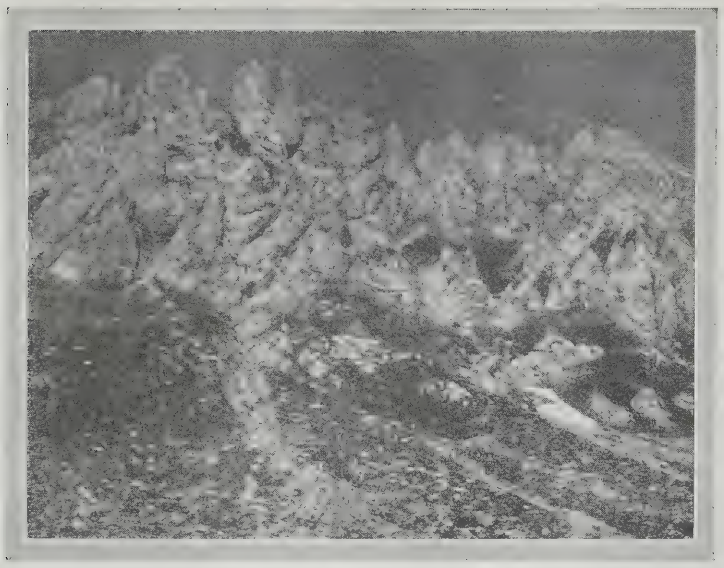
Hero is an excellent and very attractive variety, quite up to exhibition standard. The colour is a brilliant deep cerise with salmon sheen which does not fade in th


The fragrant Achillea moschata
Flowers white

Sheets of Dryas octopetala and Mountain Cudweed, Antennaria dioica, a little Everlasting in white and pink


Azalea (Loisleuria) procumbens on Taneda (about 8,500 feet)


Eritrichium nanum in flower in rocky crevices, also on Taneda



Pzo Columbe seen from the East

At the Cadlimohutte, about 10,000 feet

strongest sunshine, and shows up wonderfully under artificial light. Messrs. A. Searles have a new shade which might be termed cerise-salmon with a golden glow, and anyone who gives this novelty a trial will not regret it, for it is a good grower and carries any amount of well-placed fours on good stems.

Charming cannot be left out of a collection where a deep rosy cerise is desired. Although fairly old, it is still one of the best for exhibition. George Shawyer is the best orange-pink, in my estimation, after having grown it for several years. Mrs. Horace Wright may be called a giant rosy-pink flushed on a white ground. It must have sunshine in order that the best colours may be got out of it. Magnet is a glorious salmon-pink on a cream ground and is the only variety that has shown signs of streak with me this season. A variety that I chose in place of Picture in the cream-pink sections, and one with which I was very disappointed, was the new American-raised Fluffy Ruffles. Although it certainly gave some duplex blooms with very frilly flowers, it was in no way up to expectations. For a real fancy novelty I place Harlequin before all others, for there is something to my mind very fascinating about the blooms which have a Picotee edge of scarlet on a deep cream ground, with standards and wings heavily veined and marked with scarlet. It is a tip-top grower and very suitable for exhibition where 12 or 18 vases are required.

Although Powerscourt still holds its own in the lavender shades, I find Gleneagles is running it close, and, if anything, is of a purer colour. Chieftain is certainly the best mauve I have yet grown, and although not so sweetly scented as Mauve Beauty, it has a better colour and is a more robust grower. Those who require a real good violet-blue should give Fortune a trial, for it is " one of the best " and quite as strong in growth as any of the blues. Blue Bird and Heavenly Blue must both come before the old favourite, Mrs. Tom Jones, which has held its own amongst the Delphinium coloured Sweet Peas for many years. Blue Bird is certainly stronger in growth than Heavenly Blue, but not so clear in colour. Sybil Henshaw is still the best crimson I have grown, and Model the best white, while Olympia is far and away in front of the old favourite, Royal Purple. Although I like Matchless among the creams, I am afraid I must place What Joy in front, as it is more frilly and just as the buds open they are decidedly yellow, a colour which is a long time in coming in Sweet Peas. The Sultan is one of the best dark maroons on the market, but I have an idea that an amateur friend of mine will cause a sensation if he puts on the market an excellent seedling of his own raising which I have seen both growing and on the exhibition stage. It somewhat resembles Sultan, but is deeper in colour, more defined, and is an exceedingly good and healthy grower. A few that I have no further use for are Prince of Orange, a weak grower which scorches badly; Miss California, which has good colours but is a poor grower; Mermaid, a weak-growing lavender; Living Picture, neither one thing nor the other; 2LO, nothing in comparison with Huntsman, a colour hardly required; and Elegance, a very poor lilac-pink. W. E. WRIGHT.

Boronia megastigma

In these days, when, perhaps more than ever, perfume in flowers is so much appreciated, the Boronia megastigma should be remembered as one of the sweetest-smelling flowers in the floral world. One plant will make a full-size conservatory delicious, and perhaps sweeter in the atmosphere
the breeze than when smelt close at

The Boronia is one of those Aus
plants which like a sandy, peaty soi
like most of the Australian plants,
plenty of water during the growing
but less and careful watering in winte
it is dormant.

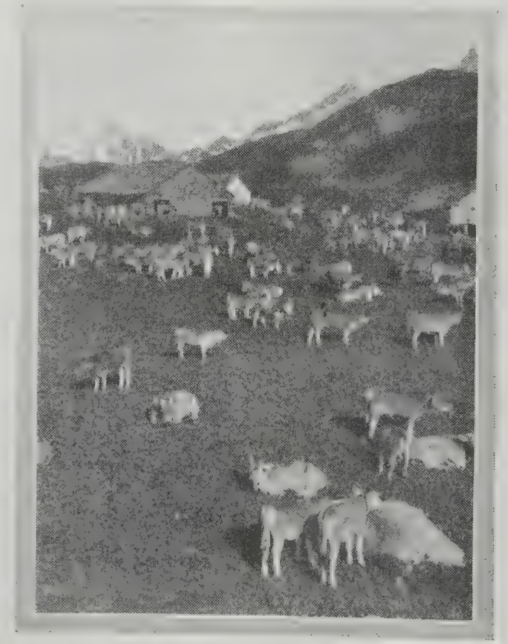
The Boronias, the Acacias (Mimosa
most of the Australian plants are no
cult to grow if one bears the conditi
mind already mentioned.

The propagation is less easy, but
ripened shoots root in sandy soil late i
mer in the propagating-house, these
potted into a sandy peaty soil whe
rooted and kept in a comfortable
during the winter.

Another good point about these Aus
plants is that they succeed in cold
houses, and many of them are hardy
doors in the southern and western c
when provided with a Rhododendro
Among these numerous varieties (whic
once called " New Holland Plants ") a
Callistemons, better known as Metros
or " Bottle Brush Trees," which mak
geous unheated conservatory plants a
bushes in the open in favoured spots.

A common mistake with amateur
deners in dealing with these easily-g
when-understood plants is that, being
black soil, they frequently mistake the
of the soil as indicating that it is moist
it is dry. This is fatal to the plant
early stages of its growth. The Aust
plants, like horses and dogs, are
handled when one is not afraid of
During the early stages of growth, bi-
mild liquid-manure water is helpful to
growth. When repotted they like fair
potting, and, if more convenient, they
be plunged outside for the spring and
mer up to the rims of the pots in su
material, such as ash. An overhead s
when in growth suits them if the weat
dry.

A pleasing feature of these Aust
plants is the way they lend themsel
gentle forcing in an airy house.
Acacias, for instance, by making a sel
of the correct varieties may be had in
for some seven or eight months in succe
while the Chorizemas bloom for a like
in a cold house without any forcing.
class of plant makes a good compani
Perpetual Carnations inasmuch as bot
mand fresh air and plenty of it, and a
same time resent a close atmosphere.



Milking time near Lago Cadagno, Alta Leventina om Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

A Spruce Fir ornament

NE of the prettiest objects I ever beheld is a Spruce-cone, filled with sand and grass-seed, which latter routed and grew out of the scales. is now as large as a Cocoa-nut with e husk on, and of the most vivid reen colour. The grass grows with a xuriance that is remarkable. To roduce this charming specimen the ne was baked in an oven till the ales opened out equally. It was then arefully filled with equal parts of sand nd grass-seed, a string tied to the ift, and the whole suspended in the ark in a jar with water enough to me half-way over the cone. In a eek it was placed in the sunlight, hen the seed sprouted rapidly, and a month filled a gallon jar completely. It has been taken out and ung in the window, exposed to the air f the room. Every morning it is oroughly soaked in tepid water.

—April 5th, 1879.

To restore faded flowers

MOST flowers commence to droop and wither after being kept in water for twenty-four hours; a w can be revived by substituting fresh ater, and a pinch of saltpetre in it will nd to keep them bright and fresh. But adly withered flowers can be made esh by placing them in a cup of boilg-hot water, deep enough to cover at ast one-third of the stems; by the me the water has cooled entirely, the owers will have become bright and rect. Now cut off the ends of the tems about an inch and place them cold water, and you will be surrised at the reviving influence of this eatment. . Thin petalled, white, and ght-coloured flowers, however, will ot become so fully restored as high-oloured, thick-leaved blossoms.

—March 22nd, 1879.

Autumn flowers

I many gardens due regard is not always ai to securing a display of flowers in late rner and autumn. In borders where a is restricted many plants could be acommodated in the foreground of the rbery or in some of the out-of-the-way as which are so often unattractive. wing to the hot and dry summer we have perienced this year flowers are of short ation, but the later-flowering plants, beig ubject to less trying conditions, will last un longer and at the same time be bright nd effective. Japanese Anemones make a ne display and succeed well in partial shade. apnica alba is the most attractive, but e are other good forms. Very effective re the late-flowering Phloxes if given plenty f noisture. There are numerous good arties to be had. Rudbeckias make a fine isay, producing their flowers on firm, wiry s. R. Newmanni is a pretty dwarf rty, growing only 2 feet high. As the c of Rudbeckias are near the surface the i must be kept moist. Heleniums, both and dwarf, are also useful. Riverton ty and Riverton Gem give a fine disla when massed; and then there are the hrsanthemums and Michaelmas Daisies. Kniphofias, with their large tuft of leaves, make a striking effect when in flower. The late-flowering Ox-eye Daisies and Montbretias also give a good display, and Sedum spectabile, being dwarf with pink flowers, makes a good edging to the border. F. H.

Lilium giganteum

LILIUM GIGANTEUM delights in ample moisture, even a bog, and if in partial shade the flowers last longer than if in full sun. The tops of the bulbs should not be buried in the soil, though a covering of bracken or leaves during winter is necessary. It is best to plant medium-sized bulbs and let them develop, as large-sized flowering bulbs do not produce the same results as those which have established themselves a year or two before flowering. G. N. S.

Lilium giganteum at Daisy Hill Nursery, Newry

Oriental Lilies in Southern Scotland

If, during the autumnal period, the Rose is still the Queen, the Lily is, assuredly, the Empress of my garden. Most majestic of its kind, and towering high above the odorous Sweet Peas and luxurious Carnations (whose influence for artistic decoration is inestimable), are two splendid representatives of the Great Lily of the Himalayas, presented to me last November by a Scottish Earl, whose collection of Lilium giganteum is the grandest I have known, some of the finest specimens reaching an elevation of 13 feet. Those which I have had the great privilege of cultivating and watching their wondrous evolution have been only slightly lower than this remarkable height. The flowers, which are very long and lustrous, are pure ivory-white in colour and refined in their fragrance. By reason of their height and the abnormal dimensions of their leaves and flowers they require for their preservation from the power of sudden thunder-blasts a strongly protected situation, such as they invariably find at Castle Kennedy, also at Logan House in Kirkmaiden (my native parish), where, by Mr. Kenneth A. McDouall, they are grandly grown. The one limitation of this commanding Indian Lily is its comparatively short existence, and especially where it is greatly exposed, but it provides for its perpetuation by creating a considerable number of offsets, of which the largest has often to grow for several years before it attains to its full flowering size. But it also produces in succession to the flowers a large quantity of precious seeds. Next year I intend to add to my collection Lilium Philippense formosanum, a very beautiful pure white variety, which I have often seen and greatly admired in Logan Gardens.

While such impressive Lilies as the satiny-white Madonna of Palestine (Lilium candidum), Monadelphum Szovitzianum of Persia, and Mount Caucasus, Humboldtii, and Pardalinum, the Panther Lily of California, Lilium regale of Western China, and the exquisite longiflorum of Japan, which has several varieties, are in many of their attributes supremely attractive, I have a great love for the Japanese speciosum, picturesquely spotted, as its name implies, with charming green axils radiating from the centre and most delicately fragrant, of which I have over 100 flowers. From three bulbs and their offspring, this is the result. With me it is the chief abiding glory of September and October, and therefore I regard it as an inestimable possession, the loveliest companion of the latest Rose.

David R. Williamson.

Dahlias at Crawley

A VISIT to the nursery of Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., Crawley, Sussex, during the Dahlia season is an event of annual importance to those interested in these highly-attractive flowers. No fewer than 6,000 plants are grown, and every type of Dahlia is to be seen in this comprehensive collection. A large area is also devoted to seedling Dahlias, and from among these it is safe to predict another series of noteworthy novelties of various types of this wonderful subject.

The collection of Dahlias abuts on to the Brighton Road, and is a source of much interest to motorists and others who pass and repass the glorious blaze of colour that this collection represents. On the present occasion the writer went through the whole collection, noting those varieties that stood out from others for their usefulness in the garden. In this connection, habit of growth and freedom of flowering were essential considerations, and combined with these factors there was the question of colour, and this was considered to be of much importance.

Borders of Mignon Dahlias at Crawley

Small Decorative or Camellia-flowered Dahlias were first inspected. In this type are many free-flowering plants of good habit and striking colours. The better sorts were Mrs. Linford (scarlet), Mrs. Chas. Hay (salmon-red), Mrs. David Campbell (bright rosy-cerise), Mrs. Howard H. Crane (glowing crimson), Verity Wadsworth (canary-yellow), Red Rover (brilliant red), Cheal's Pink (rich cerise-pink), Topaz (brilliant scarlet), Crimson Flag (rich crimson), Reginald Corry (crimson, tipped white), and Mrs. Selous (salmon, suffused rose). They were a most attractive series. The Messrs. Cheal have always been noted for the beautiful quality of their single-flowered Dahlias, a few of the more striking examples being Mrs. J. F. McLeod (glowing scarlet), Amy Barrilet (crimson-scarlet, bronze foliage), Lady Bountiful (deep pink), Marion (buff, suffused rose), Brilliant (crimson-scarlet), Frank Galsworthy (crimson centre, shading off to salmon-rose), Rigi (tangerine), Albatross (pure white), Beacon (yellow), and Owen Thomas (crimson-scarlet, tipped yellow).

The miniature-flowered or small-flowered Pæony Dahlias are a great feature at this establishment. Generally, the plants possess a good habit of growth, and are very free flowering. It was difficult to restrict one's selection, but the following were most noteworthy:—Dazzle (brilliant scarlet), Beatrice (salmon, suffused rose and primrose), Favourite (rich apricot), Mermaid (bright yellow), Clara Hart (crimson-scarlet), Lady Macintosh (coppery-yellow, suffused salmon-rose), Bishop of Llandaff (rich crimson-scarlet), Pink Perfection (rich rose-pink), Radium (brilliant crimson - scarlet), Our Annie (shrimp-pink, lovely), Bhopal (bright, glowing crimson-scarlet), Schneider (velvety crimson), Saturn (rosy-salmon), Clarissa Gibson (salmon-pink), and Yellow Queen (sulphur-yellow). There were many others we would like to mention. Star Dahlias are almost the exclusive product of this Crawley Nursery, and Messrs. Cheal are constantly improving the quality of the flowers, which are ideal for indoor decorations, apart from their value in the garden, where they make a wondrously free display. The more noteworthy were:—Margate Star (yellow, bronze, and rose), Warnham Star (coppery-rose), Hookwood Star (satiny-pink), Richmond Star (rich apricot), Charlwood Star (fiery orange, tipped red), Epsom Star (rich coral-red), Haslemere Star (rose-pink), Primrose Star (primrose), and Rye Star (coppery-orange and rose). The flowers are generally borne on stiff, erect stems.

Pompons are well done here, and are a very representative collection. A few of the better sorts are worth mentioning:—Adelaide (blush, edged lavender), Bacchus (scarlet), Electra (deep orange), Glow (coral), Nerissa (soft rose), Darkest of All (maroon), Raider (yellow), Tommy Keith (red, tipped white), Ruby (ruby-crimson), Mavis (rich, glowing red), Little Beeswing (yellow, heavily-edged red), and Girlie (pinkish-mauve).

Mignon Dahlias are the especial care of the Messrs. Cheal. A long, wide
walk is flanked on either side with
masses of the different sorts comprisin
collection of this type of the flower, a
bedding purposes they are almost ind
able from July onwards. They were n
a great show. The more noteworthy va
appeared to be Emerald (rose-pink), D
(rich yellow), Harold (rich crimson),
Aileen (pink, with darker ring in c
Lancer (scarlet), Mincio (bright sc
Rosebud (salmon-pink), Empress
purple), Edith (pale satin-rose), Ka
(deep apricot), Josephine (primrose-y
and Julius (bright rosy-scarlet).

Space will not permit the enumerat
the better Collarette sorts, nor the
flowered Decorative varieties, of which
there was a magnificent representation.
den and exhibition Cactus Dahlias wer
largely in evidence, as were also the
flowered Pæony varieties, of which
there were many beautiful examples.

As a whole, the collection is well-
and freely-flowered, and serves to illu
the great advance made in this showy
ject in more recent years. D. B. Cr

Ad Astra

Dahlias! Dahlias! big and bright
In my garden of delight,
Like moons in early Fall for me
Peerless you shone in *Majesty*.

Bold was your form, and like a ball
You tossed above the garden wall.
Countless your petals; all men knew
Your grand simplicity and hue.

Would you had prospered in this wise
That fewer folk did hybridise;
Your sports and novelties' unborn,
No man his homage had forsworn.

For *Siren!* your " cross " ways of la
May turn admirers' love to hate;
They ask of your mixed progenies—
Did father Dahl envisage these?

Not I, fair *Maiden*, who adore
These newer *Charms* more than befo
Gone from my border full moons are
I've hitched my wagon to the *STAR*.
A. J.

New certificated Chrysanthem

Thirteen new varieties of Chrysanthem
were placed before the Floral Committ
the National Chrysanthemum Society a
meeting on Monday, the 23rd ult., hel
the Committee-room of the Royal Hort
tural Society, Greycoat Place, London, S
Four First-class Certificates were award
the following novelties:—

SOLIDITY.—A promising early variety su
for disbudding. The blooms are fully 4 in
in diameter and are made up of fairly b
florets rounded at the ends and of sple
substance. Colour, golden-yellow, ti
bronze. A good variety for market grow

BRIDESMAID.—A distinctly pretty bl
having fairly long florets of narrow
medium breadth, building an attrac
flower of drooping form some 5 inches in
meter. Colour, a charming salmon-
with fawn centre. Both shown by Mr.
Shoesmith, Junr.

ASSURANCE.—As shown on this occasion
blooms were of splendid quality and most
tractive. The florets are fairly broad
pointed, and build a full flower of beau
form about 4 inches in diameter. Col
chestnut with golden reverse.

DART.—Another pretty bloom noted for
colour, which may be described as br
chestnut, tipped gold. The florets are fa

and build a capital disbudded flower 3 inches to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. The st-named, shown by Mr. J. A. Barrell, vorthy of the attention of market rs.

romising large exhibition variety that answer the purpose of market growers grow large Japanese blooms for market

L ENCE-MARTIN-ROI. — This bloom is 8 inches in diameter and has broad that reflex and curl in at the ends, ing a flower of good, even form. r, pale pink on silvery-white ground. een in flower for some time. Shown M. V. Martin et fils, Champigny.

D. B. CRANE.

R ort on condition of horticultural crops on September 26th, 1929

VEGETABLES

B t.—Fair to good generally.

B ccoli. — Backward. Aphides have d very severe damage, particularly in rdshire. Caterpillar is general in vall and the south-western counties.

B ssels Sprouts.—Growth checked by ht and crops are generally well under ge. Aphis attacks prevalent and very on light, dry soils, particularly in Bedire. A very large acreage of Sprouts dry areas is already beyond hope of ery.

C bage (autumn-sown).—In most dis planting out is delayed by drought.

C rots.—Variable, but generally about ge.

C liflower.—Much below average, owing ought and attacks by aphis and caterill. Crops severely damaged in Bedfordand some other parts.

C ery—Rain badly needed. Crops in soil than fen are below average. Fen crops to fair.

K le.—Backward; growth much checked ought.

L ks.—Generally small; somewhat back

C ions.—Bulbs small but generally sound; ing well.

P rsnips.—Fair but fly very prevalent.

S oys.—Variable; generally below avermuch damage by aphis and caterpillar.

T matoes (outdoor).—Very good crops of l, well-ripened fruit.

T rnips.—Poor and patchy; generally under average except in the northern counties.

FRUIT

Apples.—Fruit is small but of very good quality on the whole. Heavy gales on Friday, September 20th, caused a large amount of dropping. Crops generally are about average.

(Culinary varieties).—Bramley's Seedling variable, but good in Kent and Middlesex. Lane's Prince Albert good, Newton Wonder light to fair, Lord Derby fair in all districts. The late-keeping varieties are particularly good in Wisbech area.

(Dessert varieties).—Cox's Orange Pippin fair; Allington Pippin fair to moderate; Ellison's Orange good.

Pears.—Fruit small to average in size; of excellent appearance. Conference crop good; Fertility fair to good; Hessle fair. Culinary varieties light to moderate.

Cider Apples.—Light crops generally.

Perry Pears.—Good in Gloucestershire; elsewhere light to moderate.

The greengrocery of the classics

During the drought a lover of Lettuces might have been tempted to imitate the example of Aristoxenus, a Greek philosopher and writer of music who lived about 320 B.C. This gentleman was in the habit of watering his Lettuces with wine in order to increase their flavour. In those days the Lettuce seems to have been universally honoured. It was often used as an incentive to sleep, and is said to have cured Augustus of hypochondria.

Broccoli was the favourite vegetable food of Drusus, son of the Emperor Tiberius, and as the father had an equal fondness for it, the master of the Roman world and his illustrious heir were constantly quarrelling like two clowns when a dish of Broccoli stood between them.

Artichokes grew less rapidly into aristocratic favour. For a long time they were only used by drinkers as a cure for headache and by singers to strengthen the voice. Pliny pronounced Artichokes excellent food for poor people and donkeys!

Asparagus was well-known both to Greeks and Romans. In those days it was grown from 12 feet to 20 feet high. Under the Romans, stems of Asparagus were raised of three pounds' weight. The Greeks ate of the dish more sparingly, as their doctors denounced Asparagus as injurious to the sight. On the other hand, it was said that a slice or two of boiled Pumpkin would re-invigorate the sight which had been deteriorated by Asparagus.

Shinfield Star, a true star-shaped flower of intense orange-scarlet

A more favourite dish at Athens was Turnips from Thebes. Carrots, too, formed a distinguished dish at Greek and Roman tables.

It is said that Radishes were once grown to an enormous size, and that it was not uncommon for them to be a hundred pounds in weight. Possibly the Horse Radish is a descendant of a gigantic ancestor. This root had at one time a great reputation and was supposed to cure every evil in life.

The Cabbage was variously viewed by the Ancients; in one country it was an object of worship, in another of contempt. The Egyptians made of it a god, and it was the first dish they touched at their repasts. The Greeks and Romans took it as a remedy for the langour following inebriation. It was also recommended as a specific in paralysis, and, boiled in salt, as a sovereign remedy for the colic.

N. C. W. EDGE.

White Star Dahlia sent out from the Crawley Nurseries

It is free-flowering, effective, and invaluable for cutting

Club Root

This most disastrous disease attacks Turnips and all kinds of greens in the vegetable garden. The symptoms are very well marked. They consist of the development on the roots of ugly, irregular swellings, which so disorganise the activities of the affected plant that it soon becomes but a shadow of its real self. As Club Root is essentially a disease of acid soil conditions it follows that the cultivator should do all in his power to correct these. Obviously lime is the most potent alkali at the command of the gardener, and I have found, as a result of exhaustive experiments, that the form known as ground limestone is easily the best corrective of Club Root. It should be forked into the soil at the rate of 1 lb. per square yard immediately the diseased crop is cleared. In addition, every gardener should prove himself a hygienist by destroying in the furnace every diseased root. If by accident or design such are allowed to lie about, they become fertile nurseries for the spread of Club Root.

G. H. C.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Fruit gathering

The time has now arrived when the majority of Apples and Pears must be gathered and placed safely under cover. There are, nevertheless, a few specially late varieties which may with advantage be left upon the trees a little longer. Storing of these should, however, be attended to as soon as the fruits fall readily into the hand upon being slightly raised. I strongly advocate the thorough ripening of Apples before storing, as it makes all the difference to their keeping qualities.

Keeping fruit

Unfortunately, this is not understood as it should be, either through lack of advice or practical knowledge, and it is appalling to see what had been fine fruits withering up on dry stages a few weeks after being gathered. Pears keep best when a temperature of about 45 degs. can be obtained in a dark room where air may be admitted only when necessary, but Apples require a cool, dark store-room where air may be freely admitted as occasion demands, draughts being avoided. The floor should be an earthen one, or, better still, of stone slabs, or even concrete, both of which surfaces throw off just the amount of moisture required to maintain the fruits in a fresh, plump condition. The roof and walls must be made as cool as possible, and, given these conditions, Apples will keep for months on end, even though piled on stages or floor half a yard deep. I have personally stored them 3 feet in depth on such floors and left them for three months before further attention has been given, without the slightest detriment to the fruit.

Chrysanthemums

With the rapidly developing buds comes the question of ventilation and watering now that all are under cover. The conditions of September evenings should be copied indoors as far as possible for a time, for too dry an atmosphere is not advisable until colour in the flowers becomes conspicuous. Fire heat is scarcely advisable before the middle of the month unless a very wet spell, with a fall in temperature, sets in. Feeding must be carried on with liquid manure until colour in the bloom becomes prominent, when this should cease. Air freely on all favourable occasions, but remember that draughts must be avoided.

Bulbs for forcing

Those plunged in ashes or fibre for the earliest forcing should be examined from time to time and when shoots 1½ inches in length have been made, they should be uncovered and placed in a cool frame, exposing them to the light gradually. Roman Hyacinths, Freesias, and others will be among the first requiring this attention.

The Alpine garden

Alterations or additions to this department may now be commenced, as it is congenial work during this and the following month. The majority of plants, too, may also be transplanted during this time with perfect safety and quickly take hold of the new soil. Where old colonies of plants have outgrown their place or are in need of division, no better time could be chosen for transplanting. New plants, too, may be acquired and planted forthwith. Homes must be found for seedling plants which have been carefully brought along in pots and which cannot be wintered under glass. In the case of established colonies, a light top dressing of leaf-mould will prove beneficial.

Spring bedding

This must now receive some thought, as many of the beds must shortly be cleared of their summer occupants. Such beds should be given a dressing of well-rotted manure or leaf-mould and deeply dug in readiness for the spring-flowering subjects which must shortly be put out. All kinds of spring flowers intended for this purpose must be liberally supplied with moisture until finally planted out.

Preparing new Rose beds

Do not postpone the preparation of these until they are actually required, as a little time in which to allow the soil to settle down after trenching is desirable before actual planting commences. Therefore, trench the positions 3 feet deep, working in a generous quantity of well-seasoned manure and old lime rubble if the soil is on the heavy side, adding a sprinkling of ¼-inch bones to the last foot of surface. The whole should be thoroughly mixed together.

Kitchen garden

Store all roots which are liable to damage by frost without delay and remove all spent crops in order that material may be carted upon the ground in readiness for digging or trenching. Remove the old growth from Asparagus beds and hoe and clean them. Continue with the earthing up of Celery and Leeks, and keep Celeriac well supplied with moisture.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The propagation of bedding plants

This work must now be brought to a close, as it is useless to attempt cuttings of the bulk of bedding plants after the middle of September. Shrubby Calceolarias, if still undamaged by frost, may yet be secured with a fair chance of success. Pansies and Violas, too, if sufficient stock has not already been got, can still be attended to, but speaking generally, all the cuttings of the ordinary bedding plants should have been inserted some weeks ago.

Gladioli

As soon as the plants go out of flower, they may be lifted and " heeled in " among sifted coal ashes in a deep cold frame, in which position they mature quite as well as they would if left in their flowering quarters. By lifting them now there is less fear of the ground being " soured " by working on it while wet and sloppy, as is so likely to happen later on.

Lifting tuberous-rooted Begonias

While it is always advantageous to leave out these bulbous plants until frost blackens the foliage, it is dangerous to postpone the business too long. If, therefore, frost has crippled them, the sooner they are dug up and brought into safe quarters the better. When dug up, set in shallow boxes until thoroughly dry, when the bulbs can be packed into boxes, hollow side down, using plenty of dry sand between the layers. Set in a dry, cool place, but safe from frost.

Bedding Pelargoniums

Should the stock of cuttings of these be likely to be short, some of the old plants can now be dug up and boxed or potted and set in a slightly heated house or pit. Be rather sparing with water all winter, and in spring a number of good cuttings w available, these rooting readily in a house. Besides furnishing cuttings, t plants, if given decent treatment, will for planting out again next May.

The Asparagus beds

As soon as the stems are ripe, have cut down to within about 3 inches ground and then remove all weeds tha be growing on the beds or alleys. A ous mulching of farmyard manure then be applied all over the beds in that the crop may not suffer from pove the soil.

Lifting Beetroot

While there is no particular hurry this work, there is little to be gain leaving the roots out much longer. a dry day, therefore, and carefully li bulbs. Have them stored in plen dry sand or dry sifted soil. A cool, dry frost-proof place is necessary if the roo to keep in good condition over winter.

Remove spent vegetables

It is always desirable to remove all vegetables as soon as the useful portion used, not only for the sake of tidiness— of considerable importance—but also to vent the waste of valuable plant food in many cases is being absorbed by the less portions of crops. Their removal helps to get rid of various pests, and is gether a most desirable bit of work a time.

The final earthing of Celery

Very shortly now this important bus must be carried out. Soil and plants s be in a fairly dry state, for it is impo to have the work carried out in a p manner. The soil should be made m ately firm round the plants and the r raised a little in the centre, while the should be beaten firm and smooth with back of the spade, thus helping to she rain.

Housing late Chrysanthemums

If any of these are still out-of-doors it now be well to have them moved into a l airy glasshouse, as autumn gales, if frost, will do much harm to plants in open. Give all air possible day and n and have the plants sprayed overhead evening for the first 10 days or fortnigh

Strawberry plants for spring

To ensure good, well-rooted plants for ting out in new beds in March or April, g strong, well-rooted runners should now lifted and laid in in nursery rows on a su border, from which they will, as a rule, well when wanted. Label correctly an avoid confusion at planting time.

Planting of fruit trees

While yet too early to carry out the ac planting, it is not so as regards prepa the ground for their reception. It is a ser mistake to dress heavily with manure ground where it is intended to plant Ap Red and White Currants, Gooseber Cherries, Pears, and Plums, as this only duces soft, rampant growth that can n carry good crops of fruit. Black Curr and Raspberries, on the other hand, n have richly prepared ground, and if in pa shade and of rather a damp nature, so m the better. In any case, the ground sh be double-dug now and will then be in condition for planting early in Novem Do not work the ground while sodden.

C. BLAI

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

PLANTING BULBS OUTDOORS AND IN POTS

Planting bulbs outdoors

TOBER is a good time to plant
itdoors bulbs of various kinds intended
flower next spring. The Daffodils and
s may be planted in the grass, flower-
and borders, or massed together in

Daffodils on a lawn

Among the many varieties suitable for naturalising and planting in woodlands, shrubberies, orchards, and in grass are Emperor, Empress, Sir Watkin, Golden Spur, Henry Irving, Barri conspicuus, Old Pheasant's Eye, Ornatus, and Telemonius Plenus, the double yellow Trumpet Daffodil

rations for the purpose of supplying cut
rs in the spring. Anemone roots should
anted in clumps, in which manner they
a gorgeous display. The St. Brigid
are especially brilliant in colour. The
ns are covered with about 3 inches of
the clumps of roots being divided by
6 inches.

re are several kinds of spring-flowering
so cheap as to be within reach of all,
hey should be largely used by all who
gardens to adorn. Very pretty and
ng effects may be produced by planting
of them amongst the grass under de-
us trees, as in such places Crocuses,
r Aconites, Snowdrops, Squills, Dog-
Violets, Chionodoxa, and Daffodils
uite at home, especially in cases where
ees are on raised ground, as then the
s show off to advantage. All that is
sary in the planting is just to dibble the
in and to fill up the holes with light,
oil, putting them in in patches here and
so as to make them look as natural
ssible. By leaving them to make their
h and ripen off, the bulbs will become
ished and come up from year to year.

ips of both Cottage and Darwin sec-
should now be freely planted for spring
s, and Narcissus, not omitting a few
refined and beautiful species, grouping
in choice spots which readily catch the
nd where they will remain undisturbed
number of years. Angels' Tears Daffo-
arcissus triandrus albus), N. cycla-
is, N. moschatus, N. Bulbocodium
phyllus, N. minimus, and N. nanus are
of this class, and we would add N.
of Spain.

Narcissus cyclamineus

OU may know N. cyclamineus pot-
rown on the show stand or in the
lpine-house. You may be familiar with
aping grace of its six yellow petals flying
and baring the miniature trumpet, but before you can claim a close acquaintanceship with it, before you can have an intimate knowledge of its charm, you must watch it springing up in drifts by the brink of some woodland stream to lighten the drabness of February at the first sign of the sun's taking on new strength for the spring.

Native of river banks in Portugal, it revels in the coolness of a woodland glade or the dampness of a stream-side in this country, and in the sandy part of such a wild garden as makes a good home for Rhododendrons and Lilies it will readily become naturalised, carpeting the ground and making a golden setting for the pinks and mauves of the earliest Rhododendron species.

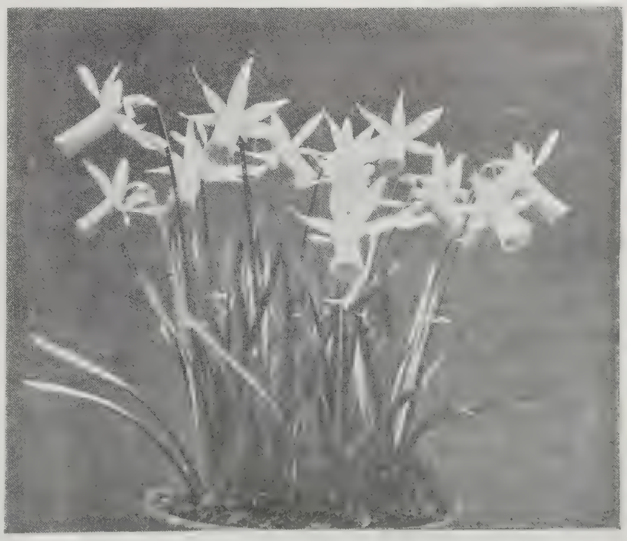
At Wisley, where this photograph was taken, it is thoroughly at home—has been seeding itself for years, and shoots up each spring in ever-advancing colonies, of a charm which nothing but naturalisation could have produced. Poised on their delicate stalks that sway them to the slightest breeze, the flowers might be taken for a cluster of golden-winged insects pausing in their flight to hover over the greensward of Moss or fluttering up a grassy bank to catch the first rays of the February sun. The upturned petals are, in fact, folded back from the naked trumpet, exactly as a butterfly, at rest, folds its wings back, one against the other, over the body.

The Cyclamen-Daffodil should be raised from seed, which will give you a flowering colony in three years' time; and this, in its turn, will spread by sowing its own seed if you can once make it happy, but the tiny bulbs will not divide.

If ordinary Daffodils are growing in the same garden hybrids will probably spring up in the ranks of the cyclamineus. Amongst those shown in the photograph are one or two glorious creatures—cyclamineus, obviously tainted with the blood of the full-blown trumpeters, grown taller—the little trumpets longer and distended, and the petals merely standing off instead of lying right back against the stalk. In another part of the garden is an almost exactly intermediate hybrid, a really beautiful thing on a stem full 18 inches high, the flower the size of a small Daffodil, but the trumpet far more slim and dainty, with the petals more slender, too, and winging back only far enough to form a broad, open funnel.

F. C. S. R.

Narcissus cyclamineus naturalised in cool woodland



Narcissus cyclamineus hybrid grown in a pan

Daffodils in pots

OF all the spring-flowering bulbs suitable for growing in pots the Daffodil is, in many respects, the most satisfactory. It is fairly easy to manage, blooms for a fairly long period if kept quite cool after coming into bloom, is of great value as a cut flower, while the bulbs, if given a little good treatment after flowering, are of great value for planting out-of-doors, either in the garden or in rough grass, thriving even under large deciduous trees.

When wanted for pot culture it pays, in the end, to secure the best bulbs, even if a little more has to be paid for them. While not at all fastidious as to soil, it will be found that best results are had by using good, sound, fibrous loam, with about one-third its bulk of leaf-mould added, and enough coarse sand to ensure porosity. On no account use animal manures, but the compost will be improved by allowing a 6-inch potful of bonemeal to each barrowload of soil.

The pots should be perfectly clean and have a fair amount of drainage added. For the varieties with large bulbs 7-inch pots are best, while the 6-inch size suits for those with smaller roots.

The bulbs may, with all safety, be packed quite closely together; thus the pots will hold from five to seven roots each, and will make a fine display when in flower. The bulbs need not be quite covered, or at least part of the necks may be left above the surface. The compost should be left a little loose *under* the bulbs, but must be quite firm on the surface. After potting, arrange closely together in some sheltered corner out-of-doors and on a hard ash bottom. Give a good watering through a coarse-rosed can and then cover over and around with sand, or even old potting soil which has been passed through a ½-inch riddle. Coal-ashes should not be used as a plunging material unless they have lain exposed for a year or more.

Even more so than with other bulbous plants is it necessary to have the Daffodil well rooted before removing from the plunge. Three months is not too long, while it must never be less than 10 weeks if best results are to be looked for. After being assured that the bulbs are well rooted, they may be removed from the plunge and set in a cold frame, covering the sashes with mats for a few days and keeping rather close. Afterwards gradually admit abundance of air and all the light possible. A fortnight in the frame and they are ready for a light, airy greenhouse. No more fire-heat must be given than just sufficient to keep out frost. This is very important, especially at first, for a high temperature will cause the bulbs to go "blind." The only time a little forcing is permissible is after the flower-stems rise, when a little gentle warmth will encourage the blooms to open a little earlier.

If wanted for planting out, the pots, after the flowers have faded or been cut, should be set in a cold frame, be given water when necessary until the hardest of the frost is over, when they can be stood outside until the foliage dies down, and can then be shaken out, dried in an open, airy shed away from the sun, and planted out in August or September.

While the majority of Daffodils do quite well in pots there are some specially suited for this method of culture. The following are always reliable, free-flowering, and of strong, robust habit:—Emperor (very good, but the blooms last a shorter time than the others), Empress, Horsfieldii, Sir Watkin, Victoria (probably the best bicolor for pots), Henry Irving, Golden Spur, Mme. de Graaff, Mme. Plemp, P. R. Barr, Princeps, and Weardale Perfection.

Coreopsis grandiflora superba

For the flower garden this is certainly one of the neatest and most elegant of hardy plants now in bloom. The plant is worth more than passing notice, for it is rarely we find such profuse flowering in combination with so acceptable a colour. Its remarkable freedom of flowering renders it specially suitable for large beds, and well grown in such its blossoms—a beautiful shade of clear yellow—may any day be counted by the hundred. In this way a profusion of its handsome blossoms is kept up for weeks together. For vase decoration the thin, wiry stems are excellent in every way, and little wonder the plant finds such favour with the florist generally.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pl*
be named should send fair examples of ea
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of
and points of shoots are useless.) Not mo
four plants should be sent in any one week
same correspondent. Where more than on
is sent they should be numbered. Of conif
cones should always be sent.

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in d*
stages of colour and size of the same kind
assist in its determination. Single, unri
deformed specimens are difficult to nam
do not undertake to name more than
varieties at one time.

FRUIT

Grapes shrivelling

(E. M. S.).—Have you not permitted the soil to get too dry? You may also have kept the house too warm. Grapes ripening in summer and early autumn should have abundance of air and little or no fire heat, while the soil at the roots should never be permitted to get really dry. If the printed directions supplied with each parcel of Thomson's Vine Manure were faithfully carried out nothing but good would follow its use, and as it is a perfect vine food, the use of liquid manure was superfluous. You can do nothing now to bring back the berries to a plump condition, but the hints offered above, if given attention another year, will, we doubt not, prevent a recurrence of the trouble.

Transplanting Gooseberries

(A. W. Butler).—The best time to transplant Gooseberries is early November, but they may also be safely moved during February. Young bushes, if carefully transplanted, should not lose a crop. It is really hardly worth while to transplant bushes much over six or seven years old, not but what it can be done, but seeing that young plants quickly come into bearing there is little to be gained by moving old bushes, and the labour entailed is considerable.

Pear and Cherry Slugworm

(Tadpole).—The creatures you send are the larvæ of the Pear and Cherry Sawfly (Eriocampa limacina). The adult Sawfly appears in May and June, and eggs are laid on the undersides of the leaves. After about 14 days the eggs hatch, and at first the larvæ are whitish in colour, but they soon become darker and assume the dark, slug-like appearance. When fully fed the larvæ moult and change to orange-yellow caterpillars of the typical Sawfly caterpillar appearance. At this stage they enter the soil and pupate. The adults emerge after about 14 days. Two or three generations arise through the season, the last generation remain as caterpillars throughout the winter within their cocoon in the soil, emerging as adults in May and June. Slugworms are easily killed by spraying with a nicotine insecticide. Freshly slaked lime dusted over the foliage will kill the larvæ, especially at this period of the year. Some of the creatures will have already entered the soil for the winter, and these could be killed by applying flake naphthalene at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard, forking in the material 4 inches deep.

Leaf Spot of Raspberry

(Red House).—The specimen Raspberry leaves have blotches which, if opened, will be found to contain caterpillars. These caterpillars are those of one of the Sawflies, but although we have received the pest from time to time from our readers, we have not succeeded in rearing the creatures to the adult stage for identification purposes. It is unusual for the pest to be present in sufficient
numbers to do any harm, but if it is
to adopt control measures, a strong
spray should be used. A winter wash
not do any good with this pest. S
with tar oil would keep aphis in check
are troublesome in your garden.

Grease-banding fruit trees

Please give me a little informat
grease-banding trees. Is it necessary
paper bands on first in all cases?
pasted some on trees where the bark i
smooth, but I still have some larg
rather gnarled and uneven. Can I ap
grease direct with advantage or shou
harm in any way? I fear that I co
get the bands to fit these old trees well.

Leominster.

[Grease-bands should be put into p
at the beginning of October and sho
kept tacky until April. At this peri
bands should be removed and burnt.
on by coating the main stem of the tre
the position of the band to the groun
with thick limewash. The limewash
in any eggs laid by females which go
the band and turn back. Materials us
grease-banding vary considerably, but
main fall into two groups:—(1) Thos
greasy nature; (2) those that are stic
not containing grease. Greasy compo
must never be applied direct to the b
serious injury to the trees may result.
also applies to some of the sticky comp
in class 2. It is generally safest alw
apply a band of paper first, but we thin
in the case of trees that have very u
stems you might risk applying a good
material direct to the trees. Several
materials are advertised within our
tisement columns. If you have any
where it is impossible to apply the g
bands high enough to prevent rain
splashing soil up to the bands you s
place straw on the soil first. The straw
vents the bands becoming soiled.]

Apple caterpillars

(A. Gordon Forbes).—The caterp
which are at the present time to be
within Apples are those of the Codlin
and grease-banding can have no effect
the control of this pest because the egg
laid by moths which are fully winged,
therefore do not climb up the main ste
the tree for egg-laying purposes. Fur
the eggs are laid in the eye of the Apple
to early September. In districts w
Codlin Moth is plentiful, Apple trees sh
be sprayed with lead arsenate just afte
petals have fallen. For about 14 days
the petals have fallen the eye of the
remains open, and the object of the spra
is to force a little arsenate into the calyx
before it closes. If the spray is applied
the calyx cup has closed the control is
less. Lead arsenate is poisonous to man
domestic animals, and must be used
care. If you do not care to use the arse
you can do much to control the pest by b
ing the trees in June with old, frayed sack

one band near the soil and a second r up. Several folds of sacking should ied. The caterpillars on leaving the at- d fruits to rest for the winter are likely ke their cocoons within the bands you le. The bands should be taken off in er and burnt. A tar oil wash in winter ls aphis, helps to control the eggs of Moth, and also kills hibernating illars of Codlin Moth, but the latter are rotected by their cocoons. As there are l kinds of "White Fly" why not ask Horticultural Expert to call and advise This advisory service is free. Write first case to the Director of Agricul- County Hall, Lewes.

ter spraying of fruit trees

E. Crofton).—The best general winter s for fruit trees is undoubtedly one of the washes. We do not care to recom- one wash more than another, but you consult our advertisement columns. are several good washes at present on arket. We hope to publish an article r-oil washes when the work is season- With regard to the vegetable pests, we n that many of them could be cleared up plying flake naphthalene at the rate of per square yard after the crops are d and prior to planting the next. , there are several good soil insecticides sent on the market. You might try them, using the material according to aker's directions. There is no general a for both fruit trees and vegetables.

Leaf

E. Crofton).—There is no cure for affected "silvered" trees. All dead h should be cut out and destroyed by especially dead stumps. In gardens Silver Leaf is prevalent all pruning of should be done in August. Young attacked by this disease frequently re- but older trees usually die under the

sed Pears

bert Mosse).—Your Pears are affected Pear Scab. This disease can be con- by cutting out all dead wood and ng three times with Bordeaux Mixture. rst spraying should be given when the are in the Pink Bud stage, the second most of the petals have dropped from wers, and the third three weeks later. act that some of the Pears are normal that if you can control the disease your crop would be useful.

north wall

s. E. M. Lazenby).—The wall and posi- very suitable for Morello Cherries, and ould accommodate five or six trees. dessert Gooseberries, also White and urrants, do very well indeed on such when grown in five-branched cordon and keep until quite late if netted birds. Of Gooseberries, Warrington, and Red Champagne are excellent. urrants, Prince Albert and New Red White Currants, White Versaillaise ransparent. The soil for these should ply trenched and enriched, using a fair of old mortar rubble in the make up. ees may be planted any time between d of October and April, but the sooner ter.

TREES AND SHRUBS

d Oak tree

K.).—From your account it sounds as tree is exhausted, and no doubt it is ng from the drought. We suggest e soil be lightly forked up round the f possible at a distance equal to the of the branches. The ground should e top dressed with some rich soil, such as a mixture of fibrous loam and well-decayed stable manure. A top dressing of about 2 inches should suffice.

Pruning Magnolia

(I. M. Shand).—You do not state whether your Magnolia is a deciduous or evergreen kind. The deciduous Magnolia should be pruned, if necessary, immediately after flowering; little pruning is required, but straggling branches should be cut out completely. The evergreen kinds should be pruned in February, but again little pruning is required. The removal of the top of a Magnolia should be done either in February or immediately after flowering, according to the kind.

FLOWER GARDEN

Replanting Lilium regale

When should I lift and replant Lilium regale, grown from seed (March 27th). A good many have bloomed this year, and stems are still green. My soil is a medium loam, but rather a wet and cold sub-soil.

PEROVSKIA.

[You may safely lift and replant your Lilium regale immediately the leaves turn yellow, although no harm will arise if you leave them until December, from which time root action commences. A well-drained soil is necessary, but it is not advisable to make it unduly light by adding sand and ashes excessively.]

Improving a dry, rough bank

(Perovskia).—Trench the bank 2 feet deep, removing all the suckers as you do so, and work in a generous quantity of farmyard manure or Peruvian Guano, the former for preference.

Antirrhinum seedlings

(Perovskia).—We have examined both plant and soil submitted, and find nothing wrong with either; indeed, the soil is good, but if you could use a little bone-meal with it and make the whole firmer after planting, you should meet with greater success. The loam you are using is lacking in nourishment, and the bone-meal will, in this respect, improve matters. Snapdragons love full sunshine.

Pentstemons not flowering

(E. E. R.).—Unless your beds have been over-manured and so caused over-luxuriance, we cannot account for your Pentstemons failing to produce numerous side shoots after the central growth has run to flower, this being the usual behaviour of this plant, and these side growths, as a rule, produce a flower-spike each, and so extend the season of beauty by many weeks. Another season try rather poorer soil, and this should induce a more floriferous habit. The Pentstemon dislikes a shady position. Are yours growing in such?

Salvia uliginosa

Please tell me if Salvia uliginosa will stand out-of-doors during the winter, or had I better lift it and winter in cold frame? Also the best means of propagating same?

Herts. A. A. OLVES.

[This fine plant cannot be relied upon to pass the winter safely in the open unprotected, although occasional plants do survive. We advise you to lift your plant and winter it in a cool, frost-proof frame. Before doing so, however, take off a few of the young flowerless shoots and dibble them into pots of sandy soil. These should be struck in a cool frame or greenhouse, remaining in their cutting pots until growth commences in spring, when they may be potted up and grown on separately. Such plants make fine specimens, which commence to bloom towards the end of August and continue until stopped by frosts.]

Voilets failing

(Mrs. Pim).—Several things appear to be wrong with your Violets, but we think that the main cause of the trouble is Red Spider. It is now probably too late to do much good, but you might try the effect of spraying with Volck applied according to the maker's directions. Another season you should keep the plants well syringed with water during dry periods, and if Red Spider becomes troublesome in spite of the syringing, use Volck to control the pest. A leaf spot is present which could be controlled by the application of a suitable fungicide; the plants have been weakened by the Spider attack and the fungus has been able to make headway on the weakened plants. A leaf-mining maggot is also present, but is not serious.

Diseased Violets

(B. M., Harborne).—Your Violets are attacked by a Leaf Rust, but we think that the main cause of your trouble is Red Spider. The pest has taken most of the green colouring matter out of the foliage, and plants which have lost so much of their chlorophyll must of necessity go wrong. If all the plants are like those sent, your best plan would be to destroy your stock and start afresh. Please see reply to Mrs. Pim.

A sunny slope

(Italia).—The question appears to relate only to the sunny slope. As colour is desired, some of the rambling Roses, such as Hiawatha and American Pillar, both reds, may be advised. Though these are generally used in upright forms, as on posts, trellises, or arbours, they are equally amenable to pegging near the ground. No doubt the bank need not be all of bright colour; the remainder, or indeed, for the best effect, would be a clothing of the common Clematis (*C. vitalba*), flowering in August, and *C. flammula*, blooming in September. To ensure success, the places for the plants, especially the Roses, would have to be thoroughly well prepared with the care that any good gardener would understand. If the soil is not naturally calcareous some form of lime or chalk should be given to the Clematises, especially to C. vitalba, which in nature grows in almost pure chalk.

GREENHOUSE

Fasciation of Salvia

(Lady E. St. M.).—We do not think that you will be successful in reproducing the double-headed branches on the Salvia Bluebeard. If you examine the plant closely you will find that the stem is wide and much flattened, and that this fasciation starts at some distance from the ground level. These facts point to some injury to the plant, and insect attack is a likely cause. The cause of fasciation in plants is always difficult to determine, but we think that in this case the evidence does point to injury. You can, of course, try to reproduce the freak if you wish, and we shall be interested to know the result of your efforts. If the fasciation has been caused as we think, the plants should be normal next year, provided the same type of injury does not occur again.

Cineraria insects

(I. M. Shand).—From your description we gather that your Cinerarias are attacked by Leaf Miner. This pest is best controlled by fairly frequent fumigation with nicotine. Such treatment kills the adult fly before egg laying commences. Some growers report success from spraying the affected plants with a fairly strong nicotine insecticide; perhaps the better way would be to use both methods, especially in bad cases of attack.

MISCELLANEOUS

Potash manures

(G. O. T.).—It is somewhat difficult to advise you *re* the potash manures because so much depends on the type of land. We have, however, helped you over some points. Kainit is a quick-acting potash manure containing 12 per cent. to 14 per cent. potash. It contains amongst other things a lot of common salt. When kainit is applied in heavy quantities it is liable to damage certain plants, especially on some soils. Under garden practice it is usual to give kainit during autumn so that the salt contained therein is washed out by winter rains, leaving the potash behind for the crop the following year. We think that kainit should never be used on heavy soils because the material is apt to have a bad effect on the texture of such a soil. Sulphate of potash is a quick-acting potash manure containing 48 per cent. potash. It does not contain salt (sodium chloride). Sulphate of potash is safe to use on all crops and soils at any period of the year. Please notice that kainit is about 12 per cent. to 14 per cent. and sulphate of potash 48 per cent. potash. This means that if an equivalent amount of potassium is desired a soil must be dressed with 4 ozs. of kainit or 1 oz. of sulphate of potash. In bulk it is possible to buy kainit at about £3 per ton and sulphate of potash at about £12 per ton. In retail prices there is not such an exact difference because the rail charges and handling tend to make kainit less than four times cheaper than sulphate of potash. Under the conditions explained in your letter we should advise you to apply sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard. Apply the material in autumn prior to forking over the borders for the winter. One oz. per square yard is only a mere sprinkling, and to ensure even distribution it is wise to mix the sulphate with an equal quantity of, say, dry soil or garden rubbish fire ash before application. It is easier to spread 2 ozs. per square yard than 1 oz.

Basic slag and wood ashes

(I. M. Shand).—Potash is one of the chemicals we have to add to the soil to maintain soil fertility. Wood ashes contain a certain amount of potash, and therefore is a useful material to use for this purpose; it can be used up to half pound per square yard. Basic slag contains phosphorus, which is another chemical required by soils, and is frequently used to add this ingredient to the soil. Basic slag is applied at the rate of from 4 ozs. to 8 ozs. per square yard. Roses require both potash and phosphate, so that wood ashes cannot possibly take the place of basic slag.

SHORT REPLIES

L.-G., Belgium.—Two useful books for your purpose are " A Handbook of Fruits : Stone and Bush Fruits, Nuts, etc.," and " A Handbook of Fruits : Apples and Pears," both by E. A. Bunyard, published by John Murray, 50A, Albemarle Street, London, W.

J. A. P.—*Re* Magnolia grandiflora Exmouth Variety, try Robert Veitch and Co., The Royal Nurseries, Exeter, or Gauntlett and Co., Ltd., Chiddingfold, Surrey.

OBITUARY

THE LATE MRS. BECKETT

Friends of Mr. Edwin Beckett, V.M.H., of Aldenham House Gardens, Elstree, will extend to him every sympathy in the great loss he has sustained on the death of his wife. Two years ago Mr. and Mrs. Beckett celebrated their Golden Wedding, and they have been at Aldenham Park for over 40 years.

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Acer, Somerset.—The Maple is most
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Europe and Asia Minor and is found
in the woods of Sussex and Kent, but
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are edible if left on the tree till Nove
and stored until they are " bletted."

F. B.—1, James Grieve; 2, 3, and 4,
Victoria; 5, Allington Pippin.

M. H.—Worcester Pearmain.

E. M., Anglesey.—Gravenstein.

P., Leominster.—1, Tom Putt; 2, S
Forge; 3, Bramley's Seedling; 4, Stu
Pippin.

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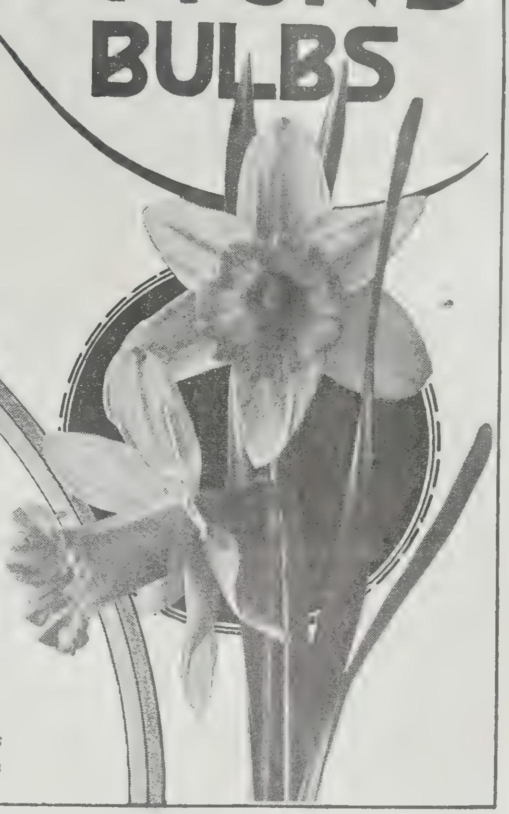

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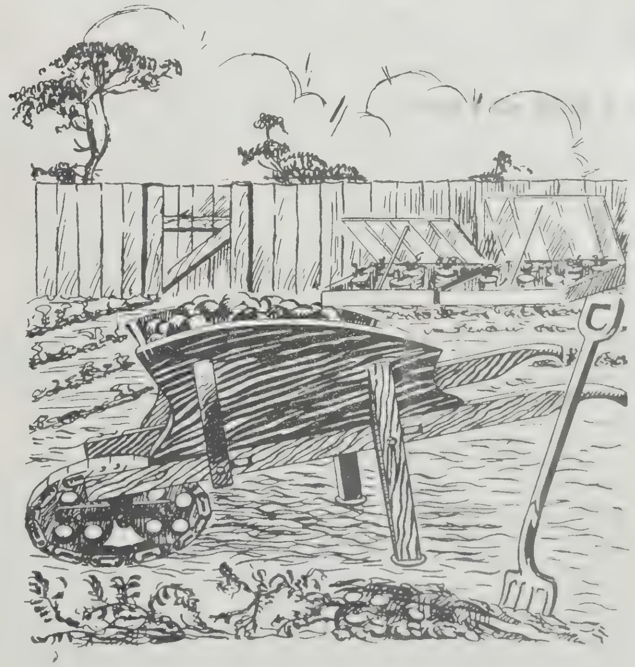

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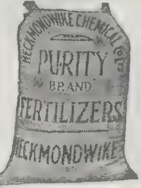

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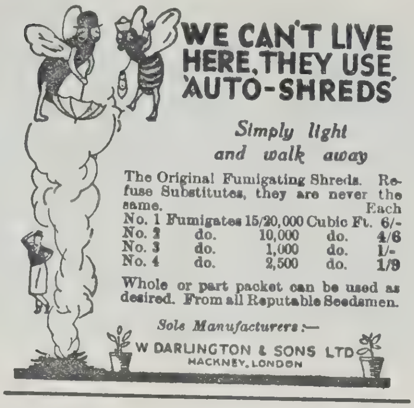

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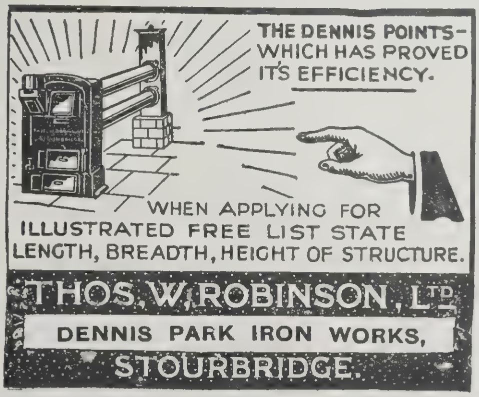

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Carpeting Plants to Use With May-Flowering Tulips

HE effect of all Spring-flowering bulbs is much enhanced by the judicious use of carpeting plants, but this is especially the with the many-flowering Tulips, which eason of their stature—some are as much o inches in height—are apt to look leggy ungraceful if they are allowed to rise ı the bare brown earth.

nong the prettiest and least hackneyed ırpeters are Viola gracilis and V. cornuta. the first Huntercombe Purple is a good ety; the colour is rich and its flowering son extended. a cornuta is less in colour, but it the merit of g very quick of th. Either makes lelightful background for pure pale w Tulips, such as nlight, Leghorn net, or Ellen nott, combined others of a soft trope shade—for nce, Corydon, Tristesse, or the H. Ewbank. The variety of Viola ıta is a good carplant to use with id red Tulip, of h there are so in both the Cotand the Darwin ns. Farncombe ers, Grenadier, Flambeau are very beautiful All the etias are charmfor carpeting, ıgh the colourof some of the varieties is a difficult perhaps. etia Fire King best with pale primrose or white Tulips, eep purple Dr. Mules with the same nation as that suggested for use with ırple Violas; Lissadell Pink with Carnaor Dainty Maid, while the ordinary ler of the older type is an excellent backd for deep yellow Tulips, such as n d'Or or Orange King.

neria maritima is an ideal carpeting owing to its neat habit and the pleasing green of its foliage. One of the prettiest le combinations is that of the dwarf Thrift and either the very pale shellTulip Margaret or Blushing Bride, has a pink flush on a white ground. ink Double Daisy Dresden China may be substituted for the Thrift with nearly as happy an effect.

Alyssum saxatile is one of the most general carpeting plants; A. s. compactum fl. pl. is the best form to choose as its height does not exceed 6 inches. Dark Maroon Tulips—Sultan or La Tulipe Noire, for instance—look well against it, as does the old Dutch Tulip Purple Celeste, either colour contrasting pleasingly with the gold of the Alyssum.

Arabis albida, whether single or double, is a useful if commonplace carpeter, which can, of course, be used with Tulips of all colours, while there is now a pink variety, Taplow Rose, that is specially attractive in combination with pink, white, and heliotrope Tulips in mixture. Among other good plants for the purpose in question are Polyanthus Primroses, particularly those of the Mrs. Spetchley strain, the colours of which are very beautiful and varied, and Myosotis. The value of the last named as a carpeting is almost too generally appreciated, and the combination of it with the pink Darwin Tulip Clara Butt has become more than a little hackneyed, although its beauty is undeniable. Rather more uncommon is the use of a Tulip in a definite shade of Rose—say, Rose Beauty, Prince Charming, or Salmon King, with Myosotis, Sutton's Royal Blue, or the blue ground will contrast well with bronze-yellow Tulips, such as Golden Bronze and Bronze Green.

Wallflowers can hardly be classified among carpeting plants, but their value when grown with late Tulips is indisputable. The deep red dwarf Vulcan goes with Tulips of almost all tones of bright red or yellow. Fire King is best combined with a pure white Tulip—Carrera, Themis, or Cygnet, for example—Ruby Gem with palest pink Tulips. Primrose Monarch is an admirable background for mixed Rembrandt Tulips, and the orange Alpine Wallflower, Cheiranthus Allioni, is a perfect setting for dark maroon and purple Tulips, such as the old Dutch Velvet King and William the Silent and the Darwin Tulip Fanet. R. E. H.

Tulips in spring border, with Arabis and Bunch Primroses

The Eschscholtzia

The Californian Poppy has much to recommend it to the lover of hardy annuals. To be most effective it must be grown in bold masses and the seedlings very drastically thinned in their early stages, a foot apart being none to much. The type, E. californica, has been known for many years, and while its glossy golden-yellow blooms are admirable, there are other colours available. Mandarin is a very fine form, its blooms being of a rich orange with a crimson exterior. E. crocea is of a good shade of yellow, and there is a form of the latter with creamy-white flowers. E. rosea is less satisfactory, it appears to be predisposed to revert to the white form from which it originated. E. tenuifolia, the smallest and neatest of the family, looks quite like a different species, but is merely a tufted and diminutive form of the original E. californica. This annual may yet be sown for early flowering during the earlier months of next year. Scot.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Judas Tree and Wistaria

I AM sending you a snapshot of a very beautiful specimen of Judas Tree in full bloom, with a fine Wistaria in the background, taken at Hyfield, Horham Road, Sussex, the residence of Captain Du Pre Lance. The combination of colours was very charming. MARY L. LONGSTAFF.

Garden House, Ightham,
Nr. Sevenoaks, Kent.

Cyananthus lobatus

This Himalayan plant is, indeed, a joy when in autumn it produces its cold, clear blue flowers upon trailing stem and, with a few other treasures, invests the rock garden with rare beauty and interest during an otherwise rather lean season. It is a perfectly hardy plant, of a succulent nature, and with numerous prostrate stems which appear anew each spring. The inflated calyces are covered with black hairs, and from them sprout the large Gentian-blue blossoms for long into the autumn. The plants should be placed high in well-drained loam enriched with a liberal quantity of leaf-soil and sand. They are good-tempered, but object to stagnant moisture during the winter. Cuttings will root in spring or early summer, and seeds, too, may be used as a mode of increase. A fine autumn is, however, necessary for the production of ripe seeds. C. lobatus was introduced to cultivation so long ago as 1844, and there is one other species, C. incanus, from Sikkim, which has recently crept into gardens. It is a soft, azure flower, its throat beautifully lined with white hairs, rather delicate, but quite happy in a stone trough. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

The Gardens, Moor Wood, Glos.

Judas Tree and Wistaria at Hyfield, Sussex

The amateur status

I shall be greatly obliged if you will enlighten me as to what exactly entitles a gardener to the names "Professional" and "Amateur" respectively.

If, to be a professional, one simply has to sell something, then how many of us who possess a garden can still retain the name of amateur?

There cannot be many people who would not plead guilty to having sold their surplus of a good crop of Apples, Peas, or Plums in a particularly good season from time to time, and probably most of us do the same thing with our surplus plants and shrubs.

Is it simply a question of receiving coin for our goods, or is there some subtler distinction, such as the issuing of a printed list? C. B.

[The Royal Horticultural Society's rulings with regard to an amateur are as follows:—

No person shall be permitted to compete as an amateur who gains any part of his livelihood by growing for sale, or for an employer, flowers, fruit, vegetables, plants, seeds, grafts, cuttings, bulbs, buds, etc., nor any person in the employ of a nurseryman. Any objection raised as to the rightful qualifications of an exhibitor shall be referred to the Council of the R.H.S., whose decision shall be final.

By the words nurseryman and market gardener are understood persons who maintain gardens for the purpose of gaining a livelihood, or intend them to return an annual profit.

Local Societies often desire to separate amateurs into four or more classes, corresponding, roughly speaking, to the following:—

(1) Amateurs employing more than one gardener regularly.

(2) Amateurs employing only one gardener regularly.

(3) Amateurs not employing paid assistance regularly.

(4) Amateurs employing no paid assist
at all.

Whenever any person is recognised by
officials of a Show as coming under th
finition of "Amateur" in their parti
district, and exhibits have been accepte
within their local Show rules, the ju
must make their awards without discus
those rules. The duty of deciding wh
and who is not, an amateur in any p
cular district lies with the officials of
Show, and not with the judges.]

The proposed Rock Garden Socie

I notice in your issue of June 22nd a l
suggesting a Rock Garden Society, and
six years' experience of such a Socie
hasten to say that a national one at h
would be of world-wide interest, and fron
start success is assured. Members woul
procured from every centre of the globe,
so I trust that the letter from Sir Wil
Lawrence, Bt., will bear results.

I think I am safe in stating that I fo
the first Rock Garden Society some six y
ago for New Zealand, and it was so gr
success it was impossible for me to go on
the work, so had to leave it in other ha
Membership grew so fast it was impos
for one to cope with it, and so is now in h
of a stronger Centre, and was transferr
Wellington. The possibility of interch
of ideas would help members from all p
but the big exchange of seeds and p
from all parts, with its headquarter
London, would be of great value, and if
a Society formed, I would willingly org
collection of seed from New Zealand–
even Australia.

So I trust that your valuable paper
throw in its weight to get such a Sc
formed. A. WILKINSC

Nelson, N.Z.

Notes from a Cornish garde

FIRST the Primulas. P. Florinda
pears to be the latest and is a trifle
appointing, for the size of the leave
me to expect something more showy i
way of flower; but the plants are seed
and may improve next year; moreover
drought may have had something to do
the matter.

On the Primula bank a seedling
Reidii has distinguished itself, for it has
splendid stems with six bells open on on
three on the other, and is really very lo
especially as it is about 5 feet up the
and therefore at a convenient height fo
spection. Also one of the stems is taller
the other, whereby one gets the full b
of the two.

Desfontainia spinosa, which is like a m
ture Holly, but with long, tubular, y
flowers, has done well in good soil in a s
place, and one or two cuttings put in
years ago are making good growth.

Last year's cuttings, chiefly Rhod
drons, failed in a measure, thanks to th
tentions of moles, so that this year I
put them all in pots in the hope
although these hold fewer, the percenta
survivors may be higher.

A friend, met at a garden party, was ta
away cuttings of Eucryphia pinnatifolia
from what I read in Mr. Bean's book h
scant chance of success with them.
ago I was fortunate enough to raise se
of E. cordifolia, but that was probab
fluke, as M. Chenault told me that his
had never succeeded with it. E. cordifo
magnificent this year, the parent plant
35 feet high, and one of these raised fr
cutting about 25 feet, both being covered
flowers from the top downwards. They

a sheltered slope facing north, and I have
to cut off their lower branches since they
encroaching on the old plant of Rhodo-
dron auriculatum. E. pinnatifolia is
oming but sparsely, being in too shady a
ce, owing to Rhododendrons and two
antic Cupressus Lambertiana, and is
king nothing like the show of one seen
other day on the borders of Devonshire
lmost full sun.

oheria populnea is again flowering pro-
ly, which means, I presume, that it will
flower next spring. It is an erect,
der, graceful shrub about 12 feet high,
long, narrow, serrated, evergreen leaves
clusters of pure white flowers in their
s. So pleasant a thing that I have put
uttings of it, especially as it stood last
ter without turning a hair, and must be
dier than is supposed. Here it is thriving
dryish place and in partial shade.

a late issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED
nolia fuscata was mentioned as a green-
se shrub, which set me looking at mine,
ift many years ago from Mr. Reginald
rer. It is growing in heavy loam in a
er shady place, and is now almost 12 feet
. Last winter it suffered not at all and
its inconspicuous, sweet-scented flowers
sual in the spring. It is evergreen, with
ow, shiny, leathery leaves and an upright
t, and since it is hardy here in north
wall should be worth a trial further
h.

ydrangeas of various sorts are in full
m, iron in the soil and partial shade
ing hortensis and Mariesii very blue. Of
other H. hortensis var. Veitchii, with
llish white flowers and blue anthers, is
of my favourites, and H. Lindleyi, with
ially fertile flowers and the sterile ones
pink, and white on the same corymb,
re to attract attention.

merous Rhododendrons are out again.
Cunningham's Sulphur, the white-
red adenogynum, and the curious fawn-
red hybrid between caucasicum var.
nineum and apodectum among the
r-flowered varieties, most of the lapponi-
and saluenense series, and the white
alanthoides.

stly, in one of the frames a first flower
. Valentinianum, and a lovely thing it
lear pale yellow with numerous red
ls on the exterior on a dwarf plant, with
ng, ovate, hairy leaves. If it turns out
quite hardy this should be a plant with
ure.

d now one may take count of one's yet
tched chickens in the shape of Rhodo-
ron buds for next year. There are several
ese on new hybrids and two or three on
species here, so that one has something
k forward to even if the flowers do not
ually materialise.

ars ago I visited Kilmacurragh, and de-
d thence with an introduction to Sir
. Moore. To him I mentioned the
er of self-sown seedlings I had seen
, and he replied that it was because Mr.
and his sister did most of their own
ing. How true it was I have proved
and again, getting, moreover, some
nice plants in the process.

ey say that the Musk is losing its scent,
marked a seedling which appeared in
all garden last year, thinking that this
ne of the isolated spots where the scent
survive. Shortly afterwards came the
n boy and weeded, and it was no more.
this year another came up between
ig slates near the greenhouse, and again
rastinated, with the same result. Later
rd arrived on the scene, and that I
y potted up and put in the greenhouse
it is strong enough to go out with a
label attached. And now in a Rhododendron nursery far down the drive a fresh seedling has appeared, and near it a plant of Rubus parviflorus var. Fraserianus. This is curious, for though Mr. Fraser, of British Columbia, sent me seed two years ago, it is odd that one of them should have got down there and germinated.

Some time ago the President of the Royal Horticultural Society wrote to me about Farrer's Caryopteris, which, I believe, is tangutica, and asked how it should be propagated. At the moment I could only reply that one plant had layered itself, but since then two seedlings have appeared in the gravel in front of the house. One fell a victim to the garden boy, but the other I moved in time and planted out in one of the nurseries, where already at 9 inches high it is well set with flower-buds. And this is satisfactory, for the two old plants have died and it would be a pity to lose it altogether.

"PETER THE HERMIT."

Rhododendron Edgworthii

I AM sending a photograph of the Rhododendron Edgworthii here in case it might interest your readers. The shrub is certainly 20, perhaps 30, years old, and has always been out in the open, though in a sheltered position. It flowers freely every year and was unaffected by this year's frost. It has grown so tall now that it has overtopped its stake. I am wondering whether the branches will stiffen and become self-supporting, or whether we ought to try and make them climb the trees and bushes on either side. Perhaps one of your readers could tell me.

Rhododendron Edgworthii

Is it self-supporting?

Y. J. GAISFORD-ST. LAWRENCE.
Howth Castle, Co. Dublin.

Zonal Pelargoniums for winter

In the wide selection of greenhouse plants there is probably nothing comparable to the old-fashioned Zonal Pelargonium for colour when well done and grown purposely for the bloom during the dull winter months. At that period this plant is essentially a country one—I mean, persons in or near places where fogs prevail may find flowers decay or drop quickly, particularly the single sorts, which, to my taste, are more showy and altogether choicer-looking than the doubles. Colours among the former, too, are really the more brilliant. To get satisfactory specimen plants one must think well ahead. This, indeed, should be the case in the culture of every garden subject. To start with, spring-rooted cuttings should be selected, not that those rooted the previous autumn would be useless, but on account of their size. I like winter Zonals in pots no bigger than 48's or 5-inch, and the latter would require pots a size larger to flower in. Having first procured or grown the small plants, they would at once receive the only repotting. The soil employed is loam with a 5-inch potful of bone-meal to a bushel. This compost is simple, and it is one that assists a firm rather than a gross growth, for these plants make too much leafage as a rule. Or, rather, it is easy to obtain undesirable growth by using manures or leaf-mould. Pot firmly, keep the plants under glass in a cool structure until the end of May, when they may with safety be placed in the open. A sunny position should be selected. A favoured one is along the sides of garden walks, standing the plants on boards. Against such is the amount of time required in watering in hot weather, and therefore it is better to put them in a batch by themselves with the pots plunged to the rim in ashes. Here the calls for water are not nearly so frequent, and all one does is to turn the pots on occasion to prevent the roots going through into the ashes and growing too freely. Give each plant quite a square foot of space.

Summer treatment consists, besides the necessary watering, of topping back any growth which seems to be getting away from the rest, and in keeping the bloom buds pinched off. This last item is regularly done, and no buds are allowed to develop before about the middle of September. At the end of that month the plants go to a light part of a greenhouse. They are raised on the stages by standing them on inverted flower-pots, and the plants have stimulating additions to the water each time this is given, in a weakly state being the rule, anything with ammonia prevalent—as soot-water and liquid from farmyard manures—suiting admirably. Were one to select a powdered form, Peruvian guano would be favoured. The trusses of bloom last a long time in winter and early spring. At that time, too, the pips of these are not so liable to drop as they are in summer. Decayed ones are picked off, and, as remarked, other buds which follow on the same truss keep the display going. For years it was the rule to purchase named varieties, but in my own case a few seedlings are raised annually. By doing this I have got together quite a nice collection—good enough, in fact, for the expert—most varied in shades of pink, cerise, scarlet, and so on. Maybe we do not find Pelargoniums in winter so prominent at exhibitions as formerly. Trusses of bloom of the rounded or florists' class used to be a feature at the November shows; but still a few growers in the trade keep their named sorts to date, besides raising others.

C.

The Rose order

To prevent disappointment at planting time, the Rose order should now be made out and despatched to the favoured nurseryman so that the plants may be sent immediately they are ready. To delay this important matter until the planting season has arrived is unfair to the dealer, not to mention the likelihood of disappointment to one's self, fine opportunities being often lost simply because of the delay in ordering. During late October and throughout November the opportunities for planting are not numerous, so it is well to be prepared to seize any such that may occur.

A Day's Plant-Hunting in the Balkans

By DR. ROGER SMITH Illustrated by THE EDITOR

STARTING from Belgrade on June 11th we drove to Nis, and having drawn a botanical blank on the mountain of Suva Plana we crossed Serbia and approached the town of Pec (Ipek) in Montenegro across a vast plain, out of which the mountains of Montenegro and Northern Albania rise abruptly, and at last we felt we were approaching real Alpine regions. Pec is a very picturesque, but very dirty, Turkish town, full of mosques, with their tapering minarettes, and the streets filled with the most wonderful mixture of races; Turks wearing the fez and their women folk closely veiled, in spite of Constantinople's repudiation of the fashion, and pretty little Turkish girls in their baggy trousers and wooden pattens; tall, lean, slouching Albanians, with their minute white skull caps; Montenegrins in baggy blue knickers with red cummerbunds and rakish little, round embroidered caps; and in contrast to these the Vlacks, probably descendants of the original inhabitants of these parts, both men and women dressed entirely in black. Here, too, one saw the powerful water buffaloes, surely the most miserable-looking animals ever seen, drawing heavy waggons. Our first duty on entering the town was to call on the head of the gendarmerie and state exactly where we wanted to go, and what we wanted to do. We made this a regular rule, and we invariably found that the police were very polite and ready to do everything in their power to help us; in fact, all through our tour we received the very greatest kindness from the officials, and they went out of their way to further our plans.

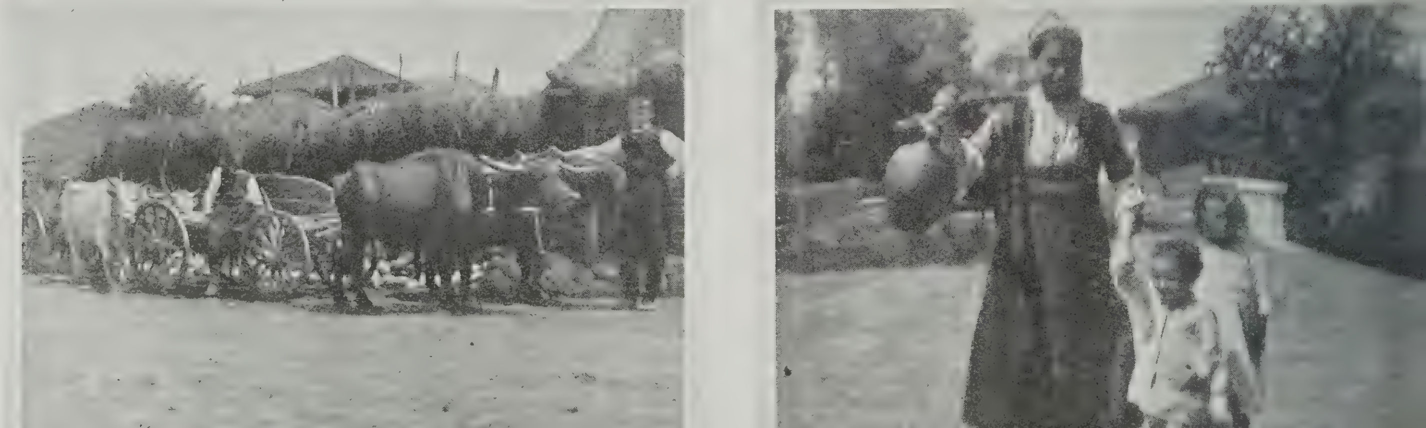
We were anxious to climb Kopravenik, a mountain some 9,000 feet high, lying to the north of the town, but the police would not consent to our going without an armed escort, so at 4 a.m. the next morning we set off with two smart soldiers and a porter, and after climbing up beyond the tree zone the flora became very pleasing. Here we found Forsythia europæa, the only European species of a plant that is otherwise found only in China, and here also Syringa vulgaris, the common Lilac. It was interesting to see growing wild this shrub that is so universal in cultivation. Growing on the lower slopes were Symphytum tuberosum, only a foot high, and bearing yellow bugles, and Aristolochia clematitis climbing over the bushes and displaying its curiously-formed yellow flowers. Amongst the tall grass the Scorzoneras were very attractive. We found rosea, purpurea, and the yellow and brown hispanica. Onosma echioides made wonderful splashes of colour amongst the rocks, as also did Onosma pallidum, the flowers of which are a pale lemon. Erythronium dens canis was plentiful and must have made a carpet of colour earlier in the year, but almost all the flowers were over. Ranunculus nyssanus, with its golden flowers on foot high stems, was found, and the tall, large-leaved Ranunculus platinifolius, and in the shade of the wood the dainty, bright orange-flowered Anemone ranunculoides.

Of Gentians, the rare dinarica was here the prevailing form of acaulis, verna var. æstivalis and asclepiadea were plentiful, and the rare Gentiana Knobskii was found, not yet in flower. High up on the sho of the mountain, on an exposed rock. discovered Ramondia serbica in full bl a truly lovely sight, and close by the Geum balcanicum, with immense leaves pale yellow, drooping flowers, a very cl plant indeed. As we got near the su ridge Saxifraga scardica appeared, a ma dancing, snow-white flowers on red st and this plant followed us plentifully fo rest of our journey. One of the party covered a few plants of Wulfenia carinth tucked away under the shade of an overh ing bush, but careful search failed to r any more. We saw across a small vall mass of pure white flowers springing fr crack in the rock, and raced across to Saxifraga Spruneri, very near to Scar but with smaller, more tightly packed le Near the top of the pass, at 8,000 feet, fraga thessalica was found, and one sol plant of Saxifraga Griesbachii var. m negrensis. Edrianthus Kitabellæ was g ing plentifully amongst the higher r As we reached the pass, the rain, threate for some time, came down in torrents, we were a very wet party that crawled the tedious descent, but a very cheerful as we were well satisfied with our day's

HUGH ROGER-SMI

Planting bulbs

Daffodils, of course, ought to have got in some weeks ago, but should thi have been overtaken get them plante once, so as to give them at least h chance. Spanish and English Irises sh now be got in, while such kinds as Ch doxas, Scillas, Snowdrops, Winter Aco Crocuses, Dog-tooth Violets, Darwin Cottage Tulips, and Leucojums, also cinths and other kinds, can all now planted with perfect safety.



HEWERS OF WOOD AND DRAWERS OF WATER

Roadside scenes in the Balkans. Peasants on the left with oxen and water buffaloes

/lacedonlan peasant in times of peace :arrying wood down a mountain slope
 the rocky slopes grow Haberleas and Saxifrages

Peasant and priest outside a monastery

Shepherd boys in the Balkan mountains two days from nearest village

New plants from the States

he weather of late has suited plants from parts of the United States, and there are umber of interesting things in flower at moment.

he first is Brauneria pallida, which is h like a Rudbeckia in appearance; the florets are, however, a delicate pink and toothed at the point. As soon as the er is expanded the rays lie back round stem to make up a strange but attractive er.

uellia occidentalis is a Michigan plant h occurs on the Pine "barrens." In earance and colour it is very like Conulus Mauretanicus, but the flower is e tubular.

lox mesaleuca is a very attractive plant, narrow grey foliage and large and solid ers, pink above and dead white on the rse. If it can be propagated, this plant ld be a valuable addition to so-called ne Phloxes.

ster Kumleini is a dwarf Aster of Aster mpsonii type. It only grows about 10 ces high, and we are trying to cross it one of the Aster amellus varieties with iew to raising a dwarf large-flowered ety.

hanostephus Skirrobasis is a plant in th rather like Dimorphotheca pluvialis, ying dazzling white Daisies with bright buds, the colour remaining on the backs e ray florets.

e Californian Sages—Audibertia—are ing very large plants. One variety, A. , has beautiful silver-grey foliage. Unnately, they show no signs of flowering will not survive a hard winter.

Ihave been very much interested in the at which I received, I believe, from the John s Institute under the name of Pentstemon eziesii. This has grown very well and ed a good mat. It has now flowered, the flowers are smaller and a little deeper lour than P. Scoulerii. There has always much doubt about these plants. My view is that P. Menziesii is the type and P. Scoulerii is a natural hybrid. At the time it must be remembered that P. lerii occur wild, both in the violet and vhite form.

WILLIAM LAWRENCE.

Geranium grandiflorum

The title of this hardy Cranesbill is one which holds out the vision of larger flowers than those of its kinswomen, but this is hardly borne out in the plants themselves. The flowers are large, however, and whether or not we agree with the title, we are bound to admire the plant itself when in bloom. When introduced a few years ago it came quickly into demand, especially by those who owned rock gardens, to whom it was specially recommended. It was soon found, however, that it generally became too tall, and heights of about 3 feet were not uncommon, while some plants raised from seeds varied in size and shade of colour. This has, to some degree, militated against the value of G. grandiflorum for rock gardens, as numbers of these features are of comparatively small extent, and a plant of its height does not consort too well with the minute gems of the Alps, which are the special treasures of the rock gardener.

A much better form for the purpose of the rock garden is one which was introduced through having been in the well-known garden of Mr. W. Robinson at Gravetye Manor, and was first distributed by Messrs. W. E. Th. Ingwersen, Ltd., under the name of G. grandiflorum, Gravetye Variety. It has been found, however, that this plant is G. grandiflorum alpinum, and is a most distinct subject, admirably adapted for the rock garden. It is about a foot high in many cases, but in autumn it grows rather taller, and it is at present about 18 inches with the writer. It flowers well in early summer, lasts for a good period, and this autumn has come into bloom again and is giving a considerable number of its large, open, fine blue flowers. It is one of the exceptionally good plants of the genus, and, when better known, will be found in many places, either in the borders or rock gardens. It is increased by division and produces seeds, but I do not know whether it comes absolutely true from these, or whether it varies. It likes sun, but can do with a fair amount of shade. No special soil is required for its cultivation.

S. ARNOTT.

Dr. Roger Smith with camera

Ceanothus albus plenus, very effective in bud and flower
Shown by R. C. Notcutt

Guevina Avellana, a bold evergreen from Chile
Shown by G. Reuthe

R.H.S. Autumn Show

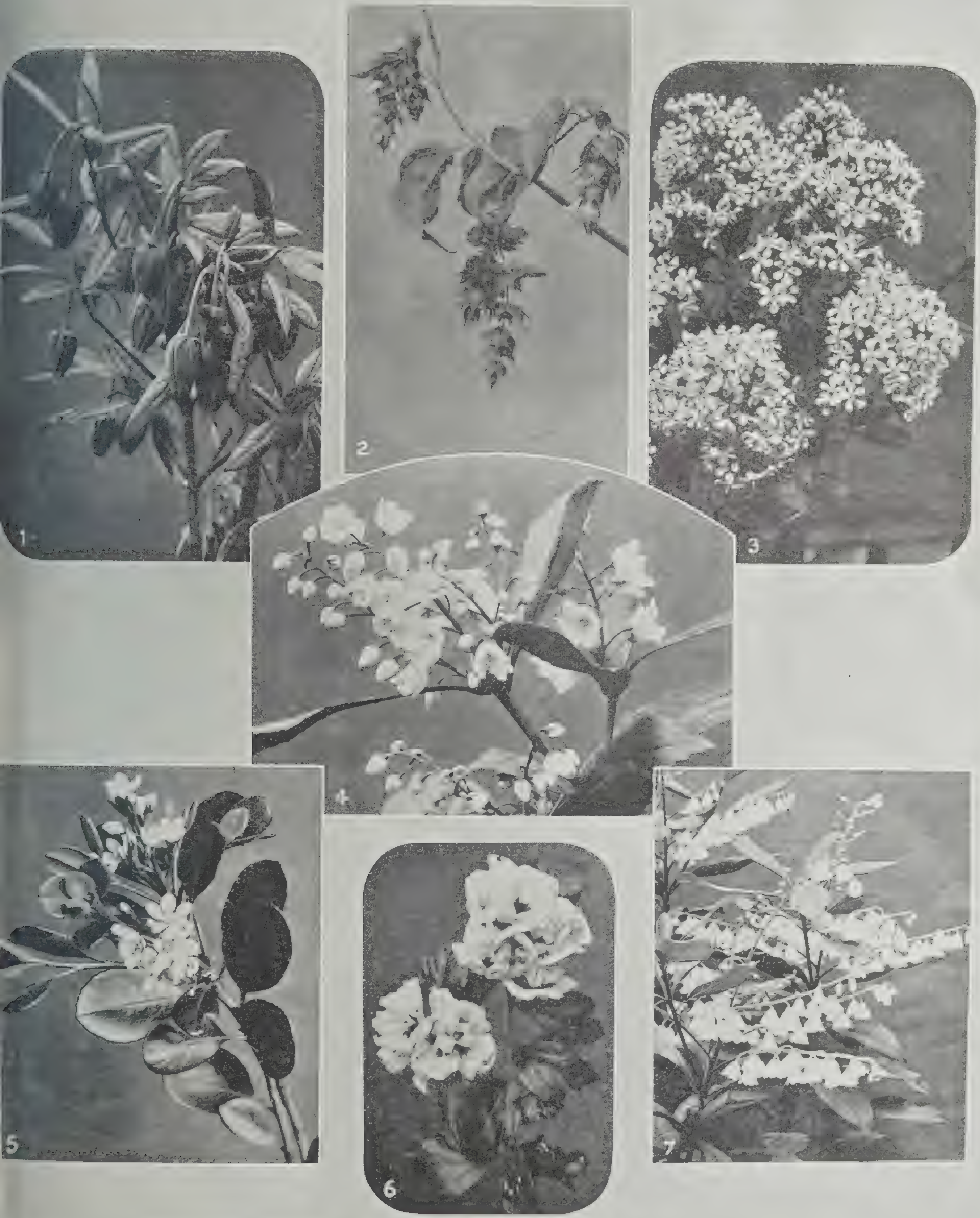
A random commentary

THE second half of the autumn show was very different from the violent and almost garish brilliance of the first part. The New Hall, as one looked down on it from the dais, was a green glade, lit here and there by richly coloured berries and the soft colours of a few late-flowering shrubs. It made you think that, if there was a common fault in modern gardens, it was a tendency to be too floriferous and full of colour. We acknowledge this tendency when we admire the restfulness of old-fashioned gardens, for 100 years ago the gardens were full of very leafy plants and their restful quality was due very largely to their greenness. Nowadays we have encouraged our garden plants to become more and more floriferous, and the herbaceous border achieves its latest development in a riot of pyrotechnic brilliance. That is one side of gardening; on the other we have a very large number of shrubs, new and old, which are being appreciated, not only for their varying tones of green (green, after all, is a colour, even in the garden), but also for their beauty of design and the richness of their berries. There were berries of all kinds at Greycoat Street, from the bright blue sausages of Decaisnea Fargesii and the turquoise beads of Viburnum Davidianum to the scarlet droplets of the deciduous Barberries. But, though giving the exotics their full due, there were few of them as strangely beautiful as our native Spindle Tree, with its challenging but triumphant combination of cerise-pink and orange, and the airy poise of its berries on their olive-green twigs. It was shown on many stands, and everyw
it seemed superior to its foreign relat
such as Euonymus Yedoensis and its v
ties. The deeper-coloured E. europ
fructu coccineo and the white-berried
are chiefly of value in association wit
The Cotoneasters are many in number,
all have in common a firm and de
beauty of design which is enhanced i
bullata, C. rugosa, and C. salicifolia by
channelled veining of the leaves, and
have now the added magnificence of cri
or scarlet berries. The Hawthorns wer
presented by the large-fruited species,
as Cratægus crus-galli (with immense th
like a cock's spur), C. mollis, and
orientalis. The last-named has ora
rugose fruit as large as a Cherry, and a
them were so impressive that it is a pity
they are not seen more often in gard
where they can so well replace the stri
confectionary-coloured Pink May.

Elsholtzia Stauntoni
An outstanding flowering shrub at the Autumn Show. Flowers in purple spikes

In the centre of the hall and, as it w
in a clearing in the wood, there was a s
tinted Heath garden, which brought out
value of the many varieties of Heather w
Messrs. Maxwell and Beale have bee
pains to bring together. It might seen
first rather precious to collect and nam
many slightly differing varieties of Ling
Bell Heather, but their value becomes
parent at once when we make a Heath
den. If we put down in the garden a p
of the unmixed species its colour seems
appointingly thin and washy, since we
the gradations of tone that distance and
inequalities of the ground give to the
sweeps of Heather on the moors, and
just this effect of life and shading tha
supplied by such variations from typ

FLOWERING SHRUBS AT THE AUTUMN SHOW



LATE FLOWERING SHRUBS IN A RIOT OF PYROTECHNIC BRILLIANCE

1. Tricuspidaria Hookeri (syn. T. lanceolata) flowers like glowing crimson lanterns.
2. Leycesteria formosa.
3. Escallonia montevidiensis.
4. Anopteris glandulosa.
5. Raphiolepis japonica (syn. R. ovata).
6. Hibiscus syriacus.
7. Clethra arborea.

Erica cinerea carnea, lilacina, and atropurpurea, and Erica vulgaris Alporti and others.

Of the later-flowering shrubs Ceratostigma Willmottiæ was shown rather sparsely and not very effectively. Perhaps the severe winter tried it rather hard, but although it is not of iron hardiness, plants that were cut to the ground by 20 degrees of frost are now covered with gentian-blue flowers on 3-feet stems, and when the leaves presently turn colour will be showing that combination of copper-brown and blue which is almost unique in garden plants. Caryopteris Mastacanthus gave a quietly pleasant effect of misty lavender and grey, but it is a pity to call it a "Blue Spiræa." Bœninghausenia albiflora made a welcome appearance in several exhibits. It is a charming little plant, like a delicate, grey-leafed Thalictrum with milk-white flowers, and it is, perhaps, only on account of its preposterous name that it is not seen more often.

At the end of the hall there was a superbly exotic outbreak, where, in Mr. G. Reuthe's exhibit, Lapageria rosea swung its raspberry-pink trumpets over giant Rhododendrons, Brugmansias, and the soft yellow of Cassia corymbosa, with every assurance of perfect hardiness. In the Old Hall autumn tints were reproduced by Chrysanthemums in brown and madder, and in the sombre, reddish-purple of Echinacea purpurea (of which Messrs. Gavin Jones showed a fine, broad-rayed form under the name "Letchworth"). Messrs. Isaac House showed off the frilled elegance of Scabioas caucasica, which strikes the eye as an admirable flower for the house and as a typically feminine one—an epithet used here without the smallest derogatory intention—but the difference between the various forms seems scarcely to justify the number of names. The new hybrid Colchicums are handsome great things, and in some of them the checkering of the smaller species is faintly appearing, and this good beginning of hybridisation in a genus hitherto neglected by the florist gives promise of still better things to come. H.

An impression of the Autumn Shrub Show

By Sir William Lawrence, Bt.

THERE is no doubt that the drought had handicapped exhibitors and, curiously enough, had produced very little autumn colour. Further, there is so little sap in the branches this year that cut sprays last badly. The Barberries are not ripe, but, as Mr. Bean remarked to me, the Show was of the highest value from an educational point of view. It was possible for Fellows who were planting shrubs to select, for example, the different coloured fruiting Mountain Ashes and the like: Pyrus Pekinensis (orange), P. Vilmoriniana (cyclamen-pink), P. aucuparia munda (white). Then there were the Firethorns, Pyracantha Rogersiana flava (bright yellow), and Yunanensis (orange-yellow). There were too few Cratægus, and there are so many fine ones—for example, C. Arnoldiana, C. submollis, C. Jackii, C. punctata. Whilst Pyrus Aldenhamensis is best in flower, Pyrus Eleyii beats it in fruit.

Mr. Reuthe showed many rare plants, including a lovely vase of Lapageria rosea and Guevina in full flower, and there was little to choose between Notcutt, who had the richest show of berries; Wallace, with good Rhododendrons; and Cheal, with a particularly well set-up group and nice baskets of Crab Apples.

Messrs. Hollamby had their vines very well arranged, and vines with coloured foliage are difficult to show. Mr. Allgrove must be congratulated on his very fine exhibit, and it was marvellous to be able to bring up trees without shaking off the fruit. There were some very good groups from Ireland, and the Heaths and Clematis brightened up what would have been rather a sombre show.

On the other hand, the Old Hall was a blaze of colour, and has never looked better. In my opinion brightly coloured flowers look best in the Old Hall, and less gaudy flowers, such as Roses, Sweet Peas, and shrubs, in the New Hall.

The attendance of Fellows and their friends at this important show was disappointing. Nurserymen were complaining that they did not take enough orders even to cover their show expenses. It must, however, be remembered that it takes time for people to get used to new arrangements, and further, that many visitors who rely on the R.H.S. Gardeners' Diary failed to notice the errata slip which sets out the revised arrangements. (It has taken the public a year to find their way in numbers to the new restaurant.)

Caryopteris Mastacanthus

Gives a pleasant effect of misty lavender and grey

The specialising in shows of classes of plants is so desirable in itself that it is to be hoped that the experiment will be repeated next year. If it still continues to be unsatisfactory from the point of view of the horticultural trade it must, of course, be given up, when the only alternative appears to be to have a second Chelsea Show in the autumn.

LIST OF AWARDS

October 2nd and 3rd

GOLD MEDAL

G. Reuthe, for shrubs.

SILVER-GILT FLORA MEDAL

J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., for trees and shrubs.

SILVER-GILT BANKSIAN MEDAL

Alex. Dickson and Sons, Ltd., for Roses; Maxwell and Beale, for Heaths; R. C. Notcutt, for trees and shrubs; D. Prior and Son, Ltd., for Roses; J. B. Riding, for Dahlias; R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., for trees and shrubs.

SILVER FLORA MEDAL

T. Bones, for Michaelmas Daisies; Ben.
and Sons. Ltd., for Roses; Dobbie and Co
for Gladioli; Donard Nursery Co., for
Fletcher Bros., for conifers and shrubs
border Nurseries, for Michaelmas Daisies;
Green, Ltd., for Bay and Box trees; Hilli
Sons, for trees and shrubs; G. Jackman a
for Clematis; Jarman and Co., for Dahl
Ladhams, Ltd., for shrubs and herbaceous
L. R. Russell, Ltd., for Clematis and other
T. Smith and Son, for trees and shru
Stewart and Son, Ltd., for trees, shrub
conifers; Sanders, for Orchids; R. Veit
Son, for trees and shrubs; J. Waterer, So
Crisp, Ltd., for trees and shrubs; W. Wells,
for Michaelmas Daisies; Wm. Wood and So
for trees and shrubs.

SILVER BANKSIAN MEDAL

Allwood Bros., for Carnations and
Bakers, Ltd., for shrubs and conifers; E. B
for Michaelmas Daisies; R. H. Bath, Lt
Gladioli; W. Blom and Son, for Colchicu
Bunyard and Co., Ltd., for conifers and
trees and shrubs; A. Charlton and Sons, f
and shrubs; J. W. Forsyth, for early-fl
Chrysanthemums; S. J. Goodliffe, for her
plants and shrubs; Harrods, Ltd., for B
Bay trees; H. Hemsley, for trees and
Hillier and Sons, for conifers; Hol
Nurseries, for ornamental Vines and sh
House and Son, for Scabious and Tr
Stuart Low and Co., for Carnations, a
Orchids; Keith Luxford and Co., for
flowering Chrysanthemums; J. H. Pembert
Roses; E. J. Redgrove and Son, for her
plants; J. Robinson and Son, for rock gard
herbaceous plants; Wm. Wood and Son, L
Michaelmas Daisies.

FLORA MEDAL

W. J. Marchant, for trees and shrubs; J
and Co., for shrubs and conifers.

BANKSIAN MEDAL

G. and A. Clark, Ltd., for herbaceous
also for trees and shrubs; W. Cutbush a
Ltd., for shrubs; E. F. Fairbairn and So
Phloxes; J. Golding, for Scabious; H. H
for rock garden plants; Gavin Jones, f
baceous plants and shrubs; John Klinke
clipped Box trees; H. Langridge and C
Dahlias; Stuart Low and Co., for conife
shrubs; Patricks, for conifers and shrubs
Perry, for hardy plants; F. Rich, for Mich
Daisies; Rich and Cooling, for herbaceous
Charles Turner, for Dahlias; Wm. Yand
early-flowering Chrysanthemums.

EXHIBITS OF FRUIT

GOLD MEDAL

J. C. Allgrove, for fruit trees and ga
fruit.

SILVER-GILT HOGG MEDAL

G. Bunyard and Co., Ltd., for gathered

SILVER HOGG MEDAL

Laxton Bros., for fruit trees and gathere

Caryopteris Mastacanthu

AS shrubs that flower during Sept
and October are very few, Cary
Mastacanthus makes a very va
plant for the garden. It is a deci
small shrub, growing from 4 feet to 8
height, and of a spreading habit. The t
flowers are of a bright violet-blue, pr
in hemispherical cymes from the axils
uppermost leaves, the main flower-sta
ing ¾ inch to 1½ inches long.

A native of China, it grows wild
Canton, while it is also common in So
Japan in fields, rocky places, and c
mountains. When first introduced int
country it was treated as a greenhouse
but was eventually lost, and reintrodu
Maries in 1880. Since then it is found
very well outside in open, sandy soil a
a south wall, where it appears pe
hardy, while in a few favoured locali
will succeed out in the open, particul
a well-drained position.

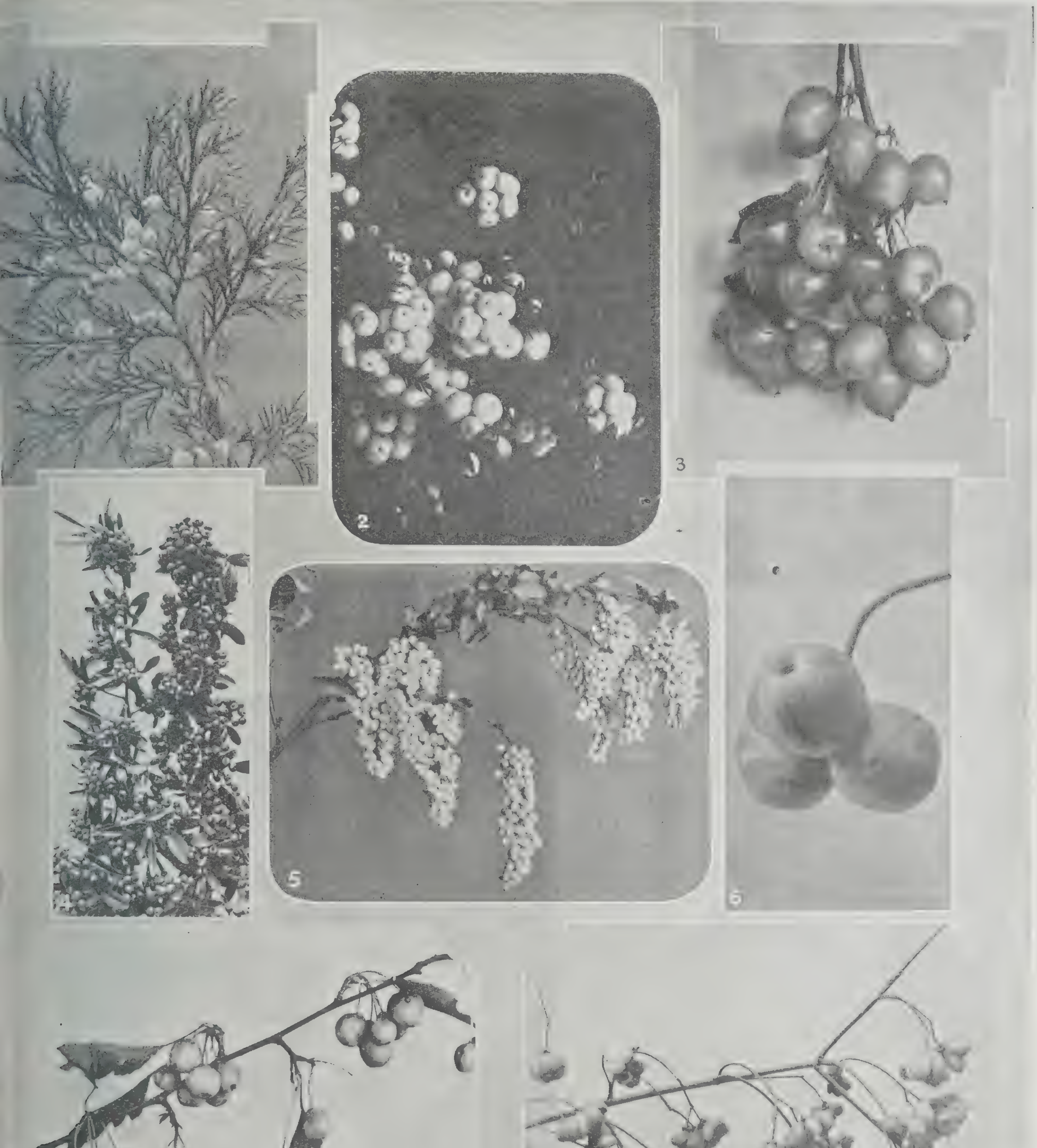
After it has flowered in the autu
should be pruned back almost to the pr
year's wood, the flowers being borne
new growth. It is increased with the
est ease by means of half-ripened cutti
sand in a frame. The young stem
semi-woody, covered, like the flower-
leaf-stalks, and the underside of the
with a close grey felt.

Another species recently introduc
Caryopteris tangutica, equally as attr
but flowers quite a month earlier.

George H. Prest

University Botanic Garden,
Cambridge.

FRUITING SHRUBS AT THE AUTUMN SHOW



ORNAMENTAL FRUITS AND BERRIES OF MANY KINDS AT GREYCOAT STREET

1. Juniperus virginiana Keteleeri.
2. Pernettya mucronata.
3. John Downie Crab.
4. Pyracantha angustifolia and P. coccinea Lalandii.
5. Berberis polyantha.
6. Japanese Quince on Cydonia.
7. Pyrus toringoides of the Malus section; fruits small, yellow and red.
8. Our native Spindle Tree, with its challenging combination of cerise, pink, and orange.

Rose Cottage Maid or Rosa Mundi

Old Roses

Will anyone be so kind as to tell me when the following old-fashioned Roses were first introduced into English gardens?

Blush Gallica, Celestial, Maiden's Blush, Duc d'Angoulême, Mme. Plantier, Blairii No. 2, Louis Odier, Roses des Peintres, Lucida Plena, Kazanlik, De Meaux, Coupe d'Hebé, Cottage Maid, and Old Red Damask.

Most of the above I already possess, and the rest I hope to get this autumn. These old-world Roses give me such joy that I long to know more about their history, and I thought perhaps that some of the readers of Gardening Illustrated, who possess old gardening books and magazines, might be able to give me some information.

M. R.

[The history of the old Roses covers a wide and interesting field, and a full answer to " M. R.'s " inquiries would take up a great deal of space. I append a few details taken from notes and books at my disposal, but I have no doubt that other readers may be able to supply more.

Many of the old Roses for whose date of introduction " M. R." inquires belong to the great period of activity in raising new Roses at the beginning of the nineteenth century, of which Laffay and Vibert were the most outstanding workers.

Some of the Roses belong to earlier periods in which the records of garden plants were both scanty and vague; and it has been impossible, unfortunately, to explore all the sources of information necessary for a full reply to " M. R.'s " inquiry, but it is hoped that it will be possible to supply at least some of the deficiencies later.

Blush Gallica.—Origin not traced, but probably at the end of the eighteenth century. It is listed in Sweet's " Hortus Brittanicus," 1826.

Celestial (Rosa alba group).—Untraced, but probably of English origin. Listed in Sweet's.

Maiden's Blush (Rosa alba group).—Kew, 1797.

Duc d'Angouleme (centifolia).—Holland. Date uncertain.

Mme. Plantier (Rosa alba hybrid).—Plantier, 1835.

Blairii No. 2.—Climbing Bourbon. Blair, 1845.

Louis (Louise?) Odier—Bourbon Margottin, 1851.

Roses des Peintres (centifolia).—Origin untraced. Eighteenth century.

Lucida Plena.—Veitch, 1884.

Kazanlik (R. Damascena).—This is the variety grown at Kazanlik in Bulgaria for the production of attar of Roses. It is probably of recent introduction under this name.

De Meaux (Dwarf centifolia).—Untraced; probably end of seventeenth century.

Coupe d'Hebe (Bourbon).—Laffay, circa 1840.

Cottage Maid (R. Gallica).—Origin untraced. The name appears to date from the beginning of the nineteenth century, but the Rose was known earlier as Rosa Mundi, and is figured under this name by Miss Lawrence (1799). It is not, I think, identical with the Rosa versicolor of Clusius.

Old Red Damask.—Recorded in 1575, but it is one of the very old Roses, and is probably coeval in English gardens with R. centifolia.—F. A. H.]

Climbing Roses

These are, in many instances, making very strong shoots, which must be constantly looped in, otherwise when swaying during storms there will be a tendency towards their supports being pulled down.

Some good old Roses

" W. F.'s " note in a recent is
Maréchal Niel is most interesting, an
me back to my early days, 50 to 6
ago. Having grown it then in man
tions I can endorse all " W. F." says
gard to pot culture. The finest bl
have ever seen were budded on s
Briars. Some old light soil was use
the loam in which these were plante
plant being put to each of the pillars
the centre border of a large span
orchard-house. They soon made
shoots, and the second season many o
were from 20 feet to 30 feet long.
gave enormous blooms, and when seen
ing down were a glorious sight. Ea
son the old shoots were cut back, an
were made to produce good flowers for
years by giving them a dressing of n
every season, although as time went o
fell a prey to canker. My experience
this Rose gives the best blooms fro
young wood, and I agree with " W. F.
we have nothing to equal it for colo
scent, and I am pleased to learn tha
is an increasing demand for it. Gl
Dijon is still with us, but nothing co
to its early days, when it could be
mass of bloom on many cottages.
deserves a place in any garden. Anot
favourite is William Allen Rich
which, given generous treatment,
always repay the grower. The cl
form of Lamarque Nephetos used
grown largely for market.

Celine Forestier and Devoniensi
among the very best for scent. C
latter, I know a fine plant growing
sheltered spot on a wall in a private
at Camberley, Surrey. Grown as a
has given me much pleasure. Ch

Rose Celeste, a variety of Rosa alba

id, Reve d'Or, and Bouquet d'Or are
ɔod for covering old fences, roofs, and
htly trees, being very hardy. For-
s Yellow is a beautiful colour. I grew
ne 40 years ago in a pot for embellish-
conservatory in early spring, and a
of mine at Hartley Row, Hants, grew
n a cold house roof, and when in flower
s a wonderful sight. Cloth of Gold is
er old favourite, and I shall never for-
eing this growing on a south wall in the
ns at Farleigh Castle, near Bath, and
years later, when I saw it a mass of
on the roof of a house at Cricket St.
as, near Chard.

these old Roses deserve a place in any
n where suitable positions can be
, having a charm quite their own as
s a beautiful scent, which many of the
n kinds lack, although they have form
olour. Recently a lady friend brought
dozen blooms of 12 of the most modern
. All were beautiful in form and
, but could not be compared to the
d Roses of years ago. J. C.
consfield.

om 𝔊𝔞𝔯𝔡𝔢𝔫𝔦𝔫𝔤 𝔍𝔩𝔩𝔲𝔰𝔱𝔯𝔞𝔱𝔢𝔡

𝔉𝔦𝔣𝔱𝔶 𝔜𝔢𝔞𝔯𝔰 𝔄𝔤𝔬

Everlasting Flowers

HE immortelle of the East (Helichrysum orientale), a native of
Asia, has been known in Europe
ce 1629, but was only first cultivated
gardens about 1815. Its flowers,
symbols of friendship, or tribute to
ent and genius, serve to make the
rlands of immortelles which orna-
nt the tombs of the dead in Roman
tholic countries. It is cultivated in
ance, in the communes of Lower
ovence, where the soil slopes towards
Mediterranean. . . It blossoms
out the month of June. It suffers
m heavy and continuous rains and
ong dews, and only vegetates well
light, stony, and permeable soils.
is propagated by offsets, which are
arated from the old stocks. The
hering of the flowers is made in the
t days of June, before the bursting
the buds. . . The collection is made
women, who tie them in small
ndles, which are ordinarily dried on
walls of the enclosure. Finally,
ng girls are employed to remove
down which covers the ramifica-
ns. . . .—March 15th, 1879.

Veronica salicifolia

shrub is known as the Willow-leaved
ca. The foliage, which is at all times
ive, is evergreen and the flowers are
hite. The racemes on which they are
are about as elegant as anything that
be conceived. The shrub is beautiful
practically the whole of August and
ber, and is very easy to cultivate. A
ich soil must be provided. I find that
ell to work a good bucketful of farm-
anure with the soil around the roots.
ca salicifolia is as hardy as any of its
There is said to be an element of
in severe winters, but here in York-
y specimens came unscathed through
en frosts of last season. No pruning
ired at any time save that of removing
oots which are too weak to produce
. Planting should commence in early
ber. This will give the roots an op-
ty to become established before the
winter sets in. G. H. C.

Harrogate Autumn Flower Show

With Lord Brotherton presiding, the North of England Horticultural Society's Autumn Show was opened by Lady Barran in the Winter Gardens, Harrogate, on the 25th ult. There was an exceptionally fine exhibition, the arrangement being different to other years, as the tables and stands in the centre of the hall were placed across instead of lengthways down the centre.

Messrs. Dickson and Robinson took the Challenge Cup with a display of Dahlias embracing all the sections. While not so extensive as last year, the exhibit included some magnificent blooms.

Messrs. Dobbie and Co. again showed their Orchid-flowered Dahlias grouped in one mass with a border in front of other contrasting varieties.

Roses were extensively shown, and, considering the weather, were good. Mr. Thomas Robinson, of Nottingham, had the finest display, with blooms of good quality tastefully arranged. A group of Dame Edith Helen and Etoile de Hollande occupied the centre with Christine, Mrs. H. Stevens, Miss C. E. van Rossem, Florence Izzard, and Dainty Bess on one side and Christine, Margaret McGredy, Mrs. A. R. Barraclough, Mme. Butterfly, K. of K., and Mrs. H. Morse on the other. Messrs. Samuel McGredy and Son also had a well-arranged display with a centre composed of Margaret McGredy, McGredy's Ivory, and Mrs. A. R. Barraclough, with Los Angeles, Cherry, McGredy's Scarlet, Lady Leslie, Irish Hope, Admiration, and Diadem on either side.

W. and J. Brown put up a splendid group with Polyantha Roses as background, and Dame Edith Helen and others displayed. Several other firms showed fine Roses in smaller groups. Messrs. Mansell and Hatcher, Ltd., had a large Orchid exhibit.

At the end of the hall Messrs. G. Gibson and Co. displayed Roses on arches, herbaceous flowers, Palms, and Ferns. Messrs. Kent, Brydon, and Haigh had masses of Asters and a Gold Medal vegetable exhibit in the annexe. Messrs. Daniels Bros., Ltd., had fruit of excellent quality. The Rev. C. Gallacher's small exhibit of Gloxinias and seedling Begonias were much admired. Rock work was shown by Messrs. Backhouse, H. H. Maw and Son, and Mr. P. Gardener. There were several exhibits in the annexe, two of Gladiolus and a number of herbaceous flower displays, one of which included a June-flowering Iris in full bloom.

Congratulations are due to the Acting Secretary and his supporters for worthily upholding the reputation of the North of England Horticultural Society's flower shows, so long managed by the Rev. J. Bernard Hall, to whom a testimonial is being subscribed. C. A. J.

Rose Mme. Plantier

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Bush fruit

The planting of all kinds of bush fruit may now be commenced, and, providing the ground has been well prepared beforehand by trenching and enriching with farmyard manure, this early planting will prove of immense advantage, as the newly made roots will take hold of the soil at once. This will enable them to break strong and go well away in spring. Bushes planted late in spring do not get sufficiently established to withstand a period of drought.

Fruit trees

Most kinds may be lifted and transplanted now, even although a few leaves remain upon them. The stations intended for the trees must, however, be prepared in advance so that the latter may be replanted straight away. The positions for Apples, Pears, Plums, Apricots, and Peaches should be well drained, trenched 3 feet deep, and filled in with good but not unduly enriched soil. After planting, a good soaking of water is advisable, and where possible a light mulch should be spread over the surface to encourage root action.

Figs

These do not require quite so great a depth of soil, providing there is a fairly good surface spread for their roots, 2 feet 6 inches being ample depth. Like all the stove fruits, they should be provided with a fair proportion of lime-rubble in the soil and be given very efficient drainage. Young plants put out now should be given a little protection during severe weather. Established specimens of Figs transplant very badly, and I would advise the use of young stock in preference to them always.

Herbs

Gather a few bunches of those herbs which are in demand during the winter months and dry them by suspending the bunches from roofs of cool, airy houses. The herb garden should then be cleaned and the soil loosened up. In some instances it should be slightly enriched, as even herbs cannot go on for ever on the same land without a little assistance.

Autumn Broccoli

Veitch's Autumn Giant, Walcheren, and others are turning in, and as a precautionary measure against frost and to retain whiteness a few leaves should be broken over each flower early. Remove all decaying foliage from late crops of this estimable vegetable and also from Brussels Sprouts, Borecoles, and Savoys, as not only is such unsightly, but often most offensive.

Winter Onions, Lettuce, Corn Salads, and Spinach

Keep the soil moved with the hoe frequently among these very important crops as long as it is possible to do so and keep weeds from making progress between the plants.

Plant houses

These are now full to the brim, as are many fruit-houses from which the fruit has been cleared. Watering in all cases should, so far as possible, be carried out in the morning in order that the floors may become fairly dry before night. This is especially important where plants are in bloom.

Cyclamens and Primulas

Those showing bloom should be assisted with periodical waterings of weak liquid-manure as these plants bloom over a considerable period. The same applies to winter-flowering Begonias, which are now becoming very effective and develop richer shades of colour when assisted as above. During their flowering period a temperature of 50 to 55 degs. at night, with a little opening in the top ventilators will be found suitable.

Carpeting shrubs, Roses, and ornamental deciduous trees with plants

Such work may now be carried on under ideal conditions. Polyanthuses look well beneath Purple Plum Trees (Prunus Pissardi); hardy Cyclamen beneath an old Yew or other evergreen tree; Narcissus, Jonquils, and Snowdrops under Beeches and Oaks; Rubus beneath large shrubs or small trees; dwarf herbaceous plants, including Montbretias, beneath and in the foreground of thinly disposed shrubs. Scillas, Dog-tooth Violets, Crocos, and Chionodoxas love the gentle shade and the friable soil of Azalea gardens, and the beautiful Trilliums of North America a cool, shaded spot in deep, leafy soil beneath deciduous Magnolias or on the cool north side of walls or banks of evergreens.

Herbaceous borders

The occupants here may now be lifted where necessary and divided, and fresh plantations made. Plans made for the rearrangement of such borders during the summer may now be put into execution, for, providing the plants are watered in, no better time could be chosen.

Spring bedding

This is now in full swing, but should the weather prove dry such plants as Wallflowers suffer badly unless dewed over with the rose occasionally. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Standard fruit trees

While these do not require much in the way of actual pruning, it is always desirable to look over them carefully each autumn and make certain that no overcrowding of the branches is present, whilst there are often dead twigs, or even branches, which should be removed. In cases of overcrowding, remove the offending branches with a saw and then neatly trim the wounds with a sharp knife or chisel.

Fruit trees on walls

If the time can be spared, there is no better season than the present in which to go over the trees and fasten them securely to the walls, whether this be by tying to wires or by the old-fashioned method of nailing. This latter process is a tedious and unsatisfactory way of doing the job, the work being so much more easy and pleasant when the walls are properly wired. It is easy then to get everything securely fastened in a comparatively short time and thus permit of more time being available for other duties.

Storing Beetroot

Although slight frosts do no harm to this crop, it really gets no benefit from being left out much longer, so on some fine dry day have it lifted and stored in cool yet frost-proof quarters, and where rats and mice cannot get near it, as these destructive pests sometimes do considerable harm if not checked.

Continue lifting Potatoes

As each variety matures, have the crop dug up, graded, and stored. There is always
risk of disease spreading if the tube
left in the ground after they are ripe.
lifting, keep the best-shaped, mediun
tubers for "seed," while the smal
diseased ones should be kept back for
ing to pigs. The rest of the crop,
drying a little, should be stored awa
dark cellar or shed which is fairly d
quite cool, but at the same time safe
frost.

Carrots

The maincrop Carrots, like Beetroot
gain nothing further by remaining
ground, but may be badly split b
autumn rains. If still out, therefore,
them lifted at the first favourable
tunity. As with Beetroot, store in a
fairly dry place, using plenty of dry s
dry, sifted soil between the layers of
and over the top of the heap.

Late Cauliflowers

These promise well this autumn an
quent attention to the plants to afford
a little protection from frost is desirab
soon as a head becomes visible bend
the leaves over it or else gather the
gether and tie the points so as to form
of tent over the "curd." This will
all the protection necessary when the f
light, but should really severe w
threaten, the plants approaching the
stage should be pulled up and hung
downwards in a cool shed, where the
remain fit for use for 10 to 15 days.

Preparing for spring bedding

Where the beds filled with summe
ding plants have to be planted with s
flowering subjects, it will now be well t
the summer occupants cleared off, an
ground manured and dug preparatory
moving of the new plants into their flo
quarters. If it is also possible to p
with the planting, so much the better,
sooner this can be done the better
have the different plants of becomin
established before the winter sets in.

Plants in frames

Should such winter-flowering plan
Cinerarias, Cyclamens, and Primul
still in cold frames it will now be ad
to have them moved to a greenhouse
where a little fire-heat is at comma
keep out, when necessary, frost and to
damp. Do not coddle these plants, an
water with great care. Schizanthus
lings should also be taken to a light s
a house from which frost is excluded.

Propagate Pelargoniums

Both the Zonal and Regal section
now pretty well over for the season, s
tings should be secured and inserted
the edges of 4-inch or 5-inch pots fille
light, sandy compost. If set in an
mediate temperature they will soon
roots, and as soon as they do so the
should be moved to an ordinary green
for the winter.

Watering during winter

Evaporation is now very slight and
plants are resting, so the amount of
required by pot plants is very little com
with what was necessary during the
mer months. To keep the soil sodde
fatal mistake, so water should only be
when it is really approaching the dry
When it does, enough should be gi
moisten the whole mass of earth in th
and then no more until it again be
nearly dry. It is best to give water
the early part of the day. C. BL

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow

thcoming Autumn Show on October 23rd and 24th

iefly for Orchids and other stove and greenhouse plants

special show will be held on October and 24th chiefly for Orchids and other and greenhouse plants. All amateurs horticultural traders who grow Orchids her ornamental plants under glass are ally invited to exhibit.

iging may be commenced at 2 p.m. on day, October 22nd, and all exhibits be ready for judging by 11.30 a.m. on nesday, October 23rd. The show will at 1 p.m. (or earlier if judging is ed), and will remain open until 7 p.m. evening. On the following day, sday, October 24th, the show will open a.m. and close at 4 p.m.

e Society's Gold Medal, together with Silver Cups and Flora and Banksian ls, will be available for award to non-etitive groups, and the Lindley Medal be available for award for plants of al interest or beauty.

o challenge cups and two silver trophies offered for competitive exhibits of ids staged by amateurs.

W PLANTS, ETC., FOR CERTIFICATE.—The and Vegetable, Floral and Orchid nittees will meet on the morning of the day of the show, Wednesday, October Orchids for certificate must be entered the Secretary of the Committee by a.m. that day, and other subjects must tered with the Secretaries of the ap-iate Committees by 11.30 a.m. . The tific Committee will meet at 4 p.m. on er 23rd.

TURE ON "ORCHID-GROWING FOR INERS."—At 3 p.m. on the first day of how, Wednesday, October 23rd, a lec-on "Orchid-growing for Beginners" be given by Mr. H. G. Alexander, H., who for many years had charge of te Sir George Holford's famous col-n.

Aster Climax

hough this Michaelmas Daisy has been for many years it still continues to rain a fair share of popularity. Belong- the large-flowering or Novæ Belgiæ , it grows, on an average, about high, usually commencing to flower in the Midlands towards the end of nber. Its large, pale, lavender-ted flowers are borne in graceful idal heads on stout stems, which make emely useful for cutting purposes for decoration. We have some 30 or plants in full bloom now, and in spite dry season they do not appear to have ffected in growth or diminished in size bstance.

J. L.

Sempervivum Camollei

pervivum, a genus of complicated clature and a myriad species and es, is a lovely soft grey, gradually pass-o red through pink and rose. Its de-f beauty depends largely upon the position on the rock garden, the ideal rocky, sun-kissed crevice with a deep arply drained soil. Perhaps more ly S. calcaratum, S. Camollei is per-ardy and has been grown since 1874. wers—one does not want it to do so— reddish or brownish-white blossoms ried on 12-inch stems, but the joy of sence is the bunch of fat, beautifully d rosettes, happy-looking and colour- all seasons, if somewhat slow in .

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Gladiolus as a cut flower

SOME of the many good border Gladioli are now so moderate in price that they may well be grown in the reserve garden to serve as cut flowers. The picture shows a simple arrangement of white and yellow kinds. The white is Giant White, the yellow is Schwaben. Another time it is the same white with the charming pink Marshal Foch and the deeper pink Panama. For suitable foliage to go with them it is a good plan to cut out the central spike of the white striped Japanese Maize when it is about 3 feet high; this also encourages the lower growths of the Maize, which then become handsome foliage plants of moderate height. The Maize was not to be had when the heavy jar of *grès* ware was photographed, and the only accompaniment of greenery was a few small branches of the broad-leaved Laurel. Some tall sprays of Artemisia lactiflora were added; their cream-white colour going well with the massive blooms of the Gladioli.

G. J.

Gladioli as cut flowers

Raoulia australis

This is a splendid plant for a dry, elevated position, for it will withstand heat and drought with impunity. It is worthy of a place on the rock garden, its silvery foliage relieving to a great extent the usual barrenness associated with the dreary season. It covers flat rocks and stones like a silvery Moss, and where it has a modicum of soil to root into, develops into beautiful little grey tufts. The plant has no brilliant flowers to recommend it, but this need not be regretted as it is the silvery Moss and not the flowers that is its charm. In winter it may exist on the level ground, but its true position is on old walls in some earthy or mossy chinks. The plant looks as fresh and vigorous when emerging from some dry chink, where a drop of water seldom falls upon it, as when planted in good soil on raised beds. It will grow on almost earthless mossy rocks, provided a handful of finely broken sandstone is placed about the plants and fully exposed. The plant is best increased by side shoots, which are numerous and root as they go. These may be fixed to the surface of a flat sandstone with sand and small stones, where they will quickly form plants of rich verdure.

H. STEVENS.

Salvia splendens

Often grown in large batches for indoor decoration, these should be liberally fed whilst developing flower spikes and the plants kept in a position reasonably near to the glass. A temperature of 45 degs. to 55 degs. is desirable at the present time.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

VEGETABLES

Celery Leaf Mining Maggot

I am venturing to send some badly afflicted Celery in the hope that your advice may be helpful in the future. This is the third season in which the Celery has been attacked. Last year five rows of very fine Celery went very suddenly. The green tufts of healthy-looking leaves turned brown and dirty-looking, and the stalks quickly decayed. We only had one digging, and remarked what very perfect Celery it was, the best for some years, but after that there was no more fit to eat. All the five rows were dug up and burnt, the soil dug over and left to sweeten during the long, hard winter. This year the Celery was moved to a distant part of the garden and only two rows put in in ground that has never before been used for Celery. It has been very difficult to make it grow at all, owing to the drought, which has been very fierce just about here. The ground was well prepared, and we had a little shower just when the Celery was put in, but weeks of dry winds and hot sunshine have kept it very small and stunted, and in spite of dressings of soot this horrible disease has attacked it very badly indeed, and the poor young gardener is in despair, feeling that he does not know what to do. MARY C. MACKAIG.

Newmarket.

[Your Celery is affected with the larvæ of Celery Fly. With such a bad attack we are doubtful if you can now do anything to save the crop, that is, if they are all so bad as the one specimen sent. We think your best plan would be to lift the crop and destroy it. The site on which the Celery now stands should be dressed with flake naphthalene at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard and forked in as deeply as possible. Defer the application until the ground is really moist. Another year you should keep your Celery plants sprayed with a good nicotine insecticide at intervals from the time the plants are put out into the trenches. You can alternate the insecticide by dusting the plants over with a mixture consisting of three parts of old soot and one part of slaked lime, the dust to be applied when the foliage is damp. Celery, of course, loves water, and in seasons like the present it is almost impossible to grow the crop without artificial watering.]

FRUIT

Over-ripe Pears

Can you give me any information as to why early varieties of Pears, such as Clapp's Favourite and Jargonelle, go brown in the centre of the fruit so quickly? Is there any means of preventing it, as oft times the fruit looks perfectly sound while the centre is completely rotten? W. M.

[Pears, after becoming ripe, very soon go out of condition, and the two varieties mentioned have a very short season. Early varieties of Pears are probably only in prime condition for about three days; after that they begin to go brown or "sleepy" in the middle. There is, of course, no means of preventing this state of affairs, but you can delay the process by keeping the Pears in a very cool place, taking a few at a time into warmer conditions to ripen. Another plan which helps to spread the ripening period is to pick half the crop a week or 10 days previous to the second half. The first half is picked so soon as the fruit will leave the tree easily, the second half allowed to hang a week or so longer.]

Deformed Apples

(R. V. Stoney).—Your Apples have been attacked by Capsid Bug. The Apple Capsid Bug (Plesiocoris rugicollis) appears towards the end of April. When first hatched from the egg the creatures are small, and resemble Aphides (Green Fly), except that they are very much more active. The creatures run about amongst the developing foliage and fruit, and feed by puncturing the tissue and sucking out the cell sap. In all positions where the creatures feed considerable marking occurs. At first a red or brown mark appears, but as the leaves and fruit develop, it is noticed that the parts surrounding the punctures are dead, and they fail to develop properly. Foliage becomes deformed and ragged, while the fruits are wasted and deformed, such as those you send. After successive moults, the Capsids alter their appearance and become fully winged. Eggs are laid by the adults, but these are laid partly embedded within the bark of the shoots. The best control for this pest is to spray with nicotine, using the following formula.—Nicotine 98-99 per cent., 3 ozs.; soft soap, 4 lbs.; water, 40 gallons. Smaller quantities can be made, provided the materials are kept at the same ratio. This spray fluid is useless if it is not driven well into the developing shoots and trusses. The spray should be applied through a coarse nozzle, and should first be directed downwards into the trusses and leaves, passing from the tip of the branch to its base. Then swiftly turn the spraying apparatus, passing from the base of the branch to the top, thus spraying each branch twice, once downwards and once upwards. Using this method, the bugs which shelter beneath the foliage are trapped in the spray by the upward movement. Many of the Capsids fall to the ground, and these should be sprayed, or they will crawl back up the trees. Nicotine is a contact wash, and can only kill if it hits the creature concerned. The best time to spray is seven days before the flowers open their petals, but in bad cases a second application, immediately the petals have dropped from the flowers, is desirable.

Victoria Plum stock

(R. V. Stoney).—The two small Plums sent for examination are probably Victoria Plums. It is not uncommon for a Plum tree that has had its first crop of flowers killed by frost to produce a few flowers later in the season, and for such flowers to set and swell, producing fruits such as those sent. We think
that this is the true explanation of the
fruits. Have a little more patience, a
think that you will be rewarded by a c
Victoria Plums. We notice that the
sent have been badly attacked by Ca
You will apply the same control as
above for your Apples.

Maggot in Peaches

In a foreign country where Peach
fruit in the open, the fruit is inva
spoiled by maggot. Would you tell me
is due to the Peach Fly or Peach
if it can be combated by arsenical spray
flowering; and if it is possible to make
single spray solution which will destroy
and, at the same time, prevent Peach
Curl? HESPERI

[We cannot be of much assistance t
If you had given the foreign country
cerned we might have been able to fi
something about the pests you mention
tunately, in this country, we are not tr
by Peach Fly or Moth. Peaches, of c
fruit freely out of doors in this countr
pecially when planted on a wall, and w
seen good crops on standard Peach
sheltered districts. Your best plan wo
to write to the Agricultural Advisory S
of the country concerned for the desir
formation. Peach Leaf Curl can be cont
here by spraying with Bordeaux immec
before the buds begin to break into gro

Aphis on Red Currant bushes

(J. A. B.).—The damage to your Red
rant bushes is caused by a variety of
which attacks the under sides of the f
during summer. As soon as they appea
bushes should be sprayed with a soluti
quassia extract, or "Katakilla," eith
which may be had from any nurseryma

Apple Mildew

(W. G. W.).—Your Apples are af
with Apple Mildew. The best plan w
for you to cut away and burn all the
dewed shoots during winter pruning;
shoots have a whitened appearance in
winter. When the buds break into grov
spring you should look over the trees, re
and burn all the mildewed buds. Spray
lime sulphur at the "pink bud" stage
Apple Scab, and if the mildew shows
signs of spreading, repeat the spray whe
petals have fallen.

Removing branch from Mulberry

(H. C. L.)—This may be done immed
the leaves have fallen, and if cut off w
saw it will be advisable to trim the w
off carefully with a sharp knife, as the
leaves a rough surface. Paint the wound
with Stockholm tar afterwards.

Diseased Nectarines

(James Dean).—The Nectarines
affected with Brown Rot. The fruits s
be removed from the tree and used for
ary purposes or destroyed, but on no ac
should you leave them in the house.
probable that the variety would do bet
you could give it rather warmer treat
especially in the earlier stages of growt
this is impossible, crop the tree lightly
few seasons. From the smallness o
fruits, we judge that the tree carrie
many fruits. Give the tree a dressing o
phate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. pe
yard early next spring.

GREENHOUSE

Primula and Cyclamen Maggot

(G. J. W.).—The specimens you sen
the larvæ of a weevil, probably that o
Black Vine Weevil. The adults appe
spring and feed upon the foliage of va

house plants. Eggs are laid upon the of many plants, but Primula, Cyclamen, Ferns are especially favoured. When the gots appear they feed upon the roots of lants until the following spring. We do know of any insecticide that can be ed to pot plants which would control the Trapping the adults in spring seems the most successful control. Pieces of acking laid about in the houses form traps because the weevils feed by night shelter by day. At this period most of dults have disappeared, but you should a sharp look-out for the pest in May June when egg laying takes place. Ex- ation of the plants at night with a light generally reveal the culprits. The only ment when the pest is in the maggot is to repot the batch of plants, after ng out the soil from the roots. This ment is, of course, not always practical. are always laid in the soil, and the gots do not crawl up through the drainhole.

gonium trouble

hn H. Butter).—The foliage of your gonium (Geranium) has been damaged creature, probably Begonia Mite. Care- arch of the specimen failed to show any of the culprits, but they would be likely ive the plant during the period in the If only one plant is affected it would st to destroy it, but if the trouble shows sign of spreading, you should apply ur by means of a Campbell's Sulphur riser. Any check to the growth of the renders them more liable to serious

nknown plant

have Tropæolum speciosum (Flame r). There is a plant similar to above, silvery variegated leaf. I used to grow he greenhouse, but I forget the name of ould you give me the name and where lain? JUNO.

know of no plant answering to the description you give. Tropæolum poly- lm has silvery grey glaucous foliage, ot variegated, also, its flowers are . T. tuberosum has greyish foliage and nd yellow flowers. You would most ly be able to obtain either of these from ice Elliott, Ltd., Six Hills Nursery, age.]

FLOWER GARDEN

lmen roots attacked

B.).—There is no cure or preventive for grub that destroys the roots of the Cycla- . It is the grub of the Vine Weevil, or closely allied species, and, as yet, no one scovered how to deal with it effectively, ouble being that the damage is done r the presence of the pest is apparent.

ese Sacred Lilies”

ing noticed in a shop window some abelled “Chinese Sacred Lilies” for shall be glad if you will please give the name of this Lily and directions for ivation. “BARTONIAN.”

Chinese Sacred Lily is an eastern of Narcissus Tazetta (N. Polyanthus), also known as the Joss Lily. Bulbs im- from Northern China can be had in six weeks from planting. Half fill a vith shingle, adding sufficient water cover this. Place bulbs on the shingle rround with pebbles. Keep receptacle lark until growth begins, then transfer light It is advisable to change the weekly, and the same should be tepid. e pebbles can be purchased from most erchants, one quarter being sufficient e bulbs.]

Diseased Galtonia

(H. W. Daltry).—We have examined your specimen Galtonias and can find no trace of a fungus; the bulb and disc are perfectly sound. The foliage and flower spike have failed because the roots have gone. Insect attack on the roots of the plants seems to be the sole cause of the trouble. Exactly what the culprit was we cannot say, because we have no evidence beyond the destroyed root. Millepedes may have caused the trouble. A good soil insecticide applied now would drive away the pest, and should do no harm to the plants at this stage of their growth. If there is any sign of the trouble extending, try and find out actually what is eating the roots.

Naming the Pansy

(W. Deacon).—The Pansy, being raised from seed, has really no name, this plant rarely coming true when so raised. You can, therefore, name it yourself, if so disposed! The Chrysanthemum flower was much damaged, so it is difficult for us to say just what it is, but it might be Mary A. Houston.

Rock plants for southern aspect

(Yokel).—Zauchneria californica, Thymus serphyllum coccinea, Onosma Taurica, Linum salsoloides, Lithospermum prostratum, Heavenly Blue, Linaria pallida, Helichryssum bellidioides, Campanula carpatica pallida, C. Warleyensis, Æthionema grandiflora, Aubrietia Lavender, Eriogonum umbellatum, Aquilegia glandulosa, Arenaria montana grandiflora, Veronica Bidwelli.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

August-flowering Chrysanthemums

(Regular Reader).—The Chrysanthemum bloom sent is Lichfield Purple. Some good August flowering Chrysanthemums are:—Maggie, Lizzie McNeil, Pluie d'Argent, Charles Blair, Elstob Yellow, Walter Day, Afterglow, Cranford, Crimson Circle, Diana, Mary A. Houston, Mrs. A. W. Thorpe, Mrs. Phil Page, Phœnix, Ronnie, Saracen, Shirley Bronze.

Chrysanthemum Fungus

(Interested Gardener).—Your plants are attacked by what is known as Chrysanthemum Fungus. It is not at all easily dealt with. You should, however, pick off all the badly affected leaves and burn them. The plants could then be sprayed with sulphide of potassium (half an ounce to a gallon of water), which should check it spreading. Caprice du Printemps is a bush variety; Berta is a Japanese variety, best grown as a bush; Godfrey's Eclipse is an Incurved, and Peace is a large Japanese. We do not know H. B. Marsham.

ROSE GARDEN

Diseased Rose

(M. Neilson).—Your Rose is affected with a Crown Canker, which seems to be identical with that present in the specimens received from “Rose,” mentioned on page 669 of our issue for September 28th. The whole of the tissue around the point of union between stock and scion is dead, and it appears rather hopeless to expect them ever to recover. Probably your best plan would be to clear them out and start afresh. Incubation of the material has failed to produce parasitic fungi, and it does seem probable that something has happened, other than disease, especially as the plants seemed to have made good growth earlier in the year. Has the bed been dressed with anything?

Rose Caterpillar

(Brutus).—The specimen Rose leaves have been attacked by the caterpillars of one of the Rose Sawflies. It is now too late to do much in the way of control, but you should spray another year so soon as you can detect the culprits, using a good insecticide containing nicotine, or one of the non-poisonous washes. Both types are frequently advertised within our pages. All prunings should be burnt, because the winter period of the Sawfly, we think, is passed in the pith of the Rose wood, towards the tip of the shoots.

Transplanting dwarf Roses after one year

(L. Knox).—Such Roses are rarely seen at their best the first year after planting, and unless you have a special reason for transplanting them to a fresh position, we advise you to leave them where they are, always providing that they are doing well. No ill effects should result from transplanting, except that growth will not be so strong next season. If they are not doing well in their present position, then transplant them by all means to deeply trenched and enriched soil. In such a case, transplanting would prove most beneficial.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Name of tree

(J. Shipley).—The fruit you send is that of the Whitebeam (Sorbus aria), a very handsome native, both in flower and in fruit. The Service Tree (Pyrus Sorbus) has pinnate leaves, composed of 13 to 21 leaflets.

Preserving Beech leaves

Could you tell me how long Beech leaves which have been picked when turning colour should be kept in a mixture of one-half water and one-half glycerine to absorb the same before being taken out? After once having absorbed the mixture after the necessary time, can they be put in vases without any water or mixture? E. E. R.

[The most that is needed is a 12 p.ct. solution, or, say, one part glycerine to seven parts water. Soaked only, they should remain in a fortnight or more. The trade method is usually to boil them in the solution, or bring up to nearly the boil and leave so for two or three hours. They can then be quickly rinsed in clean, cold water as rapidly as possible, merely to remove surface stickiness, without weakening what has been taken up by the fabric. They are then dried off in air for an hour or two. On no account put water or anything else into the vases. The treatment is to preserve the leaves or sprays in a supple condition, akin to fresh cut, but remaining supple without being in water.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Hop manure for Roses and Potatoes

(Yokel).—Yes, this is quite a good manure for both, and may be used generously for digging into the soil; it is also beneficial to most crops, and for all classes of trees and shrubs.

A bare lawn

My tennis lawn is crowded with Dandelions and Daisies and is very bare in places. The trouble is due, perhaps, to the abnormal summer weather we have had this year, and I shall be glad to have your advice as to the best and least expensive way of treating the lawn so that it will be ready for play next spring. Would you recommend weeding and seeding, or the laying of new turf? J. W. BOWMAN.

[When a lawn gets into the state described by you it is almost hopeless to try and get it back into condition by weeding. You could expend quite a large sum in labour trying to get out the noxious weeds named and in a couple of years it would be almost as bad as ever. The same sum spent on renewing the lawn would go a good way towards paying for this, and if properly carried out would be permanently satisfactory. The work, however, would have to be carefully done and the new turf of good quality and quite free from weeds. Some of the expense might be avoided if the work could be carried out now and fine lawn grass seed sown. If properly done it should be playable next summer.]

Marestail

(Mrs. E. Fairholme).—This is a troublesome weed to deal with, and only by constantly persecuting it can it be got rid of. During autumn all underground roots and stems should be dug up and burned, while next season as soon as growth appears every point should be pulled up or else cut with a hoe under the surface. Repeat this whenever a point shows, and in time the cure will be complete.

Weed killer

I have been told that the following is excellent for killing weeds on pathways. Please tell me if it would be dangerous for my dogs or for birds? Water pathways with 1 in 100 of carbolic acid, and next day water with powdered sulphate of copper or else sprinkle it over the pathways at the rate of 1 lb. to 100 square feet of surface. G. B. M.

[We do not think that dogs or birds would be likely to pick up either of the above ingredients, but, of course, both are poisonous. We have no experience of the treatment, but should you use it we should be glad to hear your opinion as to the result. If you do not care to risk it, why not use a non-poisonous weed killer? There are several on the market, and details are to be found in our advertisement columns from time to time. Powdered kainit will kill weeds with broad foliage, but has no effect on grass-like foliage.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

Percy Leonard.—Your plant is Centaurea aurea, and we can only suggest that seed of it was accidentally introduced with the Night-scented Stock. It is a native of Southern Europe, hardy, and has been occasionally cultivated in English gardens since 1758. It flowers best in a hot, dry summer like the present one.

H. E. Arthur, Near Dorking.—Your plant is Cannabis sativa (the common Hemp), and probably introduced with Bird-seed. It is only annual, and may even reach 20 feet in suitable soil and a long, warm summer. The plant is distinctly ornamental, but the greenish flowers have no beauty. It belongs to the Nettle family and provides the Hemp-fibre of commerce. It is occasionally grown in gardens for its sub-tropical effect.

K. G.—1, Pyrethrum (Chrysanthemum) uliginosum; 2, Aster multiflorus; 3, A. puniceus pulcherrimus; 4, A. Novæ Belgiæ Marguerite; 5, A. Novæ Belgiæ densus; 6, A. Novæ Angliæ Precocité; 7, Saponaria officinalis fl.-pl.; 8, Helenium autumnale grandiflorum; 9, H. a. cupreum; 10, Senecio tanghuticus; 11, 12, and 13 are colour forms of Montbretia crocosmiflora, impossible to name from the wilted specimens.

R. B., Norfolk.—Fuchsia macrostema var. gracilis.

Bethune.—Polygonum amplexicaule.

A. T. F., York.—6, Euonymus japonicus argenteo-variegatus; 7, Picea alba (White Spruce).

Inquirer.—Helenium Riverton Beauty.

J. A. Jones.—Hippophæ rhamnoides (Sea Buckthorn).

G.—8, Arabis aubretioides; 9, Helenium Riverton Gem; 10, Solidago nigaurea nana; 11, Veronica spicata alba; 12, Aster Novæ Angliæ Wm. Bowman; 13, Hele pumilum; 14, Heliopsis scabra.

NAMES OF FRUITS

W. G. W.—A, B, and C, Cellini Phillips' Seedling.

A. A. G.—Apple Lady's Finger.

F. E. S.—Ananas (Anis) Reinette.

Regular Reader, York.—Pears: Williams' Bon Chrétien; 2, Marg Marrilat; 3, Louise Bonne of Jerse Bishop's Thumb; 5, Easter Beurré.

F. R., Bexley Heath.—1, Gasc Scarlet; 2, Duchess of Oldenburg; 3, Derby.

W. C., Salop.—1, Pear Beurré Har rotten; 3 and 4, not recognised, poor mens.

X. Y.—The Apple with russet dots o yellow ground is King Harry.

E. W. D.—Pears: 1, Pitmaston Du 2, Louise Bonne of Jersey; 3, not recog 4, General Todleben.

R. E. B., Bovey Tracy.—1, Reine Caux (Dutch Codlin); 2, Minchall C good old variety of the Bramley typ Mannington's Pearmain (fine specime Reinette du Canada.

A proposed Rock Garden Society

A meeting will be held in the Fruit mittee Room on the second floor—reach both lifts—of the New Hall of the Horticultural Society on Wednesday, O 23rd, at 4 p.m. to discuss the desirabil forming a Rock Garden Society; eve interested in the subject is invited to a

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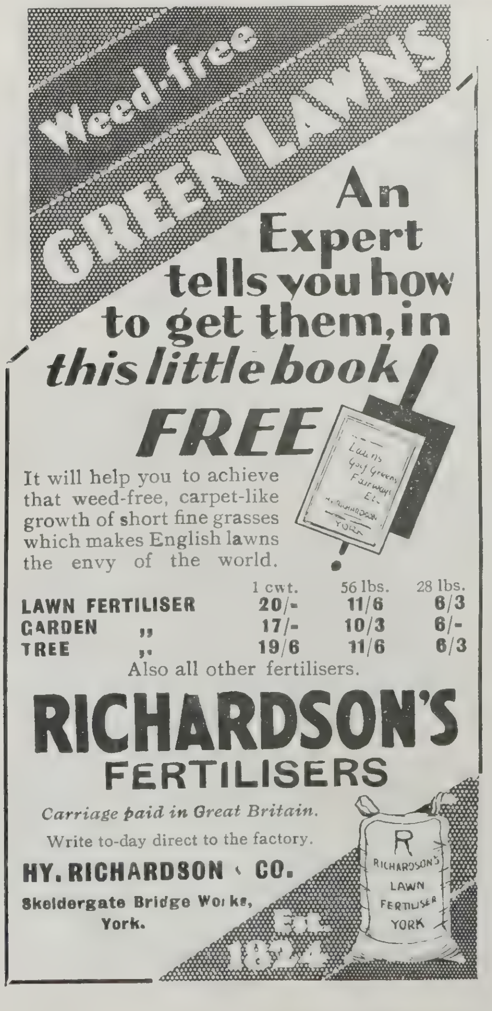

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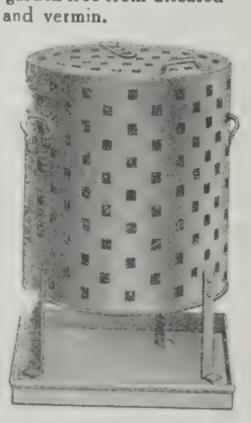

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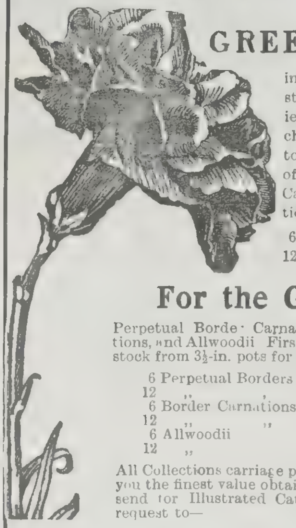

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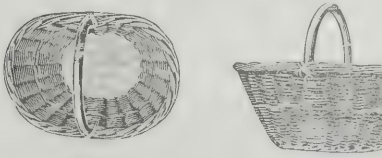

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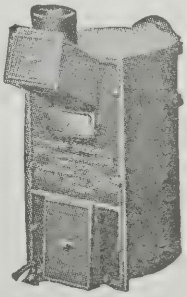

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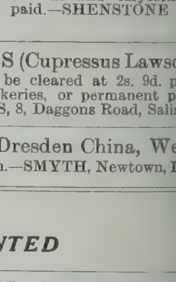

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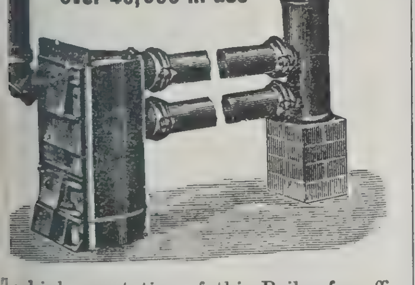

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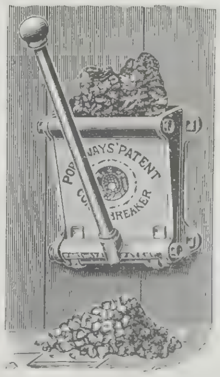

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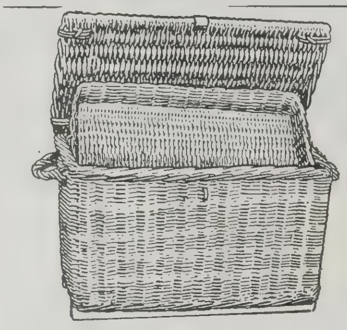

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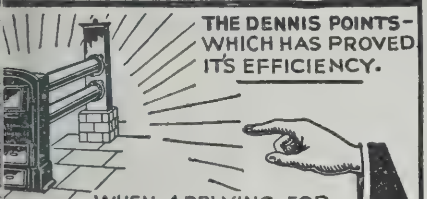
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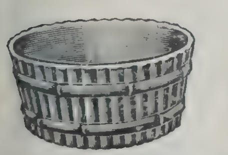

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The Roses of 1929

HE summer and autumn of the present year have brought out some remarkable points in many Roses little known, as as emphasising points in others which already suspected.

I am not sure whether Mr. Pemberton ne died knew what a fine variety his ice was going to make, but, like Ruth, past summer has proved Bernice to be riety of sterling worth, a strong, free ning Rose, good to look at, and good nell. A shade of w, flushed with a grower good ny garden.

next discovery 1929 is Julien n. I knew this e a good Rose e the present nner, but never ased that this addition to the gt yellows was g to eclipse them for this is what n Potin is going c. It is not fault- s no Rose is, but e all the other ws it has no ius fault so far as n discover. pared with the s of this colour, s much more gous than Mabel e or Florence d, larger and erect than tine, does not ack like Golden em, is sweet- ted like Golden n, and is a shape than all em. What are ults? Its single so far as I can s that its colour t always quite so deep as Mabel Morse. e past summer has been very active to out the apricot shades of Roses, thus deeper shadings of Mrs. Barraclough been very marked; indeed, many people have discovered this Rose during the season, for it has been better than ever. vira Aramayo, I Zingari, Cuba, and neth Jones have each been resplendent g the past summer, and many people orgive their weakness of shape or form, der to secure their wonderful colourings ermilion and orange or Indian reds. Chas. P. Kilham, although not quite so bright, is a better shape.

Despite all that is said in favour of scent, the majority of people probably still select Roses for their colour in preference to scent, or Briarcliffe would not have been overlooked as it has been. Briarcliffe may also be added to that small select list which last a week in a cut state, challenging the position even of Dame Edith Helen.

Duchess of Atholl, Comtesse de Castelleja, and Mrs. G. A. Van Rossem are all of the orange flame and vermilion shades so well found in the smaller but equally deliciously scented Angele Pernet. Lady Forteviot also belongs to this class and may surpass them all for exhibition.

For those who like the very full type of flower, Jules Gaujard, a new French variety, may be mentioned; its colour is brilliant carmine red, shading to reddish carmine, quite distinct to any other. On the other hand, those who think that Mme. Butterfly and Ophelia are the nearest to the ideal, will find Lady Sylvia and J. C. Mensing, which are deeper pink sports of these varieties, have been superior this summer, as the sun does not have the effect of making them washy. Indeed, it is likely if a poll could be taken of every type of Rose-grower, from amateur to professional cut flower growers, Lady Sylvia would be head of the list as the most ideal Rose. Under trial this summer, among all the deep cerise Roses, Lady Mary Elizabeth comes out as the best. This is still somewhat of a new variety, so many of the readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED will yet make her acquaintance, but for a combination of size, colour, shape, or flower and its habit of plant in its free blooming capacity, I believe this variety is first.

In giving an unbiased opinion of a Rose, I always remember that a woman's opinion is usually best, and for this reason must not forget that the single Dainty Bess won at the Rose Show for table decoration. Personally, I think Isobel a more lovely single, but the pair of them have done well this summer.

Man's choice in preference to all the above would likely fall upon a dark Rose, and the past summer has been one of demonstration that we have some wonderful crimsons. Souvenir de Alex. Bernaix seems to have revelled in the drought and sun; so, too, have Lord Charlemont, Bedford Crimson, Chateau de Clos Vougeout, and Hadley.

This being not a review of new Roses, one must not forget that the past summer has proved that some of our old favourites are best still. I heard someone say last year that old Mme. Abel Chatenay seemed to be deteriorating; if that were so, she must have taken a fresh lease of life this summer, and has never been better. Mrs. Henry Morse and Rose Marie have been consistent through-

Approach to The Warren, Hindhead, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kirby

These buildings, formerly stables, have been cleverly converted by their owners into a cosy cottage. The gable ends are creeper-clad, while arches of Roses and screens of Roses are used to good effect to the left and right of the buildings out the summer as the two best bright pinks. Readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED who made the acquaintance of Rose Marie through this paper should remember it when its beauty is enjoyed in the garden, for it is seldom, if ever, seen at the shows, and must be grown to be appreciated.

It is likely that many may be forming a Rose garden this autumn and have made their own notes, but those who have not may rely on every one mentioned as best in its colour. No well-planned garden will omit its climbing Roses, and these form such a large class that they must be dealt with on a separate occasion. A. SWALLOW.

Grease-banding fruit trees

The operation of applying grease bands was recently alluded to in our query columns, but we would like to remind our readers that the materials required for this work should be ordered forthwith. The work can be carried out towards the end of October, and should certainly not be delayed beyond early November. Grease-proof paper should be tied firmly on the tree in such a position that the female moths cannot crawl under. When cutting the paper to fit around the tree, allow enough to give a good overlap, otherwise when the sticky material is applied, the paper pulls apart at the joint.

Another trouble is that if the "grease" is applied cold it is difficult to apply evenly. This can be got over by standing the tin containing the material in a bucket of boiling water, keeping the water hot long enough to thin down the material, which can then be applied easily with a paint brush. Used this way, far better results can be obtained, and the "grease" goes much further.

If the fruit trees are staked, the stakes should be banded as well as the trees. When trees have only very short legs, the soil can be pulled away from the collars and bedded round with straw, which prevents contamination by soil. We find that, as a rule, Winter Moths emerge rather earlier in the season from cultivated land than from grass, and, this being so, the work of banding should commence on the cultivated land and finish up with the orchard trees.

The use of grease bands is solely for the control of Winter Moth. The females of this group, being wingless, crawl up the stems to deposit their eggs around the s Grease bands have not the slightest c over Sawfly, Codlin Moth, or Tortrix b such creatures are fully winged and i case do not appear during the winter, t their eggs after the grease bands a moved.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

The National Carnation and Picotee Society

I REGRET very much that Mr. A. E. Amos in his second note in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED on October 5th, 1929, does not adhere strictly to the truth; perhaps he has been wrongly informed. As he only became a member of the Southern section in 1924 he can hardly be expected to have much knowledge of his Society's affairs, in spite of his 23 years' horticultural experience.

In the Annual Report and Year Book of the Southern Section Mr. Amos will find in 1924 and 1925, the Northern Section was referred to in the subscription list and as an Affiliated Society. In 1926 we find National Carnation Society (Northern Section) in the list of Affiliated Societies, and in Subscribers' List, Northern Society, evidently the thin end of the wedge. In 1927 we find both are Northern Carnation Society. I am afraid we are not used to these methods.

Our Society was named National (Northern Section) on the suggestion of a member of the Southern Committee, and was proposed at our first meeting by a member of the Southern Section, but letter headings have always borne our name as National Carnation and Picotee Society, Northern Section.

Mr. J. L. Gibson refers to us as Northern Section in his book, and Messrs. Lowe and Gibson in their catalogue of 1925 refer Society and exhibition as Northern Secti

Our affiliation fee was paid at the r of the Southern Section, and our was to help that Society, not for any we received, as the certificate we are *sup* to receive can be purchased at half-gr more for the fee paid; I say supposed, be for 1928 and 1929 no certificate has received by the winners.

The most laughable part of this spondence is that a week or so ago, in for our affiliation fee, I received the receipt form, printed National Carnatio Picotee Society (Southern Section).

The objects of our Society are to enco the cultivation of the Carnation, parti the Border Carnation, and to promote will and horticulture generally. We d desire a big bank balance, no honora are paid to anyone, and all funds are de to the benefit of our members.

Our name is, National Carnation Picotee Society, Northern Section. address, 11, Longley Avenue, Sheffield.

WILFRED SECKER,
Hon. Secreta

Pileostegia viburnoides, an effective autumn-flowering shrub
Flowers and buds white, borne on cream-coloured stems; leaves like those of Skimmia. Shown on October 2nd by Gerald W. E. Loder, Wakehurst Place, Ardingly, Sussex

Rose Fortune's Yellow at Hartley

I see in your issue of October 12th, 696, "J. C." in his article on some goo Roses, mentions Fortune's Yellow Ro having been grown by a friend of his lived in Hartley Row, Hants. I think friend must have been my father, Walkinshaw, who lived at Hartley Gr That particular Rose tree must have quite forty years old when I had to take i owing to decay and other blemishes set in in its old age. I think I am rig saying that it was grown from some which were given to my father by Fortune, as they were well acquainted i good days in China. I remember one E many years ago, my mother decorating somewhat ugly pulpit in Hartley Row Ch with nothing but blooms of Fortune's Y Rose, and she was very proud of the fact there were 555 blooms, truly a wond sight. FRANK WALKINSHA

Street Farm House,
Bramley, Basingstoke.

Honeysuckle in fruit

In my garden a decapitated Fir tre covered by a magnificent tangle of Ho suckle. For the many weeks during w this is in bloom, it is a joy to the eye, the scent, especially in the evening delicious.

In past years, as soon as the blossom over, the clump was a favourite haun bullfinches, which feasted on the ne formed berries.

Whole families, father, mother, young ones, spent most of their time th They were charmingly tame, and one c watch them whilst standing only a few away.

I congratulated myself that though I joyed the company of the bullfinches in ner, they seldom visited the garden in er and spring, and they did little or no ge.

st spring things were changed. Bull- es seemed to be unusually numerous, they worked havoc in garden and ard. In spite of being covered with thread, my Gooseberries suffered badly. branches had every bud taken and had cut away. Heavy toll was taken also of n, Pear, Lilac, and Pyrus japonica. In a garden which adjoins my own, and in h much fruit is grown, war was declared e bud-eaters. The gardener shot every nch which appeared. They are an easy !

is summer I missed the little visitors to Honeysuckle. But what a change is !

e whole clump is covered with heavy hes of crimson fruits. Never have I seen neysuckle so laden. Decked out thus, one of the most showy fruiting plants ble. All the same, I would willingly o the autumn display for the sake of irds, though I won't deny that the bull- is an enemy to the fruit grower.

B. C. T.

Cyananthus lobatus

as interested in Mr. Arnold's note (issue er 12th, page 688) on the above plant. visiting the Rock Garden at Kew in iddle of last month, there was in flower l-grown plant of C. Delavayi in one of at beds, and I also noticed C. lobatus in , but the latter was of a pale violet , fading almost to white, and this in no allies with the description given to it as an blue. Despite its smaller flowers, elavayi appeared a very much more g plant. During the summer I chanced Mr. Puddle from Bodnant in a train a niles from Tal-y-Cafn on his way to n, and he unpacked for me a parcel ning a very well flowered plant of C. ri which he was taking up to one of rtnightly shows of the R.H.S. The ption given by Mr. Arnold much more approaches C. Farreri than the only of C. lobatus I have seen, none of lants having yet flowered. Seed of nthus Farreri was, I believe, one of the iscoveries rescued and sent home from 's last trip to Burma, which ended so ally in his death, and is a plant which sought after and treasured as soon as omes available to Rock gardeners, not ecause of its associations, but on ac- of its time of blooming and unquestion- eauty.

F. H. FISHER.

ster.

Sweet Peas in autumn

W. E. Wright's interesting article on Peas in the autumn (October 5th) con- a phrase which left me rather in . In writing of the varieties which are discarded, he states: "2LO, nothing in rison with Huntsman, a colour hardly ed." Perhaps Mr. Wright would like plain if Huntsman is to be grown as dly superior to 2LO. or whether both be dropped. The inquiry is prompted se, on my own growing, careful and nt comparison failed to reveal any great nce between the two varieties; colour, habit, and all-round unsatisfactory s classed them as identical, and the pair out of a matter of 30 varieties. will certainly make room for something next year, and the same remark applies ntsman, although I do not see quite eye with my namesake that the colour lesirable; merely a matter of personal of course. I learn from an authoritative source that the 1930 novelty, Allbright, is superior to the two varieties in question.

Darlington. A. E. WRIGHT.

The Cornelian Cherry

A well-fruited branch of Cornus Mas recently shown before the Royal Horticultural Society from the Botanic Gardens, Cambridge. An Award of Merit was given for the showy bright red fruits. Native of Europe, and cultivated for centuries in Britain

Eritrichium argenteum

Can you give me any suggestions for the raising of collected plants of Eritrichium argenteum? This is, I believe, a sub-race of E. nanum, of the Alps. L. B.

Cincinnati.

[We have no information of Eritrichium argenteum, and can find no mention of it in any available book of reference. If, as our correspondent suggests, it is a sub-species of E. nanum, collected plants will prove a hopeless proposition. It should be remembered, however, that the Eritrichium of the Alps is a lime-hater, and that some of the best results in a Continental lowland climate are achieved by growing this plant in a mixture of finely chopped Sphagnum Moss and very sharp sand or granitic chips. Shallow pans would be the best receptacles, and water must be applied most carefully during the resting period, and until the collected plants have begun to form new roots. At the best, we can only hope that collected plants will linger for a year or so and give a few pallid flowers only, instead of the marvellous deep sky blue one sees in the Alps.]

Strawberries: Old varieties *versus* new

The Strawberry thrives more markedly in some districts than it does in others, but from force of circumstances most of us have to endeavour to produce a crop. It is apparent to me that many of the more modern varieties are much less satisfactory—even in gardens in which Strawberries succeed—than the older varieties. They appear to lack stamina and to be deficient in vitality. Percentages of losses when young runners are put out are much too high, and blanks are, in spring, much too conspicuous. In addition, a great many of the newer Strawberries are liable to attacks of Leaf Blight and other diseases to which the older sorts were, if not entirely immune, at least much less susceptible. I am very strongly of opinion that the older stocks of, let me say, Sovereigns, Laxtons, Paxtons, Presidents, and such like will bear favourable comparison as "doers," as croppers, and as being more healthy and more easily managed—in the average garden and given average cultivation—with any of the new Strawberries.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Raising Dryas octopetala from seed

Would you be kind enough to give me some suggestions on the raising of Dryas octopetala from seed. I sowed seed I had collected last February; it germinated well and I had quite a stock of young plants. These remained quite small for a long time, so I transplanted them in another box and placed them in a cold frame. Nevertheless, they refused to grow, and eventually dried up. The soil I used was very limy (as Dryas invariably grows on limestone—p.h. 8+); I mixed in a large amount of fine dolomitic grit in the original soil and in the soil for transplanting.

Cincinnati. L. B.

[Your Dryas seedlings probably sulked because of the absence of humus, and found your dolomitic grit too sterile to support them in their infancy. There is no difficulty in raising Dryas from seeds, but the seedlings need plenty of plant-food to help them along, and only a modicum of limestone grit would have been ample for their needs.]

Apple Allington Pippin

Apples, in this district, are none too plentiful this year, so that I refer with gratitude to the useful crop borne by Allington Pippin. Opinions are sharply divided concerning the quality of this Apple, but, in my experience, it is a very good dessert variety and, from wall trees, not immeasurably inferior to Ribston Pippin or even to the overpraised Cox's Orange Pippin itself. When well ripened Allington is distinctly good, and it possesses the outstanding merit of being a consistent bearer, even in years when Apples bear indifferently—which is more than can be said concerning Cox's. Cordon trees are very profitable, and, on the Broad-leaved Paradise, Allington succeeds in a very marked manner. A good, reliable Apple.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Physalises

The bright pods of Physalises offered for sale in the late autumn are a reminder that the roots can be planted, and those who value these winter decorators for vases for the home should contrive to find space for some in the garden. Any light soil suits them, and they delight best when they can be planted on a sunny border. The past summer has been particularly suitable for them, and I have cut some well podded spikes from roots which were only planted last November. As the roots roam about a border, it is best to plant them in a bed to themselves as, like Mint, they are apt to become entangled with other plants in a border. It is a good plan to brick round a space where they can be kept to themselves, and then they do not interfere with other things.

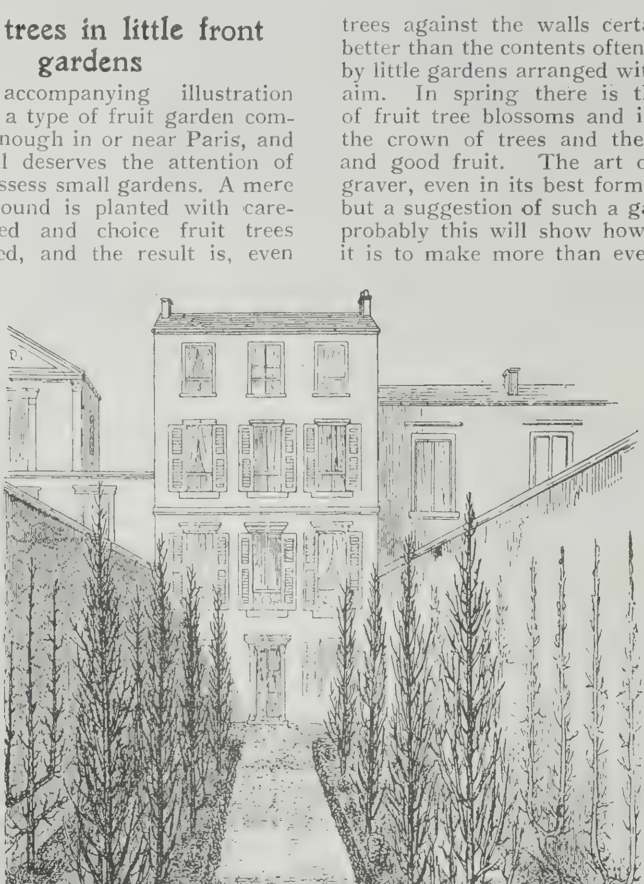
P. alkekengi (orange) and P. Franchetti (scarlet) are two of the best. Plants are quite hardy, and no winter affects them. Another way of getting a stock of plants together is by sowing seed in a cold frame in April, and from these plants one may have many that will bloom and fruit the following year, but to purchase roots is the best where only a few are required. W. F.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Fruit trees in little front gardens

THE accompanying illustration shows a type of fruit garden common enough in or near Paris, and which well deserves the attention of all who possess small gardens. A mere spot of ground is planted with carefully-selected and choice fruit trees well trained, and the result is, even from an ornamental point of view, better than it often is where subjects are planted that have beauty only to recommend them. Our view is from a sketch taken in winter of a small garden facing the street leading from Vincennes to Montreuil. Beneath the trees Pansies, Pinks, and other hardy flowers grow; the presence of the trees does not prevent the little garden being made gay with flowers. In winter the graceful pyramidal Pear trees and well and simply-formed Peach and Plum trees against the walls certainly look better than the contents often presented by little gardens arranged with another aim. In spring there is the beauty of fruit tree blossoms and in autumn the crown of trees and the beautiful and good fruit. The art of the engraver, even in its best form, can give but a suggestion of such a garden, but probably this will show how desirable it is to make more than ever full use of our opportunities of planting fruit trees in small gardens. The market distribution of the good things produced by our fruit-growers is so very imperfect that it behoves the owner of even the smallest garden to secure as far as possible his own supply. We may even say that much of the monotonous entanglement now known as shrubbery might well be exchanged in small gardens for well-grown and well-chosen fruit trees.—*December 13th, 1879.*



Nanny Apple

A few weeks ago someone wrote about the Nanny Apple, stating that he had not seen nor tasted that variety for 60 years. I have a very old tree in the garden whic year has borne some very fine-coloured If it will give the person in questio pleasure to see and taste his old vari will send him some if he will let me ha name and address. E. W. Box

The Old House Gardens,
Mickleham, Dorking.

The time to transplant

A question frequently asked is, "W the time to transplant evergreens?" T I would say autumn whenever it is pos When planting is impossible at that se then postpone it until late spring, avoidi winter and February and March. An green should be disturbed whilst the are active, and by doing this in Octob shrub can establish itself before wi hence the object of waiting until spring, autumn has been missed, as root growt again started.

Evergreens differ from deciduous s with regard to time of pruning. Most d ous things can be pruned safely whil buds are dormant, but evergreens of all must be pruned just as growth has s again, with the exception of flowering greens, such as Rhododendron and Ber which should be done as soon as the flow season is past. H. Park

Wroxham.

Orchid-flowered Dahlias

The new Orchid-flowered Dahlias hibited at Southport, Edinburgh, and H gate by Messrs. Dobbie and Co. origi in France just after the war. As the F exhibited them with a mass of foliag very few flowers nobody wanted Dobbie and Co., however, acquired stock, and, by hybridisation and sele greatly increased the number of variet the type.

Originating from a single Dahlia strap-shaped petals which doubled over, character has been maintained with n ous variations. Thus, in and aroun centre, they are open, closed along the l and open again at the tip. This char istic has been developed to the present fection. They need no special culture easy to grow, and supply an abundan blooms for decorative effects. C. A.

Gentiana asclepiadea

This tall and beautiful Gentian Southern and Eastern Europe has long cultivated in English gardens. It g nearly 2 feet high, with erect stems, furnished with shining dark green fol Its large, bright, purple-blue flowers are duced on a third of their length, the ter ones crowded, and the axillary ones, us in pairs, nearly sessile. The corolla is lar and angled, the divisions deeply cut reflexed. The leaves are 2 inches long, lance-shaped, and stem-clasping. It showy plant, of the greatest value for bo and cutting purposes. Owing to the stems being rather brittle and top-hea is advisable to grow the plants in a shel position in order to prevent damage strong winds.

This Gentian is of comparatively culture, delighting in a good, strong loam moist situation. When doing well, it sh be allowed to grow into large plants, and disturbed at too frequent intervals. Alth it is one of the quickest growing speci the genus, it is not advisable to trans too often. When, however, it is desir propagate for the purpose of increase, roots should be carefully lifted and di in the early spring, just as growth mences. J.

Fig Cultivation

N the rich soils of Worthing practically no manure is given (except as a mulch o conserve the moisture), but the ground enerally limed at intervals of two or three rs. Much water is needed, but it must regulated with knowledge; the roots uld not be allowed to become dry during ter, but the main waterings should be de during the growing periods. The sup- s must be regulated with especial care ing the ripening period, or the fruit is le to crack.

s much light as possible is essential, and, he foliage becomes overcrowded, a certain ount of summer pruning may be done. It etter, when adopting the " fan " method, grow the trees in a house with glass sides, with only a very low brick wall. A glar- light is detrimental and the houses should shaded.

igs will stand a considerable amount of t, and may easily be forced; if this is e, as is generally the case at Worthing, ee crops can be obtained every year. The se is started about the beginning of De- iber and kept at a temperature of about legs. Fahr. The first crop is produced on shoots of the past year's growth; and its cess depends on the condition of this wth. It should not be soft, green, or nature, but should be well hardened. If ditions are favourable, picking may com- nce at the end of March, and these first s fetch the best prices in the market. The ond crop is produced on the current year's wth, ripens in May and June, and pro- es the largest quantity of fruit, although quality is less satisfactory. The third crop ich is sometimes removed to husband the ngth of the tree) ripens in July, and ally produces abundant small fruits which h very little in the market.

igs are grown in the open at Worthing bushes, planted from 15 feet to 18 feet rt in ground which has previously been ply cultivated and limed. The ground is t well cultivated and free from weeds, not liberally supplied with chemicals, for rich a soil is not recommended. In some ntations no manure is applied; in others wers apply horse manure every year, ecially when much dead wood has had to cut out and new growth is required. le pruning is attempted, but dead wood superfluous branches are removed.

he trees give two crops of Figs a year, as a rule only the first crop is taken. s crop is produced on wood of the pre- ing year's growth on short-jointed, well- ned shoots. The fruit sets in the spring ripens in August or September. The ond crop sets about August; the fruits w to a small size, but seldom ripen.

ARIETIES.—The varieties of Figs are ex- lingly numerous in the countries where are extensively cultivated. Many of n, however, have not been tried in this ntry, and, as far as commercial Fig-grow- is concerned, the chief variety grown is wn Turkey, with White Marseilles as an sional alternative.

rown Turkey (Brown Naples, etc.).— fruit is large, short and Pear-shaped, a grooved surface; in colour it is brown sometimes a faint purplish tinge on the ny side; the flesh is tinged with red at centre and is rich and sugary. The fruit ns early; the tree is an abundant bearer one of the hardiest. While it forces well, s also probably the best for outdoor ivation.

hite Marseilles (White Standard, etc.).— it is large, roundish, and slightly ribbed; green in colour, becoming yellowish-white when mature; the flesh is succulent, sweet, and rich. The tree ripens well against a wall and forces well.

PICKING AND MARKETING.—The fruits are picked when nearly ripe and packed in trays holding one dozen fruits or in boxes holding four dozen. Extra special fruits are sent to market in shallow wicker " handles " containing four, laid on pink tissue paper on a bedding of wood wool. The first arrivals realise fairly high prices, but this falls as the season advances, and the final consignments realise but a small figure.

Apple James Grieve

This handsome Apple is, without doubt, amongst the finest dessert varieties ever raised. According to some authorities it stands ahead of other varieties for the Midlands and North of England. The tree is hardy, a good grower, and a reliable and consistent cropper. For small gardens, grown in bush or pyramid form, it is certainly one of the best in its season (September and October). The fruit, which is slightly above the average in size and broadly conical in shape, is very beautiful when ripe, the ground colour being lemon-yellow suffused red on the sunny side. The flesh is firm, but not hard, juicy, and possesses a pleasant aroma, to which is added an excellent flavour. From every point of view this Apple can be recommended with confidence. It is a variety equally well suited for both private and market growers. J. L.

Roping Onions

This is congenial work for wet days, and Onions carefully roped and suspended in lines take up far less room and keep a good deal better in an airy shed than when stored in boxes or left lying about on dirty floors, as the air can penetrate to all parts of the bulbs. Onions are a very fine crop this year, and apart from room and cleanliness, a nice rope of them is not without interest when the work is nicely done.

Violets in frames

One sometimes meets with friends whose experience of growing Violets in frames for winter blooming has not been of the happiest, and who, after failure, have given it up as a bad job. They start well in April with healthy runners, and these are planted out in open quarters in good soil, and all goes well until they come to be removed to cold frames in autumn. Then trouble begins. Usually the frame in which they are placed is in a south aspect, because it serves the purpose of quartering other plants at certain periods of the year, for which warmth is beneficial. In the case of Violets, however, no such sheltering position is needed; indeed, it is rather harmful than otherwise, because in autumn, after clumps have been removed to the frame, they are exposed to the sun in October unless steps are taken to shade the lights. If frames are quartered on a north or north-west position, the plants are able to get helpful shade for part of the day, when the lights may be removed and only put on at nights, and then so raised that air can be admitted, both top and bottom. The administering of water to frame Violets is best done early in the day so that superfluous moisture can escape before it is necessary to replace the sashes. This is an important detail which beginners with Violet-growing in frames sometimes overlook, yet if neglected it results in foliage damping-off and mildew following, affecting both leaves and buds. In a mild autumn it may be that the removal of the clumps from open ground to frame is deferred, but by this date the safest course to pursue is to get them under the lights, lifting each clump with what soil is possible, planting firmly, giving water to settle them, and shading from any bright sun for a time until plants have got somewhat established. When finished, the leaves ought to be clear of the glass—9 inches as a minimum—then less damping-off will result. Should mildew appear, dust with flower of sulphur, remove all decaying leaves, and stir the soil from time to time, admitting all the air possible.

MIDLANDER.

A well placed Fig tree over an archway facing south

THE THIRD AUTUMN SHOW

Fruits and Vegetables in the New and Old Halls, October 8th and 9th

A random commentary

THE mere flower-gardener is apt to pass by the fruit and vegetable shows with a certain scornful wonder, an attitude that may sometimes conceal a secret envy of unattainable perfection; for anyone may, with good luck, occasionally grow flowers fit for the show bench, but no amount of good luck suffices to produce the perfection of a "well finished" bunch of Grapes, or the unblemished symmetry of a batch of show vegetables. Yet it is a salutary thing for any gardener to go and see what can be achieved by really skilful cultivation, even though the result may seem uncomfortably and almost tediously perfect.

The Old Hall on Wednesday and Thursday was given over to vegetables, and something of the old tradition lingered on there in the classical exhibits of those gigantic Leeks, Carrots, and Parsnips, which look more like the stage property of a low comedian than edible vegetables. But, on the whole, mere size seems to be dropping out as a criterion of excellence, and a more sensible, practical standard is governing the selection of show vegetables; and there were very few exhibits that made one wish (as one is often tempted to wish at country shows) that the prize-winners should be compelled to eat their exhibits.

The trade exhibits, especially those of Sutton's, Dobbie's, and Barr's, showed us not only how the ordinary vegetables should be grown, but reminded us that there are several, such as Kohl-rabi, Salsify, and Scorzonera, which might be grown more often, especially by those who would like something a little outside the quite ordinary without adventuring beyond the well-tried.

Messrs. Dobbie showed their vegetables in seed, as a hint, perhaps, that vegetable seeds do not grow in sixpenny packets; for, I suppose, few of us give much thought to the time, labour, and care that comes bet
Nature's tousled capsules and the da
envelopes of the seedsman. It was intere
to notice at this exhibit how closely the s
of Celery seed resembles that of pigs;
comparison is not in any way derogato
Celery, but rather a plea of extenuation
the pig, whose aroma is really not pec
to him, since it occurs not only in Celery,
also in the border Phloxes, when few pe
seem to find it unpleasant.

The New Hall was luscious with f
and beautiful as well; some of the Ap
such as S. T. Wright, Guelph,
Benn's Red, were as gay as flowers,
reminded one what a fine decorative
a standard Apple may be and how well su
it is for the company of the mixed bor
especially in small gardens, where space n
be economised.

I was sorry that Messrs. Bunyard did
show their fruit in the black, cubist set
which was so effective at Chelsea; for t
collection always has an individual qua
and last week contained some historic
Apples, which seemed to hide behind t
more imposing successors in the compara
banality of varnished baskets.

There was only one dish of Medlars sh
in the Hall, and, although its uniqueness
be a just measure of the amount of inte
evoked by Medlars, it seems a pity that
fruit should be so little appreciated. M
people say that they dislike them, o
misjudging them to be rotten because t
are brown when they are ripe; yet there
few who fail to like Medlar fool, and
fewer who fail to appreciate Medlar jelly.

Among the new plants on the dais t
was a curious greenhouse climber, Phase
caracalla, from India (shown by M
Roper), which presumably has relatives
the vegetable garden, but looks a reg
hot-house exotic, with large waxy flower
ivory stained with violet, oddly twisted,
with conspicuous, curly buds. H

Sir William Lawrence's interesting exhibit of Cape Gooseberries in the New Hall

The variety Golden Nugget was shown in pots, the fruits of which are palatable when taken raw or coated with sugar. It is from this Physalis that the famous Cape liqueur Van der Hum is made. The plants were raised from seed sown under glass, and later planted out in rows like Dwarf Beans

Flavour in Apples at Greycoa Street

CLIMATIC conditions have much gre
effect on fruit than soil variation.
was most noticeable in Apples in gen
at the R.H.S. Fruit Show. There were
Cox's Orange with high colour. It was
a case of lack of sunshine, for they w
bathed in sunshine the whole season throu
Sun always enhances and brings out col
but this year the lack of water prevented
full benefit the sun usually gives. Ex
where watered, there was a lack of wei
generally associated with juiciness. Tak
the season into consideration, the Apples w
fine, but the proverbial juiciness of
English Apple was not there. They mi
have been American or Australian jud
from that factor alone. There is seldom
rain in those countries from the time
flowering till the fruit is gathered. Con
quently, they are not so juicy as Engl
Apples, and, moreover, they are hard. Ha
that is exactly what this year's apples we
Nearer to Australian and American App
than perhaps we have ever had them. Co
Orange has Cox's Orange flavour wh
ever grown. There are, however, vary
degrees of flavour in the same vari
of Apple. Flavour is chiefly dependent
sufficient phospate in the soil availa
throughout the growing season. Ot
factors are potash and iron, both of which
tensify flavour and colour. Physical text

APPLES AT THE R.H.S. FRUIT SHOW

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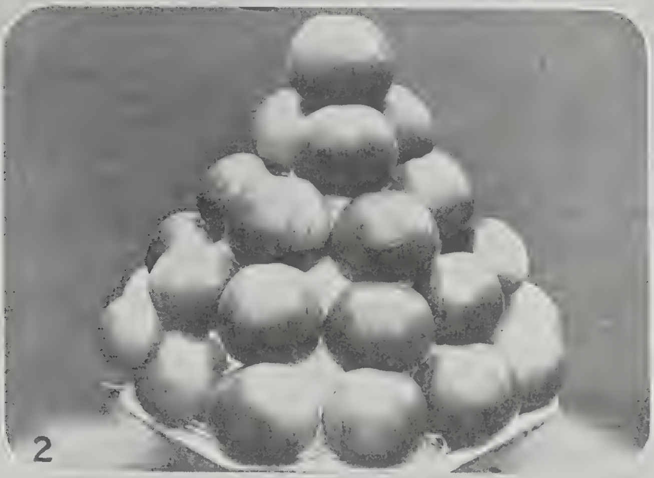
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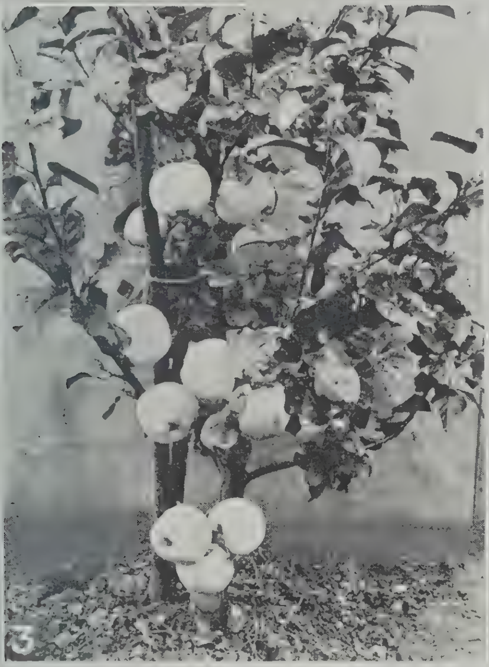
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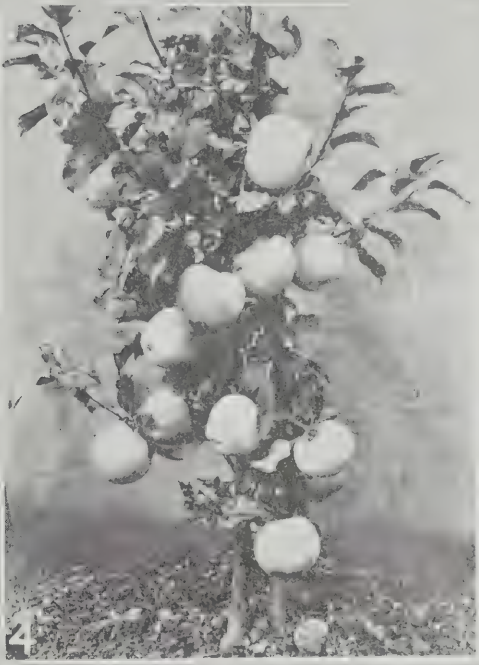
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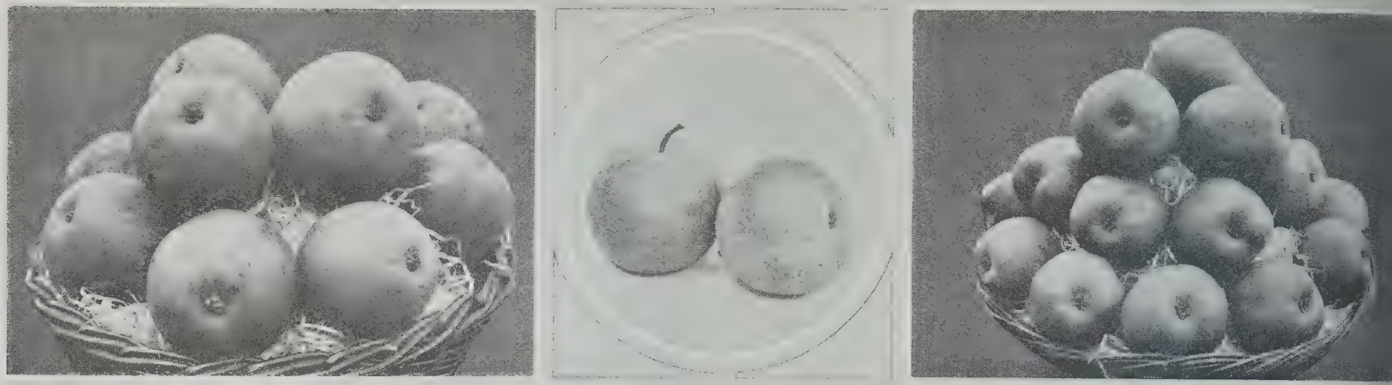
1 Egremont Russet, flesh crisp and of nutty flavour. One of the best drettiest of the Russets. October-November.

2 A fine basket of Annie Elizabeth, a first-rate culinary Apple that till June.

3 and 4. Four-year-old bushes of the Rev. W. Wilks, showing the fruitfulness of very young trees.

5. Basket of Warner's King, a useful market variety. The largest fruit was 5½ inches in diameter, and weighed 2 lbs.

6. Laxton's Superb, a dessert Apple that has come to stay.



THREE PEARS WELL REPRESENTED AT THE R.H.S. FRUIT SHOW

Beurré Alexander Lucas, a large Pear of good quality, in season from October to December. Flesh delicious and melting

Mrs. Sedon, a small dessert Pear with the flavour of Sickle Pear, in season in January. Parentage, Sickle x Bergamotte Esperen

Glou Morceau, a well-known variety of melt texture. This excellent Pear requires the she of a wall in cold districts

of soil will also affect flavour, but climate is the dominant factor. Flavour in the R.H.S. Show fruit on the whole was good, but it was not possible to taste more than a few. There was not that lasting quality. Good flavour, but it passed away too quickly over the palate. This is quite in accordance with the rainless, sunny season of 1929. Since a number of exhibitors come regularly every year it was interesting to compare their Apples and note the difference in this season from that of last. Upon tasting one Apple belonging to an exhibitor, finding the flavour excellent, with rich juiciness, and inquiring if he had watered his trees, "Yes," came the reply. "Only once, then a thorough soaking." And, of course, the surface soil was "picked up" and dried in order to conserve every ounce of water and make it available to the trees. When it was hazarded that he watered in August, "Yes, right," came the reply. The season supplied sufficient soil moisture to develop the fruit to perfection up to the last great drought, but not enough after to develop juiciness, flavour, and quality to their full capacity without that one thorough watering which he had supplied. His Apples were among the best flavoured of any in the Hall. Here is a selection for flavour for anyone contemplating renewals and additions:—St. Edmond's Russet, Egremont Russet, James Grieve, Ribston Pippin, Cox's Orange, Ellison's Orange, Golden Reinette, American Mother, Laxton's Superb, King's Acre Pippin, Reinette du Canada doré, Reinette du Canada Gris, and Orleans Reinette. These last three kinds have been known since 1896, but not till lately seen in England. C. A. J.

Vegetables at the Show

A remarkable feature of the Open Vegetable Classes was the success achieved by Messrs. Sutton and Sons' customers in winning no less than 32 First Prizes out of a possible 35, in addition to 27 Second Prizes and numerous Thirds.

Included in this list was the Silver Cup and First Prize in Class 201 for a table of vegetables 50 square feet, and the "Sutton" Cup and First Prize in Class 202 for twelve varieties of vegetables, both of which were won by Viscount Hambledon, of Greenlands, Henley (Head Gardener, Mr. W. Turnham). In both of these classes, as in that for nine varieties of vegetables, the first, second, and third prizes went to the produce of Sutton's Seeds, as well as the first prize for twelve and six varieties of Potatoes and for six dishes of Onions.

In addition, Messrs. Sutton and Sons were themselves awarded the Society's Gold Medal for the magnificent Collection of Vegetables, comprising no less than 175 dishes.

After Visiting the Show

A fragrant memory

SOME people do not like flower shows. They say they are out of date now. They add that a beautiful bloom is a wonderful thing in its natural setting of a well-ordered garden, but that the mass of heavy beauty and odour weighs down their spirit. I disagree with them. I have seen lovely flower shows in beautiful settings. They are things which seem to cleanse the whole mind. It is true that one cannot appreciate a single flower in a show as one can in a garden. It does not stand out as it does in its natural state. It is part of one glorious superfluity. But a flower show is like a Turkish bath to the senses. To wander over a beautiful countryside is like bathing in a fresh stream or in the sea. A walk in a luxurious garden or a hot-house is like a hot bath, calming and cleansing the senses with a feeling of perfect order and beauty. But a flower show does more than either of these. The overwhelming mass of beauty penetrates to the very pores and soaks one's being through and through with a fragrance which lasts for long afterwards.

Perhaps it is tiring to the senses and should be taken only at long intervals. It exhausts the senses simply because it cleanses so thoroughly. One is intoxicated by the thousand mingled scents, dazzled and overcome by the profusion of glowing colour. Of course, fashions change in gardens as in everything else, and without in the least decrying the enterprise and scholarship of the moment's fashionable movement, one may admit that the effort to keep pace with nomenclature and new varieties has in it the element of fatigue; thus from the brilliance of massed colour schemes, from the last Gold Medal Rose, the newest Gladiolus, Dahlias and Chrysanthemums and all the rest of the magnificent species, with relief one goes back in memory to an old-world garden we used to know.

Through wrought-iron gates, delicate as lace-work against the green, stand strange little figures of clipped Box, very well mannered, holding themselves stiffly above the rioting crowd. There are carpets of Heart's-ease and Forget-me-not under fountains of Honeysuckle and Jasmine. There is a tangle of happy "common" flowers, for they are not so very tidy, those gardens where the forgotten flowers grow. Larkspur and Lilies tumble against the dark Yew hedges with Lad's-love and Lavender, Moss Roses and old herbs of healing. It is an old-fashioned garden, where nothing is labelled and everything grows in a lavish abandon, smelling so
sweet. There, out of the soil, where
home may be, will grow the flowers t
prefers; the old-fashioned way is the
peace—the way of health, where gro
abundant and procreative Nature
comfortably her own unhasting way.
sandy garden there will be Lavend
Rosemary, Hyssop, Thrift, and Thym
kingly Plantagenet Brooms, F
Geraniums, Fuchsias, Chamomile, C
Lavender, and Jessamine. Hard-ste
aromatic herbs make a sharp and p
sweetness that blow across it. Th
fashioned garden on chalk is a gar
colour. There will be Love-in-a-Mis
Pasque-flower, Clematis in festoons of
and rose, the Borages, Catmint, Irise
phiniums, Rosemary, and Lavende
be bluer there than anywhere else, a
Poppies more brilliant. Those who h
make a garden upon heavy clay, the
exacting and the most generous soil
will know the way that Roses love i
plant the unfashionable, deliciou
Cabbage Rose—Rosamundi—the Yor
Lancaster, Damask, Yellow Banksia
sweet Moss Roses, so hard to find these

To find the old, forgotten flowers m
good deal of trouble—for many of the
only be collected from cottage gardens
they have lingered and been loved thro
the modern changes of fashion. I
remains true in gardening as in other
of life, that the thing which gives us th
trouble to get is the thing we prize the
The intimate and unassuming charm
world flowers does not lend itself to "
schemes," "massing," and "bold ef
There is no "eye-scape" in an old-fas
garden—there is the comfortable gr
growth, and more sentiment than
Thyme, underfoot, and Balm again
knees, Honeysuckle overhead, Quin
Crab-Apple making curtsies to the Da
Honesty holding hands with Forget-m
Hawthorn blossom dipping to the
thickets of Lilac and Rose, Spleenw
the stumps of old trees, Hart's Tong
damp banks and walls, and Polypod
cool corners to prove the loveliness
native Ferns. There through the ye
tangle of sweet growth comes up abo
doors of home, youngsters under mot
boughs, safe from the critical upheav
bedding-out and the coercive shea
"tidy" gardeners, allowed to gro
Nature's way. True, they are not s
tidy, those gardens where the old-fas
flowers grow. But as gardens they will
be forgotten. ARTHUR HAS

certificated Chrysanthemums

noveltles submitted to the Floral Com-
of the National Chrysanthemum
recently at the New Hall of the Royal
cultural Society were remarkable for
general all-round good quality. The
rd set by this Committee nowadays is
gh one, and this fact probably
nted in a large measure for the splendid
cter of the seedling Chrysanthemums
l. The following varieties were each
cipient of a First Class Certificate :—

rus.—A splendid variety for market or
sbudding. The florets are of medium
th, evenly disposed, and build a flower
lexed or slightly drooping form from
hes to 6 inches across. Colour, chest-
onze with gold centre and gold reverse.
n by Mr. J. Barrell, Bridgewater.

assy.—A beautiful bloom, in build not
the popular variety Alcalde. The
are narrow and very evenly arranged,
ping a full bloom 3½ inches to 3¾ inches
meter. The flowers are borne on stiff,
ike stems, and the foliage is small.
for market and cut flowers. Colour,
chestnut with gold tips. Also shown
. J. Barrell.

den Chestnut.—A very distinct flower
racter. The florets are fairly broad and
a full bloom of good substance about
hes across. Colour, rich chestnut, with
everse. The plant attains a height of
3 feet. Shown by Mr. J. Barrell.

wflake.—A chaste, pure white spray
y, bearing its dainty blossoms on long
, with each flower well set apart in the
The florets are narrow and the flowers
bout 3 inches in diameter. Useful for
g. Height, about 3½ feet. Shown by
I. Shoesmith, Jr., Mayford, nr. Woking,
v.

rose.—A somewhat unique flower,
g broad florets, rounded at the ends,
they slightly incurve, and build a
about 5 inches or rather less across.
rs, lilac-pink with silvery reverse.
t, 5 feet. Also shown by Mr. H. Shoe-
, Jr.

alier.—This is a highly-finished flower
autiful quality. Florets narrow to
m, very evenly arranged, building a
of exquisite form, about 5 inches in
ter. Colours, bronzy-terra-cotta, with
points—a beautiful autumn colour.
t, 5 feet. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith,

eral new Chrysanthemums were also
at the meeting of the R.H.S. Floral
mittee, Section A, on October 2nd, but
wo varieties were the recipients of an
l of Merit. They were as follows :—

o.—This is a useful disbudded Japanese
, having florets of medium breadth,
ng a reflexing bloom of good form,
4½ inches to 5 inches in diameter. This
y should prove useful both for market
t flowers. Colour, bronze, tipped gold.
erect stems and small foliage. Shown
r. H. Shoesmith, Jr., Mayford, nr.
ng, Surrey.

s. Sarah Knight.—Another useful
y for cut flowers and for market. The
are rather broad and flat, building a
flat flower of substance, about 6 inches
. Colour, rose-pink with silvery
e. Also shown by Mr. Shoesmith, Jr.

D. B. Crane.

Artemisia lactiflora

ls fine late-flowering Chinese perennial
worthy subject for the herbaceous
d, wild garden, or for planting along-
stream or waterside. Blooming in
mber, its somewhat fragrant white
ra-like flowers are borne in branched
panicles on erect stems 3½ feet to 4½ feet high. The flowers, which are freely produced, provide excellent cutting material for indoor decoration. The plant is of the easiest cultivation, and responds to treatment similar to that meted out to other hardy herbaceous perennials.

J. L.

New Dahlias selected at Wisley

The Joint Committee of the Royal Horticultural Society and the National Dahlia Society held a further meeting at the New Hall, Greycoat Place, on October 2nd, and no fewer than 21 new varieties were submitted for adjudication. Seven varieties were selected for trial next year in the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society, Wisley, Surrey, as follows :—

Phyllis Wheaton.—A charming miniature-flowered Pæony Dahlia, about 3 inches in diameter, and highly decorative as a cut flower. The florets are medium to fairly broad, and build a flower of dainty form. Colour, bright pink, with white centre. Stiff, erect stems. Shown by Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd., Crawley.

R.H.S. Fruit Show: The splendid exhibit of fruit from Reading University College

This exhibit contained well-packed boxes (20 lbs.) of Apples Lane's Prince Albert, Allington, and Worcester Pearmain. Half-bushel sieves of the same varieties were also staged, but sieves are not so much used now. Over 40 varieties were shown in single dishes, including Cox's Orange Pippin, Egremont Russet, Blenheim Orange, Bramley's Seedling, Beauty of Kent, and Newton Wonder. The pick of the Pears were Louise Bonne of Jersey and Doyenne du Comice. Silver Gilt Hogg Memorial Medal

Felbridge Star.—This is a Dahlia of true star-like form. Florets of medium breadth, tapering off to a blunt point, building a flower of pleasing decorative form about 2¾ inches across. Colour, orange buff. Stiff, erect flower stems.

Bognor Star.—One of the very best Star Dahlias of recent introduction. The flowers are about 3 inches in diameter, having florets medium to fairly broad at base, tapering off to a point, building a star-like flower of exquisite form. Colour, a beautiful salmon pink, with a crimson zone round the disc, and the florets also suffused crimson at the base. Stiff, erect flower stems. The last two Dahlias were shown by Messrs. J. Cheal and Sons, Ltd.

Aurora.—An interesting small-flowered Pæony Dahlia, about 3½ inches across. Florets rather broad. Colour, salmon terra-cotta, deeper colour at base of florets. Bronze foliage and stems. Shown by Messrs. Wm. Wood and Son, Taplow. This variety has to be renamed.

Albion.—A promising small-flowered Pæony Dahlia, about 3½ inches to 4 inches in diameter, of good form and substance. Florets, medium to fairly broad, evenly disposed around the disc. Colour, primrose with rich orange-yellow disc. Good, erect flower stems. Shown by Messrs. E. Burrell and Co., Cambridge.

Cedric.—A distinct and pretty miniature-flowered Pæony Dahlia. Florets of medium width, building a flower of good form, between 3 inches and 3½ inches across. Colour, bright crimson maroon. Stiff, erect flower stems. Also shown by Messrs. Burrell and Co.

Edna.—Another interesting small-flowered Pæony Dahlia of good form, about 3½ inches in diameter. Colour, rose-pink with large, white tips. Really a fancy flower. Shown by Messrs. E. Burrell and Co.

A noteworthy Pæony Dahlia

A somewhat unique, small-flowered Dahlia, bearing the name of "Tiny," raised by that veteran Dahlia grower Mr. J. T. West, of Brentwood, Essex, has quite captivated those who endeavour to illustrate the decorative value of the Dahlia. With blossoms of this charming little Dahlia the writer last year won first prize at the National Dahlia Society's Show for a sideboard decoration and at the same Society's exhibition this year with the same variety Mrs. Courtney Page was placed first in a class for dinner table decoration. The dainty flowers are between 3½ inches to 4 inches in diameter, and are of true small-flowered Pæony form. The florets twist in a most delightful manner and build a really beautiful flower that is borne on a stiff, wire-like flower stalk. The colour may be described as a pretty shade of buff.

D. B. Crane.

Winter-flowering Shrubs

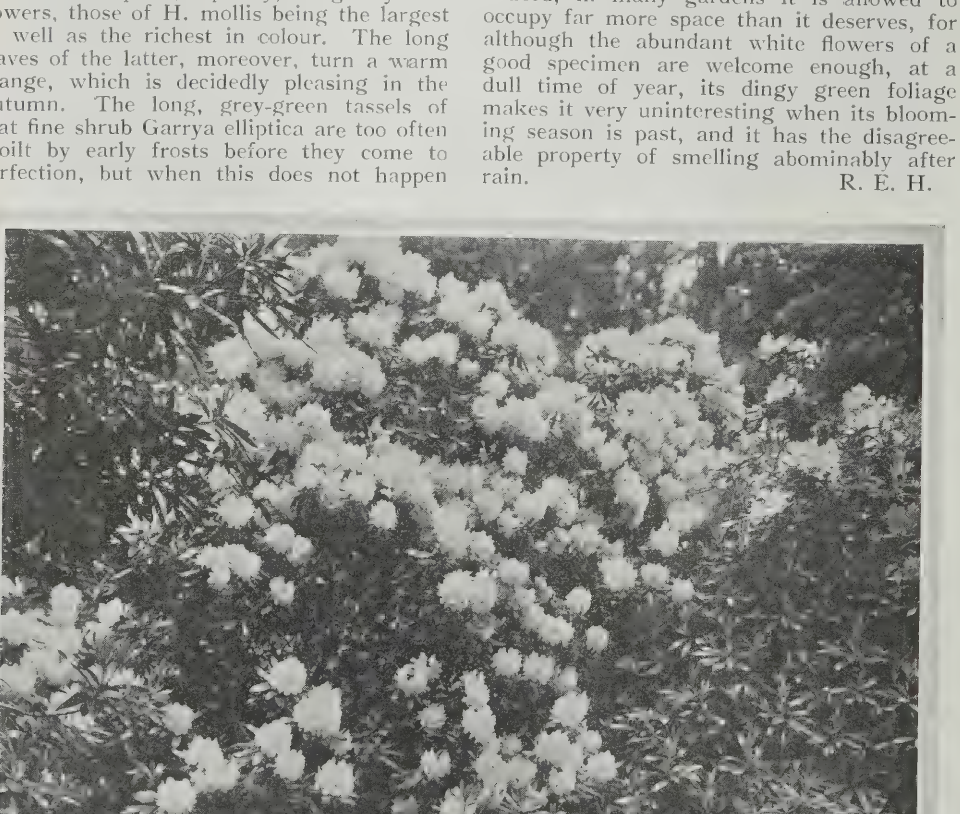
IT is rather regrettable that winter-flowering shrubs are comparatively seldom seen in small gardens, for not only is their decorative value great when growing, but they are most useful for cutting at a time of year when flowers are at their scarcest. One of the best of such shrubs is Prunus Miqueliana, a Japanese Cherry of recent introduction, which begins to open its rose-tinged white blossoms in November or early December and continues to produce them throughout the greater part of the winter. This pretty Cherry, which makes a low tree, is perfectly hardy in this country under ordinary conditions. Another shrub which blooms in December is the Winter Sweet, Chimonanthus fragrans; its small, tawny-yellow flowers are not showy by any means, but their scent is delicious, and if a few of them are floated in a dish or arranged in a shallow bowl filled with mossy Saxifrage they will perfume a room delightfully. Chimonanthus is a straggly, untidy grower, and for this reason is best planted against a wall, but it is quite hardy and will do equally well in the open. It should be cut hard back directly after flowering.

More sweetly scented even than Chimonanthus are the winter-flowering Honeysuckle, Lonicerca Standishii and L. fragrantissima. Both bear small, creamy-white blossoms that, in the case of L. Standishii, are produced as early as December on the leafless stems. Lonicera fragrantissima, which usually comes into bloom in January, is more or less evergreen, according to the mildness or severity of the season. Two excellent winter-flowering shrubs for the small garden are the Witch-hazels, especially Hamamelis arborea and H. mollis, the first named of which comes from Japan and the second from China. Both have queer, spidery, bright yellow flowers, those of H. mollis being the largest as well as the richest in colour. The long leaves of the latter, moreover, turn a warm orange, which is decidedly pleasing in the autumn. The long, grey-green tassels of that fine shrub Garrya elliptica are too often spoilt by early frosts before they come to perfection, but when this does not happen they are exceedingly ornamental, both in the garden and the house. Frosts of ordinary severity will not do more than disfigure the leaves and flowers of Garrya elliptica, for it is quite hardy, but G. macrophylla, a handsome species, is tender in this country, save in exceptionally warm localities, and even there it should be given the shelter of a south wall. There are several beautiful winter-blooming Rhododendrons, for one or two of which room should be found in every garden, provided, of course, that the soil is suitable, that is to say, free from lime and, if possible, peaty. R. nobleanum, the rosy flowers of which often appear when the snow is on the ground, R. dahuricum, R. præcox, and R. parviflorum are all handsome.

To enliven the rock-garden there are the winter-flowering Heaths, the dwarf Erica carnea, the taller E. Mediterranea, and a delightful hybrid between the two, E. darleyensis, otherwise E. carnea hybrida. The last mentioned begins to flower in November, and is a particularly pleasing shade of rose-pink. These Heaths, unlike the rest of their kin, do not object to lime in the soil.

The Forsythias may perhaps by stretching a point be included in the list of winter-flowering shrubs, as F. suspensa, if given a sheltered position against a south wall, will begin to open its golden bells in early February. Other desirable Forsythias, although slightly less hardy and not quite so early flowering are F. spectabilis, less straggling in habit and with flowers of a deeper yellow than suspensa; vitellina; viridissima, and a hybrid between the latter and suspensa, named intermedia. All are well worth growing. Viburnum Tinus, familiarly called Laurestina, is too well known to be more than just mentioned here. Indeed, in many gardens it is allowed to occupy far more space than it deserves, for although the abundant white flowers of a good specimen are welcome enough, at a dull time of year, its dingy green foliage makes it very uninteresting when its blooming season is past, and it has the disagreeable property of smelling abominably after rain.

R. E. H.



One of the old white Rhododendrons

Planting berry-bearing shr

Berry-bearing trees and shrubs a planted so much as they should be, co ing their value in the dark days of when practically most of our flowers a troyed by an early spell of frost. Ar the showiest trees at the present time f compare in effectiveness to well-grown mens of the Mountain Ash. In woo waste places generally, where the soil is and stony, this shrub may be found, dual plants forming clusters of perfec liness. Beautiful as this shrub is, it still be impossible to oust the Holly many forms from its proud position.

The large number of varieties c Cratægus family provide us with a big C. crus-galli and its varieties are perha most effective, and it is difficult to selec thing more pleasing than the splendens, with its bright red fruit hidden in the leaves. C. coccinea is a valuable tree to plant. C. Pyracanth Fire Thorn, is a brilliant shrub, and bedecked with its rich-coloured fruit, p ses an indefinable charm.

Among Cotoneasters, there are s worthy of being planted in any garden, or small. Such species as C. fr C. Simonsi, and C. buxifolia can be dep upon to give a good account of thems Pyrus offers a number of showy fruiting P. baccata and P. Aucuparia and its forms are all showy kinds. As a bush laden with bright berries, the Aucuba ta lot of equalling, but it must be allowed space to develop, and the male variety be intermixed to secure a plentiful cr berries. Many of the Barberries bear spicuous fruit, the new hybrids o Wilsonæ being noteworthy. Arbutus U is a fine fruiting evergreen shrub or tree. Where Pernettyas are grown, a effect is produced by their diverse, bri coloured fruit, whilst a more lowly Can plant is noticed in Gaultheria procum As a winter-fruiting shrub, the Snowb Symphoricarpus racemosus, is supe severely cut back in early spring. Euon europæus and E. latifolius are both fruiting trees.

Although the shrubs mentioned b means exhaust the number of trees shrubs with showy fruit, they are suff to show what a wealth of material is able for garden decoration. All thriv ordinary garden soil, and although late f may injure some species during their flo ing season, there is sure to be a sprin of berries, whatever the season.

H. STEVE

Rhododendrons

SOME Rhododendrons planted a goo years ago at the edge of a bit of w land are now a great height, although a number of them were s broken about by the heavy snow the winter of 1927-28, some of escaped, and this year flowered profusely than ever. They are what w now be called old kinds, Minnie and John Clutton, both white, but they can ha be beaten for their abundance of bloom general good effect. When they were pla their names were painted on some labe Acacia wood nearly ½ inch thick. It wood of great durability. These labels long been forgotten, but lately, when c ing away some of the rubbish under Rhododendrons, a number of them found. The painted names had disappea but the labels themselves were so sound if their surfaces were shaved and they painted afresh they might have been again.

G.

Sweet Peas

outline of cultivation methods

DERS who had the opportunity of
iting any of the numerous flower
ows this year will have practically de-
pon the choice Sweet Peas for next
If the selection has rested upon any
newer introductions it is advisable to
the seed without delay. Catalogues
us Sweet Pea specialists are already
evidence, and anything combining
with quality has a habit of becoming
t very quickly. Even if sowing is to
yed until the spring, now is the time
e certain of obtaining one's require-
Much has been written on the ad-
s of sowing seed in the autumn, but
which has not received quite the same
e of attention, although of equal im-
e, is the preparation of the site the
will occupy. It is not wise policy to
perations until merely a week or two
actually planting out or setting the
s the case may be. A firm soil is
l for the production of sturdy growth
e flowers, and to ensure such a con-
utumn is the best period for the work
undertaken, as ample time is thus
allow for settlement. Furthermore,
s added to the soil have time to dis-
te, and become readily available as
ods to be drawn upon when required.
e itself should be as open as possible
the free access of fresh air and sun-
although shelter from cold, early
is desirable. If the option exists,
Peas should be grown in a part of the
which is known to possess a good
f cultivated soil. In some instances
e allowed to occupy the same site for
consecutive years, but an occasional
is as desirable in their case as in
ther instances of a " rotation of
Every batch of Sweet Pea roots
the ground adds to the nitrogenous
ts of the soil, and unless care is taken
equent manuring the balance of the
rincipal plant foods is liable to be-
isproportionate.

one possesses a certain keenness for
rticular branch of horticulture the
ble mistake often made is to imagine
eryone else is equally enthusiastic.
t every amateur gardener who is in
ition to devote the time and attention
ry for the adoption of the hundred-
cultural details practised by the
us exhibitor whose annual object is
forth just that little bit extra. Never-
the Sweet Pea readily yields re-
proportion to the care spent upon its
ion, and the following treatment of
may be regarded as almost the mini-
f effort which is required for the pro-
of really useful decorative flowers.
the site has been selected, the first
n is to dig a trench at least a good
leep and 2 feet wide, the soil being
one side of the trench. Unless cir-
ces enforce otherwise, north to south
est direction for the trench to take.
ions complete, a 3-inch layer of
should be laid in the bottom of the
and sprinkled with crushed bones or
one-meal at the rate of a 4-inch pot-
every 6 feet run of trench. Stable
nswers the purpose well where the
heavy, but on light soils preference
e given to manure from the cow-byre
yard on account of soil-binding quali-
he common error of leaving this layer
ure intact should be avoided. By far
ter plan is to dig it well over and
hly mix it with the second spit of
his being done, the original top soil
be replaced, incorporating with it a
further dressing of bone-meal as the work proceeds. When complete the soil should be left in as rough a state as possible, given a liberal dusting of wood-ash or the remains of the garden fire, and left to the action of the weather. In the spring all that is necessary is a dressing of lime, a good handful to the square yard, and a thorough raking to level the soil a week or 10 days prior to planting-out or seed-sowing. Even the foregoing routine may sound tedious to many, but actual experience has shown that the energy expended is amply repaid by an abundance of spikes bearing four good-sized blooms. There is also that reasonable length of stem without which the Sweet Pea loses much of its daintiness and elegance, and thereby proportionately decreases in decorative value.

Varieties which have responded well on land prepared as suggested are Model (white), Victoria (lavender), Picture (cream-pink), Grenadier (scarlet), Charming (cerise), Sunkist (cream with pink edge), and all-round excellence would seem to indicate that any good standard variety would prove equally successful. A. E. W.

Rhododendrons at the edge of woodland

Plants which love the sun

In a drought-stricken garden a few plants stand out as sun worshippers, and seem to fornica shown such a mass of scarlet bloom. moisture.

Never with me has Zauschneria Californica shown such a mass of scarlet bloom. It grows on a narrow border at the foot of a south wall in hot, sandy soil. In the same border two " Plumbagos " are in perfection. The dwarf Ceratostigma plumbaginoides (formerly called Plumbago larpentæ) and the shrubby C. Willmottianum.

Both bear flowers of an intense blue, a colour rare in the autumn garden. The plants are now a mass of blossom.

C. plumbaginoides is an old garden plant, but C. Willmottianum is of much more recent introduction. Here it is quite hardy and seeds itself in the border. It was cut to the ground by the Arctic cold of last winter, but grew away strongly from the base. The bushes are now as large and as full of bloom as ever, though the flowering began later than usual. This rainless summer appears to have suited Perowskia atriplicifolia, and a bed of it is now very beautiful. The plants are spaced and have a ground work of the " Lace Flower " (Didiscus). It is a successful combination. B. C. T.

Wiltshire.

Scabiosa caucasica

Among useful hardy plants which at this season may be raised from seeds is the Russian Scabious—S. caucasica. In some districts, and in certain soils, it is rather liable to perish during the winter after a season's flowering. In this respect it resembles Coreopsis grandiflora, and to maintain a good stock of these very ornamental and useful subjects it is wise to make a sowing in a box, placing in a cold frame towards the end of September.

A Scottish Gardener.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Tomatoes

As fruit cannot be relied upon to ripen in the open, even on sheltered walls, it is advisable to sever the growth below the bunch of fruit nearest to the ground and suspend fruit and growth from wires in a cool—but frost-proof—greenhouse after this date. Those still cropping in cool houses may be similarly treated. Thus valuable room becomes available for subjects which have recently been potted up from the open ground.

Arum Lilies, Bouvardias, Solanum, and Crinums

These and similar plants will find excellent accommodation in cool houses for the present, unless it is desired to hasten the two former into bloom, in which case a little artificial warmth must be given at night. When growth in the former becomes vigorous and the spathes begin to rise, a little assistance, either in liquid or artificial manure should be given.

Winter-flowering Begonias

A little extra staking and tying is necessary for these beautiful subjects, and whereas anything approaching stiffness should be avoided, support being necessary, use stakes of a slender but wiry character, so that when completed the plant presents a loose and graceful appearance. Although the stakes are scarcely seen, they are effective and unavoidable.

Chrysanthemums

These now occupy considerable space under glass, and the earliest house is full of prominent blooms, some of which show a tendency to damp, therefore watering must be carried out in the morning, as far as possible, and a cool, airy temperature of about 45 degrees maintained at night by means of a little warmth through the pipes if wet, cold nights set in. Large batches of bush plants, including late flowering kinds, must of necessity be held back in cool fruit houses, or even at the foot of sheltering walls, where a covering may be drawn over them at night. Dense crowding, however, should be avoided and, if under glass, plenty of air admitted.

Dahlias

When checked by frost, lift and store the roots in a cool, dry, and airy shed, and where they are not liable to become frosted. It is advisable that these should be reasonably dried before actually storing them close together, as they keep better. Following this, a little Cocoa fibre shaken among them will maintain the roots in a plump and not too damp condition. Each kind should be carefully labelled before storing.

Cold frames

Unless required for the accommodation of plants, cold frames should be filled without delay with Lettuces, such as Trocadero, Hardy White Cos, Winter Beauty, and Endives, as these will prove invaluable during March and April. Air must be freely admitted on all favourable occasions.

Propagating

A few more cuttings of shrubs, Violas, Salvias, and Pentstemons may be inserted, and many of these already rooted may be potted up or boxed off, as the case may be. Very little growth, however, will be made from this date until the turn of the year, although root action will proceed.

Spring bedding

Endeavour to complete this work as soon as possible, so that the plants may become firmly established in the new soil while a little warmth remains, and thus enable them to withstand the winter better.

Sweet Peas

A light dusting of soot over those sown in September in the open will check the depredations of slugs. A sowing made at the present time in pots will provide plants for blooming under glass at the end of March. The seeds may be sown singly in 60-sized pots, or five seeds in a 5-in. pot, and shifted as required. A cool place should be chosen until germination has taken place, when they should be placed near to the glass and watered with care.

Broad Beans

A good sowing made now on a sheltered border will provide a crop of fine beans at a very early date, and before the earliest batch raised under glass.

Rhubarb for forcing

Lift a few roots and expose them to the weather before placing them in a bed of leaves beneath a greenhouse stage or mushroom house.

Fruit trees

Order fruit trees and thus secure some of the best examples before stocks have become drained of them. E. MARKHAM.

Gravelye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Spent vegetable crops

It is never advisable to leave spent crops for long in the garden, as they are not only unsightly, but their presence furnishes cover for numerous pests, both animal and fungoid. The sooner, therefore, all such are cleared to the rubbish heap, the better. Everything, of course, that will burn should be thus consumed, and by this means great numbers of vermin are destroyed, and what might have been dangerous material turned into a valuable dressing for the garden, most crops benefitting from the ashes from a "smother-fire."

Take care of the rubbish heap

It should always be seen to that the rubbish heap is safe from pollution by the roots or seeds of perennial weeds, for when once spent crops, annual weeds, and lawn mowings have rotted down, they form a valuable dressing for both the vegetable and flower quarters, this material being but little inferior to farmyard manure, now so difficult to procure. To accelerate the rotting process and to improve the quality of the heap, it should be turned and mixed occasionally, and if some fresh lime can be incorporated with it while turning is in progress, vermin will be discouraged and the material sweetened and improved.

Maincrop Beetroot

While there is no particular hurry to have this root crop harvested, it will really make little or no further growth, so if the weather is favourable, get it up and safely placed under cover. No crop demands so careful handling when being lifted and stored, for if either broken or bruised the quality is considerably impaired. Store in a fairly dry shed or cellar, and see that mice and rats cannot gain an entrance, or much damage may result.

Late Carrots

These, too, will be all the better for being now lifted and stored as autumn rains are very apt to split many of the roots. While not nearly so easily damaged as Beetroot, a little care in handling always pays, as th
keep better and have a finer appearanc
unbroken and otherwise undamaged.

Seed Potatoes

These must, of course, be stored in
place where frost can never reach
Although not absolutely essential,
place suits these tubers well. It som
happens that disease is present, an
develops rapidly, even under cover, it
visable occasionally to overhaul the
stock, picking out any that may sho
the slightest sign of the trouble.

Hardy perennial borders

It is much too early to think to
general "clean up" here, but for th
of tidiness and also to lighten the fina
ance later on, all plants that have
their stems may be cut over and any
present cleared away. Some grow
know, object to cutting over the st
herbaceous plants in autumn, contendi
much injury is caused by doing so, but
never been able to see any difference
growth of the plants, while verm
sheltered and do much more harm th
weather, and the unkempt appearance
borders during the winter is very uns
Almost the only kinds left untrimm
German Irises and Montbretias.

Planting of bulbs

The weather being favourable, it is
continue the planting of the various
for although there is no particular hurr
some of them, the weather now is
certain that it is advisable to seize
favourable chance to get such work
out in comfort and good order. Shou
further planting of Daffodils be nec
these must be got in at once if they ar
any good.

Regal Pelargoniums

Even the latest batch of this fine
tive subject is now fairly well ripened
the plants may be cut back and stoo
cool pit or greenhouse. If necessary, s
the freshest of the points may be used
tings, inserting round the edge of
pots, filled with sandy compost. To
a good "strike," it will be necessary
the pots in a little warmth until the c
take root, when they must be at on
moved to cooler quarters.

Zonal Pelargoniums

Cuttings of these very useful gree
subjects may also be secured now, and
pots in which they are planted are se
warmish house they will very soon form
and can then be shifted to cooler quart
the winter.

Eucharis amazonica

This aristocratic member of the st
intermediate house should now, after
rested in cooler quarters, be introduce
nice, genial atmosphere and a tempe
round about 70 degs., when it will soon
to send up its flower-stems. Plenty of w
essential while in its warm quarters, wh
occasional dose of weak liquid man
very beneficial to the plant.

Tomatoes

Plants still in bearing must have co
attention, and a genial, rather dry
sphere. Give water with judgment, an
tinue to rub out all side shoots. Sm
misshapen fruits should be removed,
help those left to swell to a better size.

C. B

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

hn Cypher Memorial Fund

following amounts have been received
October 8th), and acknowledged, on
of the John Cypher Memorial, by the
Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Charles
urtis, 5, Tavistock Street, Covent
n, London, W.C. 2 :—Mr. C. H. Cook,
or, £1 1s.; Alderman C. Aveling,
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ldersgate Street, E.C. 1, £5 5s.; Mr.
rton, Sherborne, 10s. 6d.; Captain J.
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on and Robinson, Manchester, £2 2s.;
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dan, Ford Manor, Lingfield, £1 1s.;
M. Campbell, Regent's Park, £1 1s.;
. H. Wilson, Worcester, 10s. 6d.; Mr.
rk, Hesketh Park, Southport, £1 1s.;
r. N. F. Barnes, Eaton Hall, Chester,
The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer
glad to receive the fulfilment of the
ous promises made, and donations from
ny personal friends of the late Mr.
Cypher and from others who admired
ndiwork at the leading horticultural ex-
tns, or received some kindness or advice
im during his long career. Cheques
l be crossed "John Cypher Memorial

overs' Hospital Fund

culars of an interesting scheme for
the 900 voluntary hospitals through-
eat Britain are contained in a pamph-
row a Rose Tree for the Hospitals,"
by the British Charities Association,
ay House, 103, Kingsway, London,
Every "Rose tree" in the Rose
Hospital Fund is built up by 1s.
utions, collected in a somewhat similar
to the "Prayer Chain," once so much
e. By the time a "tree" is made
sum of £68 4s. has been collected.
eme should appeal to those who com-
e love of the garden with love for their

ynthemum Shows in London parks

annual Chrysanthemum Shows at
sbry Park, Southwark Park, and Water-
ark are now open; and those at
ea Park and Victoria Park open on
y, October 19th, 1929.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

Growing the Aubergines

IS it possible to grow Aubergines here in Sussex with a small greenhouse? We have some heat there during the cold weather, but the seedlings all died this year.

Sussex. LADY EDWARD GLEICHEN.

[To cultivate these successfully it is necessary to grow them in pots under glass, as the fruits cannot always be depended upon to finish properly in the open in our climate, except during a very favourable summer when planted at the foot of a warm, south wall and carefully tended. The seeds should be sown in a rich, light compost early in February, potted off singly when large enough to handle, and shifted on into larger sizes as growth advances, a 6-inch pot being large enough to fruit them in. A temperature of 50 degs. to 60 degs. will suit them admirably. Pinch out the tips of the shoots when the plants are about 7 inches high, and do not allow more than ten fruits to each plant. When these are swelling freely, feed liberally with liquid-manure water.]

Aubergines

The fruits of Egg plants play a more important part in the cookery of the French and Italians than in this country

FRUIT

Pruning wall fruits

(S. E. A.).—Sweet Cherries are pruned in much the same way as are Apples, but the Morello requires quite different treatment, as it fruits chiefly on the previous year's wood. It is necessary, therefore, to lay in as much of the young wood as space can be found for, cutting away such shoots as may not be required. The Peach is pruned in much the same way as the latter, or, rather, the shoots that remain after the summer treatment are similarly treated. The Peach, during late spring and early summer, has to be carefully disbudded, and if this is properly done practically no pruning will be necessary, although some of the older wood may have to be removed. Any pruning should be done in late February, in the case of the Peaches, but Cherries of any kind can be attended to as soon as the leaves fall. The Lemon Tree is best left alone.

Diseased Apples

(R. V. Stoney).—Without actual examination of the specimens concerned, we cannot say what is the cause of your Apples cankering off just above ground level. As the trunk of an Apple is rather large for the purpose of sending to this office, we think your best plan would be to call in the services of your local Horticultural Adviser who could examine the trees on the spot and report.

Strawberry foliage

(Inquirer).—The specimen leaves sent are attacked by Leaf Spot and Leaf Hopper. The former is caused by a fungus and can be controlled to a large extent by the removal of all the old foliage when the plants are cleaned up after fruiting. All the material removed should be burnt. If in spite of the above treatment the disease shows signs of spreading, spray the plants with dilute lime sulphur. The Leaf Hopper can be controlled by spraying with a good insecticide, but the operation should be carried out before the creatures reach the adult stage.

Apple foliage

(Inquirer).—The foliage of your Apple has been attacked earlier in the season by a pest, probably Red Spider. The pest has now moved on, and the later foliage is healthy. Spraying the trees with lime sulphur when the trees are in the pink bud stage, and again when the petals have dropped from the flowers would control the trouble, if it is due to Red Spider attack.

Manures for Apples

(A Reader).—A good basic manure to give Apple trees is undoubtedly basic slag and sulphate of potash. As these two manures do not mix well together they should be applied separately. Basic slag might be applied at the rate of 4 ozs. and sulphate of potash at 1 oz. per square yard. Whether or no nitrogen is required we cannot, of course, say; you must be guided by the growth of the trees. If the growth is poor, give a dressing of farmyard manure, supplemented by a light dressing of sulphate of ammonia.

Damson tree not fruiting

(A. E. C.).—The reason why your tree does not fruit is most probably due to birds picking out the fruiting buds during the winter and early spring months. Serious losses occur annually both among Damsons and Plums and also other fruit trees, the damage having been done before one is aware of it. If you could net your tree or protect it in some way from birds we feel confident that fruiting will follow. Spraying with a bitter substance, such as quassia extract, will render the buds distasteful for a time, but this must be constantly repeated. You might also try spraying with one of the tar oil washes now offered, as this may prove more lasting in its effect.

Apple branch attacked by Woolly Aphis

(T. B. W.).—Your trees are badly attacked by Woolly Aphis and also by Mussel Scale. Spray the trees thoroughly immediately the fruit is gathered with paraffin emulsion which should destroy a large proportion of the pests before they have gone to the roots. The formula is as follows:—Paraffin, 4 pints; soft soap, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; water, 10 gallons. To prepare:—Dissolve the soft soap in about a gallon of boiling water, remove the solution from near the fire and, while still hot, add the paraffin. Churn the mixture very thoroughly by syringing it back into itself. When required for use, add soft water to make 10 gallons and mix again thoroughly, so as to make sure that there is no free paraffin floating on the surface. For the Mussel Scale use double the quantity of paraffin, otherwise soap and water are the same. In such a bad case as yours appears to be, we advise another spraying in February.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Winter evergreen

(A Reader).—The correct time to prune Holly is towards the end of March and, for Yew, July. We think you could take what Holly you want at any time during the winter without fear of doing any harm, provided the growths were cut out carefully. Much depends upon where the Hollies are growing. If they are specimen trees cutting will most likely spoil their shape unless very carefully done. On the other hand, straggling trees in odd corners could, with advantage, be cut back. Yew does not stand cutting back so well, but, again, much depends upon the position of the trees. Pruning at the correct time is, of course, best.

Shrubs for cultivation in pots

(Mrs. W. Watson).—Kalmias, Rhododendrons, Eucryphia pinnatifolia, Clethras arborea and alnifolia, Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles, C. Veitchianus, C. dentatus, Forsythia spectabilis, and Weigelias will yield to gentle greenhouse treatment, but must not be heavily forced. The following, too, would suit you:—Deutzias gracilis and Lemoinei, Hydrangeas both of the hortensis type and H. paniculata grandiflora, Lilacs Marie Legraye, Mme. Lemoine, Souv. d'Louis Spath, Magnolia Alexandrina, M. conspicua, M. Lennei, M. stellata, Prunus triloba, Abelia chinensis, A. triflora, Kerria japonica fl.-pl., Viburnum opulus sterile, V. plicatum, Genista fragrans, Wistaria sinensis (blue and white), W. multijuga, Cytisus andreanus, Ghent and mollis Azaleas, Carpentaria californica, Lonicera Hildebrandtii, Pittosporums Mayi, P. Tobira, P. Ralphii, Abutilon vitifolium, Boronia megastigma, Acacia Baileyana, A. dealbata, A. armata, A. longifolia, Grevillea rosmarinifolia, Bamboos in variety, such as B. aurea, nigra, nitida, and spathulata, Brugmansia Knightii, B. sanguinea, Clerodendron Balfourianum, Plumbago capensis, Cassia corymbosa, Clianthus puniceus magnifica, Correa magnifica, Cytisus racemosus, Myrtus Luma, M. Ugni, Habrothamnus Newelli, H. aurantiacum, Jasminum primulinum, Metrosideros floribunda, Punica granatum fl.-pl., Rhyncospermum jasminoides, Sollya heterophylla, Streptosolen Jamesoni, Swainsona galegifolia, Abutilons Boule d'Neige, Golden Fleece, Souv. d'Boun, Thompsoni and vexillarium, Osmanthus Delavayi, Hoheria populnea var. lanceolata, Prostanthera lasianthos, P. rotundifolia, Anopteris glandulosa, and Olearia insignis.

The preparation of grass land for flowering shrubs

I am about to build a house and lay out a garden on a field that was formerly arable and has been grass for 20 or 30 years. Soil is described as "valley gravel," and the field is said never to tread into mud even in the wettest weather. I want to have some good flowering shrubs to give a succession of flowers from early spring to late autumn; in fact, all the year if possible. May I ask you to recommend hardy, good growers that need no coddling, also any that have a fine foliage? What is the best thing to do to begin with? Ought I to plough and take a crop of Potatoes or something of that sort to clean the land before planting the shrubs? Any advice will be most gratefully received, and thanking you in anticipation. VERES.

[All land intended for shrubs should be trenched to a depth of 2 feet 6 inches, or holes taken out for each plant to that depth and 3 feet across. The turf should be replaced, grass downwards, in the bottom of the trench or hole and the soil turned over to complete the making up of the trench. Allow the soil to settle for a week or two, following which the shrubs may be planted, a little leaf-soil being spread around the roots to encourage them to start. No further preparation will be necessary, and except to keep weeds down little will be required for several years. You do not say whether your land is free from calcareous matter, but if chalk or lime exists in the soil then you must avoid Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Ericas, Kalmias, and similar peat-loving subjects. The land not required for shrubs would most certainly benefit if ploughed up and cropped as you suggest for the first season. We make the following suggestion to give you flowering shrubs over most of the year:—Chimonanthus fragrans var. grandiflora, Lonicera fragrantissima, Jasminum nudiflorum, Erica lusitanica, E. Darleyensis, Hamamelis mollis, H. arborea, Parrotia persica, Forsythia spectabilis, Garrya elliptica, Rhododendron præcox, Berberis Darwini, B. stenophylla, Erica arborea alpina, E. carnea, Spiræa arguta, Daphne Mezereum, Pyrus japonica var. splendens, Eleagnus macrophylla, Rhododendron Ascot Brilliant, Bagshot Ruby, Cynthia, Pink Pearl, Decorum, Beauty of Tremough, Dr. Stocker, Mrs. Wm. Agnew, and Doncaster, Mollis Azaleas (the colours of which may usually be chosen according to individual taste), Ribes sanguineum, Camellias, Halesia tetraptera, Lilacs Souv. de Louis Spath, Mme. Francisque Morel, Marie Legraye, Pasteur, Hugo Koster, Magnolia stellata, M. rustica rubra, M. Lennei, M. virginiana, Rosa Moyesi, R. Hugonis, R. rubrifolia, Cercidiphyllum japonicum, Viburnum plicatum, Spiræa bracteata, Desfontainea spinosa, Cornus Nuttalli, Escallonia langleyensis, Xanthoceras sorbifolia, Phlomis cashmeriana, Embothrium coccineum, Cot
horizontalis, C. Henryi, Cistus laurif
Silver Moon, C. cyprius, Styrax j
Sophora vicifolia, Berberis arist
rubrostilla, B. aggregata, B. Thu
Caragana arborescens, Vaccinium
vanicum, Rhus cotinus var. purpu
cotinoides, Fothergilla monticola,
arborea, Clethra alnifolia, Buddlei
bilis magnifica, B. fallowiana, L
bicolor, Leycesteria formosa,
nigricans, Erica ciliaris, E. vagans
colours), Euonymus latifolius var.
Eucryphia pinnatifolia, Eupatorium
mannianum, Symphoricarpus occ
mollis, Pyrus cathayensis Wilsoni,
melis virginica, Abelia chinensis, Cot
Simonsii.]

Planting trees and shrubs to form screen

Kindly advise me about planting t
shrubs as a thick screen. I have t
a thickish screen against the east an
east winds, which bring smells fro
farm. Last year I planted Thuya o
to form a hedge; they have suffer
siderably from the drought on top
winter, but, in any case, somethin
higher is required, and I propose to
double line of Lombardy Poplars
means sacrificing a strip of good
garden. (1) How near can the t
planted (*a*) to the Thuya (*b*) to each
(2) Am I right in thinking the Balsam
is not so compact in growth and
therefore, not divert the air current
or would you plant these in one l
What would you recommend for a
under the Elms? The distance is a
feet, and the branches are fairly lo
As these branches overhang my grou
I entitled to ask for them to be cu
That trees do keep away the smell is
by the fact that another place about t
distance seems free from it, there bei
growth. (5) Where could trees of a g
be purchased? "POPL

[(1) We propose that you u
Black Cottonwood (Populus trich
alternately with the Lombardy Popl
former is a rapid and fairly dense
and the finest of all the Balsam
emitting a delicious balsamic odour
fills the air around, even in winter
a dormant state. Trees of this Poplar
about 20 years ago and within a fe
of Horsham are now 90 feet in heig
a quick, dense screen is required, yo
to plant the Poplars 6 feet apart an
back from the Thuya. In the latte
Thuya plicata would have been a muc
tree for such a purpose. (2) The
Poplar does not grow so compact,
leaves are larger and it forms a dense
and, in our opinion, would be mor
factory in the long run. Whether yo
one or two lines will depend upon th
you can afford; you would gain t
planting two lines, one of which could
away in later years if necessar
Portugal Laurel, the Cherry Laurel,
dendron pontica, or Common Yew; th
is rather slow in getting away, but
manence is to be preferred. (4) Y
entitled to ask for the overhanging b
to be removed, or even remove them, i
with your boundary if your requ
ignored. (5) Messrs. Hollamby an
Groombridge, Sussex, would probably
to supply you.]

Moving large Azaleas

(Mrs. G. Hoare).—Yes, these can b
planted with safety, providing the
carefully done. The end of October is
cellent time for the work. If the weat

dry for a time beforehand, soak the with water a day or two before transng, then take out a trench about 18 wide all round the ball of roots, the f which must be judged on the spot ling to the size of the plant; for ce, a plant 10 feet high should have a roots at least 3 feet in diameter, and so y taking out a trench you are thus ento tunnel beneath the ball of roots and either a flat shrub barrow or strong right underneath, which may then be for lifting and transferring the shrub new home, which should be prepared in ce. Trench the soil deeply where the is to go, and use plenty of old leaf- along with the soil when filling up, ing it firmly around the ball of roots, hen completed give one good soaking of and place a mulch of litter—not manure the surface, and you need have no y about them afterwards. Watch the next May, which is often a very dry and water if necessary. To facilitate ork, tie a cord to the centre stem and round the branches, so as to draw them er and enable the worker to get close to

ROSE GARDEN

in different colours

J.).—We think that the following five es of Roses, being all healthy growers f fairly dwarf habit, will best suit your d position: No. 1 bed, Lady Inchiquin; , Mrs. Henry Bowles; No. 3, Golden ; No. 4, Mme. Butterfly; No. 5, Roundway. All are distinct, and conairly well to your requirements.

manures

eader).—In a soil which naturally does ntain lime, it is necessary to add lime time to time. On the other hand, a ng each year is not required. Once the ontent of a soil has been brought up to rd, an application at the rate of 4 ozs. per square yard once in two ee years is sufficient. Basic slag conbout 5 per cent. free lime, so that when s. of basic slag is added, 5 lbs. of lime tained therein. You do not state what manures are given. Try a dressing of te of potash in addition to some well farmyard manure. If the latter is not ble, use a substitute for it such as Hop e. Continue with a light dressing of slag each autumn.

and basic slag

J.).—There can be no harm done by a dressing of basic slag at the rate ned, but the Rose demands something so either Tonk's preparation or Thom-Plant Manure should be used in spring. urseryman will supply these materials, inted directions are supplied with each e. Bone-meal is excellent for Roses, somewhat slow in action. About per square yard may be used.

FLOWER GARDEN

g Dahlias and Salvias during the inter

E. P.).—The roots of Dahlias and us-rooted Salvias, such as the blue patens, should be lifted on a fine day ter being dried slightly should be stored n a cool, dry, frost-proof shed or cellar few dry leaves shaken among them. s way the roots will winter safely, ay be taken from the store again in —about the first week in May—and direct in the open ground. If, howt is desirable to increase any of them, roots may be placed in boxes together with a little leaf-mould and sand in March and stood in a warm greenhouse, where young shoots will soon develop, and these when about 4 inches long may be detached, with a small piece of old tuber, and potted up separately. The old plants may be cut down at once.

Pæony not flowering

(H. A. L.).—Pæonies do not flower well before the second or third year after transplanting, and as you appear to have trenched and manured your ground well before planting, we would advise you to cease all applications of manure water, as not only is this unnecessary, but harmful to young plants, and probably the cause of your trouble. Give the plant one more season, and if it fails to mature its flowers, put it on the fire as there is nothing else you can do for it. The best time to plant Pæonies is September and October. We regret your former letter miscarried.

The best time to plant

What is the best month in which to plant out of doors the following:—(1) Allium Ostrowskianum, (2) Roscoea cautilioides, (3) Schizostylis Mrs. Heggarty, (4) Sprekelia formosissima, (5) Tritonia Prince of Orange?

Torquay. R. W. L.

[Nos. 1, 2, and 3 may be safely planted during the present month in your locality. Nos. 4 and 5, however, should not be put out until the middle of April next year.]

Light blue Hyacinth to bloom with l'Innocence

For many years I have planted a grave with white Hyacinths and light blue Hyacinths, which come into bloom at Easter. I buy the best, about 6 dozen white and 3 dozen blue. The white is always l'Innocence, and I have tried the following light blue: Grand Maitre, Johan, Queen of the Blues, Schlotel, Lord Derby, La Pegroux, and nearly 20 years ago Preneman (which cannot now be obtained, though it did the best), but always I have found the light blues will be about a week or 10 days behind l'Innocence. Can you kindly suggest a light blue to meet my wishes? I have had professional advice, but so far without success. H. C. L.

[While we think you will find some difficulty in getting a blue and white Hyacinth opening their blooms at the same time, we would recommend you to try either Enchantress or Forget-me-not, and in case you find difficulty in procuring these varieties we would point out that both are offered by Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Ltd., Edinburgh.]

GREENHOUSE

Lilium auratum platyphyllum after flowering

(Subscriber, Esher).—Allow the growth to ripen off naturally, and when the leaves have turned yellow, cut the stems down to within 6 inches of their base. Stand the pots in a cool, frost-proof place—not necessarily a greenhouse—where they may remain until February, when the bulbs should be shaken out, cleaned, and repotted as before in fresh loam. The pots may then be removed to a cool greenhouse or frame free from frost and brought along gradually. Planted as you suggest, three bulbs in a large pot, these Lilies are extremely beautiful, and if well grown will reach 9 feet or more in height, carrying many handsome blooms, especially in their second year.

Begonias disfigured

(J. Bratley).—Although none were visible on the shoot submitted for examination we consider this a very bad attack of Mite, and you would be well advised to burn all you possess and secure a clean, fresh stock. Cyclamens are frequently damaged by this pest. If, however, you decide to retain your plants your best remedy is to fumigate with nicotine every 10 days, and, after damping the foliage, dust all parts with nicotine powder. The trouble arises through hot, dry temperatures having been kept continuously. In future, and especially during the early stages of growth, maintain close, brisk, and moist temperatures where winter-blooming Begonias are growing, stages, floors, and walls being damped over freely, and very little air admitted, and future results should surprise you.

Primula Sinensis

(M. N. Bostock).—Primula sinensis should not be syringed at all. This in itself would cause the rotting of the foliage, and it is now doubtful whether you will be able to save them. While this Primula does not require a high temperature it is desirable, in autumn and winter, to afford it a little warmth if for no other purpose than the dispelling of damp. It would be rather tedious at this season to detail the full culture of this plant, but, briefly, the soil for the final potting should consist of the best procurable fibrous loam three parts, sweet leaf-mould two parts, coarse, clean sand one part. If the loam is of very good quality nothing further is really required but a 5-inch potful of bone-meal and a 4½-inch potful of Thomson's Manure to each barrowload of the other ingredients is permissible and helpful. Pots must be quite clean and dry, and must also have a fairly liberal amount of drainage carefully arranged in each. Pot moderately firmly and set in a greenhouse or pit, shading from all sunshine. Give water with great care, and only when the soil approaches dryness. Good plants can be grown in 5-inch pots, while the 6-inch size will suit the very strongest. After the pots are well filled with roots weak liquid-manure should be given about twice a week. All the first flower-stalks should be nipped out as they appear, so as to encourage the plants to form good specimens. Plenty of fresh air is necessary, but no cold draughts.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

A few pompon Chrysanthemums for the outdoor border

I should feel obliged if your able correspondent Mr. D. B. Crane would kindly give through your columns the names of a few outdoor border varieties of pompon Chrysanthemums having a short, sturdy habit, such as St. Crouts. A. SAUNDERS.

[Pompons possessing a sturdy, bushy habit of growth that are free flowering are the following: L'Ami Conderchat (creamy primrose), Flora (yellow), Mignon (golden yellow), Little Bob (crimson-brown), Mr. Selley (rosy-pink), Mme. E. Lefort (bronzy yellow), Percy's Seedling (old gold), St. Crouts (light pink), White St. Crouts (white), Mons. Herlant (bright red and gold).]

VEGETABLES

Vegetables for exhibition

"Terenure."—It is impossible with the space at command to go into details of culture of these vegetables so as to have them fit for exhibition in July, but, briefly, Celery should be sown in a warm greenhouse or frame early in February, and must never receive a check. It will be desirable to grow in pots of rich soil so that no check be given when planting out. Five-inch pots would be suitable and very rich soil necessary. Sow Leeks last week in January in rich soil, using well-drained pans. Prick off into small pots when large enough to handle, and later shift into the 4-inch or 5-inch size, using very rich soil. Both Celery and Leeks, of course, have to be eventually planted outside in richly prepared trenches. Kidney Beans, if the seeds be planted in a frame about the middle of April, should be ready, if well looked after, by the middle of July. They can also, of course, be grown successfully in 9-inch pots in the greenhouse, and both plants should be tried, and thus have a double chance.

LEGAL POINT

Holiday with full pay

I have been working for more than four years on the Ministry of Agriculture Experimental Station. Can you tell me if I am entitled to a holiday with full pay? The expert and foreman both claim holidays, but I am led to believe that I cannot. I have a cutting from a newspaper which says the Government has decided to allow a week's holiday with pay to all workpeople in Government industrial establishments. F. W. G.

[We have no means of knowing whether you are entitled to this holiday or not. It all depends upon the terms of your engagement. Why did you not send us the newspaper cutting you refer to? In any event, we would advise you to ask the person responsible for engaging you about the matter, showing him the newspaper cutting and asking him what the position is as regards yourself. If you do not get satisfaction, write us again with full particulars.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Book on town gardens wanted

(M. J. F.).—We know of no book dealing exclusively with town gardens, but think you would find "Beautiful Gardens: How to Make and Maintain Them," by W. P. Wright, helpful. Another and more important book is "The English Flower Garden," by W. Robinson, which contains a mine of valuable information. Both are obtainable from Bernard Quaritch, Ltd., 11, Grafton Street, New Bond Street, London, W. 1. Write to the manager of the Tully Nurseries, Kildare; he would most probably be able to arrange to supply any advice of which you may be in need.

Soil sample

(A. W. Smith).—We do not undertake complete soil analysis. If we did, it would serve no useful purpose, because, although chemical analysis will show exactly what chemicals are in the soil, it does not give any true index of the availability of the various plant foods, which is the real thing that matters to plants. We have tested your soil for acidity, and find that it is definitely on the acid side. Soils which are acid do not produce good crops of most things. Potatoes do fairly well in acid soil, but most other vegetables do not. Peas, Beans, and Brassicas often fail to grow at all; if the Brassicas do make fair growth, the plants are nearly always affected with Club Root. You should dress the whole garden with ground carbonate of lime at the rate of 2½ cwts. per 300 sq. yds., approximately 1 lb. per sq. yd. You will not, of course, apply the lime to the portions of the garden where you are growing plants which do not like lime.

Weed-infested lawn

I have an old lawn very badly infested with weed, chiefly Yarrow, Plantain, and Dandelion. What treatment do you advise for it? A. H.

[The only certain way to treat a lawn so badly infested with these weeds is first to clear off the whole of the turf, then dig the ground deeply, picking out all roots, and finally either relaying with clean turf or sowing down with fine lawn grass seed. If this cannot be done, the next best plan is to cut out the crowns of the Dandelions, and drop a little vitriol on each stump to kill the entire root. The Plantains may be killed by applying a good dressing of lawn sand, and this material may also kill the Yarrow. After the weeds have been got rid of, the whole surface should be dressed with rich, sifted soil, scattered evenly and well rubbed in with a birch broom. In April, grass seed should be sown liberally on all bare places. Frequent rolling will be necessary, and the lawn mower should be very sharp, so as not to tear out the young grass.]

School of Gardening in Northern Ireland

(M. J. F.).—We do not know of any such School of Gardening in Ireland, and advise you to address your inquiry to the Curator, Glasnevin Botanic Gardens, Dublin, who will, we feel sure, readily inform you if such a school exists.

SHORT REPLIES

F. B., Portadown.—Transplanting a newly grafted Rose tree: You may transplant your Rose during November with perfect safety. Reply to No. 1 next week.

Roy. — Rose Climbing Mme. Isaac Perriere: This may be obtained from Messrs. Ben. Cant, The Old Rose Gardens, Colchester.

F. W. Williams.—Lythrum salicaria is offered by Mr. Maurice Prichard, Christchurch, Hants, and Messrs. Cheal and Sons, Crawley, Sussex, and should be planted now. We advise you to write for their list of plants.

X. Y.—Roots of Lavatera: Although nothing can be discovered upon the root you send, we strongly suspect the damage as being due to Eelworm earlier in the season. We would advise you to dig Vaporite into your soil at the rate of 1 oz. to each square yard, and use lime more frequently.

NAMES OF PLANTS

F. S., Hampshire.—Roses: 1, Willowmere; 2, Mme. Lambard; 3, Mme. Ed. Herriot; 4, Mme. Hooste.

H. Mills.—1, Cotoneaster, possibly applanata, but a better specimen is necessary; 2, Juniperus communis horizontalis; 3, Omphalodes cappadocica; 4, Rubus australis.

A. W. A.—1, Oxalis Tropæoloides; 2, Hieraceum aurantiacum.

M. E. Hamilton.—Probably a Convolvulus, but a better specimen is necessary.

W. E. S.—Pyrus Aria majestica.

Trym.—1, Sedum spectabile; 2, Artemesia tenuifolia; 3, Juniperus communis.

W. Brandish.—1, Verbascum Weidemannianum; 2, Vinca minor rubra; 3, Senecio gibbosus; 4, Exacum affine.

F. J. Armstrong.—Agathæa cœlestis, a cool greenhouse plant which is often used as a summer bedding plant, and increased by cuttings struck under bell-glasses in the spring of the year. It may also be raised from seeds.

S. E. Hartley.—1, Pyracantha coccinea Lalandii (Fiery Thorn); 2, Cratægus Crus-galli (Cockspur Thorn); 3, Æsculus parviflora (dwarf Buckeye); 4, not recognised.

X. Y.—1, Cupressus Lawsoniana; 2, C. funebris; 3, C. Lawsoniana Fraseri; 4, Amelanchier vulgaris (Snowy Mespilus).

H. Mills.—1, Pyracantha coccinea; 2, Erica vulgaris var. tenuis; 3, E. ciliaris; 4, Ranunculus arvensis.

John Hindley.—Your plant is one of the Anarrhinums, of which about a dozen species, mostly of biennial duration, are known from Southern Europe and North Africa. They have little garden value and are mostly grown
for botanical interest, as they ar
allied to the well-known and show
rhinums. They are all easily grow
nary garden soil, but are not reliabl
and not worth bothering with from
den point of view.

"*Inquirer.*"—1, Cotoneaster fri
Morus nigra (Common Mulberry);
glossum nervosum.

NAMES OF FRUITS

"*Rustic,*" *Abergavenny.*—Cox's
Pippin.

A Constant Reader.—Emneth Ea

A. C.—Lane's Prince Albert.

A. H. W., Horsham.—A and C,
Forge; B, resembling Lane's Princ
probably a seedling.

T. B. W., Leicester.—1, Blenheim
2, poor sample, cannot name; 3, po
possibly Bramley's Seedling; 4, Pe
Louise.

W. M. M., Dumbartonshire.—App
enough's Nonsuch. Grapes squa
post. Yes, the flavour of Grapes is
by gentle heat at the time of ripening

J. M. S., Plymouth.—Yes, Pea
Louise.

D. W. M.—1, Bismarck; 2, C
Pearmain; 3, Cox's Pomona; 4,
Pear; 5, Fertility; 6, Fondante d'Au

Constant Reader.—Apples: 1,
Caroline; 2, Charles Ross; 3, B
Seedling; 4, Newton Wonder.

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out by Thomas E. Smiles, East Sutt
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Bananas shown at the R.H.S. Fru
reminds one of an incident some
years ago when a Mr. Last was a gar
one of the riverside places in the nei
hood of Hampton Court. He was a
his employer if he could grow hi
Bananas, and on replying in the aff
a special structure was provided and
produced some very fine bunches, so
remember rightly well over 70 lbs. in
In common, however, with another f
Pineapple, which some of us rememb
ing to grow largely in the sixti
seventies of last century, the Ba
seldom seen in English gardens.
recalls being in charge of three Pin
somewhere about that time and bei
gratulated by Mr. Cameron, then g
at Goodwood, on the healthy appear
the plants. All that, however, is a t
the past, and the gardener is now req
build rock gardens, rather than
Bananas and Pineapples.

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TREES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

LI.—No. 2642 Saturday, October 26, 1929 TWOPENCE

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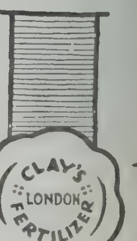

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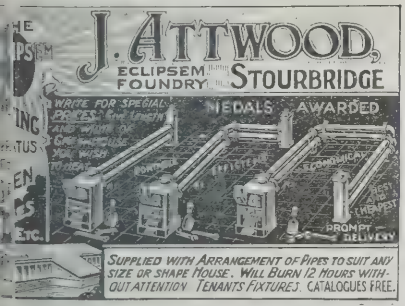

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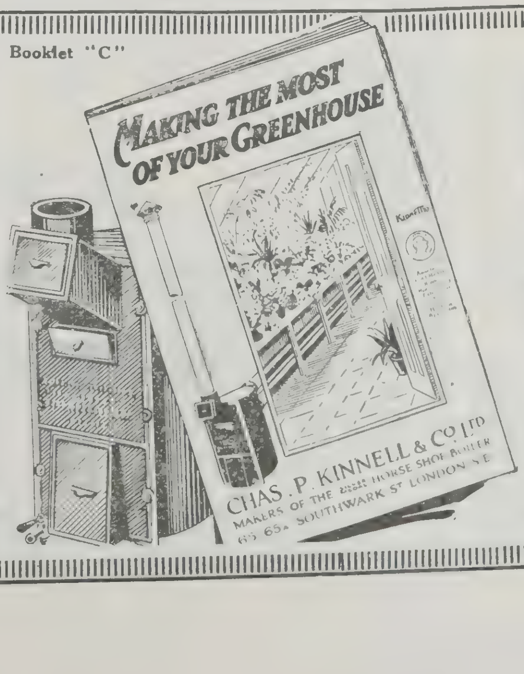

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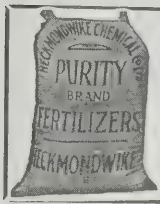

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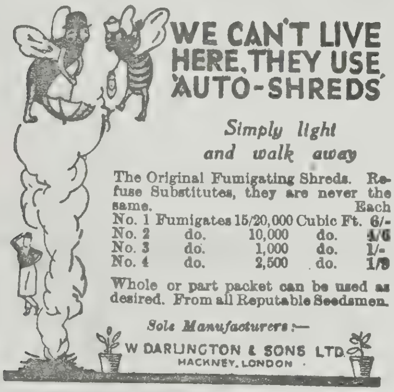
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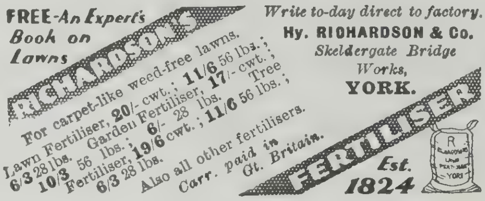
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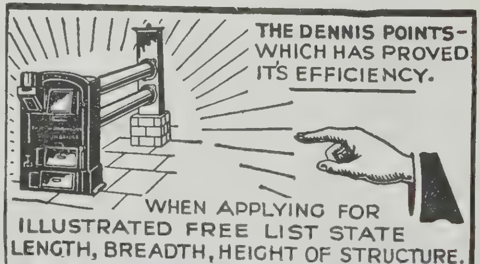
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GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

2642—VOL. LI. OCTOBER 26, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13

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Where Late Work Is Good

E have now reached a period when fruit should be gathered in, but many people who were alarmed by Apples ng from the trees, were picking late ees as early as the first and second weeks tember. This may not be too early me early mid-season varieties, but for which we wish to keep until Christmas r it is too early. My Cox's Orange , in consequence of having a cross-ting variety near to them, hang like s of onions," so thick, indeed, that r they were not thinned they are small, e point is that these fruits will still be nd juicy in February equence of being still trees at the time of (October 14th). My e bush, cordons, fan-, and espalier trained Paradise stock, and only on these four that one dare keep n the trees so late, ds would blow them rom standards.

e wish the very late- varieties, such as Hindlip or Saltcote , to keep crisp and until April, we must em on the trees as possible. "As late sible" means, until art readily from the nd this year I shall k my Lord Hindlips out October 21st.

disadvantages from king of fruits is that a proportion from acks of birds, and all which have to be rlier, but it is worth sacrifice in order to that exquisite flavour cannot be obtained in ght fruit from overseas, picked in an p condition, and packed in the musty a ship.

assing, it must not be forgotten that fruit firm and juicy until late a dry hopeless.

arth floor of some sort is best. Few rs have a proper fruit room, it is not ry, but a cellar or shed not open ays of the sun is far better than a dry here fruit is often stored.

lay of our advisers on gardening matters h lay press emphasise the importance of early planting of Roses. I would like to minimise any urgency. If Roses are dug up while in growth, these soft shoots all die back and look unsightly, although no damage to the tree may occur. A well-known store was selling Roses early in October; this means that they were dug up at the end of September. The purchasers of many realise that sometimes it is better to be late rather than early. Roses should by all means be ordered at once in order to secure desired varieties, but there is no urgency in the planting of them.

While fruit trees may be planted until March, some trees, such as Hollies, are better planted then than now.

Growers of perpetual Carnations are sometimes too anxious to take cuttings. If *good* cuttings are available now they may be put in, but otherwise until good cuttings are available, February and March cuttings may make better plants.

Even seeds may be sown too early, and a common example of this is the Tomato. Many sow these in the winter, but while a few early ones may be obtained, poor, spindly plants often result in consequence of lack of sun. Main batches sown at the end of February or early March make much better plants later on, as they develop with the lengthening sunny days. A. S.

New Apple Saltcote Pippin, well shown at the recent R.H.S. Fruit Show

Award of Merit, 1928

Fruits juicy and of delicious flavour; a good dessert Apple to follow Cox's Orange Pippin

Reliable dessert Apples

I see a new Apple is announced of the Cox's Orange type, which will enable us to enjoy that particular type the greater part of the Apple season, and will doubtless be very acceptable; but, still, I do not think I should want to be without some of the firmer-fleshed Apples, like Ribston and Cornish Gilliflower. However, as there is something wanting in all these very high-class Apples, either they do not take readily to some soils and situations, or are decidedly shy bearers, I should always advise small growers to plant a few more varieties which, if not quite up to the standard of those above named from a quality standpoint, are excellent Apples, and can be relied on to crop consistently and well. I think my choice would fall on James Grieve, Allington Pippin, and Mabbot's Pearmain in their respective seasons. The last named is a great favourite in this district, where it produces fine fruit of excellent quality. Allowed to hang as long as possible before gathering, it will keep sound and good until some time after the New Year. E. B.

Bucks.

Ornamental vines on metal

A row of posts and chains covered with ornamental Vines can be a very handsome feature in the garden. Some growers believe that plants do not succeed on chains or iron posts. This has not been my experience, for I have always had my chains and posts well covered and a gorgeous display of Vines in autumn. As soon as the chains and posts are furnished with main growths all laterals must be pinched back in summer and pruned in autumn, so as to produce spurs which send out numerous shoots, forming a dense mass of foliage. It is surprising, when once established, how little attention is required to keep the growth in order. A few effective varieties are Vitis Thunbergii, with very large leaves changing to yellow and crimson in autumn; V. purpurea, the foliage of which turns to deep purple; V. Coignetiæ, good, with robust growth; and V. armata and V. Wilsonii, both of which possess very neat and pretty growth.

F. H.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Eritrichium nanum—collected plants

I NOTICE that, in replying to a correspondent, you state that "collected plants of Eritrichium nanum will be a hopeless proposition."

A collected plant of Eritrichium nanum, successfully grown and flowered by Mr. Roger Bevan

The flowers are of a lovely sky blue, and the plant, which occurs at a very high altitude in the Alps, is notoriously difficult to cultivate

Such is not my experience. I find that collected plants offer the best chances of success, provided they are sent off immediately after collecting by "sample post," which only takes three or four days from Switzerland or Italy. They should be packed with no earth on the roots, and only *very slightly* moistened.

On arrival, the plants are put in a frame of very rough, coarse, gritty river sand. This stimulates them to re-root rapidly, and they can usually be potted up about a month after arrival.

To tide over the winter, they are potted up in the Alpine House in a mixture of river sand and granite chips, and kept very sparingly watered (never on the foliage, of course). It is also helpful to pack at least an inch depth of granite chips round the collar of the plant, thus reducing the danger of rotting off.

If the plants have survived the winter safely (I usually lose about 30 per cent.), they may be potted into a mixture containing a little humus as well as the chips and grit. The mixture should never contain more than a quarter of loam, however, as the essential aim is always the most porous medium possible. Such repotting may be done at the end of March.

At that time the plant is just waking up, and demands more water. This is best given by standing the pots in saucers, which are filed periodically, and it is astonishing how often this has to be done.

Under this treatment Eritrichium should flower all right, but, of course (owing to lack of rest and mountain air), not as freely as on its own wind-swept heights. One of my plants (of which a photograph appeared in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED) carried 32 flower heads this spring, and none of my collected plants failed to flower altogether.

I find that it is not the colour that deteriorates in lowland cultivation so much as the size of flower. The shade of blue compared favourably with the best coloured Forget-me-not I could find, but the size is roughly half what it should be.

Seedling Eritrichiums can be raised, especially if the seed pots are given a dose of snow during the winter, but my best seedlings are always self-sown in other pots in the Alpine House. It is difficult to raise seedlings beyond the single rosette stage, however, as transplanting is such a delicate business.

ROGER BEVAN.

Magdalen College, Oxford.

A "sporting" Dahlia

I have three different Dahlia flowers on one root. I do not know whether it is a very uncommon thing, but it seemed to me to be, as I have never seen more than one sport on one root before. It appears to be Fire Dancer, G. H. Barlow, on a root of Ballet Girl, all three in flower now.

EDWARD F. USHER.

The Grange Lodge,
New Eltham, S.E. 9

The Death's-head Moth

By reason of its uncommon markings, the Death's-head Moth usually causes a sensation when it makes its appearance, and, during the course of the present year,
numerous specimens have been subm
me, from widely-different neighbou
for identification, as, in a humble wa
fond of entomology. The Death
Moth, known correctly as Acherontia
is much more common than it is p
supposed to be, and I have observed
caterpillars are very often found feedi
the foliage of Potatoes, although t
never sufficiently numerous to do a gr
of harm. The moth is one of our
native insects, and it would be intere
learn if it has been observed to be mo
ordinarily numerous during the prese
in other districts.

A SCOTTISH GARD

Large Tomatoes

I wonder what is the record weigh
Tomato? I picked two fruits to-day
together, turned the scale at 2 lb., one
ing just over 1 lb. and the other
under. I am not going to claim tha
huge fruits are desirable, but it wou
matter of interest if any of your
could furnish us with the heaviest
recorded weight of a single specimen.

" EAST SUS

Aubergines in frames

With reference to Lady Edward Gle
inquiry, we have had many years' exp
with Aubergines, and at the prese
(October 18th) are picking them i
quantities. We do not, however, gro
in pots, as they do very much bett
frame, in which they are planted 18
apart. They are liberally fed, and
on as quickly as possible, so that
middle of May the leaves will be touch
glass, when the lights are removed
We get many more than 10 fruits to
and we only pinch out shoots which
the way of fruits or prevent light
getting at the plants. Out of doo
place that will grow Tomatoes wil
Aubergines, and we find the best varie
Black Beauty and New York Purp
white-fleshed variety which looks so at
in your photograph does not do, at all
with us, in the open air.

WILLIAM LAWR

Hives from the moors

We have just brought our hives hom
the Heather moor where they have b
over two months. Their inhabitants h
had a pleasant holiday, the continual
when the Heather was in bloom, havin
failure, so far as the gathering of hon
concerned. This, I learn, is the gene
perience. Fortunately, Clover honey
markably good and plentiful so that, s
an average, we have not very much
for complaint.

A SCOTTISH GARDE

Vine Weevils and damage to Cycl

In your issue of October 12th, I no
in replies to two of your corresponden
say that there is no cure or preventive
maggots when in pots. I can give y
which is cheap and efficacious, though
what tedious in process. Take o
fairly ripe Horse Chestnuts, crush then
and steep, say, 18 Chestnuts in 3
of hot water for 24 hours. Strain the
ant liquid when cool, which should b
black in colour and stains hands
Immerse the pot plants in the liqu
two hours. As the maggots are usually
feeding on the Cyclamen's roots just b
the corm, it is necessary to immer
pots to a depth at which the base
corm would be very thoroughly satu
The liquid, being a vegetable poiso
has no detrimental effect on the plan
it is necessary to take great care

ary watering afterwards, as the pot soil l naturally be in a sodden condition. ourse, this process could not save any of which the roots had been already oyed. The treatment should be applied ly, after which most of the eggs have hatched out, and again early September ıe case of a late batch. The liquid all maggots and even worms in a pot , but they do not emerge to the surface, is may appear to be a faith cure, unless lly infested plant is shaken out to prove eath of the enemy. I may say I have 20 ,' experience of this cure. Needless to a supply of Chestnuts should be collected autumn for July use. Cyclamen growers d try this easy cure.

HENRY E. RICHARDSON.

Sankill, Co. Dublin.

Cyananthus lobatus

hould like to add my testimony to Mr. rld's tribute to Cyananthus lobatus as a sable Gentian-blue rock plant, and, if pos- l to allay Mr. Fisher's doubts on the point olour. Whatever may have been the plant ıw at Kew, there is no doubt as to the Gentian-blue of the flowers which are ionally exhibited under this name at the IS. Shows. I have also seen the plant in r in Mr. Wells' nursery at Merstham, feel sure that, seeing the brilliant colour a distance, most people would hasten e steps to look at "that beautiful ian," and, moreover, would not be dis- pinted when they read its name at close ters. F. WYNN HELLINGS.

Ingston-upon-Thames.

Celmisia seed

Seing an illustration of Celmisia coriacea ıe number dated June 15th made me oler if any of your readers would care to some seed of it, or other varieties. I a cottage in the mountains and a hobby ollecting seeds, so would be glad to send ıyone interested. This illustration is of eargest variety. They go down in sizes to e tiniest—Celmisia laricifolia, really a r with leaves the size of a Larch needle, ca Daisy to correspond.

MARY POULTON.

8, North Parade, Shirley,
Christchurch, New Zealand.

Pinks Jean and Rufus

ENCLOSE, in case you yould like to ıake use of it, a photograph of three- ıar-old Allwoodii Pinks Jean and us in a corner of my garden.

A. GREATHED.

Teago Mills, Crantock, Newquay.

A home for Alpines

I vas gratified by the encouraging words Ir. W. Th. Ingwersen (issue September 3t page 657) about the old Rhus Cotinus, reading the kind words about it and ıegarden as a whole, I wondered if you od allow me to tell you something about ock garden itself, or, rather, the rock ens, as Mr. Ingwersen calls it, for the en so lies that it has gradually grown different gardens, which we call (1) the l rockery," made out of the local rock h is got hereabouts, (2) the "grey ery," all of which is old worn limestone Westmoreland, and (3) the rest consists valls made of a mixture of whatever we could get.

w, after nearly 10 years, all these parts had time to get covered, and I think n say that we are never without some- ng lovely to enjoy. Even in the coldest ter or after a long drought like the past summer, there is always colour. But I tell you all this simply to express my gratitude to the writer of "Rhus Cotinus," who has built every stone of it, and I can assure you that if every flower was gone, the rockwork would still be beautiful.

If anyone is planning a garden, big or tiny, I will gladly show them this one, but, alas, seeing is not enough, for it is really the work of a genius. Mr. Ingwersen not only lays every stone himself, but does the work artistically and yet practically. Many rock gardens are lovely, but not always good homes for precious Alpines.

V. CAVENDISH BENTINCK.

The Cottage, Dawlish, Devon.

Irreconcilable Alpines

On page 674 Col. A. H. Wolley-Dod, the son of an old friend of mine and great gardener, speaking of difficult Alpines, mentions my garden here (which, in reality, is an Alpine nursery), and asks whether we are successful with high Alpines. Alas, less than yourself in most parts of England, as our continental climate is too hot and too dry for some treasures as Eritrichium, Alpine Androsaces, Primula glutinosa, etc. These we may grow in pure Sphagnum, and I have given the culture of this kind in my books on Alpine cultivation. What my late friend Farrer and now all the English-speaking gardeners wrongly call "the moraine" is the application of the same system, watering from below. It is watering during heat which kills the high Alpines. This is the worst thing for them I am now, after 60 years' practice on Alpines, certain.

We are here at 400 metres altitude, but our garden at St. Cergne on the Jura is at 1,000 metres (3,000 feet), and there we are able to grow some of these rare things better than here, and especially in our walls there, where Androsace Charpentieri, helvetica, glacialis, Hausmanni, hirtella, Wulfeniana, succeed rather well.

H. CORREVON.

Geneva.

The Allwoodii Pinks Jean and Rufus in a Newquay garden

The National Carnation and Picotee Society

I understood that the Northern Carnation Society was not out for cheap publicity, but the Hon. Treasurer of that body having retired from the fray, I note that the Hon. Secretary has taken up the pen.

I indicated that my previous letter closed the matter, but I feel compelled to answer the communication by Mr. Secker, particularly as he quotes from letters which have not appeared in the Press.

The Northern Carnation Society was founded not more than seven years since, a fact which is confirmed by their Sixth Annual Report, issued this year, whilst the National Carnation and Picotee Society disseminated its *fiftieth* annual report a few months ago.

I repeat most emphatically that the Northern Carnation Society is not and never has been the Northern Section of the National Carnation and Picotee Society, which is the only body now running (date of inception 1877) entitled to bear the title N.C. and P.S. Many, many years since there were three societies connected with the Border Carnation, but two became defunct. The National Carnation and Picotee Society (of which I am the Hon. Secretary) does not exist under a false title, neither does it infringe the copyrights of any other organisation. I suggest to Mr. Secker that, in future, the Northern Carnation Society (working under the wrongly assumed title of N.C.P.S. [N.S.]) should refrain from issuing colourable imitations of this Society's publications, and work under their proper title, N.C.S.

Being economical, the N.C.P.S. is still using up the old forms and stationery printed many years since, hence the reason for the N.C.S. receiving an old receipt form.

My action in protecting the interests of the N.C.P.S. has been *unanimously* approved by the Committee of this Society.

A. E. AMOS, Hon. Secretary,
National Carnation and Picotee Society.

New certificated Chrysanthemums

An interesting series of beautiful Chrysanthemum novelties was submitted to the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society, whose meeting was held in the Committee-room of the Royal Horticultural Society, Greycoat Street, London, S.W., on Monday, October 21st. Varieties receiving First-class Certificates were :—

MRS. W. HALL.—A large exhibition Japanese bloom measuring about 8 inches across. The florets are long and broad, and build a bloom of good, reflexing form, the florets curling and incurving at the ends. Colour, deep rosy-mauve with silvery reverse and silvery centre. Shown by Mr. W. Hall, Enton House Gardens, Witley, Surrey.

LUSTRE.—This new variety is of true incurved form, having fairly broad florets neatly and evenly incurving, and building a bloom of considerable promise for exhibition or for cut flowers. Colour, silvery-mauve.

RED CAVELL.—A glorious sport from Edith Cavell, and a bloom that is sure to be valuable to growers of exhibition blooms. The florets are long and broad, and build a flower between 9 inches and 10 inches in diameter. The colour may be described as reddish-chestnut with old gold reverse and old gold centre. A most effective bloom. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

MRS. SARAH KNIGHT.—This is a welcome addition to the Japanese section, suitable for market or for disbudding. The flowers are about 5 inches to 6 inches across and the florets are of medium width and pointed. The florets reflex in very even form and build a bloom of exquisite decorative character. Colour, bright rose. Stems, stiff and erect. Small foliage.

DAZZLE.—A most welcome addition to the free-flowering Pompons. The flowers were shown in freely flowered sprays of considerable decorative value. If disbudded this should be a Pompon flower of good quality. Colour, crimson. There were as many as 20 blooms on one spray. Height, about 2½ feet. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Junr.

MRS. J. W. STONE.—A beautiful primrose-coloured sport from the well-known white single-flowered variety, W. Smith. The flowers are about 6 inches across, having fairly broad florets evenly arranged around a neat, well-proportioned, golden disc. Shown by Mr. H. Robertson, Abbey Road, N.W.

D. B. CRANE.

Plagianthus Lyalli

I ENCLOSE a photograph of a bush of Plagianthus Lyalli which is about 10 feet high and covered with flower. This place is 838 feet above sea level, and the plant seems quite hardy, if planted in a sheltered spot, and is easily struck from cuttings.

MRS. ANDREW SMITH.
Whitchester, Duns, Berwickshire.

Zauschneria Californica

This plant, which is otherwise known as the Californian Fuchsia, is a most beautiful subject for the rock garden. It has been in bloom in my garden for fully one month, and at the moment of writing (October 18th) it is as bright as ever. The colour, which is a glowing scarlet, is particularly welcome in the general planting scheme. I find that the Californian Fuchsia rejoices in a medium, well-drained soil, and an effort should be made to conform to these conditions when preparing the pocket. Late November and early April are excellent times for pl Personally, I prefer the former, bec saves the plants from suffering in the of a dry spring. Propagation is effected by means of cuttings, which be inserted under a bell-glass or cold June is, perhaps, the best month for sertion of cuttings, which should be p from fairly firm growth. If encoura is given, the young plants should be for the rock garden by November.

G. H

Plagianthus Lyalli flowering well in a Berwickshire garden

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ag

Apples for market

THE present season has been markable as regards the fluc ations in the market prices fruits, and more especially the comm orchard kinds, for although a light c generally, some kinds are much bel the average, while others have p duced a crop double that of ordin years, the most notable being Appl that are at the present time selli wholesale at from 8s. to 10s. sieve; this is an extraordin price, for if large kitchen App are worth 1d. each in the mark they cannot be retailed at anythi like a reasonable price; ab here moderate-sized trees of Ston Apple have realised £2 to £3 per tr On the other hand, Pears and Plu are below the price of some seas when fruit is much more abundant a decidedly below the average as rega quality; still, it seems singular t Pears and Plums are only worth ab half the price of Apples that equally below the average in point view. I have no doubt that this w give an impetus to Apple planters depend even more largely than ever the king of hardy fruits, and t Apples will, to a great extent, suppla Pears as Standard trees. I find he that even the largest growers gradually reducing the number of sor and making a selection rather than collection of varieties is the plan n adopted. The very early or very la sorts are the most sought after, as th always sell well, while the mid-seas kinds are those that glut the mark and bring prices down below a munerative point. At present, fr culture for market is only in its fancy, but promises to assume lar proportions.—J. G.—*October 25t* 1879.

Gardening in the parks

This has been a wretched season f "sub-tropical plants" in the park Perhaps a few more such seasons m teach the lesson that, as regards publ parks, it is better to attend more hardy trees, hardy flowering shrub hardy florists' flowers, and the nume ous herbaceous plants now in cultiv tion than to spend so much money the erection of villages of costly gree houses which are devoted to the cultur of tender exotics. These, after all th trouble and expense they occasio often present a miserable aspect eve for the few months they are visible.— *October 25th*, 1879.

Early Autumn Colour

THE prolonged drought was broken early in October, and all plants look happier. Many trees and shrubs had begun to ne their leaves through dryness and I began o worry whether there would be any left or autumn colour. A week ago a terrific al sprang up which threatened to finish ff all foliage, but in spite of this there is o-day (October 15th) quite a lot of colour n foliage and fruit. For fruit there are sa Moyesii and its near ally R. argesii, R. pomifera. Of the Crabs, Cheal's rimson and Veitch's Scarlet are very at- ractive with masses of brilliant coloured ru. John Downie was good, but the birds ve had the fruit, no doubt being hard put o finding food in the dry September. The ees of the two former were recently prayed, and possibly there may be some eason for their leaving the fruit alone due o this. Pyrus Malus purpurea and P. M. lki are both good. The latter seems righter in colour and more plentiful. P. M. eera has been a mass of small Cherry-like ru, but has been raided by the birds. P. Sargentii has been a mass of brilliant carlet fruit, and now the foliage is turning rich butter yellow.

Of the huge family Cratægus there are many fine fruiting forms. Just now the best re C. saligna. Such is the plant's name as received. The fruits are larger than any other that I have seen so far, and the foliage s now very bright—a mixture of orange and red For fruit, C. prunifolia splendens is ery showy. C. Jackii, C. persinnilis, C. ubrivensis are some of the best. For oliage, as I write, I select C. ferentaria, C. losa, C. gemmosa, C. macrantha for hades of orange, yellow, and crimson. C. llangeriana has rich yellow and brown autumn foliage.

Of the Acers, so far, the Japanese Maples are limited to A. japonicum laciniatum—a sheet of solid, brilliant crimson, and A. dissectum and its varieties ornatum, purpureum, palmatifidum, which are all showing rich colours, orange, gold, and crimson. A. Ginnala was severely tried by the drought and the gale of last week and many leaves fell before colouring, but it still shows plenty of orange and crimson foliage, as does also A. spicatum. Close beside them is Pistachia sinensis, a vivid crimson, every bit as brilliant as A. japonicum laciniatum. It is early yet for the Berberis, but one is already outstanding, and that is B. Sieboldii, as bright a scarlet as any Guardsman's tunic. The true plant is rare and quite unmistakable.

Of the large family of Cotoneasters there are a few already at their best. For fruit I select C. Franchettii, and its pretty grey foliage is not the least attractive part of it.

C. bullata, good foliage as well as berry. C. Dielsiana, C. Farrer sp. 1325, a very nice plant in foliage, berry, and habit. C. lucida is particularly bright in its coat of autumn colours of crimson and orange. Many others species will be better a bit later on.

Azaleas show a wide range of colour—yellow, orange-red, or crimson, and few equal A. pontica for richness. Viburnum tomentosum plicatum is a gorgeous crimson, the var. Mariesii being almost as good, but wants a few more days. V. cassinoides is showing some good colour in some of its leaves, and V. Carlesii is quite bright, but I think dryness at the roots has not agreed with this latter. Pyrus Tschonoski is showing rich orange and crimson colourings, and is a plant one seldom sees. Stephanandra Tanakæ is a bright yellow and its brown stems are attractive—and this is somewhat similar to Neillia longiracemosa. Hamamelis virginica is turning to a bright yellow which rather hides its yellow flowers now open. H. japonica rubra is a blaze of orange and crimson, and H. j. Zuccariniana was quite good, but dropped its leaves ten days ago, due to the drought. Close by are the Fothergillas. F. Gardenii is the least showy here, owing to its leaves colouring, one might say, each in its turn; the colour is fine, but there is not sufficient on the plant at any time to equal its neighbour F. monticola—a blaze of crimson. F. major turns a bright rich yellow.

On the house there is a fine form of Vitis inconstans—possibly var. purpurea—it is colouring earlier than the type and is much richer and deeper in colour. Vitis Coignetiæ is a wonderful colour, and growing in the shade is V. Thunbergii which has given an almost self deep rose colouring. Pieris Mariana is beginning to colour and will continue to carry its foliage right through the winter if the weather is not too severe. Gaylussacia baccata—or G. resinosa it should be called perhaps—is a brilliant crimson, one of the best bits of colouring there is. Young plants of Stewartia pseudo-camellia are quite a pretty deep rosy shade. Cornus florida and its var. rubra are already turning a vivid deep rose and very bright at a distance. Beyond, in the wood, is Pyrus (Sorbus) torminalis changing from green to yellow-orange and rich brown shades. One of our most attractive native plants for autumn colour.

Euonymus provide both autumn foliage and fruit. Our common Spindle Wood is very attractive with its deep pink fruit and yellow seeds. The form of E. europæus, known as Brilliant, is very bright in its deep rosy red autumn foliage. The var. atropurpureus gives a beautiful effect of purple and crimson. The two coloured berry forms, E. fructo albo and E. fructo coccinea, are well worth growing, though the former

Clematis Davidiana
Flowers grey-blue in dense clusters

is, of course, less showy. E. alatus is one of the earliest to colour here and gives a grand show of rose changing to vivid crimson. E. lancifolius, an evergreen species, gives pretty rose pink effects to its dying foliage, but these are rather few. Two species, E. latifolius and E. planipes, are very much alike, but they are unlike in the toothing of the leaves, and the fruits are quite distinct. The fruit is very much larger than that of E. europæus, and colours and splits open earlier, but the foliage has not yet changed to its autumn colouring. E. oxyphyllus has turned early this year, due to drought, the leaves changing to a rich deep rose. E. yedoensis has a softer shade of rose in its foliage, and the fruit is nearly as bright as E. europæus fructo coccinea. Pyrus arbutifolia, the American Red Chokeberry, colours early and gives brilliant scarlet colouring. Hippophæ rhamnoides is very attractive with its mass of orange yellow berries in amongst its silver foliage, and they are berries which the birds do not seem to like. Disanthus cercidifolius, a rare shrub allied to the Witch Hazels or Hamamelis, has begun to take on its wonderful autumn colouring when its big heart-shaped leaves turn to deep claret and brilliant crimson. The Pernettyas are beginning to show colour in the berries, and the white form is very attractive. Prunus Sargentii gives as good a show in autumn as it does with its young foliage and flowers in spring. It is now giving gorgeous shades of orange, gold, and crimson, and some young bushes are a solid crimson mass. P. incisa changes from green to gold to red, and will be at its best in two or three days' time.

Early next month I hope to complete a further note of those not mentioned here which have not, at the time of writing, shown their full glory. F. K.

Clematis Davidiana

THIS herbaceous Clematis is a plant of much interest in the late summer, its blooming season being near the end of August. It is nearly related to the less ornamental C. heradeæfolia tubulosa, of which it is considered to be a variety, though by some botanists it is given specific rank. The flowers are produced in dense clusters, each separate flower being like a small Hyacinth bloom on a half-inch stalk. The clusters are largest near the top of the 3 feet to 4 feet high stem, and are so closely packed with bloom that it is impossible to count the individual flowers. At intervals up the main stem there are side-shoots from 6 inches to 8 inches long, crowned with a cluster of flowers 50 or more in number. These shoots spring from the axils of the large, single, rather vine-shaped, three-lobed leaves. These handsome leaves are dark green and so deeply veined that the surface has a rugose appearance. Clematis Davidiana is described by some authors as spreading or even trailing; the plant, as I have it, from, I think, a Continental source, is anything but spreading; it is starkly upright and needs no staking or any kind of support. The colour of the bloom is a kind of grey-blue; not quite a pure blue, but a good bit bluer than Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles or Trachymene cœrulea. G. J.

National Sweet Pea Society

Alteration to Rules at Annual Meeting

THE annual general meeting of the National Sweet Pea Society, which took place on Wednesday, was, for the first time, held outside London proper. By courtesy of Messrs. James Carter and Co., the dining room at their Raynes Park seed establishment was placed at the disposal of the members, who were, prior to the meeting, entertained to luncheon by the retiring President, Mr. Harold Beale. Following the luncheon and preceding the meeting, the members were conducted round the trial grounds and premises on a tour of inspection

Mr. Beale occupied the chair at the commencement of the meeting, and, on his suggestion, the entire gathering stood for a moment in silence on learning of the death of Mr. W. Huffey, of Tonbridge, a member of the Committee.

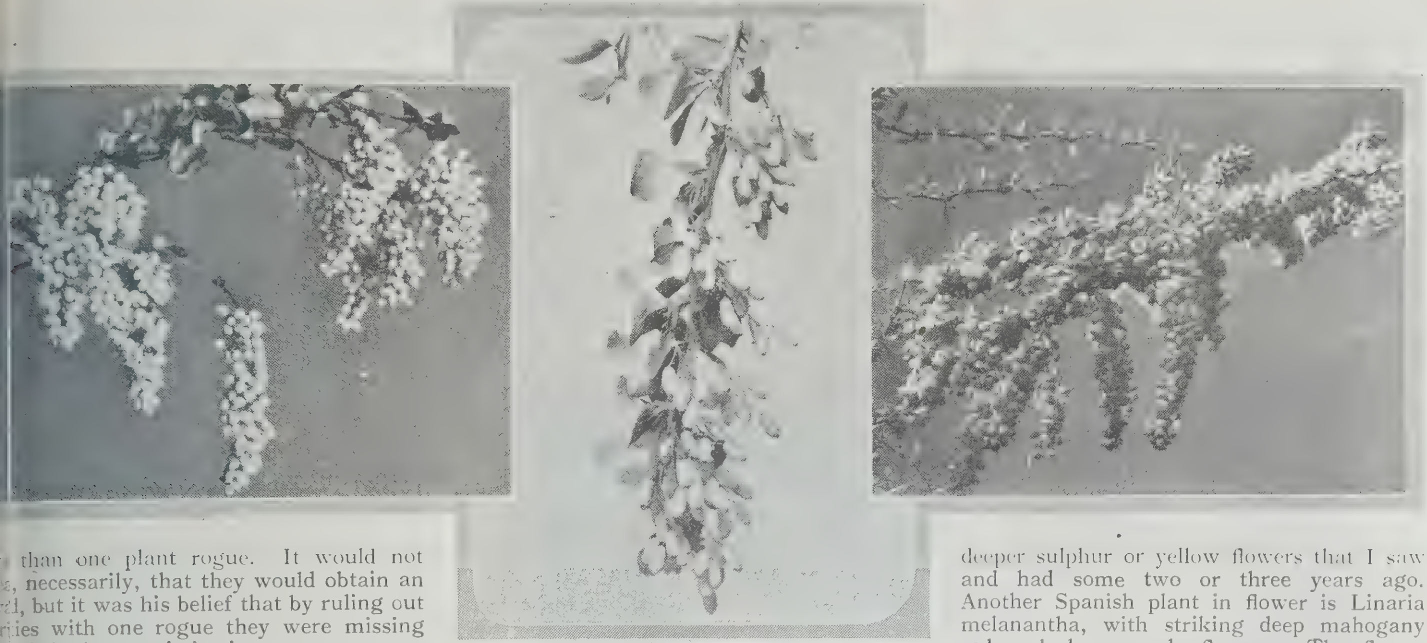
The 29th annual report, which was adopted, stated the Society had had another successful year. The Committee were concerned that the number of trade exhibits at the two shows was less than in former years. The Annual Show for 1930 would be held in the New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, on July 8th and 9th, and it was hoped that a provincial Show would also be held. During the year 91 new members, including 9 Vice-Presidents, had joined the Society, and 12 kindred societies had become affiliated. On the financial side, it was stated that the condition of the Society continued to improve, the surplus of the year ended September 30th being £49 6s. 8d., as against £42 0s. 8d. of the previous year. The report concluded with thanks to all officers of the Society and friends who had assisted in any way.

Mr. Samuel Wallrock, of the Manor House, Stanmore, was unanimously elected President for the ensuing year. Mr. Beale, in vacating the chair, observed that he was of the opinion the ruffle varieties of Sweet Peas would, in a few years' time, succeed everything they had to-day. He was getting his firm to concentrate on the double standard Sweet Pea.

The Society's Gold Medal and a framed
autographed copy of a large group
graph taken at the Norwich Show we
presented to the retiring President in
ciation of his services.

Mr. J. Stevenson proposed alterati
Rules 17 and 21 of the Society. Th
rule read : "The Gold Medal of the
may be provisionally awarded to the
which the Society consider the best
Trials each year. . . . The variety wh
the time, appears worthy of the dist
shall be reserved for the Gold Meda
this shall be finally awarded the fol
season if the variety has kept true
and colour." Mr. Stevenson's propos
that in the first line the word "shall"
be deleted and the word "may" in
and that the word "provisionally
deleted, and also the last paragraph
Rule. This would, he explained, mea
the Gold Medal need not necessar
awarded each year, and also that
Medal were to be awarded it would
dependent upon the conduct of the var
the Trials the following season.
varieties, he claimed, were not worth th
Medal, yet they had to give the awar
further proposed that in Rule 21-
award of any kind shall be made to a
that, at the Trials, contains a rog
rogues," the words "a rogue or ro
should be deleted and the words "mor
one plant rogue" be inserted. Many
varieties, he said, got the "go-by" f
little fault and that was a rogue—ge
a consistent one. He thought it was
they considered the varieties that ha

Campanula isophylla alba as a wall pl
Planted in a cavity in dry walling when
crown of the plant is protected from winter



FRUITING SPRAYS OF BERBERIS

Left: Berberis polyantha, deciduous species, fruits red.

Centre: Berberis vulgaris (Common Barberry). The berries are too acid even for our native birds. At one time the fruits were considered a wholesome delicacy, candied or preserved in sugar.

Right: An unnamed seedling with an abundant crop of coral and salmon-red berries.

than one plant rogue. It would not , necessarily, that they would obtain an l, but it was his belief that by ruling out ies with one rogue they were missing of the best varieties in commerce.

. D. Allan seconded these two proposals, were voted on separately. The first arried without discussion.

aking on the second proposal, Mr. . Burt said the Society wanted to aim at ghest possible standard. If they allowed lant rogue, that would be one in 30 . How many would there then be in und? He considered the proposal a grade step.

er members spoke against the proposal, was, nevertheless, carried by 31 votes d 26 against.

the election of office bearers which en- Mr. G. H. Burt was elected Chairman e Executive Committee, Mr. J. M. eford was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, . C. Bartlett was re-elected Secretary, . S. Brunton was re-elected Editor of the al, and Messrs. W. G. Kay and Co. re-elected auditors. The Committee re-elected *en bloc*, with the exception ssrs. R. and T. Bolton and the late Mr. Iuffey. The following were elected to on the Committee:—Messrs. F. ord, A. W. Gower, F. J. Rogers, rling, F. Cotterill, O. H. Abbott, and olloway. The nine members elected by to serve on the Floral Committee —Amateurs: Messrs. C. Ball, E. H. ty, C. H. Curtis, W. Humphrey, and Rogers. Trade: Messrs. D. Allan, . Burt, A. Ireland, and E. R. Janes.

ober flowers in a North-East Yorkshire garden

HE recent rains, the first for many onths, have resulted in brightening up any parts of the garden.

day (October 12th) Zauschneria cali- a, known as the Californian Fuschia, is effective in masses in two positions, one back of a dwarf wall, the other partly Yews, both very dry, sunny positions. been in flower fully a month, and after cent rains is still quite brilliant with its mon vermilion-red flowers. The plants been in the garden for years, and in the mentioned position usually flower well, ever before so finely as in this extra- rily dry year.

the above wall top, which faces full t, the very pretty Helianthemum umbel- is in flower for the second time with rose-coloured flowers. Reginald Farrer s well of this Sun Rose with white s, and mentions that " a red-blossomed one has been found at Fontainbleau." In Bonniers' illustrated "Flora de France, Suisse, etc.," is Helianthemum umbellatum var. rubrifolium ("tres rare Foret de Fontainbleau au Mont Merle"), which evidently refers to this variety.

Another species, Helianthemum pulverulentum, which I have from seed collected in the Sierra Nevada, has a somewhat similar rose-coloured flower, as well as the typical white flowers; the plant, however, is more prostrate, and does not carry itself so well as H. umbellatum. The var. roseum Wk. is described in Willkomm and Lange's "Floræ hispanica," but only recorded for Piedmont and Liguria. In the later "Spanish Flora of Blas Lazaro e Ibiza," the flowers are described as white and sometimes rose. The rose-coloured flowers of H. pulverulentum were fairly common in and near the bungalow that I stayed at high up in an out of the way part of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

Origanum hybridum is a treasure for late flowering with its sprays of pink Hop-like flowers, a plant from Asia Minor that winters quite well in a dry position. Another Eastern plant, Æthionema venustum, which gave lavishly of its lovely sprays of light rose-coloured flowers earlier, has at present seed sprays which are noticeably effective.

The double-flowered form of Campanula haylodgensis which has been flowering for some weeks, has still a good show of its clear blue flowers, and is in its double form even more effective than the type. Campanula gargantica hirsuta is flowering for a second time, and Campanula isophylla is very effective with its large good blue flowers in a position it has occupied for many years.

On my "island" moraine, a few plants of the dainty grey-green dwarf foliaged Chrysanthemum radicans, originally from seed obtained on a visit to the Sierra Nevada, has some of its white and pale sulphur Daisy flowers, but, unfortunately, none of the deeper sulphur or yellow flowers that I saw and had some two or three years ago. Another Spanish plant in flower is Linaria melanantha, with striking deep mahogany red and deep purple flowers. The flower colours of this species vary considerably. Asperula arcadiensis, the prettiest of the Woodruffs, with its delicate, long, pink flower trumpets, is flowering again, as are also Campanula W. H. Payne and Hypericum polyphyllum.

However, the most showy plant at present is Felicia rotundifolia; this, on sunny days, of which we have had many more than usual, is very lovely with its delightfully good blue Daisy flowers, freely produced; these African Daisies, of which there are many, all beautiful, have to be treated as annuals, as they are not likely to stand through the winter. Some may say these are not moraine plants; this is admitted, but they are useful, especially as odd plants rather than in mass, to carry on the delights of the moraine in the off season.

A feature on one corner of the moraine is a well-flowered clump of the deep purplish-blue flowered Crocus asturicus.

In other parts of the garden Linarias are still attractive, all pretty and flowering over a long period. They include Linaria maroccana, with its purplish-red flowers. L. bipartita, some with good blue flowers, as well as violet-purple, and odd dainty white-flowered specimens; L. broussonetii with its dwarf erect yellow flowers, a species from Andalucia; L. origanifolia, originally from seeds collected in the Pyrenees; L. verticillata, a pretty prostrate yellow-flowered plant with deep green foliage that I obtained in the Sierra Nevada; L. supina from the Pyrenees; this seeds itself too freely and may become a nuisance, it also crosses with and dominates other species near. L. alpina flowers and seeds itself quite well; a mass of it at present has a few of the pretty rose-coloured flower specimens, but, unfortunately, no white flowers appear.

All the above come up from self-sown seeds, but it is always safer to collect seed and sow some where required early in the spring.

Sedum spectabile is always interesting, especially the paler pink flowered variety, coming into flower in the autumn and attracting to itself butterflies, bees, silver y moths, and flies innumerable. This year Buddleia variabilis flowered at the same time, and proved for a time more attractive to the beautiful Red Admiral and small tortoiseshell butterflies.

The recently introduced Œnothera tricocalyx with white flowers is flowering well and is quite one of the best of the Œnotheras for the garden.

Bulbs have been later in flowering than usual, evidently waiting for rain; this came a little over a week ago, and almost immediately Crocus speciosus commenced to push up, and its flower masses are quite attractive. Crocus zonatus came up earlier in one position, but in others it is just appearing; out of a large number of seedlings, odd flowers are almost white. Crocus granatensis, the form of C. nudiflorus, that Maw includes in his monograph for the Sierra Nevada mountains, was collected in 1924 and 1926 out of flower, 6,000 feet to 7,000 feet up in the Sierra Nevada, and flowered for the first time last year and again recently. A few Crocus pulchellus are in flower, also in a position on the moraine, the pretty Crocus hadriacus, with pale bluish white darker pencilled flowers, and just appearing with its dark purplish-blue flowers is Crocus medius.

My Colchicums are mostly past the best; C. bornmulleri and C. giganteum flowered in early September, followed by C. speciosus with its fine white flowered variety, which flowered later than the type. Also C. byzantinum and a similar Colchicum received as C. veratrifolium. C. autumnale has been flowering freely, including white and double flowered varieties, the latter just coming into flower.

The Colchicums are very nice to h
flowering, but they are somewhat unt
Cabbagey when in leaf.

T. Ashton Lofth
Linthorpe, Middlesbrough.

GLADIOLI

When and how they flowered in 1929

By Major George Churcher, President of the British Gladiolus Socie

John Alden and Zona, two promising Gladioli

THE ground was well trenched in the autumn and left in a very rough state on top, and the severe weather of the past winter had full play with the largest portion of the top spit. The result was, when worked down in the spring, a bed as near perfection as one could wish. Planting began the second week in April and continued, at intervals, until May 14th.

The first spike to open was one of Break o' Day, described by the raiser as an extra early one, which was justified on July 20th. The colour is a pink flushed over a cream ground, shading deeper to the edge of the petals. The zone of yellow on the lower petals throws up the pink, and the flowers are not too large to give a very effecti
for the dinner-table.

On the 22nd appeared a new one
form of Mandarin, a rich salmon-
with yellow throat. It ranks as a Prir
grandiflorus; it is tall, nearly 5 feet, a
be much in demand when better know
fortunately, there are two other varie
the market of the same name. One
duced some few years back and descr
follows:—"Prim. clear yellow, with
scarlet flame in throat. A flush of sca
the reverse of the shoulder petals
rich and very colourful effect." This
was well shown by Mr. Watkin San
Southport in 1928, it figuring in two
first prize exhibits. The third variety
name was advertised in October of la
by J. W. Crow, Ltd., of Canada, un
following description:—"A glorified
Queen, taller, and with much larger f
A grand new colour, petals evenly
salmon over orange, clear yellow t
This I have not seen, but evidently th
varieties are alike only in name, but ca
be necessary in ordering.

Five days later came John Alden and
both well known; also Selma (Ker
flower of good shape, borne on a ta
of Primulinus type; and Spirit of St.
sent out this year for the first time by I
the colour is carrot-red with darker ma
Oranco, also sent out by Diener, is a
linus of pale orange-yellow, splashed s
scarlet spot in three upper petals. Sai
disease resisting. The introducer says
can be brought to flower here in Cal
two or three times in a year without i
ing its vigour. I have cut bulbs in
after three weeks' rest and in 50 day
were in flower again." It continued
duce spikes well into September.

The 28th brought Quinton, a Prim
grandiflorus of coral pink, but it d
strike me as being above the aver
many others of the same colour. C
another P. g., greeted us on this day.
beautiful Taj Mahal appeared on the
as also Leen Wone, of remarkable
This variety was given an Award of
by the B.G.S. at the London Show
spikes were cut from the same b
September 13th), showing, as it did las
the long period of flowering. The la
days of the month gave Golden Vic
deep yellow Primulinus of good form
Polhymnia, a very pale pink, admir
some, but too thin in colour for most.
and Priscilla Alden are too well kno
need description.

August 1st. Gorgeous, a large-flo
rose red, with dark crimson blotch, s
itself, but did not take my fancy, alt
it may be said to be well named. S
King, a Primulinus hybrid, attracted me
Few, I think, will have any use f
former, while the latter will find
friends. Purple Spot, which was one o
to appear on the 2nd, was a striking
for the border; it is not a new variety,
grew it for the first time this year. I b
it because it was cheap, and having
more than 90 per cent. of my stock, an
number of the new varieties was impo
Angola was another I had not grow

time, a nice pink Primulinus of early) introduction, which bloomed on this as did Buddy Worden, an orange; rnia Lou should appeal to those who r the P. g. type, being a flower of good bance, of an old rose pink colour. Sun , a large-flowered orange-salmon was the one to open on the 3rd; the old rites, Giant Nymph, Henry C. Gohel, Sunnymede pleased the eye on the 4th, her with a new one, Adair, a cream iated variety; while the 5th produced salmon-pink; White Butterfly, the best most reliable white Primulinus, in my ion; and Sovereign, the largest and one best, if not the best, of the dark blues. at burst of colour came to view on the with Dr. van Fleet, B. W. Williamson, nto, and Dewdrop, with Robert J. lerd, a very fine deep vermilion, but not d doer with me. I have tried it several and have come to the conclusion it make way for something more reliable. Lily did not do its best to come up to its ogue description, but Yellow Prince was good. White Orchid will have to be n again before one can decide for or st it. Fire Pink (1929), not very lnamed, produced a spike well set with rs more salmon than pink. Another of aciniated group is Aquilla, deep cream. the rush of the previous day, the 7th Temblor only. This variety was a com- failure last year, but this year, planted xto Virginia Lou, it grew as strong as its bour, and produced beautiful spikes of salmon-red flowers.

Mady Imogene confirmed my previous ion of her high merit on the 8th; and alie Boy was gay in grenadine pink; ts, cream edged with pink, makes a good flower; Gregor Mendel attracts in his ale of purple, while Margaret Moor looks in crimson. Elfin and Forest Sprite also in evidence on this day.

at great favourite Ada De Poy made her on the 9th, and continued to hold the stage until the second week in September. Creatore came up for judgment on this day. It is a large open flower of a pretty pink shade. It will appeal successfully to those who like size. Butterboy, judging from previous years, made a somewhat belated appearance. Swiss Maiden also made a great impression on this day. Sunburst was the only new arrival on the 10th, a pleasing flower, and although of Primulinus origin, the blooms are wide open, of good substance, and mounted on wiry stems.

Freckles, orange-salmon Prim., Lucifer, a large flowered peach-red with a yellow blotch, and Trooper, a P. g. of geranium-pink, very tall and commanding appearance, were in attendance on Mrs. W. E. Clark on the 11th, while Purple Butterfly looked longingly at the large and open pink Arbutus.

The 12th was a great day; Mary Pickford with Bridal Veil and Shell Pink came forth with Copper Bronze, Reo (dark ruby red), Scarlet King (very intense scarlet), Marlboro (orange), with Tommy Atkins (bright scarlet) in close attendance; while Mrs. Chas. Stevens (1929) in mallow purple with darker slashings stood up before Orange Fire (1929), a large-flowered orange vermilion, and looked on Honey Dew (1928), a laciniated salmon orange splashes on yellow, with Yellow Wonder, and Oneta, a good orange, developed on the 13th with the Remarkable (cherry-rose), Stippled Beauty (salmon rose pink), Eldora (cream). Helen Howard arrived two days later (14th) than she did last year with a Glory Flower of rose lavender.

On the 16th, Midsummer Dream, much later than usual, appeared with Juniata, very straight-looking, creamy-white, shaded with La France Pink, in company with Gipsy Butterfly, a large open flower of vivid red with large throat blotch and feather. It recalls the large flowers of Lemoine of some years back, but has a stronger stem and altogether a sturdier flower. Genesee, a pale yellow P. g., produced better flowers than in previous years.

Black Pansy appeared about the average time (17th), and on the same day Hilary, an English variety raised by Mr. Bliss, was in flower, a medium-sized heliotrope. Iroquois, an American variety as its name would tell, is a good dark ruby red of medium height The only other flower to open on this date was the rather rich soft orange laciniated variety Golden Orange.

Captain Boynton, Fern Kyle, and Jacoba van Beiren were well up to standard on the 18th. Mrs. Laura S. Schweppe flowered very freely, but I could not feel satisfied that it was the same that I grew a few years back under that name. Harbinger (1929) is a strong grower with terra-cotta flowers, described as a landscape variety, and would appear to be very suitable for that purpose (Mr. Gibson notwithstanding). Persepolis (1929), difficult to describe, other than in the raiser's words:—"A combination of the purest of colours, all perfectly blended, and of most pleasing harmony." Syncopation (1929) may be best described as a miniature laciniated edition of Golden Frills.

Arlington, a new Kemp production of this year's introduction, is an orange shade which is attractive, and as the spike carries many flowers will no doubt be in demand. This with Purple Queen, a medium flower, gave the only excitement on the 19th, and Byron L. Smith, who usually appears quite early in the month, delayed his appearance until the 20th. The 21st brought nothing new, but Comet, 1925 Rose, an improvement on 1910 Rose, Opalescent, and St. Thomas were in bloom.

The next day (22nd), Arcadia (orange-pink), Blue Torch, Dr. Elkins, Fastidious (shell-pink), Helen Wills, Norwood (coral-pink), and Trilby were all checked as true to name, as was Jap Lady, which did better than in previous years—whether the bulbs will carry over to another year or produce spawn is another question. It is a difficult variety to grow. Of the newer ones Iwa was perhaps the largest in every way, the flower a rich pink with a large red blotch. Ridgefield

A border of Gladioli and Pentstemons, showing their good effect for landscape planting

Colchicums naturalised in grass in St. James' Park, London

Park, a Kemp 1929 introduction, is another orange variety with small peach-red feathering on lower petals. Orange Gold (1929), yet another orange variety but of a deeper colour, the blooms are large and open, a striking flower. Philatelia was a 1927 introduction of Kunderd's but an expensive one, and although the name attracted me I was content to wait awhile. The flower, a deep tyrian rose, drew immediate attention; the colour seemed to be quite distinct, and a bed of it would make a striking picture.

The white Tiffany was solitary in its appearance on the 23rd and, no doubt, felt that it was not wanted.

The 24th was in striking contrast to the previous day. It was the day of Pfitzer's Triumph, but there were others of commanding presence. Homestake will surely be among the best of Decorah's for many years to come. The ground colour is a rich pinard yellow, veined cornelian red, the lines getting somewhat heavier towards the edges; the general effect being a deep orange flower. I had but one bulb, but a second spike, with five flowers open was an outstanding feature in a bowl of Virginia Hale on September 14th, and a third spike was developing. Crown of Gold did not appear to be worthy of its name. Oraflame, another Kemp production (so spelt by the introducer, possibly because there is or was already a variety named Oriflame) is one more of the good orange varieties; although classed as a Primulinus, I should be inclined to put it with the Primulinus grandiflorus section. In Spider (Bill) we have another new form, with long, narrow petals. The flowers are of good size and make an attractive spike, and doubtless will be more popular than some of the laciniated varieties. John T. Pirie came into view on the 25th, in company with Muriel and Lucette, while Blue Isle could be seen in the distance, away to the left of Damascus. This last one was introduced by Stevens in 1928; it is something different, and not easy to describe, but the general effect of the flower is a rather dark but bright bluish tinted ashes of roses. The blooms are large and generally hooded. Striking both as to shape and colour.

Annie Laurie in pink came forth on the 29th; while Catherine Coleman, also in pink, appeared with Gloriana the next day. Gloriana is another flower which commanded attention at the Southport Show, and received a well deserved Award of Merit. I am glad to say my bulbs came true this year, although too late for Southport.

Du Ganne Delight made me sad on the 31st.

Violet Prince, a very dark violet red, showed up in contrast with Mrs. K. Prestgard, a pure white on September 1st, while Minuet, a lavender, looked charming with Piccadilly, a creamy yellow with amber throat.

Patricia, in La France Pink, and beautiful Virgina Hale were seen in company of the deep yellow Cleopatra on September 2nd, while Geneva Gem was in solitary state on the 3rd. This last is in the same class as Freckles, but a taller grower, and the colour is scarlet red, veined cream.

Apart from a few varieties which were planted late there are only one or two more to mention. Dr. F. E. Bennett was open on the 5th; Mrs. F. C. Peters, always a late one, but much later than usual owing, no doubt, to the long period of dry weather, did not open until the 7th. On the same day a new variety in Jane Addams of Decorah Gardens appeared. The colour of Jane is soft phlox pink with white throat, but it belongs rightfuly in the lavender class. The raiser states that "like many other varieties of delicate colour, it is apt to become flaked in sultry weather or sudden change of temperature, but when the colour comes clear, as it usually does, it is hard to find anything to equal it." Judging from my flowers the above statement may be taken as absolutely correct. The first spike had the flakes, but the later ones were clean and pure.

On the whole, the season has been a good one here. Naturally, in the peculiar conditions prevailing, some varieties have done better than others. Of those mentioned above, perhaps Sunnymede, John Alden, Priscilla Alden were affected by the drought more than most of the others, although Taj Mahal and Henry C. Gohel were not far behind. These were some of the earliest planted, and no doubt suffered from want of moisture in the early stages of growth.
planted later had the benefit of a go
face rain at the critical stage of grov
were able to get their roots well dowr
the drought really commenced. A dry
seems to suit the Gladiolus on this
there being plenty of moisture belo
main thing is to see that the plants
good start, then from about the firs
in June the continual use of the hoe
vator will keep the plants growing.
application of Clays' among the
flowered varieties about the time the
spikes are pushing up, will help to
the size of the flowers.

The reference to Mr. Gibson may ne
explanation. That gentleman, in a
article, stated that the Gladiolus co
be considered as a landscape flower.
find the Americans expressly s
varieties for this purpose. In one ca
I read :—"Few people know that th
certain varieties of Gladiolus part
adapted for landscape planting. By t
mean to be planted for colour effects
garden without thought of cutting for
decoration. The essentials of a goo
scape Gladiolus are :—

1st. Never fall over.
2nd. Long flowering period.
3rd. Good foliage.
4th. Must not spot in rain or fa
sunshine."

The Gladiolus is largely used at So
and also in some of the London parks
massed colour effects. Some appear
fairly successful for the purpose, but
ness is often the only consideration tak
account, and not suitability. Time
doubt, correct this. Sm

Since writing the above, I hav
glancing through my "garden book
find that the following varieties were n
with :—Hyde Park Sunset, an orange
introduction of this year, which shoul
useful, both for border and cutting;
Guardian, a deep yellow with brig
feathering, an Austin production; Del
is a good white, and the name no
suggested itself to the raiser when he
for the first time; it should be in
when the price is lower, though the
price for an exhibition flower cannot
sidered high. Dainty Lady is one of t
seedlings put out by that keen lover
Gladiolus, Mr. W. E. Clark, of S
U.S.A. It is a Primulinus of perfec
and delicate colouring, pink and
Dearest is a ruffled variety, the ground
is a flesh-pink, blending through salm
rich pink at the tips. It makes a goo
flower, and was raised by the raiser of
White. Eleanor Faust is a deep pin
scarlet blotch on yellow ground.

Some which did not flower were Sa
Sunshine Girl, Idyll, Fleetwood, Fort
Summer Dream, Sir Karl; in fact, the
badly and eventually died.

The bulbs of Jap Lady have been lift
are the finest I have ever seen of this v
but the bulblets did not average one pe

Lily of the Valley

Retarded crowns should be potted
placed in a cool house or frame, from
they may be transferred to warmth
quired. These do equally well in Coco
or soil, and may be had in bloom in
21 days if forcing is resorted to. It is
ever, a good plan to stand the plant
cooler temperature when perfecting
flowers for a few days, as the lea
treated become greener and the flowe
stems stiffer, enabling them to last in
longer in rooms when cut.

Notes from a West Somerset Garden

plants have shown greater apprecia- ion of the dry summer and autumn than he Colchicums, which have been flower- ith exceptional freedom. C. alpinum d its first tiny flowers on July 20th, but gh I have kept it going for six years, it seems to increase. It was followed a ays later by C. cappadocicum, another ing little flower not easy to establish. dry weather delayed the appearance of rnmulleri until the second week of Sep- er, when they came up with a rush in nse to heavy thunder showers. They remained in beauty for three weeks, and own seedlings have appeared in unex- d places. The new race of Dutch ls is proving very valuable. A single of the variety Princess Astrid planted in produced 17 flowers this year and was distinct in its rich mauve colouring. nn Queen flowered a fortnight later and newhat paler. It was followed in the r week of September by Glory of Heem- d (the deepest of all), The Giant, and r Lily. This last variety is of outstand- erit and is aptly named. The soft, lilac rs are fully double and of great size and ance without any suspicion of coarse- It is apparently a good doer, as five s were carried by a single bulb recently d. C. speciosum and its incomparable i variety appeared at the end of Sep- er, as well as the attractive double white y of our native C. autumnale.

umn Crocuses did not appear above ud until mid-September, when C. zonatus up well and flowered with especial ness. A few corms of the lovely C. atinus have also done very well, though species does not increase with any free- When shrubs were flagging under the g sun in July and August one consoled elf by thinking how splendidly the Bella- na Lilies would respond to the baking were receiving and looked eagerly for uds to come through early in September. ta disappointment was in store, for of arge clumps under a warm wall only a ry flower-stem has appeared, and in a ontaining some dozens of bulbs about 14 d are all that are showing even now ber 17th). This is very different to the of 1921 (our last really dry summer), the Belladonna Lilies flowered (and set with exceptional profusion.

rine Bowdeni pallida, grown in a narrow r under a wall facing south, is flower- bundantly and is in every way superior te typical rose-pink form. The narrow- d form of Sternbergia lutea is flowering although overshadowed by the strong e of Gerbera Jamesoni seedlings, which revelled in the warmth of the sun. The variety of the Pomegranate is well set buds, but even this season's heat has not aded the ordinary Pomegranate to r.

a sheltered wall, with its roots shaded djacent shrubs, Mutisia decurrens has remarkably well and borne its glorious ge flowers to the delight of all who see M. ilicifolia has made rapid growth st a wall, but has not yet flowered here; he recently introduced M. retusa has d itself a very valuable addition to our ns. It is probably seen at its best when ed to ramble through some old tree, as ms absolutely hardy and does not need rotection of a wall, at any rate in ern England.

few bulbs of the Mexican Milla biflora potted up in the spring and kept in a house. They have been flowering since niddle of August, and are very lovely with their large, pure white flowers, delicately scented in the evening, poised on slender stems 18 inches tall.

An interesting Gladiolus species sent from Kenya has also flowered under glass. The flowers are green, with many reddish stripes, and very distinctly hooded. I do not know its name, but think it may be G. dracocephalus.

An unnamed Watsonia (raised from South African seed) has flowered in the open border; a lovely, soft, salmon-pink, slightly smaller than W. Ardernei. These seedlings were grown in the open throughout last winter without injury, so it may prove a welcome addition to gardens. The foliage of W. Ardernei was so badly cut by frosts that the bulbs have not flowered at all this year.

Kniphofia Nelsoni, the true orange-scarlet, slender species, from the Orange River Colony, is flowering lavishly in a half-shady position, where it is protected by shrubs from cutting winds. It is one of the most delightful species of the genus.

Mandevillea suaveolens on a south wall not only survived 17 degs. of frost last winter, but has flowered abundantly this summer, some of its exquisitely fragrant blossoms being succeeded by extraordinary double pods of seeds, very slender but about 14 inches in length.

The freshly split seed vessels of Pæonia Willmottiana, with the blue-black seeds embedded among scarlet arils, render this species almost as attractive in autumn as it is in spring, with its pure white flowers.

N. G. HADDEN.

West Porlock, Somerset.

Three Alpine gems

Readers who take a delight in Alpine flora are not likely to overlook the beauty of the encrusted Saxifrages. It is a beauty that is perennial. Even when the flowers are not open, the incrustations of lime on the leaves glitter like polished silver. For some years I have been building up a collection of encrusted Saxifrages, and if I were compelled to destroy all the species and varieties save three, my choice would fall on the following:—Doctor Ramsay, Cultrata, and Caterhamensis. The long, arching sprays of white flowers which the variety Doctor Ramsay bears are spotted with red, and the contrast is delightful. The snow-white blooms of the species Cultrata are the essence of refinement, and the silvery leaves add to its charm. This species opens in late May and June, and acts as a natural successor to Doctor Ramsay. My third favourite, Caterhamensis, develops its flowers in June and July. Tastes differ, of course, but I regard this as the best of all the encrusted Saxifrages. The spikes are often 2 feet in length, and the flowers are heavily spotted with red. I find that all members of the section appreciate a well-drained soil, which is moderately rich. An excellent compost is five parts of ordinary garden soil, and one part of well decomposed farmyard manure. The present is a good time to plant, and when the work is completed, the surface of the soil should be sprinkled with lime rubble. This substance will gradually wash in and serve a useful purpose in the life of the plants.

G. H. C.

Shrubby Potentillas

The ordinary Potentillas that are so useful for the rock garden and herbaceous border are well known, but little attention has been paid to the charming shrubby varieties. These are some of the most attractive of late spring and summer blooming shrubs, being neat in habit and exhibiting great charm in leaf and flower. The best time for planting is early autumn. Sun is the first essential to success with these Potentillas, an absolutely open and even exposed spot suiting them best, and a light but fairly rich sandy loam on the dry side rather than otherwise.

Although certain kinds would not, perhaps, be in stature suited for the small rock garden, they all might be useful where the idea of the shrub rock garden is carried out, as none could be said to be so rampant to threaten equally dwarf shrubs or plants adjacent to them.

The best known kinds are P. fruticosa, with sulphur yellow flowers; P. Friedrichseni, with yellow flowers; and the white variety, Veitchii. There are some well-marked varieties of P. fruticosa, one of which, P. Mandschurica, is smaller in all its parts, while P. rigida is even more procumbent in habit. P. Farreri is another form from Thibet. The first named usually grow into neat bushes about 2 feet in height.

H. STEVENS.

Ornamental Vine pillars over a groundwork of China Asters

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Flowering shrubs in pots

There are many lovely flowering shrubs which, if potted up at the present time, will be found invaluable during the early months of the year. They may be lifted from the open ground, or purchased specially prepared for forcing. Hard forcing should not be indulged in, as this results in spindly growth and poor, washy colour. Such plants should be brought along gradually in cool houses until the turn of the year at least, when they may be subjected to somewhat higher temperatures. The following are very suitable :—Lilacs, Azaleas, Forsythia, Prunus triloba, Wistarias, blue and white, Deutzias, Spiræas, Viburnum Carlesi, V. fragrans, V. utile, Laburnum alpinum, Staphyleas, many Pyrus, and Rhododendrons. It is most important that such plants should be introduced to higher temperatures very gradually, otherwise many buds will fail to respond at all.

Vineries

Vineries containing ripe Grapes, which are of necessity filled with Chrysanthemums and flowering plants, would be easier handled if the Grapes were removed. It would also be better for the latter, providing a suitable storage or Grape room is available, as with the watering of the plants a certain amount of moisture is constantly settling upon the berries, and this eventually sets up a decay which, unless detected and removed, will soon ruin the bunches. Therefore, cut all actually ripe with a length of lateral attached and keep them in bottles in a cool, dry, and rather dark, airy room, where they will keep for a long time.

Renovating Vine and Peach borders under glass

Renovating or making new borders should be put in hand without delay, and the sooner the trees are planted the better, as the roots commence active operations at once. Borders for both Peaches and Vines should be at least 3 feet deep, thoroughly drained, and made up of the best possible loam, as they are to remain undisturbed for many years. In the case of Vines it is not advisable to make up the whole border in any one year, but give the young plants a width of about 4 feet the first season, adding another yard the following year, and so on.

Spring Cabbage

Another and final batch should now be put out, and when the plants are strong enough to hold up their heads, draw a little soil up around the stems, both of these and of former plantings.

Parsnips, Turnips, and Carrots

Lift and store the latter and a small quantity of each of the former, and thus avoid treading upon the land when the latter is in a sodden condition. The former keep better in the open ground, and the Turnips will continue to grow up till Christmas when left in the open. It is, therefore, unnecessary to store more than a few days' supply at any time.

Endive

Lift and plant all Endives still remaining in the open ground in cool frames, and blanch by placing a covering over the lights.

Celery and Leeks

These should be finally earthed up where not already done. Bring the ridge to a narrow point on heavy soils, so that water runs off freely. On light soils this is not so important.

Gathering fruit

This is now a daily task, and must shortly be completed, although it is far better to experience a little frost upon some of the very late varieties of Apples than to gather them before they part readily from the trees. Allen's Everlasting and Reine Marie Joseph D'Othee are cases in point.

Pears in store

Never do I remember a season when Pears have been of such rich and luscious flavour, some varieties which, during normal seasons, could only be termed second rate being absolutely delicious this year. The temperature in the Pear room should not be permitted to fall below 45 degrees.

Gladioli, Salvia patens, and the newer Montbretias

These should be lifted and stored in a cool, airy, frost-proof shed, where they may pass the winter safely. Before it is too late, examine all stocks of cuttings inserted during August and September, replacing any which, from various causes, have failed.

Plants in cold frames

Have covering material ready for use upon frames containing tender or half-hardy subjects, and get all such plants and others which have been standing in the open temporarily safely under cover, as sharp frosts may be expected at any time.

Tree and shrub planting

This may now go forward, but in order to reap the full benefit from these in future years the land they are to occupy should be deeply trenched, but not heavily manured.

E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Wall fruit trees

The fastening of these to the wall is a tedious and unpopular job during the cold weather, especially when the old-fashioned method of nailing is still in use. Where walls are properly wired, the work can be carried out in less than half the time and with the minimum of discomfort. When it can be managed, now is a good time to have this matter attended to, the weather being still comparatively mild.

The mulching of fruits

Trees and bushes in good bearing that show any sign of want of vigour will be greatly benefited by having a generous layer of well-rotted manure, or even of decomposed garden refuse spread all over the surface and very lightly forked in.

Orchard trees

These do not, as a rule, require much in the way of actual pruning, but it is a good plan to go over them carefully about this time and remove all dead wood, while anything in the way of overcrowding of the branches should be put right, cutting out whole branches where necessary, and otherwise regulating the trees, so as to preserve shape and balance. All wounds should be neatly trimmed with a sharp knife or chisel.

Ripening off Gloxinias

Gradually withhold water when the foliage turns brown and the stems part easily from the tubers, lay the pots on their sides in a moderately warm place, for if placed in a temperature much under 50 degrees they are liable to rot while, on the other hand, growth is forced during the winter if considerable
heat is given. Good results are had
rule, with a temperature of 50 degrees
degrees.

Young Gloxinias

Seedlings that may not have flowered
be kept growing slowly but steadi
through the winter, giving just enough
to retain them in health. By this n
the plants, if moved into good soil in
or 7-inch pots in February, will g
grand display quite early in the season
the flowers will be larger than is usual
old bulbs.

Lorraine Begonias

No further picking-off of the flowe
need be carried out after this, but all a
to open. This plant requires a good d
nourishment throughout the flowering p
Weak liquid manure and a dessertsp
of Ichthemic guano in a gallon of clear
are two excellent stimulants, if use
alternate weeks.

Tender bedding plants

If any of these be still in frames, it
be advisable to have them now moved
light, airy house or pit, from which fr
excluded. While they must not be pern
to suffer from dryness at the roots,
even of greater importance to see tha
soil is not kept constantly sodden b
frequent applications of water.

Climbers in the greenhouse

As it is imperative that all possible
is admitted to the greenhouse and cons
tory during the short winter days,
necessary thoroughly to overhaul all clin
plants on the roofs of these structures.
necessary pruning and thinning, ther
should now be attended to, while all s
retained should be neatly tied to the

Bedding Begonias

The tubers ripen and keep best if the
are frosted down before they are l
While this is so, it is dangerous to leave
in the ground too long, for a really s
frost might very easily damage or even
them. As soon, therefore, as they
blackened, have them carefully dug up
laid in shallow boxes. The boxes should
be set in a dry place properly to matur
bulbs. When perfectly dry, rub off th
roots and any soil still adhering to the tu
and then store past in boxes, using p
of dry sand between the layers. It is be
lay the bulbs hollow-side down. Store
boxes in a dry, cool place, but out of
reach of frost.

Dahlias

As soon as frosted down, the stems
be cut down to within about 9 inche
the ground and the tubers dug up wi
fork. Remove the rough of the soil from
roots, and set in an airy place to dry. W
fairly dry, they should be stood toge
against something, with the stems downn
This drains away any moisture from
crowns, and also prevents premature gro

Border Chrysanthemums

When sharp frost has destroyed the flow
it will be advisable to cut back the st
and then lift sufficient of the stools to pro
cuttings in spring. These may be potte
boxed and set in a cold frame for the wi
Some varieties throw up cuttings fr
while many others are shy in this respect
it will be necessary to retain quite a nun
of roots of the latter sorts, so as not t
short of stock when the propagating se
comes round.

C. BLAI

Preston House Gardens. Linlithgow.

new gardens in Preston Park, Brighton

THOUGH many of the older residents n Brighton were rather dubious about he removal of the heavy iron railings 1 surrounded Preston Park and also moval of some of the old trees, I think all, if not all, now admit that the tions made a vast improvement. The al of some of the trees has made the out of a garden possible where flowers ow flourish. Of the garden itself, it a charming approach to the Park r. The new Pavilion is well placed, and not hide the picture of the distant land and the glimpse of the Downs in rther distance.

each side of the garden there are broad , with fine flower borders on each side of while in the centre there is a sunk In the early summer the flower rs were literally ablaze with bold masses tirrhinums and fine tuberous Begonias, the beds on the sunk lawn in the centre filled with the cooler-toned Violas. fine old vases of green coppery tone are duced with excellent effect, and there are ome stone statues, but these would look etter if placed on pedestals. The hinums stood the great drought tularly well, but their place has now taken by early-flowering Chrysanthe- s. Purple Verbena takes the place of of the purple Violas, and a centre bed e lawn is filled with a very fine group of e Lilies.

front of the new Pavilion, Chrysanthe- s have taken the place of Roses, and a a lake has been introduced. The path across it, with gaps through which the is seen, so a series of very formal ng stones is formed that are more us than beautiful. A large vase, draped Ivy-leaved Geraniums is placed in the te.

formal long borders which were so gay Antirrhinums in the summer, now con- scarlet Geraniums, intermixed with rin Marigolds, giving a fire-like effect. uberous Begonias were fine till the rains last week. This mixture of orange and rt occurs in other beds in the Old Steine ens. It certainly gives great splashes of which gladden the eyes of the many rs. The bright colour is carried right o the trees, for not only do festoons of ed electric lamps depend from them, he lamps are twined in and out the s of the trees with the most pleasing that has filled all who have seen them dmiration. The one blot to the picture een a crude erection at the tram nus, containing a mixture of all s, regardless of harmony or surround- This has been freely commented on, ly by passers-by, but in the local Press, r Preston Park there has been nothing aise.

F.R.H.S.

ghton.

ich are the most interesting native American Irises?

t were only for the map, the article by . George Dillistone in GARDENING LUSTRATED for September 14th would be at value. A map is really the very best way otograph upon one's mind where a cer- lant is to be found growing in its native and, for more reasons than those of e and soil, it is important for good gar- s to know where their plants are indi- s. Perhaps rumours of the intense between the States of California and la may have reached the readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, and, while I have no brief for Florida, or for Louisiana either, I cannot but be roused by the first lines of one paragraph where Mr. Dillistone says, "By far the most interesting Irises encountered would be those of the Californian sub-section." I feel that the new Irises described by Dr. John K. Small, of the New York Botanical Garden, in "Addisonia," for December, 1924, March, 1927, and March, 1929, are the most interesting, particularly those described in the last number. They are interesting for many reasons, two being that they are gorgeous and that they have been so long overlooked! How the thousands of plants of Iris fulva could have been collected and Iris vinicolor not have come to the notice of some plant specialist is a mystery, and, while some locations where these plants grow are in out of the way spots, they are not in unexplored ground at all.

Nearly all of these Irises are hardy in the vicinity of New York, and I think surely would do well in England, even in Lancashire (with some protection), and they are good garden subjects. By this I mean that they show up well in the garden picture, the flowers are large enough to attract attention if there are but a few of them, and in the mass they cause much comment. Mr. Dillistone must know about these Irises, as his Journey, on the map, marks the country they inhabit; but perhaps your readers might care to hear some details, and, as some of our Iris specialists here are propagating them, it is to be hoped that shortly they will be introduced to commerce and so made available for horticultural use.

The new sunk gardens at Preston Park, Brighton

Iris fulva, mentioned by Mr. Dillistone, does not seem to be so hardy, and we find that up here we have to grow it in dry ground to keep it over winter. We cover our Southern Irises with a thin application of salt hay, supported by branches from deciduous trees, and in the summer, if we have a dry period, we keep them well watered. Dr. Small noted that in their native habitat these Irises seem to die down and disappear during the summer and weeds and other flowers grow all over them. When the growing time comes round again they evidently send out side-shoots from the old rhizome from below, as the top appears to be rotted away. Iris tripetala has not kept over winter out of doors with us, and we now believe it is because the plant goes to a great depth, and when collected only the upper section of the plant was taken to send to us. When potted and kept in frames it has come along all right because the upper rhizomes and roots were not destroyed as they are by frost. No doubt if the top part dies away the growth comes again from the lower layer, and so we should be careful to have the whole plant before we risk it outside. Planting in the spring will not give enough time to make the necessary mass of roots and rhizomes before winter, so the plants might be potted up on arrival, kept in frames over the first winter, and set out without breaking the ball early in spring. One would naturally think that a native of South Carolina would be a surer subject for New York than those from the Mississippi delta, but the plants from the "other side of the ridge," as it were, seem to be hardier. Maybe it is because they always have had more severe weather changes to contend with.

Of the Florida species I. kimballiæ and I. savannarum are hardy with us, are handsome blues, far finer things than the well-known I. versicolor, but do not seem to be as sturdy and reliable as I. vinicolor, I. giganticærulea or I. violipurpurea. To the uninitiated, I. flexicaulis is not unlike I. foliosa, and has too prostrate a form of growth to be worth while in the garden, except for the collector or hybridist.

I. violipurpurea, related to I. vinicolor and I. atrocyanea, grows in full sunlight, "in prairie-like places on low grounds," and has a beautiful, spreading flower 5 inches in diameter, ruffled, and of a red-purple colour. This Iris attains a height of about 2½ feet, has good foliage, and is floriferous. Several flowers open one after the other on a stalk. This is true of practically all of these Irises.

There is a new species, as yet unnamed, of a pale ashen mauve with a cream reverse that is exquisite, and rather resembles I. violipurpurea in shape. This is a new colour in beardless Irises, and one that is sure to be in great demand, both in the garden and as a cut flower.

The brightest red-purple, with broad gold markings, is I. chrysophœnicia, probably a relation of I. vinicolor. This plant was discovered by Dr. Edgar Wherry and Dr. Small, growing in damp locations, and is the most richly coloured of all these new treasures.

I. chrysæola, collected by Charles A. Mosier and Dr. Small, grows at the extreme limit of the Mississippi delta. It enjoys damp ground at home and needs a full sun. A deep wine-red purple, with a gold flush, reflex, and markings, it is rather short of stature, being only 24 inches tall at the most. It is a more slender and less coarse plant than are I. miraculosa and I. albispiritis.

I. miraculosa will often grow 6 feet tall, has very pale mauve or white flowers, and was collected by Ruth and Arthur Svihla for Dr. Small. It is hardy with moderate protection in New York, but may prove a shy bloomer when too far north. It seems to thrive under various conditions as to habitat, except that rich soil is required. The flowers are very showy, having broad, wavy petals.

I. albispiritis is white, and a native of peninsular Florida. The spectacular effect of the flowers can be imagined when it is noted that the sepals or " falls " are 5 inches long and have a bright golden haft. If it could be combined in a South of England garden with the huge I. giganticærulea, a rich, bright blue, almost like some of the Kæmpferi hybrids we know so well, it would make a corner to remember. About 3 feet to 3½ feet tall, the blue is a clearer hue than is usual in wild American Irises. It likes dry situations, growing in turf in full sun, and having broad, handsome leaves of a bright yellow-green.

I. atrocyanea thrives equally well in the open and in partial shade. It is a rich, dark purple-blue, with curled and wavy parts that lie flat. It prefers damp situations, being probably quite hardy.

I. vinicolor has proved hardy with us, and is a flower perfectly described by the name. The stalks are slender and tall, and the whole effect is very graceful. It is so beautiful that the fortunate possessor, upon seeing it in bloom for the first time, is sure to rush off to call the gardening neighbours to see the new jewel. This Iris should satisfy the keenest member of either of the two great Iris Societies, and I foresee someone taking a C. M. with it at some not far distant show. Dr. Small and Dr. Wherry discovered I. vinicolor early one morning near New Orleans, growing in a sticky marl, but ordinary garden loam will be sufficient to produce perfect results, and the plant increases very rapidly, also it will grow in semi-shade or in full sun. The only protection given to it here over winter has been the leaves that drifted on to the bed from a nearby Maple. These fell between the plants, as the foliage of the Iris is heavy enough when it is dried off to make a considerable mat of its own. This mat should, of course, be left on until spring, when it can be pulled off and the bed tidied up. All these Irises are easily raised from seed, which is best sown directly it is ripe. That left on the plant or scattered upon the surface of the ground may not germinate for two years, as the outer casing becomes very hard.

ETHEL ANSON S. PECKHAM,
Hon. Curator, Iris and Narcissus
Collections, N.Y. Botanical Garden.
New Rochelle, N.Y.

Grading of ware Potatoes

There is, as yet, no standard definition of a marketable sample of ware Potatoes. In view of the variations which occur in practice in regard to the proportion of diseased or damaged tubers, and of earth and other extraneous matter in commercial samples, it is desirable that a standard definition should be provided in the interests of producers, distributors, and consumers.

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries has, therefore, made draft regulations* under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1928, prescribing and defining grade designations for voluntary use in the trade. These have been demonstrated by the Ministry of Agriculture during the past year at a number of agricultural shows up and down the country. They provide for variations in the size, *i.e.*, minimum diameter of the tubers as between one grade and another, but for a common standard of dressing as regards disease, damage, dirt, and so forth.

Owing partly to differences in public taste and partly to the difficulty in defining cooking quality, no provision is being made at the moment for the use of the National Mark on graded consignments. It is believed, however, that even without the National Mark the existence of a statutory standard of dressing will be as beneficial to the Potato industry of this country as it has proved to
be elsewhere and that, in time, s
standard will work its way into the t
its merits.

At present, good and bad sampl
marketed under the same descriptio
using the statutory grade desig
growers will be able to guarante
standard of dressing which should g
way towards securing them from th
petition of poorly-dressed lots. Mer
both wholesale and retail, and pu
private institutions accustomed to
large supplies should find the grade
ful.

The extensive use of these grades
junction with the excellent quality
year's crop should help to stimulate
mand for home-grown Potatoes, and
be an obvious and proper departure fr
present condition of informality an
certainty.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pla
be named should send fair examples of eac
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of
and points of shoots are useless.) Not mor
four plants should be sent in any one week
same correspondent. Where more than on
is sent they should be numbered. Of conife
cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in di
stages of colour and sise of the same kind g
assist in its determination. Single, unri
deformed specimens are difficult to name
do not undertake to name more than
varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Apple stock

(J. Wilson).—It is impossible for us to name your specimen, beyond the fact that it is an Apple stock. We see no reason why the trees should not be " worked," *i.e.*, grafted or budded with known varieties of Apples if you so desire. On the other hand, it is best to use existing known varieties of Apple stocks for the purpose, because the performance of Apples worked on such stocks are better known. An Apple worked on Malling No. I stock will produce a very vigourous tree; if Malling No. II stock is used, the tree is less vigorous, etc., etc. We hope to publish an article on Apple Stock in the near future.

Currant Mite

(R. M. Warden).—The control for Big Bud Mite of Black Currant is to spray the affected bushes with Lime Sulphur at the strength of 1 in 12 in spring when the foliage is the size of a shilling. This treatment causes considerable scorching of the leaves, but the bushes soon recover from the effects of the spray, and it appears that the treatment does not affect the cropping power of the bush.

Diseased Pear

(R. C. T. Battle).—Your Pear is affected with Pear Scab, a fungus which attacks the leaves, fruit, and young wood of the Pear. The best method of control is to spray the tree with Bordeaux Mixture when the flower buds are just showing colour, but before the petals open. A second spray should be given when most of the petals have dropped from the flowers, and a third three weeks later. The spray fluid should be driven well to the undersides of the Pear foliage.

(Stow).—The specimen Pear leaves are affected with Pear Leaf Cluster Cup. This fungus lives at different periods of the year in two entirely different hosts. In May dirty-orange, soft, gelatinous bodies about ½ inch
long may be found on the swollen br
of several kinds of Juniper. The gela
bodies form minute spores, which are
about by the wind. If any of these
alight on the foliage of Pear or Ha
they germinate and produce growths
resemble clusters of little horns with f
tips. The curious clusters spring
orange-coloured spots on the leaf. You
endeavour to trace the source of the a
Juniper, because the disease is peren
this host, and is only annual in the Pear
removal of one of the hosts appears
the only control.

Peach trouble

(Sussex).—It appears that your Pe
suffering from some cultural error, pr
a nutritional one. Give the tree a dr
of 1 part of sulphate of potash and 3
superphosphate of lime at the rate of
per square yard. Try getting the tre
growth rather earlier in the season s
the fruits could obtain the benefit fro
effect of a little more sun during their
ing stages. Admit plenty of air durin
ripening stages, but you could force th
along by closing the house earlier, a
fruits begin to swell after stoning.

Diseased Apple

(Robinet).—Your Apple is suffering f
number of troubles. (1) Apple Scab
Brown Rot; (3) Glassiness; (4) An atta
Leaf Hopper. The control for Apple
has recently been dealt with in our col
It is a pity that the lime sulphur was o
in spring. Continue to cut out and bu
dead wood and fruit affected with B
Rot. The glassiness is, perhaps, due t
balanced feeding, and you should tr
effect of a dressing of sulphate of pota
the rate of 1½ ozs. per square yard, i
dition to the manures you are in the
of using. The Leaf Hopper could be
trolled by spraying with a wash conta
nicotine, but such a wash will be of n
if not applied before the creatures reac

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* Agricultural Produce (Grading) (Potatoes) Regulations, 1929 Obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office, Adastral House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2.

stage. Continue to use your tar-oil -spray; follow this by giving lime r in the Pink Bud stage.

unsatisfactory

ave a vinery which seems to be suffer- rom neglect. The Grapes are of a poor and shrivelled. Should not the tem- ure exceed 65 degs. Fahr.? The border poor; would it be proper to cover order 6 inches deep in good cow manure the leaves have fallen off, as I am given lerstand that it is bad to manure a plant it is going to rest? R. C. F.

hese questions are very difficult to er satisfactorily, as we have no means nowing the kind of general culture tved on the Vines, nor the state of the and other necessary details. There is essity, however, for having a high tem- ure, unless for very early crops, while proposed layer of cow manure would not ly entirely to remedy the evil. A much plan would be to remove several inches surface soil, taking every precaution damage the roots. Replace with the procurable fresh fibrous loam, in which een mixed some bonemeal—a 7-inch to each barrowload of soil. Make this and firm and, in early spring, give a ng of Thomson's Vine Manure, follow- e directions given with this material. a good watering after the fresh soil is , and at no time permit the border to ally dry. This should improve matters ure.]

s producing a second crop

enture to send the enclosed snapshot. suitable for reproduction.—Ed.] three Apples are the result of a second The blossom was full out upon this of the tree when we had already ed the first crop of fruit from the upper nes. K. F.

e are obliged to our correspondent for napshot of Apples. While there is g unusual in Apples producing a crop in one season, we must confess er before having seen the second crop developed.]

ston Duchess Pears

ing a crop of very fine Pitmaston ss Pears, many weighing over a pound, ishing to show a dish about November I should be very grateful if anyone tell me the likeliest method of storage ure them keeping sound till that date. are, at present, still hanging on the rotected by a muslin screen, but they likely to remain there much longer, he sap begins to run down, and it is ubsequent treatment that worries me. J. K.

s Pear usually keeps in good condition to November, so that you should have tle trouble in having it still fit for your e on the 20th of that month. Take ot to bruise the fruits in any way, and m in a cool, airy place, safe from mice, nd other vermin. This is about all you to keep them fresh.]

VEGETABLES

rgon?

.C.).—The specimen sent is Artemisia culoides, and is not the true Tarragon, gh it is frequently sold as such. This has longer and narrower leaves, and is o the taste, not aromatic like the true on, which is A. dracunculus.

er failure

lin).—Your Celery, in common with eople's crops, has been badly attacked Celery Leaf Mining Maggot. We think it is now too late to do anything to control the pest. After the crop has been lifted, the site should be dressed with a good soil insecticide at the rate advised by the makers. Make a note of the time at which you first noted the appearance of the trouble, and another season give the plants an occasional spraying with a nicotine wash, commencing about three weeks earlier than the date noted. A light dressing of an equal mixture of old soot and lime applied when the foliage is damp assists in warding off attack. The mixture should be applied at intervals throughout the season.

Diseased Carrots

(F. P., Devon).—The cause of the failure of your Carrots is that they have split and soil organisms have got in through the injured surface and caused an internal rot. Many things will cause Carrots to split. Sowing the seed too early in the season is a frequent cause of trouble. Allowing Shorthorn Carrots to remain in the soil too long is another factor producing split roots. A too generous supply of nitrogenous matter will produce the same result. It appears to us likely that the latter is in your case the cause of your failure. From your letter we think you have certainly erred on the side of being too generous. Next year try another crop giving only a dressing of 1 part sulphate of potash and 3 parts superphosphate at the rate of 3 ozs. per square yard. Do not be in too great a hurry to sow the crop. If you want early Carrots sow a few early, but leave the maincrop sowing until May.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Cydonia fruits

Kindly inform me whether the fruits of all varieties of Cydonia japonica and Pyrus malus are edible. If so, my intention would be to mix them with English Quince in the making of table jelly. D.

[The fruits of all the species of both Quinces (Cydonia) and Pyrus are edible when cooked, but excessively harsh and astringent in their raw state. They are used for making jellies and other conserves, also for flavouring ices, etc.]

Cutting back an old bush of Caragana

(E. Northcott).—You may safely prune your Caragana at any time after the leaves have fallen, but we advise you not to be too drastic in your methods. Your plant would most probably thicken at the base more readily if you shorten down the top growth and reduce the sides reasonably.

Flowering shrubs for forcing

(C.).—See note on flowering shrubs in pots, page 730.

ROSE GARDEN

Rose caterpillar

(F. M. W.).—The insect you send is the caterpillar of the Swallow Tailed Moth. The caterpillar is not uncommon among Roses, but it does not occur in sufficient numbers to be regarded as a serious pest. Hand picking is usually sufficient to control the caterpillar. In common with the caterpillars of several other species, the creatures are called Stick Caterpillars.

FLOWER GARDEN

Iris disease

(R. F. S.).—Yes, the disease is Soft Rot. If the varieties are worth trying to save we think you could manage it by making still another attempt. Take up the affected rhizomes and scrape away all the affected portions, taking care to preserve the healthy roots, and then thoroughly rinse the scraped rhizome in 2 per cent. formalin solution. Plant again in a clean bit of soil, previously dressed with superphosphate of lime at the rate of 3 ozs. per square yard. When growth begins to be active in spring, give a soaking with Cheshunt Compound. You will, of course, realise that the treatment of lifting the Iris at this time of the year is only an effort to save plants which otherwise seem doomed to go under to Soft Rot. In the usual course of events a good time to lift and replant Iris is in July when all the blooms are over and just before they start to make new roots. From the appearance of the specimens sent, they are making a good stand against the disease, and, with a little further assistance, should pull through. We should not use Cheshunt Compound now. The superphosphate you have given should help.

Helianthemums (Sun Roses)

(Queenie).—Your letter is not quite clear as to the family you refer to. The Cistus are Rock Roses, and Helianthemums Sun Roses, so we presume you refer to the latter, which are mostly dwarf plants. These may be cut back to within a few inches of their base with perfect safety at the present time, although the best time is immediately after they have finished blooming, when they quickly break into fresh growth and form nice compact plants before late autumn. This should be done every second year if compact plants are desirable. You need not be afraid to cut back those you refer to as having a portion of bare stem, and you may lift and replant if desirable a month later.

Tropæolum speciosum in winter

I should be glad of your advice regarding the care of Tropæolum speciosum during the winter months. After several disappointments I have at last succeeded in getting two plants to grow up my house. They are on a north wall and doing well, but as I find this plant succeeds best in damp, mild climates, such as Wales or West of Scotland, I am afraid it may suffer from the frost in this colder part of the world (Oxfordshire, 500 feet above sea level). Is there any way I can protect it, and how should it be treated? I am exceedingly anxious to get it to climb up the house. A. B. H.

[You should experience no difficulty in keeping this beautiful climber through the winter, especially in your distict. Although protection is scarcely necessary, you might (to make doubly sure) spread a layer of half decayed leaves and a little sand over the roots, or even a little straw. Tropæolum speciosum revels in cool, shady situations where the soil consists of two parts sandy loam and two parts decayed leaf soil, peat, and sand. This should be at least 2 feet in depth, and if strings, or even Pea boughs, are placed in position for it to cling to it will run up on its own account and grow more rapidly. The foot of Yew hedges form excellent positions for its roots, and when so planted it will garland a hedge 10 feet in height in a few years.]

Plants for crazy paving and wall

(Nook).—(1) Failing a birds' bath, or old well head, we would not have anything in the centre. But if you prefer to plant, then we recommend a small group of Yucca filamentosa or Lilium giganteum. (2) For the crazy paving the following plants are recommended: — Campanula pusilla, C. garganica, C. pulloides, C. fenestrellata, Arenaria balearica, A. montana, Anemone apennina, Snowdrops, Milla uniflora, Oxalis tropæoliodes, O. corniculata, Mimulus radicans, Calceolaria John Innes, Mazus pumilio, Thymus serphyllum coccineum, Gypsophila Dubia, G. Fratensis, Ourisia coccinea. Aubrietias in variety, Corydalis cheilanthifolia, Antennaria tomentosa, Gentiana acaulis, G. Farreri, Cotula squallida, Raoulia australis, Helipterum anthemioides, Saxifraga sancta, S. apiculata, S. aizoon, Mossy Saxifrages, Veronica pectinata, Sedum sexangulare, S. spathulifolium, S. dasyphyllum, S. kamtschaticum, Æthionema pulchellum, Æ. coridifolium, Erinus alpinus, Dianthus in variety, Coronilla iberica, Helichryssum bellidioides, Hypericum reptans, H. fragilis, Linaria pallida, L. aquitroloba, Alpine Phlox in variety, Tunica Saxifraga, Primulas of the Juliæ type, Auriculas, Cytisus Ardoinei, Pratia angulosa, Lysimachia Henryi, Nierembergia rivularis, Oxalis magellanica, Viola Lady Crisp, V. J. B. Taylor, V. Bosniaca, Mentha Requieni, Cornus canadensis, Pentstemon cristata, Asperula Gussoni, Cotyledon simplicifolia. (3) The Raoulia would thrive on the wall, also Aubrietias, Erinus alpinus (scatter the seed of this in the crevices), Dianthus, Zauschneria californica, Z. Mexicana, Campanula abietina, C. muralis, C. rotundifolia, Onosma taurica, Acantholimon glumaceum, A. venustum, Androsace Chumbyi and A. lanuginosa, Erigeron mucronatum. (4) Plant for wall. Pyracantha coccinea Lalandii, P. angustifolia, orange yellow berries, Cydonia cathayensis, C. japonica rubra grandiflora, Vitis Coignetiæ, and Cotoneaster Henryi.

Dahlia Radium

(A. S.).—This wonderful small-flowered Pæony Dahlia, I believe, was raised by Mr. J. T. West, Brentwood, and this well-known raiser has given us many first-class seedlings. The variety, however, may be obtained of any of the leading Dahlia specialists. Since the previous note this Dahlia has been even better than then described.

Salvia uliginosa

I am much interested by your advice in respect of Salvia uliginosa as I am growing it for the first time and think it exceptionally beautiful. But my plant grew to 5 feet before the blossoms opened, and is only now in its full beauty. It is manifestly impossible to pot it up as it stands. I thought of cutting it down a little later to about 12 inches to 18 inches. Will it bear this? And can I take cuttings from it now, or from the shoots that have flowered as soon as the flowers go over? All shoots seem to be bearing flower spikes, but some will not have time to bloom before winter. T.

Oxford.

[Before you cut your plant down, remove a few of the flowerless shoots—with a little of the old stem attached—from the axils of the leaves, and dibble these into sandy soil. The cuttings must be kept in a cool closed frame, and protected from frosts. You may also put in portions of the older stems with a growth or two attached in the same way, as these will also root if cut below a joint. The old plant may then be cut down to the height you suggest, lifted with a nice ball of earth, and potted up. This should be placed in a greenhouse or frame where a temperature of 40 degs. to 45 degs. is maintained, and kept slightly on the dry side. About February it should be given a slightly warmer place, when cuttings will develop freely.]

GREENHOUSE

Cineraria insects

I shall be much obliged if you will identify for me these nasty little fawn-coloured grubs, which, I think, must be responsible for great damage to my Cinerarias—leaves badly bitten. It has been going on for weeks, and I blamed sparrows, mice, earwigs, woodlice, and tried everything under the sun to stop it. Now to-day, when looking them over for about the tenth time, behold these little wretches. They were very active when done up, but may, of course, die of asphyxiation before the box is opened. Seen under a magnifying glass they are segmented with legs, like miniature caterpillars. Is there any cure beyond hand-picking?

(Mrs.) A. T. Tulloch.

[The specimens sent are the larvæ of one of the Hover Flies, and they are amongst the gardener's best friends. The creatures feed upon Aphis, and their presence on your plants is a sure indication that the plants within the last few weeks have been infested with Aphis. Mrs. Hover Fly never makes a mistake and lays eggs on a plant free from Aphis. You will have to make a further effort to find the culprits which bite the foliage. Try searching the plants with a light at night. The glossy appearance of the leaves is probably due to the Aphis attack, and there is no connection between this and the eaten foliage.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Soil for examination

(L. G. B.).—We have examined the soil sample, and should think that in its natural state it would grow certain shrubs well. The soil is very acid, and you would be limited to the plants which delight in such soil, such as Rhododendrons, Ericas, Azaleas, Kalmias, Pieris, Pernettyas, etc., etc. If the soil is not deep enough for the purpose, pockets could be dug out here and there and the above shrubs planted, using the Ericas in the more shallow portions. If it is desired to plant shrubs other than the peat loving kinds, chalk must be added. The soil appears to us to be rich in organic matter, and only needs lime to make it fertile. The cheapest way of treating such soil is to grow the plants suited to the type.

Names and addresses of French gardening papers

(F. B., Portadown).—(1) "Revue Horticole," Parait le 16 de chaque mois, 26 Rue Jacob, Paris; (2) "Le Petit Jardin," Parait le 10 et le 25 de chaque mois, 26 Rue Jacob, Paris.

The small tortoise (Testudo græca)

(L. F. J.).—The small tortoise hibernates during the winter and requires no food. A cosy box with a little sweet hay in it will be found quite suitable, or a garden frame which is fairly dry and contains a little litter. Some people leave them in the open to make their own winter arrangements, but the above suggestion will be found more satisfactory.

Spent Hops

(R. M. Warden).—Spent Hops make an excellent manure if they are mixed with an equal mixture of good grate shoddy. The two should be thoroughly mixed together and put into a compost heap for six months. The heap should be turned once or twice during the period. You then use the manure as you would farmyard manure.

Weed in pond

(W. Barbour)—The slimy scum is known as Flannel Weed which, owing to the very dry weather, has been unusually troublesome this year. This can be destroyed with copper sulphate. You must first calculate the cubic contents of your pond by multiplying together the length, breadth, and average depth in feet. Then multiply the result by six, which will give approximately the number of gallons of water in the pond. For each 10,000 gallons put 2½ ozs. of copper sulphate into a bag and pull it through the water until all is dissolve should not injure Water Lilies, nor aff fish but trout. A second application necessary in a fortnight. Is it poss increase the circulation by enlarging in outlets, as if this could be done it wo prove matters? The tadpoles a responsible.

Parasite of White Fly

Will you kindly give me any infor respecting a sure preventative for Wh in a greenhouse? I hear the Resear partment of the Ministry of Agricultu found something that is a sure cl from the pest, an insect or parasite th on it, so gets rid of it. I would be know if it is procurable or only for m men and the trade. E. Codrinc

[There is a very effective Chalcid p of the greenhouse White Fly which in the name of Encarsia formosa parasite, together with full instructi to the best way to establish it amon host, have been sent out from the Ch Research Station. Whether or no t tribution is confined to commercial g is a point about which we are not Write to The Director, Cheshunt Re Station, Cheshunt, Herts, and ask f ticulars of the distribution. It is n late in the season to introduce the p unless the greenhouse concerned is which the White Fly breeds all th round.]

SHORT REPLY

Midford.—Rose Mme. Isaac Pereire fine old Rose is offered by Thomas and Son, Ltd., Sawbridgeworth, He shire.

NAMES OF PLANTS

J. W., Dorking.—Impatiens Sultani

G. Shepherd.—Pyrus Aria (Whitebe

G.—1, Polygonum amplexicaule; 2, stemon isophyllus; 3, Antennaria m tacea; 4, Eryngium planum; 5, tropæoloides; 6, Helianthemum (mus flowers); 7, Aster Novæ Belgii Esth specimen insufficient.

O. M. R.—A, Cotoneaster microphyl C. applanata; C, Berberis Yunnanens B. Thunbergii. Others next week. read rules for naming plants.

H. Newcome Wright.—Primula cap

NAMES OF FRUITS

C. T. B., Hillside.—Catillac. One best stewing Pears. Culinary till Apr

J. W., Dorking.—Pear, Beurré Diel Brown Turkey; Apple, Blenheim Oran

F. W. B.—1, James Grieve; 2, 3, Early Victoria; 5, Allington Pippin.

L., Oxford.—Yorkshire Beauty, Beauty of Kent. The Apple bought Crump and thought to be Encore recognised, but it is neither of thes varieties.

The Imperial Fruit Show

The ninth Imperial Fruit Show will b at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, from O 25th to November 2nd. This Show wil tain exhibits of fruit not only from Eng but from all parts of the Empire. The c are very numerous, and cover canne cold-stored fruits of various kinds. Its list for the first time exceeds a total of £ The Empire Marketing Board has put large exhibit, and the Fruit Research St at East Malling and Long Ashton hav operated in a special show of fruit for demonstration and lecture purposes. hibits will be mainly confined to the qu of Fruit Marketing. Every visitor w given a small bag or basket of fruit gro different parts of the Empire.

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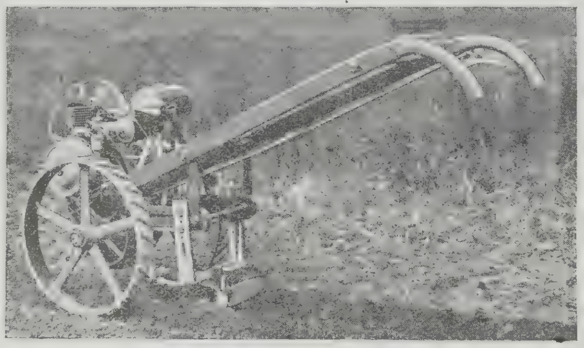

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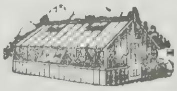

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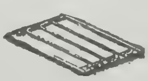

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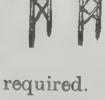

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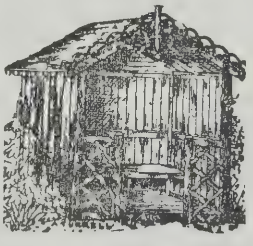

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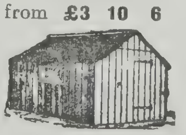

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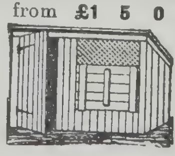

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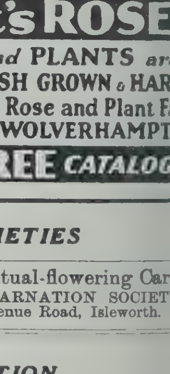

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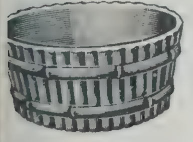

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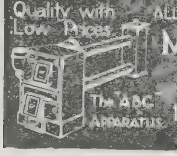

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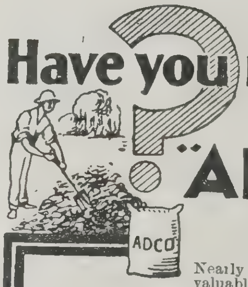

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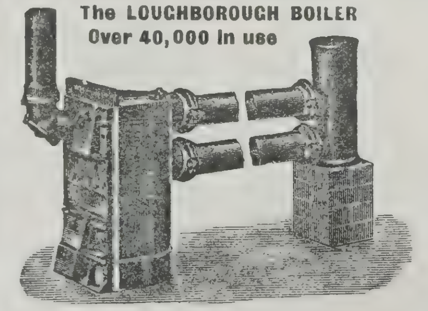

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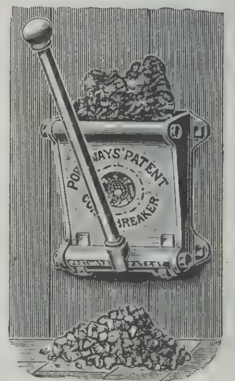

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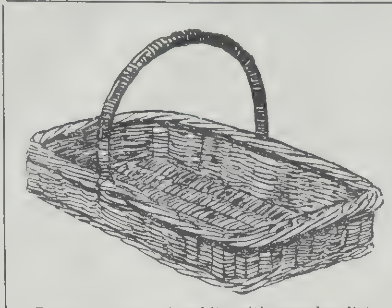

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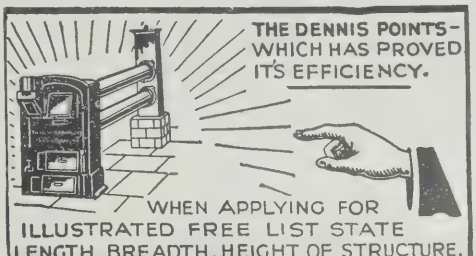

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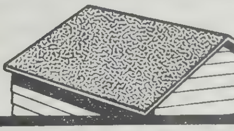

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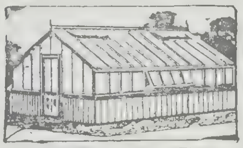

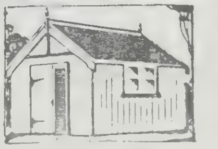

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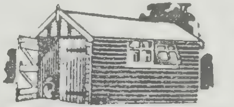

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The Planting of Lilies

RING the summer months, the keen rdener makes many notes; notes ich, alas, for the want of a reminder, n overlooked at planting time. Some no doubt, made notes of Lilies they flower, which they intended to plant e time came round. May we remind The time has arrived Plant now! cultivating any plant that we know out, it is advisable to ascertain the from whence it comes, and as far as imitate the conditions; his is impossible the matter of at it is surprising ith a little how much done. For , many of the ian Lilies are along the f streams, but been observed ere, under conditions, lbs do not in mud, but nd above the vel, on raised ks, the roots, , going down moisture. An method to ith these par- ar Lilies is to e bulbs on up- flowerpots, the bulb and a compost of sandy loam, with leaf- d and a little The roots will d their way sides of the own to the , leaving the ly dry. Those ave streams, akes, or brooks, can make a delight- ting on the banks, about 1 foot above er level, where, if sandy loam and uld is incorporated with the existing gorgeous display of wonderful blooms ad annually.

ost important point in the cultivation , and one which applies to the whole is drainage. If, when preparing the site, similar care and attention were this as to position and compost, it is there would be fewer disappoint- Unless the existing drainage is very sharp, soil should be taken out at least 2 feet and 2 inches to 4 inches of crocks, ashes, or small stones placed at the bottom, a layer of sand and charcoal chippings and then filled in with the compost made up for the species or variety it is intended to replant.

Another important point is depth. Shallow planting should be avoided With the exception of L. candidum, L. excelsum, L. chalcedonicum, and L. giganteum, and, on heavy soils, L. Martagon, and possibly a few other base rooting kinds, they should all be well covered. Even small stem-rooting kinds like L. tenuifolium and the variety L. Golden Gleam should be planted 5 inches to 6 inches deep, while those of a strong growing nature should be planted 8 inches to 9 inches, and certain kinds, such as L. Henryi, L. centifolium, and L. Sargentiæ 10 inches to 12 inches is not too much. It is a fallacy to adopt the principle of planting twice the depth of the bulb. This may be quite sound advice in the case of Tulips and Narcissus, and would apply successfully to certain Lilies, but it would spell disaster in the case of L. giganteum, which produces the largest bulb of the genus, yet requires to be planted more shallow than any other species. In heavy soils, an inch or so less is advisable, but it is better to lighten the soil with leaf-mould and sand and plant the proper depth whenever possible.

Lilium tigrinum splendens in a Rhododendron bed at Kew

The large orange-coloured flowers, spotted black, are freely borne on 5-foot stems well above the Rhododendron foliage. The Lilies are seen to advantage against the Cedar tree in the background

From a photograph taken in September

With regard to compost, many popular kinds, such as L. chalcedonicum, L. excelsum, L. croceum, L. Szovitzianum, L. Hansoni, L. pyrenaicum, and L. Martagon do well in sandy loam without the addition of leaf mould, and although some experts condemn the use of all forms of manure, the above species produce extra fine bulbs when well rotted farmyard manure has been incorporated. It should, however, be made quite clear that on no account should bulbs be allowed to come into direct contact with it. Beds and borders enriched with manure the season previous usually provide a good medium if drainage is sharp. A good compost for the general collection is two parts loam, one part leaf-mould, and one part sand, and with this we always like to add a little charcoal. This mixture, however, the enthusiast will vary with closer knowledge of individual requirements of certain species; for instance, we do not think a better compost than equal parts loam and sand will be found for L. japonicum (Krameri), with a surface covering of rotted leaves, with the sharpest possible drainage. Special mention is made of this particular species, as many inquiries are being made as to the best method of growing it. Whether it is intended to plant in the open or for greenhouse, imported bulbs should be potted and plunged in a bed of ashes made up in a cool frame, transplanting in the spring in a cool, partially shaded situation, with the sharpest possible drainage. Most of the Elegans section delight among shrubs, in a light sandy soil and sunny position. L. Batemanniæ is also very successful under similar conditions.

Concerning Lilies of more recent introduction, L. Wardii, the beautiful fragrant pink Martagon, which is likely to prove a fine addition to the popular varieties for the garden, is quite at home in sandy loam and leaf soil, with humus in the form of old leaves during the winter and early spring. At Nymans, in the wonderful gardens of Lt.-Colonel Messel, Mr. Comber, who is apparently as much at home with Lilies as rare shrubs, is growing it to perfection, while L. Duchartrei var. Farreri during the summer is a wonderful sight of graceful nodding heads. The stems of both these Lilies travel under the ground for some distance and form a number of small bulbs.

Towards the end of the year, large importations of L. auratum will be available, and early in the new year the wonderful L. sulphureum and the dainty L. Lowei will arrive. The finest L. auratum we have seen were grown in rich loam, with rotted leaves used as a mulch. Providing the sharpest possible drainage is given, better results are obtained from a good loamy soil than peat mixture. Plant this Lily 9 inches to 12 inches deep, and look to its drainage. It will repay to do so.

In various parts of Sussex are fine specimens of L. sulphureum, one in particular at Gravetye Manor which withstood the severe winter receiving only the protection of old leaves. This species does well in a compost of equal parts rich loam and leaf mould, with plenty of rotted leaves as a subsoil on 2 inches or 3 inches of drainage material.

One other important point, which should not occasion any difficulty. Envelope all Lily bulbs in sharp sand to the extent of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 1 inch thick, this will help considerably in keeping them clean and healthy.

Nodding heads of Lilium Duchartrei Farreri

Lilium Henryi, 8 feet high

Lilium Philippinense formosanum

I have been very interested in recent articles on Lilies, and especially the notes on L. Philippinense formosanum.

I grow a good many in my garden, near Christchurch, New Zealand, raising them from seed, sown the day they ripened. Many of the seedlings flowered outside in ten months, the frosts preventing the later ones from maturing. Three-year-old bulbs send up heads of bloom, bearing up to eight on a stem. As the seed is so late outside, I lift a few bulbs, pot them, and let the seed pods finish ripening in a vinery—or nearly ripen—cut the stems, and hang them upside down on a sunny verandah till the pods begin to split, and then sow them. I raised as many as 300 seedlings from one pod.

MARY POULTON.

86, *North Parade, Shirley,*
Christchurch, New Zealand.

Raising Pinks

No garden is complete without its Roses, and certainly no border is complete without its Pinks. When bedecked with their old-fashioned, sweet-smelling blossoms, Pinks possess an indefinable charm, and are among the best appreciated flowers of the garden. Happily, they are not difficult to grow, providing the soil is well drained. If it is of a heavy nature it can be rendered suitable for the Pinks by the addition of coarse sand and old mortar rubble, the latter substance being most beneficial to the plants. To ke
in good condition it is necessary
young plants every other year to rep
old ones, or else the old plants must
and divided every other year. The y
and most vigorous portions are re
October is the most suitable time,
young plants become established befor
sets in.

H. STE

Horticultural Club Lectures

A Club Dinner and Lecture will be
St. Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street,
minster, S.W. 1, on Tuesday, Novembe
6.30 p.m., for 7 p.m. Following the
Dr. Hugh R. Roger Smith will del
address, illustrated by coloured lanter
on plant-hunting in the Pyrenees. W
stand that Captain F. Kingdon W
provisionally arranged to give a lec
December 10th on his recent plant-
expedition in Asia; on January 14th
Mr. Herbert Cowley will give a lectur
trip to the Alps last summer. Full par
of these meetings may be obtained f
Secretary, Mr. Geo. F. Tinley, 855,
Road, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

Tender plants in frames

Should Cinerarias, Cyclamens, Pr
and Schizanthus still be in cold fra
will be dangerous to keep them there
so a move to a cool, light structure
little warmth may be afforded when
present should be given them. Carefu
ing is now necessary with all these so
subjects.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Chrysanthemum uliginosum

he report of the conference on garden pl nning, published in the " Journal " of t Royal Horticultural Society (Vol. V part 2, September, 1929), there is a r paper by Miss Gertrude Jekyll on our in Garden Planning," in which a ence is made to the planting of Michael- Daisies. Miss Jekyll advocates planting y themselves, but recommends associa- g with the purples that fine old plant, anthemum uliginosum, still frequently le Pyrethrum uliginosum, instead of Michaelmas Daisies. Her words are :— re are now many fine kinds of the sh shades, and also some good whites, the best enjoyment of the Michaelmas is garden, the cool colouring of the ps is to be preferred; and for white, rum uliginosum, with its large, pure blooms, is more effective than the white a of the Aster varieties."

Th old plant, introduced from Hungary 6, has rather fallen in favour, but it always to be kept in mind, not only for ction with the purple Asters, but for its merit as a border flower. It has the ad- tge of late bloom, coming in generally in tnber, and lasting until severe frost. It be adapted for the back of the border, as is f good height. A recognised book of ence gives its height as 1½ feet, but s is quite erroneous. The six feet, ally given, is more correct, but, of r, it varies in stature according to the u of the soil, combined with the moisture h season. To grow C. uliginosum well it u have a good loam, not too dry. Should sil be dry the plant is very liable to lose er leaves, and this is a disfigurement les the lower portion of the stems is d by other plants. This plant is in- sd by division or seeds.

S. Arnott.

Campanula lactiflora

NCLOSE a photograph of Campanula iflora in case you should think it of icient interest to reproduce in your

D. H. Molesworth.

rd Oak, Crawley Down, Sussex.

Large Tomatoes

n our issue of October 26th, under the g "Large Tomatoes," " East Sussex " rous to learn of recorded weights of oes, so I send the enclosed notes along.

"A monster Tomato from the gardens of m. Bullivant, Homewood, has been ted to us this week, and for shape and it is a perfect specimen. It weighs 1¾ lbs., and is not a solitary example wth, as the Homewood gardens have roducing these mammoth fruits all the r. The variety is Sutton's Perfection. recent Crystal Palace Show, Mr. ell (Mr. Bullivant's gardener) took for a dish of fruit (nine) which d 7 lbs. 9 ozs."

above from the " Beckenham l."

ne Tomatoes.—I am sending you a ntaining some clusters of Tomatoes tion), and I shall be glad of your of the same. I gave a note of the as carried out here when sending you ndividual specimens (*vide* page 294, r 2nd, 1890), and there it will be seen that the root space for our plants is very limited.

" I think the clusters now sent, and of which we could gather many, show the value of artificially assisting fertilisation.

" Thos. Crosswell."

" Homewood, Eden Park, Beckenham."

" The cluster referred to by our correspondent was very fine, eight highly-coloured fruits of perfect form, weighing 4 lbs. 4 ozs. On the previous occasion referred to, Mr. Crosswell sent us some of the finest Tomatoes we have ever seen, the largest fruit in that case weighing 19 ozs."

The above is from the "Journal of Horticulture," and when the late Mr. John Wright was its editor.

Thos. Crosswell.

Chislehurst.

Double Tropæolum

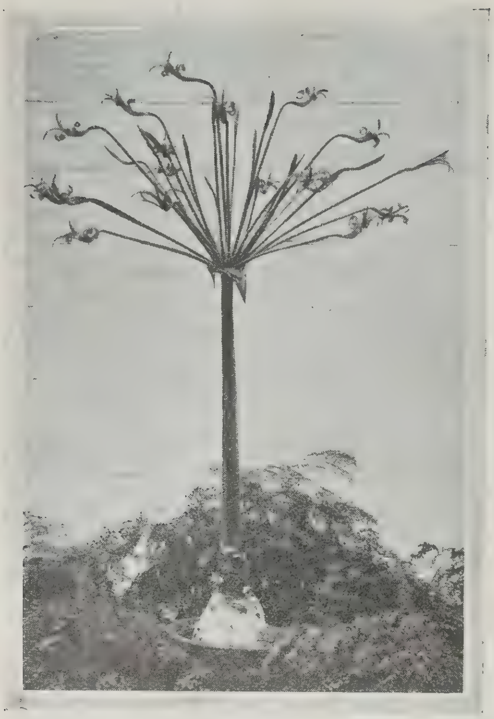
PHOTOGRAPHY is notoriously unflattering to flowers of brilliant scarlet colouring, so that the bank of Tropæolum shown does no justice to the actual effect, which is a mass of strongest scarlet only partly broken by the foliage. No drought such as the disastrous dryness of the recent summer deters it, and its place in a poor soil in full sun only shows it off the better. The flower being fully double has quite lost its original shape, and instead of having five distinct petals is transformed into a flat round rosette with something like forty Daisy-like petals in three or four uneven rows, lying flat on one another. The usual long spur at the back is quite lost, though the five yellow sepals remain. Besides this scarlet form there is one of strong yellow colouring. These double Tropæolums are not hardy, but are easily propagated by cuttings; the cuttings grow so fast during the winter in a greenhouse that if not stopped they would be very lanky things when the time came for putting them out. It is, therefore, well to take off the points once or twice and grow them afresh as more cuttings. G. J.

Double scarlet Tropæolum

The Death's-head Moth

" A Scottish Gardener's " note (page 720) on this splendid insect is very interesting. An immense increase has taken place during recent years in the extent of land in Scotland devoted to Potato culture, and, whereas the chief food of the Death's-head Caterpillar in this country is the foliage of the Potato, a corresponding increase in the moths might have been expected. And that probably would have taken place, but for the fact that the caterpillar, when full grown, buries itself in the soil at a depth of 8 inches or 9 inches, where, by means of a gummy secretion, it forms a comfortable cell, wherein to pass its

Campanula lactiflora with Ferns



Brunsvigia Josephinæ from the Cape of Good Hope

stage as a chrysalis; but comparatively few of the chrysalids escape destruction while the Potato crop is lifted and the ground is being prepared for a fresh crop.

In all stages of existence after leaving the egg, this creature has the singular faculty of uttering audible objection to being handled; the caterpillar barks, the chrysalis squeaks, and the perfect insect chirps. If "A Scottish Gardener" wishes to win the affection of his captives, let him supply them with honey, of which they are passionately fond.

Monreith. HERBERT MAXWELL.

School of Horticulture in Northern Ireland

In your issue of the 19th ult., I note you state you do not know the address of a school of horticulture in Northern Ireland.

Might I be allowed to draw your attention to the existence of the Agricultural and Horticultural College, Muckamore, where complete courses of instruction are given?

If your correspondent will apply to the Principal of the College, Mr. R. J. Fannin, A.R.C.Sc.I., N.D.A., full particulars will be supplied of all courses of instruction at the college.

ALEX. TURNER,
Late Horticultural Instructor at the College.

Gypsophila paniculata

I SEND a snapshot of Gypsophila paniculata; it is 7 feet 6 inches each way. It was a very fine specimen.

F. T. STEPTOE.
Badbury, St. Leonards Road,
Weymouth, Dorset.

Chrysanthemum September White

I have grown this variety for three seasons and have experienced the following:—The first time I grew it here the blooms were pure white, while last year the blooms on a few plants were streaked with rosy-lilac. I took cuttings from the plants where blooms were true to colour. This year I have not had a pure white among all my plants, all the blooms being shaded rosy-lilac. I have mentioned this to others. Some say the sun causes this. The sun may have something to do with it, but I still find the streaks when there is lack of sun, although not so precise. If the sun causes it, why is it that Framfield White and White Countess on the same ground and with same treatment are still pure white? A few in the district, which is near Carlisle, experience the same with this variety. Was this variety a sport from the old Marie Masse? I would be glad if any correspondent could enlighten me on this, as it might be reverting back to the old parent. My blooms were splendid of the variety, as I disbudded well, but I would have been let down if I had depended on it as a pure white. I would be pleased to have other gardeners' experience with this variety to see if it is susceptible to this changing colour. It is really a splendid variety where the blooms are white. A friend of mine a few miles away says in his garden it is true to colour, and has offered me cuttings from his stock, so will give them a trial another season. This has been a splendid year for outdoor Chrysanthemums, which are still blooming.

A CUMBERLAND GARDENER.

Brunsvigia Josephinæ

I THOUGHT perhaps the enclosed photograph might be worth reproduction in your paper and interest many readers. After failing to flower for several years this remarkable bulbous plant flowered here for the first time in September.

J. RUTHERFORD,
Bailiff to Miss Durning Lawrence.
The Farm, King's Ride, Ascot, Berks.

Cyananthus lobatus

The correspondence on the colour of Cyananthus lobatus is an example of the difficulty of carrying the exact shades of colour of any flower in one's mind. Your correspondents are evidently writing from memory, for with both Gentian and Cyananthus flowers before me as I write, I can definitely say that the colour of C. lobatus is rich violet, and certainly not Gentian blue, neither does it fade to white, for the colour is maintained throughout the flower.

Mr. Arnold's note appears to suggest that C. lobatus and C. incanus are the only species of Cyananthus in cultivation, but there are at least six, and if Captain Kingdon Ward's giant form K.W. 5949 is given separate specific rank from C. lobatus, there are seven.

This fine Cyananthus, which was
by Captain Kingdon Ward during
1925 expedition, is larger in all its pa
C. lobatus, its habit of growth is more
ing, and the beautiful flowers, w
rightly describes as violet, are 1½
across.

C. petiolatus K.W. 6082, is
beautiful species collected at th
time. Its foliage is so densely cove
silvery hairs that the plant may be d
as a fragile beauty, clothed in gr
adorned with amethyst stars. A
Captain Kingdon Ward found the
growing on wet granite cliffs, it res
damp winters rather more than th
species, and I am afraid that it will
cult to keep long in cultivation.

C. Farreri is perhaps the best
in cultivation, for, instead of the
ing habit which is so character
C. lobatus, its slender growths form
mat of almost Fern-like daintiness,
with flowers fully equal to C. lobatu
and richness of colour. It is strange
Farreri is so little known in garden
succeeds under the same treatmen
lobatus, and we find at Bodnant th
the two are planted together, C.
will overrun the older species. C.
has several forms, of which the dai
Viocalyx is the most prized. Cooper
is another desirable one, with flowe
distinct shade of violet blue.

The trailing growths of C.
form a fairly compact mat o
green foliage, with silvery hairs. The
do not compare in size with some
others, but it a desirable species, an
raised from seeds.

We are growing one other specie
the name of C. inflatus; it is of
growth, but as it has not yet fl
I cannot describe it.

The Cyananthus are worthy of muc
cultivation, for they are first-class
flowering during August and Septemb
the majority of the European Alpi
over.

A moderately sunny and well-draine
on a position in the moraine, will su
best, and when once established, all t
for is a piece of glass over them dur
resting season to shield them from our
rains. F. C. Pu

Bodnant Gardens, Tal-y-Cafn,
North Wales.

Gypsophila paniculata, 7 feet 6 inches each way

Lilium canadense

is delightful Lily is usually satisfactory woodland soil where lime is absent or gible in quantity. Grouped with low-oing shrubs or suitable plants, a few will provide a very pretty effect during ner. The bulbs are somewhat rhizom-, the new bulb being produced at nd of a stolon characterised by delicate scales. The bulbs should be planted in nn rather deeply, say, 8 inches to 10 s. This plant is semi-stem-rooting. flowers are variable in yellow and red s, and all are characterised by copious oing, the more pronounced on the lower hirds of the segments; they are pendu- and of exceedingly graceful port. ted forms have been accorded varietal as flavum, a golden yellow, and ly spotted flower, and rubrum, a good of red, and also copiously marked. is a very satisfactory garden Lily, and be freely planted with every hope of ss. The bulbs should be placed where rowing and not too obtrusive plants will l protection to the young growths, while ccasional surfacing of good leaf-mould il be greatly beneficial. L. canadense sses in North America a wide geographi- ange from New Brunswick, Canada, to South-Eastern States of the Union; it und in moist situations, and should be ed in light shade and where the soil will t suffer too much from a prolonged ght. L. canadense was introduced so ago as 1829, and has been called L. liflorum. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Celery and Leaf Miner

Its not surprising to see readers complaining bout the Leaf-mining Maggot. This is rst time I have had any trouble with it, dt seems pretty general, as far as I hear, tis part of the country. I cannot com- ai, as I am not the worst off, and the ars are fairly decent. It is a good thing ve a dusting of soot occasionally when liage is damp, and I also find watering cionally with soot-water and liquid-re before earthing-up is a good pre- ve, as it helps to make the foliage bitter, the maggots do not like.

It has been interesting to watch tits, and sparrows, devouring the maggots from lants, which I had never seen until this n. A CUMBERLAND GARDENER.

Riviera jottings

The recovery of frost-bitten Palms and ers in the south of France this autumn ry surprising to those who saw the ge done by frost and snow last winter, he casual traveller would not notice change on his first arrival, yet there ome blanks. Until the more favoured s reached between Nice and Mentone n Eucalyptus or Mimosa is to be seen. age trees have been cut down to the d, and no pink Ivy-leaved Geranium wering sprays of Bougainvillea are yet found. On the other hand, the Palms ooked dead in many places have made h crown of leaves, and the growth of ers is so luxuriant that they seem to benefited by the severe winter pruning. nly Bougainvillea now in flower is the B. Sanderæ, but I see such luxuriant h on those that were cut to the ground feel pretty sure we shall next spring e usual blaze of colour if we are blessed ordinary winter season. The Tree ha, D. Imperialis, has made extra-ary growth and should flower superbly the month of November. Salvias, of many kinds, are in most vigorous growth, and even the tender Salvia fruticosa and Bethelli are showing flower-bud.

There was a heavy downpour of rain in August that set off the Roses into growth before their time, and their growth is so extra luxuriant that one is at a loss to say what will happen. Flowers at present are poor with the continued heat and present rains, but such vigour should produce good flowers before Christmas. Carnations, Stocks, Anthemis, and other plants which dislike heat are less good than usual, and it will take both time and care to pull them round. Taken as a whole it is a season of extremes—plants are either extra vigorous or extra weak in growth. E. H. WOODALL.

Nice.

Gloxinias

THESE showy stove plants seem to be rather out of fashion, but quite undeservedly; for well-grown plants of Gloxinia are among the most desirable of room ornaments, and their various colours of red, pink, and shades of purple are nearly all of desirable decorative quality. They are plants of tropical South America, members of the family Gesneraceæ. In former years one of the troubles with Gloxinias was that the flowers hung their heads, but of late this defect has been largely overcome, and now, while many of the flowers stand quite upright, others stand out well and show off their glorious colouring, with often a delicate spotting in the throat. The subject of the illustration is one of pure white colouring. The plant has another attraction in the velvety texture of the leaves; one can hardly forbear stroking them for the pleasure of feeling their soft surfaces. G. J.

The Gloxinia is a desirable room ornament

Cratægus orientalis

Cratægus orientalis and its variety sanguinea are among the best of many fine trees and shrubs which give us beautiful blossom in the spring and handsome fruits in the autumn. They are now at the height of their brilliance and, growing side by side, form an effective contrast. The dry sandy soil seems quite to their liking.

C. orientalis forms a small tree, some 15 feet to 20 feet high, and, grown as a standard, has a somewhat loose, rounded head of branches, pendent at the ends. Var. sanguinea is a trifle more vigorous, and forms a flatter head. In shape, the leaves are very similar to those of our native Hawthorn; but those of the type are downy on the upper as well as the under surface, and, except when closely examined, the foliage looks quite grey, and proves an effective background for the fruit. The leaves of var. sanguinea are a dark shiny green. Both are free from spines.

The fruits of C. orientalis are roughly globose, with a suggestion of five shallow ribs opposite each persistent sepal, and are ¾ inch or more in diameter. They are borne freely on very short pedicels close to the branches, and in colour are an orange-red, developing almost to vermilion round the apex. Those of var. sanguinea are rather smaller, with barely a suggestion of ribs, and somewhat flattened at the calyx end. They are borne on short pedicels, but separated from the branches by peduncles ½ inch to 1 inch long, and are a clear maroon. Birds appear to have more preference for the orange-red fruits.

Lindley considered these two sufficiently wide apart to rank as separate species, C. orientalis to be called, appropriately enough, C. odoratissima, for in spring the tree is massed with very sweetly scented blossoms, ¾ inch or more in diameter. It was to var. sanguinea he gave the name C. orientalis.

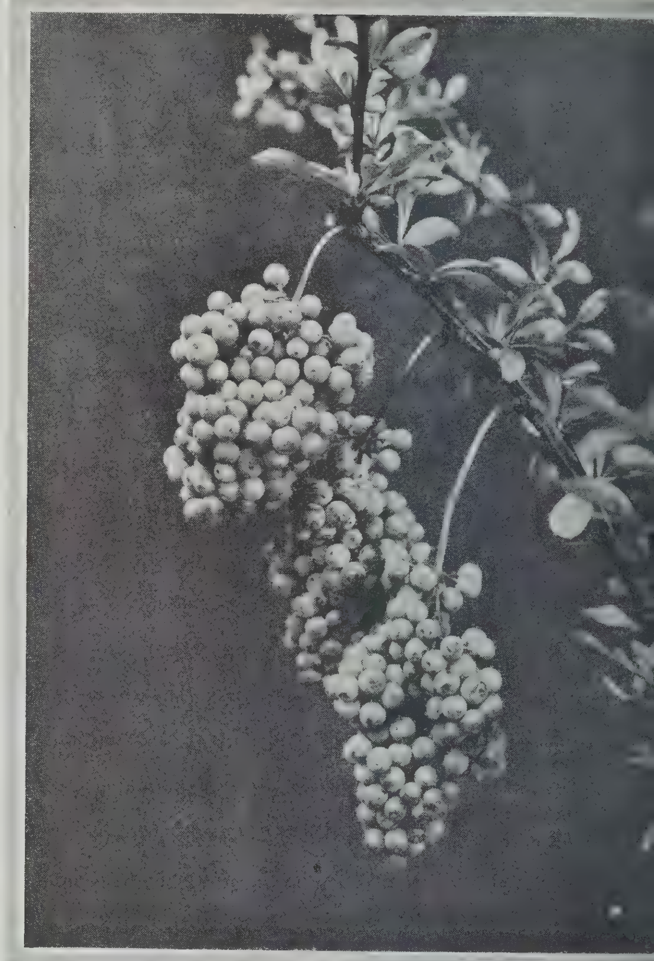
C. orientalis is common on the Crimean hills, particularly those adjoining the Black Sea. It is unquestionably hardy, and a place should be found for it in every garden.

Wisley. E. K. LAWRENCE.

Storing Fuchsias

Many gardeners are at their wits' ends at this season to find room in which to store the many and various plants which must be housed, and to such we advise the storing of Fuchsias and many other hard-wooded plants in a cool, frost-proof shed, where no care will be necessary, after one good watering, until they are brought out to be pruned in February or March.

The new rich canary yellow Chrysanthemum Florence Bigland
Award of Merit as a market and decorative Japanese variety
Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Junr.



Hanging like bunches of Grapes!
A Berberis seedling, apparently a descendant of B. Wilsonæ
Shown from the R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey

Royal Horticultural Society's Show

A random commentary

STOVE plants and Orchids, once the aristocrats of cultivated plants, have turned, in these days of enforced economy and changed taste, into plutocrats (thus reversing the natural order of development); and although the Show at Greycoat Street was announced to be chiefly for Stove and Greenhouse Plants, the hall seemed to contain at least as many shrubs and hardy plants.

Yet, so long as unfamiliarity remains an essential part of beauty, these tropical plants will continue to charm and attract us. They seem to be fashioned with a deliberate and finished artistry and, perhaps because they grow in the still air of forests, there is usually something solid and static in their design, so that they do not seem out of place among the rigid lines of an artificial setting. All their singular beauty was brought out by a really superb collection, which was set out across the end of the hall by Messrs. L. R. Russell, of Richmond, and must have recalled memories of the old, opulent days of horticulture to some professional gardeners.

The highly mannered beauty of Orchids seems to irritate some people, though I fancy that it is especially embittering to rock gardeners who have tried and failed to grow the hardy terrestrial Orchids; but, if we chose to call them morbid, grotesque, and decadent, this is surely because of our Nordic concept of a flower is founded on something like a Dog-Rose. And those who persist in attributing moral qualities to flowers are committed to avowing a firm preference for the chaste and simple, whatever their predilections may be.

Orchids would fascinate us even if they had no other quality than their amazing variety, ranging from the delicate intricacy of Vanda suavis, in carved and coloured ivory, to the unrestrained opulence of the Lælio-Cattleyas. Their colours transcend the range with which we are familiar in hardy plants; the group exhibited by G. Mayer, Esq., of Woldingham, which was awarded a prize for the best six Orchids shown by an amateur, included an Oncidium in pale brown, edged with yellow; Cypripedium Bellatulum in porcelain white, spotted with purplish black; an Orchid, whose name I have forgotten, in rich red, suffused with brown, and the bright green and white Cypripediums. I suppose that there are very few gardeners who would not grow Orchids if they could; and this suggests that there are more Orchids than is commonly supposed which can be grown in a frost-proof greenhouse, and that some of us would be glad to hear from the experts on this subject.

It was almost a relief to turn from the tantalising Orchids to the berried shrubs, especially to those that were generously shown in great boughs and young trees by Mr. Lionel de Rothschild and Mr. Vicary Gibbs, and discover how much variety and beauty they so easily provide. And yet
are many people saying: " Of course,
is nothing to be seen in the garden
now."

Among the newer shrubs, Pyrus pinna
Gibbsii from Aldenham was very stri
with bunches of scarlet fruit nearly as
Crab Apples, and Cotoneaster frigida
luteo, with berries in a very unusual sha
pale creamy yellow, Stranvœsia salici
with berries in dull lacquer red, and Co
aster glabrata, with very broad leaves
scarlet berries. Some black-berried sh
Acanthopanax and Eleutherococcus,
very handsome in contrast with the reds
yellows, standing out with the richne
the flat masses of black in a Japanese

Of the more familiar shrubs, Cotone
rugosa Henryi, with its graceful design
its load of scarlet berries, stood out ma
cently, and it is surprising that
Cotoneasters which form small trees sh
not be more generally appreciated.

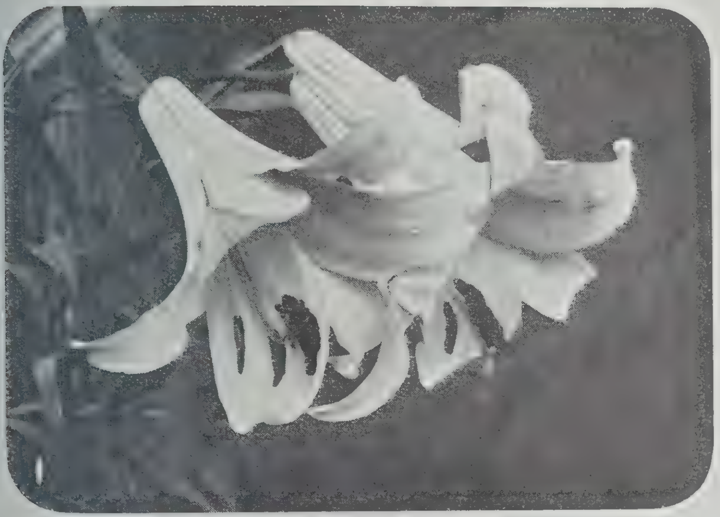
Orchids at Greycoat Street

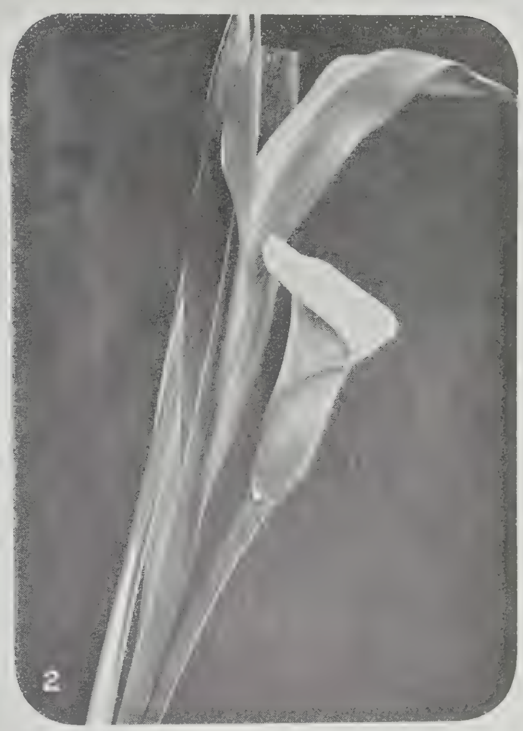
THE Orchid and stove and greenh
section of the Autumn Show was
ticularly noteworthy for the number
quality of the Orchids exhibited by amat

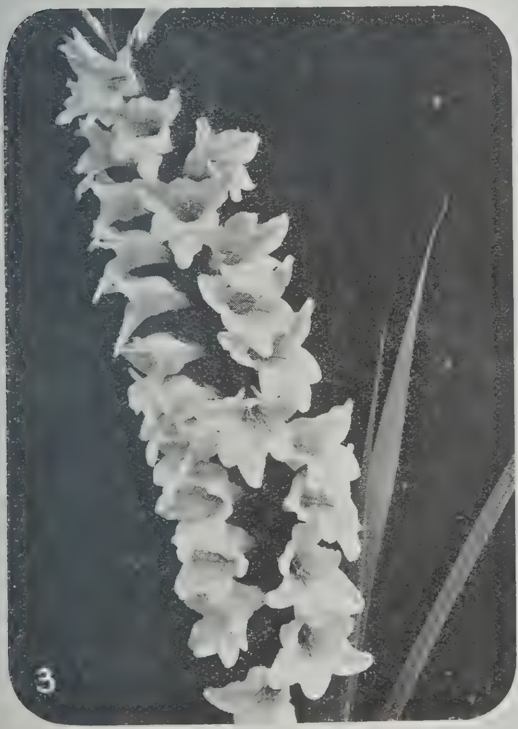
Apart from the displays arranged by
Trade, Messrs. Charlesworth, Mc
Stuart Low Co., Sanders, Alexander, Co
Dixon, and Evans, encomiums were lav
on, and thoroughly deserved by, the effe
groups shown by amateurs.

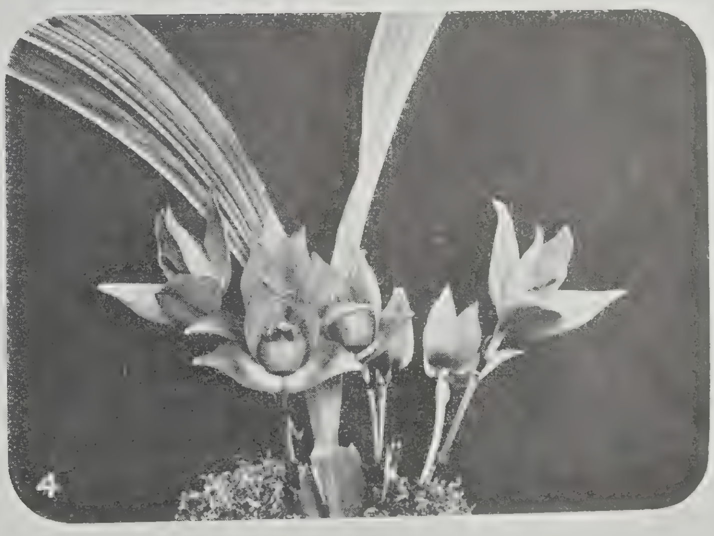
At this particular show special prizes

EEN AT THE FOURTH AUTUMN SHOW OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ON OCTOBER 23rd AND 24th









Lilium sulphureum. Shown by Col. S. R. Clarke, Borde Hill, ywards Heath. The large fragrant funnel-shaped flowers are pale sphur yellow, deepening at the throat and flushed with pink or claret red o the outside. A most beautiful Lily from Upper Burma. This species s shown in error as L. neilgherrense.

2. A pink-flowered Arum Lily (Arum Rehmanni). Flowers self pink. is interesting plant was brought from Rhodesia by Mr. W. Wells, rstham, Surrey, by whom it was shown.

3. Gladiolus species with 30 flowers and buds on one spike. This is a tender species (unnamed) from Port St. John, Pondoland, South Africa. The flowers are of soft, rhodomine pink, with carmine stripes. The foliage is like that of a Watsonia. Shown by Mr. Collingwood Ingram, Benenden, Kent. Award of Merit subject to being named.

4. A curious looking Orchid, Lycaste cruenta. This plant had a cluster of seven deep orange yellow flowers, about 6 inches high. The flowers are overshadowed by two large overhanging leaves. Shown in the Schröder Challenge Cup group by Mr. F. J. Hanbury, East Grinstead.

awarded to amateurs, but the intrinsic value of prizes by no means compensates for the time, trouble, skill, and forethought given. Mr. F. J. Hanbury, of East Grinstead (grower, Mr. Barnes), was awarded a Gold Medal and gained the Silver Challenge Cup presented by Baron Bruno Schroder.

For size the exhibit might well have been placed by one of the larger Orchid firms. Quality was of the highest, and in addition to many superb forms for which Mr. Hanbury's collection is noted, a large and varied number of Cattleyas, Oncidiums, Odontoglossums, Cypripediums, etc., were included. Well-placed was a plant of the now rare Cycnoches chlorochilon, with a single greenish-yellow and black-green male flower 6 inches or more in diameter, the more interesting as Mr. C. Garnett, of Derby, received an Award of Merit for a fine plant of C. Loddigesii, which had a spike of female blooms fully developed and an immature spike of male flowers, the two sexes occurring on one bulb.

Lælio-Cattleya Prince of Orange was particularly salient with an inflorescence of rich crimson and orange.

Mr. S. G. Brown, of Shepperton (grower, Mr. Thurgood), had a varied exhibit, including Cycnoches Loddigesii (the male form), Selenipedium macrochilium with 12-inch-long petals, Maxillaria lepidota, Mormodes Buccinator (flowers pale green and cream-pink), Epidendrum vitellinum, Oncidiums, Cypripediums, and Cœlogyne Mooreana.

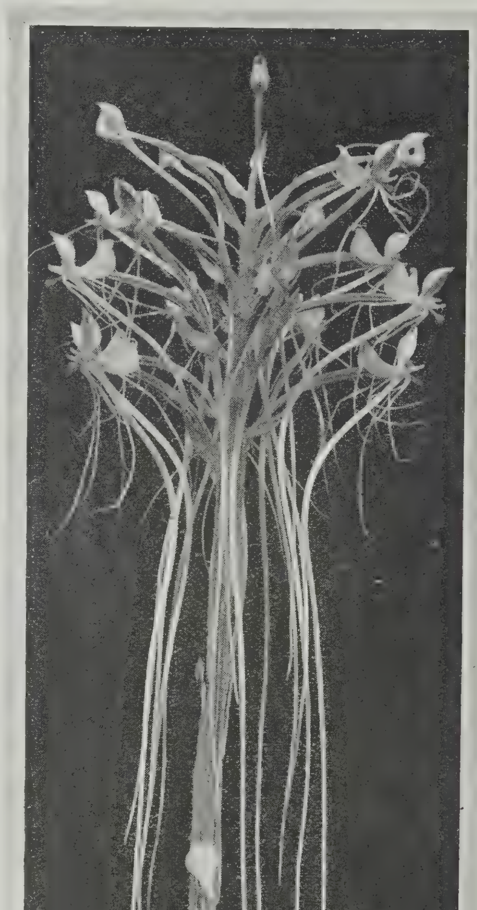
The Orchid Challenge Cup for the best exhibit of Orchids in a space not exceeding 60 square feet was won by Mr. R. Paterson, of Ardingly (grower, Mr. Merry). The group included some particularly emphatic Cattleyas and Lælio-Cattleyas. Vanda Luzonica (a Philippine Island species with habit resembling that of V. suavis, but with charming flowers of pure white edged with crimson), Vanda cœrulea, Odontoglossums, Oncidiums, Cypripediums, etc., completed a most meritorious group to which a Silver-gilt Banksian Medal was also accorded.

Another entry by Mr. J. J. Joicey, of Witley (gardener, Mr. MacKay), also contained a specimen of Vanda Luzonica, as remarkable as that in Mr. Paterson's group, but differing in the arrangement of colour. A specimen Vanda cœrulea, Oncidium Rogersii, numerous fine Cattleyas, Lælio-Cattleyas, and Cypripediums were prominent, as was a grand specimen of Bulbophyllum Rothschildianum, its rich, mahogany-tinted flowers having the upper sepal and petals tufted with crimson hairs. Cœlogyne barbata (white sepals and petals and sepia haired lip) and Cirrhopetalum longissimum (drooping flowers of silky white tinged with pink, the sepals 10 inches long) were much admired, and added variety to a well-balanced group.

A third competitor, the Right Hon. Lord Melchett, of Romsey (grower, Mr. Ruck), was awarded a Silver Banksian Medal for a well-staged group, each plant standing clearly out. Noticeable was Brasso-Lælio-Cattleya Yellow Hammer, Melchett's Variety (a beautiful piece of colour). Cattleya Fabia in variety, Cypripediums Minotaur, the white Boltonia, Golden Fleece, and Actæus Bianca were among the component plants, as were two nice examples of Calanthe Veitchii.

Mr. E. R. Ashton, of Tunbridge Wells (gardener, Mr. Kent), had one of the most varied groups possible for its size, a group which spoke well for the cultural methods used and the comprehensive nature of the collection. Among the plants noted were Cypripedium Fairrieanum, Miltonia candida, the graceful South African Stenoglottis fimbriata, very well-grown and well-flowered, Dendrobium Phalænopsis Schroderianum (one form exceedingly bright, contrasting with a pure albino), Oncidiums Forbesii and Rogersii, a beautiful form of Brasso-Cattleya Sofrano, with flowers in two shades of yellow and a light rose suffusion on the lip, and Odontoglossum grande.

Mr. Gus Meyer, of Woldingham (gardener, Mr. Cottam), won the silver trophy for the "twelve" Orchids, a representative lot of well-grown plants. A fine form with a golden-yellow lip of the Trumpeter Orchid (Mormodes Buccinator), Odontoglossum Zenon, to which the Orchid Committee gave a preliminary commendation. The large, shapely flowers were of a warm wine colour. Vuylstekeara elatior var. Lord Rothermere (bright red and white, derived from a trigeneric hybrid crossed again with an Odontoglossum), Sophro-Lælio-Cattleya Dora and Cypripedium bellatulum (both fine varieties), Oncidium Rogersii, Cattleya Portia, C. Mantinii, Vanda cœrulea, Oncidium Forbesii, Lælio-Cattleya Ivanhoe, and a well-grown specimen of the sweet-scented Vanda suavis. Though flowering so late in the season the plant, like all others in this group, was in full vigour.



Habenaria Lugardii, an interesting Orchid from the Congo

Flowers white and green, with very fine slender pendant spurs about 6 inches to 8 inches long. The flower is presumably visited by a long and very slender-tongued moth. The inflorescence arises from two broad, flat basal leaves. Award of Merit

Habenaria Lugardii

THE illustration represents a rem Orchid from Central Africa, exhib Messrs. Sanders at the R.H.S. n of October 23rd.

Habenarias and terrestrial Orchi widely distributed throughout the worl the probable exception of the frigid zo

The section of the genus in which L is included was at one time distinguis the generic name of Bonatea, di chiefly in the attenuation of the flor ments and two curious prolongation the rostellum.

The inflorescence photographed a sight seems to be composed entirely of filaments, but, though superficially d in reality the flowers structurally re those of the British Habenaria bifoli that species the segments are short broader, but the pollinia and the pro hood-like arrangement of the dorsal se similar to the same organs in H. Lugar

The plant shown received an Aw Merit. It may briefly be described as two large, fleshy, opposite green leave 6 inches long by 4 inches broad, resti the compost. From their centre ris erect stalk 20 inches high, light green ously ridged, or perhaps it would be to say adorned with thin, longitudinal A few whitish-green bracts are preser as leafy as the same organs in H. bifo

This terminates in some 15 or 20 fl quite attractive in the aggregate. Ea a slender white spur 8 inches in lengt tinted with green in certain lights. petals are reduced to white threads 1½ long, the sepals are the shorter and b of all the segments and of purest whit the two lateral reflex toward the 2-inc grooved ovary, which is based by a bract. The lip is apparently divided three filaments, the two outer of which the petals in length.

In front of the flower project two clu processes of deep green.

The whole section has a genera semblance and the colouring is gree white. Other species which have be cultivation are antennifera, from Rho speciosa, South Africa; and Ugandæ latter with a spur 5 inches long.

E. Coo

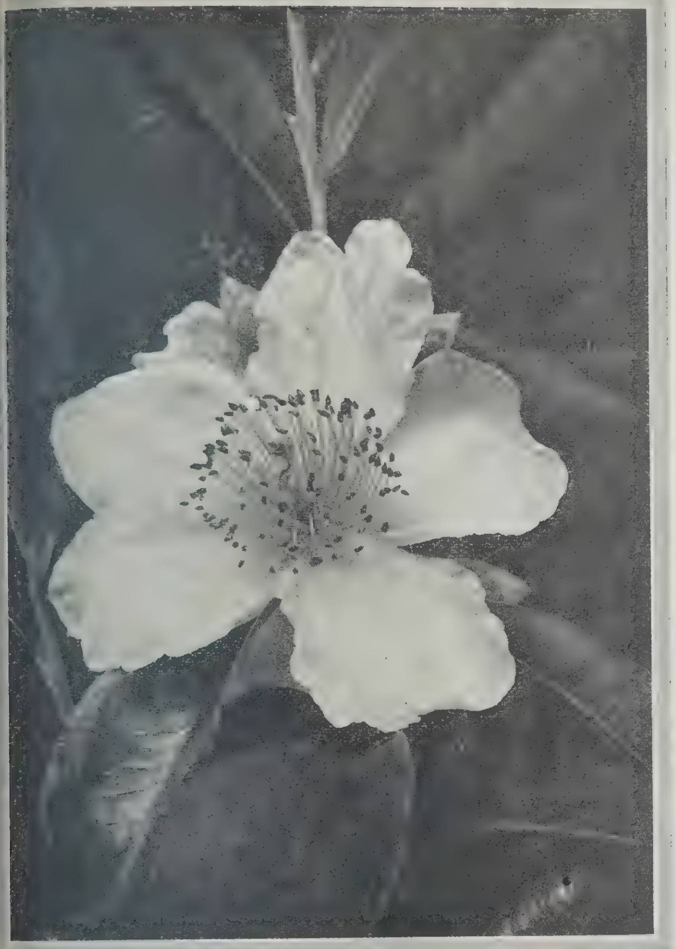
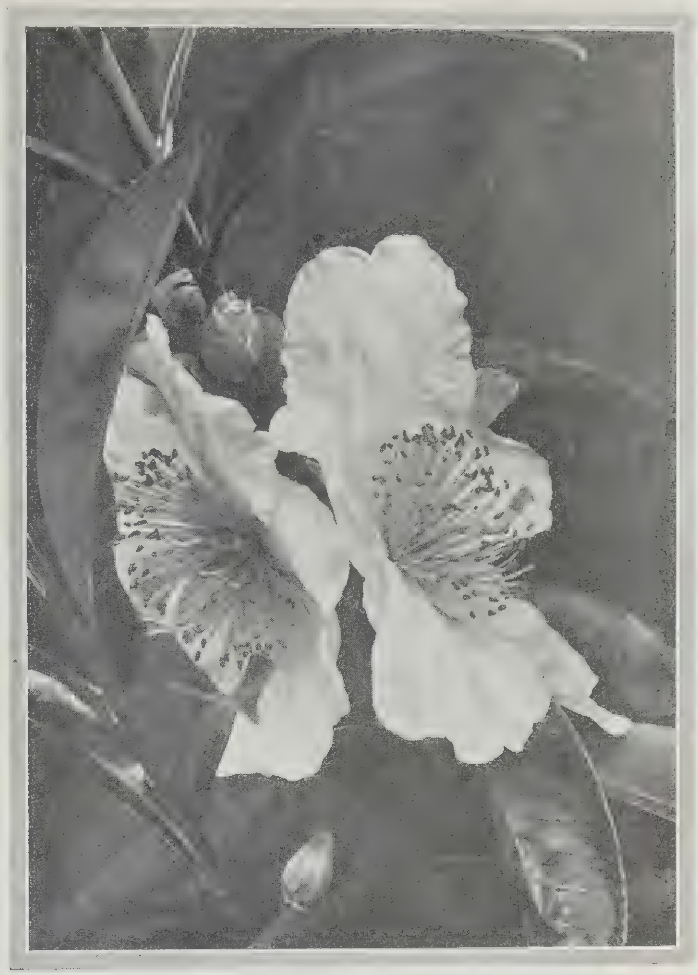
Aster Amellus Sonia

A visit to the Wisley garden of the Horticultural Society late last year conv me of the undoubted value of this bea new Aster of the Amellus type. This v should be in all gardens where the beau the large-flowered type of Aster is app ated. It received the Award of Merit year, and this award should give it the mark of distinction. I acquired stock o plant last spring and it is now doing well with me. I hope to have a lot of it year. The raiser describes the colou bright rose-pink, and it is quite true tha flowers are borne in profusion on erect s and on plants of robust growth.

D. B. Cra

Planting Roses

The formation of new beds and bo and the planting of Roses is now in swing, and no better time could be ch for the purpose. If plants are not cut way back upon arrival from the nurser will be advisable so to reduce them b planting. Remove also damaged portion roots, and shorten back extra long one this will ultimately benefit the plants. W planted the point of union should be below the surface.

Two pictures of Gordonia axillaris, a tender and lovely shrub from China

Shown by Major L. Johnston, Hidcote Manor, Campden, Glos. The large flowers, with innumerable golden yellow anthers, are 5½ inches across the broad white petals. The foliage is like that of a Camellia. It is one of the most beautiful shrubs of recent introduction. Award of Merit

Highland Glens and Highland Gardens

THERE is an idea prevalent in the minds of not a few southerners that Scotland after about the middle of September—when holiday folk and sportsmen have left the moors and anglers have made their last cast—has lost its charm, and that for the most part it is a region of mist and rain, cold grey, and uninviting. Suggest to them that in mid-autumn, notwithstanding days are shortening fast, the weather in the very west of the Highlands is often mild and genial, with spells of mellow sunshine pouring over the landscape, and they smile, possibly because their minds hark back to a holiday in which adverse weather played not unimportant part. Tell them, though Ling and Heather may have faded and wear a sombre look, that there are still points of gold upon the Gorse, and colour on the majestic mountain peaks as the trailing clouds of glory gather round them in purple mist, or when at set of sun they glow with the fires of heaven; that there is beauty in the tangled herbage which skirts the stream, and in the Bracken which slowly reddens to decay beneath woodland trees. Whisper to them that at this time of the year the glens are to be seen in their most alluring and captivating dress, crimson of Beech, bronze of Maple, and shimmering gold of Ash; that the Rowan trees are laden with bunches of scarlet fruit, and the true Fairies of the Glen—Silver Birches—still bear the weight of their soft amber foliage on fragile-looking branches. Yonder is a group of Scot's Pines, a century old or more, standing sentinel-like, veritable patriarchs in this lonely glen. Alongside the burns are still to be seen a few belated flowers of blue tufted Hairbells, and stray pink Campions are pushing their way through trailing stems of Bramble, now suffused with metallic tints, making delightful pictures worthy of the brush of a Macwhirter or a Peter Graham. Tell those who wish for a respite from the din and bustle and exacting duties of City life, and long for a complete change from every-day things and scenes, that it is good sometimes to get away where one may hear the music of woodland trees; to step out on to wind-swept moors; to breathe pure and unvitiated air; to wander by quiet waters of loch or still flowing river; to have a sight of the eternal hills; to watch the sun go down behind some rugged peak in a ball of fire, or to see through a clump of noble Pines the sky bathed in lurid light, softening to tender amethyst, ere darkness falls. Remind them that these joys are to be found in the open life of the Highland country, all within twelve hours journey of Euston! You may persuade some of your friends of this, while to others your words may fall on deaf ears. They may even look askance at you, scouting the idea of such a proposition as a holiday so far north by saying " Really, at this time of the year! "

Highland weather

It is true after Perth has been left behind there is a tang about the atmosphere of which Ian Maclaren, in praising the virtue of the air of Drumtochty, says: " It starts frae the Moray Firth and swoops doon Badenoch and comes ower the moor o' Rannoch and across the Grampians. There's the salt o' the sea and the caller o' the hills, and the smell o' the heather, and the bloom o' mony a flower in't. If there's nae disease in the organs o' the body, a puff o' Drumtochty air wud bring a man back frae the gates o' deith."

Of course, there are days in the Highlands when the weather is what our Scotch friends tell us " a wee bittie saft," when, to say the least, it is not prudent to stir far without being clad in thick boots, leggings, and mackintosh, but to-day is not one of these, and has no such drawbacks. It is a golden day, with a dreamy, subtle atmosphere, an almost translucent air, akin to that of the West Country about the Cotswolds, or the Weald of Surrey. Here in the glens is tranquillity. Trees stand motionless, as if conscious of impending change. It is their hour of colour triumph, as revealed in the splendour of their gorgeous dress. It is Nature's grand finale to her work. Soon will come the parting of the ways—the season of withering leaves. A few short weeks hence, at the most, and a night keener than the rest will set its seal upon them, bringing down " the wonder of the falling tongues of flame."

Highland gardens

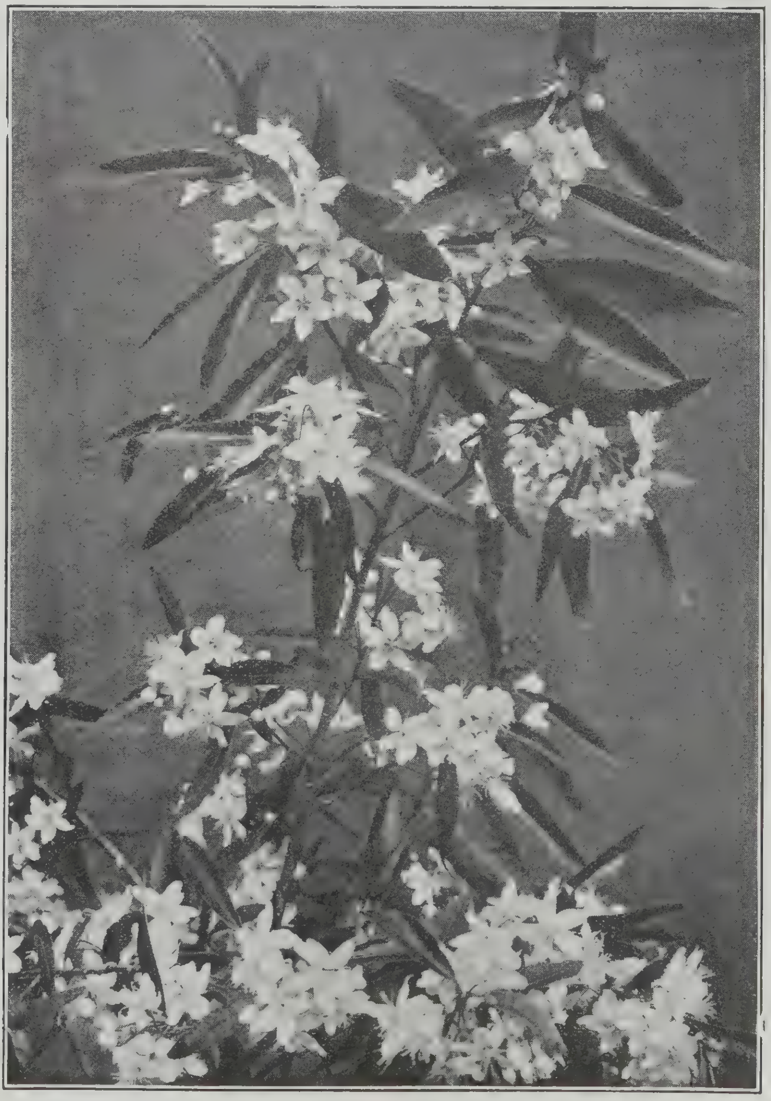
To those who take a pride in the culture of plants and flowers, and who love their gardens, there are garden spots even in the high altitudes around and north of Blair Atholl, away up the steep ascent of the

Grampians, beyond the summit of Dalwhinnie, which the trains climb as they make the journey to Inverness, that are beautiful yet. Hereabouts are crofters' cottages, with whitewashed walls and little patches of garden ground. They are bright with flowers, gold and orange Scotch Marigolds, Ten-week Stocks, scarlet Linums, showy Asters, Mignonette, and edgings of Candytuft. Cushions of Thrift, green as in spring, spread among rough stones on a border under a window, partly covered with gay Lichens. In some gardens Dahlias are yet in beauty, adding a touch of brightness, and Rambler Roses, with here and there a few clusters among faded flowers, cover low fences. In no part of the kingdom do you see that lovely creeper, Tropæolum speciosum, in so lavish a fashion. It has been rightly called the Glory of the Scotch Highlands. You come across it everywhere, a perfect blaze of vermilion clusters, borne amid trailing, almost irrepressible shoots of vivid green, thriving as well in wet peat-laden soil as it does amid limestone rocks in some other parts of the country. It is of parasitic growth, and is never happier than when clinging to something, a branch of a tree, or as is to be seen in the north, in a cold, moist environment—running riot over a thatched roof or fence. We pause to admire its rich prodigality and think of the little success met with when cultivation is first attempted in hot, dry, localities as in the south of England. Seen in this moisture-laden atmosphere of the Highland country by strangers for the first time, however, it seems to rivet their attention, and not infrequently they gaze at it in sheer wonder when they see the luxuriance of pale green trailing shoots and intense colouring of the rich flowers. On a wee shieling across the valley a Clematis clambers about a doorway in masses of flaunting purple clusters. The rough walls of this home, built of stones and turves, are thickly congregated with many plants, some obviously self-sown, Sedums, Bellflowers, Valerian, Creeping Jenny, and Sempervivums among the rest. The gable-end of the house itself is aflame with Virginia Creeper in vivid shades of scarlet and crimson and gold. In a little bit of ground under the window rosy-pink flowers of Loosestrife still give a glow of warm colour. A few spikes on a clump of Red-hot-poker stand like flaming torches. Gay winged butterflies flitter about clumps of mauve and blue Michaelmas Daisies, the flowers gradually deepening in colour as the air grows cooler in the long September twilight.

HIGHLAND SCENTS AND HIGHLAND AIR

Sweet as is the perfume of Thyme and other lowly-flowering plants about these wild moors, there is yet another scent—a familiar, fragrant, pungent smell which pervades the air, and one we have missed for a year, recalling delightful memories spent in the Highlands by moor and stream. It does not come from the flowers, but from the blue smoke of smouldering peat fires in cottage homes. Around us are stacks of
peat blocks drying for winter use, e
to make townsfolk, in these days of
coal, envious! Many of the flowering
in these gardens betoken careful cultur
others upon which, apparently, little
trouble has been bestowed, seem vig
and strong; more robust, indeed, than
in other gardens in the south. Wher
we visited the Highlands years ago we
puzzled to know the reason for this ex
ance in certain forms of plant life, be
the soil, in some districts at all events
not be described as rich, and we were
to the conclusion that one great facto
atmosphere—contributes largely in
purity of colour to flowers. Whereve
travels in the Highlands the same trut
presses itself on one's mind. It is the
unpolluted air from mountain and mo
which invigorates and woos back to
those who come here for recuperation,
gives vigour and beauty to growing
about these moors and gardens—a b
that never fails to charm those who, per
are only able to pay occasional visi
Scotland, but who leave with mem
stored with pleasant pictures, to be re
in fancy as they follow the ordinary rou
their daily life.

W. FOWK



Hoheria populnea, a choice and beautiful flowering shrub from New Zealand

Hoheria populnea lanceolat

A CHOICE and beautiful flow
shrub is this native of New Zealan
slender branches of which were
with lovely white, pearl-like buds
flowers. These are produced in clusters
the leaf axils, and are rendered even
lovely by the numerous stamens. The l
are slightly glaucous and of a bright,
ing green on the outer surface. A w
desirable for this very choice shrub i
south of England, but in the west I have
it perfectly happy in the open.

E. MARKHA

Roses—first blooms

WHAT has been to me very astonis
is the fact that after one of
severest spells of cold weather eve
perienced since I commenced to grow R
all my trees not only survived but have
a display of first blooms never before equ
Some of the trees in the spring cert
showed signs of the struggle to live d
the exceptionally hard frost, and I did
think I should have any June Roses,
with judicious pruning they soon bega
put up sturdy shoots, and the first to b
was a climbing Mme. E. Herriot on
20th which had a continuous show of
blooms. The yellows, which are usuall
susceptible to cold, have done remark
well, and Christine, Florence Izzard, M
Morse, Rev. Page Roberts, Mrs. We
Quinn, Golden Emblem, and Billy Boy,
attractive semi-single, all had a w
of first blooms. Ivy May, a charming but
hole Rose, resembling Mme. Butterfl
colour, had over a score of blooms
once. Two old trees, Grace Molyneaux
Pharisaer, which were pruned severely o
to their having become so large, sent
vigorous new shoots with a correspon
show of flowers. Red Letter Day, with s
double dark scarlet blooms, made a new s
over 5 feet high, and was a mass of col
whilst K. of K., a somewhat similar R
but more vivid in colour, with its branc
habit, has upheld its reputation as one o
best decorative Roses. Two purely si
Roses which can always be relied upo
give good results all through the summer
autumn are Isobel and Mrs. Oakley Fis
these have both been much admired, and
former may still be regarded as one of
finest, if not the finest, single Rose in c

n. The colour is carmine red, flushed ge-scarlet, in a very long and delicately-petal. A peculiarity this year has been in addition to the single blooms of five ls, I have had blooms with up to thirteen ls, all perfectly formed. Mrs. Oakley er is a rich orange-yellow, very florifer- Independence Day is, as usual, a mass loom, whilst those bearing larger flowers Gladys Holland, buff, shaded orange-w; Holt Hewitt, rich, velvety crimson; geous, orange-yellow, shaded copper-red; Silk, cherry-cerise, overshot with sal- and orange; and the two excellent es, Marcia Stanhope and Ellesmere—h are both sweetly scented, and there- preferred by many to Frau Karl Druschki ve all done well. Amongst others that a splendid show of first blooms were elia, Mme. Butterfly, Joan Davies, Fireflame, bush and climber, Old Gold, Angeles, Noblesse, General McArthur, elm Kordes, Sunstar, Clarice Goodacre, Henry Morse, Charles P. Kilham, Mme. riot, Col. Oswald Fitzgerald, Betty Up-ard, Betty, Donald Macdonald, and

pruned my Roses the first week in April, s my usual practice, but, as an experi-t, I left one tree (Polly) until a month , and found this made practically no rence in the time of flowering, so there ars to be something in the contention of advocates of late pruning that you get blooms quite as early, without running risk of late frosts. R. C.

erby.

New Carnations

he following new Perpetual Flowering ations have been registered with the rish Carnation Society:—

LADYS.—Seedling, salmon-rose, fragrance habit and stem good.

ADGE.—Seedling, orange flaked bright , slight scent, habit and stem good, but ter slow grower.

INA.—Seedling, heliotrope (Mikado our), fair fragrance, good stem, and habit rowth very free. Registered by C. Engel-n, Ltd., Saffron Walden.

OBEL HAMILTON.—Seedling, rich light , slightly scented, stiff stem, free habit growth. Registered by Walter Hemus, . Hawarth, Middlesex.

ADA.—Seedling, salmon-pink, habit and good.

NNY BOY.—Seedling, cerise, habit and extra good. Registered by A. F. Dutton, Nurseries, Iver, Bucks.

AN.—Seedling, yellow, habit and stem , parentage from Maine Sunshine. istered by H. T. Mason, Ltd., Hampton

SHILL SCARLET.—Seedling, scarlet, est colour Brilliant or Aviator, exception- robust in habit, fragrant. Registered by Cecil Smith, The Gardens, Lushill, worth.

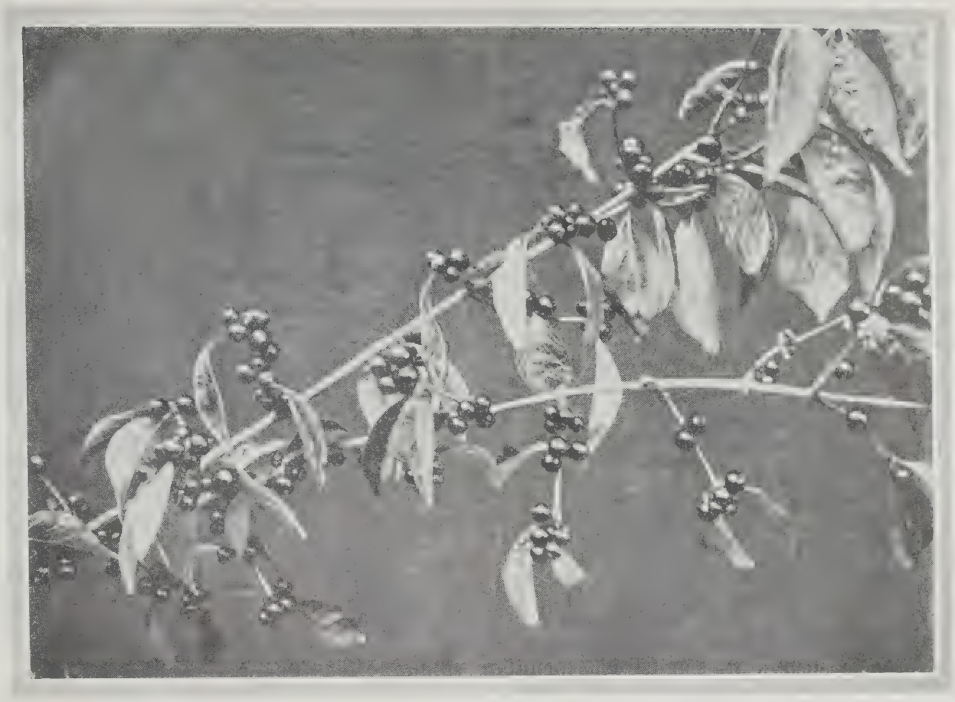
A. NICHOLSON.—Seedling, scarlet, est in colour Spectrum

N HORTON.—Seedling, white, pencilled ine. Registered by Stuart Low, Ltd., Hill Park, Enfield.

Senecio abrotanifolius

plant well adapted to associate with ts on the moderate-sized rock garden is Senecio abrotanifolius, from the Enga- and Eastern range of the Alps. Where ted in suitable conditions, it forms a nct feature of the rock garden, if there ace for its trailing branches, which are times a foot long. Its vivid orange ms create a striking effect, especially when planted with some of the Alpine Campanulas, and a few plants of S. abrotanifolius mingled with such Campanulas as C. rotundifolia or any of its Alpine sisters of similar growth. The trailing branches, clad with deep green, glossy, fern-like leaves, bear the flaming orange flowers. S. abrotanifolius loves a peaty soil, well mixed with stones, and a dry position with ample drainage. It is increased by seeds or cuttings.

S. ARNOTT.



Lonicera Hemsleyana, with translucent fruits like Red Currants, and about the same size and colour

Shown in large well fruited branches in the Gold Medal Collection of Shrubs from Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, Exbury, near Southampton

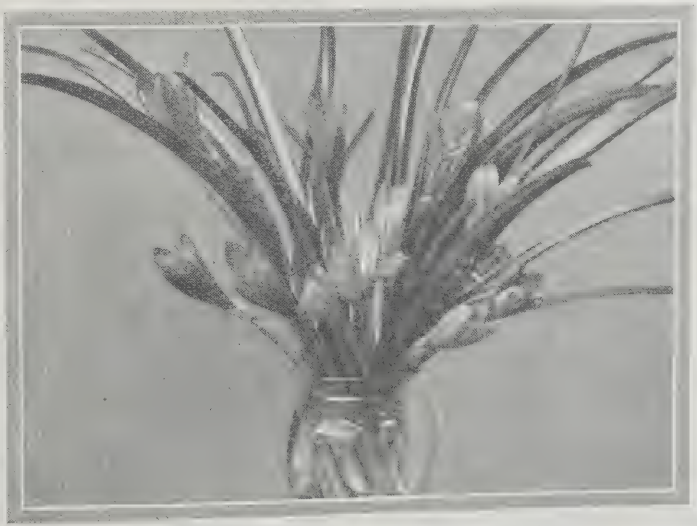
Geum bulgaricum

The plant almost universally grown as Geum bulgaricum is not, on very high authority, the true bulgaricum. It is some consolation, however, to learn that the true bulgaricum is a worthless plant, with big foliage like "washed-out green flannel and clusters of bloodless, pale yellow flowers," while the plant which masquerades under the name of G. bulgaricum is neater, and bears glowing flame-like flowers. It is about 6 inches or 8 inches high, with pretty foliage of the characteristic form of the Geums, and blooms for months in summer and autumn. It needs no special culture, and flourishes in any decent garden soil. It is easily increased by division, while its hardiness is beyond reproach. Some consider that the proper name of this good plant should be G. Borisii, for which another Geum does duty in gardens.

S. ARNOTT.

Spring bedding

The various bulbs should all now be got in, as also the other plants used for a spring display, such as Myosotis, Polyanthuses, and Wallflowers. As with other plants, however, the ground must be reasonably dry when such work is being carried out, or it is very apt to become sour and unhealthy.



Sternbergia lutea from an open border

Shown by the Duke of Wellington, Ewhurst Park, Basingstoke, at the last meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Pruning fruit trees

A start may be made upon Apples and Pears without delay, for although such work may be carried on more or less all through the winter months (the exception being frosty weather), it is advisable to attend to trees in exposed places and those growing upon vegetable plots as early as possible, in order to allow of the ground being dug or trenched, as the case may be. Such work is also carried out more expeditiously if commenced before the bitter weather arrives. Orchard trees, both of Apples and Pears, should never be permitted to become congested, and no hesitation should be shown if it becomes necessary to remove a large branch to admit of light and sunshine to all parts of the tree, dressing all large wounds either with Creosote or Stockholm tar.

Planting fruit trees and fruit bushes

The present is an ideal time for this operation, and I advise all who possibly can to get the bulk of their trees planted and settled in as early as such work can be conveniently done, for although we may plant all through the winter—soil and weather being favourable—early planting is by far the most satisfactory. Trees arriving from nurseries should be soaked by immersion in a tank of water if the roots are at all dry, pruned, and examined carefully for any damaged roots, which should be cut away. A barrow-load of fine soil containing a third of wood ashes should be reserved to work in among the roots as the work of planting proceeds, as the latter are very partial to wood ash. Place a good stake to each tree when standing the latter in its position, and, after arranging the roots in tiers, finish off with the uppermost roots 3 inches below the surface.

Fruit trees under glass

The planting of these may be carried out at any time, as in this instance we are no longer victims of the weather. Vines, Peaches, Figs, and others may be planted or root-pruned, as the case may be, whenever it is convenient to do so.

Early vinery

The pruning, cleansing, and dressing of the Vines must be commenced so that all may be in readiness for starting the rods into growth. All glass must be washed and walls given a coating of fresh lime-wash. In the meantime, the house should be kept as cool as possible.

Climbing plants

All hardy kinds may now be planted and among them, in addition to the great variety of Roses, are many extremely interesting and beautiful subjects, such as Clematis, Vitis (of which Mme. Coignet's Vine is one of the best), Vitis vinifera purpurea, Lonicera tragophylla, the largest flowered Honeysuckle which can be grown in the open air, and L. etrusca var. gigantea, Escallonia langleyensis, E. Donard Seedling, Actividias arguta, chinensis, and Henryi, Tecoma grandiflora, Mme. Galen, Polygonum Auberti, Wisterias, Celastrus articulatus, Ladsura japonica, Pilostegia viburnioides, and Solanum jasminoides, to mention only a few.

Lawns

Mowing having finished for the season, all the machines—after a thorough cleaning and oiling—should be stored away in a dry place. Leaves will prove troublesome for a time on the grass, but must be cleared away at intervals, otherwise yellow patches will follow. Attend to all worn parts and those impoverished, by enriching the soil, or replacing same, and returfing with freshly-cut material. A dressing of Peruvian Guano at the rate of 2 ozs. to each square yard will effect a great improvement where the grass has lost its colour.

Planting Lilies

Many of these may now be planted in the open, preferably among dwarf, peat-loving shrubs, such as Kalmias, Azaleas, and Rhododendron. Although many are perfectly happy in beds and borders of mixed flowers, Lilium Regale, L. sulphureum, speciosum, melpomene, lancifolium album, the Orange Lily (L. croceum), L. giganteum, and L. cordifolium, Henryi, Davidii, auratum, platyphyllum, Martagons, Willmottiæ, and Sargentiæ are a few worthy of the planter's attention.

Swedes

A slight demand usually exists for a few garden Swedes, and where these are grown it is advisable to lift and store them at the present time, as this admits of the ground occupied being manured and trenched for a spring crop. A few roots of Horseradish should also be lifted and placed under cover in a cool shed.

Draining in the kitchen garden

Where this has become necessary, it will be advisable to put the work in hand before the heavy and continuous rains set in, and thus allow the work of digging and manuring to go forward. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The cold frame

The novice is very apt to coddle unduly the occupants of his cold frame, and by doing so frequently loses the bulk of them. It must be remembered that all these plants or cuttings are practically hardy and, therefore, do not really require more than just slight protection during the coldest part of the winter. Whenever frost is absent the sashes should never be closed, as damp rather than cold is the cause of most of the trouble. The sashes should be tilted at the back, for this method protects the occupants from rain while permitting a current of fresh air to circulate among them, and so preventing damping to a great extent. During frost keep closed, with a mat thrown over the sashes.

Early Vines

Where really early forcing is practised, it will be now necessary to prune and clean the Vines, and also thoroughly cleanse the house. If necessary, a top dressing of fresh rich loam should be applied, after removing a few inches of the old soil. Do not begin with a high temperature, as it is invariably better gradually to increase the warmth after growth has started.

Chrysanthemums

These are much earlier than usual this year, and it will be difficult to retard the Christmas varieties so that they are at their best at the festive season. Give as much air as possible, but try to avoid draughts, for mildew will be certain to be troublesome under such conditions. Give fire-heat only when frost threatens.

Rose planting

With the mild autumn, the plants have continued to grow and bloom with great freedom, and if the present mild conditions continue it is difficult to see when the plan
likely to come to hand. If possible, how
have the ground thoroughly prepared, s
the actual planting may be carried o
soon as the plants arrive. That is, of c
if the soil and weather are favourable.

Keep all tidy

With autumn storms and falling leav
is not at all an easy job keeping things
but it is so depressing to have lawns
paths littered with debris, that it behove
to endeavour to keep such from accumul
too much, as the presence of large wreat
leaves on lawns seriously disfigure the

Pruning bush fruits

It is well to push on with this work
still the weather is comparatively mild,
is by no means a pleasant duty when
ground is frozen hard or is sodden with
rain.

Planting fruits

With the exception of Strawberries
hardy fruits can be planted during No
ber. Do not forget that very rich soil i
only unnecessary, but is actually harmf
Apples, Cherries, Pears, Plums, G
berries, Red and White Currants,
Loganberries, but Black Currants and
berries must be liberally treated in the
of manure, a generous dressing being wo
into the ground before planting takes p
As all fruits require that the soil be tro
down firmly over the roots, this work
only be carried out when it is in a nice w
ing condition.

Propagating Currants and Gooseber

When pruning, it is a good plan to s
nice straight shoots to be used as cutti
Gooseberries and Red and White Curr
must have all the lower buds carefully
out before they are planted in a sheltered
out of doors. Black Currants, on the c
hand, must have all buds retained. In pl
ing, see that the soil is well trodden ar
the cuttings.

Seed Potatoes in store

Take advantage of inclement weathe
overhaul these, carefully removing any t
showing any sign of disease or decay.
and rats are at times troublesome, so w
such is the case have the pests destroyed
fore much harm has occurred.

Globe Artichokes

The finer varieties of this esteemed ve
able must have a generous amount of dr
material heaped around them as protec
against damp and frost. Fairly dry le
are excellent, and to keep them from b
blown away, should have a thatch of ro
stable litter laid over them. The leaves
the plants should not be covered with
mulching material.

Late Cauliflowers

These are working well at time of writi
and are always very welcome at this seas
Watch for the first appearance of the c
and immediately give a little protect
against frost, which, if at all sharp,
destroy Cauliflowers if nothing is done to k
it at bay. Even tying their own leaves o
them is a wonderful help, and quite ea
managed.

Parsley in frames

Give this abundance of air or damp
be certain to play havoc. On fine days
sashes should be drawn back to encour
sturdy growth that frost will not harm.
C. BLAIR

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

The Rock Garden Society

good that lovers of Alpines and rock ens should form a Society. It is sur ing that they have not done so before

E preliminary meeting of the Rock arden Society was held in the R.H.S. ew Hall on October 23rd. The Chair ken by Sir William Lawrence, Bt., and was a good attendance of those interin Alpine plants and in the formation of ardens.

William Lawrence outlined the objects proposed Society, viz :—To give advice making of rock gardens and the grow- Alpines, to arrange for discussions on ltivation of special plants, to publish ly bulletin, to exchange plants among ers, and possibly arrange for lectures on ing Alpines and their cultivation.

ing started the ball rolling, Captain ns-Jeune emphasised the need for two distinct sections, those who grow s for the sheer love of the plants, and who appreciate rocks for their beauty in setting. Captain Symons-Jeune ery enthusiastic, and went so far as to at rock gardens at Chelsea should be ted to, say, 30 tons of rock apiece. Mr. Perry assured the meeting that the ociety would have the full support of tide, and expressed a wish that aquatic and water gardening should be in- in the Rock Garden Society.

Chairman explained that rock garden- s a very elastic term, and would include nts associated with the rock and water

annual subscription of 10s. 6d. was ted, and the following provisional ittee was nominated to draw up the of Constitution of the new Society :— William Lawrence (Chairman), Dr. ispe (Felixstowe), G. Yeld (Gerrard's s, A. Perry (Enfield), Captain Symons- (Old Windsor), Th. W. Ingwersen Grinstead), G. P. Baker (Sevenoaks), Cowley (Editor GARDENING ILLUS-), Miss Victoria Slade (Bodmin), A. (Colwyn Bay), J. Renton (Perth). Committee will meet at the R.H.S. all on November 5th, at 3 p.m.

next issue will be mainly devoted to rs, and will contain among other special an article by Sir William Lawrence Rock Garden Society.

Campanula Weatherbyi

bears a considerable resemblance to hylla, but has deeper coloured flowers, of a uniform purple-blue with deeper ed veins early in September. It has a ct habit, the leaves lying close to the , the erect stems of solitary clear blue being abundant and scattered in a idal manner along the short, branch- ms. Although like the old Campanula ur, it is unlike it in its dwarf, close usually flourishing at 1 inch high. It freely enough, but does not spread with coarse vigour like many of its . It is hardy and enduring in good, oils and grows well with me on rich, ained loam. One of its chief charms it produces its numerous flowers when is a dearth of flowers in the rock . It is well, however, to encourage its wering habit by placing it in a position, where the fine flowers may be to open well. Although perfectly it does not possess the vigour of the n Campanulas, but it is valuable as a ant, and is fitted for association with Alpine flowers in warm, sunny parts of k garden in well-drained, sandy loam. of slender and wiry growth, a top dress- lime, stone chippings, loam, and sand should be worked in about the plants in early spring. This, in addition to providing the plants with nourishment, will help to protect the young growth from slugs which show a decided liking for Campanulas.

H. STEVENS.

The Millgrove Challenge Trophy for Chrysanthemums at Edinburgh

The Imperial Fruit Show

Winning Apples at Birmingham

THE ninth Imperial Fruit Show, which was on October 25th opened at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, by H.R.H. Prince George, is being held there all this week, closing to-day (November 2nd).

This appears to be the most successful yet held, from every point of view. It is generally agreed that in the five years which have elapsed since the Show last visited Birmingham many valuable lessons have been learnt, and that it has been accepted that "quality pays," to employ the phrase used by Prince George. One exhibit, that of Messrs. T. and M. Dixon, in the 50 boxes cooking Apple class, British Empire Section, won its first place with no fewer than 97 points, and only one point separated it from the second place winner. In the same section, but for dessert Apples, in an exhibit of 50 half-boxes, 96½ points were awarded to Cox's Orange Pippin, shown by Mr. F. Paget, Norbury. In fact, so high a standard of packing and quality has been reached this year that, with a few exceptions, nothing below 90 points had a chance of getting into the awards list. In a class that comprised 13 exhibits, thus representing 13 tons of cooking Apples grown in Great Britain, Messrs. T. and M. Dixon secured for that essentially English cooker, Bramley's Seedling, the honour of being the chief winning variety and the outstanding fruit at Bingley Hall. The 97 points out of a possible 100 suggests the almost perfect Apple. Although there were other exhibits of this variety in the 50-box class, they did not come into the final reckoning, and the entry which came out on top was closely challenged by Monarch at 96 points, with Bismark (94¾) very close behind, both these being entered by Messrs. W. Seabrook and Sons, Ltd. This firm had five tons of fruit on exhibition, and one of its exhibits in the 50 half-boxes class was awarded the third prize in the Worcester Pearmain exhibit (92¾ points), shown against Cox's Orange Pippin, which was placed first and second in a strong class, Mr. F. Paget, Norbury, carrying off the blue riband. Most of the fruit showed a remarkable freedom from blemishes ordinarily associated with fruit, and the bulge bruising which was very prevalent last year was almost non-existent.

It was only to be expected that the point of interest should shift from year to year. The introduction of the ton class of Bramley's Seedling provided a feature of the 1928 Show. The new idea of 1929 was the exhibiting of Cox's Orange Pippin in trays, an idea which immediately caught on. Since both cheek and eye showing forms of traying figure in the awards list of the two sections, championship and ordinary, the Judges have hesitated to give a lead, but it is worth knowing that while there may possibly have been other factors, the eye-up method was employed in four out of the six prize winners. Pointing ran high, and the exhibit entered by Mr. C. B. Shepherd, which achieved the distinction of 96½ points, was 1 point ahead of the "Championship" Cox's shown by W. Seabrook and Sons, Ltd., and thus qualified for the R.H.S. Gold Medal. Worcester Pearmain, shown by Reading University in Class III., U.K. Championship Section, reached 96½ points and secured the other R.H.S. Gold Medal. The "Fruit Grower" Gold Medal for half-sieves was awarded for King of the Pippins shown by Mr. J. Morton. Mr. R. J. Burrell, the winner of the other medal, exhibited Allington Pippin.

This year's Show is again under the Chairmanship of Sir William Lobjoit, and Mr. H. V. Taylor is the Chairman of the Schedule Committee, with Mr. J. F. Tamblyn, Secretary.

The forthcoming Chrysanthemum Show in Edinburgh

THE prize schedule of this important winter show is in our hands, and we note that a very comprehensive and interesting list of classes, with substantial prizes, has been got together. The principal award, to be known as "The Millgrove" Challenge Trophy, a photograph of which we reproduce, is for six 10-inch vases of decorated Chrysanthemums, disbudded, and not more than 12 blooms to a vase.

The number of classes for Chrysanthemums (cut flowers) number 17, while there are five classes for pot plants, seven classes for fruit, and 14 for vegetables.

The show is to be held in the Drill Hall, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, on November 21st, 22nd, and 23rd.

The show is to be under the patronage of the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society, while schedules and full information may be had from the Organiser, Mr. D. Sharp, 9, Waverley Market, Edinburgh.

The want of such a show during the last dozen years or more has been keenly felt by many flower-lovers.

Kingston and Surbiton Chrysanthemum Show

The twenty-second exhibition of the Kingston and Surbiton Chrysanthemum Society will be held in the Assembly Rooms, Surbiton, on Wednesday, November 6th, when a good show is anticipated. It is hardly necessary to remind those who attend this exhibition of the high standard of quality of the Chrysanthemums and hardy fruit shown at this exhibition. Schedules may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Divers, "Westdean," Hook, near Surbiton.

Report on condition of horticultural crops

Broccoli.—In Cornwall the crop is in excellent condition, though there is some caterpillar damage. In Lancashire and Cheshire conditions have improved and present prospects are fair to good.

Brussels Sprouts.—In Hunts. there has been material improvement since the rains, but fly is prevalent. In Bedfordshire the recovery has been less marked, and supplies are considerably reduced; the Sprouts, also, are small and of poor quality. In Essex fly has reduced the crop. In Middlesex good supplies are obtainable.

Cabbage (spring sown).—Improved in Middlesex and good supplies available. Fair in Lancashire.

Cabbage (autumn sown).—In Middlesex planting out is in progress under good conditions. Making good growth in Lancashire. In Lincs. (Holland) planting out is practically finished and plants have become well established.

Celery.—Crops good on fen soils, but below average on uplands. In Lancashire growth has been affected by blight and fly, whilst in Lincs. (Holland) fly has caused serious damage, and the crop is likely to be poor in consequence.

Sea Kale (for forcing).—Satisfactory on the whole. Crowns now beginning to ripen.

Chrysanthemums (outdoor).—Blooms satisfactory generally, though small i
places. Recent spell of favourable
has prolonged the cutting perio
Cheshire the crop is very good, being
cent. above average.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pl
be named should send fair examples of ea
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of
and points of shoots are useless.) Not mo
four plants should be sent in any one week
same correspondent. Where more than o
is sent they should be numbered. Of conif
cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in d
stages of colour and sise of the same kind
assist in its determination. Single, unr
deformed specimens are difficult to nam
do not undertake to name more tha
varieties at one time.*

FLOWER GARDEN

The night-flowering Crocus

(Conium).—This is probably a common local name, as we have been unable to find any record of such a plant; it certain
not belong to Conium. Is it possible
to send us a flower, as it may n
Crocus at all, or give a brief descri
the plant, when we would do our best
you?

Iris filifolia

I have some bulbs of Iris filif
Præcox imperator) which I hear are g
forcing. Will they also do planted
doors? I have put some in a pot in
greenhouse, but thought of planting s
the garden if likely to succeed.

[This is one of the finest and most
coloured of the Xiphium Irises, the
being a robust variety of Xiphium.
make excellent plants when gently forc
are quite satisfactory when grown in t
in warm sandy soil at the foot of a
wall, plenty of heat being necessary t
the bulbs thoroughly.]

Eremurus unsatisfactory

About five years ago I planted a t
Eremurus according to instructio
specially prepared soil, as our natural
not supposed to be suitable. It has f
and increased every year. This yea
was a show for six blooms. Two, ho
came to nothing, and a third was st
altogether, the plant looks rather cr
(*a*) Would it be advisable to divide a
plant? (*b*) If so, when and how do
proceed? F. F

[Your plant was probably damaged
severe frost of last winter, hence the s
flower spikes. Lift at once, divide, an
each crown separately in fairly sandy s
to a depth which leaves 3 inches of soil
the crown. Lift the plant carefully,
roots are very brittle, and the plants
separate fairly easily.]

Seed pod of Pæony

I am sending the seed pods of a
growing in a friend's garden in this
Can you tell what kind it is, and
is general for Pæony seed pods to brea
in this way? I always cut my pods o
have never seen such a thing as the
send. There are many seed pods on the
all equally brilliant in colouring.

E. M. W

[Some of the Pæonies seed very freel
are decidedly handsome. The variety of
you send a pod is probably Pæony co
which bears single reddish-purple fl
followed by handsome pods of red and
seeds. P. Willmottiæ is another very st
plant when in fruit.]

Saponaria ocymoides

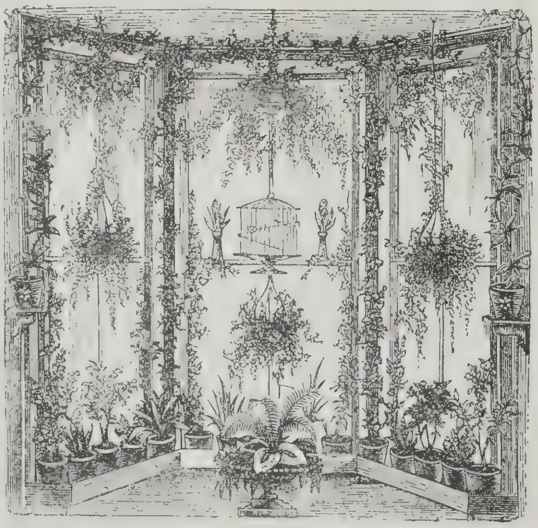
(L. B., Ohio).—This is usually one
easiest of plants to grow, and is a nat

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Basket plants for windows

THESE should be much smaller than those used in the conservatory, and they will also require to be filled with half-hardy or hardy plants. The Japan Saxifrage (Saxifraga Japonica) and Mother of Thousands (S. Sarmentosa) are well suited for window baskets, or as bracket plants. Campanula gracilis and Sedum Sieboldi are also suitable for the window, and a plant of Fragaria indica may be used. This plant droops gracefully 12 inches or 18 inches below the basket, and bears numerous small white flowers and crimson fruits, as large as Hazel nuts, among its fresh green foliage. The common Lysimachia nummularia (or Creeping Jenny, as it is frequently called) is a good plant for window baskets. It grows profusely if liberally watered, and its fresh foliage, borne on gracefully-drooping stems, is very refreshing to the eye, and effective in toning down the colours of flowering plants near it. The common Musk, planted in a basket, grows well, and is a desirable plant for its perfume. Flowering plants of various kinds, especially such succulent plants as the Mesembryanthemums and Echeverias, may be added, as they grow freely and require but little attention. Many hardy and exotic Ferns may be grown in the window, and one of the prettiest little plants for this purpose is Asplenium flabelliforme. In making up window baskets, it is best not to employ plants of a tender or uncertain nature, but rather to rely on good old hardy or herbaceous kinds, which grow and flower with but a little care and attention.—*May 24th, 1879.*



wiss mountain sides. It is, therefore,
lt to account for your trouble, unless
ks moisture at the root when half
ped. We advise you to try a plant or
partial shade, and, if these fail, change
stock by raising a few plants from seed.
is country we find it perfectly happy in
free soil.

a Conqueror

nstant Reader).—We have tried in vain
this plant for you, but fear that it has
lost to cultivation. If you will forward
particulars of this plant, such as size
olour of bloom, we will do our best to
you.

border

(W.).—Large-flowered Delphiniums
on on in pots would replace the Wall-
rs, but as these are over early in the
n they should be planted a yard apart
Cynoglossum amabile (raised from seed
in warmth in March and pricked off
boxes) used to carpet the ground be-
en the Delphiniums. This fine plant
s into bloom at the end of July and is
ive until frost comes. Salvia patens
also be used to follow the Wallflowers
would bloom all the summer, being lifted
the ground is required for Wallflowers
and stored away like Dahlias. The
nal Delphinium, Blue Butterfly, raised in
h and planted out in May is worthy of
notice, as it flowers throughout the sum-
Salvia uliginosa is a fine late-blooming
flower. Then there are the Linums,
as L. narbonense, L. perenne, and L.
sii, which are long and continuous
ning. Of annuals the following are
but are liable to collapse suddenly
g a period of drought:—Viscaria
ta cœrulea, Phacelia campanularia,
la Miss Jekyll, Nemesia Blue Gem,
allis grandiflora cœrulea, Brachycome
ifolia, Anchusa Blue Bird, Cornflower
ror William (sky-blue), Lupinus affinis,
phila insignis, Salvia farinacea, Ver-
hybrida violacea.

GREENHOUSE

arch of the East

(E. R.).—The so-called Lily to which
refer is most probably Sauromatum
um, which belongs to the Natural Order
æ (the Cuckoo-pint family), and is not
L. It has been given a variety of com-
names. This plant flourishes in a warm
house in a compost of light, rich, sandy
and leaf-soil, and should receive plenty
isture when in growth. Instead of be-
grown, however, the tubers are often
in fancy bowls, or even on the mantel-
without any water whatever. If the
rature is high enough (65 degs. to 70
Fahr.) growth commences, and the
hment stored up in the tuber is suffi-
to produce the flower spathes without
r attention.

TREES AND SHRUBS

angea leaves blotched

B., Hudds).—The plants have ap-
ly been overdosed with alum in the
t to turn the flowers blue. There is
ease present in the specimen sent, and
no reason why the plants should not
out of the blotches next year, but it
ke time. It is probable that the cuttings
fresh soil will show the same tendency
me months. You do not say if you
pink or blue flowers next year. A
n should be made early if alum is
l, only as the flowers open the results
ually unsatisfactory.

Cupressus hedge

(J. L. F.).—We have carefully examined the specimens of Cupressus macrocarpa and can find nothing present that would account for the die-back. It is possible that root trouble has developed, or it may be only the effect of the dry season. We get many cases of failure of Cupressus macrocarpa as a hedge plant, especially after it has been planted a number of years. That it makes a delightful hedge plant we admit, but under some conditions it appears to be difficult when kept clipped. There is no fungus present in the material sent.

Berberis Wilsonæ not fruiting

(A. C. G.).—Your Berberis are probably growing too luxuriantly, otherwise we see no reason for their failure to fruit, providing they are in full sunshine. Drive a spade down to its full extent at 12 inches to 14 inches from their centre in a circle, and thus check their vigour; this should have the desired effect.

Raising Pyracantha, Rose species, Cotoneaster, and Berberis from seed

(A. C. G.).—All may be easily raised from seed, which should be gathered when fully ripe; this is generally about the beginning of November, or at any time when the seeds come off the growth without hard pulling. The seeds should then be stored in moist sand until March, when most of the pulpy exterior will have decayed, and the sand may be separated from the seeds by a fine meshed sieve. The latter may then be sown in pots or pans of sandy soil, and raised in a warm frame or greenhouse, where they must be shaded from bright sunshine. The Berberis will germinate in a few weeks and a few of the others possibly, but the main batch will take a year to germinate.

ROSE GARDEN

Tea Rose Comtesse de Nadaillac

(S. W., Clifton).—This beautiful Rose is offered by Thomas Rivers and Son, Ltd., Sawbridgeworth, Herts.

Pot Rose

(Juno).—We have examined the specimen Rose leaves and there is no sign of fungi or insect pests. The coloration seems to be natural autumn colour, and we think that if you give the Rose a rest by standing it out of doors for a few months it will start again next season without any trouble. The pot should be plunged in coal-ashes to protect the pot and roots from frost. Roses will not grow all the year round and must be rested for a time.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Exhibiting Chrysanthemums

Would you please tell me how the points are given for Japanese Chrysanthemums for exhibition, and out of the following varieties which would you select? The class is for 18 blooms, not less than 6 varieties. Also how to stage.

Charles Davis, Mrs. B. Carpenter, Majestic (yellow), Mr. Lloyd George, Mrs. R. C. Pulling, Majestic, Balcombe Beauty, Mrs. J. H. Bernier, Mrs. J. Bromley, L. W. Weldon, T. W. Pockett, Louisa Pockett, W. Turner. Blooms to be shown in 10-inch vases. "Regular Reader."

[It is rather difficult to say just how points are awarded at the particular show you intend to compete at, but size, without coarseness, freshness, good colour, and good balance (blooms to be of fairly uniform size) are mainly taken into consideration by judges. While you state that 18 blooms, not less than 6 varieties, are to be shown in 10-inch vases, you say nothing as regards the number of vases. If six are allowed, we would place three blooms of a variety in each, and from your list would choose:—Mrs. B. Carpenter, Majestic, Louisa Pockett, T. W. Pockett, Mrs. R. C. Pulling, and Yellow Majestic. This gives you no deep red variety, but as Mr. Lloyd George is too small for exhibition, except in the decorative classes, you have none of this colour in your list. Charles Davis and Balcombe Beauty are decorative varieties, while the others, L. W. Weldon, Mrs. J. H. Bernier, and Mrs. J. Bromley, we do not know, nor can we find them mentioned in any catalogue.]

Wintering Chrysanthemums

(G. T. B. B.).—We have some doubt as to Chrysanthemums wintering safely in the cellar, as you suggest, and we think that you lost many of them last season through having buried them too deep with fibre, thus excluding light and air. If your cellar possesses a window you might try a few in the manner you suggest, but the remainder should be left in the open with their old growths on them—this serves as a protection—and either straw, Bracken, or similar litter should be packed around their collars, a little being spread among their tops during severe weather only and removed during mild spells. In heavy soil it is a good idea *slightly* to raise the plants with a fork.

VEGETABLES

Diseased Onions

(R. G., Dumfries).—The specimen Onion is attacked with White Rot Disease of Onion, caused by Sclerotium cepivorum. It is unusual for this fungus to attack the plants so late in the season, and we are inclined to think that the trouble is, in the main, due to the overuse of nitrogenous manures. Big Onions are fed heavily and nitrogen is usually given in excess. Such treatment always makes the foliage soft, and, in consequence, the leaf bases are soft, rendering the Onion an easy prey to disease organism. Try the effect of giving rather more basic manure. There is no need to reduce the amount of nitrogen, provided a balance is made by supplying sufficient potash and phosphate. You will, of course, grow the Onions in a different part of the garden another year. Using Cheshunt Compound once during the season would be a good safeguard.

Book on growing vegetables wanted

(G. G.).—"The Cultivation of Vegetables," price 1s. 3d., just published by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1. "Vegetable Growing for Amateurs," by H. H. Thomas, price 1s. 9d., obtainable from Messrs. Barr and Sons, 12, King Street, Covent Garden, London; either of the above would be very helpful to you.

FRUIT

Protecting bush fruit from birds

(H. M. E.).—What is known as a fruit cage has been erected in many gardens, and while it has its advantages, it is liable to be brought to the ground with all its supports, even though the latter be of iron, by a heavy fall of snow. We have found the following method to be the most satisfactory. Erect stout supports at intervals of 10 feet, and to each of these fix lengths of stout wire; if these are run both ways you form 10 feet squares, the wires so used being strained to low stumps driven into the ground at each end. Around the sides and to the desired height, fix ¾-inch wire netting, extra wires running from post to post holding this in position, with an extra stake at intervals if necessary. All this is of a permanent nature, and may remain so for several years. Over the top use ¾-inch mesh fish netting, which is quickly fixed and removed. This method admits of birds having access to the plantation during the greater part of the year when they do more good than harm. Should you, however, decide to cover your bushes permanently, there is no reason whatever—other than that given—to prevent you doing so; we advise you, nevertheless, so to erect your sides that portions or sections may be removed when danger to buds or fruits does not exist, in order that birds may gain admittance.

Double-flowered Peach producing fruits

Having had for nine years in exposed position a common double-flowered Peach tree, I was surprised last year by having two good Peaches on same; and this year it has had over 250 fruits on it. Isn't this rather unusual? R. L.

[While not very common, it is by no means unique for the double Peach to produce fruits. It will usually be found that the trees, having pretty well exhausted the soil in which they are growing, have been producing single or at least semi-double flowers, and this may account for them being able to produce fruits.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Horticultural advisers

(E. W. Payne).—Most counties have a Horticultural Expert available for advisory work within the county. The Ministry of Agriculture publish a leaflet—Technical Advice to Farmers—which gives the broad outlines of the scheme. In your case if you write to the Director of Agriculture, Shire Hall, Gloucester, he will no doubt put you in touch with the Horticulturist.

Diseased Grass

(M. S. Knight).—The specimens of diseased grass (Lolium perenne) are affected with a grass-destroying fungus which in the past has had many names, but the fungus concerned is now known as Corticium fuciforme. The disease is widespread in Australia, and also appears from time to time in this country. The control measures which should give you good results are:—Spray the affected portions both now and in the spring with Bordeaux mixture, using 4 lbs. of copper sulphate, 4 lbs. of best lump quicklime, and 40 gallons of water. Follow this treatment by giving a dressing of sulphate of ammonia at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard in April next. We should be glad to hear from you the result of this treatment.

NAMES OF PLANTS

(*Major W., Peeblesshire*).—Pyrus pinnatifida Ehrh. (P. Aucuparia x intermedia). A supposed hybrid occasionally found in woods in England and Scotland, though not recorded from Peeblesshire previously, so far as we know, as it is not mentioned in Mr. F. R. S. Balfour's account of the botany of that county ("History of Peeblesshire," vol. 1, chapter X., page 24), where P. Aucuparia is said to be common throughout the county.

(*W. G. N., Glos.*).—(1) Small-leaved Cratægus orientalis; (2) larger leaves and large fruit; specimen very inadequate, but probably Cratægus coccinea.

Mrs. E. B. L.—Cynoglossum amabile.

Clay.—Dianthus carthusianorum nana.

Mrs. W. H. B., Herefordshire.—Exacum affine.

C. W. L.—1, An Æthionema, but without flowers we cannot say which; 2, Silene maritima; 3, Erodium pelargonifolium; 4, Primula marginata. Kindly note rules for naming plants.

Lilian S. Owen.—Most probably Pyrus Aria var. majestica. Mature fruits are, however, necessary to enable us to name with certainty.

O. M. R.—E. Berberis concinna; F, may be B. vulgaris (no berries); G, B. polyantha; H, may be B. Knightii (no berries); I, B. umbellata; J, Cotoneaster buxifolia; K, Berberis Sargentiana; L, B. vulgaris; M, B. umbellata; N, B. empetriformis O, B. Wilsoni; P, B. stenophylla; Q, may be B. Lycium (no berries); R, B. vulgaris; S, Cotoneaster Simonsii.

NAMES OF FRUITS

H. L. W., Leicestershire.—Pear Admiral Gervais. Dessert. November-January.

S. H. Sheffield.—Apple Rosebery.

R. C. T., Battle.—Apple Tom Putt.

Ignoramus.—1, Queen; 2, Astrachan Red; 3, Mere du Menage; 4, Striped Beefing.

W. B., Carlisle.—Beurré Hardy. Yes, it is one of the characteristics of this goo to have a pink tinge in its white fles you have proved, it is quite one of t and hardiest Pears. In "The Anat Dessert," recently published by Dula author, Mr. E. A. Bunyard, writes:— we omit Beurré Hardy, so soli masculine in its coat of russet and re its *rose-water perfume* and pink flesh?" It is not surprising that yo ployer likes it best of all Pears.

A. H., Hants.—1, Gascoyne's Scar Williams' Favourite; 3, Baumann's R

S. T. S., Catham.—Pears: 1, Catil Uvedale's St. Germain; 3, Clapp's Fav 4, Doyenne du Comice.

H. L. S.—Charles Ross.

T. B. Worton.—Rival.

Regular Reader, Wrexham.—1, Ye core; 2, Yes, Peasgood Nonsuch; 3, F Pippins; 4, James Grieve; 5, B Beauty; 6, Queen. Pear: Mar Marrilat.

A. W. F., Yorks.—1, Rival; 2, Haw den; 3, Newton Wonder; 4, Sturmer

F. W., near Chichester.—Lord Bur

D. R., Barry.—2, Rotten; 3, may b fruit of Bramley; 4, Newton Wonder.

D. M., Omagh.—1, Soft Apple squas post; 2, James Grieve.

Lady M., Ireland.—Apple Dr. Harv

Regular Reader, Brentwood.—1 Very poor, not recognised; 2, Ribston 3, Pear Johnny Mount. [We thin name is a corruption from Jolimont P which is synonymous with Doyenné d' Ed.]

P., Leominster.—1, Ecklinville; 2, ley's Seedling; 3, probably Golden Spir colour later; 4, King of Pippins.

J. H. B., Somerset.—Baumann's Re

Clay.—Pear Brown Beurré.

W. P. W.—A seedling, probably.

H. J. H., Dorset.—Charles Ross.

W. B. Essex.—Pears: 1 and 2, rott Dr. Jules Guyot; 4, Vicar of Winkfiel

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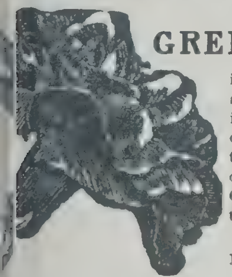

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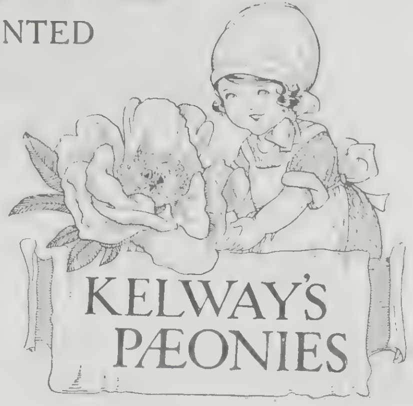

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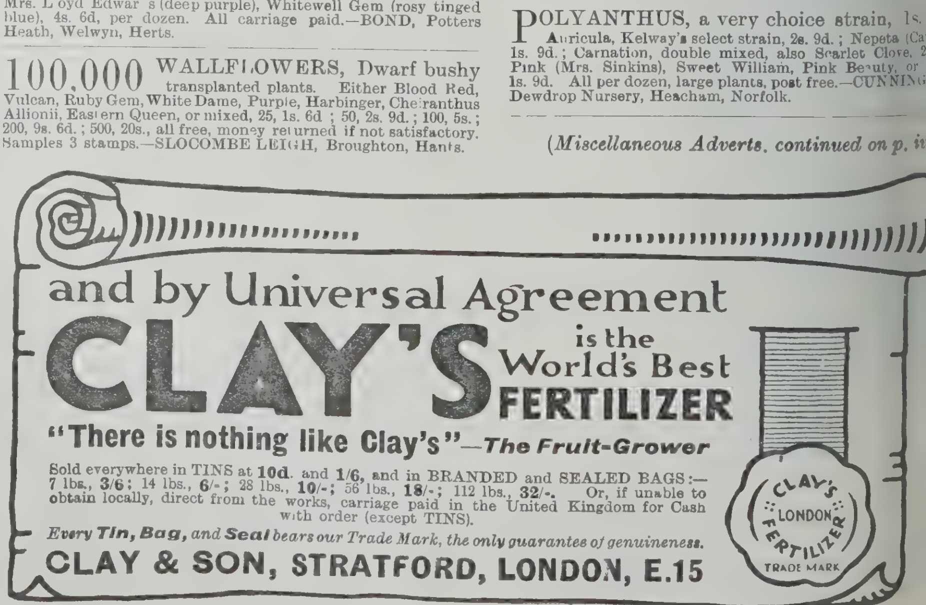
(Miscellaneous Adverts. continued on p. i



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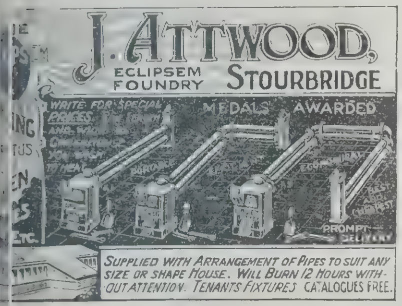
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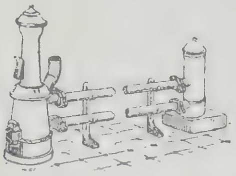

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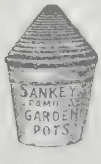

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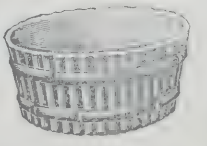

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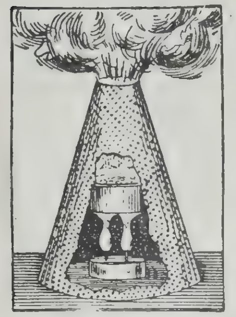

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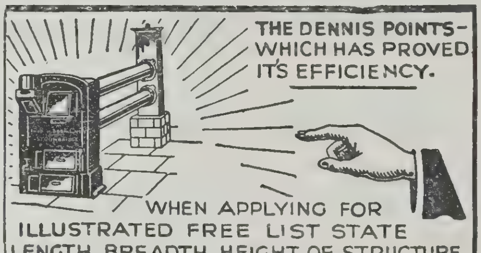
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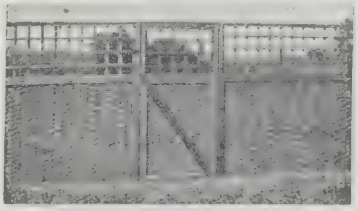

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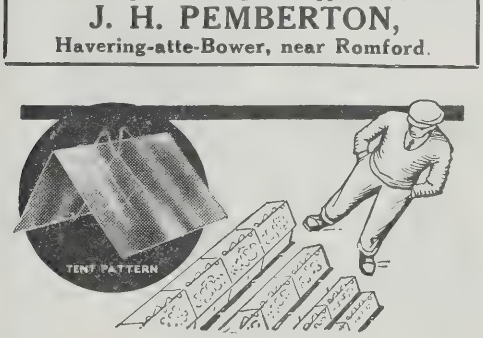

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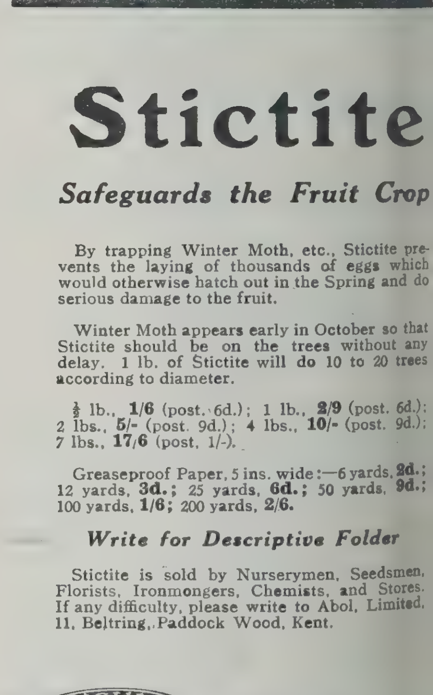

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

644—Vol. LI. NOVEMBER 9, 1929

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A Rock Garden Society

By Sir William Lawrence, Bt.

BERNARD, so he tells us, was in the Alps; for many a day many a night he struggled through crevasses, snow-fields, and he called od to help him. And no help came, was about to renounce his God, when corner where the snow had melted, nd a blue Gentian, and knew God St. Bernard is surely the patron the rock garden. When, in the week of December, Crocus hyemalis its flowers into a cold world, I feel al thrill, for does it not come from em? And to quote from A. Bowles' "Handbook of ": "One likes to think shepherds of Bethlehem to the first Christmas ile resting on a field full of ers of C. hyemalis." Now- he memory of a wonderful on Mont Cenis, in the t Gavarnie, is kept verdant Saxifrage or Ranunculus home in the moist recess onge bag! I remember a honeymoon couple in ey brought back Droseras guiculas, which they grew ral years with great suc- window-boxes at Bicken- ansions, opposite Baker tation. So, you see, an plant is just potted . Most Alpines have g natures; the gardener riend, and their glistening m to say, "Do keep us The wise gardener knows tle ways; he knows the ering form of Potentilla how to feed an ailing us with nodules from he recognises the Kruschen in the plant that hates lime. He hat Celmisia and Clematis seed must with the pappus erect; that while eds only germinate on the surface, equire to be frozen and to thaw out oil.

Rock Garden Society all this garden l become common knowledge; the iding places of Silene, Androsace, , will be laid bare. ("Siste, viator," ay cry, but surely it is up to every to protect its own flora—in y we read "C'est défendu de e chardon bleu!")

one can grow Alpines, and nothing in etable kingdom gives more exquisite . We all want to have the best , and to have our cushions full of pins; to grow Primula Allioni upside down and Jankæa Heldreichii vertically; to know which is the root and which the growth of a Cyclamen tuber—many is the tuber I have planted on its head—to distinguish between sun and shade lovers, and to avoid ninety-nine Composites out of every hundred!

All this and more a Rock Garden Society should give us. Such a Society, in addition, will introduce new plants and new varieties, by publishing check-lists will correct nomenclature, and, above all, will foster that sodality which is the salt of gardening. So we want you all to join the Society, whether your garden is limited to a sink or wanders "through caverns measureless to man."

William Lawrence.

Gentiana corymbifera in a Northumbrian garden, August, 1929

Mimulus cardinalis

This is a thoroughly desirable Alpine plant, and this summer, in spite of the drought, its brilliant scarlet flowers have been one of the brightest features in my rockery. If Mimulus cardinalis is to be seen at its best it must be transplanted in alternate years, and this is a suitable time at which to do the work. The species rejoices in a sunny situation and a moderately rich soil. Leaf-mould and manure mixed provide an excellent compost for working into the pockets of the rock garden when planting is taking place. During spring, when the young growths are emerging from the soil, they are liable to be attacked by slugs and snails. If a cordon of sharp ashes is drawn around each colony these destructive creatures will be kept at bay. G. H. C.

Gentiana corymbifera

In 1924 a New Zealand correspondent sent me some seed of this Gentian. It germinated well, and when the young plants were old enough they were planted out on the rockery in various positions, and in a variety of soils to see what suited them best. Some planted in rather heavy, limy loam did not live long; others put in soil that was rather richer in vegetable matter did better, and some lived to flower; but one that did far away the best was planted in a bed almost all leaf mould in a sunny position that had been prepared for and planted with Gentiana sino-ornata. This plant, every spring, formed a larger and larger rosette of lanceolate bronze-green leaves (which took no harm from spring frosts, but was cut off entirely by the first sharp autumn frost), till this year, when, in July and August, it developed a much branched panicle, about 1 foot high and rather more across, carrying numerous white flowers.

While G. corymbifera cannot be called an aristocrat among the Gentians (unless as representing, with the other New Zealand Gentians, a very ancient form), it has a decided beauty all its own, and its dark-coloured leaves and stems throw out the purity of its white flowers

Cheeseman, in his "Manual of the New Zealand Flora," says:—"Usually perennial, but often dying after flowering." When grown in this country I expect it will be "usually dying after flowering." Like so many New Zealand plants, it is a great seed-bearer, so, unless its capsules are cut off at once, there will be little chance of its surviving for another year.

In contrast to the Gentians of the Northern hemisphere, all those found in New Zealand and the adjacent islands, with one exception, have white flowers, or, in some cases, white flowers streaked or veined with purple or red. They are all much alike. The one exception is G. concinna from the Auckland Islands, which sometimes has flowers all red. Northumbrian.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Daphne rupestris grandiflora

SOME of those who have read Reginald Farrer's delightful account of Daphne rupestris in "The English Rock Garden" may wonder to what heights of his own particular descriptive ecstasy he might have risen had he known that special and distinct form of the plant which is now not uncommon in gardens, and which has received the inevitable grandiflora title.

For in this new form every character in the beautiful type plant is exaggerated and emphasised to a marked degree. The plant itself is more vigorous in growth and more generous in flower, and the leaves are darker and more glossy. The flowers are more than twice as large and of a deeper shade of rose, and I have persuaded myself that the scent is sweeter.

Oddly enough, the introduction of this form into this country was a matter of the merest chance, for the original piece was one of the plants which were collected by the late Mr. Robert Tucker and myself in July, 1914. At the time of collecting it was not in flower, and it was not selected for collection because of any apparent merit. Truth to tell, the acquisition of Daphne rupestris from its stark cliffs is hazardous work, and, if I remember rightly, there was little option as to which plants should be taken and which left.

The plants reached Oxford safely, and were duly established on their own roots.

Then came the war, and it was not till 1919 that I learnt that one of our plants had so distinguished itself.

I have often wondered whether it is merely a varietal form or whether it possesses a strain of some other Daphne, though I do not remember having seen any other member of the family near its habitat.

In this connection, will someone please tell me the history of Daphne arbuscula, which, in this family of aristocrats, shares, I think, the highest honours with Daphne rupestris? NELSON JENKIN.

Trimmer's Field,
Hindhead.

[It is with the greatest pleasure that we publish Dr. Jenkin's account of the discovery of Daphne rupestris grandiflora, and so far as we are aware this is the first time that the history of this fine plant has been recorded.—ED.]

Campanula Raineri alba

In one of our troughs a well-established patch of collected Campanula Raineri gave us about 50 blooms, one of which was the purest white—quite true to type and very charming. Needless to say, future developments will be watched with interest. F. J. COOPER,
Tucker's (Oxford) Ltd.

Eritrichium argenteum

In GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, page 705, a correspondent of Cincinnati inquires about Eritrichium argenteum, and the answer is that there is no information about this. May I inform him that there are two American forms of Eritrichium which are very near to nanum, E. elongatum (See Tidestrom "Flora of Utah and Nevada," page 454) with the dorsal face of the rootlet with a winglike entire margin, and argenteum, with a pectinate margin—but these varieties are only botanic ones, and the aspect of the plant is the same. The Eritrichium in the Rockies and American mountains is very variable. Some bear very large flowers and others very small. The foliage of argenteum is more silky than our E. nanum, hence, perhaps, its specific name.

Geneva. H. CORREVON.

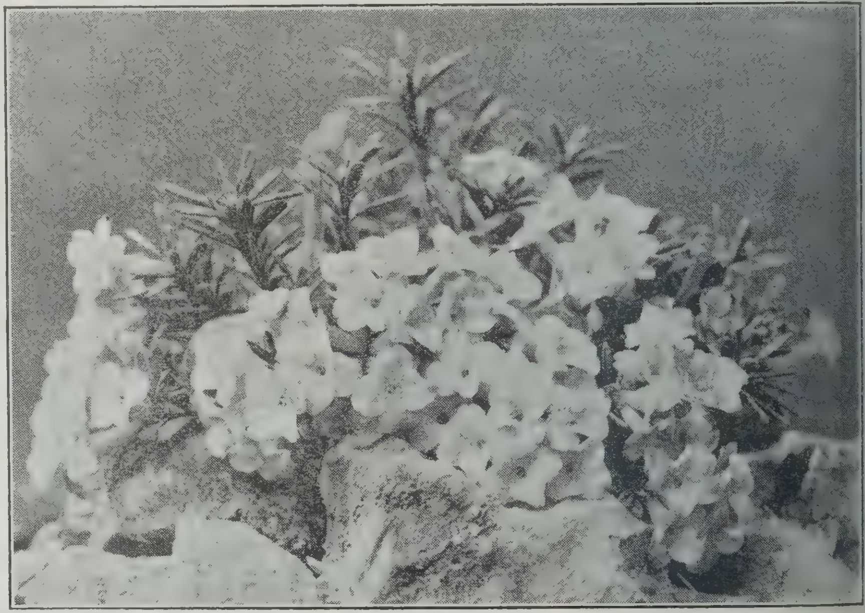
Vine Weevils and damage to Cyclamens

The attack of the weevil amongst Cyclamen appears to be causing more mischief with each year, and the method Mr. Richardson adopts to eradicate this pest (issue October 26th, page 721) may prove a boon to many who are suffering from its ravages.

Whilst preparing the compost for Cyclamens during the summer, I found quite a number of the larvæ embedded in the turf.

Consequently, all the turf used was sterilised and this year there is no sign of the enemy.

Last year they were affected, the ultimate weevil doing nearly as much damage to the flowers as the larvæ did to the roots.



Daphne rupestris grandiflora

Frequent applications of soot water seemed to hold the numbers in check to a certain extent.

I have been informed that this is not the Vine Weevil, but a near relation. Can any reader verify? J. F. H.

Shrewsbury.

The introduction of the Fuchsia

It has been stated recently that the first Fuchsias brought to England were planted in the Earl of Bute's Highcliffe garden. Is this correct?

Fuchsia coccinea was the first Fuchsia brought to England; this is generally admitted. In GARDENING ILLUSTRATED of July 24th, 1880, page 246, there is an account of Mr. Lee, the well-known nurseryman, of Hammersmith, having procured the plant of the first Fuchsia brought to England from "an humble dwelling at Wapping," where he purchased it for ten golden guineas from a sailor's wife. Most of us have known this version more or less since early youth. The authority of the Keeper of Botany at the British Museum of Natural History in verification is as follows:—"Dated May 21st, 1929. Dear Sir,—The Fuchsia was brought
from South America about 1788, by a Ca
Firth. The plant was acquired by a nu
man—Lee, of Hammersmith—by wh
was propagated and distributed. It
named Fuchsia coccinea by the bo
Solander, in honour of Leonard Fuchs,
the German herbalists—his 'Neue Kr
buch' was published at Basel, in 1
Signed, A. B. Rendle, Keeper of Botan

So we see that the plant was name
yet another of those splendid old-time m
who concentrated so magnificently on
special subjects. Should not the cred
securing, propagating, and distributing
Mr. Lee, the founder of the Hammer
Nursery, rather than to a Hampshire ga
—AJAX.

Chrysanthemum September Wh

I was very much interested readin
note of a "Cumberland Gardener," r
ing this Chrysanthemum on page 738 o
issue of November 2nd. I have grow
variety for several years, both in C
district and now in Fifeshire, and find
a tendency to streak with deep rose o
lilac. I think if I mistake not it is a
from Julian Valat, which it very close
sembles, only it is earlier in flowering.
Valat has also the same tendency to
Three years ago when in Carlisle Sept
White sported with me, giving a self-co
flower of deep rose, so deep to be a
Petunia coloured. I moved the root
me, and since then it has consis
given splendid flowers of this shade,
are greatly admired, showing up well
artificial light. There is also a pale
sport which does not show the vagaries
parent as far as my experience goes.
season I had a further sport, evidently
what on the lines of your correspondent.
plant produced flowers regularly and
striped and mottled with deep rose on a
ground; it is quite attractive to look a
if it keeps its character it will be accep
an entirely new break in Chrysanthen
This year has been splendid for
Chrysanthemums, many varieties h
flowered beautifully outside, which
ordinary seasons, have to be removed
greenhouse. A fortnight ago I had the
lege of motoring through a good area
Border district, and everywhere there
wealth of Chrysanthemum bloom—chief

type, which seems to be hardier than
r sorts of more recent introduction.
r, Fife. ALBYN.

I selected this variety whilst at Wisley
hree seasons ago. The first year it
ıd produced blooms true to colour. I
again for two seasons, but with the
esults as "A Cumberland Gardener"
es, and so discarded it for that reason.
bt soil and situation have a lot to do
I find, however, that later buds come
it I much prefer Sanctity or Framfield
E. W. BOXALL.
leham.

I do not think that "A Cumberland
er's" experience with September
s by any means unique. I have grown
nt for a number of years, and, as far
memory serves me, I fail to recollect
e season in which the plants yielded
cent. white blooms. I know of
other growers, too, who frequently
n about the irregular appearance and
arance of this undesirable streak of
in both the variety under question and
rt September Yellow. I have dis-
traces of colour on plants grown in
en, both for sprays and disbudded
on plants lifted from the garden to
ınder glass, and on plants which have
benefit of pot-culture throughout. At
ıe time, similar methods of culture
oduced clean, white blooms. Further-
robably "A Cumberland Gardener"
e had experience similar to my own in
ıg the two types of bloom on one
ar plant. In an endeavour to over-
ıis fault, I propagate from the best
nly, discarding stools which carry de-
lowers, but even this does not produce
ired results.

ce of the foregoing facts, I cannot
ıyself to think that the cause can be
ed to either sunshine, the lack of it,
onditions. It has been said that there
erent strains of September White,
which are less prone to variation than
but at various times I have acquired
rom different sources and districts and
und no difference. Consequently, I
me to regard this feature as one of the
faults of a plant which, nevertheless,
od variety; but, like the writer who
his point, I grow September White in
to another variety which gives white
upon which one can rely.

regard to the origin of the plant, I
remember reading somewhere that
oer White came from Monsieur Julian
either as a sport or a seedling, the
should think, but am not too certain.
ngton. A. E. W.

-I have grown the above variety for
t two seasons here in Hertfordshire.
ar the flowers were pure white, but
r practically all were as "A Cumber-
ardener" (issue November 2nd, page
s, streaked with rosy-lilac; it is a fine
especially if well disbudded. The
ıer which I have this year is Elsenham
which is a good pure white. Last
had a few flowers of Horace Martin
is a yellow sport of Marie Masse) half
and half white, and this year have
a number of Marie Masse a good
owered deep pink, which blooms later
e type; in fact, is just coming out
ATHELSTAN WARNER.
ridgeworth, Herts.

Gladiolus Blackwellii

ıy interest the readers of GARDENING
ATED who saw the illustration of the
d Gladiolus figured on page 741 to
at the species has now been identified
O. Stapf as G. Blackwellii L. Bolus (*cf.* "Annals of the Bolus Herbarium," III., page 77 (1921)). Although described as tender, I am hoping it will thrive with the ordinary treatment given to the garden varieties of Gladioli, viz., by lifting and housing the corms as soon as the foliage withers in the autumn. This, at any rate, is what I did last year with entirely satisfactory results.

The charm of the species lies in the large number of flowers that remain open at the same time—sometimes as many as 20, or even more, pink blossoms may be seen in their prime on the same spike.

G. Blackwellii appears to be a vigorous and strong-growing species. I found it on a steep mountain slope about 20 miles south-west of Port St. John, Pondoland, South Africa. It was not in flower at the time (I gathered the corms in November—which is equivalent to the month of May in the Northern Hemisphere), and I had no idea of the beauty of the plant I was collecting.

Benenden. COLLINGWOOD INGRAM.

Anemone Pulsatilla in a reader's garden

THE Pasque Flower is a most charming Anemone for the Rock Garden. The illustration is of a plant on my rock garden, taken last spring. This was an amateur's first attempt at photographing flowers close up, so it does not do the plant justice. At the time of being taken this plant had over 80 buds and blooms. It is growing on a gentle slope, facing south-east, in a mixture of loam with a little leaf soil, river sand grit, and chalk added. I may be fortunate in living on the edge of the chalk downs on which this plant can be found growing wild, but, so far, I have not yet had the pleasure of finding it. There are several forms of this Anemone, and one very charming form I have is A. Pulsatilla Dykes' Variety, but, so far, with me it does not grow with such vigour as the type. GEO. P. PORTER.

Wantage, Berks.

The Pasque Flower (Anemone Pulsatilla) with over 80 flowers and buds

Cyananthus lobatus

The controversy about the colour of the flower of Cyananthus lobatus seems to show that some people are unable to distinguish the difference between blues described in this case as Gentian blue and a shade of purple which is the colour of the flower of Cyananthus lobatus. Cobalt is a true blue and is the colour of the Gentian flower. Blue may be of any depth, pale or deep, any shade, light or dark, but it cannot tone into another colour, red or pink, however slightly, without changing into a shade of purple. Where this change occurs, as it does in the flower of Cyananthus lobatus and many other flowers, they should never be alluded to as blue. Had the flower been that of Cyananthus Farreri the colour mistake might have been excused. The Old Masters were fond of painting the robes of the Virgin Mary blue. I have heard this colour called Virgin blue, and most of us must be well versed in this very blue—blue which is good enough as a standard for the colour in question. KENNETH McDONALL.

Port Logan, Wigtownshire.

Quality in Pears

Mr. Markham's note on the exceptional quality of many Pears this season reminds one of the highly aromatic—one might almost say, in some instances, peculiarly aromatic—flavour in some varieties which is not acceptable to some palates. There are many of this type, beginning with Williams' Bon Chrétien and continuing through the greater part of the season, and where these are not acceptable it is well to avoid them in planting operations. They remind one somewhat of the Hautbois variety in Strawberries, much appreciated by some and almost disliked by others. I have heard adverse criticisms as to the old autumn Bergamotte, which, to me, is an exceptionally nice little Pear. The very highly-flavoured varieties that one remembers, now seldom met with, were Sickle and Van mons le Clerc; the latter came very large from young trees, and was a fine Pear at its best, but an indifferent keeper, soon becoming mealy. A far later Pear with something in its flavour very good and somewhat unique is Forelle. E. B.

The Hailsham Berry

By those now planting fruit, consideration should be given to the above, and where it has not yet been grown, it should certainly be given a trial.

It is really a fine sized and deeply-coloured Raspberry. Cut down to the ground in February, its fruit is produced in autumn on the young canes, and the fact that to-day (November 1st) I picked a nice dish of it for dessert is surely a recommendation, as soft fruits are now scarce or nil. Grown in the private garden, a rather sheltered spot should be chosen, and it will there continue to ripen and pass unharmed through slight frosts. I can never understand why it is not more freely grown for market; it should surely command a ready sale in the shops.

Rye. F. HERBERT CHAPMAN.

Some effects of the drought

An allotment holder who had just lifted his crop of Mangold Wurtzel complained bitterly of the difficulty experienced in doing so. "In most seasons," he said, "they come up easily enough, but this year it is a job to get them out." "They have delved down," I said, "in the search for moisture." And the same thing is experienced when one is shifting some hardy flowers. The roots have certainly gone down much deeper than is usually the case. The soil below is terribly dry, and it will necessitate clearing out and substituting fresh before replanting, or when young plants have to be transferred from seed-bed to new quarters. In a bit of spare ground, where a few plants of different things were put out with a view to taking some seed, the very dry time was responsible for the development of seed pods before one was hardly aware of it, and the seedlings are coming up in thousands. There will certainly be no lack of plants to fill in any vacant places. E. B.

Looking for Wulfenia Baldacii

By Dr. P. Giuseppi

In 1897 Professor Baldacii, of Bologna, discovered this interesting plant on Maja Sterbits, a mountain to the north-east of Scutari.

In 1916 J. Dörfler discovered the plant on the southern slopes of Chafa Stogut, one of the same group of mountains, and in 1928 Markgraf again found the plant.

The interest of this plant lies in the fact that the only three Wulfenias previously known were Wulfenia Amherstiana, which is found in the Himalayas, Wulfenia Carinthiaca, found in small numbers between 1,600 metres to 2,300 metres over a large area in south-east Europe, comprising Montenegro, Novi Pazar, Albania, and South Carinthia. The furthest south that Wulfenia Carinthiaca has been found is on Kopravnik, a mountain to the west of Petch, in Yugo Slavia. My wife was lucky enough to find the only two plants found by us on this mountain. Finally, Wulfenia orientalis from North Syria. It has been held by botanists that these four plants are the survivors of a flower that once spread over a large mountain area extending from the Balkans, through the Caucasus and the mountains of Persia, to the Himalayas.

Shoti tribe

Wulfenia Baldacii has only been found in the group of Albanian mountains to the north-east of Scutari, and only between 1,600 metres and 2,000 metres in height.

Professor Baldacii found only some five plants on Maja Sterbits, and it has always been thought to be a very rare plant.

The difficulty in finding it has been, without doubt, the difficulty and danger of travelling in Albania.

It would be extremely interesting to discover on what mountain in the North Albanian Alps the Wulfenias meet.

The day we left Scutari was extremely hot, and both to my companion, Mr. Ingwersen, and myself riding was anything but a pleasure.

We took with us a tent, sleeping bags, and various articles of tinned food and bread, and it was fortunate for us that we did so, because the only things we were able to purchase during our trip were three eggs.

We travelled at first over an uninteresting plain, and then over low hills, which are rapidly being washed away because of the deforestation, which is even now progressing. In one spot along a narrow ridge the path had been gradually deepened by the rain until it formed a miniature gorge, and in it our pack-horse stuck and badly cut its knees. It took us a considerable time to unload the unfortunate animal and, after leading it out of the hollow, to reload it. Finally, after an extremely tiring day our guide, who could speak but few words of Italian, announced at 8.30 p.m. that we had arrived at a suitable camping place. By this time it was so dark that we were compelled to accept his advice without being able to judge for ourselves.

Putting up our tent in the dark was extremely difficult, but at last we sat down to a well-earned cup of tea, brandy, and potted meat and bread. Our first day in the Albanian Alps had taught us how very steep the hills were, and, secondly, how uninteresting the flora of the foothills was.

Next day we left our camp at 7.30 a.m., and made for Mount Tsukali. We met a large party of Albanians returning from marketing in Scutari. They consisted of men and women of all ages, and apparently untirable. They slept by the wayside at nights, and the large party straggled on, to reunite only at midday and at night. They were extremely friendly, and a very happy family to watch. The young men and women made love quite openly, sitting holding hands and embracing each other in the time-honoured way.

Their food appeared to be bread and Cucumber. Each man seemed able to eat a whole Cucumber with ease.

They are a fine upstanding race of medium height, and are able to walk for days on end without tiring. Their gait is a slouchy one, but very effective. The country is well wooded with Beech right up to Tsukali. Here we found large numbers of Crocus Heuffelianus. After leaving the summit of Tsukali, we made in a north-westerly direction over paths that had been used so seldom that riding was impossible, and we were compelled to lead our horses through the dense thickets until we came out at the top of a precipice of 3,000 feet. From the top we had a wonderful view of the snowclad peaks of Shala. We found here large quantities of Ramondia Serbica, growing on limestone crags, and a Sempervivum. We descended an extremely steep path, and in a natural moraine we found masses of Saxifraga Grisebachii,
growing in the full sun on chips of limest
The Brushwood growing on this precip
cliff was extremely dense, and it took
long time to find our horses in the Br
wood. We then had to cross a fine tor
which had cut a deep bed in the ma
This was extremely difficult in the
current, especially as our horses insiste
drinking in the middle of the stream.
stream must be a paradise for keen fisher
On the further side of the stream we
invited to put up our tent in an orchar
an extremely fine old Mahommedan, wh
and watched us as we erected our tent
made our tea.

Before we were able to go to sleep we
a levee for the male inhabitants of this mi
village.

The North Albanian is certainly extre
kind and courteous to the stranger, bu
found it very difficult to speak to
through the medium of our guide, who s
little Italian, and our Albanian was str
limited. Here we found to our horror
our guide had no idea where Chafa St
was, although at Scutari he assured u
knew it well. He insisted that the co
name was Chafa Shtetgut, a mountain w
appeared on our map, whereas Chafa St
did not appear. Next morning we lef
4.30 a.m. and travelled down a fine g
through which the River Kiri, which we
crossed the day before, had cut a marvel
bed in the marble. The water of the
was blue, and with cliffs towering to 300
on each side, the scenery was extren
fascinating.

On the way down this magnificent g
Mr. Ingwersen was taken ill, and decide
go back to Scutari with an Albanian, an
us continue with our guide in our search
Chafa Stogut. We had a wonderful ride
well-cultivated fields and then over wide
panses of Bracken, with Lake Scutari a
on our west, and the mountains on our
At noon we stopped for lunch at a farm,
were allowed by the farmer to eat und
huge tree, close to which a motor reaper
at work. The houses in all this district
of stone, and of two storeys, the lower b
the barn and the upper the home. The u
storey is approached by a flight of stone st
The windows and doors are either squar
rounded, and some of the houses are l
holed.

The farmer here knew where C
Stogut was situated, and after lunch we
with a second man who knew the way.
passed a field of about 80 acres compl
covered with the beautiful Asphode
liburnica—a glorious patch of golden yell
At last, at about 8.15 p.m., we arrived at
mouth of the valley, at the head of w
Chafa Stogut was said to be situated, so
rode on until 9 p.m. to the village of Shk
where we put up our tent for the night.
held our usual levee, to which all the villa
came, and after dinner and a pleasant
in the moonlight fell asleep, to be awake
at 2 a.m. by a terrible thundersto
during which the tent collapsed and had t
re-pegged. At about 3 a.m. we had a mi
able breakfast of bread and water and
dines because the wind was too high to a
the Primus stove to be lit, and the Alban
who spoke only Albanian, and myself sta
up the valley to the north face of C
Stogut. At the head of the valley we succee
in persuading a delightful old Albanian
show us the way up the mountain, which
found thickly wooded, first with fine Si
Birches, and then with Beech. The cl
was, in places, quite steep, and the flora u
teresting, but at last, at about 1,600 metre
found the first Wulfenia Baldacii in full flo
(July 9th), and facing the north. The pl
grew in profusion along cracks in the li

, and spread by underground stolons.
lants all grew in a narrow ravine, at the
n of which was perpetual snow. They
in all directions, but little sun could
ever reached them at any time of the
There seemed to be two kinds growing
actly similar localities; a small-leaved
similar to the dried specimen sent to
Kew Herbarium by Professor Baldacii,
long-leaved plant, similar to that sent
Dörfler. I might say that both varieties
cultivation have apparently grown long
. There were thousands of plants grow-
n the ravine, but none outside it, and
the ravine and on to the summit none
found. The leaves are very light green,
smooth, and with indented edges, quite
ent from the dark green veined leaves
ulfenia Carinthiaca, the indented edges
ich are also quite different.

lfenia Baldacii is certainly a great
sition for our rockeries, especially for
corners where so few plants thrive.
lower is dark violet, and though small
te attractive.

scended the mountain and had a delight-
eal with our third Albanian guide, who
tably invited us into his house, and gave
itton, bread, and coffee, which were very
table, considering that all we had had
since 3 a.m. had been chocolate, sugar,
little stale—very stale—bread.

at night, though tired, I think I may
ny cup of joy was full, for I had found
ant I most desired—a plant which, up to
our gardens had not seen—Wulfenia
cii.

ock garden making in New Zealand

lemonstration of how to build a model
garden was given recently by Mr. A.
nson, a member of the New Zealand
e and Rock Garden Society. About 150
e took a great interest in the lesson and
ntly learned a great deal.

. Wilkinson prefaced his work with a
talk upon the Society, and the correct
dure to adopt in the establishment of a
garden. He said that the New Zealand
e and Rock Garden Society was formed
lson some six years ago, and had mem-
in every portion of the Dominion. Its
t was to give assistance to members not
in the actual construction of the rock
n, but also in the procuring of suitable
s. The cultivated families of rock and
e plants, he said, formed a wonderful
l of colour and variety, from which it
not to be expected that the newcomer to rock gardening could pick and choose to advantage without the aid of someone who knew the characteristics of the host of different kinds. The work of the Society was to give these newcomers assistance in their choice of plants.

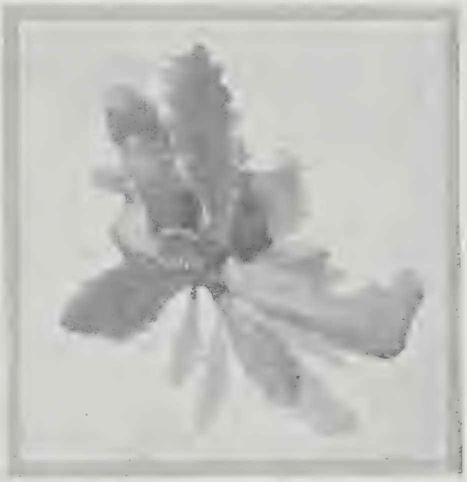
The first essentials to success in the cultivation of Alpine plants were quick drainage, an open situation, and a clean surface to the ground, these being necessary so that the plants could adapt themselves to their new situations.

Mr. Wilkinson expressed the opinion that Napier, N.Z., was exceptionally favoured for this form of horticulture in that there was an abundant supply of suitable rocks and many banks which could be transformed from a disfigurement to a property into a thing of beauty. Explaining the system upon which the rock garden was built, Mr. Wilkinson said that it was necessary to build so that every plant could be reached either by steps or paths, and so that all plants could get the benefit of the rocks and moisture. This could be obtained only by building the soil into the form of pockets, by which he meant an irregular series of small terraces hemmed in by the rocks. No matter how steep the bank might be, it was possible to have every inch of soil on the flat, and so able to receive and retain the moisture.

The Mayor, Mr. J. V. Brown, was then called upon to lay the first stone in position, after which Mr. Wilkinson, assisted by Mr. C. Corner, the Borough Council's head gardener, and two of the assistant gardeners, proceeded with the erection of what was called the corner of a rock garden. The various stages of the work were watched with keen interest by those present, and it was quite evident that the acceptance of the pressing invitation made to Mr. Wilkinson by many Napier citizens to give the demonstration should be of great benefit to those desirous of improving their gardens by such work.

It is the intention of the Napier Borough Council to plant the small model rock garden with special plants, each one to be labelled with its name so that those interested in Alpine plants can become acquainted with any special variety.

Wulfenia carinthiaca


Wulfenia Baldacii

Albanian Moslems

From photographs taken by Dr. Giuseppi

Daphne alpina

This fragrant species is somewhat rare, despite the fact that it was introduced from the European Alps so long ago as 1759. The small white flowers, deliciously if faintly perfumed, are freely produced, and last well into the autumn; the plant grows about 2 feet high, is perfectly hardy, and is a most desirable low shrub for the rock garden. I recently saw this Daphne doing well in a well-drained loam soil high upon the rock garden and in a very exposed situation; it is not so showy as are some of its order, but it is a plant of considerable beauty, and one of unquestionable value for the late summer and early autumn months. What lovely Daphnes are there! The beautiful ivory-white Blagayana, the exquisite rupestris, the fine old indica, and the pretty Garland Flower, D. Cneorum; with a little attention paid to their individual requirements, their gifts are freely bestowed, except that rupestris is sometimes a little wayward. RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Muscari polyanthum

Few of the species of the Muscari, or Grape Hyacinth, are well represented in gardens, and of late that wonderfully brilliant one called Heavenly Blue seems to have largely monopolised the attention of those who are purchasing any of the Muscaris. I would suggest that those who care for the genus might think of a few bulbs of M. polyanthum, a species with larger flowers and of rather taller growth. It is a good blue, and a fair-sized group in the rock garden or front of the border, or in grass, is quite pleasing. For those who like rarer bulbs there is also a white variety of M. polyanthum, M. polyanthum album, which is much finer than the white variety of the common Grape Hyacinth, M. botryoides album. I like to plant these Muscaris as soon as they are received from the dealers. S. ARNOTT.

Why Make a Rock Garden?

THERE is, or used to be, an odd belief in England that the French were a frivolous and light-minded people. Even more odd and erroneous was the belief held in France that the English were *toujour pratique*—a race immune from the weakness of sentiment and romance. Yet the English spend more on rock gardens than any other nation, and it is difficult to imagine anything less practical—more sentimental if you like—than transporting truckloads of limestone from Westmorland to the home counties and trying to make from them a more or less realistic home for the reluctant flora of the high Alps.

But rock gardening, although it is so English, is beginning to spread to other countries, for it is a curious fact that the English, for the last 100 years, have set the fashion in recreation for the whole of the civilised world. So rock gardening must be something more than a national eccentricity, like turning up the trousers or driving on the left of the road, and it seems as though we have been the first to become aware of a universal need and to give expression to it. This supposition seems more plausible when we note that rock gardening is closely associated with another fashion, that of going to the mountains for a holiday, which was initiated in this country and has spread very rapidly.

The holiday in the mountains is, fairly obviously, a reaction against the conditions of civilised life, and it is natural that the English, the most romantic nation in the world and practical only in their aptitude for giving a concrete expression to their day-dreams, should be the first to look back, with a kind of sentimental nostalgia, to the wilderness from which civilised man has at last succeeded in escaping.

This illogical distaste for what we have ourselves laboriously created may be the result of a deep, unconscious rebellion. For a holiday in the mountains is a flight from reality, it is an escape from that oppressive reality of which we make the regularity of bricks and mortar the symbol, and in the mountains we enjoy, for a little while, an illusion of that freedom which we can never attain in this world. In the rock garden we foster a little patch of the wilderness that stands to us for freedom. And this is a very sensible thing to do, for an artificial wilderness has none of the discomfort and danger of the real thing.

Such a game of make-believe may be sentimental; it may be just a way of saying, "Where I am not, there is happiness," but if it is wildness we are after let us see clearly what we want. For a rock garden the size of a tea-tray can be made as effectively wild as an acre. This is not a depreciation of the Alpine landscapes fashioned on a large scale by our expert designers of rock gardens. These are the well-nigh perfect expression of that desire which is inarticulate in the haphazard rockery of flints, brickbats, and Aubrietia. But we need not look on their creations with helpless envy, for we can learn as much from them as any scribbling journalist can learn from the masters of English prose, and with more hope of putting what we have learnt successfully into practice. We need not feel that rock gardens are out of place in the suburbs, for it is there that they are most desired, and I think that anyone who has as much as a backyard can make an Alpine landscape if he has the courage of his imagination and is willing to learn the technique.

JASON HILL.

Campanula Miss Willmott, variously referred to as C. C. Bellardii, cæspitosa and pusilla, originally found near the Rhone Glacier

It has masses of pretty pale silvery blue flowers

Annuals that *are* satisfactory

There is no doubt that whether the flower garden be on a large or small scale a very fine display can be obtained all through the summer months by the use of annuals. One can have them in heights varying from a few inches to 3 feet or 4 feet and in an endless variety of colour. In making the selection it is well to remember not to include those things that are comparatively short-lived as it is not pleasant to have a collapse about half-way through the summer,
the consequent necessity of finding
material to fill the beds. The most sat
tory things in this difficult year have
the many different types of the Marigol
Nasturtium families, Cornflowers,
Zinnias. When using annuals on
a large scale it is advisable to allot a
fair stretch of border to one species, an
to provide a few foliage plants that
raised from seed, like Acacia Lopha
Grevillea robusta, or one or two o
Eucalyptus.

The silvery foliage of the Eucal
shows to advantage against the
striking, and gorgeous colours as
sented by plants like the Celosias and
glossis. These are among the most str
of our summer-flowering annuals, an
always attractive, but they have been
short-lived this year. Some of the fa
may have a considerable space devot
them, such as Marigolds, represented
many different heights, and Nasturt
or Tropæolums. In the latter case if
pyramids of twigs are placed in the gr
at intervals the plants make their way
them and make a pleasing change a
the dwarfer plants. The double
variety shows to the best advantage
raised a bit above the ground. It is w
note the results of all planting whe
flower, especially of any new ann
although it is difficult to form an acc
judgment as to what any plant is capab
doing in a season like the past. E.

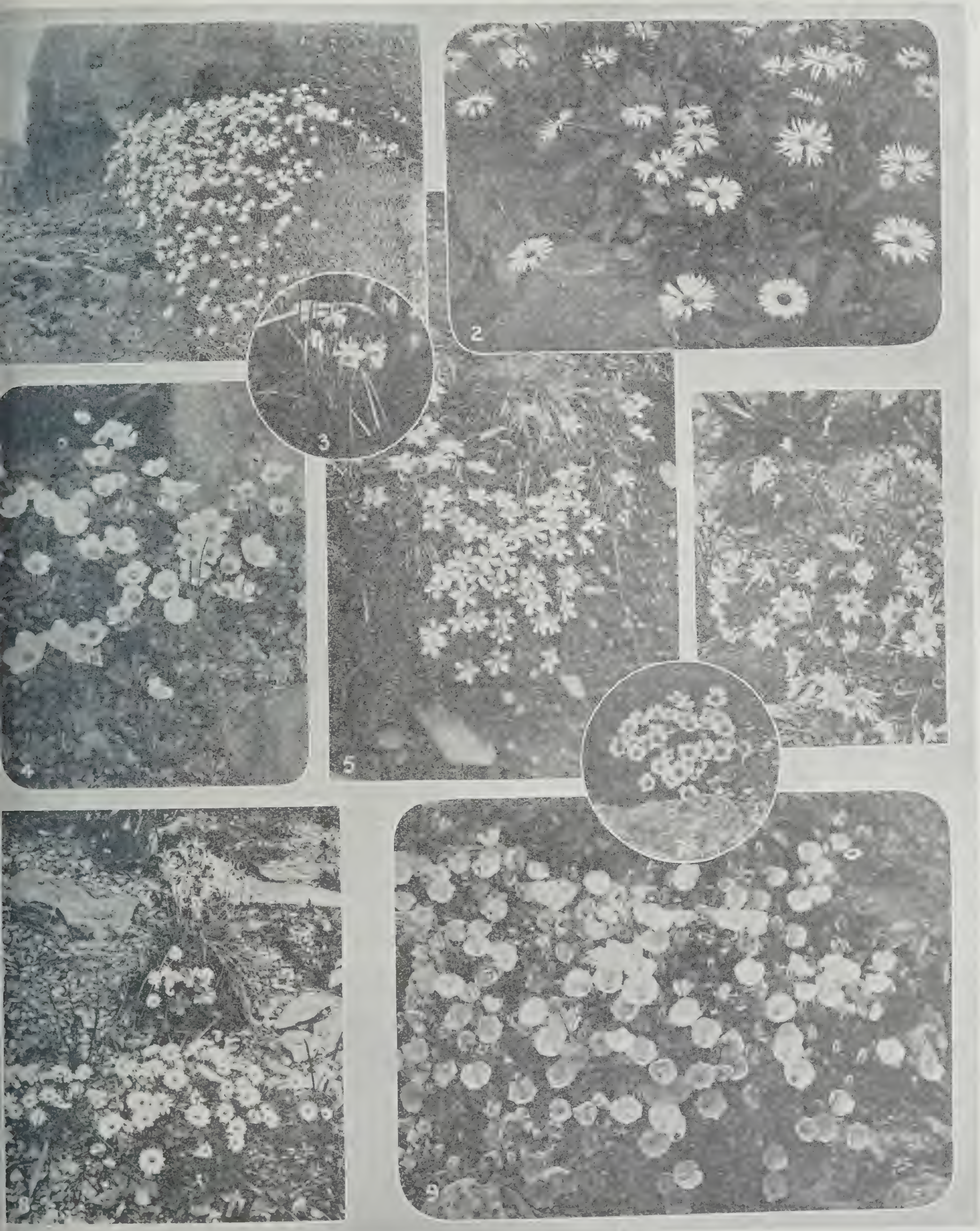
Campanula Bellardii Miss Willmott

HAVING a spare plant or two of
charming little Campanula Bell
Miss Willmott, I thought I w
plant it in a moraine to test whethe
would do better there than in the rock
den. The result is that this moraine-g
plant is much finer than those in the
garden, or even those growing in a re
ing wall. It was literally covered with flo
and not a leaf was to be seen, while it
grown into a more bush-like plant. I co
that I like the form of the flowers of
Miss Willmott better than those of the p
lar C. B. Miranda. I think Farrer c
the blooms of C. B. Miranda "of enorm
size," and they are certainly large comp
with other forms of C. Bellardii,
as another writer has since said, they
"tubby" in form, those of C. B. Miss W
mott being the better shape. I may add
the latter is growing apace in the moraine
will soon cover a good space, and that it l
well against the grey whinstone chips w
surface the moraine. S. ARNOT

Escallonia montevidensis

This is not a new shrub, as it was in
duced from New Grenada so long ago
1827, but it has never become plentiful
gardens, or not nearly so much as its m
deserve. It is distinct from others of
race, and will make a shrub of apprecia
size, well-furnished with glossy green lea
and covered from August to November w
panicles of pure white flowers. It is
sufficiently hardy to plant in the co
districts, but is tolerably so elsewhere,
has done well in the London district; i
most satisfactory in a border at the base
wall or near the house, where its hands
evergreen foliage will prove ever ornamen
and its late blooming qualities will be hig
appreciated. Cuttings root easily, and
montevidensis, sometimes called E. fl
bunda, is a shrub of quick growth, e
though it will cover itself with flowers w
in quite a small state. RALPH E. ARNOLD

WHY WE LOVE ROCK GARDENS



SOME GEMS AMONG ALPINE FLOWERS THAT APPEAL TO ALL

ianthus plumarius, a shower of pink flowers on limestone rock.

elmesia Munroi with large white Daisy-like flowers from the mountains of New Zealand.

arcissus juncifolius, the miniature Rush-leaved Daffodil, flowers rich yellow. Native of the high Pyrenees.

ne Snowdrop Anemone A. sylvestris, with large white nodding flowers.

5. Gentiana verna by the roadside in the Pyrenees. It stars the Alpine meadows in untold thousands with the most vivid blue in Nature.

6. Lewisia Howellii on a well-drained rocky ledge. Flowers apricot, with deep salmon-coloured band to each flower.

7. Saxifraga Burseriana, a compact, dense grey cushion with chubby white flowers on red stems.

8. Anemone apennina blanda, the earliest of all blue Wood Anemones.

9. Campanula turbinata, rich purple, free flowering.

Notes from Floraire

GENTIANS.—This last summer I was fortunate enough to find in the high Cevennes that curious G. Pneumonanthe named Arvernensis by Mr. Backhouse.*

This is a very dear little plant indeed, and nearer to the fine Froehlichii than to Pneumonanthe. Its flowers are in clusters on 5-inch to 6-inch high stems. The cup is rather large and has a swollen flower of deep azure. It grows not in marshes or bogs, but on fresh, exposed grassy slopes. The G. Froehlichii, from the high Alps of south-east Austria, is one of the beauties of these very rich countries. It grows between the grass, and its clear blue flowers are isolated on 1-inch to 3-inch high stems. It is certainly one of the best of all the Gentians, and is of rather easy culture. It only wants a porous soil and fresh situation. It does well in sandy loam.

The best of all for the gardens is certainly the beautiful G. angustifolia (sabauda, occidentalis), which was, according to Paxton, introduced in England in 1816, and perhaps gave the type to the English Gentianella. I suppose this because of the stoloniferous character of the English plant, which is the same as the angustifolia. This is a very curious thing to state, the plant making large tufts of light green, shining foliage all along the roads of the high Dauphiné, forming sometimes—as I saw at the foot of the Mt. Aiguille—3 feet broad patches covered with celestian blue flowers. That stoloniferous character is special to the two types, angustifolia and alpina.

G. angustifolia of Villars (not to be confounded with angustifolia of Michaux, a U.S. plant) is to be recommended for borders, rockeries, walls, and can be considered as the easiest of all. Here, in our continental climates, we cannot grow the other Acaulis as well. It flowers in the spring and again in the fall, and sometimes the whole summer, as it does on our mountain garden at La Chèvrerie, on the Jura. The flower is much larger than Acaulis and of a pure blue marked on the throat by five bright green spots. It cannot be considered as stemless, then, its stem reaches sometimes 4 inches to 6 inches. That flower is elegantly shaped and always very abundant on the tuft.

It germinates rather freely, and we raise thousands of it with the greatest ease from seed.

DWARF CREEPERS.—We grow here two Liliputian South European plants which are not known in gardens and on which I will draw the attention of the Alpine gardeners. Iberis pygmæa or Ventosicola is a dear little gem we found once on the Provence Hills growing among the stone masses on very sunny, exposed corners and on very meagre soils. We brought it home and thought it was only a local form of Iberis saxatilis. But after many years' culture it keeps its character as a very dwarf, creeping Candytuft, not exceeding 1 inch high, covered with very narrow, hard, and greyish leaves, and forming broad tufts of these very tiny plants covering over the soil. The flowers are numerous, pure white or pinkish, and come all the winter and till end of May. We grow both the type and this one together, and the difference can be seen at first sight. Another very dwarf creeper is Globularia pygmæa we found on large rocks in the Alpes-Maritimes. Its broadly expansed masses never exceed 1 inch in height, and the very small, tiny leaves are much thicker and harder than those of nana. The minute heads of blue flowers are borne through the summer and give the carpet of greyish-green foliage a curious appearance of a light veil.

These two meridionals are very hard and are resistant to drought and sun. They are precious for walks, plantations, and rockeries.

Geneva. H. CORREVON.

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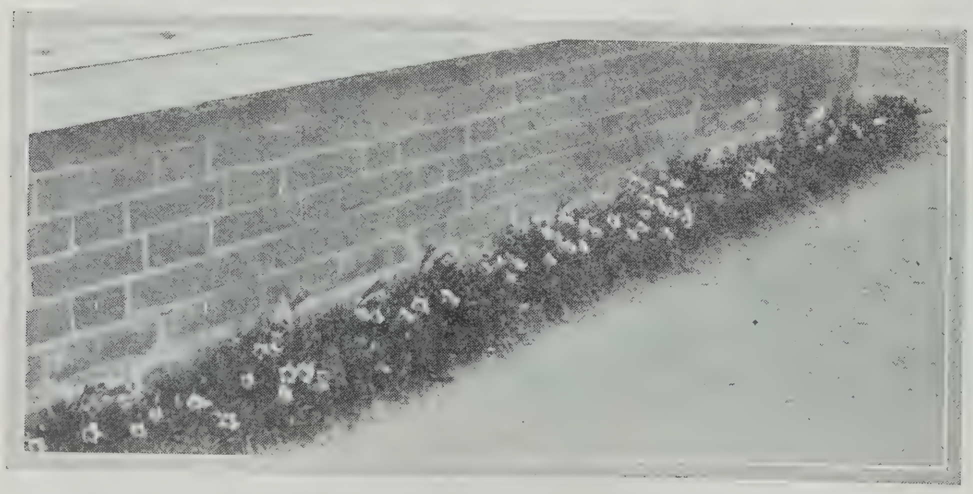
* See "Gardeners' Chronicle," 14/VIII./1877, and "Garden," 1883/7, p. 77.

Junipers for the rock garden

At the R.H.S. exhibition of autumn-berried shrubs and flowers, there were two Junipers of great interest to lovers of rock plants. They were Juniperus squamata Meyeri and J. Japonica var. Pfitzerina. J. hibernica compressa is well known as an object of interest, especially when from 18 inches to 30 inches in height. Propagated correctly, its columnar form, tapering to a single leader at the top, gives great charm to a vista in the rock garden. There is another taller variety, rather rare, J. Icelandica, also known as Scandinavica. It is not so blue-green and close as hibernica, but it can attain a height of 9 feet or 10 feet. At Abington, near the source of the Clyde in Lanarkshire, there is a magnificent specimen at the mouth of the Glengona Burn in the keeper's cottage garden. About 10 feet high and 4 feet or 5 feet through, this is surely one of the finest specimens of its kind in the Kingdom. In two other cottage gardens in the village are two beautiful specimens about 7 feet in height. Abington is 900 feet above sea-level, and these two specimens must be nearly 50 years old.

J. squamata Meyeri is also column
form, although the specimen exhibited
R.H.S. was branched and bushy as it ha
its leaders twice. It is a very rare pla
great grace in outline, attracting insta
tention. It is a perfect Conifer for the s
of the rock garden, especially if planted
treasured plants of distinction and real
J. Japonica var. Pfitzerina may not
been correctly named, but certainly the
exhibited is the best of the type and
distinct. It is bushy in growth, with
light green foliage. This Conifer shoul
be confounded with J. Pfitzerina, wh
totally different in type, but a distinct v
of Japonica. The squamata Junipers
liable to "dead leaf" where the rain l
in their dense foliage, and this can on
partially overcome by planting in the o
windy situations. J. S. Meyeri does not
to be troubled in this way. C. A.



Gentiana acaulis as an edging by a path in a Hertfordshire garden

This Gentian does not mind being trodden on occasionally—indeed, it seems to flower the better for such treatment

Flowers that bloom in the sp

A plea for spring bedding

It has been left on record that the
gardener is the one who is continually
ing in mind, and legislating for, the f
beauty of his garden, who, to use the
of a poet who must have loved flowers :

> " Ere one flowery season fades and die
> Designs the blooming wonders of the n

Of all the seasons, then, not the
pleasurable surely is the springtime, a
is within the province of all who have ga
to so arrange that their plot shall be ush
in with a galaxy of beauty. We are s
times reminded that the planting of bulbs
somewhat costly and laborious experimen
the few weeks at the most that som
them bloom, but notwithstanding t
which is only part of the truth after
it is worth all the work it entails.
of us are in the midst of bulb planting
are getting in early and May flowe
Tulips, Narcissi, Crocuses, Chionodo
Grape Hyacinths, Snowdrops, some of w
will bloom ere the calendar denotes the
vent of spring. We know, too, that
corners of our garden there are group
the smaller bulbs that have been clust
there for years, and have never failed
yet in the beauty they bring and the joy
convey to us after the gloom of winter.
loving a garden, would begrudge the
first hand expense in planting these firstl
of the New Year? But there are other th
besides bulbs that make a garden gay,
help to usher in the time of spring bea
What a treasury, for instance, there is in
colourful and fragrant Wallflower, and w
vast strides have been made in them s
the days of our youth, when Blood R
Harbinger, and one or two yellows h
place. Now we have delightful choice
wondrous tints, and the best of it is
modern sorts do not lack perfume. It
I think, a good sign that so many folk
these days are more than " summer g
deners." Go where you will, you
a keen interest being shown in the
autumn in tidying-up beds and borders,
that with the approach of winter they h
a furnished appearance. It is not enou
nowadays to remove the flotsam and jets
and accumulation of rubbish, but there m
be steps taken towards planting, so that
the earliest periods flowers may do their sh
in making for gaiety in spring, hence we f
in many places that in June much sowi
is done to have Wallflowers and Forget-m
nots to provide plants for putting out in l
autumn. Very nice is it to walk into
garden some May morning when
Darwins are opening their lovely petals bor

Gentiana sino-ornata in Dr. Jenkin's Garden at Hindhead

From photographs taken on October 20th

Trumpet-shaped flowers of brilliant azure blue, braving the frost, wind, and rain with amazing hardihood from October even into December.

The flowers were so packed together, that on a sunny morning, when the blooms were fully expanded, it would seem virtually impossible to put a pin between them.

When we first saw this glorious bed of Gentians we were moved to silent worship for what is, indeed, one of the most beautiful flowers in cultivation.

This introduction from China is grown in a bed of peat and leaf-mould, and grows like a weed.

out stems, the leaves surrounded by deep Forget-me-nots or clusters of that est of spring flowers, Asperula. Properly ght out and arranged beforehand, one have a great variety of colour in rden at that time. In Darwins alone are many that enhance a garden when oom, such, for example, as Clara Butt rose pink), Mr. Farncombe Sanders let), Pride of Haarlem (cherry red), Rev. ank (heliotrope), Bartigon (crimson car-), and if one is disposed to add a few of Rembrandt type of Tulips, with their nt featherings, the show will be com-. Other things bring a treasury of ur in the late spring, such as hardy ulas, multi-coloured Primroses and lanthuses, blood-red and white Daisies, clumps of Thrift about the edgings of ers that tell in the time of the opening heir flowers that summer days are not ff.

one who has a garden should let the ent opportunity go by in planting something that will make it all the brighter; something that one may follow the progress of the as they begin to lengthen, and watch he opening of their blossoms in the sun- of spring. W. F.

Dividing large plants

most any plant, however large, may be sy divided by driving two digging forks, laid back to back, down through the centre and levering outwards. This is very necessary in many instances every few years, and amply repays doing. Large clumps of Heleniums, Torch Lilies, Pampas Grasses, Michaelmas Daisies, and Phlox should be freely divided up and replanted if the best results are to be obtained.

Bulbous plants for the rock garden

If we utilise bulbous plants for our rock gardens we must exercise proper care in their selection and planting as well as choosing suitable positions. These little gems never look more charming than when planted in irregular-shaped colonies. Another good way is to place them here and there in a carpet of low-growing plants above which their flowers would be seen in early spring.

The kinds named below will thrive with a modicum of shelter from cold winds in nearly all districts, such protection being desirable for the preservation of the flowers, not because the plants themselves are tender. Of Narcissi alone there are four eminently suited for the rock garden—Moschatus of Haworth, which has for its popular name the snowy-white Daffodil of the Pyrenees, the dainty little Minimus, Pallidus præcox, and Cyclamineus. All are of lowly stature and quite in place in the best rock gardens. If a taller Daffodil can be admitted use N. Bulbocodium. It grows about 9 inches high and is a most exquisite flower. There are several spring-flowering Crocuses admirably adapted for our purpose. Susianus and Sieberi are two that come to mind, though there are many others that could be brought into use. For a damp bay the Snake's-head Fritillary (Fritillaria Meleagris) and the Meadow Saxifrage (Saxifraga granulata) are quaint and beautiful flowers that lose none of their charm by being natives in some parts of England. There is a double variety of the Meadow Saxifrage about twice the size of the common plant. Chionodoxa Luciliæ is a perfect gem.

The little bulbous Iris reticulata is well known as one of the finest of early flowering plants. Tecophilæa cyanocrocus (the Chilian Crocus) and its allies, the Sternbergias, Calochortus venustus, the beautiful Butterfly Tulip, Puschkinia libanotica, Ixiolerions, with Zephyranthes candicans are a few of the many kinds that may be introduced to the rock garden without fear of marring its beauty or doing any appreciable injury to other occupants. H. STEVENS.

Gladiolus Blackwellii

The Gladiolus which received an Award of Merit on October 23rd, when shown as an unnamed species from Pondoland by Mr. Collingwood Ingram, has now been identified by Dr. O. Stapf as Gladiolus Blackwellii L. Bolus. This remarkable Gladiolus, with 30 flowers on a spike, was illustrated on page 741 in last week's issue. See also note on page 753.

Gardening in West Somerset

THE deep glossy green foliage of Escallonia macrantha and the thick impenetrable growth, make it both a beautiful and useful hedge shrub, especially in mild maritime districts. Neither is it a shy bloomer. A hedge in my garden has flowered intermittently since June. Here, in the west, this Escallonia needs cutting twice a year to keep it within bounds. The severe weather of last winter killed a lot of the foliage, but by early summer the hedge was as green again as ever.

Among drought-resisting perennials Linaria purpurea is worth making a note of. The primary spikes of purple blossoms were cut back in July when they were getting past, and the display was prolonged throughout August by the numerous lateral shoots. This plant produces self-sown seedlings very freely. A couple or three good plants will provide enough seedlings to stock a decent sized border in two or three seasons. In a very dry part of the garden where Phloxes and other perennials were suffering from drought this Linaria showed no signs of distress. Linaria alpina is also a free seeder, and plants have a way of appearing in most unexpected places. A couple of fine seedlings of Buddleia variabilis appeared in my kitchen garden, evidently the progeny of a bush in my neighbour's garden. It is a good example of the facility with which some shrubs will propagate themselves in western counties. Seedlings of Solanum jasminoides also appeared last spring, some distance away from the parent plant. Passers-by who are not familiar with this beautiful climber allude to is as a Jasmine when flowering, which indicates that the specific name is an apt one.

One of the prettiest pictures in the garden is that of a Rowan tree laden with bright coral-red berries. One regrets that the birds are so fond of these attractive fruits, as they would be a special delight if only they would spare them until the winter. The annual Scabious has done remarkably well this year in spite of the dry season. The wiry stems make them good cutting flowers, and, of course, the season is greatly prolonged by cutting the flowers frequently. There are wonderful colours among them, ranging from bright rose to deep crimson and from lilac to a purplish-black. A bed of Scabious with white Marguerites is very effective. Those who would like a really gay bed next summer should make a note of the following combination which I noticed in a garden weeks ago. Lobelia cardinalis Queen Victoria, Viola Blue Gown, and Centaurea candidissima. The Lobelias were planted about 2 feet apart with the Violas in between and the Centaurea round the edge. Another pretty bed I saw was planted with Lobelia cardinalis among a groundwork of silver-leaved Geraniums, round which was a band of blue bedding Lobelia and an edging of Golden Feather. The entries in a gardener's note-book should consist largely of the colour schemes he has noticed in the course of the flowering season, as it is so easy to forget some of the impressions that are only mentally noted. Of course, many of the most pleasing combinations that one sees even in one's own garden have been accidentally achieved, and carefully made notes of these are of great value when the time arrives for the planning of garden effects.

H. GREAVES.

Cercidiphyllum japonicum

IN this year of indifferent autumn colour it has been interesting to observe the behaviour of this shrub, or, rather, tree, as it grows 70 feet to 100 feet tall in Japan. Individual trees have varied very much in my garden. One of them, planted close to the water, has been particularly fine. Most of the leaves were crimson as early as August 28th, were at their best about September 10th, and were still making quite a brave show on October 24th—almost two months of lovely autumn colour.

Cercidiphyllum japonicum

The foliage assumes rich autumnal colourings

Other specimens are much more fleeting. One, planted not 10 yards from the last named, hardly coloured at all, while a group of half a dozen growing higher up the rock garden, but also close to the water, were not at their best till about October 10th, and were then very beautiful in various shades of pink, yellow, green, and orange. These shed all their leaves in about 10 days.

Another tree, also near water, which most years is particularly brilliant, did not begin to colour till about October 24th, and is evidently not going to make any show. There is no doubt that with me this tree likes moisture, as, without it, the leaves are only half their proper size, and there is very little autumn colour. Let no one, however, be deterred from planting the Cercidiphyllum because they do not happen to have a stream running through their garden, because I have seen specimens colouring finely in situations quite away from water, though never, I think, in very dry positions.

At its best, there is probably nothing to beat this tree, though Nyssa sylvatica, Parrotia persica, Fothergilla monticola, some of the Maples run it close.

The young leaves in spring are also beautiful, but are sometimes blackened late frosts. They soon recover, however, their autumn colouring is not affected.

MARK FENWIC

Abbotswood, Stow-on-the-Wold.

The Gate House, Eskdale

I AM sitting on the bank of the River which flows through some of the beautiful scenery in England. The C brian Mountains run close to the river. deed, the shadows of some of them thrown into the water itself. It is a spot for meditation, and I have taken pen in hand to jot down a few impress of the gardens at the Gate House, Esk Green. Here the sympathies of the ow Mrs. Rea, and the gardener, Mr. Rainb are one, and for 20 years they have labou together for the purpose of forming on the most beautiful gardens it has been pleasure to see. The house itself, a c paratively modern structure built in a so what austere style, is situated but a few away from an extensive tarn. A long bo flanks the mansion itself, and this is fi principally with the Geranium Paul Cr pel, the scarlet colour of which se brighter than usual in this rarefied air. scending a terrace at the front of the ho I noticed an extensive array of Galto candicans, and I have never realised beautiful this flower could be. In the wa of the tarn itself Mr. Rainbow plan colonies of yellow and white Nymphæas so years ago. They have spread enormou since then, and now cover a good shee water. A winding woodland road along side of the tarn leads one to the rock gard which is an almost perfect replica of nat herself. The rock garden was construc some years ago by Messrs. Mawson Broth of Windermere. They made excellent use a stream of water which emptied into tarn from the fells. Here and there water has been dammed, and in the sto around some very choice Alpine subjects to be seen. I was struck by the beauty the Gentians, Spiræas, and various Compa las, and there was evidence that the Sa frages, Androsaces, and Aubrietias had a good time. Here and there throughout garden were some splendid specimens Hydrangea paniculata, and various Bambo The latter are perfectly hardy in this nor ern but genial clime. From the rock g den Mr. Rainbow conducted me to Japanese garden, which was some distan away. The journey there was about pleasant as any man could conceive, and I not wonder that William Wordsworth, w lived in these parts, should write such quisite poems on Nature. In the woodlan which we traversed were some fine exampl of Larch, Norway Spruce, Douglas Fir, La son's Cypress, Retinispora, green and copp Beeches, and an occasional Tulip-tree. T Japanese garden, which is the work of M Rainbow, is situated in the cleft of a woo land. Many tons of stone have been us to give shelter wherever shelter is neede and these have been clothed with approp ate vegetation. The scene within the gard appears to be typically Japanese. There a shelters and bridges built in suitable sty and at various points in the garden Japane birds and figures are disposed, with hier glyphics on them that no Westerner can d cipher. It is natural that the genus Berber should be well represented, and I was pleas to note that several of the late Mr. Regina Farrer's introductions were there. The fol age was just turning to its autumn tints, an the berries were going scarlet. As I looke

m I did not wonder that they were
esteemed for table decoration in win-
ome of the finest examples of the red
se Maple that I have ever observed
o be seen in this Eskdale garden, one
entrances to which were brightened by
sence of a long archway covered with
ia multijuga. In the flower garden
Ir. Rainbow has to pay special atten-
flowers that will succeed under moist
ons. I have not the average annual
l before me here, but when I say that
the last six weeks the rainfall has
ed 12 inches, some idea of the con-
will be supplied. Experience is, of
, a great riddler, and Mr. Rainbow
und the subjects on which he can de-
That is the reason why the flower
was beautifully bright with large
of Lobelia cardinalis, Bergamot,
s, the single and collarette varieties
g particularly well, Mignonette,
s, Nepeta Mussini, Heliotrope (at least
tall, from seed sown this year), Tuber-
gonias simply wreathed in bloom, and
Peas. A small winter garden is built
e house itself, and here amid urns of
n origin were to be seen some finely-
plants of Campanula pyramidalis,
auratum, and Hydrangeas in variety.
e well-constructed range of growing
I noticed in the Peach house some
rmed trees of the Peach Princess of
and Violet Hative and Pineapple Nec-
. In the vinery Muscat of Alexandria
Black Muscat were carrying heavy
Carnations are a great feature at the
House, and the collection of plants
splendid pomp. A batch is just going
f flower, and another, propagated last
er, is on the way towards being at its
luring the coming winter. I should
anyone who has not seen Browallia
sa major in a Lakeland greenhouse to
n early opportunity of doing so. The
s gentian blue, and one had to pause in
ation before the wonderful batch of
of this species in this garden. Toma-
Melons, promising batches of Ciner-
Calceolarias, and other greenhouse
were noticed before I bade good-bye
cene that I shall never forget.

GEO. H. COPLEY.

Alstromerias in masses

trömerias, or Peruvian Lilies, as they
alled, belong to the Amaryllis order,
contains so many beautiful genera. Of
years they seem to have been slightly
garded for some reason or other. They
namental and showy plants, with tuber-
oots and leafy stems, which terminate
nbels of richly coloured flowers. The
er in general cultivation is not large.
al are hardy throughout the country, but
s need protection when grown outside
g the winter, or require to be grown in-
. Few plants, however, need less
tion to grow them successfully, once a
ble site and soil is ensured. A deep,
manured, light, well-drained soil and a
y situation is desirable. They are ex-
ly effective in masses. Propagation is
ed by seed or root division. Seed is best
as soon as ripe in a cool house or frame,
the seedlings grown on till well estab-
l under glass. Later, they may be
ed outside, about 1 foot apart. The
s, which are fasciculated masses of
roots, are readily separated into single
ns during the autumn, but the operation
d be done very carefully. Alströmerias
ery impatient of root disturbance, and
the sites or stations have been prepared
he tubers planted, they should be left un-
rbed for years. Except for purposes of
ase, the less they are disturbed the better. Grown in masses they are very beautiful, as every stem furnishes a large number of flowers, showy and attractive, which last long in water when cut. When making growth they should not be allowed to suffer for lack of water,

The under noted are a few amongst the number in general cultivation :—A. aurantiaca, a vigorous-growing species from Chili. 2½ feet to 3 feet high, with large orange-yellow flowers, streaked red, in umbels of 10 to 15 blooms. This species also does well in a damp situation. There are a number of varieties, varying in colour and size of the flowers. A. Chilensis is another species from Chili, a hardy kind with many varieties, in a wide range of colours from almost white to deep orange and red, height about 2 feet. A. pelegrina, a somewhat tender species, not so tall as the preceding. The flowers are large, whitish, striped with rose, and veined with purple. There are several varieties, including a white one. A. p. Alba, said to be the most chaste of all the Alströmerias. It requires a specially warm spot, or the protection of glass. It is called the Lily of the Incas. A. psittacina, the Parrot Flower, is a distinct kind, with red and green flowers, spotted purple; grows about 2 feet.

There are, of course, many others, but the above suffices to show the variation in colour and usefulness. Autumn is undoubtedly the best time to plant the tubers, with a view to forming new colonies. These should be placed 6 inches to 9 inches below the surface, and protected with litter or leaves the first winter.

J. L.

Early autumn in Mr Mark Fenwick's garden at Abbotswood, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Primulas, Cyclamens, and Cinerarias

These plants are no longer safe in cold frames or unheated pits, and should be transferred forthwith to a cool house, which may be heated slightly during the night. Unless it is desirable to hasten the two former into bloom, heat of an artificial nature should be curtailed as much as possible with safety, air being freely admitted to check damping of the foliage on all favourable occasions.

Chrysanthemums

These are now at the height of their beauty, especially those producing large blooms, and although a little warmth through the pipes at night is advisable, it must not be overdone. Air freely on favourable occasions, but avoid cold draughts, otherwise many of the blooms will become disfigured through attacks of Green Fly and mildew. Damping petals must be kept removed.

Late Bush Chrysanthemums

These must be fed liberally, as the amount of bloom produced by a single well-grown plant is enormous. Disbudding in many instances will still be advisable, and a re-arrangement of the plants from time to time will prevent their becoming drawn to one side and thereby spoilt as specimens for indoor decoration. If only required for cutting, this is not so important. Fumigate the house occupied by them before colour is advanced, as it will not be advisable to do so afterwards. Early varieties which have already been cut should be stood in cool frames to produce stocky cuttings, but such frames must be protected at night.

Sweet Violets

Those planted in frames must now have the lights drawn over them at night, but air must be freely admitted both night and day unless severe frosty conditions prevail. If Red Spider is proving troublesome, the plants should be sprayed with paraffin soap every 10 days until this pest has been finally checked. Use all spare plants not required for frames to form colonies in the Alpine garden, where they will provide a feast of bloom in early spring.

Bulbs for forcing

The bulk of these will have been transferred from the plunging ground to cold frames, and it will now be a matter of introducing a few to warmer temperatures every 10 days or so, according to requirements. Put up fresh batches of retarded Lily of the Valley crowns and thereby maintain a constant supply of bloom, and place under cover all shrubs and plants which it is intended to force during the winter, including Rhododendrons and Azaleas.

The leaf harvest

Gather together all the leaves possible from sweepings and woodland collectings and form them into a large pile in some out-of-the-way corner where they may heat and become partially decayed. Never remove them from shrubberies as they form the natural food of the shrubs themselves, and if objection is raised to their appearance, a light sprinkling of soil or ashes will bind them down and hasten their decay. There is nothing better for loosening and rendering pliable heavy soils than a good dressing of leaves.

Planting early flowering shrubs

These never look so well planted in isolated groups or individually in the open as they do when provided with a background of evergreens, and this should be considered before operations are commenced, as it makes a vast difference to the effect of these leafless subjects in spring, also in autumn. Many of them develop exceedingly handsome foliage, which stands out in brilliant contrast to a bank of evergreens. A few such subjects include the gorgeous Parrotia persica, Fothergilla monticola, Hamamelis, in variety, Forsythias, Disanthus cercidifolia, Nuttalia Ribes, Magnolia stellata, Prunus, Mollis Azaleas, etc., the latter vivid in autumn.

Globe Artichokes

These suffered badly in the south during the past winter, therefore protection will be given in the form of a mound of litter to each plant earlier than usual, as another repetition such as last year cannot be tolerated.

Celeriac

For the first time during many years this was partially destroyed where left in the open—even though covered over with Bracken—last year, and as in the case of Artichokes will be protected earlier this year and part of the crop stored in a cool shed.

Peas

A sowing of Peter Pan and Little Marvel may now be made in a cold pit or frame to produce a crop of fine early Peas; Primo may also be tried. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Greenhouse Primulas

While these delightful winter-flowering plants must not be subjected to a really low temperature, a warm house is bad for them, so only a very moderate amount of artificial heat should be given. Dampness and closeness are very bad for all the types—Kewensis, malacoides, obconica, and sinensis—so such conditions must be guarded against. In dull, damp days a little warmth in the pipes, with plenty of top air, will keep damp down without unduly exciting the plants.

Herbaceous Calceolarias

These gorgeous plants, when well grown, are very effective and worthy a place in any greenhouse or conservatory. They are almost hardy, and were it not for damp might quite safely pass the winter in a cold frame. It is always better, however, to have them in a low house or pit from which frost is just excluded. Keep free of vermin, and, while the soil should never be permitted to get really dry, too frequent applications of water will so sour it that the plants will quickly get into an unhealthy state if, indeed, they do not actually die. A cool, buoyant atmosphere and judicious watering will ensure a fine and lasting display of bloom later on.

Chrysanthemum cuttings

It is, of course, much too early to think of inserting cuttings of the ordinary varieties, but there are, unfortunately, several good and almost indispensable sorts that are very shy at sending up suckers, so whenever any of these do send up a shoot or two have them secured and planted round the edges of small pots, filled with sandy compost, and set in a cool pit or greenhouse, where the majority will eventually form roots and so ensure sufficient stock.

Early Roman Hyacinths

These should now be well rooted, and may be taken from the plunge and set for a few days in a cold frame before being moved to a warm greenhouse. To induce longish stems suitable for cutting, place the pots a co erable distance from the glass. If for us pot plants in the house, set near the glas that all light and sun may reach them thus build up sturdy, stiff growth.

The planting of Roses

If the ground is in workable condition the plants received from the nursery, this important work should be pushed forv with all speed so that the bushes may ha chance to become established before wi sets in. It is because the soil must be trod down very firmly over the roots that on so earnest in warning the novice aga planting when the ground is very wet sticky. If attempted under these conditi it will set like brick when again dry, and poor plants will be unable to thrive.

Cyclamens

This grand winter-flowering subject is throwing up its flower-stems, and very car watering is necessary, as the presence moisture in the crowns of the plants ca the flower buds to shrivel up and refuse open. Gentle but systematic feeding is advisable. Weak liquid made from sh or cattle droppings is excellent. This be given about twice weekly. Soot wate also excellent for this plant, but should used clear.

Planting fruit bushes

Black Currants and Raspberries sho have well-worked heavily manured soil, do not object to a little shade, while Goo berries, Loganberries, and Red and Wh Currants should have no manure if the is of fairly good quality. As with ot things, all these small fruits should only planted while the ground is working freely.

The pruning of bush fruits

This may be pushed on with all vigour no for it is by no means a pleasant job wh really cold weather sets in. If necessa some of the best shoots should be retained cuttings, and, if inserted now, will eventua form roots. All other prunings should gathered up and burned immediately and destroy any vermin present, not to menti the eggs of same.

Border Chrysanthemums

These have been, and, at time of writin still are, wonderfully fine this autumn, entire absence of frost having permitted ev the latest sorts to open their flowers. Th has, of course, prevented the lifting a storing of the necessary stools for providi stock in spring. With few exceptions, it necessary this side of the border to lift a winter these in frames, therefore, as soon the flowers are past, as many roots as a necessary should be dug up and placed eith in boxes or pots, any light, sandy compo being suitable for placing around them. Ke close for a few days, but afterwards gi abundance of air to prevent the shoo damping. Label each variety carefully, confusion is certain in spring.

Shrubs

Should there be any of these to transplan now is a good time to tackle the work, th majority standing moving at this seaso Hollies, hybrid Rhododendrons, and Azalea however, should not be moved until la spring. In planting do not place too deep the ground; many failures are traceable want of care in this respect. Always see it that the soil is well trimmed round th roots and no cavities left. Where necessary place strong stakes to prevent rocking by th winter gales. C. BLAIR.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Answers to Queries

es—Queries and answers are inserted in
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ts follow these rules: All communications
be clearly written on one side of the paper
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ne query is sent, each should be on a
piece of paper; the name and address
dded to each. As GARDENING ILLUSTRATED
be sent to press some days in advance of
ueries cannot always be replied to in the
mediately following their receipt. We do
ly to queries by post.

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FLOWER GARDEN

annuals to sow in autumn

P. Standen).—Cynoglossum linifolium,
a Lady Albemarle, Nemophila insignis,
Miss Jekyll, Gilia tricolor, Hunne-
fumariæfolia, Antirrhinums in
, Bartonia aurea, Calceolaria scabiosæ-
Calendula officinalis Orange King,
rea moschata The Bridegroom,
ia bicolor, Eschscholtzia californica
ne King, and Gazania longiscapa.

ment of the Belladonna Lily

B.).—To succeed with this lovely Lily
tion at the foot of a warm wall is
al, preferably a south or west wall.
rainage is necessary, and in heavy soils
ay consist of a 5-inch layer of stones or
brickbats, etc. Over this rough turf
be placed and the border made up (to
h of at least 2 feet) of turfy or good
loam three parts and one part of leaf-
or well-decayed manure and sand.
will give you a warm, well-drained,
soil such as these plants revel in. Feed-
only necessary after the plants have
ed a certain site for several years, when
timulants are beneficial. Four inches
should cover the tops of the bulbs, and
g should be carried out at once.

for growing beneath Rhododen-rons and in the shade

Williamson).—Trillium grandiflorum,
atheon in variety, Cypripedium
ens, Gaultheria procumbens, Danæ
Ericas (dwarf species), Ferns in
, especially evergreen kinds, such as
chum munitum, P. acrostichoides,
um pedatum, Scolopodendron vulgare
v. crispum, Cornus canadensis, Peri-
s, Skimmia japonica Fortunei, Ber-
Mahonia, Daphne Laureola, Sarcocca
lia, Polygala chamæbuxus purpurea,
andra, Lenten Roses (Helleborus
lis), Hypericum calycinum, Ompha-
erna, Rubus irenæus.

ft Rot

F. S.).—We can only state, as we have
efore, that the formalin treatment for
oft Rot has saved many plants in the
y. It appears to us that the failure in
se was due to the fact that the bacillus
ch a hold upon the plants that the
in treatment was useless. This is borne
the examination of the last lot of speci-
you sent us. The plants which had
ere certainly doing their best to make
root system and to stave off attack.
were certainly some of the bacilli still
ower portion of the plants.

dil bulbs

S., Hassocks).—It is usual to plant the
ogether as you receive them from the
as they bloom quite satisfactorily. At
me time, you would increase your
r by dividing the offsets from the
bulb, and these, in turn, would also produce side bulbs, but the flowers would be weaker the first year than would be the case if planted as sent out.

Position for the Christmas Rose (Helleborus niger)

(Hector, N.Y., U.S.A.).—The essential cultural details of this good flower are deep sandy loam—3 feet in depth is not too much—perfect drainage, light shade, and, above all, September or October planting. It is fatal to success to plant these in big lumps intact; they must be freely broken up. They do remarkably well in company with deciduous Ferns, which shade their foliage during summer. If such cannot be arranged, it is advisable to plant them on the cool north side of a wall or fence or any position where they are shaded during the greater part of the day, hence the improved condition of those you have on the west side of the Barberry hedge. Never plant them in full sun in your country.

Raising seeds of Alpine flowers

(Hector, N.Y., U.S.A.).—You have left it rather late for this, as few things will germinate this year if sown now, and we advise you to defer sowing until March next year, when you will be able to rear quantities of Alpine flowers in a cold frame. The seeds should be sown thinly in well-drained pans or pots, filled with light sandy soil which has been put through a finely meshed sieve. Before sowing, water each receptacle with a fine-rosed can and when settled down sow the seed, covering it as thinly as possible with fine soil. Stand the newly-sown seeds in a cool frame and cover each receptacle with a sheet of glass or slate to conserve moisture until germination has taken place, when the

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From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Alpine plants and hardy bulbs on the window-sill

THIS is now the fourth season since my outside window-garden was planted, and it has gone on improving so that in the hottest day of summer and the coldest day of winter it is full of attraction. Saxifrages, Sedums, Sempervivums, Campanulas, Lithospermum, etc., are one or other in flower; and as regards bulbs in autumn, we have the Sternbergia. Zephyranthes, autumn Crocus, and Colchicum; following these come the Snowdrop, the spring Crocus, and Scilla sibirica; and in window gardens, where a greater depth of soil is given, the Hyacinth and the Narcissus may be introduced with advantage. The construction of the outside window-garden may be stated to be of the simplest possible character, so that anyone can make it, or have it made by an ordinary carpenter. We used yellow deal, and the width may range from 1 foot to 2 feet, according to space. At the back of the garden is a strip of wood 3 inches in height, which may be made higher or lower according to taste, and scalloped or plain. The front should be somewhat ornamented. This structure, while resting on the sill of the window, is raised on blocks ¼ inch to allow of drainage, and preserve the sill from damage. The soil used should be a good compost consisting of road-scrapings, loam, and leaf-soil, the surface undulated according to taste, working in judiciously a few stones or shells, so as not to be conspicuous, and then planted to be the most attractive from the room. Between the scallops or ornamental part of the woodwork in the front trailers should be inserted, so as to have the best effect, with Sempervivums as rosettes, or if a rustic facing is given to the garden, Sedums, Saxifrages, and other rock-loving plants do well. When shells are introduced, small-growing Sempervivums, such as montanum, or the Cobweb House-leek, are the most desirable to plant in them. The class of plants which I consider most desirable for a window garden are the dwarf-growing Alpine plants, with just sufficient elevation to break the lines, and from the following genera a good selection can be made: Alyssum, Androsace, Antennaria, Arabis, Arenaria, Armeria, Arum, Aster, Aubrietia, Bambusa, Bellium, Campanula, Dianthus, Draba, Dielytra, Echeveria, Erinus, Hepatica, Iberis, Linaria, Linum, Lotus, Lithospermum, Lychnis, Lysimachia, Myosotis, Nierembergia, Oxalis, Phlox, Potentilla, Primula, Sibthorpia, Soldanella, Spergula, Saxifraga, Sedum, Sempervivum, Silene, Thymus, Viola, Veronica, according to situation and aspect. Of bulbous plants, add Sternbergia lutea, with its large yellow Crocus-like flowers in autumn; Zephyranthes candida, with its silvery-white blossoms in autumn, the autumn Crocus and the autumn Scilla; and for spring blooming, the intense blue Scilla sibirica and bifolia, the spring Snowflake, the Snowdrop, the Crocus, the miniature Hyacinth, the Narcissus Bulbocodium, nanus, and minimus, the Bulbocodium vernum, the dwarf early Tulips, Iris persica and reticulata, and, besides these, many other bulbous and tuberous-rooted plants would contribute their charms, so that within a limited space a garden may be had with representatives from every temperate clime. The invalid who can only be moved in a chair can tend this garden, while those who are much confined indoors have only to turn their eyes to the window to enjoy a pretty miniature Alpine garden. To children it is a delight. In their culture there is no difficulty, and the window garden once planted simply requires to be kept clear of weeds and attended to with water.—P. B. —*July 5th, 1879.*

latter should be removed and the seedlings gradually exposed. Water sparingly until growth is well advanced.

Taking cuttings

I am finding it very difficult to root the following cuttings :—Verbena, Heliotrope, Irisene, and Cineraria maritima. Would you kindly advise me if all or any of these should be taken with a heel, and what temperature the propagating frame should be for such?

YOUNG GARDENER.

[If you are attempting to root these bedding plants at this season we do not wonder that you find it a difficult matter. They should have been inserted at the end of August or early in September, and would then have rooted in a cold frame if kept fairly close and shaded. Secured at the proper time, none of them require to be taken with a heel, while now it is hardly likely that many would form roots even with heels, but if you do try them, do not keep the frame too close or too warm—about 60 degs. would be ample. In spring it is different, a fairly brisk, bottom heat giving good results.]

GREENHOUSE

Smilax in vinery

I have here some Smilax—sown early in 1928—and planted out in boxes, the same as is usually used for Tomato growing, and placed at the foot of the rear wall of a Muscat-vinery. It grew very strongly this summer, being supported in the usual way with thread, and has reached the top of the wall, some 18 feet to 20 feet. I want Smilax for decorative purposes for a function that is not until the middle of December, but as it shows signs of going back now, could you tell me of any method I could adopt to ensure it lasting fresh and green until that date? The Grapes are all cut, and the house kept perfectly cool, only excluding frost. I am giving the Smilax less water, but not to the extent of drying it off. Also, I have discontinued feeding. Is the latter a mistake, as the roots are pretty cramped and the hot season may have caused the Smilax to ripen off prematurely?

"WORRIED."

[We regret our inability to advise in this matter, further than to say that you should keep it as cool as possible, without, of course, allowing it to get frosted. Watch that the soil never gets dry, and perhaps the tops, at least, may remain suitable for your purpose.]

Eustoma Russelliana

(C. S. P.).—Seed of the Eustoma can be had from Messrs. Carter Page and Co., 52, London Wall, E.C. 2, or Mr. A Dawkins, 408, Kings Road, Chelsea, S.W. 10.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Pompom Chrysanthemums

Referring to the note on Pompom Chrysanthemums in your issue of October 19th, I would be glad to know if the Chrysanthemum named Little Bob is the same as Little Brown Bob mentioned in two numbers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED (November 3rd and November 17th) of last year under the title of "Disappearing Plants." I would be obliged if you could inform me if, and where, this Chrysanthemum can be purchased, also the two others mentioned with Little Brown Bob, Little Old Claret and Little Old Yellow. I would like to add that our Christmas present from a gardening friend for two years has taken the form of a year's subscription of your paper, which has proved a most interesting and useful present. ALICE WRIGHT.

Westways, Barnett's Road, Knock.

[The Chrysanthemum Little Brown Bob is distinct from Little Bob, being a brown sport of that plant. As regards the others, all our efforts to trace them have so far failed, and this leads us to suspect that they have been lost to the trade, although some private grower who cares for these small flowers may still have a few plants in his possession.]

ROSE GARDEN

Rosa Hugonis unsatisfactory on hot wall

(Italia).—This lovely species does not require a wall, especially in your country, and we attribute its failure to the position being too hot and dry. This Rose forms a large, graceful bush when grown in the open, reaching several feet in height and diameter. If, however, you must keep it on the wall we advise you to trench deep and enrich the soil, and during the summer months, at least, keep a heavy mulch over its roots. The lovely single Rose Mermaid (yellow) would enjoy such a position. Permanently to soften the colour of your wall apply a coat of cement three parts to one part of soot, well mixed and rather thin, so that it may be applied to the wall with an ordinary whitewash brush.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Lonicera tragophylla

(H. J. H.).—This very attractive Chinese species with large yellow flowers is listed by Hillier and Sons, Winchester.

Die-back of Yew

(Constant Reader).—We have now been able to clear up your trouble with your Yew trees. They are attacked by the caterpillar of a moth, Batodes angustiorana, Haw. We were able to find the little caterpillars hibernating in some of the specimens which you sent. The caterpillar is about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length, of a green or yellow-green colour, with black markings on the sides, having a dorsal line of a lightish yellow colour. They hibernate during the winter in cocoons of hair and leaves of the Yew tree. They eat the woody portion of the twig, and this causes it to wither, and, in most cases, the caterpillars are overlooked, and the resulting damage is laid down to frost or other seasonable conditions. The only control for the pest appears to be shaking the caterpillars from the trees in early summer. The easiest way to kill the caterpillars shaken down would be to spray them with a good nicotine wash. If it is practicable to spray the trees, a good nicotine wash would kill if it was applied in early summer, just after the caterpillars had hatched.

Forcing Lilac

(C).—This is a suitable time to bring pot Lilacs in, and now they have had the frost on them it is an advantage, although not essential. We see from your letter that you have them already well established in pots. A great thing about them is to force gently; if you attempt hard forcing it will only lead to leaf growth and very little flower. Needless to say, careful watering is essential, and the trees should be syringed freely on sunny days. Lilacs take copious supplies of liquid manure when once they show flower buds.

Beech tree injured

(E. W.).—As you have removed the cause of the trouble, your tree should ultimately regain its normal health. There is little you can do to the wound, except to apply a good coating of grease, which will have the effect of protecting same from fungus and insect life. If you can give the tree a good mulch of farmyard manure you will improve its health.

Saving an old tree

(Italia).—We have no knowledge of the method you refer to, and would certainly hesitate before applying it to any tree of value.
The approved method of dealing with
trees is to remove as far as possible
cayed portions by scraping away—to
wood or bark—every particle of such m
afterwards filling in the cavity with con
which should be sealed with cement n
so as to prevent both air and moisture
entering. This method has saved an
juvenated many a fine old tree.

Old Box hedge

(O. B. H.).—To thicken the hedge,
the tops to about the height you suggest
ting the whole straight across. Also re
all old spent wood and trim the sides in a
harder than has hitherto been the cu
This will encourage young growth to de
from the centre and side branches, whi
due course, will thicken the fence. In fu
keep the top clipped down until the hedg
become thickened sufficiently, when you
allow a rise in height if desirable. Bre
the soil about the base of the hedge and
a good dressing of farmyard manure,
will prove most beneficial and hasten gr
This work may be carried out with safe
the present time.

FRUIT

Cape Gooseberries and Van der Hu

(Reader).—We have referred your in
to Sir William Lawrence, Bt., who k
replies :—"I have often heard the late
Wolseley describe how the old Kaffir w
used to pound Cape Gooseberries, and, s
quently, after introducing a ferment
peculiarly insanitary method, distil
mash and so produce a liqueur know
Van der Hum. To flavour the spirit va
ingredients were introduced, such as Naa
Lord Wolseley used to give his friends b
which he brought back from his camp
Possibly new methods have been introd
into its manufacture, but I cannot believe
any liqueur could be distilled satisfact
solely from Oranges."

Feeding the American Blackberry

(E. Williamson).—Yes, a good dressin
well-seasoned farmyard manure would
most beneficial, and if all old spent wo
removed your plants should develop ren
vigour, which will result in larger and
fruit.

Gooseberries and birds

In the Highlands here in Inverness-shir
the last 10 years about, but not earlier, bl
birds attack Gooseberry bushes and carry
or, more probably, devour on the spot
berry so soon as it gets soft to ripe.
net in with wire-netting these plants
this garden, what would be the best siz
regards width, mesh, gauge? I ask a
mesh particularly as no tit mice come al
the largest bird being the bullfinch for
blossom. D. J.

[To keep out bullfinches you would req
a $1\frac{1}{2}$-inch mesh netting.]

Damaged Pears

(Charles Oakford).—Your Pears
been attacked by a Capsid Bug, prob
Plesiocoris rugicollis, Fall. The eggs
this pest are laid partly embedded in the
during autumn and hatch in April of
following year. At first they are like Gr
Fly (Aphides), but are very much m
active, running about all over the pl
They feed on foliage, shoots, and fruit,
in doing so, pierce the tissues, sucking
the juices. Wherever they pierce, a m
is made on foliage and shoot, and on frui
causes deformity, such as the specimen
sent along. Capsids are difficult to cont
but the damage can be greatly reduced
careful spraying, but this work must be

(Continued on page 766)

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thoroughly done, as it is necessary to wet each bug with the spray fluid. It is usual when spraying to commence at the top of the shoots, proceeding to the base, and then, turning rapidly, come up to the top again. By so doing most of the bugs are usually caught by the spray fluid. The formula of the spray fluid is:—Nicotine, 3 ozs.; soft-soap, 4 lbs.; water, 40 gallons. If these quantities are too large you can make a smaller quantity as long as you keep the ingredients in the same ratio. The best time to spray is towards the end of April or beginning of May.

Plum tree failing

(D. J. M.).—There are several probable reasons for your Plum tree failing to mature its fruits. It may be that the flowers were frosted or they may have opened during bad weather when bees and other insects were unable to distribute the pollen, for obviously the impregnation had been imperfect, or the fruits would not have dropped. As they bear plenty of blossom, there cannot be much wrong with them otherwise. In another year you should protect the trees while in flower with a double-ply of fish-netting, which would ward off frost and yet permit bees to work.

Bitter Pit of Apples

(R. F. S.).—Your Apples are affected with Bitter Pit, which is one of the so-called physiological diseases. The cause of Bitter Pit is not clearly understood, but it is usually looked upon as being caused by nutritional disorder, shortage of water, or any one of the plant foods which are usually applied as manure may cause the trouble. Naturally we cannot be of much assistance in this, because we do not know what manures you have applied and the type of soil on which your trees are growing. You will probably be able to say whether it is a question of water shortage, and if you are sure that this is not the cause of the trouble you could try and find out what chemical is required. We would suggest that you try a dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard, as potash shortage is often the cause of the trouble.

Colour instead of glaring white wall

(J. W. M.).—Keen's cement applied very thinly over the surface of a plastered wall will result in a soft pink finish, and is used where an extra fine finish is desirable. Or you may use red or other coloured ochre in your plaster when mixing to produce the desired result. This is easily obtainable from builders or builders' merchants.

Destroying worms in crazy paving

(A. N.).—Worm destroyer, used at the rate of half a pound to each square yard and watered in, will bring the worms rapidly to the surface, where they soon die. Water must be given until all the destroyer has disappeared. This should in no way damage the plants. Worm destroyer is offered by most horticultural sundriesmen, and may be obtained from Messrs. Willis Bros., Harpenden, Herts., who would send you their price list.

Ornamental Grasses to grow in a herbaceous border

(R. E. T.).—Apera arundinacea, Spartina cynosuroides, Eulalia japonica zebrina, Elymus glaucus, Eulalia gracillima, E. japonica fol. striata, Dactylis glomerata elegantissima, Stipa calamagrostis, S. elegantissima, Gymnothrix latifolia, Aira cæspitosa.

SHORT REPLY

L. S. O.—Cratægus Crus-galli (Cockspur Thorn): Yes, this beautiful and distinct Thorn should, with cultivation, grow well on a Welsh mountain unsheltered and 700 feet above sea. It is, in fact, one of the hardiest and most thriving of a very hardy race.

NAMES OF PLANTS

D. J. M., Inverness-shire.—Scleranthus perennis. A British wild plant known commonly as Knawel.

H. M. Jenner.—Chrysanthemum faded when it came to hand, but is, probably, Little Bob.

"*Regular Reader,*" *Carlisle.* — Chrysanthemums: 1, Lichfield Purple; 2, Dolores. There are quite a number of colours among the Pompon Chrysanthemums, including several shades of yellow, bronze, pink, deep red, cerise, claret, blush, white, etc.

C. W. L.—5, Tunica saxifraga; 6, Sempervivum arachnoideum (Cobweb House Leek); 7, Thymus serphyllum lanuginosa; 8, not recognised; 9, Achillea serbica.

O. M. R.—T, Cotoneaster Simonsii; U, C. Simonsii; W, Berberis aristata; X, B. sanguinea; V, not recognised (must have berries); Y, Berberis vulgaris; W. B. Wallichiana.

Alice Wright.—1, Chrysanthemum Little Bob; 2, Berberis vulgaris; 3, Lonicera nitida, the flowers of which are small, inconspicuous, and of little interest.

A. S. Norris.—1, Stachys lanata; 2, Erigeron speciosa, probably a better example desirable; 3, Sedum lydium; 4, Geranium ibericum.

H. Mills.—1, Veronica cataracta; 2, Androsace lanuginosa; 3, Parochetus communis (Shamrock Pea); 4, Veronica Bidwillii lilacina.

D. L. Carver.—Cratægus azarolus.

R. E. T.—Grasses: 1, The variegated one may be Phalaris elegantissima, specimen insufficient; 2, Stipa pennata.

NAME OF FRUIT

A. J. B. B., Cirencester. — Cornish Aromatic.

LATE NOTES

Mr. A. Hughes

We learn that Mr. A. Hughes has taken over the nurseries and will trade as A. Hughes and Son, Hardy Plant Specialists, Sundridge Nurseries, Sutton Green, near Guildford, for the purpose of specialising in rare hardy and half-hardy trees and shrubs, Alpines, and herbaceous plants. Previous to starting on his own account, Mr. Hughes was manager for Messrs. Gauntlett and Co., Chiddingfold, Surrey, 2½ years, and previous to that 20 years with R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., Tunbridge Wells. His early training was obtained in the Royal Gardens, Windsor, and Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. Mr. Hughes has our good wishes for the success of his new venture.

A lecture on Cyclamens

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Gardeners' and Horticultural Mutual Improvement Association was favoured with a visit from Mr. E. R. Janes, of Messrs. Sutton and Sons, of Reading, who gave a most interesting lecture on the cultivation of Cyclamen on the evening of October 29th. The lecture, which was illustrated by lantern slides, was very much appreciated by a very large number of members, as Cyclamens are very popular plants amongst the gardeners of the district, and many fine specimens have been shown at meetings on various occasions.

Special mention should also be made of the wonderful collection of fruit staged on this occasion in competition for the Bunyard Medals, Mr. H. E. Kemp being placed first, with Mr. H. Lazell a good second.

Chrysanthemums were also very good, some very fine blooms being staged b
R. Macdonald, gardener to Sir D
Watson, Bart.

Perhaps the most attractive exhibit
room was the splendid collection of
tables (nine varieties) shown by M
Charman, of Groombridge Place.
were of splendid quality.

Feeling reference was made by the
man to the sad loss this Associatio
sustained by the death of Mr. W. H
Tonbridge, one of this Association's
members.

OBITUARY

MRS. CHARLES FREDERICK HOFFMAN

The death is recorded at King's
of Mrs. Charles Frederick Hof
formerly of New York. The dec
lady was well known around New
through her activities in garden club c
In 1916 she was President of the Interna
Garden Club, and was instrumental i
inauguration of what was believed to b
first open air summer flower show on a
scale ever held in America. Mrs. Hof
took up residence in England about 10
ago, purchasing the Norfolk residence o
Marquis of Lothian. She continued her
interest in horticulture, making her
gardens famous. In June, 1921, she ac
panied the Prince of Wales at the openi
the horticultural show at Norwich, b
President of the Norwich and Norfolk
cultural Society. In the recent electio
was a candidate for Parliament, but ma
unsuccessful fight against the present L
Minister of Agriculture.

MR. F. HANSON

East Anglia has lost another of her
old gardeners by the decease of M
Hanson, who had charge of Somerle
Hall Gardens for many years. He rec
his early training at Welbeck Abbey
carried the high cultural traditions of
establishment to Somerleyton. In fo
years he was a Trojan of the exhibi
especially in the early days of the l
flowering Japanese Chrysanthemums.

At all local horticultural gatherings
could not but notice the bond of frien
of the trio, Wm. Allan, Herbert Oclee,
Fred Hanson, all of whom have no
parted, but their work and memory wil
on.

AYTCH P

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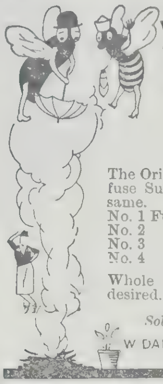

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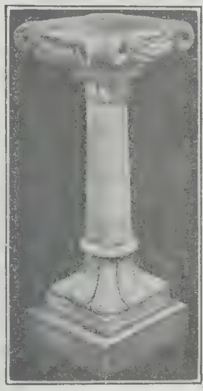

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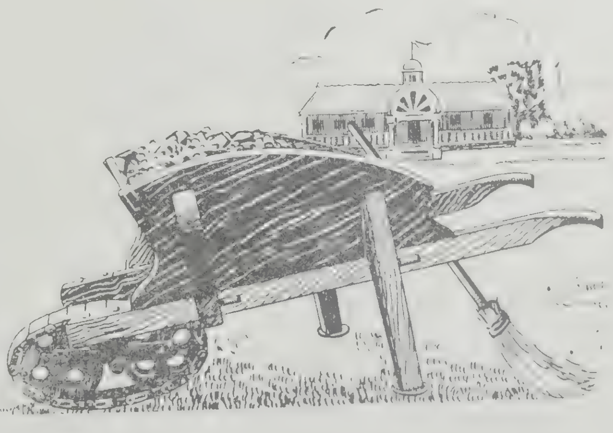

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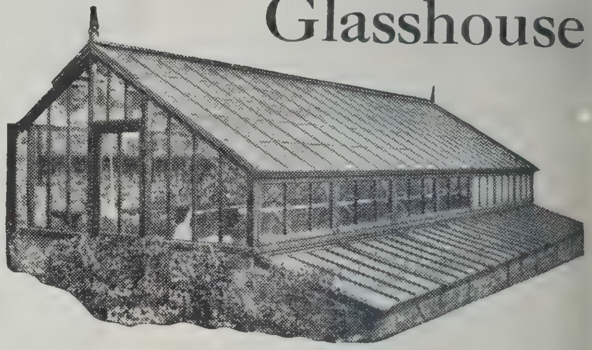

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LI.—No. 2645 Saturday, November 16, 1929 TWOPENCE

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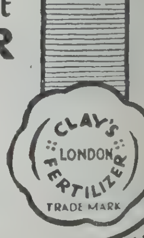

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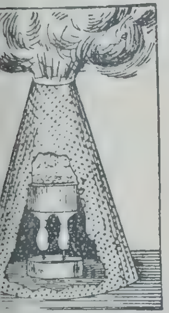

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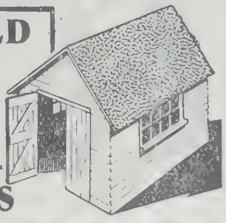

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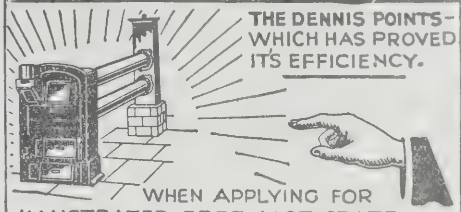

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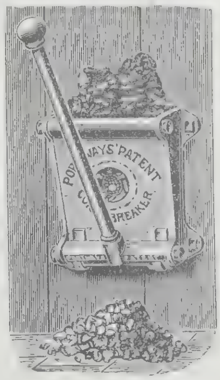

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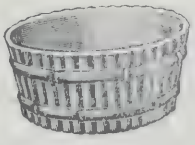

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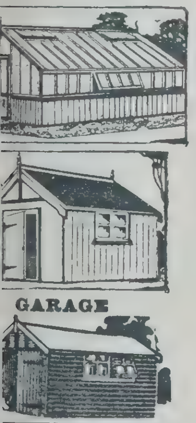

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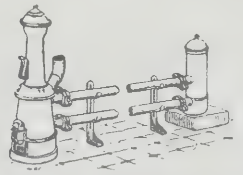

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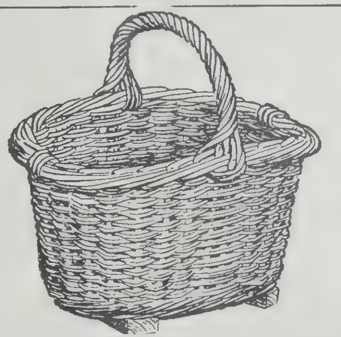

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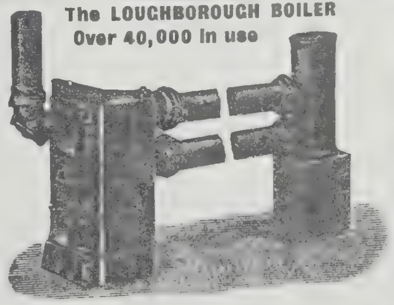

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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How to Grow Cox's Orange Pippin

a season of the year when many
eople are commencing to enjoy their
ox's Orange Pippins and others are
g that they had them, it is profitable
erve how they are most surely obtained.
ders have, in the past, been kept well
ed of the best methods to do this, yet
ill hears people say, "I cannot grow
Orange."
le this variety can fruit on its own
if the weather is suitable, it has a far
chance to set its flowers if cross
ed or cross pollinated with another
of Apple. No one would attempt to
chickens without a male bird, and
gh the case for Cox's
e Pippin is not so strong,
omewhat similar.
d varieties to cross-pollin-
x's Orange Pippin are
the following:—
m Beauty, Jas. Grieve,
Worcester Pearmain,
varieties, or any of the
ng kitchen varieties:—
g Castle, Lane's Prince
Golden Spire. Either of
st three varieties are
which will produce
lmost every year without

e are, it is true, other
which count in the suc-
production of England's
Apple—the best Apple in
rld. For a small garden
on the dwarfing Paradise
ock is better than one
Crab root stock for soils
are cold, or wet clay. A
any shape may be grown
Paradise root stock
a standard. That is to
at a bush or a pyramid
espalier, or horizontal-
tree, fan-shaped for
fence, are all suitable
for the Cox's Orange
on Paradise root stock.
photograph of a well-
spur of Cox's Orange
speaks for itself. It
that when cross-pollin-
is variety fruits freely.
mber of fruits is just to
trate the result which
obtained, but to secure
specimens they should
een thinned in June to
number that have been
to develop. The fruits
own on a Bush tree on
adise root stock.

Cox's Orange Pippin

A bunch of fruit showing result of cross pollination

Since money will often not buy the quality of fruit which one can grow in one's own garden, the money spent on half a dozen trees is well invested, but it has been shown that one will secure more fruit from *five* Cox's Orange trees and at least one of the varieties (it is safer still to have two) from those mentioned above, than if one had six trees alone of Cox's Orange Pippin.

A Word on Pruning.

It should never be forgotten that more trees are spoilt through over pruning than by neglect. One should know why one prunes. A tree is pruned to keep it with some young growth coming on, but if one prunes too much we get a superabundance of young growth and too few fruit spurs. If we do not prune at all we secure too many fruit buds and the tree becomes stunted.

The proper method is to prune according to the need of the tree. If it makes a lot of new growth the leading shoots should only be pruned lightly (say, one-third only of the young wood should be cut back). If the tree is making little growth the leading shoots may be cut from one-half to two-thirds back. If side growth become long one prunes these back to about six eyes in the case of the Cox's Orange Pippin, but varieties like Irish Peach and those which fruit on the points of the shoots must, of course, not be cut or pruned in this way.

On poor soils, or where the trees are fruiting heavily, it pays to mulch the roots. For a tree of moderate size 2 ounces or 3 ounces of sulphate of potash lightly hoed in during the spring or early summer and the soil around the roots lightly mulched with some material, preferably stable manure (or even leaves if nothing else is available), must assist the tree and serve the dual purpose of feeding the tree and preventing exhaustion, which, in turn, produces biannual fruiting, also keeps the roots to the upper strata of soil. Cox's Orange Pippin succeeds better when its roots are not penetrating into lower wet subsoils.

Many people spend more trouble on growing Cabbages than Apples, but a little attention to the latter is well worth while.

Other varieties of really good flavour even if not quite so good as Cox's Orange are Langley Pippin and Irish Peach, to be eaten from the tree in August, Miller's Seedling, James Grieve, Red Coat Grieve, Ellison's Orange for September and October, with Laxton's Superb and Saltcote Pippin to follow after the Cox's Orange in the early year. Lord Hindlip and King's Acre Pippin, both keep crisp until March and April. All of these make a fine sequence and keep us supplied for many months in the year.

For those who like colour in

fruit it may be mentioned that there is now a sport of Cox's Orange Pippin available and named Crimson Cox. In every respect except colour this is the same as the original, but, being new, costs a little more to obtain. LAWRENCE J. COOK.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

British Carnation Society

The Society's Autumn Floral Meeting will be held at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall on November 20th and 21st and Annual Dinner on November 20th. Visitors to these functions are reminded that the railway companies offer cheap fares to London on these dates from many centres. Members of the British Carnation Society and visitors should avail themselves of these facilities where possible. Further information supplied by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. W. Alesworth, 17, Avenue Road, Isleworth, or from the railway companies.

The Potato crop

In most districts the bulk of the Potato crop had been secured under favourable conditions by the end of the month. Reports indicate that the crop is of good quality and generally free from disease, although the tubers are on the small side. The yield per acre over the whole country is forecasted at 6·5 tons, which, although ⅖ ton per acre above the average for the previous ten years, is nearly ¾ ton below the record yield per acre in 1928. The total production from an acreage 30,000 acres greater than last year is forecasted at 3,350,000 tons, or 163,000 tons less than in 1928 and 265,000 tons above the ten years' average.

Outdoor Rose blooms

Messrs. Benjamin R. Cant and Sons, Ltd., The Old Rose Gardens, Colchester, were again honoured this year by supplying cut Roses for decoration at the Lord Mayor's Banquet, Guildhall, held November 9th. The Roses supplied were all cut from open fields, and some of the varieties sent so late in the season were Mrs. Beatty, Etoile de Hollande, Emma Wright, Mme. Butterfly, Ophelia, Los Angeles, Diana Cant, Shot Silk, and Padre. The fact that Roses are cut from June to November shows the great floriferousness of the modern varieties.

Pyracantha angustifolia

Apparently this shrub is not so well known as the other members of the genus, probably due to the fact that it is rather tender in the open ground. In the warmer and more favoured parts of the country, however, it succeeds very well against a wall. I have tried it in various situations and aspects in this district (Midlands), but with only partial success. Although it survives, flowers, and bears fruit, it grows very slowly, and makes little headway, but it has never appeared entirely happy under the conditions prevailing here. Where it can be induced to grow, it is certainly worth while, and merits attention.

P. angustifolia is an evergreen shrub, hailing from W. China. Its height is stated to be 10 feet to 12 feet, of a dense spreading, bushy habit, with rigid, horizontal branches, often spine-tipped, covered the first year with a thick, grey down. It has narrow, oblong, or slightly obovate leaves, ½ inch to 2¼ inches long, smooth, dark green above, covered beneath with grey felt. Its white flowers are produced in corymbs about 2 inches across. The fruit is a brilliant orange-yellow colour when ripe, flattened at the top, and covered with grey down when young, as in the case of the young shoots. It is valuable for the length of time it retains its berries in full beauty, often until March. J. L.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Lilium canadense and its geographical distribution

IN your issue of November 2nd there is an interesting article (page 739) on Lilium canadense. I can confirm all that was there said on it.

Our friend, however, does not give anything like the whole of its geographical distribution, as it is found throughout Canada, even into Subarctic regions. A very beautiful form is found in Saskatchewan, which my daughter found growing in the marshy sides of Crystal Lake, in Central Saskatchewan, which is a sort of holiday resort for people in that neighbourhood, and again near Edmonton, where it stands 50 degs. below zero.

Another interesting plant found in those regions, near the great White Trail (which was the migration path of the bison, and where there are thousands of their bones bleaching on the prairies), is the Canadian Cactus, a species of Opuntia, which evidently preserves itself from the terrific below-zero weather by attracting dead leaves and grasses on its spines, which make a veritable nest about it. This must also stand easily 50 degs. below zero, and a succulent at that. One thinks usually of Cacti as denizens of terrifically hot zones. This species is a last northern remnant of a tropical flora which once covered all the northern portions of America. Coal found on the Arctic Islands and Bread-fruit trees in the Greenland fossils are evidences of this phase of our earth's life.

J. HENRY WATSON, F.E.S.

Manchester.

Lilium canadense

Native of sub-arctic regions

Apple Allington Pippin

I quite agree with all that "A Scottish Gardener" says about the above Apple, which I consider one of the best cropping varieties we have. One thing the writer omits to mention is that it is an excell
culinary variety, as well as a dessert, and
a Christmas Apple, when it has been corre
gathered and harvested, it is one of the
flavoured. To grow them well the trees m
be kept clean, otherwise they are apt to
come attacked with leaf spit and the f
scabby and cracked. Another import
factor is to thin the fruit well in its you
stages. I have had dealings with this Ap
for many years in various parts of Wales
England, and have never known it to
in anything like an Apple season. The sa
applies to Worcester Pearmain, which is c
demned by many, although it always m
with a ready sale during September.

W. E. WRIGH

Salvia uliginosa in winter

Here—near Uckfield, Sussex—Sal
uliginosa survived last winter in a so
border with the roots well covered with as
and has increased greatly, sending roots in
directions. DELTA

Borders of annuals

Having sown two long borders of annu
last summer I was interested to read y
correspondent's letter from North Ridi
since he failed with Viscaria, as out of
following annuals Viscaria with me was
only failure: Calendula, Phacelia, Cuph
Linaria, Mignonette, Mallow, Annual Chr
anthemum, Aster, Candytuft, Matthi
bicornis, Dimorphotheca, Eschscholt
Godetia, Gypsophila, Argemone, Coreop
Nigella lupinus, Cornflower, and Dra
cephalum. A. P. CLOW

Dorking.

Colour in a Devon garden

I venture to send a few notes from a sm
Devon garden.

What a wonderful summer and autu
this has been for flower, foliage, and be
As I write (November 8th), Heliotro
fibrous Begonias, Dahlias, and Chrysant
mums are as good as ever. The only pl
the frost has touched is Clerodend
fœtidum.

Fuchsias of all kinds are wonderful, as
Belladonna Lilies. One of the best "doer
this autumn has been Ceratostigma W
motti; they are still fine.

In the rock garden there are good mas
of Agathœa celeste, which has given me m
bloom than any plant we have, and is s
smothered. Another fine thing is Convolvu
cneorum—crowded with white trump
above its silvery foliage. Diplacus coccir
is still making a grand display—big bush
Othonna crassulifolia is forming cascades
yellow—a fine thing for sink gardens, e
Both varieties of Schizostylus brighten up t
garden, and now several of the dw
Heaths, including King George, are in flow
We have not been very happy with Gentia
but sino-ornatus is giving a display.

Shrubs in flower are Genista fragrans
which is seldom out of bloom—Cas
corymbosa, a good thing, and Abe
rupestris. Grevillea rosmarinifolia is a brig
shrub which will keep on for months.

Among shrubs with coloured leaves t
finest is Berberis Thunbergi—this stands
as the finest bit of colour in the gard
Azaleas, the Tulip Tree, Enkianthus ca
panulatus, Viburnum Carlesii, Rhus Cotin
atropurpurea, Senecio Greyi, and Teucri
latifolia give us wonderful colours.

All berry-bearing trees have done we

nmia Japonica is dazzling, and will ren so all the winter. Pyracantha tægus) is the finest and neatest of all bers, and is loaded with berries.

H. L. Wall.

Craigston," Exmouth.

Ceratostigma plumbaginoides

is generally recognised that good blue ers are scarce in the garden, and, as the ur is very popular, it behoves gardeners eize on every really first-rate blue flower can be found. The subject of this note deal for the sunny parts of the rock len. It is a perennial, of a pleasing habit rowth, and in autumn it bears a profusion vely blue flowers. I am writing this note November 9th, on which date Ceratona plumbaginoides is worth looking at in garden. It rejoices in a sandy loam, and d that it is essential in the interests of a constitution to transplant the stock every l year. The present is a suitable time to he work. Anybody who desires to en- e his colonies of the species can do so by ling the roots, a process which does not arrass the plant in the least.

earson Park, Hull. G. H. C.

The Fairy Oak at Holywell

ENCLOSE a photograph of this very fine ld Oak tree in my garden. It is alled "The Fairy Oak." The girth 3 feet n the ground is 22½ feet, and it is in a good state of preservation, as you will from the photograph. Pennant in his istory of Whitford and Holywell," ten in the 18th century, describes it thus: spreading Oak of great antiquity, size, extent of branches; it has got the name Fairy Oak. In this my century, a poor ager, who lived near the spot, had a child grew uncommonly peevish. The parents buted this to the fairies and imagined it was a changeling. They took the child, it in a cradle, and left it all night beneath tree, in the hopes that the tylwydd teg, airy family, or fairy folk, would restore own child before morning. When morncame they found the child perfectly quiet, vent away with it quite confirmed in their ef." Perhaps the readers of Gardening strated would be interested in the photoh of the tree and this account of it.

he Tower, Downing, L. B. Butler.
Holywell, N. Wales

The Fairy Oak at Holywell

Autumn flowers

ay I venture to protest against the dull ormity of Michaelmas Daisies or Dahlias our autumn garden? There really are r plants that can be used by those who y care for their autumn show. Last ter was a severe one, as we all know, and nsias were cut down to the ground in t places, but did that interfere with their vth and profuse flowering? On the con- , I think they were more beautiful than . That charming sub-shrub Ceratostigma mottiana suffered like the Fuchsias, yet, them, it was a mass of brilliant blue er-heads in September and October, ng an impression of spring beauty rior to any autumn Gentian, however tiful in itself. The white Crinum elli was fuller of flower than I ever saw but it does not last later than mid- ember. Still, it is a grand thing in flower foliage, and requires no very special care. here are now good Multiflora Roses, both e and pink, that can be depended upon an autumnal show, and deep reds also those that prefer them. Roëd Hatte is aps the most perpetual of them, if not most beautiful.

hat best of Olearias, O. Olæifolia, must not be forgotten, as it blooms gaily on into October, and has such a spring-like green in its leafage that it is specially welcome.

I have in my mind a big border planted with irregular lines of Fuchsias gracilis and Riccartoni, interlacing one another, and allowing the F. Riccartoni to stand, if not cut down by frost, but always cutting down F. gracilis; towards the front the Multiflora Roses and good masses of Ceratostigma, broken now and again by that most indispensable of hardy Fuchsias, the white corollated Mr. Cornellisen, which I am glad to think my good friend Miss Jekyll has kept from oblivion. There are other good varieties no doubt, but its upright habit is especially valuable. Silver-leaved Cineraria Maritima and the Crinum Powelli can be grouped judiciously in places and Olearia and Arbutus in the background if bigger plants are desired.

I do not think I ever saw a more engaging border in October than one where I saw Fuchsia Cornellisen, Ceratostigma, and white Multiflora Roses prettily grouped; no doubt it would be very flowerless in summer, but in a fair-sized garden its spring-like effect in autumn is well worth waiting for, and a suitable place found for it. There are several autumn-flowering Lilies worth a place in this border, and the good old Lilium Auratum is worth planting. It is thought not hardy, but that is not really the case. The reason is that it is a perennial rooting bulb, and the Japanese, for convenience in packing, cut off all the roots. In consequence of this, the first year's flower buds must be cut off as soon as they show, as the bulb does not make any new roots till autumn. So if it is allowed to flower that first year, the bulb dies of exhaustion, and that is the secret of its future existence, not its want of hardiness. Shelter and a light soil are desirable, but it will survive in anything but the stiffest and most calcareous of soils, and enjoys the shelter of Fuchsias. Edward H. Woodall.

Patrinia palmata

There is more variety among the later-flowering rock garden plants than many suppose, and, with care in the selection, it is possible to prolong the bloom considerably. A genus which contains several suitable plants for flowering into September and even later is that of Patrinia, one nearly allied to the Valerians, but, in most of the species, giving yellow flowers. Not many of these species are grown, and few are offered by the trade. There is a considerable resemblance among them, but one which may be taken as representative of the best is P. palmata, appropriately named because of the palmate character of the leaves, which are also pleasing with their glossy surface. The individual flowers are small, but are arranged in heads which make quite a pleasing effect, although not a showy one. P. palmata grows from 6 inches to 9 inches in height, and is well suited for the rock garden. According to some, it should have a rather cool position in the rock garden, and may even be grown in a sunny bog. I am not sure that I can recommend these places in preference to a moraine, where it grows and flowers well, although not so tall as in the other places. P. palmata is quite hardy, and may be increased by division or raised from seeds. P. rupestris and P. villosa are also good species, but I am not aware that they are offered either in plants or seeds. S. Arnott.

Pancratium illyricum

This delightful bulbous plant is tolerably hardy, except in the colder districts. The bulbs require deep planting in a well-drained loam soil, suitably enriched, and when established, should not be distributed until division and replanting become imperative; a little protection during winter is advisable. A border at the base of a south or south-west wall or near a greenhouse will provide an excellent site for this plant; the flowers are produced in summer, and the broad, strongly-veined leaves are deciduous. The height of a plant in flower is about 8 inches. Division or removal of the bulbs is best effected soon after the decay of the leaves. One other species suited to gardens in mild districts is P. maritimum, a larger plant of equal merit. Offsets afford a means of increase, and, as occasion requires, they may be separated from the parent bulbs and placed in a rather dry, light soil. These two Pancratiums are ideal plants for a cold greenhouse where, if grown in pots, they require a well-defined period of rest.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Linaria origanifolia

In his interesting and informative article on "October Flowers in a North-East Yorkshire Garden," Mr. Lofthouse mentions Linaria origanifolia as among other Linarias in his garden. I am pleased to see that this finds a place there, as this plant is not at all a common one, although easily raised from seeds, and, although a little tender, often reproduces itself from self-sown seeds. It is quite a good plant, as I found when I first grew it more than 30 years ago, although not a very showy one, and I was horrified to find that, according to Farrer, its proper name is Chænorrhinum origanifolium, a title which is hardly likely to be adopted in gardens in view of its cumbrous specific designation. It is said to be variable in its native habitats in the Pyrenees, but from purchased seeds it was quite constant with me. It grows to a height of 6 inches, or a little more at times, and has an abundance of dark green leaves on a shapely plant, and is dowered with a profusion of rose-purple flowers of the Linaria form for a long time in summer and autumn. Although Farrer tells us it is both perennial and hardy, he adds that it is not so in "very damp, low, and stagnant soils." He advocates stony soil and full sun, but I have lost it occasionally, when plants were old, in severe winters, and had to rely upon self-sown seedlings, which often come in sunny positions on rock-work. I am thinking of trying it on the moraine, where it should do admirably and live longer than in the rock garden. It is a very distinct and attractive subject.

S. ARNOTT.

Daffodils in New Zealand

Mr. Guy Wilson, of Daffodil fame, had a great reception when he reached New Zealand, and his visit is causing much interest among growers. On the Auckland Railway station platform he was met by Mr. N. R. W. Thomas, of the New Zealand Institute of Horticulture, Mr. J. H. Braithwaite, on behalf of the National Daffodil Society of New Zealand, and Mr. A. E. Grindrod, representing the Auckland Horticultural Society. Mr. H. Poole, the well-known Wellington grower, accompanied Mr. Wilson.

THE RED CUP POPULAR.

Speaking on the trend of hybridising in the Old Country—hybridising being his specialty —Mr. Wilson said the growers were very strong on the red cup. The red cups were very popular at shows, probably because they were showy, and some of them were very good market flowers. Personally, he did not think many of them were very good garden plants, because they faded in the sun. The yellows and whites were better for the garden. The red cups were suitable for the market because they could be cut while opening, which was a great advantage when they had to be sent to a distance.

From what he had seen he was inclined to think that in the purity of the whites the English Daffodils were superior to those he had seen in New Zealand. It seemed to him that it took the English bulbs some five or six years to become acclimatised before they were able to show their best form. The Daffodil was a hardy fellow and liked a winter, so it was possible the milder climate of New Zealand was not so suitable. In Mr. Poole's garden at the Lower Hutt, N.Z., Mr. Wilson saw some Poetaz Glorius raised by Mr. J. C. Williams, of Cornwall, which were doing very well indeed. Glorious was going t one of their best market flowers at Hom

While in Auckland, Mr. Wilson was lo after by the Institute of Horticulture and horticultural societies and well shown aro Among the entertainments in his honour a complimentary lunch held at the Farm Trading Company's rooms, the insti officials being the hosts. Mr. Wilson jud at the Auckland Daffodil Show.

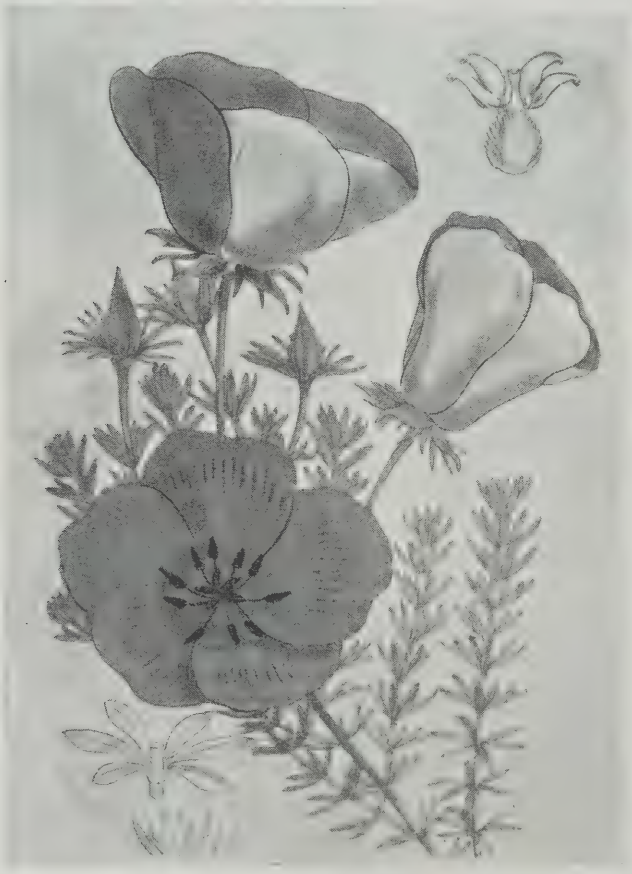
The Spanish Broom

There is something delightfully refresh about the Spanish Broom (Spart junceum). Its golden-yellow blossoms w are so freely produced in summer-time s to bring the atmosphere of the moorland the garden. The shrub has a graceful h of growth which harmonizes well with scheme of planting, and I do not hesitat recommend readers to insert it during coming planting season. I have found th position in full sunlight is necessary in o to assist the Spanish Broom to develop fl ferous stems, and the roots appreciat moderately rich soil. One good bucketfu farmyard manure should be incorporated w the medium around the roots at plant time.

G. H.

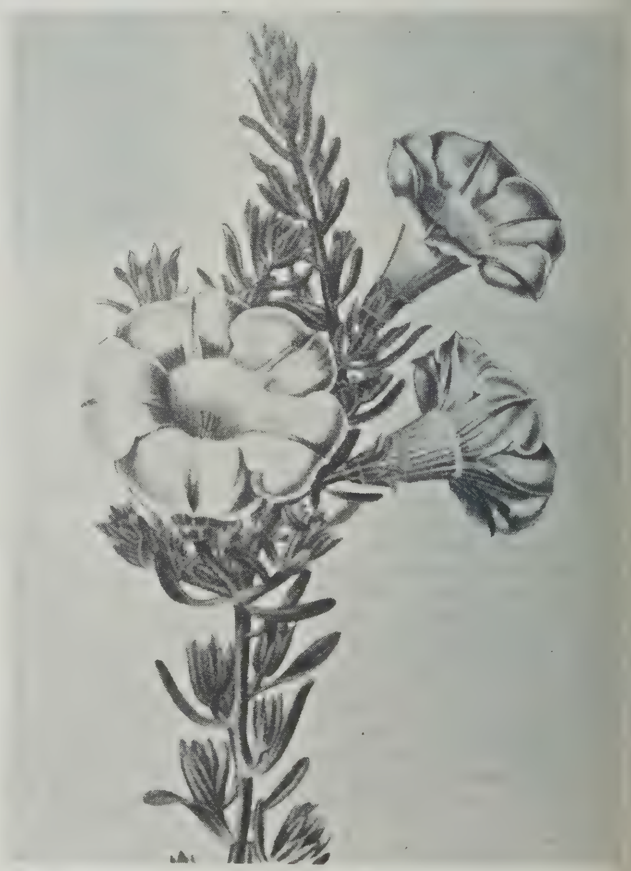
Saving seeds of trees and shrubs

The raising of these is a profitable and fascinating occupation, and one full of s prises, as one is never quite certain that so thing of an unusual nature is not likely appear among a batch of seedlings. The la are also more vigorous than cutting pla therefore, gather a few sprays of favou Berberis for seed, also Rose Heps, Clema Spindle trees (Euonymus), Hollies, the g geous American Thorns, Viburnums, Hon suckles, Vines, Magnolias, Sorbus, a Aronia, and raise them at home.



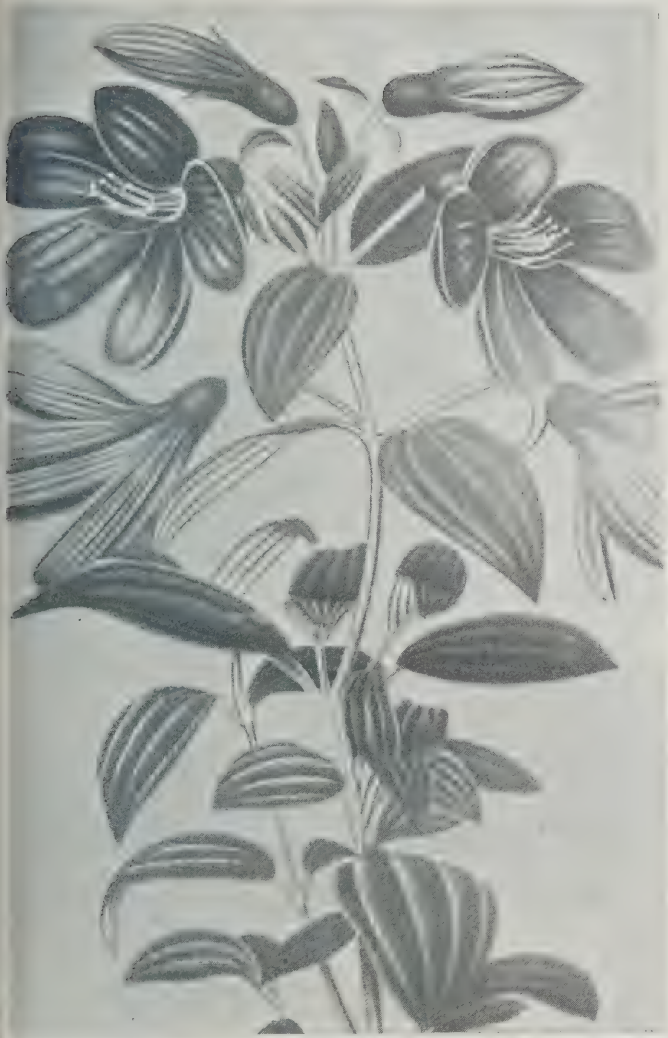
Balbisia verticillata from Chili, flowers golden yellow

From "Bot. Mag.," tab. 6,170



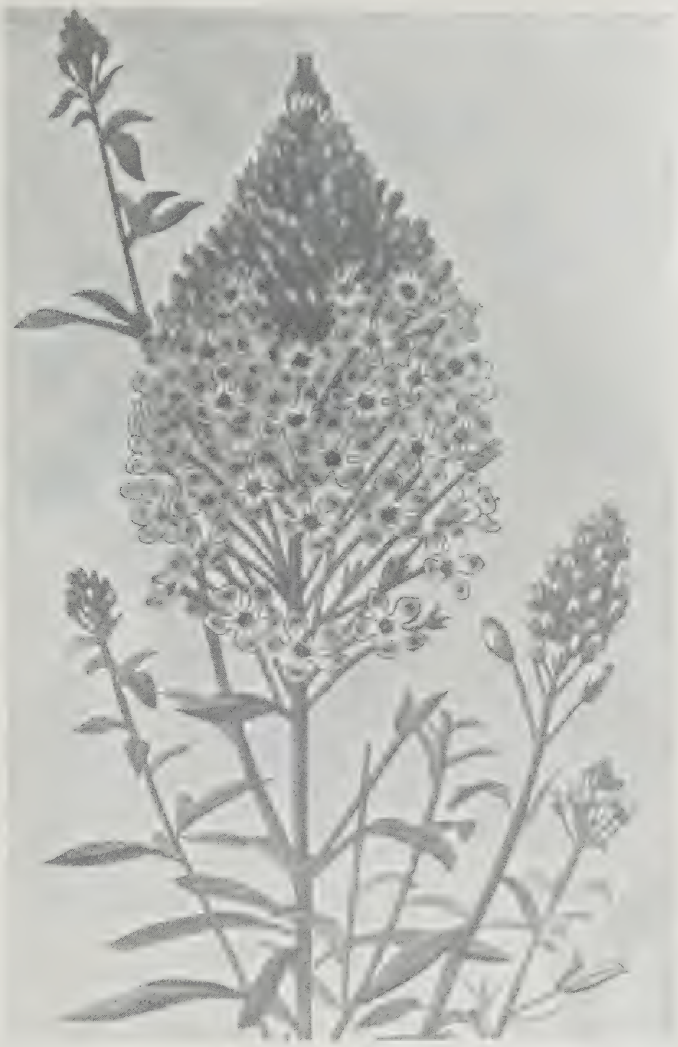
Alona cœlestis, with large bell-shaped blue flowers

From "Flore des Serres"



Chætogastra Lindenia, the most resplendent of plants, flowers brilliant crimson

From "Flore des Serres"



Lysimachia Leschenaultii, flowers carmine—perhaps the most brilliant member of the genus

From "Flore des Serres"

Sit Down and Travel—III.

By T. Hay, V.M.H., Superintendent, Hyde Park

All readers will join in welcoming this further instalment from Mr. Hay—it is the third annual article we have had from him on this interesting topic. In this article the author deals with many desirable and long lost plants in Chili, Colombia, United States, Neilgherry Hills, and a most wonderful Gentian under the title G. coronata, in the Himalayas

HE Editor is of opinion that another instalment under the old title "Sit Down ind Travel" in due, in spite of the com- t made by a correspondent who wrote to hat the title was misleading, and sug- d that future articles should be headed t Up and Work." The suggestion comes a restless, energetic spirit, quite differ- in character from the home-staying onse Karr whose most entertaining book nally provided the title.

e have just turned back the clock and the evenings are again with us. It is the time to set forth on our travels, and we in the hope that they will be as enjoy- and fruitful as our previous trips, for resulted in a number of long-lost plants restored to our gardens. Among them uite a few which have been laureated by Royal Horticultural Society, and there are al that have not yet reached flowering , though they are here, so proof of the om of the late Canon Ellacombe, who d strongly that a list of all good plants lost ought to be prepared and efforts e to restore them to cultivation, is now rent.

t us first go to Chili. At this season it ought to be pleasant, and here we may assist Mr. Clarence Elliott in his search for Balbisia verticillata, which is beautifully figured in the "Bot. Mag." at tab. 6,170. It is shrubby in habit, and bears very large golden yellow Fremontia-like flowers. It was originally introduced by Messrs. J. Veitch and Sons, and is the Flore de San Jose of the Chilians. It grows at about 10,000 feet altitude in both Chili and Peru.

In volume one of "Flore des Serres," there is figured the handsome Alona cœlestis, an attractive sub shrub, with very large bell-shaped blue flowers. There are several figures of this fine plant in the older books, and one can well imagine the interest this would create when before the Royal Horticultural Society Floral Committee.

In volume ten of the same work there is shown an illustration of Viola cappilaris, the seeds of which came by accident in the soil accompanying some Chilean plants which arrived in Belgium as far back as 1855. It looks a gem for the rock garden, a stiff, erect little plant, adorned with about 20 small round-shaped blue flowers like a near relative of the Spanish V. arborea.

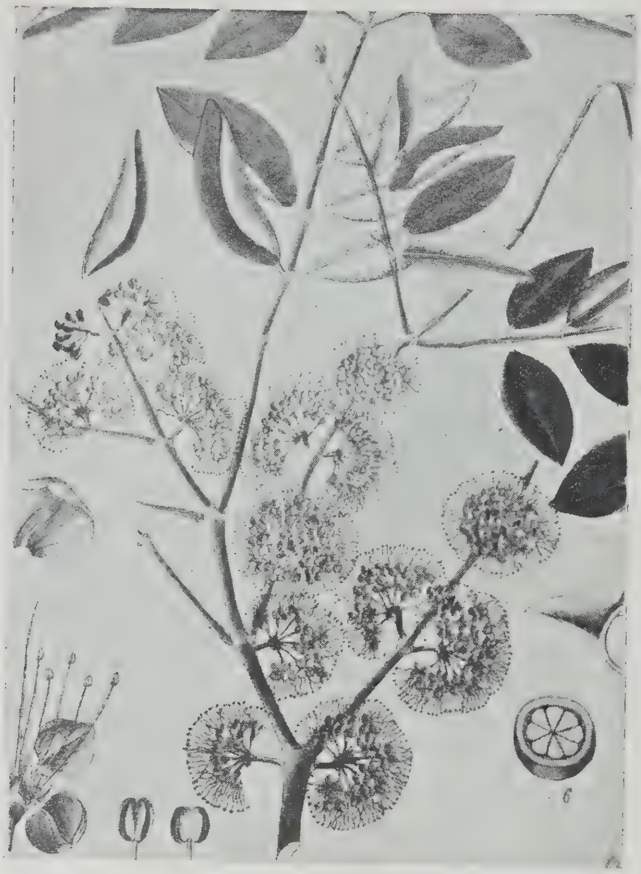
From Chili we must get to Colombia, that paradise of the Orchid hunter, though we will leave the opulent cultivators of these plants to do their own collecting. Here grows Cupanea grandiflora, a plant that would be certain to create some stir. It looks from the figure in volume five of "Flore des Serres" like a giant Gloxinia set on long stems. The immense flowers are white, thickly spotted with pink—a most noble member of the Nat. Ord. Gesneracea.

Then there is Chaetogastra Lindenia, the most resplendent of plants. Its portrait in volume ten of "Flore des Serres," tab. 1,011, should be inspected, it will make us all more determined to secure seeds. Its flowers are of rich, deep crimson, elegantly disposed on stiff branches, altogether a superb plant, inhabiting a very inhospitable region at a high elevation. It should require little in the way of heat or protection.

South America is so rich in plant treasures that one might linger there with profit over many days, but as there is much ground to travel we will only make one more stop to collect seeds of the lovely variegated-leaved Alstromeria argenteo vittata. This curious plant originally came from the neighbourhood of Rio, and would be well worth re-introducing, for there are among us gardeners who love the curious as well as the beautiful and this Alstromeria ought to please both. It is figured in volume fourteen of "Flore des Serres."

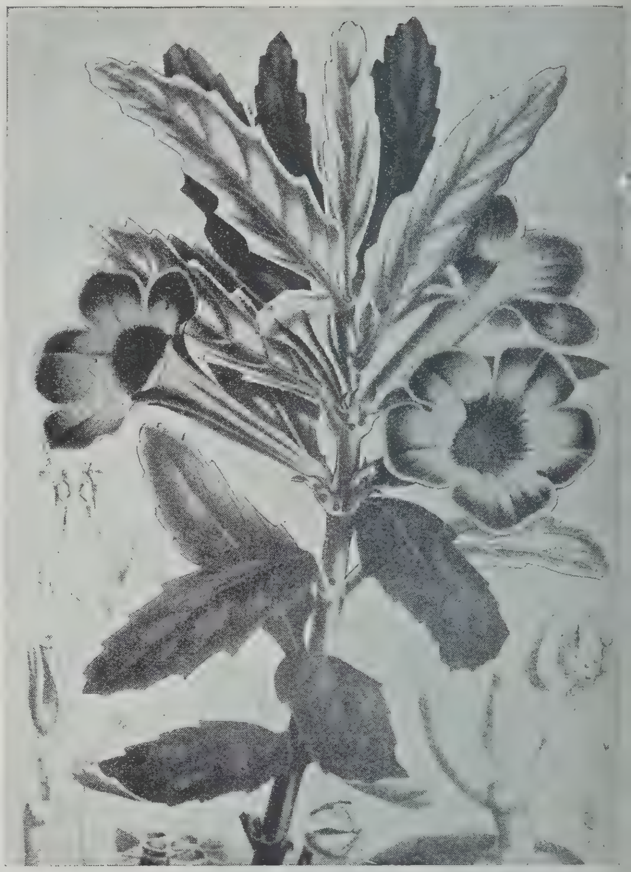
From South America to the United States—for here those that insist on their plants being hardy will assuredly find them.

It will not be possible to quote illustrations



Memecyton tinctorium, a singular looking shrub bearing clusters of lovely blue flowers

From Wight's "Illustrations of Indian Botany"



Pterodiscus speciosus, a stove plant with handsome red flowers

From "Bot. Mag." for 1844

of what we want in the States. Whether they exist or not I cannot say until the new Pritzel can be consulted. We must, therefore, depend on the descriptions to be found in the "Floras." We will separate and each will collect his favourite genera. Utah must be visited, for in the desert there is to be found Arctomecon Mirriami, a pretty Poppywort with lovely foliage and yellow or white flowers. Its seed pod is remarkable, and it is the only Poppy with persistent petals. Seeds of this ought to be at once forwarded to Burford, for Sir William Lawrence has provided an ideal site for this plant in his new desert garden.

A look out must be kept in Utah for Pentstemon Parryi, one of the gems of this fine family. The "Floras" only give as a habitat for Lathyrus ornatus "the foothills of the Rockies." A glance at the map will show that this means a considerable walk, but this Pea is said to justify its high-sounding specific name well.

In the Yosemite Valley is to be found Lewisia Yosemitana, said to be the most attractive member of this lovely genus. Another plant that ought to be in cultivation is the white flowered form of Gilia Californica, which is occasionally found among the masses of the typical pink or rose, but it is rare even in its native home.

In Idaho there are many lovely Mertensias. Some of the Alpine species are very small and dainty, particularly M. pulchella and M. Horneri. There are many good things in Idaho.

In Dakota there are silvery leaved Lupins of great beauty. Pentstemon grandiflora is plentiful there and Rumex venosus, which the botanists describe as more like a choice Begonia than a Dock, should also be collected.

From the United States to the Neilgherry Hills—for here is to be found a rare treasure in Lysimachia Leschenaultii, perhaps the most beautiful member of the genus. The writer in "Flore des Serres," who describes this plant, becomes enthusiastic over it, and refers to it as "encore une plante d'élite." It bears large heads of brilliant carmine flowers, and the plant is beautifully figured in volume ten.

In Wight's "Illustrations of Indian Botany," volume one, tab. 93, there is figured a singular-looking plant named Memecyton tinctorium, a shrub bearing lovely blue flowers in clusters like a well flowered Ceanothus. It is a genus I have never seen, and Wight refers to them as being very beautiful, and wonders why they have never been introduced into gardens and shrubberies. They might not be hardy here, but it seems a most desirable plant for the greenhouse.

In Royle's handsome volume, "The Botany of the Himalayan Mountains," with its superb plant portraits, there are several most desirable plants figured, chief among them is, perhaps, Gentiana coronata. If any Gentian exists as fine as this species here referred to, it is clear that G. sino ornata and G. Farreri are not the last word in this family.

In this volume is also figured Thermopsis barbata, a handsome plant, which we have had occasionally in our gardens, but it seems hard to keep. However, with so many keen and skilled cultivators this ought again to be tried.

Primula elliptica holds on to its precarious life here with great difficulty. This little beauty no doubt languishes for want of company. A large bag of seed to ensure the raising and planting of broad groups is what is wanted, and no doubt it would then soon feel at home and be happy.

From India to the Cape—for we have become greedy with regard to South African flowers, remembering such splendid recent arrivals as Venidium fastuosum, Ursi the wonderful scarlet Gazania, bri Arctotis, the lovely Heliophilas, Monso and a host of others. Many more still a us there, and one very desirable pla Pterodiscus speciosus, pictured in the " Mag." for 1844. In that year it flo at Knowsley in the stove, but that wil worry us as many plants were in those grown in the stove that are now known to be quite hardy. This Pterodiscus h tuberous root. It looks handsome bot flower and foliage, and the "Bot. M writer says of it: "Rarely has a desirable plant been added to our collectio

It is really almost a waste of tim describe the plants of South Africa; ther so many that are desirable in that lan colour and sunshine. We have just beg revel in the wonderful composites. Ther Arctotis, Dimorphothecas, Helioph Gazanias, etc., still to be gathered that amaze and delight many plant lovers. I Aus district there grows the red or pink of Venidium, and somewhere, according t botanists, there is a purple flowered Gaza

We have now had a good look round covered considerable territory, but it is al certain that in our party there will Rhododendron enthusiast who may rea ably complain that nothing has been don his favourite genus. It might be argued he ought to be content with the 800 (o species he has already obtained from Ch but that is perhaps asking too much, s will sail home by the Gulf of Carpenta anchoring there to allow a visit to M Bellenden Ker, for, perched high on mountain is Australia's only Rhododendr R. Lochæ. From the figure in Bail "Catalogue of Queensland Plants," this not look a very exciting species, but it is to be expected that the Rhododend collector will be happy until he gets it.

Notes from a Cornish Garden

ECENTLY I have seen something of Bournemouth, its chines, and one or two of its gardens; and Bournemouth worst, for all the grass was brown from of rain, and many of the shrubs and some of the trees moribund.

e soil, they tell me, is very bad, and the nce of streams in the chines, coupled the scarcity of broad-leaved trees, would it difficult to establish the various lovely es of Rhododendron, which would add uch to their beauty. It could, I imagine, one, especially if they were planted in mber and were treated to a good mulch ives and dead sticks for the first two or years; and a group of the blue stinii and the yellow ambiguum or trin, species which stand drought better their large-leaved relations, would be rious sight in the spring. But ignorance e part of the municipal authorities will ably prevent its realisation for, at any some years to come. Whilst staying , I had the privilege of seeing a most esting garden beyond Dorchester, on the orne Road. Surrounded by the chalk l sides, the owner is fortunate enough to a large pocket of green sandstone l his house, and there are grown all ler of trees and shrubs which could not on either side. Magnificent Cedars and atic Beeches form the background, and iced some good specimens of the grace-imalayan Picea morinda.

haps the most notable plant in the n was a 27 feet high Rhododendron neri, which had made a shapely tree, howed its brown trunk and bright peel-ark to perfection. There was a very fine of R. campylocarpum, as good or better any in Cornwall, and a number of well-n Thomsonii, all of them of flowering Maples were another feature, just being to take on their autumn colouring; should be perfectly gorgeous in another or two, whilst there were beds of as brought from Japan, and, at frequent als, Cherries from the same source, looked the picture of health, and were ng good growth. Among several sorts agnolia, M. parviflora was conspicuous, was bearing a large number of its long, fruits. Then I was shown many beds ining Rhododendron seedlings of st's and Rock's collecting, and was ed to find that among them R. sinole, crassum, one of the Boothii series, num, and even a giganteum had stood s. of frost last winter. Some of the Boothii e undoubtedly much hardier than the plant, but eriogynum and still more teum are certainly tender, and their val was something of a revelation. With e respect, I should say that, like most e Cornish gardens, it was somewhat rowded, especially with Beech trees. nyone who has had that problem to face s how very difficult it is to remove even ig tree without doing untold damage. and truly those of us who have old-ished gardens to deal with, and who se starting a collection of Rhododen-, should take a very long view ahead, hardening their hearts, make a drastic nce before ever they begin to plant. his is a counsel of perfection, often im-le to carry out, and complicated by the f letting in too much sun and wind.

urning home, I found we had had ful rain, and, thanks to the heavy soil, ydrangea flowers were as good as usual, h I hear that in some Cornish gardens have almost entirely failed. In my ce, the men had cut and taken up a big Laurel, which was smothering my old plant of Rhododendron nobleanum album, and left me a nice space of open ground within sight of the drive and fairly sheltered.

There are many candidates for a home there. Eucryphia pinnatifolia is one, Rhododendron discolor x auriculatum another, and I think R. Cleopatra (Blood red arboreum x Thomsonii x sutchuenense), R. Thomsonii x xenosporum, R. Souliei x discolor, and R. xenosporum x Gilian will have the remaining places, as they all have flower buds, and one is anxious to place them where they will be seen.

But there are bigger plants near by requiring a move, such as 5851 F, a good form of R. irroratum; R. Atalanta, which is a cross between Werei and Thomsonii; R. Smirnowi x Aucklandi, and a pale blue form of Augustinii with green spots, all of which are clamouring for a place, and since my staff is all too limited, and the plants weighty, I fancy they will have the preference and the smaller ones be relegated to the Oak wood, where, alas, it is a long journey to see them.

Among these big plants, however, there should be room for a certain number of smaller plants, now too crowded, but which can later be moved without undue exertion. Several young Griersonianum are indicated, the beautiful hose-in-hose R. Daphne, which is dark red, and named after Lady Weymouth; R. neriiapo (neriiflorum x apodectum), bright red and dwarf; and several plants from a wire enclosure, such as hypolepidotum, saluenense, rupicolum, and a couple of hybrids from this, not to mention half a dozen dichroanthum.

I should like to include Osmanthus Forrestii, since it is a fine thing, and in this garden Rhododendrons are apt to be overdone, but I don't know how large it grows, and it is probable that it won't bear transplanting. In fine, my little bit of spare ground is giving me a lot of fun in theory, whatever the outcome of it may be. And as I write, the men are removing another large Laurel a little further down, so that with any luck most of the more important plants will find a home, including, perhaps, a fine specimen of R. neriiflorum, at present crammed into an inadequate corner between a 25 feet Embothrium and the path down from one of the nurseries.

"PETER THE HERMIT."

Wisley awards for Dahlias

The following awards have been made to the undermentioned Dahlias after trial at Wisley.

DAHLIAS.

CLASS 1. SINGLE.

Award of Merit.

*Red Riding Hood	Sent by	Messrs. van Tubergen

CLASS 2 MIGNON SINGLE.

Award of Merit.

*Mrs. Wm. Clarke	Sent by	Mr. H. Woolman

CLASS 3. COLLARETTE.

Award of Merit.

Erika	Sent by	Messrs. Treseder

CLASS 6. SMALL-FLOWERD PÆONY.

Award of Merit.

Cora	Sent by	Mr. C. Turner
Dorret	,,	Messrs. J. Burrell

CLASS 8. DECORATIVE.

Award of Merit.

White King	Sent by	Messrs. Ballego
R. Treat	,,	General McRae
Pride of Crawley	,,	Messrs. Cheal
Premier	,,	,, Stredwick
Mrs. John Crowther ..	,,	,, Stredwick
Fantasy	,,	,, Stredwick
R. Findlay	,,	,, J. Stredwick
Miss G. Kenkeel	,,	,, Majoor

CLASS 9. SMALL-FLOWERED DECORATIVE.

Award of Merit.

Onah	Sent by	Messrs. J. Burrell
Baldre	,,	,, J. Burrell

CLASS 15. CACTUS.

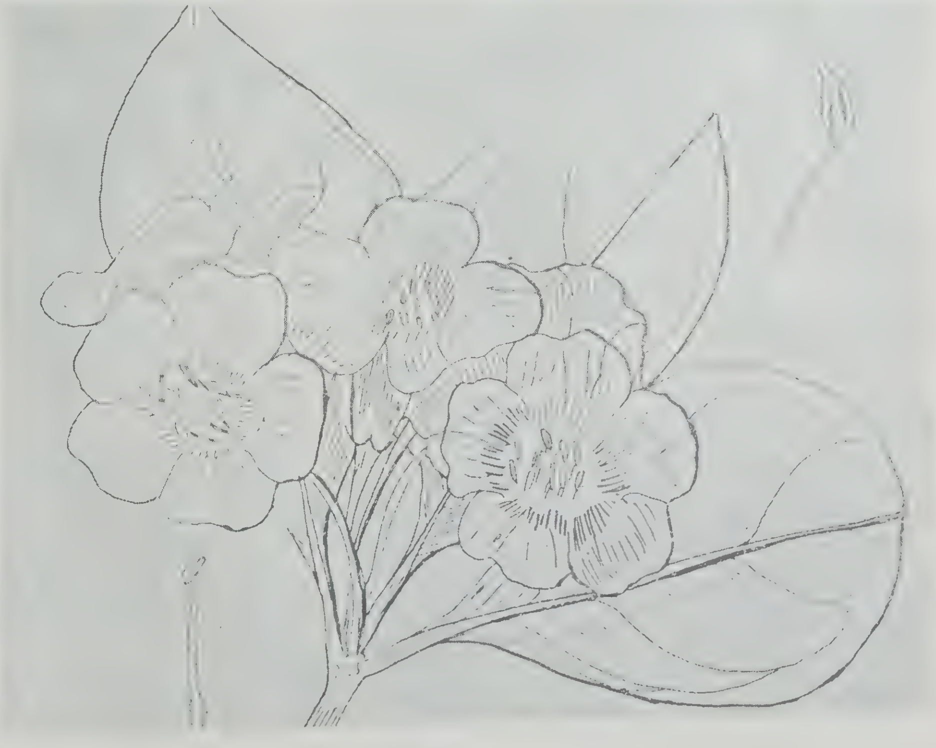
Award of Merit.

*Early Yellow	Sent by	Messrs. Bruidegom

* Award recommended August 29th, 1929.

Propagating scarce Chrysanthemums

Some of our finest varieties are very shy at producing cuttings, so any that appear from now onward should be secured whenever they get to a decent length. Clean 3-inch pots filled with sandy compost are very suitable for the purpose, three to five cuttings being inserted round the edge of each. Give a good watering to settle the soil, and then set closely together, either on an ash bottom or in shallow boxes which have 1 inch of sifted leaf-mould in the bottoms.



Sit down and travel: Australia's only Rhododendron R. Lochæ

From Bailey's "Catalogue of Queensland Plants"

The Points of a Rock Garden, and some ways of achieving them

By B. H. B. Symons-Jeune

PART I.

ROCK gardening has reached a stage in its development where it becomes essential that certain facts and limitations be recognised. Confusion, criticism, and uncertainty are already existing, whereas recognition of requirements, and certain uncontroversial facts in obtaining them, would go far to help development.

The requirements for a rock garden fall automatically into two groups. In Group 1 plants are the main consideration. In Group 2 the site is to be developed in such a way that a picture of permanent beauty is formed, irrespective of season. Beautiful stone is used, beyond the needs for merely growing Alpines, which would quickly hide it. Each type of garden has its merits, but they are different merits, and must be judged differently, or neither will get justice.

Now, confusion arises by trying to show plants in a "natural" setting. It must be clearly understood and remembered that there can be no third group. Either the rock must be built to suit the plants, which will inevitably mean joints that are false to natural rock, and weaknesses where there would be strength, or the rock must be built to suit the site and then planted. The first alternative, therefore, belongs to Group 1 and the second to Group 2. Both groups can have many plants; in No. 1 more, but less attractively shown; in No. 2 less, but more attractively shown.

I will outline the important points to consider in making either formation, but before starting I want to check the growth of two very present and universal fears which will, I hope, later on, upon consideration of the points made, be finally shattered. The fears are for too much rock (and consequent expense) and for too few flowers. The first can be dismissed for the moment and proved later by saying that the more skilled the builder the less rock proportionally will he use and with better effect.

The fear for too few flowers is important, and is caused by misunderstanding. Rock gardeners of the old school, while using quite as much or more stone in the aggregate, do not grasp the idea underlying the new and "natural" type. When they see (and they often have to judge) stone put without regular "comfortable" pockets for planting, they assume, too readily, that there is no room
for plants. The visible pockets to which
are accustomed are partially illuminated
natural rock garden, as in Nature, and n
has explained why and the obvious ren
In Nature planting space is mainly a
sides, on the back, and below the very v
rock, or else in the open valleys where
and decay has put a layer of soil over the
beneath. This we, too, can do, to suit
ever we want to grow. The great maj
including the legion of garden hybrids
easy in open soil, while some thrive i
moraine mixture so suitable to these p
Those that are very difficult are usually s
so that by placing them in a frame the g
suffers little loss.

Let us now consider each group, an
points that should be judged in it to
weakness and encourage development.
not, of course, intended as the last wor
a gardener who thinks he knows all is
gardener.

Group 1 embraces all those gardens
stone is used to retain earth for the pu
of growing plants. Paving, steps,
beds, retaining cliffs and walls, come
this heading. So should rockeries built
pockets or with unending lines of stra
tion, which fill the site, mound and
alike. As the primary object is to
plants, flattish stones should be used,
laid flat, or slightly tilted, to take moist
the root of the plant. Depending as
gardens do upon flowers for their beaut
construction should be as simple and r

The simple and restful return of rock in a Keswick garden

ssible. The worst type is often seen on
ries where beautiful stones are set up on
show them off, for these ill-laid stones
look natural and are not practicable
nts.

a cliff by the lake-side, or like a wall
g back the earth from the path by the
edge on a large scale, great blocks of
one with bold planting can be imposing,
architecturally. But for the keen plant
with moderate scope, and at moderate
an ideal site is often provided by a
bank on the edge of a lawn, formerly
lt to mow.

stones used here will be easily handled,
cal, and dignified. Many pleasant
es can be made by grouping the stones
treasures can nestle, while an open
of one plant will check a tendency to
ess. Round or pointed stones should
chosen as simplicty is the keynote.

ter can, of course, be used at will, either
ool, or cascading down over the rocks.
ut to suit, and no attempt need be made
ount for its appearance, provided that it
rs pleasantly.

, good, dignified construction should
good plants, and the judging points
l be on these lines.

up 2.—This is far more complicated,
h no more costly if properly done than
dinary rock garden on the same area.
ds knowledge and love of the country
l as an artistic sense. The aim is to re-
ce Nature; Nature in beautiful garb,
she has donned for a bigger area than
uld handle.

must not copy individual bits, rather
we go for the feeling of the whole; we
try to show the flowers as we see them,
ut our rock naturally with a natural
n, remembering that although the scar
n ancient catastrophe remains, it is so
and beautified that over the whole
is a feeling of great peace.

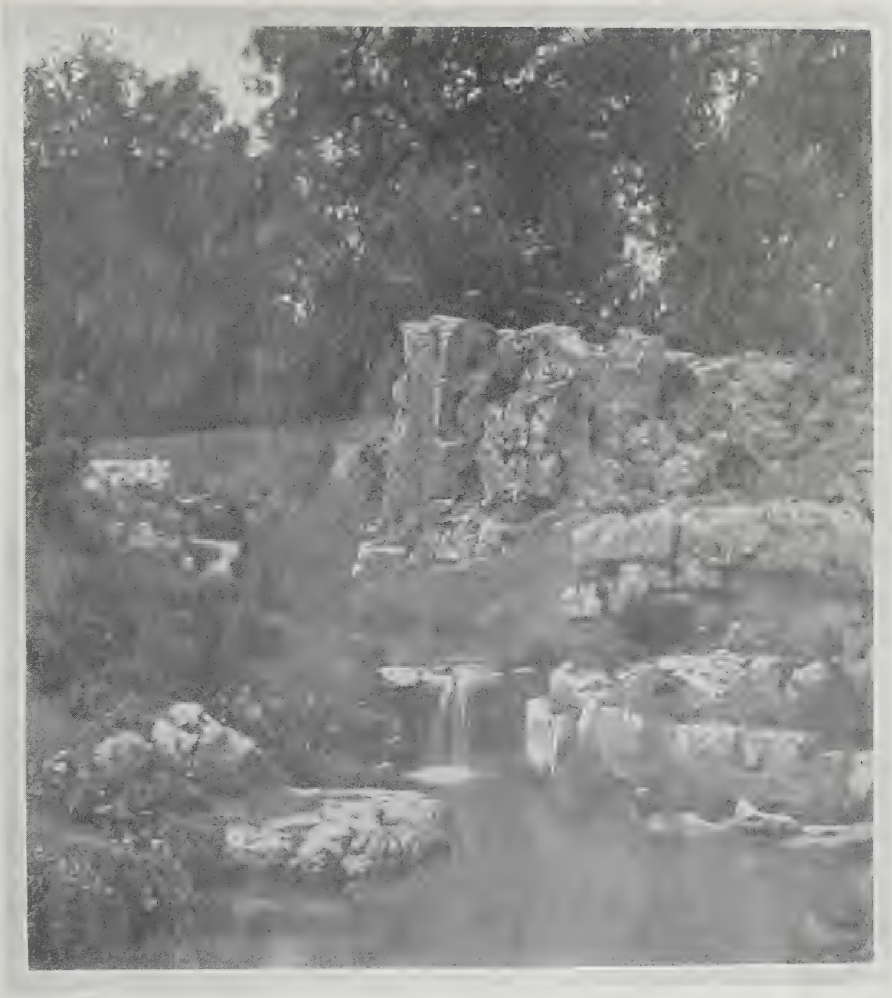
artist's work, truly, which should be in-
at all times. And yet, so universal is
scious understanding that, given
data, even if they have to be modi-
s experience grows, many of us will
and have joy in the learning, how to
e something of the same feeling in our
ns.

site is to be a finished picture, com-
with mount and frame. There must be
ttering of effect by overcrowding un-
d units, either of rock or plant. Rock
be shown grimly, but not heavily, rising
a plain surface, chip-strewn, or clothed
canty herbage where little soil is, until
there is greater depth shrubs and even
an find root-room. Water, too, at the
the big rocks can carve out a channel,
mes arduously, but always taking the
way. Each part will have flowers in
ason, according to the limits of the soil.
g must be done haphazard. The quiet
be kept quiet and not fussy, and the
hard only where it cannot be covered.
eauty of the whole depends on the pro-
of vigour and restfulness.

angle at which the stratum is inclined,
e effect of rainfall on it, governs the ap-
ce of rock, and the depth of soil on or
it, just as would happen if a slate were
d up at one end and a bucket of earth
over it.

appearance of rock is, therefore,
l for us. It has a back, a front, and a
ll clearly defined. It must, according to
gle of the stratum and the rainfall on
up from the ground, and return back
ground logically.

ght of shrub, like Gorse on a hill, ad-
g the plain surface round the rock, will
e the picture and often save further
It will, also, especially if it stands clear, give scope for autumn and winter effect.



Watershed in relation to rock

This rock garden contains 28 tons of stone only

To achieve such a picture, and to judge it, the chief points to remember are :—

1. A natural appearance and disappearance of the rock, and not too much of it. It should be mellowed on top, with no feeble or jagged points.
2. The proportion of vigour and plain surface, as made up of rock, shrub, and open spaces.
3. The correct placing of shrubs, on or near the rock, (*a*) in shelter, (*b*) in exposed places, (*c*) for contrast.
4. Planting for harmony and aspect.
5. Treatment of open spaces, turf, stone chippings, and plants for them.
6. A correct and suitable watershed in relation to the rock.

Finally, an arc, with the summit resting on the strongest rock, should contain all rock within that particular outcrop, whether described from back to front, or from side to side. Prolongation, of course, in any direction, after an interval of space, requires a separate arc.

In the next article I will elaborate these points, especially in regard to the use, and abuse, of turf.

A garden pond

In some gardens there is to be found a pool of water, fed, perhaps, by a small streamlet. Often it is quite neglected as regards beauty, and only used as a place to obtain water for the garden, yet there are numbers of wild plants that would turn the whole into one of the most attractive features in the garden. If the ground is miry near the pond, it could be planted with the tall, pink Willow-Herb, and near the water there could be a fringe of Bulrushes. In the water, Water-Lilies could be planted that would quickly spread to the banks, with perhaps a plant or two of Arrow-Leaves. In the streamlet flag Irises would look well and make a fine display with their bright flowers in their season. Along the banks of the streamlet could be planted the wild Forget-me-Not, which is very rich and bright, the fine blue of the flowers being seen a long way off. Many flowers when they grow near water are much brighter, such as the Meadow-Sweet. The wild Garlic should certainly be planted for its white flowers,

F. H.

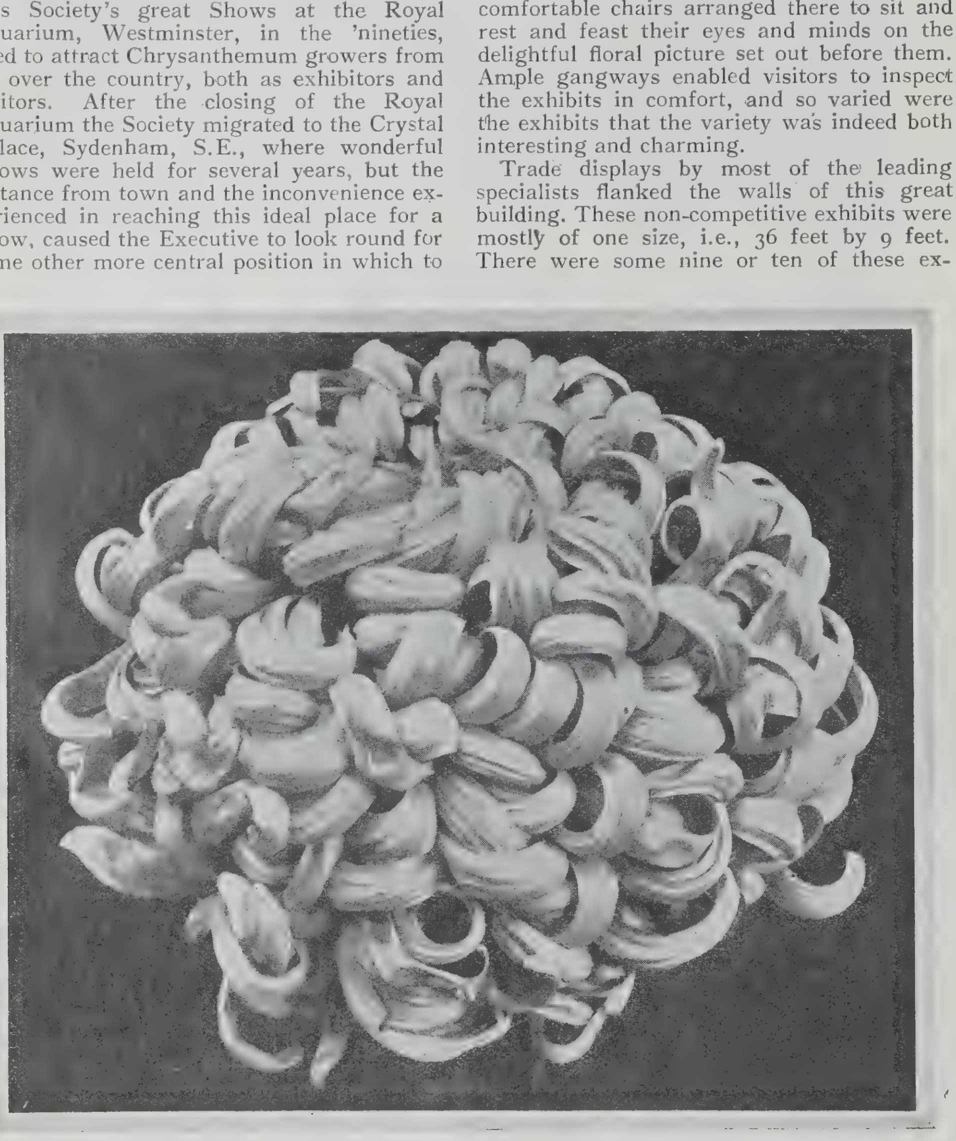
Edging to flower beds

Lift and divide those of a more or less permanent nature at the present time, and replant in entirely fresh ground, for although some plants will form a dense mat and remain healthy in this condition for several years, others die off in patches during a spell of drought unless changed every few years. A few nice plants to form such edgings include the grey-leaved Veronica incana, a pretty plant, Helichryssum bellidioides, Geranium lancastriense, Gypsophila Fratensis (pink), G. prostrata (white), and G. prostrata dubia (pink), Campanula muralis, C. carpatica pallida, C. turbinata, C. garganica hirsuta, Œnothera riparia, Gentiana lagodechiana, G. acaulis, Thymus serphyllum in variety, and Sedum Ewersii.

NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY

A GREAT SHOW

THE Annual November exhibition of this special Society has always been regarded as one of the great horticultural fixtures of the year, right away from the time when this Society's great Shows at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, in the 'nineties, used to attract Chrysanthemum growers from all over the country, both as exhibitors and visitors. After the closing of the Royal Aquarium the Society migrated to the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, S.E., where wonderful Shows were held for several years, but the distance from town and the inconvenience experienced in reaching this ideal place for a Show, caused the Executive to look round for some other more central position in which to hold their Annual Exhibition. A suggestion was made that negotiations should be entered into with the Royal Horticultural Society with the object of entering into an arrangement in future to hold the Society's Annual Exhibitions in the Hall of the R.H.S. in Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W. Happily, to the mutual satisfaction of both Societies, terms were satisfactorily arranged, and from that time until the present the great Annual Show of the Chrysanthemum has been held at Vincent Square. This year the use of the New Hall at Greycoat Place was requisitioned, but there was just a little trepidation lest the Hall could not be satisfactorily filled. This fear was quickly dispelled when one visited the magnificent exhibition held in the New Hall on November 7th and 8th last. The building was just comfortably filled with a display that will always be regarded with pleasure and satisfaction, as the exhibits were mostly arranged with considerable taste and skill, and there was no crowding, as has been the case in so many Shows of the past. The view from the steps at the south-western end of the building was indeed beautiful to behold, and many visitors took advantage of the comfortable chairs arranged there to sit and rest and feast their eyes and minds on the delightful floral picture set out before them. Ample gangways enabled visitors to inspect the exhibits in comfort, and so varied were the exhibits that the variety was indeed both interesting and charming.



Mr. K. Luxford's novelty Rise of Day, a very large buff coloured exhibition bloom

First Class Certificate

Trade displays by most of the leading specialists flanked the walls of this great building. These non-competitive exhibits were mostly of one size, i.e., 36 feet by 9 feet. There were some nine or ten of these exhibits, and they made an excellent framework to a really beautiful display. Messrs. H. J. Jones (Ryecroft Nurseries), Ltd., Lewisham, S.E., and Messrs Keith Luxford and Co., Sawbridgeworth, Herts., both received a large Gold Medal for their exhibits. The former had one of the most finished exhibits this firm has ever staged. Here were to be seen grand blooms of Japanese, such as Mrs. Gilbert Drabble, Miss Ada Ellis, W. Rigby, Daily Sketch, and Red Majestic. Large, neat, and ever incurved sorts, such as Captain Kettle (crimson-red, tipped golden-buff), Monument (white), Decoratives Jean Pattison, and a number of good Singles, such as Molly Godfrey, the new Rose Molly, Susan, Rona, and May Edwards. There was a charming series of Pompons also. Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co. staged a grand group of well-finished blooms of a most representative character. Here were to be seen large stands of well-grown exhibition Japanese handsome Singles, dainty Pompons, and a
capital lot of well-grown Decorative vari
This was a splendid effort and well m
the distinction it gained.

A heavy lot of exhibition Japanese bl
and a host of good Singles and Deco
varieties gained a Gold Medal for The K
Acre Nurseries, Ltd., Hereford. This w
impressive group, which lost a little b
character of the smaller flowers arrang
the front; nevertheless, it was a
display.

A Gold Medal was also awarded to M
G. Vinten, Balcombe, Sussex, for a u
display of well-grown decorative and m
Chrysanthemums. The blooms wer
markable for their finish and rich and
colours, and they represented most o
better sorts at present in cultivation. Si
such as Phyllis Cooper, Grenadier,
Golden Seal and Decoratives Jean Pat
Blanche du Poitou, Uxbridge Pink, a
host of other good things were in eviden

A most noteworthy exhibit which gai
Gold Medal was a representative grou
small plants of Chrysanthemums in
pots. The plants were remarkable exa
of cultural skill. Each plant carried any
from, say, eight to a dozen blooms, mo
less, and all in the pink of condition.
varieties as Caprice du Printemps an
chestnut-crimson sport Kathleen Thom
also Blanche du Poitou (see illustration)
others, all came from Mr. L. Mills, Wel
it was a great pity this group was
arranged on the floor.

Silver-Gilt Medals were awarded to M
Woolman, Shirley, near Birmingham,
Mr. W. Wells, Merstham, for h
meritorious groups, both of which contri
materially to the beauty of the Show.
Medals were won by Mr. W. Ya
Maidenhead, for Decorative Chrysa
mums, and to Mr. J. W. Cole, Peterbor
a similar award was made for a capit
hibit. To Mr. W. Hatch, Cookham,
Maidenhead, a Silver-Gilt Medal
awarded for a large collection of abou
distinct sorts of early-flowering Chrysa
mums, cut from plants grown by him
nurseries in the trial of early sorts und
auspices of the National Chrysanthe
Society during the current year; this
lection was most interesting.

Generally speaking, the competitive c
were well filled, and the quality of the flo
left nothing to be desired.

There were two exhibitors in the Nat
Competition open to Affiliated Societies,
again the Finchley Society succeede
carrying off the Challenge Trophy. All
of the flower in this splendid display we
high quality, which indicates a splendid
of comradeship amongst that Society's
bers. The Borough of Croydon Chrysa
mum Society were placed third, although
had a really beautiful lot of blooms.

In the open classes, from which the
were excluded, for cut blooms, the chief
was for 36 Japanese blooms in t
varieties, three blooms of each, arrang
vases. There was a capital entry; le
honours were won by Mr. Duncan Cam
gardener to the Dowager Lady An
Holdenby House, Northampton. He
good examples of the following varie
Birmingham, Mrs. Peter Murray,
Mary, Miss Ada Ellis (grand), Red Maj
Victory, Mrs. A. Holden, W. Rigby, Du
of Westminster, Majestic, Aquitania,
Yellow Majestic. Mr. C. Beckett, gar
to the Hon. Sir John Ward, K.C.

erford, was a good second. He has grand blooms of the new yellow Chas. and W. Rigby.

Chas. Beckett had some compensation gain winning the Holmes Memorial enge Cup for 36 Japanese blooms, ct. This requires a great effort. The ies shown represented most of the better newer Japanese sorts, and they did the r much credit. A competition of more ordinary interest was that for an experi- al class for big blooms, comprising 12 ese sorts, distinct. The blooms were ged on show boards provided by the ty, the holes to receive the blooms being ged 10 inches apart, from centre to e, thus providing more space than the ation boards permit. There were five l exhibits, first prize being awarded to D. Cameron, who was supreme at this He staged magnificent blooms of ampton, Miss Ada Ellis, Julia, Mrs. G. ole, Birmingham, Golden Champion, Majestic, Mrs. Algernon Davis, Queen , Mrs. B. Carpenter, Majestic, and a. The blooms were seen to great ad- ge on these larger boards, and the ex- ent must be regarded as a complete ss.

interesting class was that for one vase ree Japanese blooms of one variety, . There were six good exhibits, Mr. eron winning leading honours with iful examples of Mrs. G. Drabble. With l blooms of Louisa Pockett, Mrs. H. er, gardener to Lady Juliet Duff, was d second. A similar class for one vase crimson variety was won by Mr. M. A. son, gardener to Mr. J. H. Platford, church, who showed beautifully finished ns of Birmingham. There were no fewer nine entrants for a similar class for three nese blooms of one variety of a yellow r. Mr. Cameron was again first with b examples of Princess Mary. Mr. ham, The Gardens, Greenlands, Henley- hames was second with Yellow Majestic, Mr. Curran, third, with Shirley Gold. ere were also nine exhibitors in the class for three Japanese blooms of any other colour than white, crimson, or yellow. Grand examples of T. W. Pockett won first prize for Mr. Johnson, praiseworthy examples of Majestic and Red Majestic winning second and third prizes respectively.

The principal class for incurved blooms was for 18 blooms, three blooms each, six varieties, staged in six vases. There were three good exhibits, but first prize and The Holmes Memorial Challenge Cup was won by Mr. G. Curran, Nottingham. Beautifully finished deep blooms were set up in this class, showing the following varieties at their best: Romance, Percy Wiseman, Ondine, Mrs. Bryce, Percy Dove, and Progress. In the second prize exhibits there were splendid blooms of Frank Trestian, Monument, Mrs. J. P. Bryce, and Godfrey's Eclipse.

The competition for six varieties of Devonshire Chrysanthemums found five entrants. First prize was awarded to Mrs. Winterbottom, East Grinstead, for very bright and pleasing examples of Uxbridge Pink, In Memoriam, Freda Bedford, Mrs. R. Felton, Jospehine H. Bernier, and Jean Pattison.

The classes for Singles were numerous, and, without exception, were one of the chief features of interest of this great Show. In all the open classes that well-known grower of Single Chrysanthemums, Mr. A. Robertson, gardener to Mrs. Yarrow, Abbey Road, St. John's Wood, as invincible. Each of his many exhibits served to show this charming type of flower at its best, and he can well take credit to himself of being the most successful grower of his time. Mr. Robertson's exhibits in the classes respectively for nine vases of large Singles, distinct, six vases distinct, and The George Monro Challenge Cup Class for 12 vases large Single, distinct, were triumphs of cultural skill; all the blooms were large, of good colour, and superbly finished. It may be well to mention a few of the more outstanding varieties; they were: W. Knight, Rita, Molly Godfrey, Mrs. G. Palmer, Susan, Reginald Godfrey, Robt. Collins, Rona, Bronze Molly, Sportsman, Isobel Felton, Fusilier, and Audrey. Competition in these classes was good. Mr. H. Woolman also showed Single sorts in splendid form and condition. Another successful exhibitor of Singles was Mr. Joseph Cheer, gardener to Mr. H. E. Miller, Purley. A new feature in this year's show was a class for a display of Cut Decorative Chrysanthemums, arranged on a floor space 10 feet by 6 feet, height not to exceed 7 feet. The use of natural cut foliage, grasses, or berries and foliage plants in pots was allowed. The result was not very satisfactory, but the first prize display was interesting. It consisted of a central stand of yellow Japanese blooms, and two smaller stands of Singles. There were also other stands of decorative sorts, and with the addition of Crotons and other foliage plants, this display was an easy first. The second prize exhibit contained a large number of big exhibition Japanese blooms and foliage plants, arranged in a very formal manner.

The Decorative side of the exhibition was very poorly represented; there were, of course, here and there, a few brilliant exceptions to this rule, but, generally, they were very poor. The table Decorative class was re-instituted on the present occasion, but the exhibits were very disappointing. Pompons were poorly represented, except for the first prize exhibit in the leading class. Thirty years ago Pompon Chrysanthemums used to be exhibited in ideal form and condition; there is room for much improvement in this section. On the whole, however, the first show of the "National" in the New Hall was a great success.

Window-boxes

The London Gardens Guild is organising a special campaign to popularise window-boxes. The first step in this is to be a lantern lecture on "The Construction and Cultivation of Window-boxes." The lecture will be given at Prince Henry's Room, 17, Fleet Street, on Tuesday, November 26th, at 8 p.m., by Mr. W. Stewart, N.D.H., Superintendent of the Royal Hospital Gardens.

specimen plant of Blanche du Poitou in a 5-inch pot with over 30 fine flowers

own by Mr. L. Mills, Creswick Nurseries, Welling, Kent. These small plants were about 2 feet high and 2 feet across

Singles were a feature of the Chrysanthemum Show. This is the new J. Moffat chestnut red

Shown by Mr. W. Turnham, F.C.C.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Forcing Asparagus

A low house or heated pit will be found quite satisfactory for the forcing of Asparagus, so long as there is sufficient depth to admit of fermenting material (such as dry leaves and fresh stable manure) being firmly packed in to a depth of 2 feet or so beneath the soil, which should be about 3 inches. The roots may then be stood close together over the surface and covered with leafy soil. Water thoroughly to settle the soil well among the plants, and maintain a night temperature of 55 degs.

Rhubarb, Chicory, and Seakale

Lift a few roots of each, and, after clearing away all leafage likely to decay, plunge them up to their collars in ordinary garden soil, water thoroughly, and maintain a temperature of about 55 degs. A light dewing overhead should be applied occasionally if there is a tendency to dryness, a warm, moist condition being essential, and on no account allow the temperature to fall below 45 degs. at any time, otherwise the Seakale will blacken and fail to respond.

Cauliflowers

Cauliflowers not sufficiently advanced for cutting should be lifted and heeled in in a house or frame, where they may be protected from frost, as these are rather valuable and worthy of a little extra care.

Broccoli

In cold districts it is advisable to heel these over towards the north, and protect their stems, either with soil or litter.

Protective material

Have a quantity of this placed in readiness in case of need to spread over Celery, Celeriac, and other vegetables liable to damage from severe frosts.

Digging and trenching

Vacant plots must now receive attention where large areas have to be dealt with, and if these have been manured as advised in a former calendar such work should no longer be delayed. It is a good practice to select a certain area each year for double-digging or trenching, as the effect of this upon future crops is most beneficial.

Vineries and Peach houses

Light, at this season of the year, is of the utmost importance, and where plants are growing beneath the former, no harm will arise from the partial shortening back of all lateral growth. If the leaves of Peach trees have a tendency to remain, a new besom drawn over them carefully in the same direction as the branches will dislodge them and admit both sun and light, to the great advantage of the plants beneath.

The flowering house

This should now be gay with quite a variety of flowers, and these will remain in a fresh condition longer if excessive fire-heat is avoided, 45 degs. to 55 degs. being ample; the former is to be preferred to a dry, fiery atmosphere.

Poinsettias

Until their scarlet bracts are well advanced these handsome plants require a fairly brisk temperature, and are best accommodated in the stove or forcing house, and within reasonable distance of the glass. Low temperatures will cause the lower leaves to fall, but with the bracts well advanced, such may with advantage be given.

Early-flowering Chrysanthemums

These cannot always be relied upon to winter safely in the open, and those which do are usually late in sending up desirable shoots for cuttings. It is, therefore, advisable to lift a few plants of each variety and place them in pots or boxes, and then cuttings will be strong and plentiful. If this is not possible, light litter of some kind should be placed around their crowns and between the rows as a little protection from severe frosts.

Propagating hardy Heaths

Cuttings of those not actually in bloom, inserted in sharp, sandy soil and kept beneath a bell glass will root in due course if put in at the present time. Some of the tree Heaths respond very well, but one, Erica Australis, is, in my opinion, the most difficult of all, and a grower is fortunate if he roots 20 per cent. of his cuttings.

Hardy Primulas

Those which have been raised from seed and pricked off into beds should now be planted out in cool, and preferably moist positions. Failing this, the soil should be deeply dug and liberally manured in order that the plants may be sustained during a period of drought. These mostly revel in cool, moist soil, but a few are quite satisfactory in average beds and borders.

Roses

Reduce all long growths to half their length to prevent rocking to and fro by rough winds, as this causes holes to form around the base of the stem, which, in heavy soils stands full of water for days to the detriment of the plants. Unwanted growths on pillars and arches should be treated likewise. All Roses in beds are pruned finally here in November, with very satisfactory results. This admits of the beds being forked over and replanted with dwarf undergrowth. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The herbaceous Calceolaria

These are very hardy, but damp is apt to do considerable harm to the foliage if left out too long, so it will now be advisable to move them to a cool house where frost cannot reach them and from which excessive humidity can be driven. As little fire-heat as possible should be used, as this plant cannot thrive in a warm, dry atmosphere. Vaporise the house occasionally to keep the plants free of insect pests. The soil should never be permitted to get really dry, remembering however, that a sodden condition at the roots is equally harmful.

Greenhouse Primulas

None of these require much in the way of artificial heat, providing frost is absent and damp not troublesome, but a nice buoyant atmosphere should be aimed at, and every care taken to exclude frost and prevent the ravages of damp. Careful watering always pays, and never more so than during the dull, short days of mid-winter. A little gentle feeding will help to improve the size and quantity of flower, but this must not be overdone.

Early Roman Hyacinths

These, if potted up in good time, will by now have filled the pots with roots, so may be taken from the plunge and set for a few days, either in a cold frame or a cool house. After this they should be moved into genial warmth, so as to stimulate growth. If required as cut flowers, do not set too close to the glass, but those to be used in pots wi much sturdier and with straight, firm st if kept as near as possible to the light.

Rose planting

Providing the soil is in good working o the pushing forward of this work is desirable so that the roots may have chance of obtaining a hold of their quarters before really cold weather sets Do not omit the firm treading down of soil over the roots.

Plant bush fruits now

As with Roses, endeavour to have all p ing carried out when the ground is in working condition. Gooseberries, Red White Currants, and Brambles succeed where the soil has not been recently dr with manure, but Black Currants and R berries revel in liberally manured soil rather damp nature.

The pruning of bush fruits

This should also be pushed forward all speed during suitable weather conditi Unless wanted for cuttings, all prun should be gathered up and burned as soo possible. The surface between the bu should be lightly forked over some time be spring.

Planting the larger fruits

Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, Apricots may all be planted during the of the month, and all of them thrive bes ground that is not unduly rich.. If farm manure is given to these fruit trees at p ing time, only rank, unfruitful growth result. Cherries, Apricots, and Plums sh have some old lime mixed with the soi which they are planted.

Latest Beetroot

If this crop is still out, it should be go at once, for hard frost affects it, and may put in an appearance at any time n

Manuring the garden

In these days of shortage of this valu material it is all the more necessary to a what is available with judgment. The sit any crops that will succeed fairly well with manure should be well dug, but nothing m Gross feeders, like Celery, Leeks, and Onio must have generous supplies allotted to th while kinds that require only a mode quantity should have their preference g effect to. When all this is understood acted upon, much finer results are fo coming than is possible when all are tre alike.

Ordinary digging

Single-spit digging is sufficient for qui number of both flowers and vegetables, bu should be thoroughly carried out, and spade driven in as far as it will go. The wh surface should be left rough and lumpy, that the elements may get a chance to verise and sweeten the soil to some cons able depth.

Double digging

This is probably the most satisfa method known for preparing ground for great majority of crops, especially if it only been single dug over a series of ye To trench under such conditions is to br to the surface the inert, unfertile subsoil which most plants would refuse to thr but if double-digging has been practised a few years, the second spit can, with per safety, be brought to the surface, its previ treatment having brought it into a state q suitable for plant life, while its freshness a further asset. C. BLAI

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Bignonia venusta

is beautiful climber was grown in a cool house from cuttings sent m South Africa six years ago. The tubular flowers, about 2 inches g, are of a bright shade of orange. Shown at a recent meeting of the H S. by Mrs. Maria Pope, Ashwick Hall, Marshfield, Chippenham.

Brasso-Lælio-Cattleya Queen Elizabeth

A bold and beautiful hybrid shown by Baron Schröder, Dell Park, Englefield Green. Colour orchid mauve, with yellow in its wide fringed lip. Very fragrant and of unusual dimensions. First Class Certificate.

v certificated Chrysanthemums

O fewer than 29 novelties were submitted for award on this occasion. Each of the undermentioned varieties received uch coveted distinction of a First-Class ficate.

Moffatt.—(See illustration). A promis- ingle, about 5 inches in diameter. The s are fairly broad, neatly reflexing, build- a bloom of good form. Colour, light nut. Shown by Mr. W. Turnham, The ens, Greenlands, Henley-on-Thames.

llow Monument.—A beautiful yellow from the well-known white incurved ty Monument, partaking of the beautiful ved characteristics of the parent variety. n by Mr. Thos. Stevenson, Hillingdon.

ames.—A promising exhibition Japanese, g long, fairly broad florets, drooping and g, building a bloom about 9 inches in eter. Colour, pink, with whitish centre. n by Mr. H. Woolman, Shirley, near ingham.

vern.—Another large exhibition Japan- with broad, reflexing florets, building a of good quality, about 9 inches across. r, dull red, with buff reverse. Also n by Mr. H. Woolman.

imson Model.—A pretty Single, about hes in diameter. Florets, of which there everal rows, are fairly broad, and develop om of good form. Colour, ruby-crimson. n by Mr. G. Carpenter, The Garden, Hall, Byfleet.

Hebe.—Another beautiful Single, about 6 inches across. The florets are broad and of good substance, and build a flower of excellent form. Foliage small, and stem stiff and wiry. Colour, deep red, with faint white base to a nice golden disc. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Jr., Mayford, near Woking.

Lucifer.—A useful addition to the Decorative section. The florets are fairly broad and pointed, and develop a bloom about 4½ inches in diameter. Colour, rich crimson. Good stem and small foliage. Also shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Jr.

Florence Bighart.—This pretty Japanese bloom of decorative form recently received an Award of Merit of the R.H.S. The florets are fairly broad, and build a bloom of reflexed and drooping form. Colour, canary-yellow. Shown by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Jr.

Rise of Day.—(See illustration). A very promising exhibition Japanese bloom, having very long, broad, loosely incurving florets, building a bloom 9 inches to 10 inches across, and about 6 inches deep. Colour, buff. This is sure to be freely exhibited in subsequent years. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co., Sawbridgeworth.

D. B. Crane.

Trollius or Globe Flower

In the late spring and early summer the Trollius, or Globe Flower, gives to the garden a glory of yellow and gold. There is scarcely a soil in which it will not thrive, and even where it is not quite suitable, it may be made so with little trouble, a reason why (should you not grow them) they ought to be seen in your borders. It is well known that however exposed the locality may be, or however hard the winter, they come through unscathed with next to no protection. Some thirty clumps in our own garden braved the rigours of last winter, and, except they are rather later than usual in flowering, they have come as strong as ever. Trolliuses will grow in quite common soil, but do best when planted in that which is deep and contains a certain amount of humus in the way of rotted manure or old refuse from the garden. You may plant the clumps in a sunny position and be sure of having the earliest blooms, but they will do equally well on a cold north border, and, though later in flowering, continue the longest in beauty. They are delightful plants for the back or middle row of a border of hardy plants. If you have an opportunity of seeing some plants in bloom note how strong they are if they have been in their present quarters a year or two. In adding a few roots to your borders this autumn—a convenient time to shift them, being November—you will not do wrong, as, once planted, they give little trouble, only needing root division every two or three years. The following varieties are among the best of this family:—Fire Globe, semi-double, deep orange; Gibsoni, yellow, with black centre; Orange Globe, light orange; Excelsior, large yellow; Asiaticus, large orange; sinensis, yellow, with orange centre, having long and divided petals.

W. F.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

The prevention of disease in Potatoes

IN the spring of 1865, when living in Devonshire, I adopted a plan for the prevention of disease in Potatoes which resulted in a fine crop entirely free from disease. My neighbours could not be induced to change their old method, so their crops were more or less diseased. In 1866 I planted three rows, each 35 feet long, adopting the old system, in the same garden, situated about 20 feet from the main crop. On taking up the Potatoes I found that the general crop was quite free from disease, but the three rows were attacked. These results appeared to me a most convincing proof that the new method of cultivation was a preventive of the Potato disease, so that ever since, when I have had sufficient land to grow a crop, I have followed the same plan, and always with the same happy result.

In your last number your correspondent "C." states that some gardeners have tried a plan (which is similar to mine), but gives no details for cultivation; I therefore send you particulars of the method I advocate, and I shall be very pleased to learn through GARDENING ILLUSTRATED the result from those who may try my system. The distance between the rows must be 2½ feet; whole Potatoes to be planted, and in drills not deeper than 3 inches, as more earth will afterwards be thrown over them, and they will thus keep drier. In May earth the plants up as usual. In July bend down the haulms horizontally across the furrow to the right, all the plants to lie one way, earthing them well over, so as to prevent them from rising again, leaving about 8 inches to 10 inches of the upper portions of the stalks exposed. The earth to be taken from the furrow on the left hand side. This operation must be completed on no account later than July 10th. The upper portions of the stalks are thus left drooping into the furrows. Care should be taken not to break the haulms; 15 inches to 18 inches should separate each plant. The rows should be always due north and south. I may state in conclusion that the best time for planting Potatoes, main crop, is the last fortnight in March or the first fortnight in April, a little earlier or later, as the spring may be forward or late, or the ground dry or wet.—HENRY MIMARDIERE.

—*November 15th*, 1879.

The planting of "stone" fruits

Speaking generally, Apricots, Cherries, and Plums must be given the protection of a wall when planted north of the Tweed. Apricots and Sweet Cherries are best, as a rule, on south walls, although the latter sometimes do well with a western exposure. The Morello Cherry is one of the few things that does really well when facing north. Plums may have a southern, eastern, or western position and do well, but the finer sorts are best on a south wall. Incorporate a fair amount of old mortar with the soil when planting these fruits, and avoid fresh manure.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plan*
be named should send fair examples of each
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of l
and points of shoots are useless.) Not more
four plants should be sent in any one week b
same correspondent. Where more than one
is sent they should be numbered. Of conifer
cones should always be sent.

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in diff*
stages of colour and size of the same kind gr
assist in its determination. Single, unripe
deformed specimens are difficult to name.
do not undertake to name more than
varieties at one time.

FRUIT

Apple propagation

(Experimenter).—Nearly all commercial varieties of Apples are budded or grafted upon a root stock. The root stocks of commerce are broadly divided into two groups:—(1) Free stocks, so called because the resulting trees are vigorous in growth and suitable for standard and half-standard trees. (2) Dwarfing stocks, or Paradise stock. Dwarfing because the variety worked thereon does not grow so vigorously as it does on free stock. Dwarfing stocks are, in the main, used for bush or cordon trees, but some of the more vigorous dwarfing stocks will make a good half-standard tree. At the present time two types of stocks are grouped under the term "free": (A) Crab stocks raised from the pips of the wild Crab. (B) The old free stocks, which are raised from the pips obtained from Cider pummace. The former are preferred by many as being more reliable. The chief drawback with free stock is the liability to variation, although in the hands of a good nursery firm this liability is very largely cancelled out by selection. It will, of course, be realised that all Apple stocks raised from seed are liable to show much variation with regard to vigour. The so-called Paradise stocks are at the present time all raised vegetatively, *i.e.*, by means of cuttings, suckers, and layers; mainly the latter. When stocks are reproduced in this way the material is standardised. During the last decade our two Fruit Research Stations, East Malling and Long Ashton, have collected all the Paradise stocks in commerce and classified the material so obtained. Each stock that showed commercial ability was given a number, and its behaviour watched. The work of classification is now complete, and there is available a definite stock which can be raised vegetatively, and therefore does not vary to any great extent, suitable for most purposes for which Apple trees are required. Space prevents our giving all the stocks in detail. In brief, the Paradise stocks are grouped into four classes: (1) Very Dwarfing Class—an example of this is Malling Type IX., Jaune de Metz. This is suitable for many varieties of Apples worked as cordon trees, and for bush Apples in cases where small trees are required. Apples worked on this stock come to maturity quickly. (2) Semi-dwarfing Class, *e.g.*, Malling Type II. This stock is in great demand for bush Apples. Apples worked on this stock require from 10 feet to 20 feet of space according to the variety worked thereon. (3) Vigorous Class, *e.g.*, Malling Type I. The true broad-leaved English Paradise. Apples worked on this must be given from 12 feet to 30 feet of space according to variety. Half-standard Bramley Seedling worked on this stock will require most of the 30 feet indicated above. (4) Very Vigorous Class, *e.g.*, Malling Type XVI. This stock appears to be as vigorous as the free stock, and has the advantage of being
easily propagated by layers. For full d
of these and other Apple stocks you s
read the Ministry of Agriculture's pu
tions and the Annual Reports of the Res
Stations at East Malling, Kent, and
Ashton, Bristol. For the techniqu
budding and grafting you should obtai
Leaflet of the Ministry of Agriculture
162, or consult a good gardening book.

Bush fruits and bullfinches

It has only in recent years become
lutely necessary permanently to net i
area of about 600 square yards of Goose
and Currant bushes on account of bullfi
damaging Black Currant blossom and h
birds taking all the Gooseberries just as
are fully ripe. I would be very glad o
vice on these points:—What type of
dards are best (iron or wooden), the
width, gauge, and particularly the me
wire netting to be used, and I shall be g
ful for any other hints on the question.
HIGHLAND

[The wire netting would require t
1 inch mesh to make it perfectly bullf
proof, while it is, eventually, more econ
cal to use it of good, stout quality. Pe
ally, we would favour wooden posts,
seeing you live in a district where timb
plentiful, these should be cheaper than w
be iron uprights. We should advise the
of Larch, which, if treated with "C
linium" or other good wood preserva
would last a lifetime. The corner
should not be less than 5 inches square,
should be let deeply into the ground,
the intermediate posts should be 2½ inch
3 inches square. Three strong wires sh
be stretched all round (except, of co
where a door is left), to which the ne
must be securely fastened with binding
For the top stout wires should be stret
from end to end and from side to side,
fastened to the posts with stout staples.
make a substantial, lasting job the
should be not wider than 6 feet apart.]

Small Walnuts

I have four Walnut trees in this ga
and one, which is a particularly fine,
tree—probably about in its prime—bea
big crop every year, but the nuts are
small. I shall be much obliged if you
tell me if this fault is peculiar to the sp
or whether I can do anything to improv
size of the nuts by manuring or otherwis
R. M. CUMBERLE

[There are numerous varieties of
Walnut (Juglans), but two only are us
grown in this country—the French,
large, and the English, with smaller
better-flavoured nuts. Most probably, th
fore, yours is a seedling of the latter var
We do not think that much can be don
improve the size of the fruits, but a mul
old farmyard manure might help a l
The forthcoming Walnut Show of the R
Horticultural Society should be of sp
interest to you. Most Walnuts in the c

are seedlings, hence the variation. The s you send are of good flavour, though all.]

eased Apples and Pears

Discolour).—Your Apples and Pears are ected with Brown Rot, a disease which, in n, attacks flower, shoot, and fruit of oles. The only control for this fungus is cut away and burn all dead wood from the e. Diseased fruits should be collected and ned, especially those mummied fruits ich sometimes remain attached to, or lie eath, the trees. Give the trees a thorough aying with lime sulphur at winter ength just before the buds break into wth next year. Only one Pear was cted. All the Pears appear to us as though y were taken from the tree a little before y were ready. With certain exceptions, rs should hang on the trees as long as sible.

FLOWER GARDEN

um pardalinum

. M. L.).—The Panther Lily loves a , light soil enriched with plenty of ded manure and leaf-soil, partial shade, ter from bleak winds, and plenty of sture during its growing season. Given , it is not only one of the most beautiful es of California, but one of the easiest of ure and increase. Your plants are in l of fresh soil and nourishment after ng been in one place so long. We ad- you to lift them at once, divide them up, cting the finest bulbs, and transplant on , deeply dug, and enriched soil. The season has not been in their favour.

irrhinum Asarina

I. M. L.).—This Italian is a sun-lover, makes an excellent plant when used on all or ledge. It is possible that someg is attacking your plant at the collar, or the soil is unsuitable. You might try splanting it to a more sunny position, also put in a few cuttings, striking them frame so as to enable you to try it next on in more than one position.

a Conqueror

Constant Reader").—So far as we can e out, there are only two varieties of that come anything near to your detion of Conqueror, these being Phyllis ett and C. W. Waters. We trust these meet your requirements.

Brigid Anemones

rs. Y.-B.).—Anemones like a rich, fairly , well-drained soil enriched with wellred farmyard manure. Your cold, chalky does not seem suitable for the successful ration of these flowers. You would ably have more success growing them on d beds with a good dressing of manure into the soil, and a crop of seedlings d be raised each year to take the place y failures.

nia Willmottiana wanted

Donovan).—We regret to say that after most extended search we have been unto find anyone offering this rare plant. very doubtful whether it can be procured gh the trade to-day.

ny buds failing to mature

A. L.).—With further reference to your ule, which was probably due to dryness at oot and watering with liquid manure e in this dry state. The soil for Pæonies d be trenched 2 feet deep and enriched farmyard manure, following which no manure should be given for at least two r, when, if the plant has become vigors, such assistance may be given with advantage. However, we would give your plant another trial, but cease applying liquid and give at the present time a heavy mulch of well-decayed farmyard manure, leaving this on the surface until growth commences in spring, when it should be pointed in.

Tulip bulb damaged

(W. R. Y., Cornwall).—No, all you have done is to damage the early leaves, which, as a consequence, will be only half their proper length. The flower is still dormant in the heart of the bulb.

GREENHOUSE

Chinese Sacred Lilies

(Various Readers).—The Chinese Sacred Lily is an eastern variety of Narcissus Tazetta (N. Polyanthus), and is also known as the Joss Lily. Bulbs imported from Northern China can be had in flower six weeks from planting. Half fill a bowl with shingle, adding sufficient water just to cover this. Place bulbs on the shingle and surround with pebbles. Keep receptacle in the dark until growth begins, then transfer to the light. It is advisable to change the water weekly, and the same should be tepid. Suitable pebbles can be purchased from most bulb merchants, one quart being sufficient for three bulbs.

TREES AND SHRUBS

Pruning Berberis

Kindly tell me how to prune the following:—Berberis polyantha, brevi-paniculata, Autumn Glory, B. Wilsoniæ, and when it should be done. They have made so many young shoots this year the fruit is almost hidden. E. G. H.

[All the kinds you mention should be slightly thinned by cutting out a few of the oldest and weakest branches from the very base of the bushes; this done, survey the bushes and remove any heavy cross branches which tend to shut out light and sun from the centre of the bush and thus encourage an open, airy, and shapely form, after the manner of a large fern. Do not tip the branches, as this only results in a dense growth and robs the bush of its natural and graceful form. The soil in which your plants are growing has been made too rich, hence the exuberant growth; a medium soil on the poor side is the best for these, the branches then, almost without exception, being laden with gorgeous fruit. This may be done at any time after January.]

White and yellow Jasmine congested

(A. Woolsey-Butler).—Both should be severely thinned in spring immediately the yellow species have ceased to bloom; when, in addition to thinning of the branches, exuberant and weakly growth may also be shortened back to any extent. In future, prevent your plants from becoming a tangled mass by pruning annually about the end of March, as when so treated the result is extremely beautiful, both kinds providing an abundance of lovely graceful sprays of bloom, which are highly desirable for cutting.

Pernettyas not fruiting

Kindly advise me if there are any means by which I can bring some Hybrid Pernettyas into fruit, planted in peaty loam, moist conditions at root, not shaded. The bushes, about 3 feet in height, grow well, are healthy, and are covered with blossom which fails to set. Two others were bought last season, and one has fruited. The others we have had three years or so. W. J. O.

[A moist rich soil is necessary for these beautiful berry-bearing shrubs, and the presence of both sexes. The trouble you complain about often arises from plants growing in too dry a position, the roots getting dust-dry at a time when moisture is most important. This is not the only trouble, however, as unless male and female plants are planted together the plants fail to fruit. We advise you to obtain a male plant from the nursery, allowing one of the latter to 12 females, and this may produce the desired result. To make doubly sure, you might obtain a plant in fruit and plant it among some of your own, as it is by no means certain which of the sexes you at present possess, and this should help you to clear the matter up.]

Romneya Coulteri with strong offshoot

(M. B.).—The suckering which you describe is quite characteristic of this handsome Poppy when growing in a free soil, and the writer is familiar with an instance where, planted at the foot of a brick wall, it has run beneath the foundation and formed large clumps on the opposite side. This, however, only occurs in free soils. You will not injure the parent plant in any way by removing the shoot, which may be transplanted at any time. These do not, however, always survive, and we advise you to place a little sharp sand about the base of the shoot when transplanting, and give slight protection from frost.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Leggy Chrysanthemums

("Dorset Duffer").—Unfortunately, you omit to state to which section of the Chrysanthemum race the varieties belong of which you complain. Also, whether grown for exhibition or for home decoration. Anyway, we fear that you have been overdosing with chemical manures, and nothing can now be done to improve matters for this season. If you will tell us which varieties you favour and the purpose for which you grow them, we will gladly give you full, practical hints on how to proceed another year.

MISCELLANEOUS

Lawns

The tennis courts have suffered very much from the drought this year, with the exception of the "lines," which are for about a foot wide of a lovely green colour. We have noticed this every year, but this year it is wonderful. The soil is very heavy, with blue clay not far away. My theory, for what it is worth, is that the whitening used in marking out in the same place every year has sweetened the soil, therefore allowing the grass to root deeper and to stand the dry weather better. My employer suggests giving the courts a coat of slacked lime. Would that answer, please, or would it burn the grass or make Clover grow, which are both to be avoided? Perhaps you could tell me what whitening is made of, and if ground chalk would answer as well. The chalk near here is grey. Used for cement would that be as good as white chalk? DODYOR.

[Your observations on the effect of the application of whitening to your lawn should give you a valuable clue as to the future treatment of the whole area. Whitening is a form of calcium carbonate, or, in other words, common chalk, and if you apply chalk you should be able to obtain the same effect all over the lawn. We suggest that you use ground limestone or one of the commercial forms of calcium carbonate, which are on the market, at the rate of 1 lb. per square yard over the whole area. This material should be applied at once. Slaked lime would do the same work, and you would only need to use ½ lb. per square yard of this material. You will, of course, realise that lime or chalk is very apt to encourage

Clovers on a lawn, and the presence of Clover slows down the pitch considerably, and is not looked upon with very much favour by lawn tennis players. On the other hand, your first problem seems to be to get your grasses growing and an application of lime will do this. Afterwards if you find Clover troublesome you can easily get rid of it by using either sulphate of ammonia or a good lawn sand. If the Clover is troublesome later on write to us again.]

Tennis courts

Kindly advise me on the treatment of six lawn tennis courts which I am in charge of as a groundsman. Last season I was advised to manure them with a dressing of lime and earth, but, to my mind, they have looked very poor. They are now looking fairly green, but full of worm casts. Since the play stopped, the base lines are very bare, and I am afraid no grass will grow again. Would you please advise me on a manure suitable for sowing now, and what quantity for six full-sized tennis courts, and whether I sow seed on bare places or returf? Your advice will be very much esteemed.

Geo. H. Soper.

[It is difficult to advise without seeing the courts in question, as the condition of turf varies so much under the local conditions which obtain. On general principles the first thing to do will be to clear up the worm trouble by applying a good worm-killer. This material should be applied according to the maker's directions. The bare patches are more difficult to deal with. If the lawns do not get a lot of wear, sowing down the bare patches would probably be sufficient. When the lawns receive hard wear the only satisfactory way of dealing with bare patches is to returf. All groundsmen should make the practice of having a turf nursery from which turf can be lifted to returf bare patches. The material from the bare patches should be replaced in the turf nursery and sown down. If this system is carried out there is always a supply of turf available for patching. The resown material will have to stay in position for two years before it is in a fit condition to lift for patching purposes. Your grass seed mixture should be made up of good, hard-wearing grasses, and the mixture should contain 10 per cent. of Agrostis stolonifera. The whole area of lawn should be dressed in April with sulphate of ammonia at the rate of 1 oz. per square yard.]

Waterlogged tennis court

I should be very grateful if you could help me with a plan for draining a tennis court, which is so wet that it is almost unplayable. The court lies below a slope of rough grass; above the grass slope is a small stream which runs parallel to the tennis court. We are practically certain that most of the moisture which appears on the tennis court penetrates from the stream and through the rough grass slope. Most of the drains on the court have been taken up and examined.

An old, broken drain was discovered running from the stream, nearly down on to the court. When this was blocked up, a marked improvement on the court was noticed, so it is possible that there are other drains coming from the stream. The court was probably added about 15 years ago to an old garden.

A friend has suggested the following plan for getting rid of the water which comes from the stream.

A narrow drain should be dug the whole length of the court, sloping from each end towards the post; at the post a square hole should be dug; both the drain and hole should be filled with clinkers (2-inch screened), and then that a socketed drain should be made right across the court, to convey the accumulated water to the field. The soil is clay. If you think this plan practical, I would be very glad if you could tell me: (1) How wide and how deep the clinker drain should be, and what should be the fall to the centre?

(2) How big the hole for the clinkers in the centre should be?

(3) What should be the fall of the drain across the court, and how large the pipes for it should be?

(4) How much clinker should be required? I should be most grateful for any hints or suggestions.

We have only taken Gardening Illustrated for the last three months regularly, and find it most helpful and interesting

(Miss) M. B. Debenham.

[The suggestion made by your friend is quite a good one as far as it goes. We would, however, advise you, while adhering to the original suggestion, to lay a 3-inch land drain along the bottom of the trench before filling in with 2-inch clinkers, breeze, or stones. The trench should be 10 inches wide and 18 inches deep at each end, with a fall of 6 inches to the centre, in each case discharging into a small bricked catch-pit, 3 feet deep by 14 inches square. Leading off from this we recommend a 4-inch socket drain to convey the water to the field. The land drain pipes should not touch each other, ¼ inch, at least, being allowed between each pipe to allow of access of water. We consider that a small catch-pit is preferable to a hole filled with clinkers, as you can inspect the drains conveniently from time to time, and there will be less possibility of them choking at the junction. The fall across the court for the socket drain should be 6 inches. You do not state the length of your lawn which is to be drained, therefore, we are unable to say how much material will be required, but if you allow for 1 yard of clinker to each 12 feet run of trench you will be near the mark. We presume there is a reason for not allowing the drain to discharge at one end of the lawn, otherwise a gentle fall from end to end with an easy bend would have prevented you cutting through the centre of the lawn and rendered the catch-pit unnecessary.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

Constant Reader, Bristol.—3, Polygonum vaccinæfolium.

William E. Cox.—1, Centaurea rogusina; 2, C. gymnocarpa; 3, C. Clementei; 4, Cineraria maritima.

Mac.—Cydonia Maulei, a dwarf Quince from Japan.

L. S. O.—Polygonum Baldschuanicum.

Superintendent.—Chrysanthemum leucanthemum plenum.

E. M. Burn.—Specimen insufficient. Please send when in bloom. It may be a Wulfenia.

F. P., Stafford.—Heuchera Rosamunde.

A. M. B.—Clethra alnifolia, native of Eastern N. America. Deciduous, growing 5 feet to 6 feet in height. The flowers, creamy-white, open in August, and the seed-vessels, when ripe, are brown. The plant is quite hardy.

L. W.—We regret to say that the flowers of the Zonal Pelargoniums sent by you were all knocked to pieces when they reached us. The white is probably "Vestal."

NAMES OF FRUITS

W. F. C., Cornwall.—Pears: 1, Beurré Bosc syn. Calebasse Bosc; 2, Beurré Hardy; 3, Marie Louise.

D. R., Barry.—1, Lemon Pippin; 2, Ribston Pippin; 3, King of Tomkins County; 4 and 5, labels mixed. Large fruit Hambling's Seedling, smaller fruit Margil.

J. R., Colchester.—1, Ben's Red; 2, Striped Beefing; 3, Beauty of Kent; 4, A
Elizabeth.

F. N., Sussex.—1, Mother; 2, Go
Noble.

"*Aln.*"—1, Stirling Castle; 2, Braml
Seedling; 3, Cockle Pippin.

"*Wellfield.*"—8, Allen's Everlasting;
Cox's Orange Pippin; 35, Mere du Men
42, Pear Brown Beurré.

W. K., Berks.—1, Mere du Menage
Golden Noble; 3, Lord Hindlip.

Constant Reader, Bristol.—1, Coronat
2, Beauty of Kent.

Betty Sibley.—Striped Beefing.

Taunton's Excellent Show

Taunton held an extremely successful s
last week. This was the 15th annual
hibition, and the entries on both the f
and decorative sides exceeded those of
year. The number of challenge cups
trophies was much larger than on prev
occasions.

Mr. F. W. Penny secured a first for
vase of singles in the show. These were
Robert Collins variety (bronze), and took
special Gold Medal offered by Mr. W.
Loosemore.

Outstanding success among the exhibi
was scored by the Lady Abbess, Franci
Convent, Taunton. In the first four cl
for Japanese blooms the Convent gard
(Mr. P. Fawle) swept the board, taking
firsts and three Challenge Cups, also the
Medal for the best bloom in the show, a
white blossom of the Mrs. A. Brown var

Mr. Penny also did well in the amate
division, obtaining the Challenge Cup for
highest number of points awarded in s
classes. The Silver Vase offered for the
prizewinner in the 12 blooms class (amate
exhibit) went to Mr. C. E. O. Hamme
Langport.

Mr. Guy Turner, with a collection
Japanese Chrysanthemums in pots, too
Silver Cup.

Mr. W. H. Pease (Tiverton) was the
successful exhibitor in the open classes
Pears and Apples, and won not only
Silver Challenge Cup for highest points,
also the Gardening Illustrated Medal.

Among the trade displays Mr. R. J. C
of Staplegrove Nurseries, received the pre
award. New and other outstanding blo
in his exhibit were Bob Greenfield, a
old rose variety; Enid, a red bloom, suff
yellow; Mrs. E. L. Andrews, buff-apr
shaded bronzy-red; Red Molly, a deep
chestnut-red; and Rose Molly, a deep
(single varieties); and Albion, white; E
Beauty, bright crimson; Enton Sun
striking bronze; Golden Wonder, a
yellow; and Mohawk, Indian red (do
varieties).

The outstanding varieties in the exhibi
Mr. H. Clarke, of the Greenway Nurse
Taunton, were Iolanthe, a double of stri
pink; Rose Molly, a deep rose colour (sing
Miss Higley, an excellent single for s
work, of salmon-bronze; and the
Anemone Centre variety, of several colo
Mr. Clarke's display was awarded a
Medal.

Similar honours fell to Sutton and S
Reading, for a stand of wonderful qu
Potatoes; Jarman and Co., Chard, fruit
Chrysanthemums; Allwood Bros., Hayw
Heath, Sussex, Chrysanthemums.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Laxton Bros., Bedford.—Fruit trees
small fruits.

*Kelway and Sons, The Royal Nurse
Langport, Som.*—Roses, hardy clim
flowering shrubs, trees, conifers, and
trees.

Selecting seeds

ing in " Commercial Varieties of
bles for New York State," bulletin
blished by the New York State College
iculture, at Cornell University, Ithaca,
H. W. Schneck says that seedsmen's
ues list over 15,000 so-called varietal
of vegetables, while probably 500
s would suffice for all important com-
l needs. In fact, listing 36 crops sug-
for New York markets, he enumerates
o varieties. Thousands of the names
the 15,000 are synonyms ; many others
names of distinct varieties which are
worth.

thing similar exists in regard to flower
the standardisation of which various
sations are attempting to effect. Some
practically every trade convention is
to nomenclature, and the American
ation of Nurserymen and the Society of
an Florists have standing committees
enclature, which present their reports
annual gatherings. The publication
ver-increasing acceptance of " Stan-
d Plant Names " is in a line with the
of the trade to simplify plant
cation.

the organisations of florists, nursery-
nd seedsmen, the Vegetable Growers'
tion of America is active in an effort to
dise the names and varieties of their
ts, according to Mr. Schneck. To help
ork vegetable growers assure them-
f a supply of good seeds, he suggests
practices, some of which are readily
ble by florists, particularly.

suggestions follow :—

udy many catalogues and question
en closely.

2. Deal chiefly with houses of established reputation, trying new ones with caution.

3. Seek to know the source of seed, not so much for climatic influences as for care in breeding, growing, and handling.

4. Buy seed as near the source as possible and, if possible, from the originator, the introducer, or the houses that have specialised in improvement and maintenance of good stocks of a variety.

5. Ask for stock numbers, so that seed of the same parentage may be bought if results are good.

6. When feasible, buy seed a year in advance and subject it to field trial.

7. Do not buy primarily on a price basis.

These suggestions are worth consideration by any florist, for every grower knows that the first essential in producing good stock is planting reliable seeds. No matter the care lavished on the plants germinated from inferior seeds, the crop cannot be A-No. 1 stock. For it is still true that " a silk purse cannot be made from a sow's ear."

"Herbs of Healing"*

Wild flowers have an attraction all their own, and indeed popular interest is often awakened as to their uses. It is to the ancients that we owe a great deal of the knowledge that has come down to us about herbs, also the knowledge that has been handed down from generation to generation about the curative lore of these plants. Our early ancestors discovered that herbs were extremely useful insomuch that they contained medicinal qualities which would alleviate ailments without the skill of a more qualified practitioner. The truth of this is outlined in the book " Herbs of Healing," which gives a short description in non-technical language of some of the best-known English herbs, and with the aid of the photographs enables a reader to distinguish with ease the true from the false.

The Latin name of each herb is given, together with the name by which the herb is generally known, and a brief outline of the curative properties is added. In the arrangement of the book botanical sequence has been followed, thus bringing related plants together, and the index enables any plant to be found in the text by means of its customary name. A very fascinating work for those interested in herbs.

Birmingham Gardeners' Association

The Birmingham and Midland Counties Gardeners' Association is an active organisation under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. Smith, the Superintendent of Birmingham City Parks and Cemeteries. A very excellent syllabus for the winter and spring, 1929-30, has been prepared, which includes some attractive lectures at the local Chamber of Commerce on arranged Monday evenings. The Secretary is Mr. P. G. Catt, The Lodge, Westbourne, Edgbaston.

OBITUARY

MR. JOHN EDWARD MASON

His numerous friends in the horticultural world will learn with regret of the death of Mr. John Edward Mason, a Director of Messrs. Joseph Bentley, Ltd., the well-known firm of chemical manufacturers, which took place on the 1st inst. at his residence, Barrow House, Barrow-on-Humber, Lincs.

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* "Herbs of Healing," by Edward Step, F.L.S. London : Hutchinson & Co., Ltd. Price 10s. 6d., with 78 illustrations.

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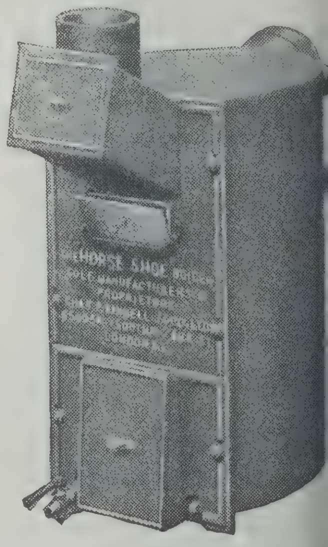

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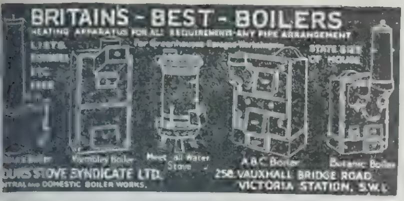
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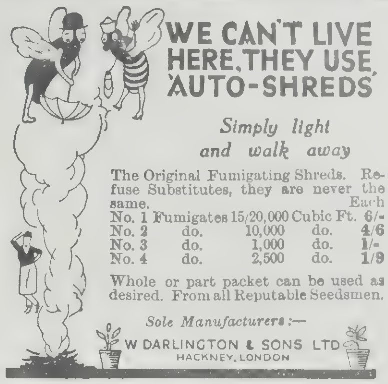
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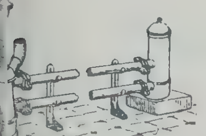

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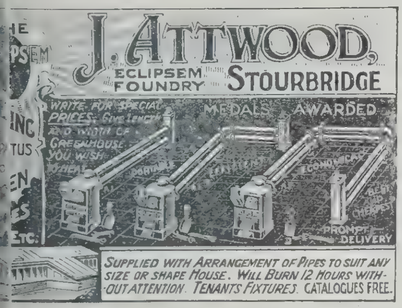

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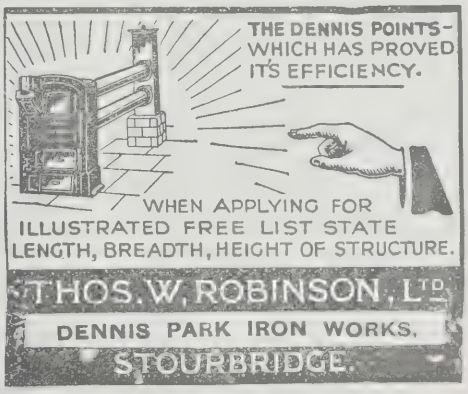
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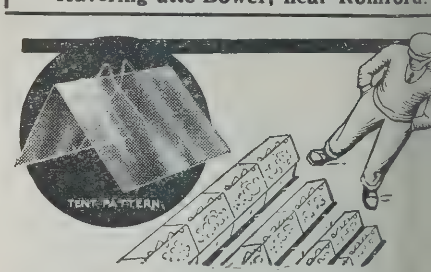

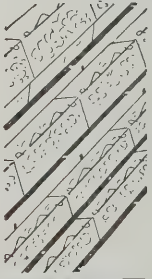

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Roses in 1929

spite of the dry season, this has been exceptionally good year for Roses. The nmer crop was excellent, and the n display has been equally fine. There a sprinkling of bloom in November, e frost that put an end to the flowering of the Dahlias was not severe enough down the Roses. Nowadays there to be no such thing as "the Last Rose nmer," such is the prodigality of blos- of modern Roses. This free-flowering, tive type is now by far the most popular.

CH IS THE FREEST FLOWERING ROSE?

may seem a difficult question to , but I have no hesitation in that Gwyneth Jones is one most continuous and most ous Roses we have. It nces to bloom in June, and sually in bud and blossom rost puts an end to all out- owers. We can safely ex- om it five months of con- s flowering. I have three trees of this variety, and oduced hundreds of blooms. of times I have removed sful of faded flowers, while y more have been cut for lecoration. The early crop variety was, during the ason, the best I have ever give. The vivid colour ere, together with more s and shapeliness in the than one generally expects. ce mulch of cow manure, with a few inches of soil, with which I top- my Rose beds in spring to have suited the thinly oses of the Gwyneth Jones nd perhaps accounted in vay for the quality of the owers. Speaking of top- g, I find this a good to counteract the ravages k Spot. By renewing the soil there is practically no any disease spores reach- plant during the growing Last year all my trees of iety Cherry were badly at- with Black Spot and were before the autumn was er. This year the same rowing in the same posi- e unaffected, and they are n at the present time. All soil surrounding the trees moved in the spring, a mulch of manure was spread around them, and new soil from the vegetable plot was put on. Los Angeles, W. F. Dreer, and others that are subject to Black Spot can be grown successfully by the same treatment.

WHICH IS THE BEST OF THE NEW ROSES?

Now, this is a really difficult question to answer, but I am inclined to think that few new Roses will give such general satisfaction as Mrs. Sam McGredy, which is being sent out this autumn. It has been consistently good with me all the season, and I would even go so far as to say that it is the best variety that I have grown. The colour description is scarlet-coppery-orange flushed with Lincoln red. This is as accurate as words can convey. There is some of that wonderful colouring that made Mme. Edouard Herriot such a sensational novelty when it was first introduced, and yet it is not like Herriot. Probably if you take a bit of Herriot's colour and mix it with some of Emma Wright's, with a splash of scarlet blended in them, you will not be far from the true shade. The blooms are beautiful in the bud and half-open stage, and the open flower is sufficiently well built to give it grace when full blown. It is a good grower, very free, and the foliage is a handsome dark bronzy-green.

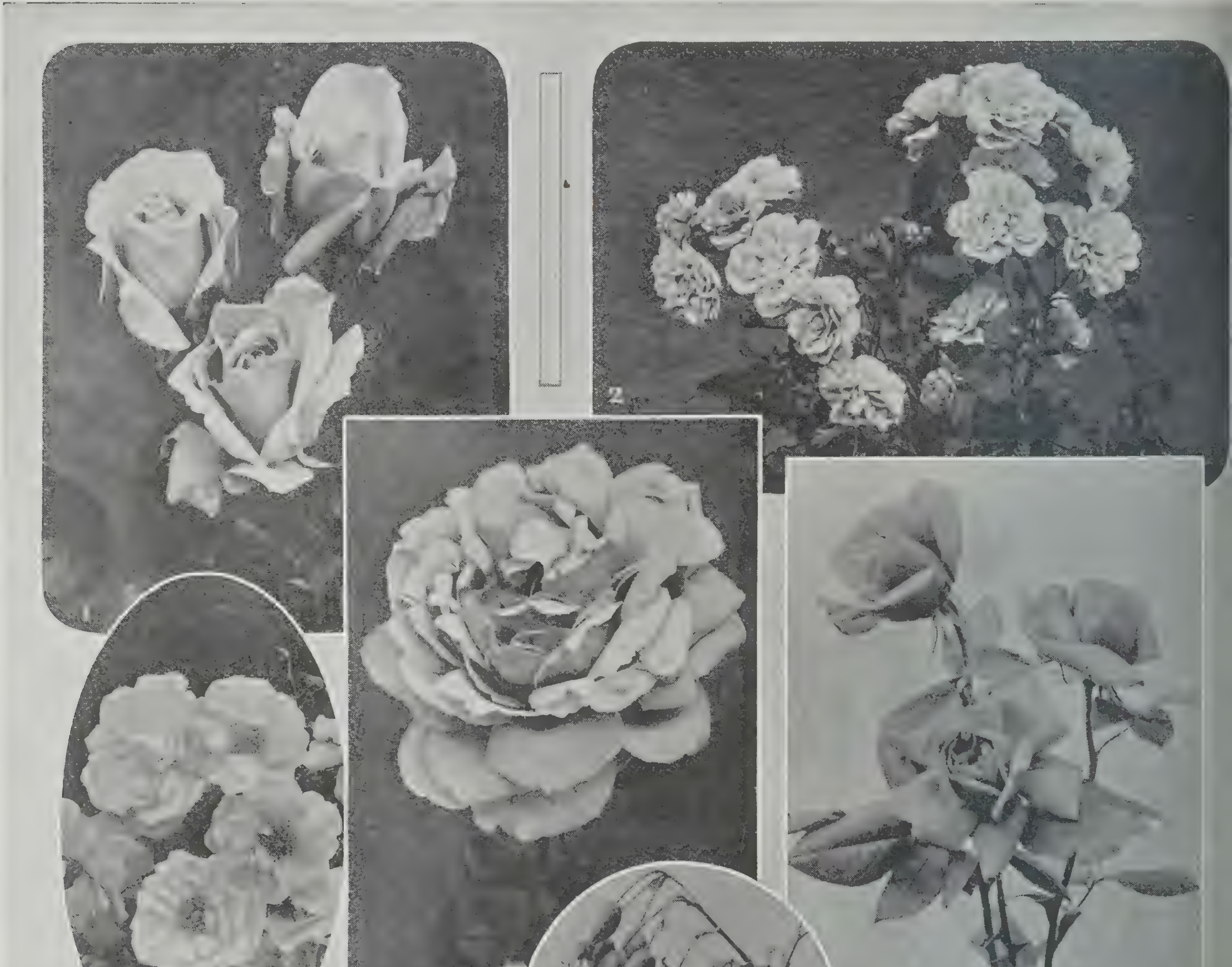
A basket of Mrs. Sam McGredy, a promising new Rose

Flowers scarlet coppery orange, flushed with Lincoln red. The foliage is of dark bronzy green

Mrs. A. R. Barraclough is a fine Rose, especially in our northern districts, and there is similar praise for Dame Edith Helen from my southern friends. These are two notable new pink Roses. Shot Silk still comes under the category of newer varieties, and it is difficult to find fault with this superb Rose. Whenever I find anyone bemoaning the loss of fragrance in the newer Roses I feel as though I would like to hold that person nose downwards in a bunch of Shot Silk. It is one of the sweetest Roses we have, and such handsome foliage, too. What more exquisite colour is there than Shot Silk in its first freshness? Let us hope that there are many more new Roses as good as Shot Silk.

YELLOW ROSES

I like yellow Roses best when the garden is rain-dimmed. They seem to be the lanterns that light up the other colours. Starting with the pale yellows, two of the best are Mrs. Beatty and Richard E. West. Both have some of the Marechal Niel colouring in them. How different these two Roses are in habit. Mrs. Beatty is rather petite, with very shapely blooms of great lasting qualities. Richard is a rampant grower, with strong, branching growths, pointed buds, and quite full enough if it is disbudded a little. In the mustard yellows—perhaps the brightest of all—four of the best are Christine, Mrs. Wemyss Quin, Golden Emblem, and Mabel Morse. Each has some outstanding quality, none is quite the ideal, perhaps. I have seen a new yellow that



A SELECTION OF ROSES

1. Columbia, clear soft rose of beautiful form.
2. Callisto (Hybrid Musk), perpetual flowering bush with golden-yellow clusters.
3. Penelope, another Hybrid Musk; clusters of shell pink shaded salmon.
4. Zephirine Drouhin, a time-honoured favourite of the sweetest fragrance, very free flowering.
5. The Buttercup-yellow Mrs. Beckwith; flowers not large but exquisite form, ideal habit, and mildew-proof.
6. The brilliant red hips of Rosa fasciculata.
7. Dainty Bess, a Rose of singular beauty for table decoration.
8. The Ophelia-like Lady Sylvia, suitable for cultivation und glass.

e in commerce shortly that will prob-
ipply the requirements of an all-round
Rose. Florence Izzard, with its
buttercup-yellow blooms, is different
he foregoing quartet. It has been ex-
ially good during the autumn.

CONCERNING CRIMSONS

e, again, we have no ideal crimson.
Colonel Oswald Fitzgerald is at its
nd where it will grow well, it is diffi-
beat. It is an aristocrat among crim-
So, too, is Portadown, when it is at
st. I like James Gibson very much,
lly towards the end of the season. It
st that little bit of scarlet in it which
the colour so bright. In autumn Lady
Maglona is very good, but in summer
ngs her head most bashfully. The rich,
flowers of Lady Worthington Evans,
gh little more than semi-double, are
attractive, and this is both a good
and very free-flowering. Sir David
is a strong grower, with large, shapely
s. Hadley is very fine in autumn. Miss
van Rossem is a pretty little flower of
orm and rich colouring. Probably the
ecorative crimson variety we have is
veetly scented Etoile de Hollande. It
creased in popularity during the last
ars, and deservedly so.

VHITE, CREAM, AND IVORY SHADES

white Roses can beat Mrs. Herbert
s, which bears the most shapely, spiral
naginable. It is very fine when grown
standard, and I find it splendid on
a. White Ensign is purity itself in the
unny weather, but when the days are
there is just a suspicion of cream in it.
dy's Ivory, a newcomer this autumn,
best I have grown in this colour—long,
l buds and finely built full blooms. It
trong grower with very clean foliage.
e Goodacre is one of the best of the
shades we grow in the north of Eng-
and in this district it is outstanding.
Villmott is a large, shapely flower with
harming colours, cream with just the
t tint of pink near the tips of the petals.
white Rose that I saw in excellent con-
in Essex is Caledonia, which is well
a trial.

ORANGE SHADES

me last of all to these—my favourite
s. Duchess of Atholl is a very beauti-
iety, a rich, deep orange of good shape
stages. Lady Roundway is a well-
Rose of rich, deep colour and plenty of
nce, but it does not grow too well here,
is hardly free enough for garden de-
on. Angele Pernet has much to recom-
it—lovely soft colouring and handsome
foliage, but it is rather too fleeting. It
seem prejudice, but I think that no
in the orange shades is quite as good
namesake. There is no Rose so free
lisease and at the same time so vigor-
d free-flowering as this. It is a good
nal, when the flowers are a little bolder
they are in summer and do not open
so quickly. But the richest colour is
weather with a little sunshine or
h in the air to give that reddish-pink
iat overlays the yellow. When you see
e mass it is even more impressive.
ion Cran, Portadown Bedder, Desmond
on, Lamia, Independence Day, and the
Lady Forteviot are all lovely colour
in which orange or yellow predomin-
In the Polyanthas Orange King and
Salmon are two varieties that provide
ling bit of colour when massed. The
Polyantha Roses are worthy of more
ence in our gardens. A bed of either
of the two kinds mentioned or of Coral Cluster, Eblouissant, Else Poulsen, or the old favourite, Mrs. Cutbush, would provide a welcome display.

NORMAN LAMBERT.

Winter Sweet

Some delicious, fragrant, spicy whiff as one walks through the garden in mid-winter—can you not imagine how welcome it is? And there are so many to be had for the asking!

In the early spring we have the little Daphne Mezereon, the sweet little shrub familiar to most of us; but for true winter sweetness get Sarcococcus humilis into your garden, and, as you pass by, you will get the sweet scent of it borne by the wind for 15 feet or more. It is a rounded, evergreen shrub with little white flowers, ridiculously small for the amount of fragrance they produce. It will flower from about the end of January onwards for several weeks. Sarcococcus Hookeriana digyma is even more attractive, as, in addition to being equally sweet-scented, its leaves are delicately margined with pink and the young shoots are rosy. Both are quite hardy and will do well either in the open or under trees.

Then there is the well-known Chimonanthus fragrans (the Winter Sweet), which deserves a place in any garden that can give it a warm south wall. Cut it in well in the spring after it has finished flowering, as the nearer you can keep it to the warmth of the wall the better it will flower. It will cover a wall with a shimmer of pale yellow from December to March, flowering on the bare wood in hanging bells, the long, pointed outer petals of yellow half hiding the inner petticoat of crimson.

The yellow-and-rust fuzz of that old friend, Hamamelis mollis (Witch Hazel), though not so fragrant, is also worth growing, and it will do perfectly well in the open. It is at its best about February, though it will start flowering a month before that at least. It is a rather spreading, low shrub, bearing its many rather curious flowers all up its bare grey stems.

Viburnum nervosum is another and a very beautiful addition to the sweet-scented flowering shrubs of winter, but it is not yet on the market. From the beginning of January onwards, in all but the very hardest winter weather, it produces fragrant, tubular, pink flowers in clusters, each flower about 1 inch or 1½ inches long, at the tips of short, lateral, spur-like growths. They are about the colour of a Strawberry ice-cream, a very exceptional colour for this time of year. The habit of growth is upright and the wood a shiny brown.

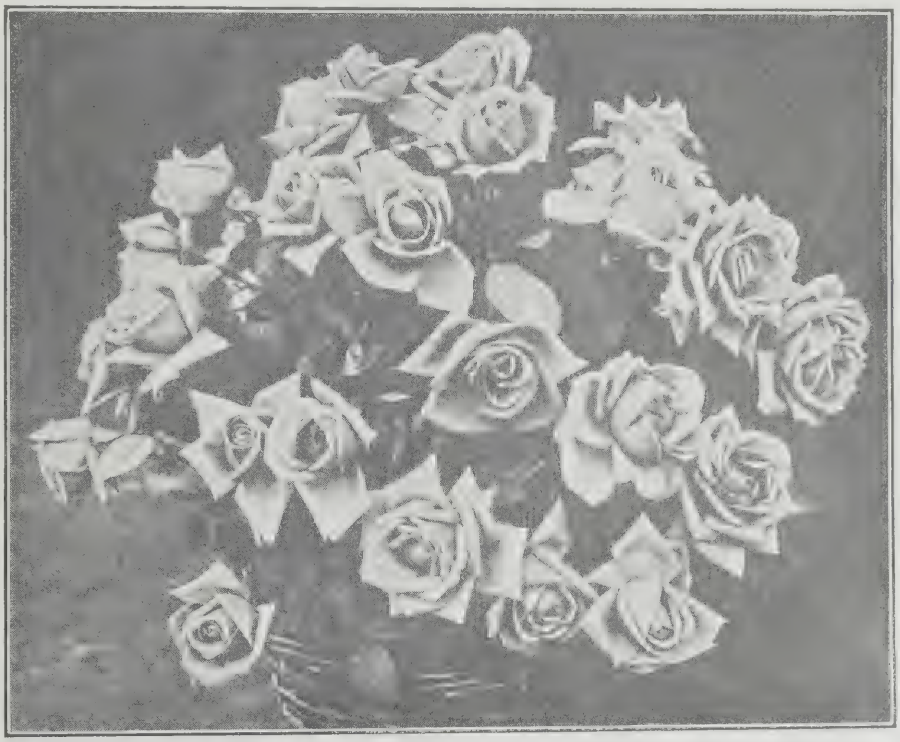
L. STOKES.

Howth, Co. Dublin.

Ourisia coccinea

It is well nigh impossible to prescribe any hard-and-fast treatment for this plant; in some gardens, tried in all manner of soils and situations, it is adamant in its refusal to grow; in other gardens it romps and crawls with rapidity and vigour and gives generously of its beautiful vermilion flowers. Where I know it at its best is in cool, half-shaded places, where its purplish, caterpillar-like stems crawl in all directions and emit a profusion of the fresh, green, crinkled leaves; the loosely-arranged pendant and brilliantly-coloured trumpets are carried some 8 inches or 9 inches above these leaves, and a few plants in flower is indeed a lovely feature. I would suggest for the plant a rich, moist soil and the close proximity of damp rock. Plant Ourisia on the shady side of the latter and there will be reason to hope for success with this brilliant little plant, which came from Chili so long ago as 1862. I once had it running about in the light shade afforded by Azaleas such as rosaflora, etc., and here it was exceedingly attractive. It is of interest to record that Ourisia commemorates Governor Ouris, of the Falkland Islands, from whom Commerson obtained the plant. There are one or two other species in cultivation, but rarely met with.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.



A basket of Shot Silk

One of the sweetest scented Roses we have

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Daphne arbuscula

I WAS interested to see Dr. Jenkin raising the question of the unknown history of this plant in our gardens (issue November 9th, page 752), and hope that someone will put us right on this questionable subject. I have hunted in vain for years to get reliable information about this attractive little plant, for it is evident the plant we love under this name is neither D. arbuscula of Christ, which is a sub-form of the well known Daphne Laureola, nor the narrow-leaved and diminished Austrian form of D. Cneorum, which Farrer seems finally to decide the D. arbuscula of gardens to be.

I intimately know plants of Daphne arbuscula, which are now compact patches a foot across, and cannot see that the rather few, long-tubed flowers, covered with a fine pubescens, and much larger than those of the finest known form of D. Cneorum, or the absolutely distinct, upright habit of growth, and the long, narrow, slightly rolled underleaves show any close relationship with Daphne Cneorum.

Of late years I have considered D. arbuscula, as we know it, to be the D. arbuscula of Celak, who describes his plant as a dwarf evergreen shrub with reddish branchlets, leaves crowded at the ends of the branchlets, and linear oblanceolate in shape, pubescent or glabrous beneath, ¾ inch long, and the flowers as being carried in terminal, three to eight-flowered heads. The flowers are described as pink, which is rather loose—I should rather say a shade of lilac—and Celak gives the flowering time as June, and the native habitat as Hungary. In my humble opinion D. arbuscula stands botanically much nearer to D. rupestris (D. petræa), and without knowing the positions it chooses to grow in in its native habitat should regard this, in common with D. rupestris, as a true Alpine plant.

D. Cneorum, as I know it in the Eastern Alps, I must class as a sub-Alpine plant, belonging to the coniferous zone and never ascending to the levels of D. striata, which, by the by, is probably the rarest of the Alpine Daphnes in cultivation in England. I cannot recollect ever seeing a sound, thriving plant of it in any English garden or nursery. I believe I can claim to have seen the greater number of our European Daphnes in their native places, including this year Daphne oleoides and its varieties glandulosa and puberula on Mount Olympus and Mount Smolika respectively, and have for many years tried to cultivate all the hardy Daphnes obtainable, so may be credited with a certain amount of experience and knowledge of them, and feel assured that Farrer was indeed widely wrong in describing D. arbuscula as only a form of D. Cneorum. I hope that this correspondence may lead to further light being shed for the benefit of inquiring minds like those of Dr. Jenkin and myself.

W. E. Th. Ingwersen.

Aralia spinosa (or chinensis?)

When in full flower in September this is always very attractive, but with me has never fruited until this year. Covered with its foot-long inflorescences spread out fanwise from the apex of the stiff branches, the main inflorescence stem and side stems of a pale purple tint, from which dangle bunches of black-purple berries, the whole thing is attractive and of quite unusual appearance.

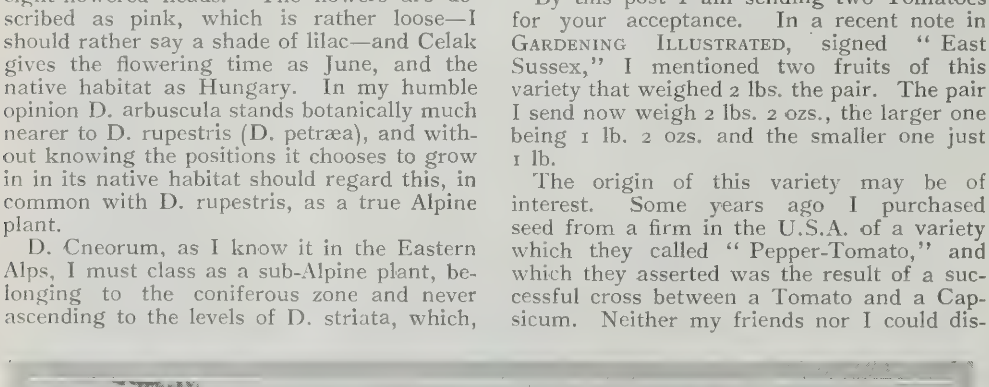
Glos. F. W. C.

Large Tomatoes

By this post I am sending two Tomatoes for your acceptance. In a recent note in Gardening Illustrated, signed "East Sussex," I mentioned two fruits of this variety that weighed 2 lbs. the pair. The pair I send now weigh 2 lbs. 2 ozs., the larger one being 1 lb. 2 ozs. and the smaller one just 1 lb.

The origin of this variety may be of interest. Some years ago I purchased seed from a firm in the U.S.A. of a variety which they called "Pepper-Tomato," and which they asserted was the result of a successful cross between a Tomato and a Capsicum. Neither my friends nor I could discern any trace whatever of the Capsicu the resulting fruits, and I was not surpr to read subsequently in an American jou that so far as its supposed pedigree was cerned, the variety "cut no ice." T was, in fact, an extraordinary mixtur forms in the plants I raised, as they diff greatly in colour and shape. I selected saved seed from one because of its enorn size, and for some years I have continue re-select it for size, the result being the f I send. It may, perhaps, be considered big for most purposes, but in growing to a size I find it has lost nothing in good q ties, being firm, fleshy, and well-flavou in fact, a very good Tomato indeed.

East Susse



Statice profusa superba

Shown in a large group at Vincent Square on Nov. 19th by the Rolvenden Nurseries, Rolvenden, Kent

Stachyurus præcox

Though the books and catalogues do puff this for its autumn tints (or even tion them), with me it is one of the f things in that way in the garden. Ordi frosts which bring down its neighbours Cercidiphyllum japonicum, the leaves of w have already fallen without colouring a this year) do not seem to touch the leaves of Stachyurus. It commenced colour in September, and is now (Nover 11th) a mass of red and pink, with a leaves here and there still retaining the green summer colour (hardly any fallen), the fresh green enhancing mously the splendid red shades.

Hambrook, Glos. F. W.

Statice profusa

AS is well known, many of the Lavenders are valued for their effec the hardy plant border. In additio these, there are a few members of the fa which are equally valued for their useful as pot plants in the greenhouse or cool servatory. These furnish, round about time, a delicate shade of blue—a colour w is never too plentiful under glass, and which acts as a foil for brighter hues. latter are most probably hybrids, and among them is S. profusa. It is not a diffi plant to manage, yet occasionally it may seen in a condition which is far from s factory. S. profusa must not have an ex of moisture, nor must it be grown in a atmosphere, while, in addition, ample dr age is required. I have had much suc with the plant by growing it under condit which are, to all intents and purposes, q cool and in a compost consisting of loam leaf-mould in equal proportions with, course, a good admixture of sharp sa S. profusa, in my experience, is sterile, must be propagated by means of cutti These are much more difficult to root t those of the majority of greenhouse pla and, when it can be done, they should given the advantage of a close propagat pit, in which there is a certain amount bottom heat. The stem ought not to be bu below the base of the leaves, and to errors this respect may be traced the failures w not infrequently happen in the propagatio S. profusa. A Scottish Gardener

Lilium canadense and its geographi distribution

I can bear out Mr. J. Henry Watson's on the Lilium canadense and also the Op tias (issue November 16th, page 768). various districts of the Prairie Provinces, only on a level with Medicine Hat, etc., th are three or four varieties of Cacti w survive a most cruel winter climate. I h got these Cacti doing quite well at Tho (Essex), and the yellow Opuntia flowered q freely last winter. In winter I give th the protection of sheets of glass to save th

the damp, and they seem quite happy.
m canadense is oddly varied, in that
blooms have spots, others are quite
in, clear yellow. I saw them best, I
, near Trail, B.C., where they were
ing thickly on the railway embankment,
ulbs a long way under ground and hard
t at. They really are to be found pretty
all over Canada, L. Philadelphicum
in the West, and then only in certain
ties, but in those it is most prolific.

EVELYN BYNG OF VIMY.

onomising space in small gardens

IKE many owners of small gardens,
ant to grow everything, and find great
fficulty in doing so. Colchicum specio-
is a great sinner by reason of its coarse
s, but have it I must, and I find that
planted amongst Lilies of the Valley it
well, the blooms showing very effectively
st the changing colours of the Lily
s. We cut away the foliage of the Col-
m as soon as possible and long before
ilies flower. I may mention that my
of the Valley are of a late-flowering
ty and came to me from a fine old Devon
ner under the name of "Hawkins, late
h," but though much admired nobody
s to know of it. The big plant in the
round (left) is Geranium anemone-
n, which I, in my ignorance, planted in
too good soil, with the result that there
een very little flower. The foliage is
ificent, but to bloom well I am told it
starvation diet. With the eye of faith
nay see a little clump of Belladonnas in
ed under the greenhouse, but they have
a disappointment this year, perhaps ow-
the dry spring; goodness knows it is not
to the lack of a good baking.

C. PRENTIS.

siers, Borden, near Sittingbourne.

Quality in Pears

e subject of quality in Pears is of peren-
interest, and as one who has, to some
t, specialised in the Pear, I may, per-
be permitted to amplify the note over
ell-known initials "E. B.," and which
red in the issue of November 9th. As
riter correctly states, perfumed or, as
lls them, aromatic Pears are not appre-
by all, and, I confess, they do not
ially appeal to me. That is not to say,
ver, that such Pears are by any means
or in quality. Quite the reverse; for
nn Bergamot is, admittedly, in the top
. Its flavour is very rich indeed, and its
, rather "dumpy" fruits are very melt-
although at times rather gritty at the
I imagine there are two forms of this
—one a very old variety which has been
n as Autumn Bergamot for centuries,
he other the Bergamot d'Automne of
mel, which is quite a different Pear.
B." also mentions Sickle, by which I
rstand Seckle—a Pear with a rich,
-like flavour. It has a russety skin,
bronze on the sunny side, and turns a
ellow when ripe. The variety makes a
iful dish in the dessert, and when in
n (in the end of October with me) it is
antly in request, although the fruits are
. The tree bears best upon the tips of
receding year's wood, the fruits usually
in clusters of three. Seckle is a heavy
er. I believe it is of American origin.
not quite clear as to the variety which
B." mentions under the name of Van
le Clerc—probably, however, it is
le Clerc (Van Mons), so called to dis-
ish it from Leon le Clerc de Laval. The
r is usually simply called Van Mons—
am not in error—and it is one of the
Pears raised by the great Fleming, who
us Marie Louise and many other famous

Many interesting plants find a home in the garden of Mr. C. Prentis, Posiers, near Sittingbourne

Pears. Leon le Clerc, in my estimation, is only moderately good—it halts between two opinions and is neither melting nor hard. I am on secure ground when I mention Forelle, and I am glad to find that "E. B." appreciates this fine but little known Pear. As he no doubt knows, the variety is known as the Trout Pear owing to the fact that as the fruits ripen the skin assumes a deep red colour spotted with grey specks, resembling to some extent the skin of the burn trout. Forelle is a very handsome Pear, the fruits of medium size, and with white flesh. In some seasons it is half melting, in others quite so. Its season varies. I have had it in November, but at times also as late as January. One of my lads who was in the Army of Occupation in Germany after the close of the war told me that under the name of Forellenbirne he saw large numbers of this variety in that country. Among perfumed or aromatic Pears I may mention Fondanté d'Automne, a delicious Pear of good size, and which does well on the Quince; Easter Bergamot, a good but little known variety; Passe Crassane, perhaps the most highly perfumed of all Pears; Delices d'Hardenpont, a Flemish variety of some merit, although the flesh is in some seasons inclined to be gritty; Gansel's Bergamot, almost certainly of English origin, and most probably a seedling from Autumn Bergamot (the old variety); and Doyenné Boussoch, a very useful Pear indeed. All these, as well as many others, I have, at one time or another, grown with a considerable amount of success, and I hope these necessarily brief notes may be of service to those who admire the Queen of Fruits.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Prunus nana Firehill

My efforts to find a stock on which to graft this lovely little shrub, and so bring it within reach of every garden, have not met with success. However, by layering some of the shoots last year I have succeeded in getting a few plants in addition to one or two from suckers, and have been able to supply readers who asked me to let them know where it could possibly be obtained. It suckers very freely in a suitable soil (not my black, reclaimed bog), and if cut down immediately after flowering. The curious thing is that it flowers on the suckers the next spring, the little scarlet buds running up each straight, wand-like stem—a veritable Aaron's rod, as Mr. Bowles wrote me! Cuttings have failed to strike, but this year I have gathered some of the fruit and shall sow it in spring. The fruit was like a very small and rounded Almond and was on the old bushes only.

ALICE MARTINEAU.
(Mrs. Philip Martineau.)

Flavour in Tomatoes

Some time ago I saw an inquiry in your columns for a really well-flavoured Tomato. Those who have eaten Tomatoes in America, in Roumania, or other sunny lands, yearn for the rich red, almost purple-red, flesh of this delicious fruit, which is very unlike the subacid and watery scarlet Tomatoes we grow here. The nearest approach to the ideal fruit in mind is Kondine Red, though some well-flavoured Tomatoes called Sutton's Outdoor, grown on a sunny slope in a Surrey garden were tasted by me this hot, dry autumn. Kondine Red being grown under glass.

ALICE MARTINEAU.
(Mrs. Philip Martineau.)

Pink Asters in an Aster border

Mr. Arnott's reference to Miss Jekyll's advice on the planting of an Aster border sets me wondering. For there is no one who has taught us what most of us know about colour grouping in the garden as has Miss Jekyll, and for that teaching we are for ever in her debt. And yet it seems to me there is a place for pink Asters in an Aster border, not necessarily with mauve and white, but with mauve. I have had so much pleasure this autumn from a jar filled with mauve and pink Asters, all shades, light and dark, that I am planting a long border which at one end widens into a bed, beginning with a few white and pale mauve varieties, the colour deepening till, through mauve and pink, dark purple ones run into a widely planted group of Azaleas, Berberis Thunbergi, Prunus Pissardii, and a Circidiphyllum japonicum. I find those pinkish varieties very pleasant when grouped near purple-leaved shrubs. The combination certainly lacks the clean beauty of mauve and white; it is, I think, more appropriate (because less startling) where the background consists of Douglas Firs and Beeches, whose colour reminds one of Irish Red Setters. A certain weight of colour seems to be needed, that is why I think it is better to replace the white with pink as the colour deepens.

GREY LADY.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Orchards on Grass

HUNDREDS of acres of Apple orchards may be seen near Maidstone, some on grass and some with bush fruits between the trees, Gooseberries, Currants, and Nuts being the general undercrop. During this season, however, many fine plantations have been cleared of bushes, and the land is being sown with grass seeds to be fed off with sheep. This is not because the bush fruits failed, but because the Apple crop is so much more valuable that it is thought the trees should be freed from such root robbers. Thus set at liberty the surface-roots can revel undisturbed in the grassy sward, and be constantly enriched by top-dressings. Under this treatment finer and cleaner samples of Apples are produced, and more money is realised without the bush fruits than with them. Of course, during the first few years, while the standard trees occupy but little space, the under fruit succeeds well and helps to pay expenses until the trees come into bearing; but the majority of cultivators of established orchards are daily becoming more in favour of a grass crop over the roots of Apple trees; and, in addition to feeding sheep and other small stock under them, very few crops now repay a good rich manuring better than an Apple orchard.—J.G.—*November 22nd*, 1879.

Berberis yunnanensis

This very stately and beautiful plant stands out quite conspicuously among its fellows. It is of taller and looser habit than the majority of "Chinese Barberries," and bears a profusion of coral-red fruit. Its habit is very graceful, the shoots forming the most elegant arches, beautiful both in form and colour. The most distinctive feature is the deep red colour of the young shoots during the first year. This is lost in the two-year-old stems, which change to a dark brown. The shrub is distinct by reason of its height, as well as the colour of its berries, and will probably prove to be one of the most valuable of the group. Tall, spreading, gracefully plumed with foliage which for richness and beauty of colour is almost without a rival, it cannot fail to make a striking feature in the open garden.

As some of the newer forms of Chinese Barberries are inclined to grow dense and sucker freely I think the more compact character of the above will prove useful to those who prefer those kinds possessing a more elegant and pleasing form of growth.

A warm, dry, sunny place will put some good autumn colour into the foliage, and, given a very average soil to grow in, will cover themselves with pendent clusters of lovely coloured berries every year. It is quite distinct in appearance from any other cultivated Berberis and is worthy of general employment in the ornamental shrubbery, the young shoots giving fine colour in winter.

H. STEVENS.

November flowers at Kew

ALTHOUGH November cannot be called a flowery month, a visit to Kew at the present time will convince many that the garden need not be without some interest, and that the conservatory can be almost as gay as in spring. Chrysanthemums, Crocus, Cyclamen, and Nerines still linger, and there is a really fine border of Zephyranthes candida outside T block. (How seldom this is seen in private gardens!) The autumn tints and wonderful crops of berries on Cratægus and Pyracantha looked very beautiful in the sunshine. Gentiana sino-ornata, in the rock garden, is another invaluable plant still with plenty of bloom.

In the conservatory Tibouchina semidecandra, a splendid greenhouse subject with rich, royal purple flowers, is very striking. Abutilons in great variety, the yellow Cassia corymbosa, some fine Cannas, Impatiens Oliveri, Clerodendron fragrans, and on the roof Lonicera sempervirens, Plumbago capensis, and hanging baskets of Begonia Haageana, and a fine double red and white Fuchsia var. Mrs. Allard. Then there is Streptosolen Jamesoni, Celosia plumosus, scarlet Salvias, and Callistemon citrinus, now nicely out. Primula obconica and some fine, bold groups of Chrysanthemums contribute to a very successful whole.

An edging of Zephyranthes candida at Kew

In the Orchid houses are to be seen s good Cypripediums, Pitcher plants, Sarracenias, always interesting and perh now at their best. In the annexe there most interesting collection of Gourds (their country of origin), including the from which "Loofa" sponges are obtai

In the temperate house large pots Chrysanthemums — Cullingfordii (crim with a gold reverse), Portia (deep oran and Goodfellow (yellow)—looked fine u their canopy of Tree Ferns and Pa Rhopalostylis (the Norfolk Island Palm now in fruit. In No. 10 Victoria Regi still flowering, so there is still quite eno of interest to make a sunny November at Kew an enjoyable one.

Herts. ATHELSTAN WARNE

The August borders

YEAR by year the bit of double flo border we call the August border, which includes September, becomes greater interest, as one sees ways in whic may be made better. It is where we h flowers of pink, purple, and white colo ings, with a setting of grey foliage. H and there at the back are bushes Ceanothus and Sea Buckthorn. Clem Jackmanni is trained into these and tum out in masses of splendid purple that m the grey of the Artemisia below. Pink white Dahlias are beyond, and in front p Phlox, white Gladiolus, and pale laven China Asters. On the other side, backed the silvery-grey weather boarding of building, there are pink and white Ho hocks, the tender pink of Lavatera olbia, again China Asters of lavender and d purple colouring, with a full setting of silvery Artemisia. The top picture sho the double border nearly its full length, w groups of the fine purple Dahlia Porth lavender and pink Phloxes, and the sa setting of grey foliage. It is the best th in the garden through August and Sept ber; quite a pretty picture of good col harmonies, but always fruitful of indicati for some bettering for the next year.

G. J

Discarding old Chrysanthemu stools

It is a mistake to discard old stools Chrysanthemums before sufficient cuttin have rooted, for sometimes it is found th certain cuttings fail, and unless there are t stools to fall back upon, there is a likeliho of a shortage of the very sorts wanted. The fore, look after the stools a little longer refreshing them with fresh soil about the su face, if need be, to encourage growth suckers. More than this, one may, with vantage, keep a few of the stools of t earlier and mid-season sorts, placing them a cold frame until it is safe to plant them of doors. Such old plants will come in use in the garden for supplying quantities flowers for cutting. Last season I follow this plan in the case of Jean Pattison, M R. Hamilton, and a few others that ga many flowers in October in the open groun Whilst many sorts throw up suckers readil others are not so free, and it is these should look after. Let it not be forgotten th for home decoration one may strike cuttin as late as March. W. F.

Rose planting

Keep abreast of this and other simil planting before the soil has become t saturated, but avoid planting of any ki when the latter is sticky and does not lea the tools freely.

THE AUGUST BORDERS

Masses of splendid purple, pink, and white flowers, including Dahlias, Phloxes, Gladioli, and China Asters, with a setting of grey foliage

Above: **The August border**

Below: **Pink and white Hollyhocks with grey foliage**

Above: **Clematis Jackmanni with grey foliage and pink and white flowers**

Alpine Gardening in New Brunswick

ALTHOUGH Alpine gardening has been popular for some time in Ontario and British Columbia, here, in New Brunswick, it dates back only six years, when Mrs. Myres, of Fairvale, near St. John, built the first rock garden. I have been an amateur gardener for 30 years, but it was not until last summer that I realised what I had been missing. Being delighted with the idea of such an interesting variation of this most desirable of hobbies, I decided to construct a low rock wall, against which I made a rock bank. The wall was 2 feet high and 15 feet long, with a bank of fibrous sandy loam 15 feet wide.

The bank was terraced with weathered rock of rectangular shape, and planted with Aubrietia, Sedums, Thymus, and Sempervivums, while the face of the wall was planted with Saxifraga longifolia, Androsace sarmentosa, and Sempervivums. I was surprised at the growth they made last Fall—October—when they were planted, while now, in spite of 31 degs. below zero and very little snow, they have grown so rapidly as to be running over each other already. The Aubrietias and Phlox, amœna and subulata, were a mass of bloom this spring.

Besides the rock bank and wall, I also built a circular bed, with a pass in the lower side leading to a fan-shaped moraine.

The circular bed had odd-shaped rocks sloped back into the sides, the centre being almost level, and planted with Edelweiss. The little pass—or gorge—made with larger rock, was planted with woolly mountain Thyme (Thymus lanuginosus), and amongst this the green Thyme (T. montanus) made a very interesting pattern.

The moraine, below this, descended a gentle slope on the south-west side of my house. Alongside the moraine large rocks were placed to give the effect of being washed down from above by a freshet, while stone chips along the bottom of this valley helped to enhance the effect.

Helianthemum, Potentillas, Cotoneasters, and Cytisus were planted against these rocks, while the bottom was planted with Veronica repens, Arenaria cæspitosa, and Sedum acre, with a clump of Iris cristata here and there.

Until recent years we used to have at least 2 feet of snow each winter, and the drifts—knee-deep—were known to lay as late as the end of April. Last winter—the mildest for many years—we had practically no snow, rain in December and January, and a low temperature of 31 degs., as against 50 degs. below zero other years.

Despite the loss of our warm blanket of snow, everything but Erysimum and Tunica lived and have developed really wonderfully. This was very encouraging, especially as I had used only sandy loam and rotted leaves for compost.

For rock, being far away from my native Westmorland (England), and, therefore, unable to obtain limestone, I searched the lanes and pastures and found many beautifully weathered specimens of what appears to me to be sandstone. This black rock is really all shades of green, bronze, and purple, and crinkled and fluted in such a way as to make ideal material for an Alpine garden. The little bays and hollows in this rock make ideal homes for diminutive Alpines, and the wonderful shades of bronze, green, and purple make a perfect background—moreover, the edges are usually rounder, though the blocks are rectangular.

Later, having discovered the splendid works of the late Reginald Farrer, I built a rock border for more difficult Alpines. This was excavated 3 feet deep, and, with the retaining wall of 1 foot, the plants have a root run of 4 feet.

I have not regretted this labour, performed by myself, for during a very wet spring I had no trouble from damping, due to the 2 feet of rough drainage and the amount of rock chips and gravel used in the upper 2 feet.

Although this border was only built this spring I have had some bloom all through the very dry summer, when we hardly had a good shower for over two months.

The Campanulas, muralis and garganica, have bloomed steadily, and, like the Androsace lanuginosa—which, from a dozen plants, has formed a silvery mat of 1 yard in width—appear to have decided to go on blooming till frozen up.

This summer Acantholimon—raised from seed sown indoors on January 29th—has bloomed for over six weeks.

The Geraniums and Erodiums—especially macradenium, my favourite—have bloomed all summer, and are still going strong. Gentiana sino-ornata and Asters are starting now, and Anemone japonica is preparing to follow suit.

The foliage of the Erodiums Chrysanthemum and macradenium is beautiful enough without flowers, while the dainty little faces of E. macradenium, with that "ingenious and fascinating expression of innocent worldliness" so aptly described by Farrer, are a constant delight.

Sedum pilosum, with its tiny pink cups—40 of which I counted on one stem—and
House-Leek-like appearance, was my fa
ite until Erodium macradenium bega
bloom.

Saxifraga media is a delightful silver
frage, and, like the hearty Saxi
Cochlearis, makes lovely colonies,
nately with Mossies and groups of that
little plant Dianthus arvernensis.

I have a programme for next ye
grow from seed obtained from the Fl
Nurseries of M. Correvon many intere
plants not obtainable even on Vanc
Island, where the best and most intere
plants were supplied by the Rock
Gardens. Whether I am too ambitiou
future will disclose, but as I have 14 see
Saxifraga longifolia from a packet of
purchased at Floraire, I have hopes of
further success.

Some of these, I think, will not be diff
such as Synthiris reniformis, which is sa
withstand zero weather, a useful accom
ment for any plant which proposes to
our winters. Isopyrum thalictroides
Selene Hookeri may not do so well, but
is no harm trying, and one never knows
delightful surprise may be lying dorma
a packet of seed.

In my large Alpine border there are
plants, which are a constant sourc
pleasure. To the left of this I have a sm
one, bordering on the back drive, whe
joins the lane, and in this I plant only
Alpines which appeal to me the most. T
borders, six in all, complete my rock ga

Here where we have Indian sum
(November) plants continue to grow late
the Fall to make up, I presume, for the
in the spring. So I am looking forwa
two more months, at least, of beauty i
New Brunswick rock garden.

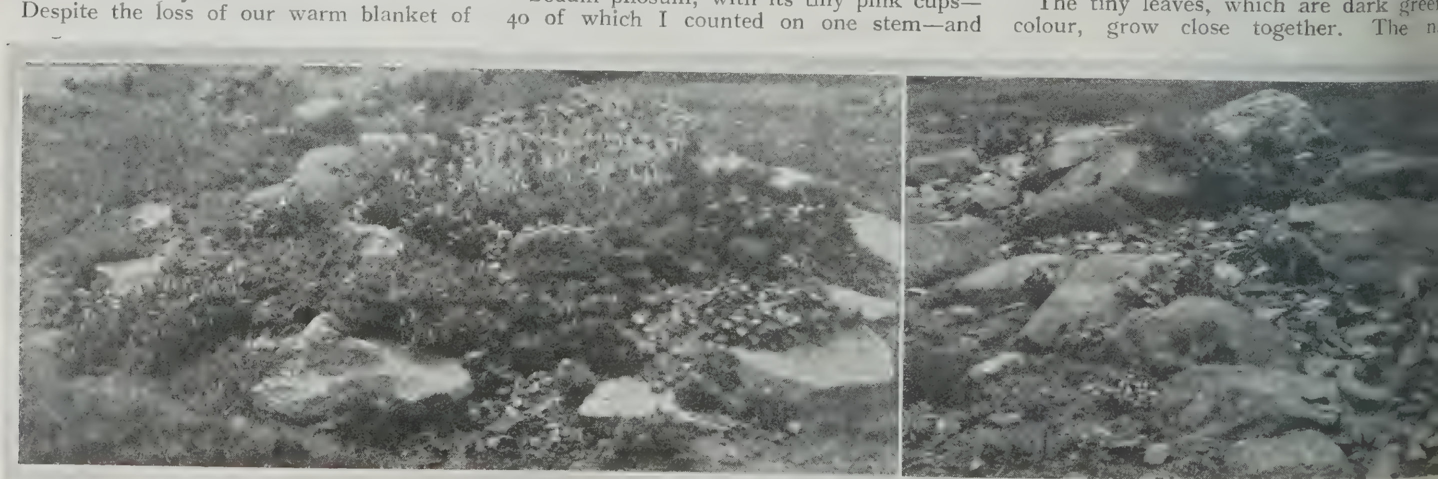
J. T. HUNT

Chipman, Queen's County,
N.B., Canada.

Paronychias or Nailworts

Paronychia is a genus containing a
number of species of the Illecebraceæ o
Its members inhabit the warmer parts o
temperate zone of both the old and
worlds. P. polygonifolia and P. capi
which are both to be found among the r
débris and covering rocks in Alpine and
Alpine regions of the Alps and the Pyre
deserve to be more widely grown. They
ideal for carpeting the various bulbs w
are usually grown in rock gardens. Bo
them are small, creeping perennials w
minute white flowers are hidden by la
white, scaly bracts.

The tiny leaves, which are dark gree
colour, grow close together. The n



ALPINE GARDENING IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Circular moraine containing Creeping Phlox and Androsaces, with Edelweiss in the centre

A corner of a special Alpine bed, where favourites only are planted ychia is derived from a Greek word ng a remedy for inflammation of the The peasants, and more particularly ıepherds, of the Pyrenees, who are in the healing virtues of their local use these plants to cure skin inflammaoth on themselves and their animals.

VICTORIA SLADE.

rosace argentea (syn. imbricata)

IS rare plant grows on dry rocks at ı altitude of 8,000 feet in the Western lps, and is to be regarded as an ariston its genus. Although so characterly Alpine, it is by no means a difficult to grow at home.

plants illustrated are almost life-size, ere grown from seed which ripens and nates freely. It is probably easier to than any of the other high Androsaces, is also the most intolerant of excessive ıre, both overhead and at its roots.

dhead. N. W. JENKIN.

'he proposed Rock Garden Society

he inaugural meeting on October 23rd visional committee was appointed to up a scheme for the formation of a Garden Society. All the members, he exception of Mr. D. G. Renton, who ınable to come, but was good enough oress his views on paper, were present. ollowing proposals were unanimously ed to be put before the General Meeting held at the New Hall of the Royal cultural Society on December 10th at ., when it is hoped that many will be o attend:—

ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY.—The Society consist of a President, a Chairman, a ary, a Treasurer, an Editor, and a al Committee consisting of not less 12 members of the Society, with correng members from countries outside the ı Isles.

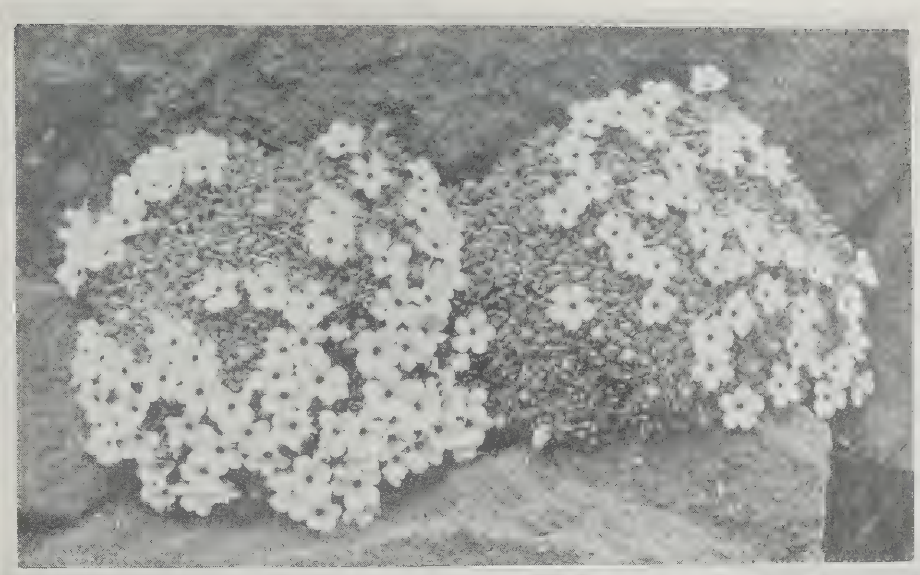
object of the Society is the encourageof the cultivation of Alpine plants.

Society will hold a show or shows d to these plants, and will organise s of entries at general shows. They sue Bulletins in which the problems of ltivation of Alpines will be dealt with perts, who will advise on the construcf rock gardens, their planting, and their o. The Society will give information mbers desirous of going abroad to see in their native habitats. An annual will be held in connection with the al Meeting or show, and the subscripas been fixed at 10s. 6d. per annum.

s suggested that the following ladies ntlemen should be invited to serve on ommittee:—Sir W. Lawrence, Mr. Yeld, Mr. George Baker, Dr. ppi, Mr. D. G. Renton, Mr. Amos Captain Symons-Jeune, Mr. W. E. rsen, Mr. H. Cowley, Miss Victoria Mr. F. H. Fisher, and Mr. Clarence

proposal which met with general al was that prizes at shows should not ıey prizes, but should consist in orders ksellers with a view to the purchase dening books and books on travel, would be suitably stamped with the ın of the award.

hoped that all interested in the formaf the Rock Garden Society will make ɔrt to attend the General Meeting on ıber 10th, when a secretary will be ted and further suggestions for the ution of the Society will be welcome.



Androsace argentea (syn. A. imbricata)

Variations in Perpetual Carnations

Amateurs have had an interesting experience this season with regard to their plants. When they have been treated liberally in the matter of water and manure or top-dressing fertiliser growth of Carnations has been abnormally quick, so that where stopping was carried out early in July with a view to securing plants in bloom just before Christmas quite a lot of plants are now throwing up flower-spikes and blooming. Since a bird in the hand is better than two in the bush there will be few who will not appreciate the early delivery of good flowers. It may be that while we have the flowers now, at Christmas our plants will still be "delivering the goods" if our stopping methods have been judicious. Judicious stopping means the breaking-out of shoots at intervals and as required, instead of doing this work all at one time. The skilful grower, relying perhaps on his judgment and experience, stopped his latest shoots as late as the end of July, and in a season like the present it is just these late stoppings which will give the Christmas flowers.

There is an additional advantage from the early autumn bloom, for, when cut, the shoot commences to make up again for the next crop, which in some varieties occurs in the early year about five months after the previous flower was cut, excepting, of course, in the case of such slow growers as Laddie.

I have sometimes wondered which are the most satisfactory of the amateur's pleasures in growing Carnations. The first experiences are intensely interesting, and each succeeding year has its increased pleasures as former experiences produce more confidence. The grower of confidence then becomes more discriminating, and he notices that some varieties grow more quickly and produce more flowers than others. A large flower of solid proportions takes more out of a plant, and therefore is of slower growth than a variety which produces a smaller flower.

Quantity of cut flowers is more important to the market grower than to the amateur. Amateur growers are rather inclined to regard the split calyx as of greater importance than it is. The wire calyx ring is so easily adjusted, and Nature probably allows calyces to split in order that flowers may open more readily. For the benefit of those who insist that the non-splitting calyx is essential I will mention a few of the varieties which one sees rarely, if ever, split, together with their characteristic faults:—Saffron and Sunstar, the best yellow and yellow ground, slow to open in winter; Janet, the rose-cerise, while free-blooming, is inclined to lose its colour after mid-winter; Ruby Glow, almost perfect in form, shape, and calyx, but is not large, and is inclined to be port wine colour in summer; Countess of Daresbury, the bright rose-cerise which I have never seen split its calyx, but is such a dwarf, bushy grower that it is not suitable for the market grower who likes to plant out closely in beds for cut flower; Topsy, the popular crimson, seldom splits, yet has not sufficient scent; Mrs. A. J. Cobb, the very variety which had the Gold Cup for scent, is very unlikely to break its calyx, but is not a large flower, and rather a tall grower for the amateur; and Melchet Beauty, another of which I remember seeing no instance of a split calyx, has flowers on the small size at times, but otherwise is nearly ideal for the amateur.

LAURENCE J. COOK.

Lonicera nitida

For many years I had to depend upon Privet as a hedge plant. I have no complaint to make against the species for this purpose, but it has been planted to such an extent that the element of monotony has crept in. For that reason I welcomed the development of Lonicera nitida as a hedge plant. It is an evergreen, having small leaves and closely set branches. These qualities make it admirably adapted for the formation of a screen. Although it does not grow quite so rapidly as Privet, there is the advantage that the branches are more closely set, and such drastic cutting back is not necessary in order to get a good bottom. Indeed, I hold the belief—and in this I am supported by one of our leading nurserymen—that it is a mistake to prune Lonicera nitida too severely. The process causes that dying back in parts which has inflicted a certain amount of criticism on the species. All that it is necessary to do by way of pruning is to shorten the branches to the level which gives the desired degree of shapeliness to the hedge (and this may be done at any time during autumn or March) just before growth commences. I find that the roots appreciate a fairly rich, well-worked soil. It is advisable to dig thoroughly to the depth of 1 foot over a width of 18 inches and add partially decomposed farmyard manure at the rate of 1 cwt. per 15 lineal yards of trench. November is an excellent month for planting.

GEO. H. COPLEY.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Fruit houses

The pruning and cleansing of both Vines and Peaches will be more or less continuous from this date, as the second earlies will be ready, and such work occupying considerable time it is advisable to get it well advanced before Christmas. Following the dressing of the various occupants, all glass and woodwork must be washed and scrubbed down with warm soapy water containing the addition of a little insecticide. Paraffin soap is very good, but as water in which it is used will not lather, many prefer a general insecticide.

Plant houses

Bring forward the cleansing of these, as light at this time of year is most important, and should not be excluded by green films upon the glass. Before rearranging the plants see that their pots are cleaned—and, above all, the plants themselves—by sponging.

Vuylstekeana Etna Stamperland Variety (Miltonia Harwoodii x Odontioda Charlesworthii)

Colour a glowing shade of deep velvet crimson with a touch of gold on the lip. Shown at a recent R.H.S. meeting by Mr. R. Patterson, Ardingly. First Class Certificate

Mignonette, Schizanthus, Clarkias, and other annuals

These raised for the purpose of blooming in pots should now receive their final potting, using a rather coarser mixture than before. Free drainage and fairly firm potting is desirable, following which the plants should be grown on shelves or stages where they are kept well up to the glass.

Crotons, Dracænas, Pandanus

These and many other stove evergreens will strike very well if inserted in small pots of sharp, sandy soil, and plunged in pits containing brisk bottom heat at the present time, and are a great advance on cuttings inserted at the turn of the year. This method also makes use of the propagating pits when they are not required for other things, whereas it is often difficult to find accommodation for all we wish to propagate after the turn of the year. Cocoanut-fibre is the best material for plunging purposes inside.

Chrysanthemums

Cuttings will not as yet be numerous, but those which are ready should be taken and inserted in small pots of sandy soil when about 3 inches in length. A bell-glass or small case placed inside a cool house or pit will answer admirably. Air must be given for a short time each day and all condensation wiped from the inside glass, otherwise damping will prove troublesome. Where a number of plants are stood together for the production of cuttings it is advisable to fumigate them occasionally to get rid of Green Fly.

Imantophyllums

Grown in cool greenhouses and conservatories these plants well repay a little feeding applied from this date onwards, showing their appreciation in the dark green luxuriance of their leaves and later by their numerous flower-spikes. Although not grown for the purpose as much as it deserves, the Imantophyllum makes a splendid room plant for those not possessing a greenhouse.

Gladiolus Colvillei

Always desirable are the early, soft-coloured flowers of this plant, to produce which a plantation should be made on a well-drained and sunny, sheltered border. The corms should be planted about 5 inches deep and protected from severe frosts by a mulch of leaves or other litter. The same applies to Ixias and Turban Ranunculi, which are easily obtained and furnish quantities of charming flowers in due course.

Sweet Peas

Sweet Peas sown in September in the open are strong, but as a protection against slugs must be dusted over with soot from time to time.

Delphiniums, Gypsophilas, and Linums

These are often seriously damaged, or lost altogether, during the winter months on heavy soils from the attacks of slugs, which eat out the fleshy portions of the shoots beneath the soil and bark the roots and stems of Flaxes. To prevent this, place a small heap of coal or coke ashes over each crown until growth is free in spring.

Pruning fruit trees

This is now a daily occupation, and must be proceeded with on every possible occasion. Apples and Pears are the first to be dealt with, and it is advisable to get the most exposed trees pruned first, leaving those on sheltered walls for colder days. In pruning trained Apples and Pears it is a mistake to leave too many fruiting spurs and buds, as this results in overcrowding and weak, small fruits.

The Belladonna Lily

This beautiful Lily has surpassed i
this year in all its forms, flowers having
large, abundant, and borne on tall, s
stems. The present is an excellent tim
lift and divide the clusters of bulbs an
make fresh plantations. A warm, su
border is desirable, and the soil, though g
should be well drained. To plant su
fine Lily in poor, hungry soil under the
pression that such is necessary to mak
bloom is a mistaken policy.

The kitchen garden

Digging, manuring, and trenching
be pushed on in order that the n
upturned soil may benefit from the pu
ising effects of frosts. Clear away all s
crops, as these create unpleasant s
when left decaying on the ground. S
Bean and other stakes in a dry place for
year's service. E. MARKHA

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The vineries

In early houses it will now be possibl
prune the Vines and get the cleaning ca
out during bad weather. If the Vines are
of vermin this annual cleaning is a comp
tively easy matter, but if mealy bug be
sent a great deal of both time and labour
necessary to keep this most tenacious
from getting the upper hand. After prun
gather up and burn at once all prunings
other loose débris. The rods should then
gone over and every loose piece of bark
moved. Again sweep up and burn every s
that falls from the rods. All glass, w
work, and ironwork must then be scru
with soap and water and all brick
painted with fresh limewash.

Treating the Vines

The rods are next painted with an appr
insecticide, the old Gishurst Compound b
as good as any other for this purpose. A
applying one coat of this material, a g
plan is to fill all holes or cracks in the V
with the pure Gishurst and then apply ano
coat of the liquid. Before starting the V
a third coat will do no harm. To those
may be fortunate enough not to be trou
with this pest, all this work and care
seem superfluous, but anyone who has
had to do with a vinery infested with
will admit that nothing but radical meas
will ever keep the pest under.

The Peach houses

Any time after the leaves fall the neces
pruning can be carried out. If the sum
treatment was correct, this will not be a
difficult job, the chief thing to do being
remove worn-out wood and an odd shoot or
where there is likely to be a little crowdi
Even clean trees will be all the better dres
with some good insecticide, while those t
may have had an attack of spider, thrip,
scale must be thoroughly treated so as
clear them of such vermin and their eg
As with the vineries, a thorough wash do
is desirable, indeed, imperative, as is the li
washing of walls.

Strawberries for forcing

It is now advisable to plunge the pots to
rims in coal ashes in a cold frame to prev
frost bursting them. The frames must not
closed, as the plants force much better if k
as cool as possible, and are none the wo
although well frozen, providing the s
round the roots is reasonably dry. For t

n the tilting of the sashes at the back best method of airing, preventing rain ating the soil, while still admitting a irculation of air.

Chrysanthemums

ese are much earlier than usual this n, many of them being already past, and o be feared that the supply for Christ- and later will be very short. As the s go out of flower cut back the stems out 6 inches from the soil and set the n a light, airy place so as to encourage roduction of firm, sturdy suckers to be for cuttings.

ng cuttings

om now onwards all suitable shoots can moved when 3 inches to 4 inches long nserted round the edges of 3-inch pots with sweet, sandy compost. After the gs are planted, set the pots on a coal- ed in a cool house or pit and give a good ring to settle the soil. While the cut- require a somewhat longer period in n to form roots in such a position, they m, if ever, damp off, as they are so apt to hen a close propagating case is used.

s in pots

ese may now be brought under glass pruned, providing the house in which are set is kept perfectly cool and abun- e of air admitted day and night. If ted earlier in autumn the plants should a top-dressing of rich, sweet compost. e the roots must not be subjected to dry- too frequent watering must be avoided.

s in pots

e earliest batch may now be removed the "plunge" if they have filled the tacles with roots. Set in a cold frame week or two and then move to a heated nhouse, but do not employ much fire heat st.

nsplanting Lily of the Valley

here it is necessary to do this, or to form beds, now is a suitable time for doing providing frost is absent and the soil in working order. The position should be well shaded and the soil of good quality. ot in very good heart, a fair dressing of rotted manure should be dug in before ing takes place.

de Turnips

ese are very hardy, but it is just as well to have them lifted and stored. The best ion for them is against the north side of ll, where they should be built up steeply hatched over with clean straw and a few turves to keep the straw from being dis- d by the wind. Treated thus, they keep and are easily got at when required.

barb for Christmas

e stools should now be introduced to nth and kept moist and in the dark. strong heat must be avoided, especially st, or the stalks will be very thin and urless.

C. Blair.

ston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Lindelofia spectabilis

is hardy perennial of the Borage family most useful plant for the hardy border. a compact grower, producing from its stock plenty of leafy stems, each of h carry clusters of blue flowers. It is t 18 inches high and seems continually wer, but is at its best in June and July. ndelofia spectabilis is of easy culture, ing in any good garden soil. It is pro- ted by root division and seed. I find it ioned in an old garden book of 1882 as glossum anchusoides, so it must be an lant forgotten or neglected.

R. Moore.

Camellia magnoliæflora

As winter-flowering shrubs Camellias light up the gloomy days with a wealth of flowers that open intermittently over a long period

Camellias

CAMELLIAS are not grown to anything like the extent they were in bygone years, although, I believe, there are signs that they are again returning to favour, and certainly where there is a house of established plants either in pots or planted out in beds a fine supply of flowers is available for several months of the year. The time is at hand for disbudding, and this should be performed with care and discrimination to ensure a long flowering season. In the case, for instance, of plants showing several buds on a shoot the most prominent top bud can be retained and the smaller removed, and one or two retained lower down the shoot. Something in the way of a stimulant will be needed to help the flowers and encourage quick growth after flowering, for, the sooner this is made, so much the sooner will the wood ripen for another season's display. There is nothing better than giving it in liquid form from a mixture of cow manure and soot, carefully prepared and applied. Any pruning required should be seen to directly the flowering season is over, as growth will then be well on the move. From many queries sent to the Editor of Gardening Illustrated it would seem that bud-dropping is often a source of worry to some growers, but given suitable soil and careful attention to watering it very seldom happens.

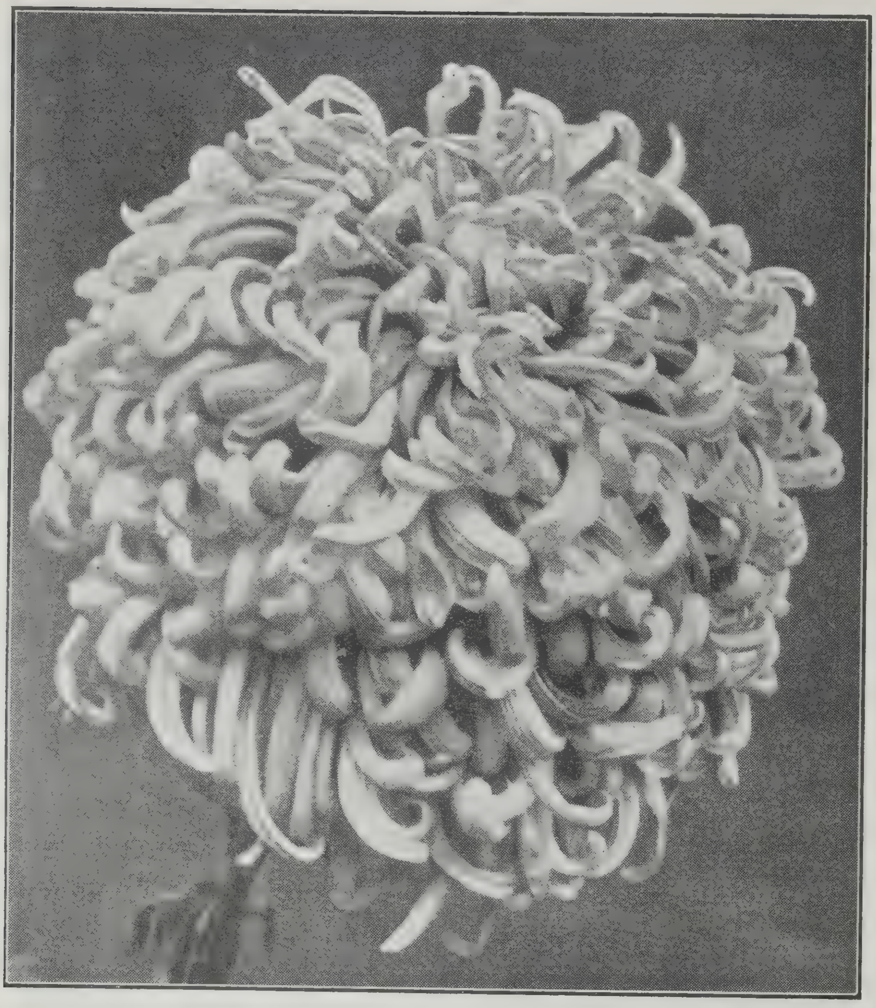
E. B.

Cinerarias worth growing

The Cineraria has become, in recent years, a plant that we cannot very well do without for winter and spring bloom. Seldom, nowadays, do we see the old-fashioned varieties of the double-flowering type, such as Mr. Tom Lloyd and others. These were propagated by cuttings, as seeds were not produced in any way like the quantity obtained from single-flowering plants. To-day we have a greater range of colours, for the Cineraria has been kept abreast of the times, losing none of its sweetness, and, in fact, being greatly improved upon. Matador is a first-class variety, with its pink and scarlet shades, although catalogued by leading nurserymen as "brilliant scarlet." Radiata magnifica superba, a variety worth mentioning for size, varies in shades from pure white, through pale pink and rose, to deep rose, scarlet, and crimson. The blue shades are also very fine, from pale blue, deep blue, purple, and maroon. The Stellata variety, particularly Radiatum reflexum, has flowers the colours of which are very numerous. The variety generally called "large-flowering blues" is a very compact grower and the flowers are fairly large, while the leaves are very broad.

When cultivating Cinerarias do not "coddle" them, as plants grown cool—that is, in a temperature of 45 degs.—make the sturdiest growth. Two enemies to be guarded against are Red Spider and Green Fly. Mildew is often another complaint, caused mostly by cold draughts or insufficient ventilation. Leaf-mining Maggot is another pest which is very troublesome some seasons and is, to a certain extent, detrimental to the health of the plant. Hand-picking is about the only remedy for this, although I have found weak liquid-manure given once a week during early stages of growth helped to lessen the activities of this pest.

Foreman.



Thomas W. Pockett, the largest and best pink Japanese yet raised
Shown in exceptionally good form this season

Chrysanthemum Shows

Bristol Chrysanthemum Show

THE Drill Hall of the 4th Gloucester Territorials was again the scene on November 13th and 14th of this important West of England Show.

If anything, the quality was even better than last year, and a greater number of exhibits were staged—a proof of the popularity and keen interest taken by its supporters; but unfortunately the Hall cannot expand in proportion, and the result was a decided congestion, particularly on the second night.

The whole show reflects great credit, both on the organisers, the competitors, and honorary exhibitors.

So many were the classes, and so numerous were the entrants, that space forbids details of each exhibit and of all the prize winners. The centre of the Hall was occupied by three island groups composed of Chrysanthemums intermixed with Crotons and other foliage plants. Mr. Melville Wills (gardener, Mr. Chipman) was given the premier award, thus winning his own challenge cup. He also gained for 24 Japanese Chrysanthemum blooms the Kemp Brothers' Silver Challenge Cup, Mr. H. G. Newton and Mr. E. W. Bryant being second and third respectively, each with very high class blooms. For 12 blooms Mr. Bryant was first, Mr. Lockwood and Mr. Jenkins gaining second and third respectively.

For a collection of single named Chrysanthemums arranged for effect—an interesting class—Mr. Wills, Mr. Fry, and Mr. Morris gained the honours.

Twelve classes were devoted to Chrysanthemums, and in each the competing blooms and plants were of real excellence, speaking louder than words of the skill, time, and patience given.

Sixteen classes for fruit brought numerous entries, particularly in the Apple and Pear sections. Comparisons between the shapely, well-coloured fruits occupied a considerable amount of the judges' time.

For six dishes of fruit Mr. R. J. Knight was first; for 12 dishes of Apples Mr. G. Pow; of four classes for Grapes (two bunches) Mr. R. J. Knight gained first prize in three, Sir G. Stanley White gaining the first for Lady Downes.

Vegetables were well represented, and a large and most instructive exhibition of honey filled the rifle range attached to the Hall.

For the second year honey has been added to the attractions of the show, and exhibits were staged from all parts of the British Isles. Keen competition was evoked by the Bristol Silver Queen Challenge trophy, a work of art representing a queen bee, exquisitely chased, in silver. Twenty-two entries for this trophy alone were placed. It was awarded to Miss A. B. Flower, of Hale, Salisbury, who also won a silver challenge cup for the highest aggregate points obtained in all classes (honey).

A challenge cup for the highest number of points in the fruit classes was accorded to Mr. R. J. Knight, and Mr. J. Curley gained the most numerous points in the amateur and allotment classes.

Orchids were prominent, especially a g
6 feet by 4 feet, arranged by Mr. Chip
gardener to Mr. Melville Wills. Phalæn
Rimestadiana, Oncidium varicosum,
Calanthe Harrisii were arranged ove
mixed but choice collection of Cypriped
and Cattleyas.

For six Orchids Mr. Wills gained
Westonbirt Challenge Cup, and was
placed first in the class for six Cypripediu
Mr. W. J. Wilkins second. Mr. Wilk
though not employing a gardener, sho
an excellent dish of Pears, first, and was
a winner in some Chrysanthemum classes

The class for two Orchids brought three
trants, Mr. Wills first, Mr. Wilkins sec
and the Misses Wills third. Mrs. L. P.
(gardener, Mr. Thody) was first for a speci
Orchid, Mr. Wilkins second, each showin
well-flowered Cattleya Bowringiana Hyb
Mr. Wills coming third with Cypripedium
signe Sanderæ.

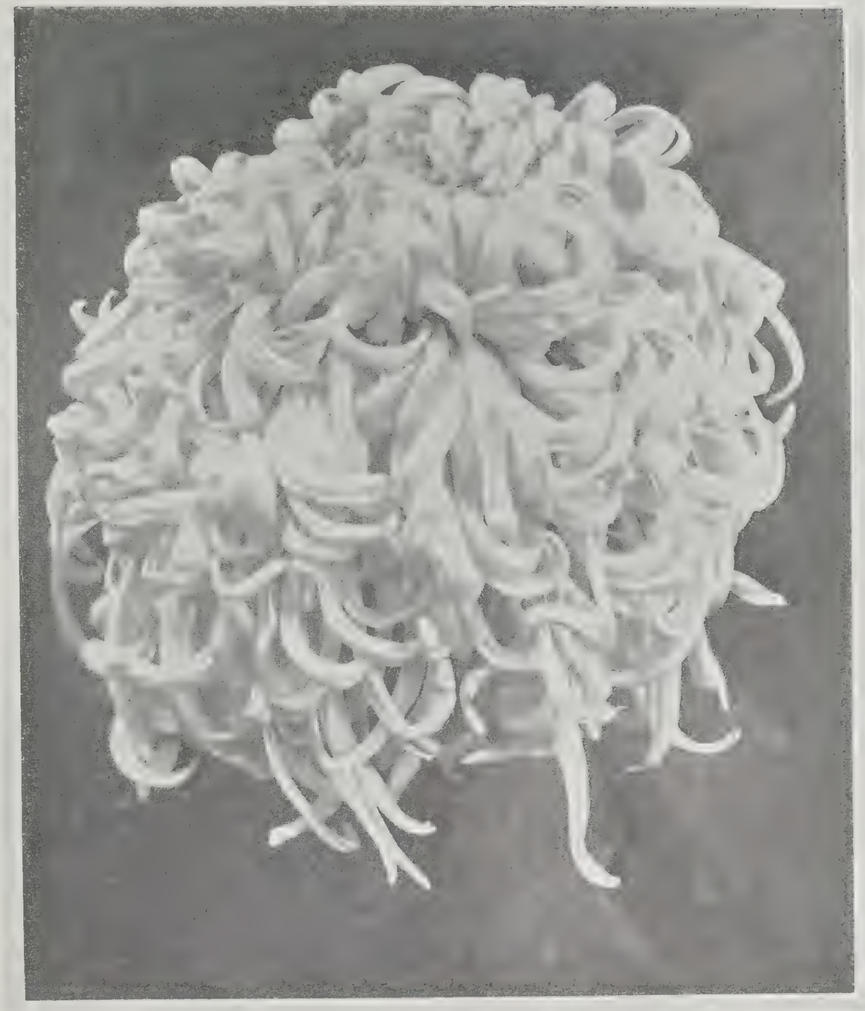
In class 21 Mr. Wills staged a fine Cy
pedium Dreadnought, and also gained a
in the succeeding class for three Cy
pediums, Mr. Wilkins coming second, an
similar position in the class for th
Cattleyas, the Misses Wills (gardener
Grieves) gaining first. For three Oncidiu
Mr. Wilkins was first. Mr. J. F. Phipp
first in the class for three Orchids and
Wilkins second, but in the class for f
Cypripediums Dr. F. J. Cairns was first
Mr. Phipp second. For six Orchids of
variety Dr. Cairns was again first, and
Wilkins and Mr. Phipp second and third
spectively.

The trade were well represented,
majority of their groups being arran
against the walls of the building, and so fo
ing an effective frame to the pictures
arrangement in the body of the Hall.

Messrs. Sutton and Sons had a display
vegetables, Gold Medal; Messrs. Rogers
Sons, Bristol, filled a corner with floral
signs, Gold Medal; Mr. Rowland Ada
Bristol, Silver-gilt Medal for a varied se
tion of Potatoes. Messrs. Sanders, Mes
Keeling, Messrs. H. G. Alexander, Mes
Cypher and Sons, and Messrs. Charleswo
and Co. were each awarded Gold Medals
Orchids; Messrs. W. F. Payne, of Ba
Silver Medal for Decorative Chrysant
mums; Messrs. Brown and Son, Brist
Gold Medal, for vegetables, bulbs, and fru
Messrs. Murphy and Sons, of Wheatham
stead, Silver Medal for insecticides;
Chas. Wall, of Bath, Gold Medal for Chr
anthemums and Carnations. Mr. H. Cla
and Mr. Case, both of Taunton, and b
staging Chrysanthemums, including so
fine single varieties, were each award
Silver-gilt Medals; as were the Fruit a
Orchard Nurseries, Fairford, for Apples a
fruit tree specimens; Messrs. Jarman a
Co., Chard, Silver-gilt Medal for Apples a
Chrysanthemums; Messrs. Davies and C
of Bristol, Silver Medal for bulbs and fru
and the same award to Messrs. Hone a
Co., of Bristol, for Solanums, Cyclamen, e

Mr. Robert Brown, Bristol, had a vari
exhibit, including his Redcliff Champi
Onion, Silver-gilt Medal; similar awar
going to Messrs. Hopwood and Sons, Ch
tenham, for fruit and Chrysanthemums, a
to Mr. H. G. Newton for Chrysanthemum
Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon had
double-fronted group of Cyclamen, Go
Medal.

Floral designs also occupied wall space a
made a pleasing contrast to the groups
plants, etc., 105 classes were scheduled, a
over 1,000 entries were staged, quite apa
from the non-competitive trade groups, t
result being a most praiseworthy show.



The Melba, the new primrose-yellow sport from Louisa Pockett

A large exhibition variety of unrivalled form. Shown by Keith Luxford and Co. at the recent Brighton Chrysanthemum Show

santhemums at Aberystwyth

Aberystwyth Chrysanthemum Society
ieir 26th Annual Show on Wednesday,
iber 13th. The chief prize in cut
section was for 18 blooms of Japanese,
as won by H. Austin and Son with a
ficent stand of well coloured blooms and
ven, and the best bloom in the show
lected from this stand, a fine example
ss Edith Cavell. Second prize was
ed to Mr. Chamberlain, gardener to
Davis Evans, of Highmead, Llany-
, with a fine even stand of well coloured
, not quite so large as Messrs. Austin's.
prize was awarded to Mr. W. Davis, of
ly, with a nice fresh stand of blooms,
king in size.

Walton, gardener to Earl of Lisburn,
he first prize for 12 Japanese in vases
ne coloured, fresh blooms; second, Mr.
vis, Llanelly; third, H. Austin and Son.
le Chrysanthemums were the best yet
ere, and Dr. Roberts, of Abertholwyn,
vincible, taking first prize for six vases
ree vases, a large specimen single vase
e blooms, and a fine basket of single
; H. Austin and Son taking second
n each of the four classes. Groups of
were a fine feature as usual. The one
feet by 6 feet, Chrysanthemums only,
on by H. Austin and Son, closely fol-
by Mr. R. Weller. Both groups were
ranged, but H. Austin gained in quality
blooms.

shen and Lisvane Chrysanthemum Society

first Annual Show was held in the
y Hall, Llanishen, on November 15th,
see the excellent quality of blooms it
well worth going a long way, and
credit is due to Mr. W. H. Morgan, the
Secretary, Mr. W. Bennett, Chairman,
. H. Pryce, Treasurer, and the General
ittee for the way they organised such
ellent show at the first attempt. Mr.
Farmer, of Cardiff Castle Gardens, and
. Toye, of Coryton Gardens, were the
, and their task was no light one, as
was very little to choose in the exhibits
y of the classes. An interesting feature
show, in addition to the splendid ex-
of Chrysanthemums, was a class where
izes were specially given by Mr. Alan
for a collection of hardy cut
in fruit or foliage, distinct varieties,
strate shrubs suitable for embellishing
rdens in the winter months. This class
ell represented and took up a good deal
ce on the centre tables. The first prize
warded to Mr. D. A. Purser (gardener,
. Jenkins); second, Mrs. Morgan Lewis
ner, Mr. W. Bennett); third, Mr. E. M.
(gardener, Mr. H. Jenkins). In class 1
for the best 20 square feet of Japanese
es, Mr. D. Cory (gardener, Mr. W.
, was first, Mr. J. E. Turner (gar-
Mr. J. Jones) second, and Mr. Alan
(gardener, Mr. M. Hardwick) third.
e best vases of Japanese variety, first,
Gaskell (gardener, Mr. W. H. Pryce);
, Sir Wm. Thomas (gardener, Mr.
. Crouch). For the best pot of decora-
first, Mr. J. E. Turner; second, Mr.
t Robinson; third, Mr. Alan Gibbs. For
st pot of singles: first, Mr. E. M. Hann;
, Mr. A. Gibbs. The prize for the best
in the show was awarded to Mr. W. H.
gardener to Major Gaskell, for a mag-
t specimen of Mrs. Algernon Davis.

W. E. W.

Artistic grouping

last week there was a flower show at
f exceptional beauty. The main flower
f course, at this season the Chrysanthemum, and what struck one as unusual was the use made of decorative Dahlias in big vases, high on pillars above the Chrysanthemums, which were themselves in giant pots on the ground among a grouping of Palms and other very elegant foliage plants. There was no staging—and, to my regret, no labels to name the flowers—but artistically no doubt it was right. The special beauty of these Decorative Dahlias was that they enhanced the colouring of the giant Chrysanthemums beneath, so cleverly were they arranged. With big bronze Japanese incurved Chrysanthemums, for instance, the Dahlias so high up would be shaded from browns to reds and flame colours mixed artfully with a white or cream colour in loose sprays and enhanced the beauty of these giant blooms on 6-foot stems that were standing in these big pots below. It was more like a ball room than a flower show, and yet it combined both. Another striking thing was the daintiness of the tiny Mountain Japanese Chrysanthemums. So well grown were they that there were many plants between 6 inches and 9 inches high with brightly coloured flowers no bigger than the tip of my little finger! There were both single and double varieties, and many of the Anemone-flowered type. They really were fit for Titania's Palace, and contrasted with the giant blooms elsewhere. Their colours were so bright that I am sure they will appeal to many gardeners when they are more largely known. Single or double, they are a striking development of that variable flower, the Chrysanthemum. Before the show was closed the new Chrysanthemums were named by their raisers, and with care visitors could find names for their new favourites. Rhus Cotinus was also much used in some groups as a background.

E. H. WOODALL.

New certificated Chrysanthemums

A Meeting of the Floral Committee of the National Chrysanthemum Society was held in one of the Committee Rooms of the Royal Horticultural Society, Greycoat Street, S.W., on Monday, November 18th, when 15 new Chrysanthemums were submitted for adjudication. There were a few outstanding novelties, each of which received the First Class Certificate of this Special Society. They were as follows:—

TRENT.—A large white exhibition Japanese bloom, having long, broad florets, twisting and curling, and building a flower fully 9 inches in diameter and of great depth.

DESERT SONG.—This is a very large single, having several rows of broad florets slightly indented at the end and of splendid substance. The flowers measured at least 7 inches across. Colour, reddish-bronze, tipped gold.

SUNDOWN.—Another single-flowered sort of beautiful finish, having several rows of florets of medium width, evenly disposed around a golden disc of proper proportions. Colour, deep ruby-crimson. The flowers are almost 5 inches across. These three varieties were shown by Mr. H. Woolman.

VISCOUNTESS HAMBLEDON.—One of the finest acquisitions of the season. It is a large-flowered single, fully 7 inches across, having several rows of florets of medium breadth, very evenly disposed around a small golden disc, building an ideal exhibition bloom. Colour, crimson with a very narrow golden-yellow zone around the disc. Shown by Mr. W. Turnham, The Gardens, Greenlands, Henley-on-Thames.

C. J. WESTON.—A promising Japanese incurved bloom, suitable for market and decorative uses. The florets are of medium width, which, when disbudded, build a useful incurved bloom about 5 inches in diameter. Colour, rich golden-yellow. In spray form it is a reflexed flower, less rich in colour, but distinctly useful to those who need a good spray sort of this colour. Height about 5 feet. Shown by Messrs. Cragg, Harrison, and Cragg, Heston, Hounslow.

D. B. CRANE.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Transplanting a Walnut tree

Would it be safe to move a Walnut tree, height about 15 feet, grown as a standard, stem 17 inches in circumference, age somewhere about 12 years? I proposed taking a trench around, 9 feet or so from the trunk, and working under the tree, and using a tripod and chain pulley for lifting.

S. A. POWELL.

[It is possible, with care and a great deal of labour, to transplant a tree of this size, but there is necessarily always a risk of failure. You will hardly, however, be able to move a ball of earth about 18 feet in diameter. A much smaller ball will suffice. As you work under the tree you will require some stout sacking to be placed under the roots, the ends of which are brought up and fastened firmly to the trunk before attempting to lift it with the tripod, thus ensuring the ball of earth being retained round the roots. Have the new hole ready before starting to lift the tree. We have consulted every available catalogue and cannot discover the deep red Hollyhock you mention.]

Planting Apples

I shall feel obliged if you will advise distance apart for planting Bramley's Seedlings and Cox's Orange Pippins (bush); also depth in red clay soil having shale or rock beneath on hillside (slightly), and shall be glad to know of a good kind of Black, Red, and Dessert Currant trees to plant in a small garden. The soil does not appear to have had any lime or manure dressings for past four or five years. Do you advise same now or in spring, and should like to know best way to apply same?

AMATEUR.

[Being a very strong grower, Bramley's Seedling Apple should be given 15 feet between the trees, while Cox's Orange Pippin should have 12 feet. Do not plant deeply, say, not more than 4 inches. That is to say, there should be 4 inches of soil over the roots. We should not advise manuring the soil before planting, but in a year or two should the trees appear to be wanting in vigour, a mulch of good farmyard manure would be beneficial. Double-dig the ground before planting. Lime is probably unnecessary for the Apples. Good Black Currants are: Seagrave's, Baldwins, and Boskoop Giant. Red varieties: Comet, Raby Castle, and Laxton's Perfection. White varieties: White Dutch and White Transparent.]

Sale of Black Currant bushes

(J. W. Butter).—There are no regulations *re* the removal of healthy Black Currant bushes in England. The appended note appears at the end of the Ministry of Agriculture's Leaflet No. 1: The Black Currant Mite—" Sale of Affected Plants.—The sale for planting of any plants which are substantially attacked by this pest is prohibited by the Sale of Diseased Plants Order of 1922, under penalty of £10. Further information on this subject may be obtained on application to the Ministry."

Diseased Fig

(G. E M., Cranbrook).—The specimen piece of Fig wood was thickly studded with the fructifications of Coral Spot, Nectria cinnabarina, Fries. This fungus is normally a saprophyte, and as such occurs on dead wood of all descriptions. On the other hand, there are many cases on record where Coral Spot has been proved to be a definite parasite. It obtains entry through dead snags of tissue, and on reaching the living wood does not stop, but proceeds until the whole branch dies out. Currants, Apples, Pears, and Figs are often attacked in this manner, especially following faulty pruning. You should cut out and burn all the dead wood from your Fig, and when pruning the living tissue do not leave the snags of tissue, but cut off close to the next main branch or close to a bud so that the cut surface can heal up rapidly. White lead paint applied to all large wounds helps to keep fungi from attacking the cut surfaces.

Manure for fruit trees

(G. Ernest).—A good chemical manure for pot fruit would be one part sulphate of ammonia, one part sulphate of potash, and four parts superphosphate. The ingredients should be thoroughly well mixed together and used at the rate of 1 oz. per gallon of water. Once a week should be sufficient, and the liquid manure should only be given when the fruits are swelling. If it is desired to mix up the above mixture and store, so that liquid manure can be made up at any time, one part steamed bone flour should be added. Steamed bone flour is practically insoluble in water, but when it is added to a mixture it acts as a drier and prevents the manure caking.

Colouring Apples

(G. Ernest).—Apples growing on certain types of soil are always difficult to colour. You say that your land is heavy, and it therefore should contain sufficient potash. On the other hand, you should remember that
gen has the tendency to produce green
lacking colour. Try the effect of cuttin
nitrogen for a season or so, and to make
that the trees are receiving sufficient po
give a dressing of sulphate of potash a
rate of 1 oz. per square yard in February
Keep the trees thinned well to allow ligh
air to circulate amongst the fruits.

Pear scab

(Stewart Jobson).—Your Pear is aff
with Pear Scab; details of this fungus a
control have been given frequently of
In addition to the scab your Pear appears
shrivelling; this is probably due to their
picked rather too soon and having been
in too dry an atmosphere. Please see
to Miss Warren in this issue *re* Apple
If you use Bordeaux Mixture at the pe
stated in that reply you should have no
culty in obtaining control. Make sure
the underside of the foliage is coated.

Diseased Apples

Miss Warren herewith sends dis
Apples. The trees from which these
were sprayed with tar wash in winter
twice with limewash in early summer. N
all the fruit on them was diseased as sam
or worse. Other Bramley's Seedlings
other side of garden were not syringed
and had clean fruit.

[Your Apples are affected with Pear
and the spraying as given in your letter
is useless to prevent scabbed fruit. Con
the tar-oil wash during winter, and the
the scab use lime sulphur. Three spray
are necessary to prevent scabbed fruit.
trees should be well covered with fung
just as the buds are breaking, again whe
flowers are in the pink bud stage, *i.e.*,
the petals are showing colour, but before
open; the third spraying should be
when all the petals have dropped from
flowers. This third spraying should n
delayed beyond the period stated.]

VEGETABLES

Vegetable garden

Would you tell me the amount of gr
required to grow vegetables (except pota
for six persons? HERME

[Your query is somewhat difficult bec
you do not state whether or no you req
vegetables once or twice per day. Much,
depends upon the soil and climate. Crops
pend also upon the success of the culti
in controlling insect pests and fun
diseases. Under average conditions we t
that a plot of 15 square rods should give s
cient vegetables to supply a dish for six
sons once per day all the year round, pot
excluded.]

Mushrooms

Would it be possible to grow Mushroom
a stokehole, the temperature always abou
degs., in, for instance, a large wooden
containing soil only, as the place is ben
a living room. I should be glad to have p
culars as to operations, if such is practicab

" D. J. M.

[You cannot grow Mushrooms in soil al
but must have the greater part of the
composed of horse droppings. Also the t
perature of your stokehole is too low, f
55 degs. to 60 degs. being the proper war
for this fungus.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Impenetrable hedge with colour

I want to grow a hedge round a works
to be about 4 feet high and as impenetr
as possible, but to get away from the

et. There is a long length of it. If provides something spiked horribly, ourful, I am after it. There are varie- Plum and of Berberis, but by going to arters I anticipate that I shall get good

ROBT.

re is nothing among hardy shrubs can be used for hedges so formidably as the Japanese Orange, Aegle , and we would defy anyone to get h a 4-foot bush of it without having nd a hospital afterwards. It is laden harming white flowers in spring, each es across, and with orange shaped n autumn which are interesting only. aves, however, before they fall change retty gold and yellow. Its spines are inches to 4 inches long, as thick as ing needle and nearly as strong. Its ult is that it is rather slow in growth its early stages, but once established freely. Another rather formidable plant is the Cockspur Thorn (Cratægus Galli), the thorns of which are rigid, inches to 6 inches in length, and with ked spur at two-thirds their length g out about 1½ inches. Beautiful in magnificent in leaf, colour, and fruit mn, Ilex Aquifolium (Common Holly) peer as an evergreen fence. The Briar (Rosa rubiginosa) always beautind commanding respect when used—ten is—for a fence by the most venture-choolboy. Blackthorn, used alternately erberis aristata, would also prove both ting and effective, and might form a of your fence.]

to obscure unsightly frames

stoun).—Either of the following would your purpose and could be obtained feet or 4 feet in height, becoming effec- once: Cupressus Lawsoniana, Loni-tida (a very fast growing evergreen), or on Yew. Of these, Lonicera nitida is ly best suited to your requirements.

r shrub for screen

stoun).—You could scarcely better a r Ivy trained to a light trellis for such ose, the former being obtainable up to or 5 feet in height and the latter up to nd 7 feet. Either a Weeping Willow, lm, or Birch would, we fear, soon be- o large for such a position.

thus unsatisfactory

—Yes; cut away the barren growths to within 3 inches of the main stem. rther pruning should be deferred until l of March. It is just possible that by the plant down in March to half its height, young growth would develop e base.

ng plants to accompany climbing oses

hard).—The following climbers will not the Roses if removed within the next ears; indeed, the Clematis may remain ently, as the two thrive together: is Ville de Lyon, C. lanuginosa, C. , C. La Lorraine, Actinidia chinensis, oignettiæ, Solanum jasminoides, Loni-agophylla, Lonicera similis Delavayi, ium nudiflorum, Escallonia langleyen- icera etrusca var. gigantea.

g back Clematis

ld the following Clematis be cut back Montana rubens, Jackmanii superba, ern, Nellie Moser, Ville de Lyon, Moser.

"FANNY."

natis montana rubens may be thinned ny time between the fall of its leaves end of February. The flowers appear e wood made during the current year, the necessity of thinning the shoots rather than pruning them all hard back, as to do so is to cut away next season's blooms. Clematis Jackmanii superba and Ville de Lyon should be cut back to within 1 foot of the ground at the end of February. C. Lasurstern, Nellie Moser, and Marcel Moser all flower from short laterals which grow out from the old wood and should be thinned and shortened back somewhat from the top at the end of February.]

GREENHOUSE

Solanums not fruiting

(Archd. Craig).—It is unfortunate that you fail to mention which of the Solanums you are puzzled to get to set its fruits, the family being a large one. Some of them succeed well in an ordinary greenhouse, while others demand more warmth. If you will tell us the variety we will do our best to help you solve the question of your non-success.

Treatment of scarlet Salvia

I have potted up the above and put in my greenhouse. Will you please inform me if and when I can take cuttings of same? They are at present still flowering, but are inclined to damp off this wet weather.

C. C. B.

[Allow your Salvias to finish blooming before cutting the growths back to within two or three joints or buds of the main stem, and keep the plants on the dry side until new growth commences in February or March. The young shoots which follow this treatment should then be taken off when about 3 inches in length, cutting them immediately beneath a joint. These make excellent cuttings which, inserted in sandy soil and placed beneath a bell glass or airtight box covered with glass, will take root in about three weeks, providing the house in which they are growing is not allowed to drop below 50 degs. Curtail the water supply, remove decaying leaves, and air more freely on favourable occasions to check the damping referred to.]

Indoor climbers

I have a lean-to house, heated, 36 feet by 14 feet, with wall 14 feet high, with Vine running on 12 inches from top, near glass. I want to cover the wall with flowering climbers. Could you advise a rapid climber of more than one variety? I can make the border to suit the object.

JURO.

[There are very few plants at all likely to succeed in the position described. We have seen back walls of vineries clothed with some of the commoner Zonal Pelargoniums, while some of the Allamandas would quickly clothe the wall. Then the Bougainvilleas are quick growers and bloom for quite a while. Good turfy loam and leaf-mould will grow all these well.]

Diseased Carnations

(D. McL.).—The diseased Carnation material sent is not affected with Rust. We are incubating the material and will report to you in due course.

FLOWER GARDEN

Alpines in Norway

(E. E. M.).—Norway has quite a rich Alpine flora, but we know of no published work dealing with it. The mountains of Norway contain, among other plants of interest, Saxifraga Cotyledon, Silene acaulis, Dryas octopetala, Azalea procumbens, Saxifraga nivalis, S. stellaris, S. aizoides (two forms), Ranunculus glacialis, Linnæa borealis, Anemone triloba, and many other good Alpine plants, and at lower levels than are customary for such plants further south. Any good Alpine flora would be helpful, as the Alpine flora was originally a northern and pre-glacial one. Even on Spitzbergen and in arctic America the bulk of the flora agrees with that of our high Alpine chains, but the further north you go the nearer do the plants approach sea level. On Spitzbergen, for instance, Saxifraga oppositifolia is washed by the sea. On the whole, these arctic forms are more readily established in our gardens than those from great elevations.

Hardy annuals to sow in autumn

(B. P. Standen).—All the annuals recommended (page 763, issue November 9th) transplant without harm and were specially chosen to meet your wishes, doubtful kinds being purposely avoided.

Anemone nitifolia

(K. G.).—This is a hardy perennial and increases rapidly by means of underground suckers. The flowers are pale pink.

Iris Susiana

When is the proper time to plant Iris Susiana?

E. D. D.

[October is the best month in which to plant this May-flowering Iris.]

ROSE GARDEN

Treatment of Rose beds

Will you kindly tell me what I should do with my Rose beds from now up to the beginning of March in order to put the soil into the highest state of fertility? The ground was well manured last year with cow and sheep manure.

AMATEUR.

[You may with advantage give your Rose beds a dressing of about 3 ozs. per square yard of bone-meal, or, in the event of your soil being very heavy, 4 ozs. of basic slag. Opinions differ as to mulching Rose beds, but we have seen excellent results from applying a good mulch of rough, strawy manure from a stable, this affording protection from severe frost besides supplying a considerable amount of nourishment to the plants. The bone-meal or basic slag should be very lightly forked in.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Stone for moraine

(S. W.).—The sample is granite chips and very desirable for the purpose you have in view, namely, the formation of a moraine.

Stonehenge table and bird bath

(Saxon).—This combined garden ornament in stone (not cement) is supplied by Herbert G. Longford, Abingdon, Berks.

Pests for examination

(E. B. E., Alnwick).—Yes, we undertake to name garden pests for our readers, but in your case we are helpless because the match box and packing material duly arrived, but no sign of the pest. The match box was badly crushed, and we can only conclude that the creatures escaped in the post. If you will be kind enough to send some more specimens packed in a small tin box we shall be pleased to report as to the pest and its control.

Garden lime

I shall be much obliged if you will explain under what conditions of soil lime should be applied to a garden, and where it would be preferable to use chalk instead, what effect they have, and at what time of year should they be applied?

E. D. D.

[Lime is required from time to time in all gardens except those which occur on a natural chalk formation. It is usual to apply lump quicklime or ground quicklime, at the rate of 4 ozs. per square yard, once every second or third year to heavy soil. Chalk or ground carbonate of lime is applied at 8 ozs. per square yard every second or third year to light soil. The lump quicklime should be placed on the floor of a shed and allowed to slake. Spread evenly over the surface of the soil and then lightly fork it in. The ground quicklime or carbonate of lime can be spread as received, but again it should be just worked into the surface layer of soil. Some plants, of course, will not tolerate lime in the soil, and applications to this class of plant should be avoided.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

E. N. Balcombe.—Acer palmatum linearilobum, a form of the Japanese Maple.

L. S. O., Hampstead.—1, Lucombe Oak (Quercus Lucombeana), an ornamental semi-evergreen between the Turkey Oak (Q. cerris) and the Cork Oak (Q. suber). Raised about 1765 at Exeter Nursery; 2, Quercus sessiliflora (Durmast Oak). It occurs on Hampstead Heath, where the soil is sandy, and is frequent in Ken Wood.

L. S. O.—White Beam (Pyrus aria). Also recorded from Hampstead Heath.

M. Cox.—1, Helxine Solieri; 2, Ajuga reptans Rainbow; 3, Sedum spurium; 4, S. aizoon.

H. Mills.—1, Berberis Wilsonæ; 2, Cotoneaster horizontalis; 3, C. Simonsii; 4, Berberis Thibetica.

NAMES OF FRUITS

L. S. O.—Peasgood's Nonsuch.

Mrs. J. W. G.—Apple not recognised. Probably a local seedling, resembling Forge Apple.

A Twenty Years' Reader.—1, Oslin; 2, King of the Pippins; 3, Cox's Orange Pippin; 4, Gascoigne's Scarlet.

S. E. S., Wokingham.—Apple D'Arcy Spice.

Sandy, Walsingham.—1, Seedling not recognised; 2, Newton Wonder.

S. C., Guernsey.—Ribston Pippin.

Scottish National Sweet Pea, Rose, and Carnation Society

"Annual" for 1929

This go-ahead Society has just issued its first "Annual," and it is an excellent little book. There are masterly articles by such well-known authorities as Mr. Wm. Cuthbertson, who treats on "The Development of the Waved Sweet Pea since Countess Spencer," Mr. John A. Grigor, who writes on "The Cultivation of Sweet Peas for Exhibition," Mr. James Kerr on "The Cultivation of the Rose," Mr. John Bell on "The Propagation of Roses," Mr. Alexander McMillan on "Border Carnations and Their Culture," Mr. A. T. Harrison "The Cultivation of the Perpetual Flowering Carnation," and "A Record of Success" by Mr. J. G. Roberts, who gives "a statistical survey of the first ten years of the Society," all of which are most interesting and instructive.

In addition to these articles there is "An Audit of Roses, Kelvin Hall Show, 1929," in which it is interesting to note that Mrs. Henry Bowles was shown 25 times and tops the list, its rivals being Mrs. C. Lamplough and Earl Haig with 19 each. It is rather curious to note that some very widely-grown varieties like Mme. Butterfly, Betty Uprichard, and Florence L. Izzard had only appeared once at this show, while Lady Pirrie, Emma Wright, and Mrs. Wemyss Quinn were shown but twice each.

In the Sweet Pea audit at the same show Pinkie easily tops the list with 57 appearances, Powerscourt (44), and Mrs. A. Searles (42), being the nearest to the leader. Avalanche (13) seems almost entirely to have ousted Constance Hinton, which was only shown twice. Among Border Carnations Viceroy, John Stobart, and Flora M'Iver "tied" with 10 each. Laddie and White Pearl with four appearances each were the most frequently shown of the Perpetual Carnations. What makes these audits so interesting is that every variety shown is named and the number of times it appeared noted against its name.

There is a list of members appended, and some excellent portraits of some of the officials of the Society, including a very good one of the energetic and enthusiastic Secre-
tary, Mr. John Smellie, Westwood Cot
Helensburgh, who is always willing to
to any inquiry regarding the aims and
ings of this Society. It is to be sinc
hoped that the good work so succes
carried on during the past 10 years ma
continued and considerably extended i
near future.
C.

Contrast in the Garden

The value of contrast in our gardens is often overlooked, and what there is occurs in a haphazard fashion, which often fails to have any interesting or arresting effect. This is not to say that contrast planting should be employed entirely—it can easily be overdone—but there should be enough variation to avoid monotony without achieving a spotty and restless result.

To take an extreme example: if you had the furnishing of an estate with trees, you would not plant it exclusively with Lombardy Poplars; these, though beautiful in themselves, would produce an appearance of unbearable monotony. Nor would you plant one of every possible known tree. You would be content with a certain number of kinds, planting them in groves and belts, thickets and avenues, with large stretches of grass intervening, and here and there some particularly beautiful tree as a focus of attention. On a much smaller scale the same principle applies to the garden.

Turning to the border first of all, the question of height obtrudes itself. It is a mistake to put all tall plants at the back, grading the rest, so that the whole thing looks like a grandstand filled with flowers; rather let some of the tall subjects run out into the middle of the border, leaving irregular, wedge-shaped openings for medium-sized things, and keeping low-growing plants for the edge. Above all, plant boldly; the more room you have the bolder you can be. Delphiniums look magnificent when grouped in masses, but naturally this can only be done in large gardens. In the medium or small-sized border, however, groups of six or three will always give a better result than single plants, and contrast strikingly with the less imposing inhabitants of the bed.

Although variation in height is important, differing textures and habits of growth are equally so. The cloudy Gypsophila paniculata and the glossy-leaved Megasea saxifrages are entirely different, both in habit and texture, yet these extremely opposite plants look remarkably well together, each being a perfect foil for the other. Spire-like subjects are most effective when placed near those whose flower-heads are flat and spreading, and tufted ones with those whose habit is more floppy. Catmint, the ever popular, is lovely when interspersed with drifts of Poppies, the silky cups of the latter gaining much in effect through their association with the mauve featheriness of the Catmint. Achillea Eupatorium, with its flat corymbs of yellow rising on tall stems, is wonderfully showy when used among late-flowering Delphiniums, or brilliant blue Anchusas. Globe Thistles and Sea Hollies are useful contrast plants for the border, especially the latter, with their bold foliage and spiny flower-heads of shining grey or steely blue.

Sometimes the value of a dark background is overlooked. White Foxgloves are at their best against a Yew hedge, Oriental Poppies are magnificent in a similar position, and so are Mulleins and Larkspurs. For the same reason the herbaceous border is more attractive when backed with a hedge than with a wall.

For bold waterside planting, Rheums are invaluable, but they should be used with discretion on account of their size. The ma
leafage contrasts strikingly with the del
foliage of Spiræas and Ferns.
Rodgersias, too, not so large but with
lar characteristics, are also valuable fo
water-garden; the variety called tabu
has pale green umbrella leaves, and
beautiful plant. Here Megaseas are
useful, their leafage having a substa
quality which makes them particularly
tive among less assertive-looking pl
They are ideally placed in conjunction
stone, either at the margin of a pond, w
they are perfectly happy, or fringing a r
path. Plantain Lilies are indispensab
shady or damp situations; they make
clumps of spreading, ovate leaves, whic
some kinds are variegated, in some g
and in others, such as Funkia seibold
bluish-grey. These plants contrast well
Day Lilies, Astilbes, Trollius, and so
Crambe cordifolia, with its bold foliage
spreading flower panicles, something lik
enormous Gypsophila, has a distinct
of its own, and is valuable for the
garden, but it should be borne in mind
it likes a sunny and rather dry posi
Bocconia cordata, the Plume Poppy, wit
decorative Acanthus-like leaves and
sprays of tiny buff blossoms, is another
subject for a rather wild place. It is
invasive for choice positions, and shoul
put far away from cherished or valu
plants. Saxifraga peltata, the Umb
Saxifrage, revels in moisture and wil
crease lustily, but not rampageously,
after year, always thrusting out its gna
rhizomatous roots in the direction of
water. Its broad, hairy leaves are as us
as those of the Rheum and Rodgersia for
effects, and it has the merit of not being
large for a medium-sized garden. Som
the Rheums grow to such enormous pro
tions that they are out of place, except w
large effects are aimed at, and of course
Gunneras, with their truly gargantuan lea
are only for the most extensive gardens.

But this is enough of the giants.
smaller inmates of the garden have their c
more subtle, contrast values. Beautifu
association are the Gentianella and
hoop-petticoat Daffodils; the pale sulp
crinolines of this dainty Daffodil, sway
and fluttering amid the glorious blue tr
pets of the Gentian are marvellously lov
And here I am emphasising colour whe
should be discussing texture and habit,
it is not colour alone which makes the c
bination of the two plants so charming.
hassocky mats of the Gentian and the plu
opulence of its blooms make a perfect
to the delicate, nodding grace of the ho
petticoats so airily poised on their sler
stems. In the dry wall one can intersp
tufted with trailing plants, allowing an o
sional fat clump of house Leek for solid
lief. Aubrietia will look well near, but
strangling, the larger silvery Saxifrag
Gypsophila repens rosea will cascade in
ceiving delicacy alongside clumps of V
cornuta, and Campanulas and Pinks
dispute with each other for a place on
wall-top. In my rock garden I grow Lin
narbonense and hybrid tufted Pinks in c
association. The delicious blue blossoms

ıum, fleeting though they are, float bove the silvery mats of the Pinks, e two plants grow happily together. h the individual flowers of the Linum quickly, others are always opening, plant is in bloom most of the sum- The carpatica Campanulas enjoy life company of Veronica spicata rosea, a ly pink-spired gem which grows to foot in height and makes a low mass green foliage. The spiky mounds ft always look well placed with Violas, habit of growth is so different. Phloxes also show up more effec- hen Alpine Pansies are growing near

in the rock garden it is advisable to he height of one's planting. A few tely tall plants spiring up from a mass growing stuff not only achieve notice nselves, but also emphasise the dwarf er of their companions. Such effects be used sparingly, however, lest re- result in that familiarity which pro- y breeds contempt.

e is no room here to speak of shrubs l, as they constitute a vast family and separate treatment, but the use of Conifers and shrubby Alpines in the rden will enhance its character and a sombre foil for its more brilliant s. The prostrate Junipers will lend an hoary grandeur to any outstanding er which they can drape themselves, toneasters, particularly horizontalis, oduce a similar effect. The dwarf endrons, which are becoming so much ell known than they were, are very ve in their miniature shrubbiness, as the Daphnes and Heaths.

whole subject of contrast is a large d I have only touched the fringe of it. We can make endless experiments in planting and in so doing find our garden work more engrossing than ever. At the same time our gardens will become more interesting to other people, and when our friends pause in whole-hearted admiration before some carefully planned effect, the warm glow of satisfaction which we shall feel will surely be ample reward for all our pains.

Elsie Harriet Raspin.

OBITUARY

CHARLES E. PEARSON, V.M.H., F.L.S.

It is with deepest regret that we record the death of Mr. Charles E. Pearson, age 73, of J. R. Pearson and Sons, Lowdham, Notts., in which business, established 1782, he was a co-director with his brothers, A. H. and J. D. Pearson.

Mr. Pearson met with an accident on the railway line at Lowdham Station on Thursday, 14th inst. He was knocked down by a train at the level crossing and received injuries which ended in his death on the 15th. It was foggy at the time of the accident, and owing to his deafness he was not aware of the approaching train. Mr. Pearson was one of the founders of the trade journal known as the H.T.A. For many years he was the Honorary Secretary of the Horticultural Trades Association; he was also a past-President of that Association.

It is not too much to say that Mr. C. E. Pearson was one of the best-known and best-loved men in the horticultural trade, always ready with a friendly word and fond of a good joke. He will be sadly missed at the Westminster fortnightly shows and at other horticultural meetings throughout the country. All who knew him feel that they have lost a good friend.

LATE NOTES

Tractor trials to include small motor cultivators

The scientific application of agricultural machinery to market gardening in this country is foreshadowed in the announcement that at the World Tractor Trials to be held near Oxford next year special attention will be devoted to testing the efficiency of small mechanical equipment, such as tractor-cultivators suitable for use by market gardeners. It is also announced that the Royal Agricultural Society of England, which is responsible for the Trials, has decided to modify the governing conditions so as to make the maximum entry fee £150 for all classes of tractors and machines. The preliminary announcement of the Trials has attracted widespread attention both in England and abroad, and for the first time in the development of agricultural machinery it is anticipated that British firms will be in a position to meet the challenge of their American and Continental rivals.

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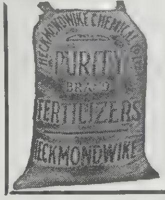

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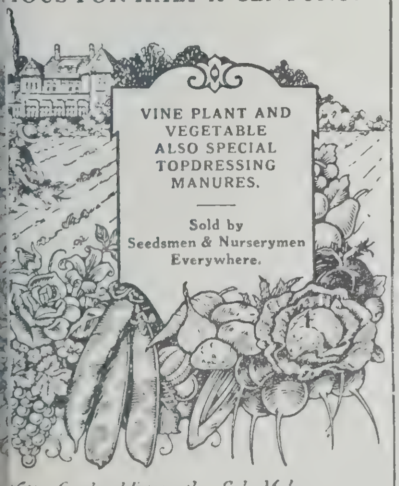

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THIS Winter Wash does
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2-3 ft., 13s. 100, 120s. 1,000. Thorn (Quick), 1½-2 ft., 6s
55s. 1,000; 2-2½ ft., 8s. 100; 2-3 ft., 10s. 100. Berberis Dar
1½-2 ft., 9s. doz.; do. Stenophylla, 1½-2 ft., 9s. doz., 60s. 100; 2-
12s. doz. Box latifolia aurea, 9-12 ins., 5s. doz., 35s. 100; 12-1
7s. doz., 50s. 100. Broom white Portugal, 2-3 ft., 5s. doz
100. Cupressus Lawsoniana, 2-2½ ft., 10s. doz., 75s. 100. C
easter Frigida, 2-3 ft., 5s. doz., 28s. 100. Laurel rotundi
1½-2 ft., 4s. doz., 28s. 100; 2-2½ ft., 5s. doz., 32s. 100. Ol
Haastii. 1-1½ ft., 4s. doz., 27s. 100. Pernettya speciosa, 1-1
4s. 6d. doz., 28s. 100; 1½-2 ft., 6s. doz, 40s. 100. Privet ovalifo
(bushy), 1½-2 ft., 10s. 100, 90s. 1 000; 2-2½ ft., 14s. 100
Japonica, 1½-2 ft., 4s. doz., 25s. 100; 2-2½ ft., 6s. doz. Sp
Menziesii triumphans, 5-6 ft., 6s. doz. Rhododendron Cun
hamii (early blush), 1-1½ ft., 7s. doz., 47s. 100; do., 1-1½ ft. (
ted budded), 8s. doz., 55s. 100. Erica Carnea, King Ge
9s. doz.; do., Queen Mary, 9s. doz. All carriage extra. Al
above are bushy and well-rooted plants. Catalogue of
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(Miscellaneous Adverts. continued from page ii.)

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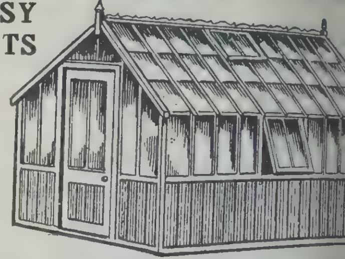

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10 ft. ,,	7 ft. ,,	**£1**	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	**£1 1 6**
12 ft. ,,	8 ft. ,,	**£1**	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	**£1 6 0**

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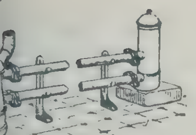

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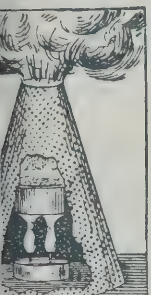

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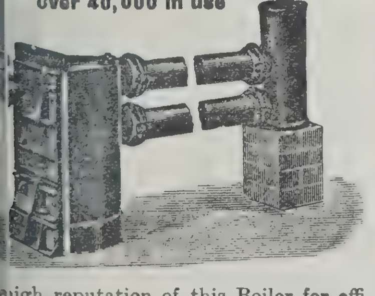

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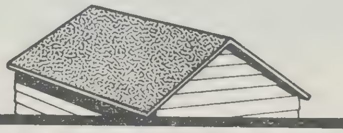

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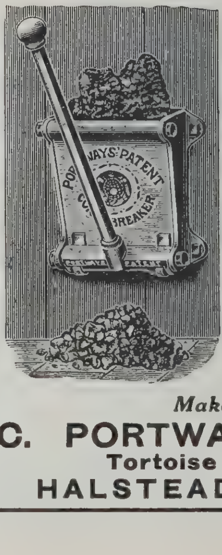

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2647—Vol. LI. NOVEMBER 30, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World. 13/

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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TREE AND SHRUB CATALOGUES FOR 1929-30 799
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Tree and Shrub Catalogues for 1929-30

By Sir William Lawrence

very pleasant to find so many English series holding such extensive stocks of s and shrubs which they offer at able prices. My criticisms, which apply ed degree to the various lists, are that ld always be stated—

Vhat is the size of the plant offered, at height it should reach.

Vhether the plant is pot-grown or rom the open ground

Vhether the plant is a seedling, cutting, r, or worked.

cations as to soil, situation, compara- ardiness are very useful, and are supplied.

rdering shrubs, ne is advised to t they have all nts which have d the Wisley of Garden In addition, owing list may gestive :—

es, Acer orni- A. pseudo- us Prince Han- nd A. rubrum, t and the last tumn colour, rince Hanjery ng growth.

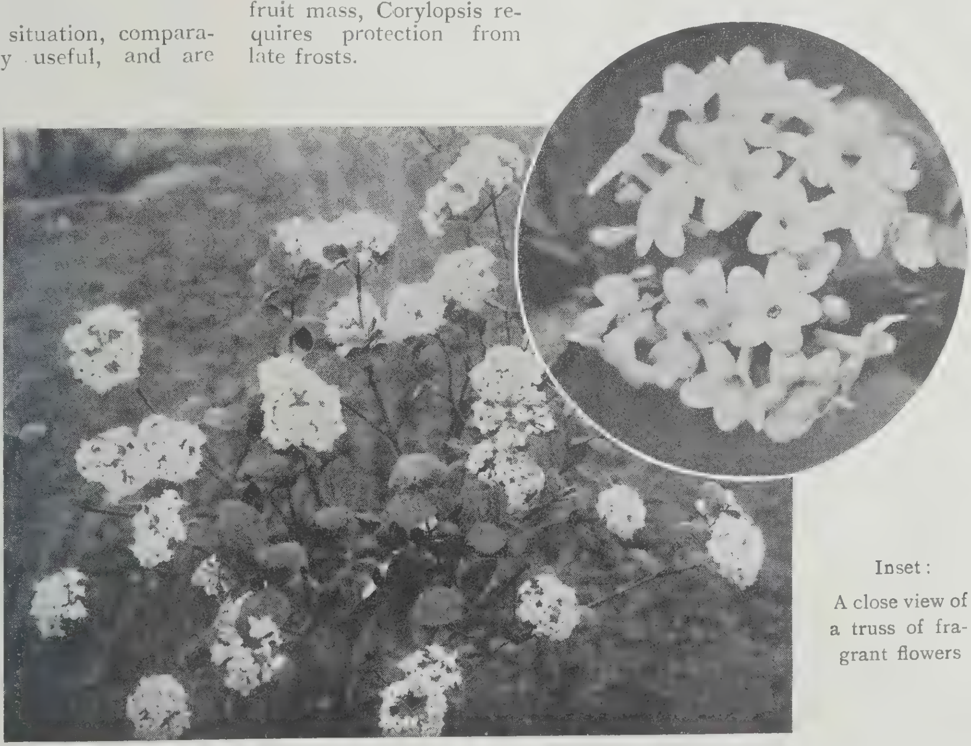
l. s parviflora, v, spreading called " Buck- in America, you are in no that fine tree s indica.

are Berberis number, and all are worth The purple of B. Thun- nd B. vulgaris y handsome. B. Aquifolium ieties Moseri, with coloured foliage, scicularis, an elegant plant, are de- The large Mahonia japonica, of there are two forms in commerce, and hyemalis, is a noble plant, with of yellow flowers arranged like Lily of ley. Weeping Birches are attractive, xt we come to Buddleia, of which, rom the more ordinary varieties, B. olia and B. Fallowiana, the latter with liage, are recommended. For a well d corner B. auriculata, fragrant and ng in November, is worth trying.

aryopteris, C. mongolica is the best, t comes C. tangutica (glutinosa). On Ceanothus see the R.H.S. Gardeners' Diary. Chimonanthus fragrans, "Winter Sweet," surprises us every Christmas; it prefers a warm corner to a wall.

All Cistus are worth growing; my choice would be C. purpureus, C. "Silver Pink," C. ladaniferus if it will stand, and failing it C. laurifolius; C. Wintonensis is a new and very choice variety.

Cornus, Kousa and Nuttallii, and, for early spring flowers and fruit mass, Corylopsis requires protection from late frosts.



Viburnum Carlesii, one of the finest flowering shrubs of recent introduction

Inset:

A close view of a truss of fragrant flowers

Cotoneaster includes rock garden varieties, e.g., adpressa, thymifolia, and humifusa; small shrubs, such as C. horizontalis, notable for its autumn colour, and to be had in a very pretty form with silver variegation; C. Simonsii, which will grow anywhere; C. salicifolia, C. Harroviana, and C. Henryi with pendulous branches; C. bracteata, a good fruiting variety; C. moupinensis, black fruit and fine autumn colour, and finally C. frigida, which forms a small tree, used in making the heads of golf clubs.

Cratægus have been somewhat neglected of late—a catalogue before me does not list a single variety—but are fine as standards, both in flower and fruit; my selection would be C. Arnoldiana, C. Canbyi, C. Carrieri, C. Crus-galli, C. chlorosarca, C. Elwangeriana, C. Jackii, the double scarlet thorn, prunifolia, punctata, sub-mollis, and tenacetifolia.

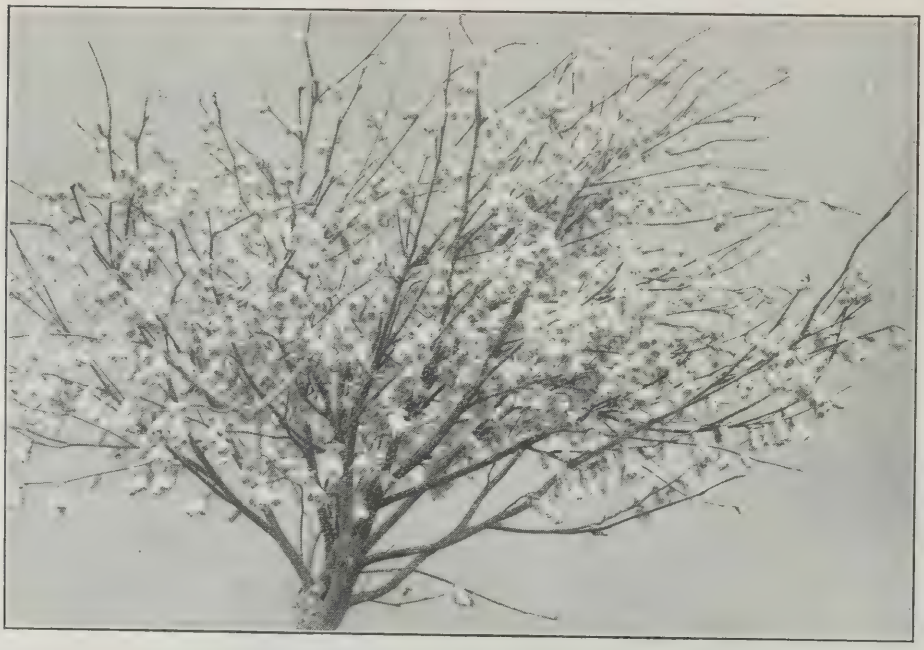
Of Japanese Quinces there are large-flowered white and pink forms which have various names, a variety with white flowers with pink markings on the back of the petals, and Cydonia Simonii, dark crimson, much to be recommended. The catalogues offer a great choice of Cytisus hybrids; unfortunately, the dark-coloured forms, which are very beautiful, e.g., Dallimorei, are not so satisfactory as the old Andreanus. The Daphnes are well known; D. Dauphinii (hybrida) is one of the best, and quite hardy here.

Deutzias — besides the white-flowered hybrids, D. discolor, and D. longifolia (Veitchii) with pink flowers, are attractive. Enkianthus (campanulatus and japonicus) dislike chalk!

Escallonias C. F. Ball, langleyensis, Iveyi, and Phillippiana; Eucryphias, which simply hate chalk, but do well in sheltered gardens, cordifolia and pinnatifolia; Euonymus latifolius and E. Yedoensis are good, but the native E. europæus as seen on the chalk takes a lot of beating.

Forsythias intermedia spectabilis, Fortunei, and viridissima, the latter the latest to flower. Fremontia californica should be planted in a sheltered position, but not against a wall; it likes chalk.

Of Brooms, Genista ætnensis forms a tree, whilst pilosa and sagittalis are prostrate or nearly so. Hamamelis mollis is the finest of the Witch Hazels, and a most desirable plant. Hydrangea quercifolia has fine foliage, and got the A.M. Hypericums Moserianum and patulum Henryi. Laburnums Adamii,



Two illustrations of Corylopsis pauciflora, a densely branched and very floriferous shrub. Cherished for its early spring flowers

the chimæra with three kinds of flower, Vossii, and pendula. Ligustrum—the Golden Privets should be reserved for dwellers in neo-Tudor villas. L. Quihoui is a useful late-flowering plant.

Shrubby Loniceras are better avoided. Magnolias, grandiflora, Exmouth Variety, Lennei—a first-class plant—Soulangeana, parviflora, and stellata form a good selection of easily grown Magnolias. Osmanthus Delavayi for the spring, and for autumn colour the incomparable Parrotia persica. For Philadelphus see the R.H.S. Gardeners' Diary.

Piptanthus Nepalensis and Plagianthus Lyalli both require protected corners, and both are to be had in glabrous forms. Prunus includes Cherries, Apricots, Plums, and Peaches. There are three good varieties of Prunus cerasifera—Blireana, Moseri, Pissarti nigra; the purple leaved Plum P. spinosa purpurea makes an elegant small tree.

There are a host of good Cherries—the double form of the Wild Cherry, P. Avium flore pleno, P. incisa, P. Conradinæ (early), the Japanese Cherries, of which Hisakura (Kanzan) and Mount Fugil (Kojima) are excellent. Nor must we forget P. subhirtella, with its autumn flowering form, P. Sargenti, and the yellow-flowered P. Yedoensis. The fine form of our native Bird-Cherry, P. padus grandiflora, should be in every garden, as should Almonds and Peaches. Pyracanthas—Lelandii, vermilion; Yunnanensis, orange; Rogersiana aurantiaca, yellow.

Pyrus has fruit with pips—Apples, Pears, Whitebeam, and Mountain Ash. There are many good Crab Apples, P. Eleyi, P. floribunda, P. purpurea, P. Veitch's Crab, P. John Downie, P. Golden Gem, P. Ioensis flore pleno (late, with lovely large flowers), P. Magdeburgensis (an Apple), P. Sargentii, P. Toringo, and P. toringoides. Of the Whitebeams, P. Aria majestica, P. pinnatifida Gibbsi, and P. vestita. Of the Mountain Ashes, P. Aucuparia discolor (autumn colour), P. subarachnoides munda (white berries) P. pekinensis (orange fruit), P. Vilmorinii (pink fruit), Rhus cotinus atropurpurea (select the plant in the nursery to secure good colour), and Rhus cotinoides, both for colour. Rhus deliciosus is lovely, and so is the double, sterile form of the common Blackberry. Many Willows are lovely; Bockii has very small leaves and flowers in autumn; magnifica has leaves like a Magnolia; S. babylonica annularis is a curious and elegant plant; S. irrorata, with very white stems, I have been unable to find in English lists. Spartium junceum is a first-class Broom, and nowhere better than near the sea. Stachyurus præcox or S. chinensis are valuable for early flower. Of the Lilacs,
the two species Syringa reflexa a
Sweginzowii are recommended, and
hybrids are Jan van Tol (single
Massena (large single mauve) Souve
Louis Spath (dark red single),
Lemoine (double white), Paul Thirion (
mauve). There are endless Veronicas; A
Glory and Simon Deleaux are lovely, b
too hardy, and Hulkeana is even less
cupressoides and Armstrongi (dwar
golden) make picturesque plants. Of
nums, Carlesii, fragrans and Maresii a
pick.

I like the yellow Weigelia Middendo
and Eva Rathke is an old fav
Xanthoceras sorbifolia has lovely
and good sprays of white flowers. Man
class plants have been left out from th
notably Rhododendrons, but I think
claim that every plant I have mentione
appeal to everyone who wants decorati
handsome shrubs in the garden.

WILLIAM LAWRE

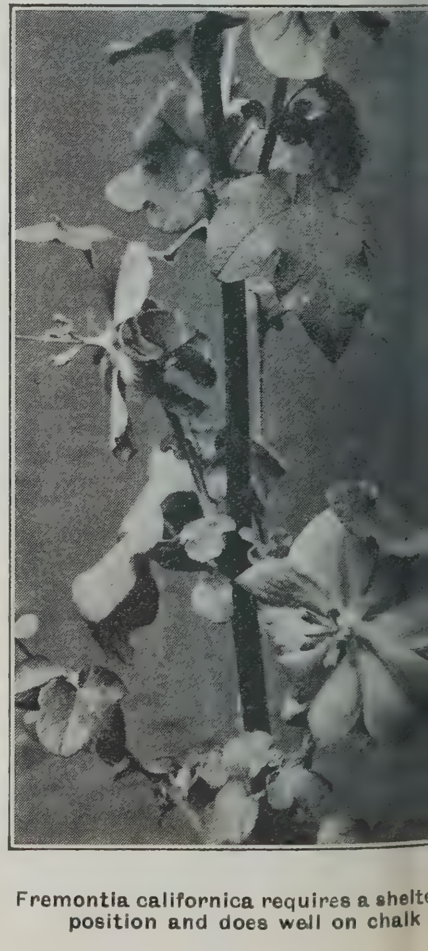
Burford, Dorking.

Berried plants for greenhou

For a warm greenhouse a very
berried evergreen plant is Ardisia cr
with scarlet berries, although a white-b
variety may be had. The plant is ve
corative for a long period, as the berries
for a long time. Rivina humilis is a
pretty plant, graceful and decorative.
flowers are inconspicuous, but after
fade the plant clothes itself with pen
red berries. Although really a stove pl
is at the latter stage more lasting in a
and drier atmosphere.

Callicarpa purpurea bears purple b
freely on semi-pendulous stems, whic
just now at their best. To keep the b
hanging for some time, give the plants
airy conditions. All these plants do bes
loamy compost enriched with peat.

F.



Fremontia californica requires a shelt position and does well on chalk

TES OF THE WEEK

Rock Garden Society

ie first General Meeting of the Rock
len Society will be held in the New Hall
ie Royal Horticultural Society on Tues-
December 10th, at 3 p.m. The business
e meeting will be to appoint the officers
set out the objects of the Society and to
ige the date for the Society's first show
30. All persons interested in the culti-
n of Alpine plants are invited to attend.

Horticultural Club

e next meeting of the Horticultural Club
be held in the Windsor Castle Hotel,
ueting Department, 1, Wilton Road, op-
Victoria Station, London, on December
when Captain F. Kingdon Ward will
e on his recent plant collecting expe-
in Asia. The lecture will be preceded
dinner, 6.30 p.m. for 7 p.m. Non-mem-
especially interested in Captain F.
don Ward's expedition can obtain tickets
ie dinner and lecture (6s. 6d.) from the
Secretary, Mr. G. F. Tinley, 855, Lon-
Road, Westcliff-on-Sea. At a meeting in
ary Sir Daniel Hall has very kindly
ised to lecture on the Florist's Tulip.

of the late Mr. Kirch's Alpines

e late Mr. Kirch's Alpines grown
ckenham were recently sold by Messrs.
ieroe and Morris. There were ap-
mately 25,000 plants in all, and they
ed (apart from the frames and green-
s) about £455. Of these a fair pro-
on were small plants, requiring to be
n on for a year before becoming sale-
Alpine Rhododendrons averaged about
ich. Named Auriculas made 2s. 6d. per

ifrages, in 6-inch pans, mostly of the
hia and Engleria sections, averaged
. per plant for those in the frames. The
plants in greenhouses averaged over
. each.
ifraga Cotyledon, best forms, made
1s. apiece for large plants in 32 pots.
re were 15 small plants of Ramondia
echii, which went for £2 per lot of
A lot (727), comprising six rare
nes, including D. rupestris and D.
grandiflora, made £5 5s. Eight rare
ias (729) went cheaply for £2 2s. Best
ies of Violas averaged about 25s. per
Helianthemums in named varieties
ged 10s. to 12s. per 100; Dianthus
and other good varieties went from
40s. per 100.

Berberis Coryi

genus Berberis contains many shrubs
at beauty, but none is more worthy of
than the species Coryi. It is a com-
ely new introduction, and has a very
able habit of growth. Its semi-
ous branches are always attractive. In
Berberis Coryi bears copious clusters
ow flowers which hang like beads upon
ms. Beautiful as the bushes are at
ason of the year, I am sure that they
ore beautiful in autumn and winter,
he branches are clothed with coral-red
. Many people might object to cut-
shrub of this kind, but whether it is
indoor decoration or left in the garden
onger show, Berberis Coryi is a gem
ould not be missed. The present is a
time to plant, and I find that the
ppreciate a moderately rich soil. They
ave an abundance of light, and it is
antage if the situation can be slightly
dry side. Save for the removal of any
r superfluous branches, no pruning is
ary. G. H. C.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Highly-flavoured Apples

I WAS very much interested in the article entitled "How to Grow Cox's Orange Pippin," by Mr. Laurence J. Cook, issue November 16th. I quite agree with all he says about the management of this choice Apple, which is considered a bad doer by many growers. There is no doubt that it is much the best when grown on the Paradise stock, and should never be planted without some other variety, such as Worcester Pearmain or others that bear fruit freely in the vicinity. Over-pruning I also find detrimental to a good crop of Cox's, and the most sheltered and warmest part of the garden should be chosen, and it is well worth a southern wall. The best crops I have ever seen were grown in such a position.

An indispensable shrub: The Moonlight Broom (Cytisus scoparius pallidus), clothed with long sprays of pale sulphur flowers

Having read the list of others that he gives which have decidedly good flavours, I should like to add several which I consider the best flavoured bar Cox's and James Grieve. The first one I am going to mention is Egremont Russet. Eat one of these about the first week in November and you will be sure to have a feeling that you must have another. The flavour is denoted by its excellent nuttiness, while the flesh is very crisp. The tree in itself is neat in growth and very fertile, and very suitable for a small garden where only one dessert variety is required. There is also no doubt but what it is choicest of all the Russet family.

American Mother is an old variety that is not so largely known as it should be. Probably a good deal is due to the dullness of the fruit, but the flavour of them is all that can be desired for those who know a real good Apple. This also is in season during November, but will keep well up to Christmas if harvested right. It does best on the Paradise stock.

St. Cecelia is a fairly new Apple that was raised by the late Mr. J. Basham, of Bassaleg, Monmouthshire, and is one of the very best Apples that anyone could wish to have during January and February; it has the true Cox's flavour, and can be relied upon to succeed well where Cox's Orange fails. It is medium in size, fairly oval in shape, and the colour is golden yellow, with a crimson flesh and stripes when ripe. The tree is compact, and is clean and healthy, and I can recommend it to any readers who want a real good follower to Cox's.

Pitmaston Pine Apple. This is an excellent flavoured Apple, not known so widely as it should be. It was raised at Witley, in Herefordshire, about 70 years ago, and I am afraid there are few nurserymen who grow it to-day, but it may be found growing as large old standards in many orchards throughout the midlands, bearing well year after year. The fruit is not very large, is conical in shape, golden yellow with russet, and red flesh.

Cornish Gilliflower. I had to go to a deal of trouble some years ago to obtain a stock of this old favourite, but to grow it well it must have a sheltered part of the garden or orchard, and requires careful pruning, as it bears most of its fruit on the end of the branches, so it should be grown either as a standard or half standard. The fruit is medium in size, oval, and markedly ribbed round the eye, greenish yellow, streaked and splashed dull red and Russet, while the flesh is pale yellow, sweet, and very rich. It is one of the best late keepers we have, although it is quite fit to eat in December.

Claygate Pearmain. Probably the best of all the winter Pearmains, and one of the best for an orchard standard. The fruit is of a typical dessert size, dull russet in colour, richly flavoured, tender flesh, one of the best if well ripened before gathering. The tree is fertile and bears regular crops. Another excellent old good flavoured Apple, well worth growing in an orchard, is Wykeham Pippin. Not very large, flattish round in shape, and greenish yellow when ripe, and will keep well into March.

Joybells. Although I have not grown this fairly new variety personally, I believe from what I have seen and learned about it it is one of the coming varieties that has exceedingly good flavour. W. E. WRIGHT.

Gardening in the Sudan

Very many of us who garden in England had good reason to complain of the great drought last summer, but we have nothing to endure like those who garden in the Sudan. A relative of mine resident there has written to me as follows: "Locusts have been a terrible curse in the Sudan. One flight alone was 40 miles long. The Air Force ran into one swarm over a mile wide and 4,000 feet thick. As you can imagine, the locusts don't leave much."

Notwithstanding this terrible drawback, the enthusiastic Governor of Wadi-Halfa, with a few kindred spirits, formed a horticultural society which is affiliated to the R.H.S. Last summer they had their first Flower Show, which was a success. Now they have 7 Challenge Cups for competition at their next show, which is expected to be an advance on last year's.

I feel sure that many of your readers will join with me in wishing the Wadi-Halfa Horticultural Society the success it so well deserves. B. NEWBURY.

The Rock Garden Society

I think anyone who read Sir William Lawrence's charming letter (issue November 9th, page 751) must feel a great desire to join the Rock Garden Society which is just being formed.

I am sure the Society will appeal to many who, under ordinary circumstances, have not much opportunity of getting in touch with their fellow Alpine growers.

We all have a certain amount of treasures collected or sent from abroad, and sometimes one has seedlings or cuttings, which one would be glad to exchange with other amateurs.

It is very true what Sir William says, that a real lover of Alpines can have a most interesting and instructive garden in a very small space. Not long ago I spent a most interesting two hours looking at Alpines in a tiny suburban back garden, many better grown than I have seen under what one wo were more favourable conditions.

I should like to make one su which is, that members of the Rock Society should be allowed, on produc membership card, to be shown ov member's gardens. It is a tremendo est and pleasure to see a collection grown rare Alpines, and though most are thrown open one or two day year for the hospitals, it is not alw sible to go on those particular dates.

Godstone. N.

Pyrus floribunda purpure

A blue sky and bright sun in Nov rare, and to-day a garden stroll re welcome sight. The fruits of this "flowering" Crab stood out against with dazzling effect. The young fru and purplish, but as it ages it gro scarlet, and now has the colour an the form of a Napoleon Cherry.

Why do the blackbirds, which have cleared off every berry in th save the Berberis fruits, leave this so alone? The ground below is litte fallen fruit, but all so far uneaten.

Do other growers of this tree find t

E.

The National Chrysanthemum

I was greatly interested in the repo Society's show at the Royal Hor Hall (issue November 16th), and I ve regret I was not able to see the sho

I have been wondering if some younger generation would like to kn and how the National Chrysa

A fine colony of Lilium giganteum in Scotland et was started. I think it was 50 years far as I can remember. At that time member of the Borough of Hackney ysnthemum Society (which was a sport e old Stoke Newington). Mr. William , of Hackney, was the secretary, and very keen on making it a National et. We used to hold our shows at the alAquarium, Westminster, where on one sin I won the Silver Cup offered by the um Company for 10 trained specimen also first for six plants, large-flowered ts; that was in 1881. It was about that had occasion to write to Mr. H. l, of Swanley, and I happened to tin the Borough of Hackney Chrysan-m Society, and in his reply he said: call it the Borough of Hackney Chrys-eum Society? Why not make it the cal? If you do that, I will promise uineas a year as long as I am able." next meeting we had at Hackney I the letter to Mr. Holmes, and he was n up with it he asked me to read the the meeting, which I did about three luring the evening to late-comers. That to give the idea a new spurt, and it t very long before it was an accom- fact, although I do not quite remember te. I have always been a lover of nthemums, and I am now nearly 82 of age, and I have no glass accommo- I have at the moment a plant stand- my hall exactly like the one figured in ssue of the 16th, but rather larger he du Poitou).

as that which prompted this note.

H. Langford,
Late gardener to Sir Murray
Hyslop, Cedar Lawn Gardens,
Beckenham, Kent.

tingale House, Fernham,
Faringdon, Berks.

ysanthemum Blanche Poitevene

our publication of November 16th, I that the illustration of a plant at the National Chrysanthemum Society has the name of Blanche du Poitou. lant is really Blanche Poitevene, and I like you to rectify the same, as this cause some inconvenience to your s.

L. Mills.
ing, Kent.

Photinia villosa

brilliant autumnal colouring, few mem- the order Rosaceæ can compete with all deciduous tree. In private gardens rely seen over 20 feet in height, often less. The corymbs of white flowers, on branches slanting upwards, open in In any other season, they might be ive, but are then inconscpicuous among ny trees and shrubs in bloom at that The leaves are small, ovate-lanceolate e, downy; but towards the middle and October they gradually change from to bronze and so on to the most vivid d scarlet. The oval fruit, one-third of h in length, ripens at the same time rns to a glassy, brilliant red.

e seed is sown the same autumn it ates freely the following spring, and, avourable circumstances, the offspring grow into vigorous, healthy plants, nnual shoots a foot or more in length, fferent from specimens grafted on the orn. One such tree known to the was planted about 25 years ago, and, ood cultivation, is to-day only about n height, with short, gnarled, spread-anches.

lings raised from this plant about 10 ago have long since surpassed it in , their foliage colouring perfectly each thus disproving the assertion often made that it only does so when the Photinia is grafted on the Hawthorn. J. Comber.

Nymans Gardens, Handcross, Sussex.

Lilium giganteum

This handsome Lily is a native of the Himalayas; it also grows in quantity in Hupeh and Yunnan in China, where it is found in the open glades of mountain forests; there it enjoys the cool conditions and partial shade. The strong, straight stems may reach a height of 10 feet or more where the soil, position, and climatic conditions are ideal, but are more often seen from 4 feet to 6 feet high, well furnished with large cordate leaves, which gradually diminish in size as they ascend the stem.

Lilium giganteum flowering in a northern garden in August

The flowers, which are funnel-shaped, are 5 inches to 6 inches long, the segments spreading out at the tips. The bold racemes may carry from six to twelve flowers, which are very sweetly scented; these vary a little in colour, but are usually white, tinged with green on the outside with conspicuous bands of red in the throat.

In choosing a site for this handsome Lily, try and give it a position similar to its native habitat, that is, in partial shade in the clearing of a woodland, but free from the drip of trees and strong-growing roots, where it may be protected from cold, cutting winds by a ground covering of low-growing shrubs or Ferns; thorough drainage is essential. It enjoys a good depth of rich soil, made up of 2 parts of fibrous loam and 1 part of leaf soil, with a good dash of coarse sand added and well mixed together; it also benefits by a good layer of well-rotted cow manure placed a foot or more under the surface.

The bulbs should not be planted deeply, which is very often done; they ought to show the tips slightly above ground after planting is completed, which is best carried out during October, placing a good heavy mulch of rough leaves over the bulbs during the winter. The most satisfactory way is to plant bulbs of various sizes, which may be purchased in three sizes, that is, first, second, and third. These vary a good deal, and flowers may be expected in from two to three years from the smaller size, whereas the first size may produce flowers the following year after planting. When this happens they produce small side bulbs, which, in the course of a few years, will flower and, therefore, perpetuate the race of this noble species.

Lilium giganteum may be raised from seed, but it generally takes five or six years to produce flowers from the time of sowing.

J. A.

A greenhouse climber

In reply to "Juro's" query for a flowering climber to cover a small greenhouse wall, I suggest a Cobœa scandens. It grows very rapidly, and if the point of the main stem is pinched out when it has reached the desired height, it will throw out laterals and will soon cover a large space if given wires or strings to cling to. Beyond having good earth in the border when planting, and a good soaking of water from time to time in dry, warm weather, it will bloom freely all summer, and its pale green bell flowers turning to purple are very effective and interesting. I put in my plant last April, and it is still blooming. F. Mordaunt.

Bournemouth West.

Origanum hybridum

This is a delightful little plant for the rock garden, which I grew for many years, but have not at present, through losing it during a removal. I grew it on a level terrace of rock work, about a foot above the ordinary level and in sandy soil with a south aspect, and shielded from north and north-west winds by rock work above. Here it lived for a number of years, and was always an object which gave me great pleasure, although its beauties did not seem to strike the ordinary garden visitor. Its beauty is of a quiet character, but its leaves are pretty, and the character of its flowers leaves nothing to be desired in the way of their form and pleasing colouring. It never made much increase with me, but was always enjoyed, especially in the late months.

It often lasted into November, and it was a pleasure to go round among the few flowers then in bloom and to come upon this little group of Origanum hybridum. I have grown a few others, such as O. Dictamnus and O. Tournefortii, but none of them pleased me so well as O. hybridum, whose origin I do not know. It is said to be synonymous with O. pulchellum and O. Tournefortii, but it is not the same as the O. Tournefortii I have had. It is also said to come from the Levant. Farrer says nothing about O. hybridum, and considers O. pulchellum and O. Tournefortii to be distinct. S. Arnott.

Lantanas

The Lantana is one of those things which is now under eclipse. I can remember when it was largely used in the flower garden, and, given a warm, rather dry season, beds of Lantanas were most attractive. They were equally valuable for greenhouse work in late autumn. Plants are easily grown into neat little pieces, which remain effective for a very considerable period. Stock plants are easily wintered in a cool greenhouse, but it is necessary that they be kept fairly dry. Propagation is a simple matter; young growths root very readily in spring, and there is little difficulty in working up a stock. There are numerous varieties, ranging in colour from white (or nearly white) to pink, yellow, scarlet, and crimson. W. McG.

Mabie.

Plant Hunting in the Balkans

By Hugh Roger Smith, M.D.

FROM Pec, to which we had descended after our climb of Kopravinik, we drove early next morning to the town of Prizren, turning aside on the way to visit the monastery of Decani, the most celebrated monastery in Serbia. We were most hospitably entertained to lunch by the Archimandrite, who afterwards showed us the beauties of the really fine church. It is a most imposing building, with a wonderful west door. Inside the walls are covered with old frescoes, and there is a great deal of fine wood carving. Amongst the many interesting ornaments in the church are two enormous painted wax candles, 10 feet high, which were presented to the church, we were told, in 1338, on the understanding that they were not to be lighted until Serbia was a free country. The ceremony of lighting them was carried out by King Alexander in 1924 amidst huge enthusiasm.

We arrived at Prizren late in the afternoon, and we left early next morning, so had no opportunity to investigate it at all, which was a pity, as it is an interesting old town, beautifully situated on the side of a hill which is dominated by an old Turkish fort, now used as a barracks. At Prizren our party divided, two making for the Albanian frontier to climb a mountain over the border, while three of us drove to Urosevac to climb Ljuboten, a fine imposing-looking mountain of some 9,000 feet. We called on the Captain of Gendarmerie, and over the inevitable coffee discussed our plans. The officers were most kind, and took no end of pains to make things comfortable for us.

They refused to let us go without an armed escort, and secured two soldiers, one of whom spoke English, and they telephoned to Gotovusa, a little village at the foot of the mountain, to have three horses ready for us and an extra soldier who was to act as guide and who turned out to be a jovial Turk, who spoke nothing but Serbian, of course. After an early lunch, we started off, five in the car and one soldier standing on the step. About a mile from the town we had to ford a considerable stream, and the car stuck hopelessly in the deep mud and had to be pulled and pushed out by men who were hanging about and evidently waiting for just this sort of thing to happen. The road was very bad and about half-way to our village became impossible for a car as it was under much-needed repair, so there was nothing for it but to unload our tent and luggage and send the car back. The gendarmes commandeered a wretched little donkey and a pony that were working in a field near by. On to the former was piled our tent, sleeping bags, and luggage, and I rode the pony and experienced for the first time the discomfort of riding on a pack-saddle, a large wooden erection balanced on the pony's back and which tended to slip round on any sudden movement; stirrups there were none, their place being taken by two bits of string, up and down which one's feet slipped helplessly; reins were represented by a piece of rope tied round the animal's mouth, and the single end given into my charge. With this contrivance I had, of course, no control over the beast whatever, and I was obliged to let him go his own sweet way.

On reaching Gotovusa the luggage was transferred to a horse and the ascent began. We were quite an imposing party with our three soldiers and three men with the beasts. The track was incredibly steep for a horse, but the animals were absolutely sure-footed, and after about two and a half hours' climbing we reached our camping ground some 6,000 feet up, and were comfortably settled in our tent before the rain came down in torrents. Our wretched men had no shelter whatever, but they lit a big fire under a tree and seemed quite cheerful in the morning, which was raw and misty.

We were off at four in a fine drizzle which soon turned to heavy rain. We soon came upon Dianthus inodorus and quantities of Bruckenthalia spiculifolia, which takes the place of Ling on these mountains, a specially fine form of Geum montanum was abundant, and the real treasure Geranium subcaulescens with its crimson flowers and black stamens made most vivid splashes of colour on the hillside. A little higher we found Dianthus gelidus. My hip, which had been badly strained by the pack saddle, was now so painful that I was obliged to turn back before reaching the final screes. My companions, continuing the climb, found on these screes Saxifraga thessalica, scardica, exarata, moschata, and oppositifolia, the rare dainty Viola heterophylla, Dryas octopetala, and a beautiful Anemone of the narcissiflora type.

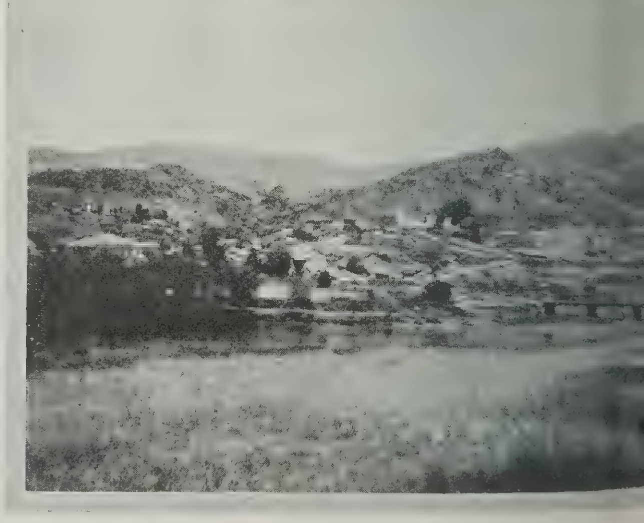
The descent from our camp was even more trying than the ascent, and at the village I was fortunate to find a post cart to take me to our car, as I found I could not walk. The stream had swollen so much that th
got into the carburettor with the res
this time we stuck in mid-stream
chauffeur reported that he had been
eaten up by bugs in the hotel at U
where he spent the night, so we
to push on and camp by the roadsid
ran into a succession of thunderstor
torrential rain, and some 15 miles f
town found the bridge collapsed
stream a raging torrent impossible
so there was nothing for it but to r
our hotel, but we could not face tho
and after dinner stopped chatting to
officials of the town until we were tu
at 12.30, when we retired to our
slept till 2, and caught the 2.15 t
Skopje (Uskub), arriving at 5 a.m.,
was obliged to go to bed and stop t
24 hours.

The following day, June 21st, we
in two cars, our party having been au
by a Serbian gentleman and hi
daughter, who accompanied us until w
left Serbia for Albania, and who
smoothed our way and made thing
comfortable for us. We drove to Vele
excellent road and then over the
pass, the scene of fierce fighting in
war, and then across the great Mac
plain with mountains all round. At t
of Prilip we joined the rest of the pa
together drove on to the interesting
Bitolj, the old Monastir. It as a fas
drive, and we saw many interesting
a field of wild Gladiolus was a gorgeou
and it was interesting to meet the wild
hock by the roadside. Salvia turk
was growing plentifully; it is a ha
plant, and I am surprised it is not mo
seen in cultivation. Digitalis ferrugine
another unusual and striking plant,
yellow Asphodel made brilliant pat
colour on the hillside. Little groups
stately Acanthus longifolius were pass
time to time. Some of the hills wer
covered by the Venetian Sumach,
Cotinus, its feathery pinky bro
florescence colouring quite large areas.
and there the Christ's Thorn, Paliuru
Christa, was seen, a really charmin
tree, with bright green pinnate leav
bright yellow flowers, produced in
umbel and followed by the curious frui
has been likened to a wide-brimmed h
deserves to be grown more in cultivati
judging from the specimens at Kew
quite hardy.

The animal life along the road was i
ing. I saw for the first time the

Typical Serbian cottage

Photograph by Dr. Giuseppi



Village of Skocivir, at foot of Kajmaktcalm

The camp on Ljuboten

Mosque in Bitolj

land tortoises, and now and then we the brilliant blue Roller, that, on the eminds one of a large Kingfisher, and nty Hoopoe would rise from the road 50 yards and settle again, its charac- crest shooting up as soon as it touched und. Nightingales were singing every- and the soft call note of the Golden was frequently heard, though the shy as seldom seen. Golden Eagles were ous, and we saw as many as five in the once, and occasionally a great Griffin sailed overhead.

day, June 22nd, the rest of the party f at 4 a.m. to climb Peristeri, a 8,000 ak to the north of the town. I was lame to climb, and spent the day up our plants and exploring the ing town, which is thoroughly in character. The various trades are ected in special streets; one will be vith coppersmiths, another saddlers, carpenters, and so on. There are mosques, one or two really beautiful gs.

climbing party returned at four, their finds being Campanula abietina, to this mountain and the neighbour- Geum pseudo-coccineum, Gentiana ii, Ranunculus crenatus, and a lovely Pink.

a cup of tea the indefatigable Dr. and iuseppi and Mr. Ingwersen started off 50 mile drive to Ochrida to climb ca, while Dr. Seligman, our Serbian and the writer pushed off early next g for Kajmaktcalan, a 8,000 feet peak Greek frontier. The road led across n through some big marshes, and here Storks were walking and the pretty lossy Ibis, the sacred bird of Egypt, huge water buffalo, largely used in n Serbia as a beast of burden, and usually the most miserable animal I have ever seen, was here looking quite happy wallowing in the bogs. The Governor of Bitolj, a charming man who was indefatigable in making our tour comfortable and easy, had supplied us with one soldier, and at the picturesque village of Skocivir, at the foot of the mountain, we picked up another, and then began the most wonderful ascent by a series of great hairpin bends. The road was a great engineering feat, but the surface was the worst I have ever been on, and it is a marvel that the cars can stand it. The road had been cut up by heavy traffic during the war, for the mountain was held by the Bulgarians, and the taking of it by the Serbians by a frontal attack, in which they lost 17,000 men, was the turning point of the war in that part of the world. Half-way up we stopped for lunch, and here we found one single plant of Campanula speciosa with great upstanding flowers like Canterbury Bells of the palest of pale blues. Also Campanula Laurii, distinguished by its bulbous roots, and great quantities of Pyrethrum.

After a most exciting drive we reached the gendarmerie station some way below the summit in a dense mist. After a cup of coffee, I set off with our Serbian friend for Belo Grotto, some four or five miles off, where Ramondia Nataliæ was reported to have been found. The collecting of this plant was our main object in visiting this mountain. We searched diligently, but never saw a trace of Ramondia; however, we were rewarded by quantities of Lilium carniolicum and the striking Geranium subcaulescens and quantities of the dwarf Dianthus found on Peristeri and so far unidentified. It is a delightful plant, with almost sessile flowers, which grow in such masses as to completely hide the short leaves. I found three pure white specimens.

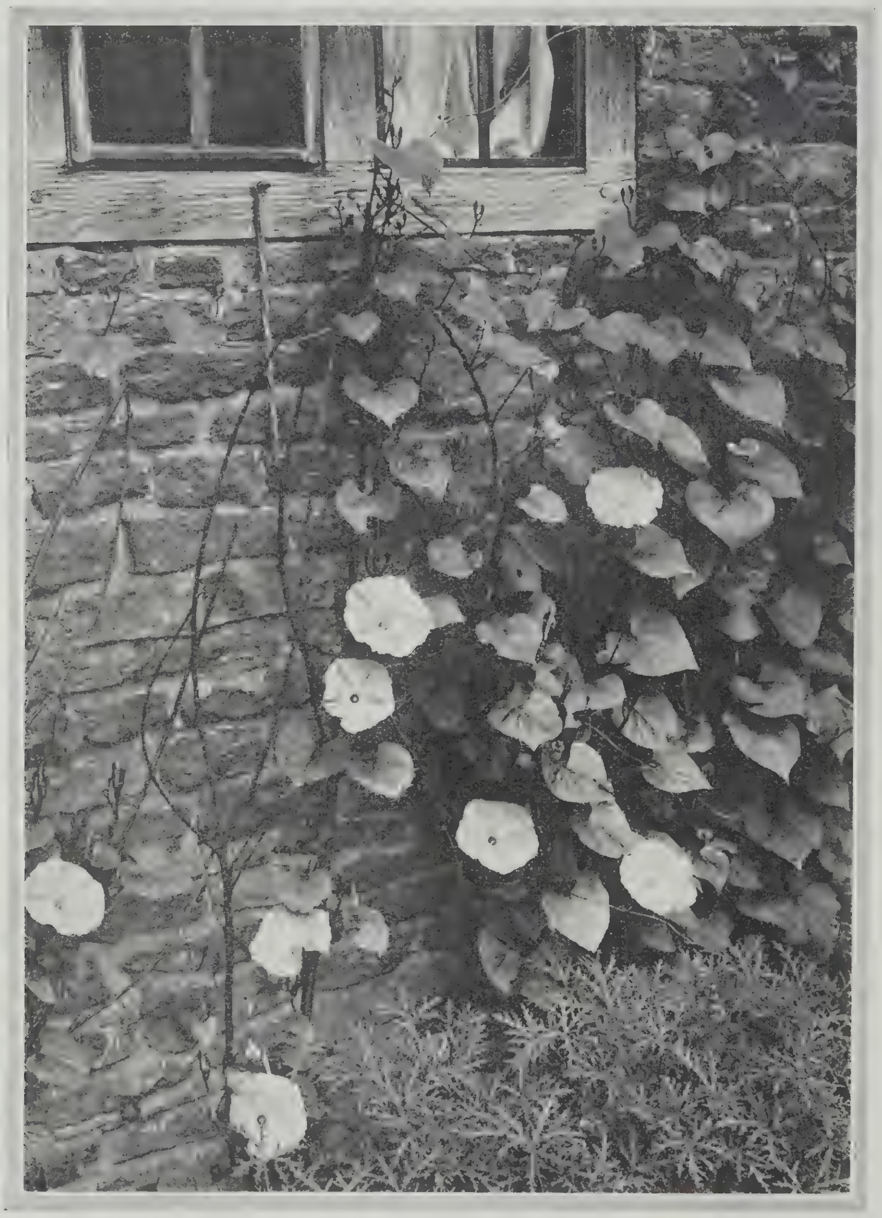
We got back to the gendarmerie after a five hours' tramp to find the cook engaged in making a wonderful soup, and, after an excellent meal, were made comfortable in one of the gendarmes' dormitories, the men giving up their beds to us. These rooms are absolutely clean and there is no trace of any vermin. Next morning early we were off with a gendarme who had fought for the Austrians in the storm troops before Verdun, had later been taken prisoner in Italy, and had then volunteered to join the Serbian army, and was in the final attacks of the Serbs. We climbed up to the Greek frontier and had coffee with the gendarmes and wandered along the frontier ridge and climbed a limestone peak, where we found a very beautiful Androsace of the villosa type, but far larger in the flower. The ground was carpetted with Gentiana verna angulosa, a dwarf Iberis, and a small yellow-flowered Alyssum. We dropped down into a gully in the hopes of finding the Ramondia, but again we were unsuccessful; however, we collected some interesting Sempervivums, arenaria, Reginæ Amaliæ, patens, and others; here, also, was Scorzonera rosea, the brilliant Linum flavum, the scarce Campanula saxifraga, Edrianthus graminifolius, and Kitæbeli, and, in the damp, shady places, quantities of the brilliant Geum pseudo-coccineum.

The return journey down the mountain by car was quite unpleasantly exciting. On reaching the village of Brod in the plains, we were fortunate enough to see a wonderful dance of some 50 men and women, all in their striking National costumes, for this was the orthodox Whitsunday. The heavily embroidered red and white dresses of the women were very attractive, and many were liberally covered with silver ornaments. This was a pleasant ending to a most profitable and enjoyable expedition.

Morning Glory

No plant is better fitted with a popular name than the good form of Ipomea rubro cœrulea, which is now to be had from our leading seedsmen. Until the last year or two it appeared that they had difficulty in securing stocks of the right plant (in the garden sense), for formerly, whereas the right plant did come sometimes, there was, more often than not, the disappointment of having a rampant creeper that gave a mass of foliage but no bloom within the duration of an English summer. It may safely be said that, among all our garden flowers, there is no other blue that is so perfectly blue or so entirely satisfactory in its purity of colour, quality of tone, and simple and unquestionable loveliness. The photograph, that shows about one-third of the group, was taken near the end of August, when only a few flowers were out, but all through September they increased in number day by day, till towards the end of the month there were no fewer than 80 blooms at a time, and a mass of buds promising even more till some night frosts early in October ended the most brilliant display of this wonderful plant that we have ever had. The seeds are sown in heat and are only planted out when all danger of frost is over. They were on a western wall, a better aspect than one more southerly, for the flowers show distress as soon as they feel the sun, which comes round to them between 12 and 1, though on cloudy days they last until the afternoon. But for their perfect vigour and freshness they should be seen quite early, or, at any rate, in the earlier hours of the forenoon.

G. J.



Morning Glory (Ipomea rubro-cœrulea) on a western wall

Tuberoses

Tuberoses (Polianthes tuberosa) appear to have lost caste in these days, yet their white, sweetly-scented blossoms are usually welcomed by those to whom Tuberoses appeal, and the earliest of these, the African bulbs, are now available, and ought to be potted up without delay. Let them be plunged, if possible, in bottom heat—a Melon pit from which the crop has now been cut is the very place for them. Give no water at all until top growth appears, but in order to prevent the soil on the surface from becoming too dry, a layer of Cocoa fibre may be used as a top dressing. Any ordinary potting compost suits the Tuberose.

A Scottish Gardener.

The herbaceous borde

THE modern herbaceous border c
consist of a collection of her
plants only, but is augmented b
biennials, annuals, and other subject
development without a doubt is bene
its effect, for it enriches the colour
during a longer period, and so extend
sphere of usefulness of what is ca
herbaceous border. There is no do
inclusion of other subjects has b
means of raising the herbaceous bord
popularity it has to-day. Small an
gardens are alike improved by its p
and if care is exercised in the sele
plants, success may be obtained, both
and warm districts. If care be t
choose good, free-flowering, and
perennials and to plant these properly
tilled soil, they will continue to yie
results year after year. If with th
mingled bulbs, biennials, and annuals
is impossible to surpass the beauty o
mixed border.

The main secret of success of all her
borders is the proper treatment of
before attempting to plant. The s
must also be considered, but this is o
dary importance, because the wide an
ranges of genera contain plants th
thrive in most gardens. Hardy pla
Roses and vegetables require a deep
and well-enriched soil to enable them
freely. A medium loamy soil is very
to the general requirement of the pla
as they will occupy the position for
years, the ground must be well enrich
organic manure, leaf-mould, chopp
and wood ashes. Horse manure shou
corporated with heavy soil and cow
with a light medium soil, as cow m
more retentive of moisture.

In a small garden the border ma
from 4 feet to 7 feet, but in a large
it may extend to the width of
In making a new border, the
should have some relation to lengt
the average garden I consider 6
7 feet ideal, and less than 4 feet wid
desirable, as in such a narrow bor
vigorous-growing subjects would not
to advantage. In making a start, tre
border quite 3 feet deep, break up th
the bottom and work in some
amongst it. On this broken-up soi
layer of manure with which has be
mixed the leaf-mould, chopped tu
wood ashes. Over the layer of manu
a spit of soil, then another layer of
and the top spit of soil placed on i
sub-soil should never be brought to
face, as it is always more or less sour
the constant filtration of water from
and the absence of air to sweeten it.

There are many opinions on t
time to plant, some favouring autu
others spring, but when all is said an
the question can only be settled by
conditions. Here, in this warm part of
autumn planting involves no risk, but
and exposed districts I should certainl
in spring. Before making a start t
plot out the ground and study the habi
plants and the colour of the flowers.
account must there be overcrowdin
every occupant given room to devel
without encroaching on its neighbou
tall plants must be placed near the
screen the dwarfer specimens in the

Then comes the arrangement, a
grower will have to decide wheth
plants are to be inserted singly or in
to produce broad splashes of colour.
small patch of colour a single plant p
never makes the impressive show of
of plants of one kind and colour.

THE FLOWER GARDEN AT THE MANOR HOTEL, HINDHEAD, SURREY

Dahlias in the foreground and a restful lawn and garden in the dell beyond. Among the large decorative Dahlias in the picture are Porthos, of violet-purple hue, a very distinct colour; Orange Boven, rich orange, in long stiff stems; and Mrs. Carl Salbach, rosy pink with cream bar.

A pleasing picture of the Water Lily pool. On the right-hand side of the pool are moisture-loving plants, including Iris Sibirica, Lobelia cardinalis, and Astilbe Davidii.

One of the well-arranged herbaceous borders, containing impressive groups of Perennial Phloxes, Michaelmas Daisies, Heleniums, Chrysanthemum maximum, Delphiniums, and Lupins.

course, masses of colour should be reserved for large and expansive borders and the collection in small borders confined to single specimens. It should also be noted that all plants do not need the same space, and a compromise may be effected by planting Liliums, Gladiolus, Salvias, Aquilegias, and others in groups of three, while single specimens of the larger subjects like Phlox and Astilbe will suffice. In a large border, the size of the group should be regulated according to the space available; three should be the minimum number of plants, and irregularity of shape and size should be the aim. For the collection forming the edging, similar conditions apply, but when arranging the number of each plant it must not be forgotten that several species increase rapidly and are difficult to keep in their allotted portion after a year.

Some plants are rather backward in establishing themselves in the ordinary garden soil, therefore a compost should be made up for them, consisting of two parts turfy loam, one part decayed manure, some wood ashes, a few handfuls of silver sand, and a 6-inch potful of bone-meal to a barrowload of the compost. Place a layer of the mixture below the roots, press gently, and fill up the remaining space with the soil taken out of the hole. This, of course, is a little extra trouble, but the results are well worth it. F. H.

Notes on the Carnation Show

THE thirty-seventh show of the British Carnation Society held at the Royal Horticultural Hall on November 20th and 21st brought to light some interesting novelties (in several new shades of colour), and the fact that amateurs can show at this season of the year a fine grade of flower. Indeed, the cultivation, not only of flowers from private gardens, but also from amateurs who do not employ a full time gardener, showed a marked improvement on other years.

The Challenge Cup offered by Lord Howard de Walden for 12 plants had two competitors, the winning group being sent by Lady Emsley Carr. The cultivation of these showed that the plants had been grown with plenty of air—the stems were stiff and the foliage glaucus. Mr. Doe, the gardener, may be congratulated upon them.

The Reginald Cory Cup for 100 blooms was won by Mr. Samuel Walrock.

Lady Emsley Carr was again the winner for the Stuart Low's Novelty Cup. We noted some Sir Philip Sassoon as large as that wonderful old variety Carola, which latter, although discarded by most on account of its bad habit, has never been excelled in size.

Mrs. Walter Burns' gardener, Mr. Wright, scored well with his Topsy, which were exceptionally fine, and Lady Lisburne was also successful in several classes.

Representing the amateurs, Miss Simpson, coming all the way from Lancashire, had some really fine flowers that would have done credit to a professional grower, her White Pear being especially excellent.

The dinner table class for open to all members showed much variety in arrangement. Instead of the low style usually favoured, the judges awarded first prize to a table carrying a tall centre-piece carried on a pedestal, which did not obstruct the view of the person opposite. We were much charmed by an arrangement by Mrs. Swan, of Haywards Heath, which included fancy orange varieties of varying shades that toned.

In the trade classes for colour, Messrs. C. Engelmann, Ltd., and Allwood Bros. were successful competitors, Mr. H. T. winning in the class for scarlets with trum.

Ivory won in the white class, Laddie light pink, Gladys for a medium pin Betty for deep pinks.

Topsy scored among crimsons, and Allwood among the Apricot shades.

Three Gold Medals were awarded three non-competitive groups from Engelmann, Ltd., Allwood Bros., and Low Co.

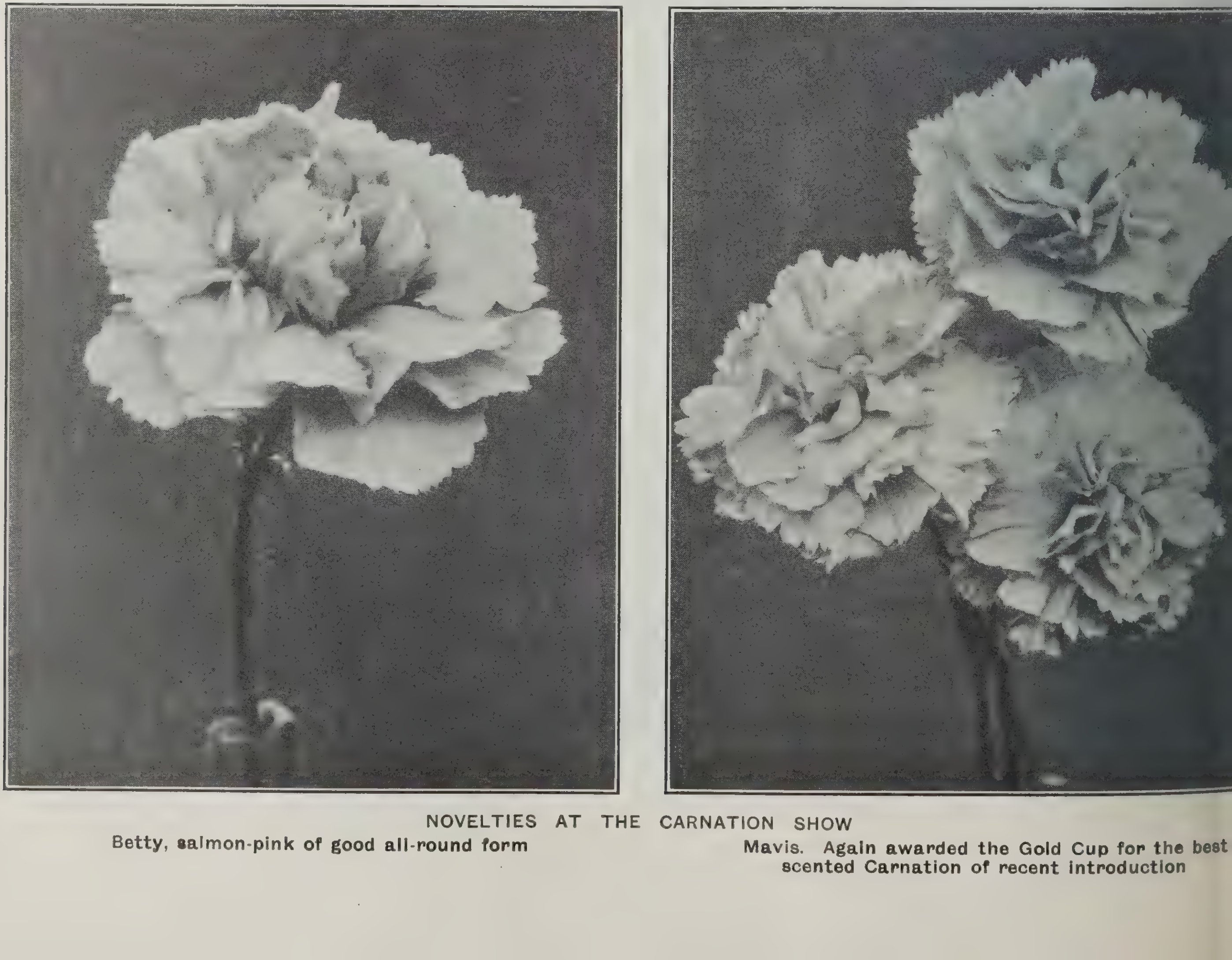
Mr. C. Engelmann had two very ch fancy varieties in Madge, orange, p carmine, and Sunny, deep orange, s chesnut red. Citron, pale yellow, w good.

Messrs. Allwood Bros.' best varieti Wivelsfield Buttercup, a well-formed yellow, and Rapture, bright rosy s Guy Allwood is a pretty salmon.

Messrs. Stuart Low Co.'s grou the bright orange flame Dandy, Mrs. Grant, an unusual shade of old rose berry, and terra-cotta, but the new Mrs. Wyndham Pain, stood out as t among their several purple varieties.

While the show was well attended a successful from the point of view of hibits, it was distressing to observe th the flowers had been spoilt on the seco of the show through the over-heated sphere of the Horticultural Hall. Wh write, we have on our table flowers came from the previous R.H.S. meeti weeks ago. The variety is Sheila which will actually keep three weeks being cut, yet the same variety was sp two days at this show.

The Gold Cup offered by the Dail for the best scented Carnation not in merce before 1927 was awarded to whose grower will not sell plants as he to retain them for cut flower purposes.



NOVELTIES AT THE CARNATION SHOW

Betty, salmon-pink of good all-round form

Mavis. Again awarded the Gold Cup for the best scented Carnation of recent introduction

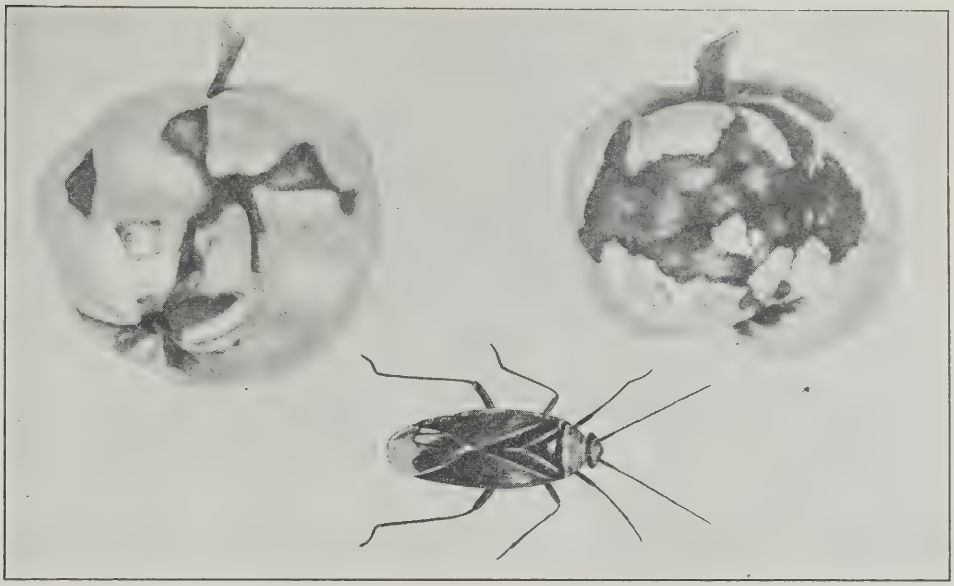
aturally adds much to the charm of a , and this is a popular class.

The Floral Committee.

is show it has been in the past the day t for many novelties, but the Society's Committee has been so severe in its that raisers have become shy to enter lants for this award or to bring out ew things. On the present occasion e variety received the Award of Merit, was granted to W. H. Wallace, named hat famous grower who died some go, the son of Mr. W. E. Wallace, of Bray. The colour of this is a lively f salmon, petals are deeply fimbriated rried on stiff stems. Foliage is very nd healthy, but the flowers lack scent n. No plants will be available as the is being retained for cut flower pur-

The Annual Dinner.

ling Carnation growers sat down to a tended dinner at Frascati's Restaurant evening of the first day of the show. distinguished guests was Colonel m, Secretary of the Royal Horticul- ociety, who delighted those present by ing them that the R.H.S. had been ly informed that the Carnation was the ite flower of H.M. the King.



Apple Capsid (Plesiocoris rugicollis). Also Apples attacked by Capsid bugs

(By permission of the Ministry of Agriculture)

Vinter Washing of Fruit Trees

RHAPS the most important winter rk amongst hardy fruit is that of nter washing. As we pointed out last , the use of caustic soda and potash for ork has been very largely superseded use of tar-distillate materials. The ustic washes had the advantage of ng the trees of Lichen and Moss, but tle effect on insect life, except that the l harbour for hibernating insects was ed for the following winter. Another which had to be considered with the washes was that if used every year ect of the wash was injurious to the and many hidebound trees could be as a result. Tar-distillates are now mon use, and they clean up trees nearly l as the old caustic wash. If used at orrect strength most hibernating res are killed. Eggs of aphis are killed ge numbers, and a fair control is ob- over caterpillar eggs. Further, we of trees which have received tar-distil- ach year for six years, and we fail to any sign of bark injury.

re are now many types of wash on the t which, according to the official trials l out at the various research stations xperimental fruit plots in various s, demonstrate that some makes of tillates are better than others with re- their egg-killing power. As experience ed, all makers are constantly improv- eir product. We notice the price of tandard makes shows a considerable re- n on last year; this is a step in the right on because we have always thought lthough most makes were efficient, the applying was heavy.

strength of wash used will depend upon nd of tree, and also the type of insect which the wash is being used against. akers' directions should be carefully ed with regard to strength. In a general per cent. strength will harm no kind dy fruit provided the buds are dormant; strength the majority of aphis eggs are ; at least, this is our experience. Up per cent. is frequently used for Apples, ally when the control of caterpillar is d.

Tar-distillates are best mixed in wooden vessels, and it is a good plan to place the concentrated article in the barrel and gradually add the required quantity of water, stirring well after each addition. The wash is most effective if applied by means of a spraying machine which can keep up a good pressure. Application by means of a garden syringe is not always satisfactory. Spray fluid made up should be used on the day it is made.

Winter washing with tar-distillates is, in our opinion, best carried out in January, and not later than the second week of February. The work should be done when the weather can be expected to remain dry for at least 24 hours; 48 hours would be even better. Windy weather should be avoided, as such wastes spray fluid and makes application unpleasant for the operator. The number of ideal days in January for winter washing is extremely limited and all preparations for making up the spray fluid should be put in hand before Christmas so that the work can proceed on the first favourable opportunity in January.

We consider that tar-distillates can be safely used on all kinds of hardy fruits during winter where aphis can be expected to appear the following year. Apples, Pears, Plums, and Peaches can be safely sprayed at strengths varying from 5 per cent. Raspberries, Gooseberries, and Currants of all colours have been sprayed by us with no ill effects. It has been stated that some bud damage has been caused to Gooseberries, but after a careful examination last year we failed to find any more dead buds in the sprayed bushes than in the control. If all fruits are sprayed during winter and Aphis controlled, it relieves much spraying work during the summer months. It must be clearly understood that the directions given by each maker should be carefully followed, because the washes vary somewhat, and we are only giving general remarks.

All users of tar-distillates have noticed that Red Spider is not controlled by the wash. In fact, in many cases, this particular pest increases after tar-oil spraying. This is explained by the fact that the wash kills off the natural parasite of Red Spider, but has little effect upon the pest. If Red Spider is troublesome following the use of tar-distillates, a wash containing sulphur, if applied early in the growing season, will control the pest.

Tar-distillate washes can be obtained from a number of the leading specialists in insecticides, and can all be safely and effectively used if the directions of the respective makers are carefully followed.

Carbokrimp, marketed by G. Monro, Ltd., has been shown by many tests, and practical trials by commercial growers, to be absolutely efficient against the winter forms of such pests as Green Fly, Scale, Apple Blossom Weevil, Apple Sucker, and Winter Moth. It also cleanses the trees of Moss, Lichen, etc., thus reducing the breeding places and hibernating quarters of many pests. By killing aphids and caterpillars and general cleaning of the trees, much more luxuriant growth is given, resulting in improved vitality with better and cleaner crops.

Corry's Tar Oil Winter Wash is a similar remedy, and can be recommended for the general destruction of the eggs of pests in all fruit trees during winter. It has also been proved a cure for Big Bud in Black Currants.

Metro Tar Oil Winter Wash, for spraying all kinds of fruit trees, is an emulsion of a specially selected "high boiling" tar oil. The oil used in its preparation is the same as that which has produced such satisfactory results in the trials on dormant fruit trees conducted by the Long Ashton Research Station; trials which proved that this oil possesses a high efficiency in the destruction of insect eggs and, in particular, is most effective against the Capsid Bug.

Solignum, Ltd., makers of the "Agrisol A" Tar-Distillate Wash, issue two useful booklets on the "Agrisol Treatment of Fruit Tree Pests" and the "Agrisol Handbook of Pest Control." These bear testimony to the efficacy of this well-known specific, which is now widely used by home, colonial, and tropical growers. Of special interest is this firm's résumé of the Long Ashton Tar-Distillate Wash Field Experiments, 1929 (reprinted from the Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture, September, 1929). In this pamphlet, which is indispensable to all fruit-growers, is given a concise account of the trials at Long Ashton on Apples, Plums, and Currants. Its recommendations, based on Mr. Tutin's (Long Ashton) formula, are :—

(1). *Apples.*

(*a*) Where trees are infested with Capsid Bugs, the spray at 10 per cent. strength during the dormant season (December, January, or February) should be used.

(*b*) Where Capsid Bugs are absent, the spray at 6 per cent. strength should be used.

(2). *Plums.*

In view of the effectiveness of the Long Ashton spray at 6 per cent. strength against caterpillars and aphis, this strength is advised. The effect of the spray at lower strengths is being investigated.

(3). *Currants.*

Where Capsid Bugs are preser
spray should be used at 10 per
strength. If Capsid Bugs ar
present, 6 per cent. strength sho
used.

It is anticipated that the new "
wash will be available in suitable pa
for garden purposes this season.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Trained fruit trees

It is advisable to remove the surface soil from trees trained to walls every alternate year, as, owing to the exceptional drain upon it, such soil quickly becomes exhausted. Thus, with the pruning finished, this should be carefully removed down to the roots and wheeled to a piece of ground which is being deeply dug, and replaced with a mixture of fresh turfy loam three parts and one part well-decayed manure, the whole being made tolerably firm by treading. If the loam is not of the best a sprinkling of ¼-inch bones should be added. In the case of stone fruits, lime in some form is advisable, preferably freshly slaked.

Pruning

This is now a daily occupation, and must be brought forward when climatic conditions are favourable for such work, as digging and manuring of the plots must also proceed. All prunings must be carefully cleared away to the garden fire, however small, as to dig these into the soil is inviting trouble. If large standard trees have become unduly crowded with wood do not hesitate to remove a limb in order that sunshine and air may penetrate to the fullest extent. Failure to do so usually results in a mass of poor, undersized fruit.

Black Currants

When pruning these, endeavour to keep the bushes filled with vigorous and well-ripened wood by removing as much of the older material as circumstances will allow, and shorten back all remaining growths of the current year. This will encourage strong wood to develop from the base, which, in its turn, will become the principal wood of the bushes. Avoid overcrowding at all costs, as fruit from thinly disposed and well-managed plantations surpasses, both in quality and quantity, anything resulting from overcrowding, either of wood or the bushes themselves. Following the pruning apply a generous dressing of manure, for these are gross feeders.

Christmas Roses

Frames should now be placed over these as a protection from slugs and snow, the lights being drawn off during the day if the weather proves fine and mild. This will have the effect of lengthening the flower-stalks. Where these have not been planted to fit a frame half-barrels or boxes will be found serviceable if a sheet of glass is placed over the top. A few roots may be lifted and potted up to flower in a cool house, where they are usually much appreciated.

Planting Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Heaths

Although naturally lovers of a leafy and peaty soil, free from lime in any form, these beautiful subjects will thrive in almost any soil of a porous nature where lime is absent. The present is an ideal time for such planting, and, providing the ground has been trenched and a little leaf-mould or peat is shaken around the roots of each plant, no anxiety should be felt for their welfare.

Grouping

Where one is able to do so, grouping of varieties should be resorted to, as the effect, when in bloom, is vastly superior to that of haphazard planting. A group of five Rhododendrons, such as Ascot Brilliant or the beautiful Bagshot Ruby, when fully established, is brilliant in effect, whereas five different varieties would look quite commonplace.

Sparaxis pulcherrima, Eremurus, and Torch Lilies

Litter of some kind should be placed around the crowns of these without delay, as they are not capable of passing unharmed through severe weather unprotected. Fire ashes are sometimes used for this purpose. The same applies to Romneyas, which should be shortened back somewhat before burying their crowns in fire ashes.

Pergolas and arbours

The pruning of the many varieties of climbing plants furnishing these structures should now be taken in hand. A light, airy covering only should be the object in view, so as to enable sunshine and air to penetrate at intervals. Roses must be well thinned, Vines pruned rather severely, and other climbers according to their constitution; even Wistarias must be thinned at times.

Cold frames containing salading plants

These must be frequently examined for leaves which tend to damp and slugs, both of which should be cleared away, the soil between the plants stirred up, and a light dusting of soot and lime given between the plants. Admit air freely on favourable occasions.

Zonal Pelargoniums and Primula malacoides

Those which have been prepared for winter blooming should now be assisted with diluted manure-water as their flower-spikes develop. A night temperature of from 50 degs. to 55 degs. will be found suitable at the present time.

E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Tuberous-rooted Begonias

The ripening stage is now over, so the bulbs should be shaken clear of the soil and laid out in shallow boxes for a few days to make certain they are dry. If the boxes are set on a sunny shelf or stage they will soon be ready for storing away for the winter. Before storing, it is a good plan gently to rub off all the old roots, as this saves much trouble in spring. Place the bulbs hollow side down in strong boxes, using plenty of perfectly dry sand between the layers. Set the boxes in a dry, frost-proof place, but not in a high temperature.

Chrysanthemums

As the plants go out of flower cut down the stems to within about 6 inches of the soil and set them in a light position so as to induce the production of sturdy, firm cuttings. Some varieties that are very
throwing up cuttings should be knock
of their pots and have the bulk of t
removed from the roots. They shoul
be placed in 6-inch or 7-inch pots,
some fresh, light compost, which shou
be made very firm. Syringe overhea
and in most cases quite a number
tings will be forthcoming.

Treatment of the cuttings

Nice sturdy suckers some 3 inc
4 inches long make the best cuttings.
should be inserted around the edges of
pots filled with sweet, sandy compost
is for decorative varieties, but if for
ing for large blooms one cutting to a
pot is preferable. While the cutting
root somewhat faster if set in a clos
there are often so many lost from da
off that I have abandoned that metho
instead, set the pots of cuttings in s
boxes with a layer of leaf-mould
bottoms. These are then set on the s
a cool greenhouse. Not 5 per cent. a
lost by damping, and the resulting
are dwarfer and sturdier.

Spiræas as pot plants

These easily-grown subjects are ver
ful in the conservatory, and also mak
decorative room plants. Decent-sized
should now be potted up and set in
frame. A few weeks hence they
introduced to a little warmth. Hard
and dryness, however, either at the r
in the atmosphere, must be very ca
guarded against. Introduce just
plants at a time into warmth.

Dicentra spectabilis

This old-fashioned hardy plant i
beautiful when grown in pots for co
tory adornment. Some strong
should now be potted up, an 8-inch po
a very suitable receptacle. While th
be introduced to slight warmth right
better results are had by placing the
roots in a cold frame for a week or tw
they are potted up.

Watering in winter

The giving of water to pot plants ha
very sparing during the next few wee
more of these are killed by too much
than by too little. The majority of pot
are at rest during the winter, so na
require but little moisture to maintain
in health, while evaporation is also
minimum. To be daily pouring water
the soil is thus most harmful, besides
utterly unnecessary. Most Ferns a
" hard-wood " plants should never b
mitted to get really dry at the roots,
keep them constantly saturated is ever
harmful. Give water, therefore, wh
soil is beginning to show signs of d
and then no more until there are again
of a recurrence of this condition.

The vineries

As the period of rest is ushered in
fall of the leaf the sooner after this h
curred that the Vines are pruned the
The houses should then be thor
cleansed and put into as healthy a st
possible. If the houses are free of

is ot so very difficult, but should there ny Mealy Bug present it is impossible to rticular in the matter of cleaning the ur.

ach houses

es too, require a very thorough over- hile the trees are at rest, and uness should be the motto when deal- wi these houses and their occupants, h Peach is very subject to attacks of in and only by drastic measures being n hile the trees are at rest can it be d r better results next year. All iron- , oodwork, and glass should be well b down with soap and water, while k or stonework should be lime- e and the trees treated with some ap- d nsecticide before being neatly tied to s. If the soil shows signs of dry- ge a good soaking of clean water.

b

t a few more crowns to force so as ai ain the necessary supplies. A genial, mosphere is better than a high tem- u with a dry, arid atmosphere in the ouse.

a supplies

sh batch should be introduced to n about every 10 days or so, so that oken succession be maintained, as the s o not remain in good condition very ut soon get drawn up, lanky, and uess. C. Blair.

on House Gardens, Linlithgow.

The Derby Chrysanthemum Show

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOWS

eby Chrysanthemum Show

H twenty-second Chrysanthemum Show d at Derby recently for three days er the auspices of the Derbyshire ltural Association, was undoubtedly a sp forward in the Chrysanthemum nt in the Midland Counties this year. 50 entries from 75 Exhibitors so il taxed accommodation in the Royal all that the glass-covered annexe had quisitioned.

rs. Mansell and Hatcher, of Rawdon, ire, staged 200 sq. feet with Orchids, g Cattleyas, Odontoglossums, s, Cypripediums, a specimen of the in- g Bulbophyllum Lobbii var. Siamensis e oscillating lip, and attracted to ves unceasing praise and wonder- . They were awarded a large Gold

he other end of the hall, Messrs. and Sons, Royal Seedsmen, Reading, 120 dishes of vegetables, on tabling 30 g and 6 feet wide, comprising fine ns of Capsicums, Celery, Leeks, Po- Onions, Yellow and Red Tomatoes, Corn, Ornamental Gourds, and dishes varieties of vegetables in general com- for which they were also awarded a edal.

centre of the hall was occupied by a aneous group of exotic plants, 100 et, including Pandanus Veitchii, ms, Nandina domestica, Eulalias, s, winter-flowering Begonias, Gloire de e, and Optima, surmounted by a large , and for this Mrs. Walter Evans, Abbey (gardener, Mr. J. Maxfield), was d the Silver Cup presented by Mr. H. , Chairman.

was accompanied by two groups sent A. Leslie Wright (a Vice-President), of y Hall (gardener, Mr. J. Cartledge), included Alocasia Lowii, Grevillea , Eulalias, Dracænas, Nephrolepis ides, and Adiantums, as well as many varieties of Chrysanthemums, and the same gentleman also decorated the platform with Kentia Palms, Liliums, and Chrysanthemums, and to this also a Gold Medal was awarded.

Other trade exhibits included Messrs. H. Woolman, of Birmingham, and Messrs. Dickson and Robinson, of Manchester, with Japanese and decorative Chrysanthemums; Messrs. Allwood Bros., of Haywards Heath, Sussex, Perpetual Carnations; C. Gregory, Chilwell, fruit and shrubs; Messrs. William Lowe and Son, Beeston, Notts., shrubs and Alpines; Messrs. Dickinson's Shardlow Nurseries, 20 feet display of Grapes, Tomatoes, and Cucumbers.

The Captain Drury-Lowe Silver Cup for 24 Japanese Chrysanthemums attracted 5 entries, and was won by Captain R. B. Brassey, Cottes Brook Hall, Northampton (gardener, Mr. J. G. Quinn); second, Mr. W. E. Ann, Darley Field (gardener, Mr. L. Dutton); third, Mrs. Walter Evans, Darley Abbey.

The President's Cup, presented by Mr. J. A. Aiton, of Duffield Park, also went to Captain R. B. Brassey; second, Mr. H. H. Tomlinson, Derby; third, Mrs. Walter Evans.

The G. H. Strutt Silver Cup for display of Single Chrysanthemums, 9 feet by 3 feet, was awarded to Mr. W. E. Ann; second, Mrs. G. H. Strutt, Belper (gardener, Mr. J. Middup); third, Mrs. Walter Evans; fourth, Mr. J. A. Aiton (gardener, Mr. J. H. Thomas).

In the members' classes, Mr. H. H. Tomlinson, Derby, won the C. W. Catt Cup with 12 Japanese blooms arranged for effect.

The Association's Silver Challenge Shield for 12 dishes British grown hardy fruit went to Mrs. Walter Evans, Darley Abbey.

Silver Cup presented by Mrs. Bourne Wheeler was won by Mrs. Walter Evans, Darley Abbey.

Silver Cup for semi-circular group of Chrysanthemums, 5 feet by 4½ feet (plants only).—First, Mr. C. S. Buck; second, Mr. A. Moore, Alvaston; third, Mr. J. Potter, Derby.

W. E. Watt Silver Cup, artisan members, for six Japanese blooms, was won by Mr. F. Meakin, late Secretary, Derby.

The new provincial class provided by the National Chrysanthemum Society for 12 Japanese blooms, distinct varieties, first and Silver Medal, Captain R. B. Brassey, Northampton; second and Bronze Medal, Mr. H. H. Tomlinson, Derby.

The premier bloom in the open classes carrying the N.C.S. certificate went to Captain R. B. Brassey, Northampton, for a fine specimen of Majestic, while in the artisan members' classes, Mr. F. Meakin was successful with a Mrs. Gilbert Drabble.

Over 12,000 people paid for admission to the Show, and the Derby Education Committee ran special cars for the school children, about 1,000 of whom evinced an interest that was pleasing to behold.

Norfolk and Norwich Centenary Chrysanthemum Show

This event took place on November 21st, 22nd, and 23rd in the old-world St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich. It is reputed that the first Chrysanthemum Show in England was held at Norwich, but annals prove that it is 100 years ago since the Norfolk and Norwich Horticultural Society held its first show, hence in this, its centenary year, the Society made efforts to make this year an outstanding one, and right well did they succeed. A delegation came from the National Society, and made local awards independently of the liberal schedule provided locally.

There were four entries in the class for 36 blooms on the usual show board. Surely the Society will see that the standard board deserves to be increased in dimensions; as it is now, with the huge blooms, there is such an overlapping of petals that the outline of the flowers is not seen to perfection

The classes for three blooms with long

stems in each vase, whether for twelve or six varieties, are always more presentable, and one was pleased to see so many entrants in these classes.

Those designated as "singles" have a large following, and in each class we found these had to be in vases and not in cups on boards.

It was a surprise for Mr. C. Dean, gardener to Major Bruce, Brooke Hall, when he saw the N.C.S. medal card upon his twelve varieties exhibit.

The artistic side of the gardener or his lady was splendidly portrayed in the classes for vases or baskets of Chrysanthemums and other foliage.

Pot plants were represented by Cyclamen (the best from Mr. W. Barrie, gardener to Colonel H. Barclay), Begonias, Primulas of four types, and Zonal Pelargoniums. There were miscellaneous cut flowers, and a fine array of cut sprays of berried shrubs.

The Fruit Section was what one locally terms an "eye-opener." The colouration of the Apples was equal, if not superior, to those we have from our best colonial exporters. One could never wish for more colour on Apples than Mr. S. High (gardener to Mr. J. A. Christie, M.P.) had on his dish of Cavills Rouge Precose.

We had always been used to seeing extra good grapes, especially Muscats, from Gunton Park Gardens in the days of the late Wm. Allan, and it seems that by following somewhat in his predecessor's footsteps Mr. A. J. Jones, the present gardener, can produce Grapes equally as good. Mr. Jones also takes up Pear culture in the same way. Wonderful fruits. Worthy of special mention was the extraordinary dish of Pears Emile d'Heyst staged by Mr. S. High (Mr. Christie's gardener); everyone who knew anything about Pears pondered over them and asked how he had got such fruits.

Mr. A. Bentley (gardener to Mrs. Barker-Hahlo, Langley Park) scored two signal successes, one by winning first for nine distinct dishes of dessert Apples, and the other by winning first for a collection of 12 kinds of vegetables.

The trade had made an instructive educational exhibit, special mention in this section being due to Messrs. Daniels Bros., Ltd.; Bakers, Wolverhampton; Allwood Bros., Clibrans, and A. Reeves and Co.

In connection with this Show, the Norfolk Commercial Fruit Growers' Association had Blackfriars Hall placed at their disposal for an exhibition of Apples, cooking and dessert, in barrels, sieves, and boxes as packed for market. Here one saw not only quantity, but quality, and fine examples of grading and packing. The County Council Experimental Fruit Station, Burlingham, Norfolk, which is under the supervision of Mr. H. Goude, had also a most attractive and educational exhibit of choice Apples and Pears grown at the station. AYTCH PEA.

Autumn and the root crops

The considerable spell of comparatively mild, growing weather which we have had recently has been welcomed in all parts of the country, but more particularly in those areas devastated by the long drought. The rain came too late to restore full vigour to root crops, but many have been surprised by the new lease of life given to mildewed crops. New leaves have been thrust out, and roots have swollen considerably in the last few weeks. If hard weather does not set in, appreciable growth will be made by Christmas, and, in this connection, it may be worth while considering a practice common in the north of ridging up root crops by a light covering of soil so that they are protected from frost and are enabled to continue growing during any mild spell that may come along in course of the winter. As it is at present, the yield of Turnips and Swedes is expected to be about 11½ tons per acre or 1 ton below the average for the last ten years. Potatoes, th
the small side, are free from disease
yield of about 6½ tons and a total
3,350,000 tons, or a quarter-million a
ten years' average.

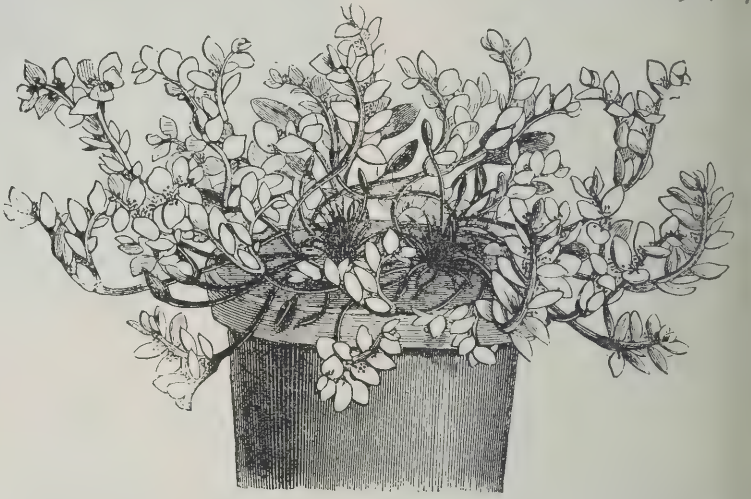
From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

The Cape Pond-weed (Aponogetum distachyon) in rooms

THIS, one of the grandest of all water plants, may be successfully grown in an inverted bell-glass in a room, or it will flower well in a pot, as shown in our illustration. It is best to grow it during summer in the open
plunged in a vessel of water, and
moved indoors in autumn and kept
a light window and well supplied w
water, it will yield numerous of
waxy Hawthorn-scented bloo
throughout the winter.

—*November 29th*, 1879.



Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish pl
be named should send fair examples of ea
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of
and points of shoots are useless.) Not mo
four plants should be sent in any one week
same correspondent. Where more than o
is sent they should be numbered. Of conif
cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in d
stages of colour and size of the same kind
assist in its determination. Single, unr
deformed specimens are difficult to nam
do not undertake to name more than
varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Brown Rot of Apple

(J. A., Batley).—The specimen Apple sent is affected with Brown Rot, a fungus which in turn attacks flowers, wood, and fruit of Apples and allied plants. When pruning, cut out and burn all diseased wood and fruits, especially those fruits which remain attached to, or lie beneath, the trees. Continue the use of your tar-distillate wash (see special article, page 809), and, if possible, defer its use until the last week in January. Give the trees a dressing of sulphate of potash at the rate of 1½ ozs. per square yard. Dress the soil at least a yard on all sides wider than the spread of branch. The only control of much use for Brown Rot is destruction of diseased material by fire. Potash always helps a tree to resist disease.

Pear in flower in November

(R. T. J.).—It is unusual for a tree to be full of flower so late in the season. We think that it has been caused entirely by the transplanting last autumn. The root system was not in condition to support the
flowers produced in spring, and frui
to develop. The tree has probably
weakened that its balance has been
hence the second crop of flowers
should be inclined to thin the spur
considerably and top-dress the tree
good layer of well-rotted farmyard m
An equal mixture of basic slag and
applied at the rate of 8 ozs. per squa
might help the tree to set its fruit.

Diseased Pears

(H. H. Newbury).—Your Pears are
with Pear Scab. Please see reply to
Jobson on page 796 of our issue for No
23rd. Your specimens have shrivelled
what. Late Pears should be allowed t
as long as is practical.

Apple Scab

An error has crept into our reply t
Warren on page 796 of our issue for
ber 23rd. The first line should read-
Apples are affected with Apple Scab (n
Scab as stated). Note.—Apple and

caused by two different fungi. The ausing Apple Scab cannot attack the reverse is also true. The con- oth fungi is similar.

ROSE GARDEN

n and transplanting two Rose res

. C.).—Both may be pruned with the present time, and this will prove to the plants, especially as you wish hem. Zepherin Drouhin.—Spur in all d healthy side shoots to within two eyes of their base and shorten back sound wood growths of the current inging from the base, removing r green, unripened shoots. Hia- -Remove all weak growth, both nd old, preserving from eight to healthy, well-ripened growths, the hich should be removed so that those do not exceed 5 feet or 6 feet in

ildew

Davis).—A fairly strong solution of hur is used during the winter as a ash for Rose trees; the strength is 1 in 20 gallons of water. The ength spray is also used in late if mildew has been troublesome. so late in the season any damage curs to the foliage is not a serious . All prunings should be removed and n spring, and you should keep the sted with a good sulphur dusting at intervals throughout next season. bject to the unsightly appearance of ler you might try spraying with am- polysulphide wash. This spray does the foliage to any great extent.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

athemum Mildew

E. I. Cox).—The mildew which at- rysanthemums is entirely different which attacks Roses. If the mildew plants is not too bad, dusting the ith a good sulphur dusting powder e sufficient to control the disease. circulating in your house, and do e the surroundings damper than you . It is difficult to keep mildew out ted houses at this time of the year. rieties of Chrysanthemums are more the disease than others.

athemums leggy

set Duffer").—The fact of your your plants in a shady place is part of of their growing so "leggy," while feeding does the rest. Cuttings may ed from the middle of December till of February, and when roots are ot off singly into 3½-inch or 4-inch arly in March move to a cold frame, en the plants are 4 inches high, nip s out of each. When these pots are d with roots, give a shift into the e, making the soil very firm. Return ame, but give abundance of air and possible on fine days, drawing the ght back. Early in June move into ring pots, those 8 inches or 9 inches ter being best. Use a compost of rfy loam, two parts; half rotted ne part; old mortar rubbish, one- of a part; coarse sand, half a part. may be added, with great advantage, potful of bone-meal and a 5-inch of Thomson's Vine, Plant, and e Manure to each barrow-load ther ingredients. Mix thoroughly, it well into the pots. The plants really be set in an open, sunny and, to prevent damage by the wind, d tie securely. It may be necessary to pinch the points out of all the shoots about 10 days before the final potting. If you use the compost advised above you will hardly require to apply any further feeding until the buds show, when a short course of clear soot water twice a week, and a tablespoonful of Ichthemic Guano in a gallon of water also twice a week, but on different weeks from the soot water. Alternate weeks with these two stimulants will give good results, both being stopped immediately the buds begin to show colour, clear water only being given henceforth. If you follow these instructions closely, good results are almost certain.

FLOWER GARDEN

Lilies in the first year

In Gardening Illustrated of November 16th, page 769, there is an article on "Autumn Flowers," by Edward H. Woodall. At the end of the article he makes a remark about Lilium auratum bulbs, which are sent from Japan with all the roots cut off. According to what he says, the flower-buds must be cut off the first year or the bulb dies of exhaustion. I should like to know if the same applies to imported bulbs grown in pots and allowed to flower the first year. How should they be treated after flowering the first year successfully? I have some Lilium candidum bulbs from Cambridgeshire, and find they have sprouted about 6 inches; also those in the friend's garden in Cambs. Should they be protected during the winter?

"Newark, Renfrewshire."

[It is undoubtedly an aid in the establishing of imported bulbs of Lilium auratum if buds are removed the first season after transplanting; and while this practice does not carry a guarantee of success, plants so treated are more likely to establish themselves than those allowed to flower the first year. The best method is to pot up imported bulbs immediately on receipt and plunge in a bed of sand or ashes, where they can be left for the first season. Remove buds immediately they appear, and so encourage formation of roots at the base. Transplant to permanent quarters when stem dies down, or in the spring, whichever is most convenient, taking care not to disturb the roots. Plant at least 9 inches in sandy loam and leaf-mould. Sharp drainage is even more important than compost. Lilium auratum grown in pots under glass are not often satisfactory for future display, although if deep pots are used and bulbs are grown cool (not forced) a number may be found suitable for repotting. After flowering allow stems to die down, removing when they part company with bulbs with little or no effort. Repot and plunge in a bed of sand or ashes until a top growth of 4 inches to 6 inches is made, then transfer to cool house. If it is your intention to remove buds from plants for ultimate greenhouse or conservatory display there is no occasion to transfer from plunge bed the first season. The removal of buds from plants intended for pot culture should bring about more lasting qualities, which may make it worth while potting the same bulbs annually. On the other hand, with bulbs at the reasonable price offered to-day is it worth while sacrificing the flowers the first year? Lilium candidum is nearly evergreen, for immediately it has finished flowering new leaves appear. It is quite right and proper for this species to show a certain amount of foliage at the present time. It is perfectly hardy and needs no protection whatsoever.]

Arenaria montana overgrown

(H. B. C.).—The best time to reduce this lovely plant is immediately it finishes blooming, and you would probably be well advised to leave it alone until it has again flowered. But if you must reduce it now on account of its crowding over other smaller plants you may safely do so by lifting the outer growth and cutting from underneath. If this is carefully done the plant will drop back naturally into its place and show no sign of disfigurement.

Diseased Violets

(Perplexed, Wicklow).—Your Violets are suffering from a severe attack of Red Spider, which should have been controlled when it first appeared, and not allowed to develop to its present state. We are doubtful if you can save your plants now. You might try the insecticide called Volck. Your seedsman should be able to supply you. If not, write direct to Messrs. Geo. Monro, Ltd., Covent Garden, London, for details and the nearest source of supply.

Cyananthus wanted

Where can I obtain the Cyananthus referred to on page 738, Gardening Illustrated, November 2nd issue?

M. Neilson.

[Cyananthus Delavayi is offered by R. Wallace and Co., Ltd., The Old Gardens, Tunbridge Wells; C. incanus by Messrs. Ingwersen, Birch Farm, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead, Sussex; C. lobatus (Cooper's Variety) by Mr. John Stormonth, Kirkbride, Cumberland. We have been unable to locate the remainder, which are probably in the hands of a few private establishments only, being not only scarce, but very little known.]

GREENHOUSE

Pruning Bougainvillea

Kindly tell me how to prune a Bougainvillea (Mrs. Butt). It is on a south wall in greenhouse, and has six strong leading shoots, 10 feet long. No side growth. Should these be cut back, and how should future laterals be treated?

Wimborne.

[Cut back to 4 feet or 5 feet during December. This will induce the production of side shoots next year, and next winter all of these should be well spurred in, unless you require more stems for covering the wall, in which case train in those suitably placed for your purpose, merely shortening them back to about half their length. Annual spurring in during winter is the subsequent treatment necessary.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Time to cut back hybrid Rhododendrons

(H. B. C.).—The second week in April is the best time for this, although providing you do not place any special value upon the flowers you could with perfect safety cut them back at any time previous to April. If, however, you prefer them to bloom first, then the plants must be cut back immediately the flowers are over, side shoots being quickly formed and sore places soon obscured by fresh young growths, some of which produce blooms the following year.

Dying Holly

(J. Whitworth Jones).—We have carefully examined the Holly specimens and there is no trace of a fungus or insect which could cause the trouble. Without examination of the tree *in situ*, we cannot be of much assistance. The probable cause of the trouble is root failure. Take a spade and bare the growth down to the point of union with the old root stock; if this is above ground bare the old root stock and see if you can find traces of decay. It occurs to us that the old stock may be slowly rotting away and gradually the young growths die out. If this is so, notching the young wood and earthing it up with some sharp, sandy material might induce root formation, in which case the young growths would be independent of the old root system.

Vitis Coignetiæ fruit for wine making

(Mrs. E. Buckton).—We have never actually made use of the fruit of this Vine for wine making, but have been informed that excellent wine has been made from it. As practically all the true Vines produce desirable fruit for this purpose, we see no reason why the beautiful V. Coignetiæ should not be used in the same way. Perhaps some of our readers have put it to the test?

MISCELLANEOUS

Mealy Bug

(Mealy Bug).—Both sodium and calcium cyanide are used as a control for Mealy Bug on Vines. Write to any of the insecticide firms advertising in our pages for details as to use. We are inclined to think that calcium cyanide is the safer article. If you consult back numbers of Gardening Illustrated you will find calcium cyanide advertised.

Plague of sparrows

(Worried).—One method of keeping down a plague of sparrows will be to trap the birds in one way or another. There are several good sparrow traps on the market, and you could obtain details of such from your horticultural sundriesman. In the breeding season much can be done by reducing the number of eggs laid. Sparrows only become a pest when they are too numerous.

Bone meal

(L. T.).—Bone meal is a slow-acting manure; as to how slow it is depends upon the fineness of grinding, *i.e.*, a coarse sample is slow-acting compared with a more finely ground sample. It is not usual to use bone meal in a soil mixture for plants which are only to occupy pots for a very short period, unless the soil is to be used for some other purpose after. Pot fruit and plants of a more permanent character are frequently top-dressed with a mixture containing bone meal. It should be remembered that although bone meal is insoluble in pure water, it is readily soluble in weak acids such as are formed in soil water. If bone meal is thoroughly mixed with a soil it is not so slow-acting as we are sometimes led to believe. Thorough mixing with the soil is the secret of success with bone meal.

Bone manures

Is bone flour as good a general fertiliser as bone meal? I find I can buy bone flour very cheaply, and as my pocket is unfortunately not a long one—and my garden is —this is a great consideration.

Betty Sibley.

[The term general fertiliser is used for a manure which contains the three plant foods applied to the soil, viz., nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium. Further, the term general fertiliser should only cover a manure when these plant foods are in the correct proportion for growth. Bone meal and bone flour cannot be included under the term because they only contain nitrogen and phosphorus, and have more of the latter than the former. All bone manures are mainly phosphatic in character. The difference in bone meal and steamed bone flour is that the bone meal is merely waste bones ground up into powder. This material contains a lot of cartilage containing nitrogen, but it is somewhat slow to decay. Steamed bone flour has been subjected to steam at a pressure which extracts much of the cartilage matter, so that the resulting product is more easily soluble, but contains less nitrogen. The cartilage extraction is used for making glue. According to the return sent out by the Ministry of Agriculture for November the price of bone meal at London in two ton lots, f.o.r., containing 3¾ per cent. nitrogen, plus 20½ per cent. phosphoric acid, was, on an average, £8 per ton. Steamed bone flour, containing ¾ per cent. nitrogen and 27½ per cent. to 29¾ per cent. phosphoric acid, was £5 2s. per ton. On unit value, the steamed bone flour is much the better value at this price. You will, of course, appreciate that the value of any manure depends entirely upon the percentage of plant food it contains. The higher percentage of nitrogen makes the bone meal more expensive. We hope to deal with unit value of manures in more detail in a future issue.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

R. E. Nicholls.—1, Potentilla alchimella; 2, P. alba; 3, Polypodium vulgare; 4, Hieracium, flowers are necessary to decide which variety; 5, Nepeta; 6, Veronica buxifolia.

"*School,*" *F. D.*—Pink flower, Nerine Bowdeni; yellow, Chrysopsis villosus Rutteri.

D. Page Roberts.—1, Berberis polyantha; 2, Cotoneaster Simonsii; 3, Berberis subcauliata; 4, B. aggregata; 5, Cotoneaster applanata.

G.—1, Ayrshire, or Mountain Viola; 2, Bambusa angustifolia; 3, Miscanthus japonicus zebrinus.

G.—1, Teucrium chamædrys; 2, Pentstemon Newbury Gem; 3, Antennaria Margueritacea; 4, Eryngium planum.

NAMES OF FRUITS

R. B. Cannon.—Crab Apple Cheal's Crimson.

A. P., Herts.—1, King of the Pippins; 2, Lady Henniker; 3, Golden Noble; 4, Rosemary Russet; 5, Cox's Pomona; 6, Winter Greening.

NEWS IN ADVERTISEMENTS

David Green and Son, 993, Albert Street, Lytham, have issued a new price list of "Forward" greenhouse heating apparatus. This list also gives details of prices for pipes, joints, and connections. Their complete list of bargains is a very comprehensive one, and includes a big range of house and garden sundries.

The label problem

The question of the best method of labelling has always been a vexed one. The cheap and convenient old-fashioned wooden label has been popular for years, but there are obvious disadvantages with this. These drawbacks are overcome by a very excellent 12-inch zinc and galvanised steel holder made by T. N. Waldron, Ltd., Avon Works, Stratford-on-Avon. The wooden label is slipped in and thus becomes indestructible. It cannot rot or be cut with the hoe, and the label is clearly visible. The holder can be used year after year. It is an excellent little accessory, and sold at a very reasonable price.

Fremontia californica

This handsome shrub (see illustration, page 800) must have the protection of a south or south-west wall, and even then it will be wise to protect it from severe winter weather. I have known some very fine specimens so grown, but scarcely equal to others grown in a cold house where, on a back wall, they were particularly vigorous and floriferous. The greyish-green leaves are reminiscent of those of the Mallow, and the great honey-yellow, wax-like, cupped blossoms are produced from June to October. In some situations this Fremontia will display a tendency to elongated growth, and it is an excellent plan to remove the growing
points if a well-furnished and free-b
plant is desired. The young shoots
Malvaceous plant are covered with
brown tomentum, and the leaves are
on their undersides. Cuttings root rea
seeds will also afford a ready mean
crease. F. californica was introduc
California in 1851, and like so man
from the favoured western seaboard
America, it is apt to resent our in
winters. It will, therefore, be
maintain a young plant or two in a
cold house to replace possible casualti
open garden. F. californica has do
well around London, and in some Gl
shire gardens there are many good e
of this striking shrub with its grea
blossoms 2 inches or more across.

Ralph E. Ar

Planting hedges

Time of Planting

Deciduous plants, such as Thorn,
and Hornbeam, can be planted from
to March or April. Evergreens can b
from September to May, but in gene
greens should not be moved in severe
except with ample soil on the roots
pot-grown or balled-up plants. Their
demands moisture that the damaged
unable to supply. The cold soil hin
production of fresh roots and a seriou
to the vigour of the plant may resu
this reason it is often a sound pra
prune evergreens on transplanting.
growth should be encouraged by t
preparation of the ground before p
Such reputedly slow growers as H
Yew give surprising results if enc
with a little care during the first seas

Planting Distances

The size of plants governs to some
the distance apart at which plants sh
put in. With Privet and Beech the be
is gained from a double row, the row
apart and the plants a foot apart in t
Thorn to become impenetrable shoul
in 6 inches to 9 inches apart, and, if
patience enough, cut down to within
of the base to induce bushy growth
Most evergreens, such as Yew and Cu
can be safely put at 18 inches to 24
apart, but Berberis and Lonicera nit
better at 12 inches to 18 inches.

Mesembryanthemum uncin

Those of us who have seen in the s
England and Ireland big plants
Mesembryanthemums, or Noon F
would fain cherish them in our northe
dens. But this cannot be, and we mu
sole ourselves with the one really har
M. uncinatum, which is not to be c
with M. uncatum, which is not har
is a singular-looking plant, though n
true, as curious as some others, bu
distinct enough from other plants of t
garden. Did it never flower it w
worthy of its room with its thick,
stems, while, when it gives us its sma
flowers, it constitutes one of the m
tinct of the subjects grown in the o
Its hardiness has been proved by it
standing the most severe winters of
30 years on open rockwork. It shoul
ever, have light soil and a sunny p
M. uncinatum is multiplied by me
cuttings.

S. Ar

The R.H.S. Gardeners' Diary

This is a useful pocket diary, well-
to horticulturists throughout the coun
is sent out under the auspices of the
who are joint publishers with Charle
and Co. The diary for 1930 is no
lished.

Winter colour

gl of colour in the garden in mid-
er quite easily achieved, though it will
o course, be as brilliant as mid-
nes display.
vo have water in your garden, some
m r pond, you can have sheets of the
gl of Cornus alba, or of the gold of
vellina (the Golden Willow). Both
es shrubs are grown for the winter
y their coloured stems, and both re-
entical treatment. Cut them down
ery spring in order to produce plenty
ur shoots for the succeeding winter's
y. They are best planted in as large
s possible, allowing about 4 feet be-
ch plant. A very lovely effect can
d by underplanting the group with
r Aconite, which will encrust the
d with gold dust in the early days of
a and thoroughly enjoy the situation.
sheltered garden Rhododendron
icn never fails to please from
onwards, with its masses of trans-
violet flowers of an indescribable
at lights up the whole bush. It is a
evergreen, about 4 feet high, a
eafy and peaty soils like all Rhodo-
on, and truly it is a "thing of
y and a source of great joy to its
ssessor, but, unfortunately, it is not
gden that can give it the conditions
o—shelter from harsh winds and a
re soil.
little-known evergreen treasure from
Cryptomeria japonica elegans. In
r me its tapering spire of foliage turns
ades of rose and bronze, billowy and
t warm and distinct in colour; a very
r addition to the "evergreens," not
een at all. In a small garden its dwarf form is just as beautifully coloured in winter, and is very attractive, too, in its rounded tuffet of soft coppery-rose.

In districts where Heathers and Heaths do well, excellent effects may be had by the use of winter-flowering Heathers when these are planted in large enough groups. Heathers are, by nature, gregarious creatures, and are happiest when jostling in a crowd of their fellows, and it is when they are boldly massed together that they give the best results. Erica carnea, in all its many varieties, is the outstanding winter-flowering Heather. Winter Beauty is a rather pale but exceedingly good kind, very like King George. Queen Mary is a darker shade, and Queen of Spain darker still. Præcox is the earliest and Thomas Kingscot one of the latest to flower. Heathers of all sorts are becoming increasingly fashionable, and, in the hands of a bold planter, are among our most useful plants.

L. STOKES.

Howth, Co. Dublin.

LATE NOTE

John Cypher Memorial Fund

Since the publication of the previous list of contributors to the John Cypher Memorial Fund, the following amounts have been received and acknowledged:—Mr. Edgar Ingham, Saville Heath, Halifax, £1; Mr. E. T. Gilman, Rugeley, £1 1s.; Mr. W. R. Manning, Dudley, £2 2s.; Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon, Bath, £3; Mr. A. E. Usher, Blandford, 10s. 6d.; Shropshire Horticultural Society, £26 5s.; Mr. Peter Blair, Stoke-on-Trent, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Pritchard, Aldenham, 5s.; Mr. H. G. Alexander, Westonbirt, £2 2s.; Messrs. J. and A. McBean, Cooksbridge, £2 2s.; Alderman E. Wood, Southport, £1 1s.; Alderman W. H. Potts, Southport, £1 1s.; Alderman R. Sanderson, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. J. T. Wilkinson, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. George Crankshaw, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. D. D. Lean, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. Percy Woodhead, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. J. E. Hindle, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. E. Clayton, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. E. Hadfield, O.B.E., Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. J. H. Cross, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. A. O. Smith, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. E. H. Hibbert, Southport, £1 1s.; Dr. H. Coates, Southport, £1 1s.; Mr. S. E. Gent, Bradford, 4s; Mr. J. McCartney, Bolton, £1 1s.; Glasgow and West of Scotland Horticultural Society, £5 5s. Messrs. Dobbie and Co., Ltd., Edinburgh, £3 3s.; Alderman E. Transom, Southport, £1 1s.; and Mr. J. R. Billington, Southport, £1 1s. The Council of the Royal Horticultural Society has promised a donation of £10. Further donations will be glady received and acknowledged by the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Charles H. Curtis, 5, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

CATALOGUE RECEIVED

F. C. Woodcock, Drum Hill, Walmer, Kent.—Sweet Peas.

Clematis

The long, loose growths of those supported by tripods or open fences should now be shortened back to prevent the rough winds buffeting them to and fro, and damaging their basal growth. In some instances the plants may be pruned entirely, in others it will be advisable to leave them to be dealt with at the turn of the year.

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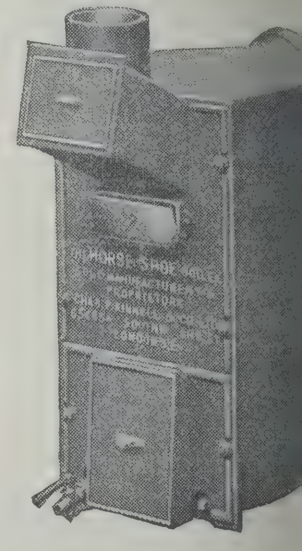

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Second Thoughts on Pears

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ILLUSTRATED

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REES & SHRUBS · THIS WEEK'S WORK IN THE GARDEN

No. 2648 Saturday, December 7, 1929 TWOPENCE

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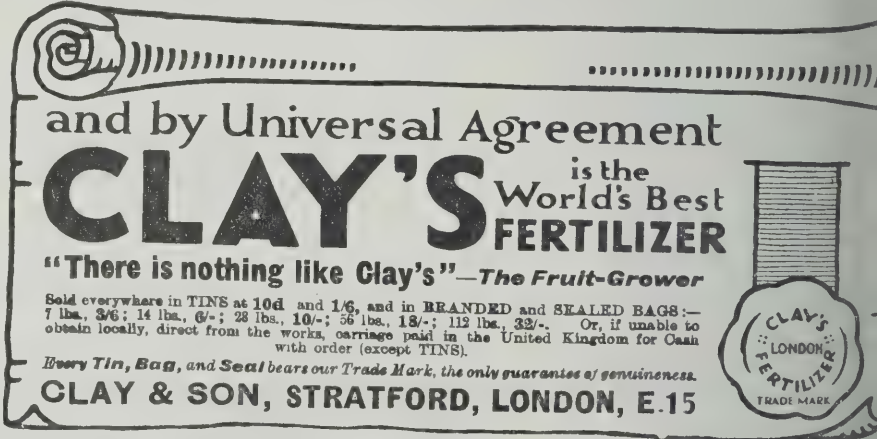

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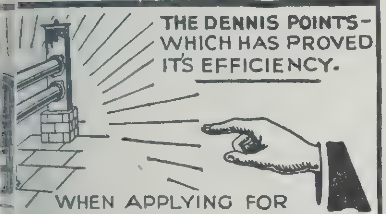
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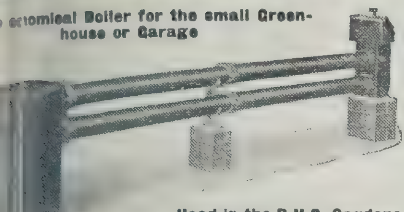

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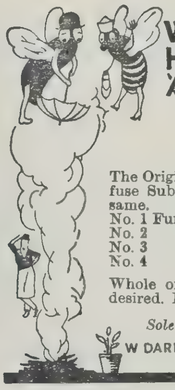

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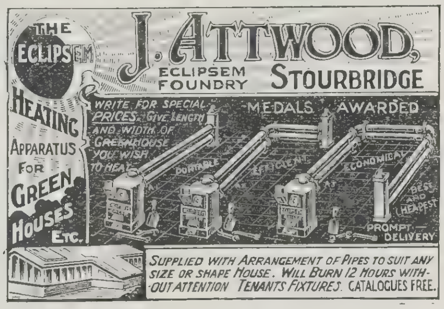
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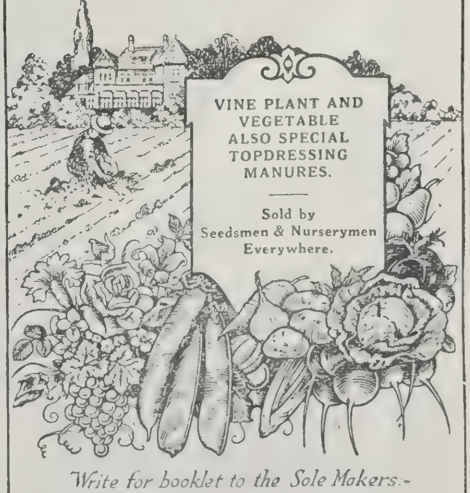

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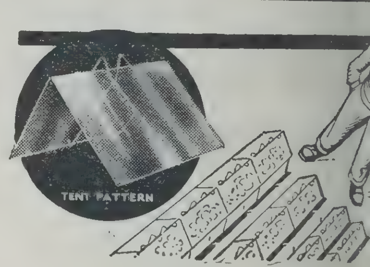

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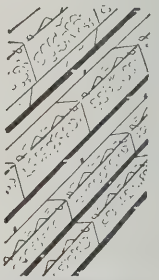

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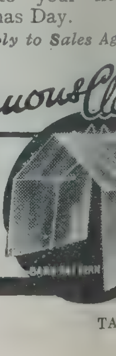

ARDENING ILLUSTRATED

—Vol. LI. DECEMBER 7, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Some Second Thoughts on Pears

By E. A. Bunyard, F.L.S.

rdener's mind is schooled by time perience to measured judgments, exercises a wise deliberation as king up a new variety as in dis- old one. In fruit the need for such patent. The flower, appealing to erhaps the nose, tells its secrets at eeting, but the fruit not only re- ing, but testing in our own special Even then a series of years must we give our final judgment so that season and the cool may mark their fects.

c thoughts are, e best, and the sy condemnations l an amusing op- ut not a good

wo summers of armth, it is well one's opinions of ites and even to those discarded ch were formerly e unworthy. e chastening re- re aroused by a Conference Pears sert table. often been amic- ached for placing a value upon this hich is now so own for market and is, therefore, y the impetuous able. I am, how- pentant and even l have previously d its merits. The his season have a xcellent texture, ery, and melting, ng the ideal of Comice, in this The flavour is good, almost very l although not in the first dozen ainly to be placed in the second. consider, too, its admirable garden fertility, and compactness of ts natural desire to make fruiting must think seriously before we nto the ranks of the second rate.

Pear which requires consideration de Paris, an old variety, tried in and condemned, but, I think, This fruit is one of the great Van sing and at his death in 1842 passed hands of M. Bivort, who carried on is work. Van Mons did not live to see the fruit, but in 1847 it first fruited and was introduced by M. Bivort and soon made its way to England. Its career was apparently soon cut short by the fiat of Mr. Blackmore, who considered it "very poor" at Twickenham. Dr. Hogg thought but little better of it. "Flesh yellowish, rather gritty, juicy, brisk, and sweet, with an aromatic flavour." This is not too severe, apart from the grit, but when he finally sums up "a good Pear, of ordinary quality," we are left wondering what his real opinion was.

Having so often seen this variety in Continental gardens, I thought it should be tried again, and I think it is worth consideration, even by those who desire something more than a "good, ordinary" Pear. I am strengthened in my opinion by that of Mr. Barnett, of Tilehurst, a judge of no mean capacity, who would place it in his first dozen Pears. It may, of course, like many other Pears, be a little captious as to soil, but with me it grows so well and crops so freely that I do not regret an attempt to re-introduce it into British gardens. No Pear has a better habit, short, well-spurred growth seems to be its constant aim, and, on the Quince stock, it makes an admirable pyramid or cordon.

Another Pear which, this year, has far exceeded its average quality with me is Colmar d'Ete, another seedling of Van Mons'. As Dr. Hogg rightly says, "in warm seasons the flesh is melting . . . the juice of honey sweetness, rich flavour, and a noyeau aroma." I have, I fear, rather underrated this most fertile and facile of Pears, and, in place of the toleration previously given, a warm admiration must follow a genial summer.

Edward Bunyard.

Pear Beurre Alexandre Lucas

One of the best varieties in season October till December

Pear Beurre Alexandre Lucas

This is a little known but valuable variety, and although, from a quality standpoint, it may not equal Doyenne du Comice, Thompson's, and Beurré Superfin, it should certainly be included in any selection of the best 12 Pears. I have always found it a consistent and heavy cropper as a cordon, and with a little care as to ripening it can be had in good condition from the middle of October to the end of December. This variety was strongly recommended to me as a cordon. The mistake often made in planting cordons, however, is that too many varieties are put in, or, if not this, too many of one season. A short list that I have found kindly growers, prolific, and of good quality, includes Clapp's Favourite, Beurré d'Amanlis, Buerré Hardy, Buerré Superfin, Buerré Alexandre Lucas, Louis Bonne, Doyenne du Comice, Thompson's, Glou Morceau, Nouvelle Fulvie, and Josephine de Malines. My soil being on the light side, a little extra preparation was necessary when the trees were being planted. To the top spit were added some heavier soil and a little cow-manure. When the fruit was swelling a mulch of cow-manure was given, the value of this being apparent in the fruits that were borne.

C. P.

Thompson's Pear

An exquisite fruit, worthy to rank with Doyenne du Comice, perhaps the finest of all

Pears, and yet Thompson's exquisite variety is not nearly so well-known as it so well deserves to be. Ripening in November, the medium-sized fruits are obovate, the pale yellow skin displaying a generous array of pale cinnamon-coloured dots with occasional larger areas of russet; the eye is open and set in a shallow basin, the white flesh is very juicy, of exceedingly rich flavour, and possessing a fine aroma. Although perhaps not a great bearer, I have rarely known Thompson's to fail when grown as a wall tree. It succeeds best on the Pear stock, and is frequently very satisfactory as a standard.

This exquisite fruit was raised by Van Mons sometime prior to 1820, and dedicated to Robert Thompson, the fruit superintendent of the R.H.S., and one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of British pomologists.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Some good Crab Apples

Crab Apples are among the most ornamental trees in the spring and in the autumn when laden with beautifully coloured fruit. They are ideal for a small or large lawn, and the fruits, when ripe, are valuable for making jelly and for other culinary purposes. Veitch's Scarlet I consider the best. It resulted from a cross between the Red Siberian Crab and King of Pippin Apple, and has a decided flavour of the latter. The fruits are of a fair size, a beautiful crimson-scarlet colour, and the tree bears freely. John Downie is a very attractive variety, a certain bearer, and one that succeeds in most soils. The fruits are oval, of a beautiful golden-yellow, tinted scarlet, and one of the very best for making jelly. Mrs. John Seton, another excellent variety, is a cross between Transcendent and King of the Pippins. The fruits are very large for a Crab, being quite 2 inches in length, and almost as much in thickness. They are light yellow in colour, spotted, and stained crimson. The tree is an upright grower and a very prolific bearer. Elsie Rathke is the best weeping variety and excellent for a large standard. The fruits are large and are produced freely. It is, possibly, not so attractive in colour as the aforementioned, but equally as good for culinary purposes. Victoria is one of the brightest-coloured Crabs, and a very reliable grower, bearing freely when established. Dartmouth is also a good variety, and when the fruits are ripe they have a blue bloom on the crimson, resembling that of a Plum. The fruit is rather small, but excellent for jelly. The Siberian is a very pretty little Crab, not much larger than a Cherry, but well worth growing in a collection.

W. E. WRIGHT.

Wanted: A Society for the protection of rare British plants

Last week I met a well-known man in public affairs in the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall. He told me that in September he found Gentiana pneumonanthe growing wild in Surrey, and that he had dug up 18 plants of it and planted them in his garden. I was furious with him when he told me, but he seemed to have no feeling that he had done anything wrong. As readers know, this is a very scarce native plant. It is probable that it is now almost exterminated from that particular spot. Anyone who robs the country of its flora should be prosecuted. There are Acts for the protection of wild birds, and it is high time that the flora of this country should be protected by law. A Society is now being formed for the protection of wild flowers. It is out to rob the children of their Buttercups and the cyclists of their Bluebells. The Society should go out for the protection of *rare* plants, a very different and difficult problem.

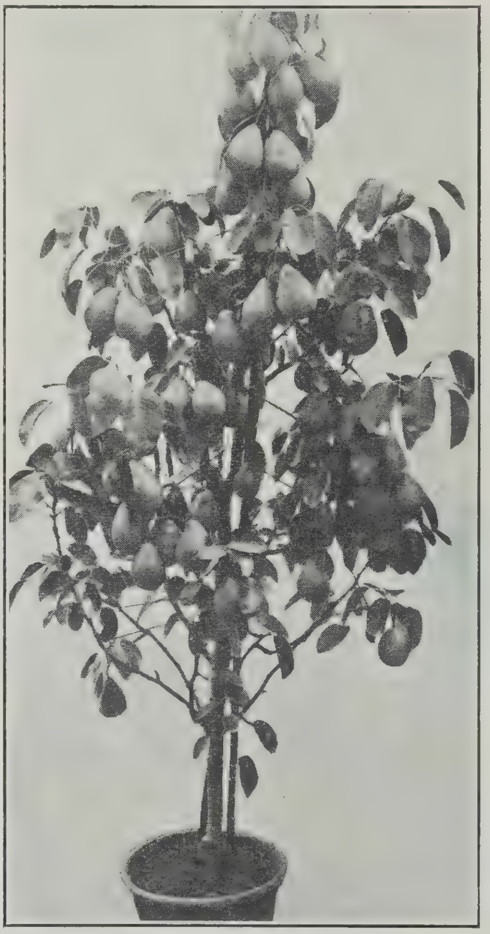
HERBERT COWLEY.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

A letter from New Zealand

I HAVE now received my copies of your paper to September 7th and find them very interesting. I have read of the holiday in Leventina, but you should see New Zealand. This country is considered to be the finest possible to visit. You can get anything to suit you here, from almost tropical to glacier, and from boiling springs and lakes to the cold lakes, and every sort of fishing possible, from the shark downwards. Shooting much the same, and when you come to our city (Christchurch), the Garden City of the Dominion, you will be astonished that such lovely gardens exist. But we have the climate. The sunshine record for Christchurch up to yesterday for this year is 1,536 hours. Ten miles out, where I live, it is at least 100 more hours. Our rainfall to date is one of the best we have had for many years—19·07 inches. Last year at this date it was 13·22 inches.



Pear Triomphe de Vienne as a pot fruit well cropped

This is a useful September Pear much appreciated by those who find Williams too strongly scented

Up to Arthur's Pass, situated on the main range of the Alps, the average rainfall is 150 inches. A large area there is now a National park. This should have been set aside years ago. There was the finest lot of mountain flowers there I ever saw or read of, including the famous Ranunculus, which I see mentioned in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. I spent two weeks there during Christmas and New Year of 1904. It was sight then. Since then the $5\frac{1}{4}$ m tunnel has been made, and sc cursionists have been there, and always vandals about.

I grow a lot of flowers just fo glorification and to give to thos tunate. Fruits are our specialit sell all our products straight to the We still have a few cases. One selling straight to the consumer m must grow the very best of fruit, own price, and make that price one at all times. One can then tomers year after year without spray 10 times for most Apples, si Peach and Nectarines, and nine for Pears.

GEO

Templeton, Canterbury, N.Z.
October 13th, 1929.

Large Tomatoes

As a reader of GARDENING ILLUS many years I have been very in the correspondence about large

In your issue of November 2nd, 737, reference is made respecting of fine Tomatoes by Thos. Crossw wood, Eden Park, Beckenham 294, October 2nd, 1890).

Would it be possible for you to Correspondence columns a repr culture referred to, as I am sure very interesting to a number of y as well as myself?

GEO. CH

The Hollies, Eastwood, Notts.

This letter has been forward Thos. Crosswell, who very kindly

I am glad to be able to tu "Journal of Horticulture" for O 1890, so that you may oblige you correspondent with the "reprint" and perhaps allow me a small spa tion.

In the first place our plants ha of board, lodging, and attendanc far as I know, that terror to the dener to-day (I allude to the had not put in appearance; at le no experience of it then, or such not have been produced.

The house used was one divi 80-foot span divided into three com The sidelights reached the grou full light for the entire length of was secured. The house ran east (for convenience), so at mid-day th broadside on the house, and our was always on the southern side.

The house was amply heated lated top and sides. Coke was ha of to-day, and this was not with required. A generous, encoura appreciative employer, and thi happily, but it is a far cry from 18 and what changes have taken plac

THOS. CRO

26, Park Road, Chislehurst, Ke

To the Editor of the "Journ
Horticulture."

Dear, Sir,—I have forwarded sample of selected Perfection To grown here, and shall be glad of yo of the same.

They are not the largest we ha this season, having gathered m weighing upwards of a pound, on fine fruit weighing 22 ozs. Our confined to single stems and ha

yde washing pool near Grasse

ro-run, the majority of them grow-
oes of various lengths, but only a
ey 6 inches deep, the plants stand-
o asunder; and we have taken a
rc of fruit from them. We always
ush to assist the setting in the
tes, and invariably secure a good
find as we discontinue the use of
hve secure but little addition to our
rards quantity, the plants devoting
regth to swelling the fruits which
e assisted them to set, and, being
sl treated to liquid-manure and a
n of fertiliser, they acquit them-
very satisfactory manner.

T. CROSSWELL.

od Gardens,
nPark, Beckenham.

nagnificent fruits were received,
g 13 ozs., 15 ozs., 15½ ozs., and 19
tal of 62½ ozs., or an average of
ch. They were well formed, even,
ome, such as are seldom seen.]

lve is from the "Journal of Horti-
"October 2nd, 1890.

Rent correspondence would appear
a that record breakers are on the
n connection with the production
Tomatoes. In (I hope) a praise-
eavour to extend the helping hand
w the attention of those interested
ety named Ponderosa. It is of
origin, sent out originally (I be-
eter Henderson, of New York, but
smen in this country now stock
e variety. It is, truly, ponderous,
may be had up to 2 lbs. in weight.
have had individuals slightly over
is Ponderosa, although extremely
poor flavour—quite the reverse.
ood Tomato, and one which I can
ed to Mrs. Martineau (page 787), is
edom, also sent out by the same
the way, has Mrs. Martineau ever
yellow Tomatoes? I am told (for
eat them) that the yellow varieties
more delicately flavoured than the
toes. A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

A garden near Grasse

I SEND a photograph of the corner of a garden near Grasse, in the Maritime Alps, for your illustrated section. It is noticeable that in that hot, dry climate one depends more for effect on the contrast between stonework (with the great olive-oil jar included) and the light foliage of the Olive tree, and the stiffness of the Cactus plant.

I have also put in a photograph of the washing pool just below the garden.

(MISS) M. F. MALIM.

Lausanne, Switzerland.

Rosa laxa as a stock

The discussion on this stock which appeared in your columns some time ago whetted my curiosity, and I bought a dozen bushes from a well-known firm which uses this stock.

I have learnt my lesson, and I shall certainly never try Laxa again. All my other bushes, which were on Briar and planted at the same time, did extraordinarily well, but those on Laxa were a complete disappointment. They flowered very poorly and did not "get on with it" at all. Even hefty growers like K. of K. made feeble growth. The soil in which the Roses are planted is imported loam, so all had a good chance.

Laxa may give good results in Scotland, but it appears to be hopeless in London.

Putney, S.W. N. LESLIE CAVE.

Ward's Lily (K.W. 6,034)

With reference to the above, I wish to make known the fact that the Lily I advertised in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, issue November 2nd, under the name of Lilium Wardii is K.W. 6,034, and was advertised as L. Wardii in error.

At present this species has not been authoritatively named, and, for the time being, is known as K.W. 6,034.

Kindly publish this communication in an early issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, as I do not wish to add to any confusion now existing in the nomenclature of Lilies.

Paddock Wood. W. A. CONSTABLE.

Early Catalogues

As drops of rain presage the shower so the early catalogue gives us warning of the flood to follow. Of all literature, I confess that the catalogue of the seedsman, the florist, and the nurseryman gives me the greatest pleasure. What would I give, sometimes, to have a free hand to order not only old favourites, forgotten until their names rise clearly out of the closely-printed lists, but the "novelties" which appear to increase in number year by year, and sufficient time and accommodation to grow them all! Many of these catalogues are more than mere lists of seeds and plants. Carefully compiled, beautifully printed and illustrated, they are works of art, and they deserve a better fate than to be tossed contemptuously on one side. "Only a catalogue," some may say, but it represents much painstaking care, and a not inconsiderable expense. We cannot buy from every seedsman, but, in common courtesy, let us pay them the compliment of reading their catalogues. G.

Flavour in Apples

In his excellent note I see that Mr. W. E. Wright mentions the new dessert Apple, Joybells. I have grown it for a year or two, and find it very good indeed. It comes in about the middle of October and is in season through November. Flesh very tender, full of juice, and nice flavour. It makes a pleasant variant to American Mother, that delicious fruit which surely ranks, at any rate, second or third for choice flavour among all our Apples. I am puzzled by Mr. Wright's remarks about it. He speaks of "the dullness of the fruit." Surely, he does not mean in appearance, for here in all good seasons "Mother" is well coloured a fine, bright red, and this was evident in the various dishes of it at the R.H.S. Fruit Show in October.

A most delectable Apple of which no mention is made by Mr. Wright is Orleans Reinette. I have grown this fruit after having my attention called to it several years ago by Mr. E. A. Bunyard. He, I believe, places it right at the top of the list of well-flavoured Apples, and, after very careful trial, and with many apologies to our old friend, Cox's Orange, I think he is probably right. F. HERBERT CHAPMAN.

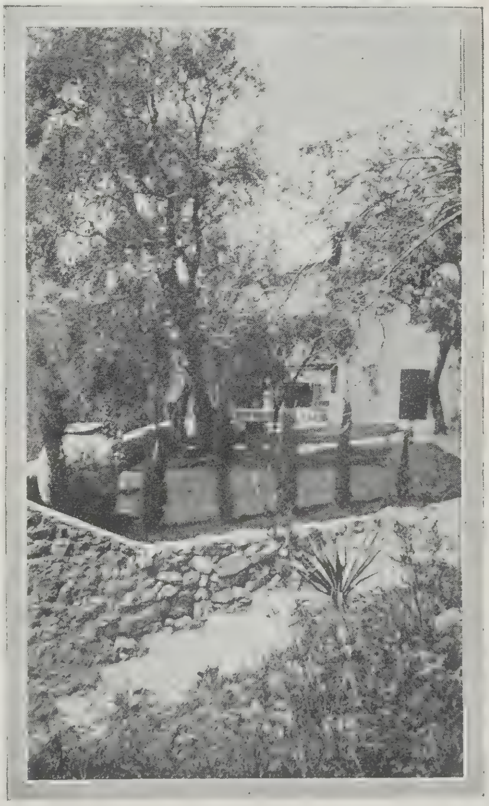
Norwegian Alpines

I have spent a good many summers in Norway and am very much interested in studying the flora there. I made a rock garden on an island, but in the Hardanger district I found it very difficult to find many Alpines. Saxifraga oppositifolia grew easily and well. Above Eide, Saxifraga Cotyledon grew in masses on the cliffs, high up, quite out of the reach of any tourist. So large were the sprays they might nearly have been taken for Tumbling Waters. Linea borealis was lovely, ramping all over the undergrowth in the woods and covered with its masses of little bells, but a hopeless plant to transplant.

Pyrola rotundifolia grew plentifully in deep shade, but P. uniflora was a very rare treasure; I only found it in one or two places. It was very difficult to transport. I tried it two or three times, but with no success.

Arnica grew rather higher up, and Habenaria bifolia (the Butterfly Habenaria) grew in quantities in damp meadows; also Lily of the Valley, but of a very poor kind. I found a few Gentians close to the sea, but I have now forgotten their names.

I found Ranunculus glacialis in quantities

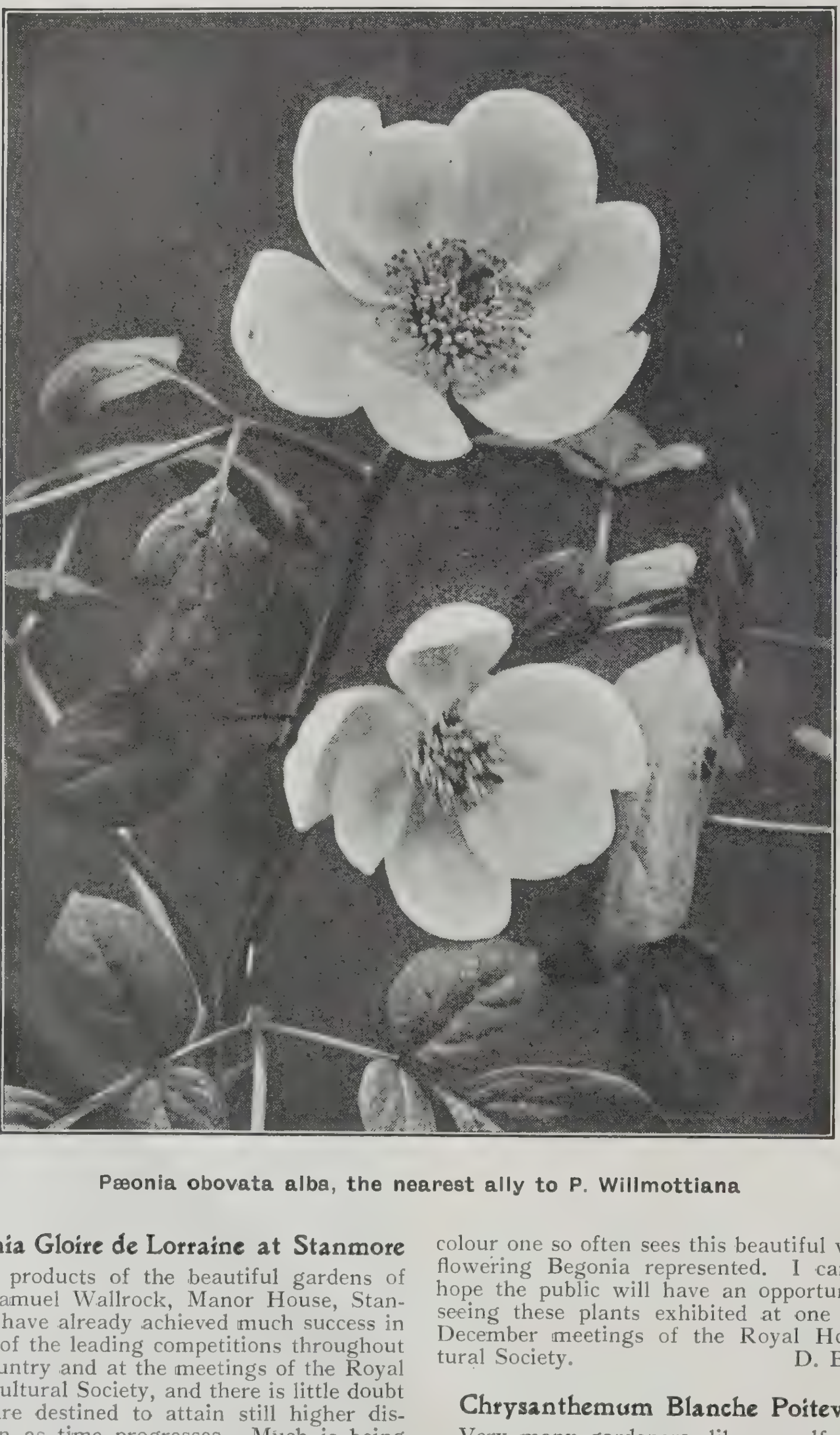


A pleasant garden with Olive trees near Grasse in the Maritime Alps on the heights above Finse, growing in the wet shingle from the melting snows. There were plenty of Pinguicula and Drosera growing in the wet bogs, but I never found Soldanella.

On the whole, I found the Norwegian flora very disappointing, and my rock garden was more than half-filled with Alpines I brought over from England.

The Norwegians round were much interested in it, and used to come over on Sundays in their boats to admire it. They always ended by saying: "Why did I stick all these stones among the pretty flowers?"

Godstone. N. S. C.



Pæonia obovata alba, the nearest ally to P. Willmottiana

Begonia Gloire de Lorraine at Stanmore

The products of the beautiful gardens of Mr. Samuel Wallrock, Manor House, Stanmore, have already achieved much success in many of the leading competitions throughout the country and at the meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society, and there is little doubt they are destined to attain still higher distinction as time progresses. Much is being done in these gardens in preparation for the future, no pains being spared in an endeavour to lay a good foundation for further triumphs. It was my good fortune, a few days since, to pay a visit to these gardens, more especially to inspect the plants growing under glass in this interesting establishment. There was still a splendid lot of Chrysanthemums, both exhibition and decorative sorts being grown in large numbers. There was a grand lot of perpetual-flowering Carnations that merited recognition, but the chief feature on the occasion of my visit was the superbly fine lot of Begonia Gloire de Lorraine, represented by plants exhibiting culture of the best. The plants were large and well proportioned, the foliage being of rich green colour and healthy-looking, and flowering in the greatest profusion, but what struck me most was the beautiful rich pink colouring of these freely-flowered plants. It was most noteworthy and in distinct contrast to the washed-out colour one so often sees this beautiful winter-flowering Begonia represented. I can only hope the public will have an opportunity of seeing these plants exhibited at one of the December meetings of the Royal Horticultural Society. D. B. C.

Chrysanthemum Blanche Poitevene

Very many gardeners, like myself, would be surprised to see the correction asked for by Mr. Mills *re* specimen plant of Blanche du Poitou, illustrated in your issue of November 16th.

There seems to be a great deal of confusion regarding these two varieties, but there need not be, as there is a great difference in
the habit of growth of the t
Blanche Poitevene being very dw
the incurving type of flower.

A SHEFFIELD G

Pæonia Willmottian

(See GARDENING ILLUSTRATED,

THIS plant was sent to Eng
China by E. H. Wilson in
flowered in Miss Willmott's
1919 and received a first class ce
that year; it was named by Docto
described by him in the "Botan
zine," Plate 8,667. Miss Willmo
that the plant is still vigorous and
been propagated; she does not thin
one else possesses the plant. M
regard this Pæony as identical w
vata alba, for which Mr. Allgrove
first class certificate at the Chelse
1924. Miss Willmott told me that
was a single individual which occu
importation of P. obovata alba
grown the plants side by side, and
that her plant is different and a
finer thing; Sir Frederick Moore
this to the extent of saying the P.
iana was the finest Pæony he had
With regard to the two plants bein
Dr. Stapf made P. Willmottiana
species, but added that P. obovata
nearest ally; the two plants are r
Mr. A. P. Saunders in "The Peony
as identical.

P. obovata alba is one of the m
ful of all garden plants. A short-
it sets seed freely, and in this
possible to raise a good stock.

WILLIAM LA

The Rock Garden Soci

On page 802 "N. S. C."
amiable suggestion that membe
above "should be allowed, on
their membership card, to be s
other members' gardens." If any
were made a good many people I
self included, would certainly nev
R.G.S. There are few who do
showing their gardens to really
fellow-enthusiasts. That is one o
joys of a garden. But this "visi
ness is getting so overdone that
would, in the interests of peace a
prefer to see a rule prohibiting a
from "dropping-in" on any oth
save by special appointment, or,
of complete strangers, by a lette
duction. The promiscuous, and o
curious, person who regards any
a pleasant spot wherein he and h
friends may spend a pleasant sum
noon is becoming such a menace
few garden owners are finding i
to tighten-up the strings of hospita
summer I spent an average of th
afternoons a week on this "tak
round." At least half of these ca
simply out to idle away surplus
very few of them even realised tha
an ounce of that precious commodi
In justice to the really interested
I must add that these—the visit
always glad to see and who unders
gardening is—know better than
their presence upon one without a
ment.

It is high time that the gene
realised that gardens are not free
the asking. Instead of being
those who open their gates so gen
the interests of charity, "N. S.
demand not only an entry at any
but "to be shown over," presuma
long-suffering owner, or one of his
who are not exactly engaged f

ng The situation is already difficult gh such a suggestion proposes an in- ol state of affairs. A. T. J.

The Moonlight Broom

leased to see such a good illustration n specimen of the Moonlight Broom, s coparius pallidus, on page 801. It is which is much too little grown, and seldom that we come across it in gar- is difficult to understand why this se, as it is such a free grower and omer. It may be that people may t as it is only a variety of our Com- Boom it need hardly be considered t to place with choice shrubs. But able in many places in the garden. pards of 30 years since I grew it first, ny new garden formed about three go I took care that it was included he shrubs to be cultivated here. On is bank it has thriven amazingly, e very freely, and given a great abun- its soft cream-coloured flowers, quite a good appearance in a rather ious place. It has a little way from ol plant of the cream-coloured Early n, Cytisus præcox, which has also e well. The two go quite well to- r, and are distinct enough to be near ter. I was rather surprised to see a ol branches of the Moonlight Broom the disastrous blizzard of the early b. the greater portion of the plant was nd, and, by careful pruning, its ap- n has been little injured. The Moon- Boom is worthy of your remark below uration, and it is to be hoped that the aon and your note may lead to its ore largely planted. S. A.

Linum arboreum

M what I have seen, I feel satisfied a Linum arboreum is the hardiest of ellow Flaxes in cultivation. Next to h connection I would place L. flavum, tough the latter is often substituted for em, it is truly herbaceous, and is killed severe winters, whereas L. arboreum vistand a season of rather more than a severity, although it is a native of nd grows under different conditions hat it receives in the ordinary rock n of these isles. I have seen it grow- e in the Midlands of Scotland, where iers are more severe than in the south the coast line, and was informed that as no difficulty experienced with it in iter there. The form generally culti- British gardens is the Alpine one, s dwarfer than the ordinary one of which in its native habitat sometimes e 3 feet in height. The other, in this r is rarely more than 9 inches or 12 s and sometimes less. It is of shrubby whereas L. flavum is, as said above, ous. The flowers of L. arboreum are han those of L. flavum, and are of a den yellow and borne in clusters at of the branches. L. arboreum, true, quoted now, and is more expensive flavum, which is easily raised from The best way to propagate L. em is by cuttings. It should have a dry soil, and be fully exposed to the have plenty of stones about it.

S. A.

Linum arboreum, the hardiest of the yellow Flaxes

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list of Roses

l).—We recommend you to join the l Rose Society, when the new select Roses, brought right up to date, will to you with other publications issued Society. The Hon. Secretary is Mr. y Page, 28, Victoria Street, London, The annual subscription is 10s. 6d.

Chrysanthemums

Twelve good early-flowering varieties for the border

When readers are told that only recently it has been my experience to be in some measure responsible for a trial of early-flowering outdoor Chrysanthemums in which there were no fewer than 290 stocks planted, they will perhaps appreciate my difficulty in being asked to give the names of 12 good early-flowering varieties suitable for border culture. It is very difficult to restrict the list to so few varieties, as there are so many that possess characteristics that commend them for such a purpose. The following, however, are thoroughly good and reliable, and will serve to keep the outdoor garden gay for quite a long period.

Pink Dame.—This plant has its flowers on long slender stems, and it is a profuse and continuous bloom. The plant commences to flower in early August, and continues until the end of October. Height about 2½ feet. Colour, rose-pink with pale centre.

Crimson Circle.—This is another wonderful plant, flowering in profusion over several months. The plant comes into flower in August and continues in good condition until the beginning of November. It bears handsome sprays of rich crimson blossoms that make a splash of colour in the border, and for cut flowers is invaluable. Height about 2½ feet. Has gained several high awards.

Hollicot Yellow (also known as Goldfinder).—Considered by the better authorities to be the best early-flowering yellow variety for the border. The plant has a stiff, erect habit of growth, and develops its sprays of blossoms on stiff, wiry stems, with small foliage. Height 3 feet. Colour, bright yellow.

Mrs. Jack Pearson.—A very early bronze that commences to flower in July and continues until early November. Rather spare habit. The plant continues to develop growths with buds at their apex; these, disbudded, make pretty flowers. Height 3 feet.

Mrs. Phil Page.—This is a bright reddish-chestnut sport from Mrs. Jack Pearson, possessing the same characteristics as the parent plant; the colour is so much better, however. This variety is grown in huge quantities for market.

Hollicot Bronze.—A useful sport from Hollicot Yellow, and generally given the name of Harvester in the specialists' catalogues. Its proper name is that given at the head of this note. The colour is light bronze or yellow shaded bronze, and as such is much valued. Height 3 feet.

Phœnix.—This is a very free-flowering plant, evolving numerous dainty little blossoms of good form in attractive sprays, on a useful length of footstalk. It comes into flower in early August and continues well into October. Colour, crimson-bronze. Height 2½ feet to 3 feet.

Jean.—For its pleasing soft pink colour this variety is included in the select dozen. The flowers are of graceful form, and are developed in beautiful sprays for cutting. At its best during September. Height 3 feet.

Alex Coyle.—This is a dwarf plant with a sturdy habit of growth, developing flowers of good form and of a somewhat unique colour of amber-shaded peach. The plant does not exceed 2 feet in height. Good in September and early October.

Dick Barnes.—For its rich burgundy-coloured flowers this variety is included in the selection. Should be varied in colour. The plant is free-flowering and possesses a stiff, bushy habit of growth. Bright and effective plant in the borders. Height about 2½ feet. September.

Roi des Blancs.—One of the most chaste and dainty of the series. The flowers are small and pleasing, are developed in beautiful sprays, and are pure white. In flower from late August onwards. Height 2½ feet. These plants should be planted fairly close together owing to their spare growth.

September Glory.—The true stock of this variety develops a plant that is a real "Glory" in September and October. The plant yields good sprays and, if disbudded, beautiful individual blooms. Colour, orange-bronze. Height between 2½ feet and 3 feet.

D. B. Crane.

Replanting Herbaceous borders

Any replanting not completed by this date would be all the better if left until the end of March, the plants in the meantime being heeled in in sandy soil, with the exception of the more easily grown plants, such as Michaelmas Daisies, Yarrows, Lythrums, and Helianthus, which can be lifted and divided at any time, and produce much finer results when replanted annually in small pieces than when allowed to become congested.

The Points of a Rock Garden and Some Ways of Achieving Them

By B. H. B. Symons-Jeune

PART II.

How to build rock to look natural

(Continued from page 775)

An outcrop, as its name implies, is an appearance of rock suddenly from an open space. This occurs as often in the lap of a hill as on the side. In either case the rock has to rise out of the earth and go back again. For garden purposes, a group of stones, rather than a single boulder, is needed, and so a rudimentary knowledge of stone is required to put them together. Just as rudimentary knowledge of a subject does not include all variations, so the simplest rules only will be given without considering the more complicated forms. Rock only appears when the stratum has been broken and upheaved, or the ground in front has subsided. The stratum is not all equally solid; parts crumble, and the debris, together with decaying vegetation, covers the remainder wherever it can find a lodging. Therefore, rock only appears on weather-beaten angles. Stone must not be put to show as much on a site as possible. It must only appear when, according to certain rules, it cannot help appearing. When rock appears its formation is governed by the lines of the strata which run through a hill, and the action of weathering on them. Rain will run off according to the incline of a stratum, and, as it does so, will wash deposits on to or away from the rock.

The incline of the stratum is very helpful. It allows rock to rise out of the ground and go back again without appearing incongruous; thus it can be put anywhere, even on a flat site. As it can be seen from every aspect, face, back, and sides have to be considered, and each must be built completely. There will be no possibility or need of hiding an awkward end, for Nature does not end awkwardly. Consider a rectangular block of stone as representing a hard portion of the stratum. The hardest portion will remain the highest, while the rest will weather and crumble partially or entirely. The highest point may come in the middle, when it will tail off on either side, or one end may be more solid than the other; in this case, it will end abruptly, and in the other direction the rock will decline from it. This gives interesting variations in building. It will be seen that the block of stone will be contained within an arc, the highest point of which will touch the strongest and, therefore, highest point. This is important, for it shows how the rock will run to ground logically at each end. The stratum lines never run into each other in such a way that a stone on one bed may rise up into another without a joint being indicated, although a stone within a stratum may disintegrate so that the particu may be composed of several smalle provided that they are contained wi area. Small, jagged points should set upright separately: they woul have mellowed, as used soap does, have disappeared altogether.

The other joints in stone are imp consider. They run through the from the top downwards, not n through the hill. They are cracks and the stone made or emphasised by w ning down them.

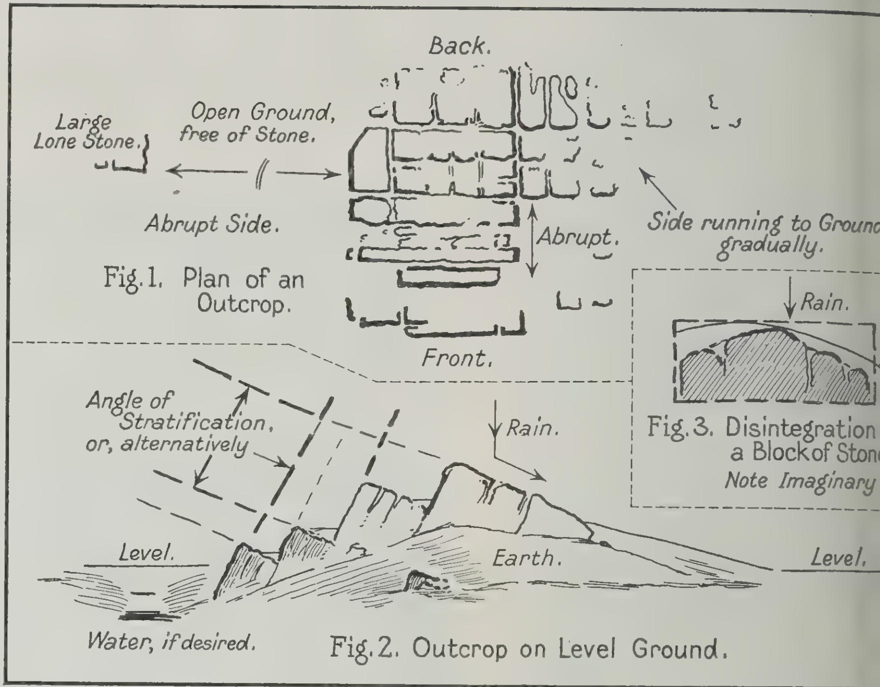


Fig. 1. Plan of an Outcrop.

Fig. 2. Outcrop on Level Ground.

Fig. 3. Disintegration a Block of Ston

They are often continuous, but n sarily so. It will be seen on the fig. 2, that an alternative stratifi marked. Either can be the " lay rock, but not both. If stratification what appears to be the top of the really the face. Thus, a flat stone ti angle may be used, and still be right provided that the stones round it co This steep angle of stratification is invaluable to give a sheer cliff material to hand comes from a thin b ing several layers to attain a heigh even with skilled handling, is alway than one stone.

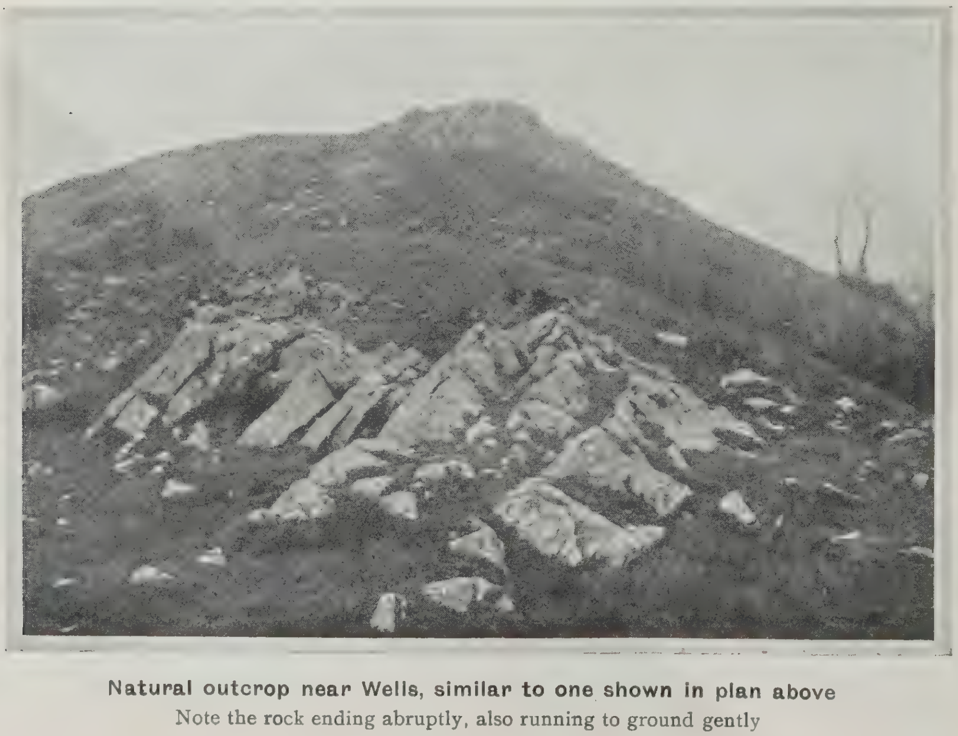
Even in a small garden a cliff 3 is imposing when solid, which wou as nothing with a joint across it. W groups of rock are needed, one high hill than the other, each group can b as a separate bed.

If any outcrop of stone to be plac sidered primarily as a solid rectangu which has weathered, a useful pla made on the lines shown for any gar

When ordering stone a few bigg should always be asked for, for on pends the importance of the main fe

A glance at the plan will explain in some measure, and, although ma tions can occur, according to the s principle can be applied to any grou Strength should follow strength, weaker parts should not be expected a solid above unless there is foundation.

Open spaces must be kept open, o of silt pouring down that way stopped. One big group is often be several smaller ones. Big, strong m being used which has not blown th effect needs to be decided and conc



Natural outcrop near Wells, similar to one shown in plan above

Note the rock ending abruptly, also running to ground gently the cture should be a panorama of the and not a view of a quarry.

the is a bank, the outcrop can be made er. In any case, its height above the nd vel should be so fixed that it can ata comfortable angle back into the nd the back which, in turn, must con- sloping until the level is reached.

pare stones outside of the outcrop er should only be used restrainedly, and should correspond to an imaginary pro- atic of the stratum or solid in the

th next article I will discuss the pro- ion of features to plain surface and show ff should be treated to prolong the wen a path curves round it without to much stone.

Some useful small trees

ater background of green than in the round to show off the bright colouring wers often gives a better effect in a . Many a bed of brightly flowering plants may be quite transformed by lt of green foliage growing up behind. this purpose few small trees would seem it e purpose so well as dwarf conifers, not only do they provide the required g, but evergreen Conifers give that the winter which is so refreshing o er trees are standing gaunt and bare d them. There are a great number wich to choose for the garden, but it ary to use care in selection, for it is means every Conifer that will suit every en. Those that grow to a great size d be avoided for very small suburban en for, even though they look well for a time while they are small, later become too large for their surround- al are a nuisance to the neighbours he garden itself. These tall varieties not be planted too close to the house esult is the darkening of rooms.

t l gardens will suit Conifers, not even wrf varieties, and the smoke and grime twn are especially abhorrent to them. s they like should be studied, too, for these dwarf Conifers are particular hat kind they have. For those who Cpresses, several dwarf kinds will be which will be suitable for the small garden. Cupressus tetragona is a small bush which becomes very dense with foliage; C. obtusa pygmæa is a very small tree, it has flat branches and reaches a height of about 2 feet; C. obtusa nana grows very densely, and the variety aurea has golden leaves; and there is the variety densa which is even thicker than nana. All these are varieties of the Japanese Cupressus obtusa, and they are slow growers, but most of them are exceptionally useful for the rock garden. Cupressus Lawsoniana nana reaches a height of 5 feet and Fletcheri is a useful bush of pyramid growth; also darleyensis, with its green leaves.

The dwarf kinds of Junipers deserve to be planted in the garden as well, as they will do well in the rock garden or on the lawn, but for preference they like a chalky soil. Juniperus communis nana is very low-growing as it only reaches a height of about 1 foot. That variety of Juniperus communis called aurea has golden leaves, as has nana aurea also. Juniperus communis compressa is useful for rock gardens, and varieties of Juniperus Sabina, such as Knap Hill, tamariscifolia, and humilis, are all worth inclusion. Then other Junipers which are of dwarf habit are varieties of Juniperus virginiana, as globosa and reptans, and varieties of Juniperus chinensis, such as globosa and nana.

Of the Spruces there are several varieties of Picea excelsa which are of dwarf habit. The variety nana is suitable for the rock garden, also humilis, nidiformis, dumosa, capitata, pygmæa, Sargentii, and Gregoryana. Forms of Picea pungens, such as argentea, Kosteriana, and glauca, are all fine trees which reach a height of about 15 feet. Some of the common Spruce varieties are excellent for the rock garden. Of these are reptans, procumbens, and pendula, all very charming trees. If dwarf trees are carefully chosen and the site for them selected with discretion and an eye to the artistic, charming effects may be obtained.

Natural outcrop near Wells

Note the sheer face

Part of a garden built by the author at Nottingham before planting

lthough it had to run to ground level on all sides, only 12 tons of stone were used on a site approximately 35 by 140 feet

Magnolia Delavayi

This is a singularly noble evergreen species, well adapted for a south or south-west wall in the milder districts. The great greyish-green leaves are unusually handsome and distinct from the foliage of all other Magnolias, and, indeed, as a fine-leaved shrub alone this species is well worth growing. The flowers are large, egg-shaped until well open, and coloured creamy-white or ivory. Some grand specimens of my acquaintance in the warmer parts of Gloucestershire are characterised by a noble presence with which few shrubs may compare, unless it be the better-known and always lovely M. grandiflora. A Chinese species, M. Delavayi, commences to bloom in July. With a little protection during severe weather it is tolerably hardy and of fairly rapid growth—much more rapid than is M. grandiflora. M. parviflora should be planted by everyone. The perfumed blossoms are produced June-July, pure white buds opening out into chaste salvers, each with a bunch of rosy-red stamens. A most beautiful shrub, and even among its many lovely congeners is conspicuous for its charms. I have found it a good doer and not at all tender in a not too exposed position.

RALPH E. ARNOLD.

Sweet Peas

The ground intended for spring-sown Sweet Peas should be trenched and enriched when the soil is in good working order, a proportion of lime being worked into soils of a heavy character. This will admit of its becoming thoroughly settled down and weathered before it is required for the Peas.

SOME FURTHER NOTES ON AUTUMN COLOUR

SINCE my last notes there has been a month of much colour in the garden. Gales and heavy rain at the end of October did not do so much damage as was expected, but by the beginning of the second week in November, just when there were many plants at their best, a terrific gale with heavy rain finished off most things. It has become quite obvious that if planting for autumn colour is planned it should be carried out with as much shelter as possible—shelter from strong winds which will often strip trees and shrubs of their leaves before they colour, and shelter from frost as far as possible to prolong the colour period as far as possible. In many cases this season seems to have been better than usual as regards colour. In the woods the Beech, Oak, Service Tree, Birch, Hazel, and Bracken have given nearly four weeks of wonderful colouring, the green changing to yellow, gold-bronze, orange, and brown. The Forest of Savernake has been glorious, especially on bright sunny days. Passing through the New Forest the colour was equally good, but the contours of the land made it possible to view much of the colouring from above it, and this seemed to make it more attractive.

A figure of Venus well placed on rising ground above the croquet lawn at Foots Cray Place, Sidcup

A pair of Ionic columns comes into the picture on the right

So much for the natural colourings of the countryside, and now for the garden. During the month—October 18th to November 18th—the following were noted as being all worthy for planting for autumn colour. Rosa lucida, with yellow and crimson foliage; R. nitida, intense deep crimson, with stems thickly with tiny spines are also crimson. It is a plant that should be grown in a mass and the suckers allowed to come up and form a small thicket from 1 foot to 2 feet high. R. macrophylla carries a crop of bottle-shaped fruits, very like those of R. Fargesi and R. Moyesii, which two species are still in good form as regard fruit. Berberis provide much colour in fruit and foliage. Of the fruiting forms, the following are outstanding: Smithiana, aggregata, and the var. Prattii, brachypoda var. aldenhamensis, with its bunches of bright scarlet fruit, and two plants which come from Ireland under these names, Barbarossa and Pirate King—both are heavy fruiters; Giraldii, with large, pear-shaped, brilliant red fruits, with dark crimson stems and brilliant crimson foliage, making this a very desirable plant; pallens, with intense crimson foliage and red stems gives more effect with these than as a fruiting variety; Sieboldii is still very brilliant; Veitchii, an evergreen species, has a fair number of brilliant crimson leaves on it, and its red stems are always attractive; Dielsiana has orange-crimson foliage; heteropoda, intense crimson foliage; rubrostilla has large red fruit and brilliant foliage; virescens should be grown in groups so as to get the effect on its brilliant crimson foliage and the red stems; dictyophylla and its forms are all attractive with red foliage and pink stems covered with white bloom. The Japanese Cherries have been better this year than I can remember, and though the gale stripped a lot of foliage before it got to its best, there was a good show for at least three weeks. Prunus subhirtella ascendens gave a fine orange show, but the type pendula and autumnalis vars. gave nothing. P. incisa, of which I have two forms, one was over in mid-October, the other gave plenty of colour during the first two weeks of November.

The Sorbus section of Pyrus was very good. P. gracilis, brilliant crimson; P. discolor, orange and crimson; P. rufo-ferruginea, bright crimson; P. hupehensis and P. Matsumurana, although quite small plants, gave promise of good colouring in the future. P. Torminalis, the Service Tree, continued for well over a month in its colouring, and branches have been treated in a glycerine solution for keeping throughout the winter.

Photinia villosa, Pyrus arbutifolia, Brilliant, and P. a. erecta were a sheet of vivid scarlet, and spoilt all too quickly by the gale.

Pyrus Tschonoskii, with its young shoots thickly covered with white felt, gave a pleasing mixture of orange, scarlet, and crimson. P. Prattii was spoilt just before the foliage changed colour. P. yunnanensis, P. trilobata, P. coronaria, and P. glaucescens all gave good colourings in the second week of November. P. alnifolia gave rich brown colour like Hornbeam. The Japanese Maples were better than ever, even though some
plants dropped their leaves through
at the roots. Outstanding was A.
lobum and its variety Osakazuki; the
a solid brilliant crimson scarle
some young bushes retained their co
until November 13th. A. palmatur
purpureum, intense crimson; A. septer
elegans, orange and crimson. The A
sectum and its varieties were splenc
did not last as long as usual; dryness
roots was again the cause. The best
was A. d. atropurpureum, the rounded
being a wonderful crimson; A. japonicu
was a pretty mixture of gold, oran
crimson; A. mandschuricum, oran
crimson; A. rufinerve, orange an
A. Davidii and A. pennsylvanicum wer
for the beautiful markings of the ba
former being exceptionally glaucous.
thus cercidifolius was variable. The
and biggest plant gave no colour, a
leaves were stripped before they wer
to fall. The late rains after the dry s
I think, made this plant and also
cotinoides want to begin fresh growth
of going to rest, and neither gave any

Young plants of Disanthus were r
ably good. The oldest plant is now (
ber 20th) in full bloom; small, somew
conspicuous flowers, with tiny crimson
Rhus cotinoides went on growing, and
foliage shrivelled by 11 degs. of frost.
plant is very scarce and rare at the
time. Such as I have under this na
very distinct, the foliage on established
being two or three times as large
Cotinus, and I think Continental pla
often sent out as R. cotinoides where
are simply seedlings of R. Cotinus.
ambar styraciflua started to colour on
tree, but the gale stripped most of the
young plants, however, in a more sh
position have been a blaze of oran
crimson, far more vivid and brighter th
older tree.

Viburnum cotinifolium, although
youngsters, have been very pretty for
three weeks, a deep rose crimson
Viburnum theifera, V. betulifoli
Wrightii, and V. hupehensis have bee
attractive with their brilliant scarlet
the foliage of the latter being delig
tinted with crimson. Enkianthus l
ceernuus rubens was certainly not rub
flower, but very much so in its a
foliage. E. campanulatus has also
good.

Fothergilla major and F. monticola
good for over two weeks, the latter wit
geous crimson and orange shades bei
more attractive than the former with o
yellow colouring. Prunus pumila Besse
quite bright for a week or more.
Mariana began to colour the last we
October and is still good; I hope to see
main so for several weeks. Acer nil
failed to do anything this year beyon
or three leaves, as the gale stripped m
the foliage. Cornus florida rubra a
Nuttallii were both brilliant in their au
foliage. C. Kousa only fair, but this pl
know, suffered from the drought. Ste
andra Tanakæ, with its yellow and
foliage and rich brown stems, is quite
growing. Amelanchier lævis, which
from America recently, is growing in a
shady position, and the autumn foliag
bright yellow. Quercus coccinea splende
been a gorgeous bit of crimson colour fo
weeks and is still good.

Cratægus have given many good au
foliaged plants. C. Haberii turned a
bright yellow, and the following all gave
effective crimson colouring:—C. exclus

an, C. formosa, C. sertata, apart from that coloured in the earlier part of r. Cotoneasters have given a splendid of fruit and foliage Of the foliage s C. foveolata gave rich purplish-crim- sades; C. moupinensis, very similar to ata which has red fruit, gave brilliant n foliage and black berries; C. bullata en better; C. divaricata, C. nitens, C. id. C. obscura, and C. tomentosa have all ceptionally good; the latter is specially g, with large rounded leaves turning to and crimson. Of the fruiting varieties, es nothing to equal C. Farrer sp. 1,325, warf species of Forrest's with small liage and myriads of red berries. C. a will not be at its best until mid- ber, likewise a close ally C. glauco- ll, and I hope they will retain their for several weeks (A. V.!). C. and the var. montana are better than efore; C. disticha, with evergreen Box- liage and large and very shiny bright rries, is noticeable.

ys Aria magnifica lost its foliage early ft its large russety brown fruits hang- bunches; the foliage promised to be good. Ribes americanum gave splendid aret colourings, and I am told to prune ach spring to induce strong young ns and thereby larger foliage. The Ghent s continued to colour, and remained for wo weeks in a blaze of orange and on, the majority being vivid crimson. ear, in spite of the wind and rain, they carrying their foliage longer than and until the first sharp frost of 11 A big clump of Rosa rugosa gave yellow colouring and big, round, th hips of dark crimson. This and the es have given the best of the yellow ings this autumn. Vaccinium corym- n, brilliant scarlet and crimson, began rst week in November, and is still as gt as ever. Eucryphia pinnatifolia was it pretty in its coppery tints. Oxy- on arboreum is beginning to colour, vill be better in a fortnight's time when liage will have changed through yellow, l rose, to richest crimson. On account of te season I consider this a very valuable for autumn—one might almost say r—effect. Amelanchier asiatica, with ge and crimson colouring, is another late ring plant. These three plants are now, several days of heavy rains and strong ns, about all that is left of autumn colour e garden. There are many plants not ioned here simply because I have not them or else they are not large enough to full colouring, or else they were men- d in a previous note a month ago. For nn colour at its best I believe one should both Sheffield Park, in Sussex, and onbirt, in Gloucestershire. Size of speci- and mass of colour will be seen at their there.

F. K.

eranium Russell Prichard

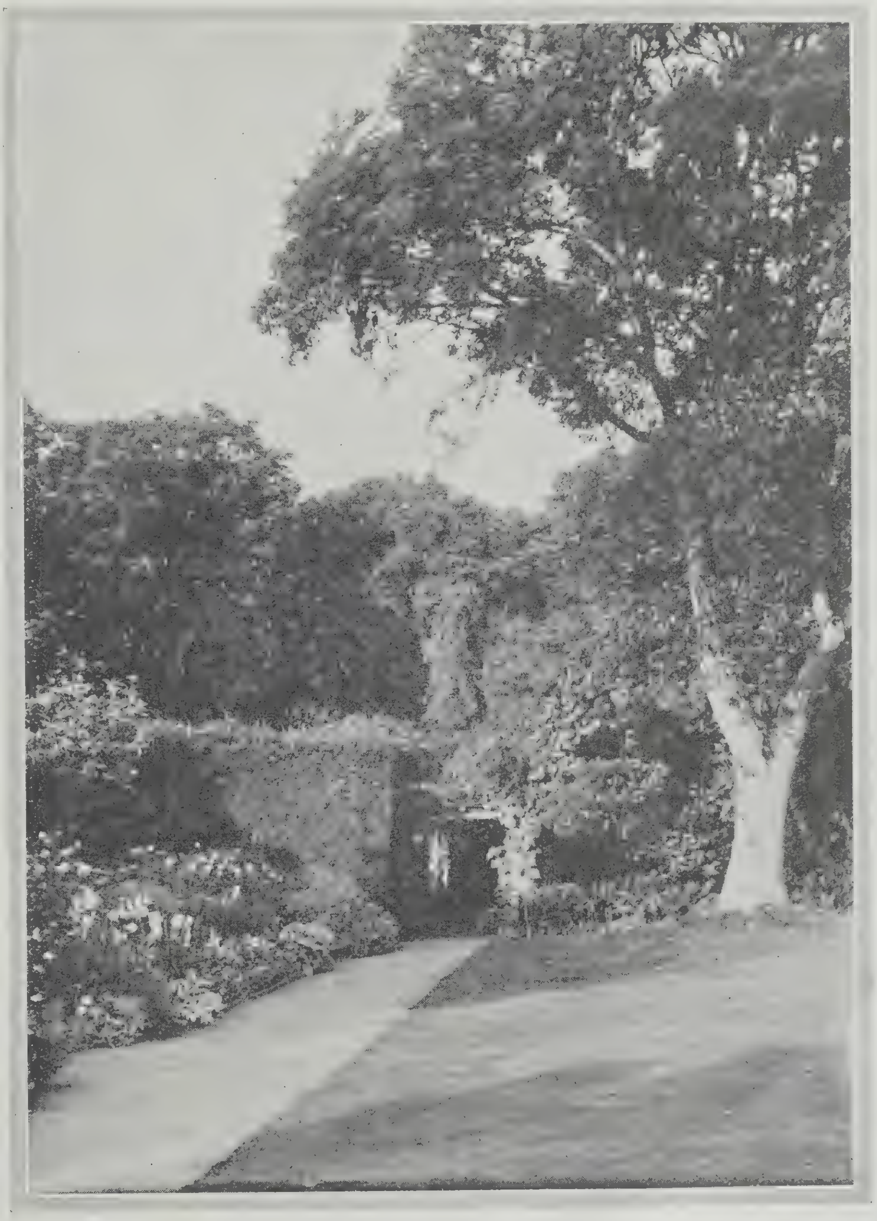
he great variety of hardy Geraniums from h we may make a choice for the border ck garden is almost confusing when we to consider them and to add to our col- ons of these valuable Cranesbills. In ad- n to the numerous species and varieties, ave now a sprinkling of hybrids, among h that called G. Russell Prichard is ing itself quite a welcome plant and is red of a considerable amount of favour. parentage is said to be between the New and G. Traversii and another, believed to form of G. sanguineum. It is a highly sing Cranesbill of rather trailing habit, having silvery leaves and flowers of a m, glowing magenta crimson. It is ing hardy, and the writer's plants did not er in the least from the effects of the intense cold snap last winter, even in a fully exposed position. The flowers are of a good size and are borne for months in summer and even into late autumn. A light soil and a sunny position would appear to be the most suited for G. Russell Prichard.

S. Arnott.

The end of the south border

THE main flower border, facing nearly south, is backed by a high stone wall. A 6 feet wide path runs along it, and parallel with it is a strip of lawn nine or ten paces wide. The border is stopped at the eastern end by a block of Yews that return forward from the wall. There the path runs on through a pergola, at the end of which is a shady summerhouse. An Oak tree stands at the end of the lawn. One of the climbing plants on the pergola is a Vitis Coignettiæ. It has rambled far up above the pergola and now wreathes all the top of an Arbutus. Towards the end of October and later, the Vine foliage takes on a brilliant red colour that appears to be enhanced by being seen just beyond the cool grey of the Oak trunk. The Oak has been inclined to overshadow the end of the border, but has been kept in check by the timely removal of some of its upper growth. There is still one large branch that will have to come away this winter, but it can be cut without disturbing the general balance and symmetry of the tree.

G. J.



The south border and pergola. An Oak tree stands at the end of the lawn

Cerasus Watereriana

Flowering Cherries in great variety make one of the loveliest features in the garden in spring. Of these, none is more beautiful than Cerasus Watereriana. It attains from 12 feet to 15 feet in height, and has a pleasing habit of growth. The flowers are blush pink in colour, freely produced in good bunches, and on stems that are thrown well away from the leaves. At the same time, the stems are firm enough to prevent the flowers from being lashed about by a capricious April storm. The roots appreciate a good soil, to which a little lime rubble has been added if lime is deficient in the soil of the district. I find that if half a barrowful of lime rubble is mixed with the soil, it will answer the purpose well. The present is a suitable time to plant, and when the work is done the soil should be pressed firmly around the roots. Beyond the removal of any dead and obviously misplaced wood, pruning is unnecessary.

G. H. C.

Notes from a Cornish Garden

AGAIN I must emphasise the beauty of the autumn colouring of Stuartia pseudocamellia, now a bush of about 15 feet high and 12 feet through, and all shades of red and orange. It is one of the few which colour well in Cornwall. Azalea pontica is also good, and Cerasus Hisakura, but that is about all in this garden. Whilst of berried shrubs the Mountain Ash has borne well, the Hollies are well furnished so far and Cotoneaster frigida is covered. The variety with yellow berries, which I saw mentioned somewhere of late, must be very ornamental if the colour is clear. At the end of October I had a pleasant surprise, for at the top of the Primula bank appeared white flowers on some small Rhododendron, and, not being able to place it, I went up and found it was a pure white lapponicum, and from the label near by seems to be a variety of R. muliense. It is the only white with which I am acquainted in this series, except a much taller plant supposed to be primulinum x Keiskei, though of the latter parent there is no trace except, perhaps, in the slightly larger flowers.

Last week I had the pleasure of seeing one of the most famous Cornish gardens, and was there led to appreciate the various species of Enkianthus for their autumn colour. They are mostly upright, slender bushes with narrow leaves, and these were bright yellow or red, and made a welcome foil to the various evergreens by which they were surrounded. Of these a group of magnificent trees of Magnolia Delavayi were outstanding, and despite the adverse criticism of certain authorities there is no doubt that, planted in a thin wood, it is one of the finest foliage plants ever introduced. Certainly the flower is dull white and evanescent, but the large leaves are a beautiful dark evergreen when mature and a glorious shade of bronze when young. The evergreen Oaks, too, were very attractive, and of these Quercus cleistocarpa was one of the best. The Maples and Cherries were worth going a long way to see for the varied beauty of their bark, and of the former genus I was allowed to pick some seed of Acer griseum, and, having sown it already, I have hopes of success, though I was once told that it was difficult to germinate.

It is, indeed, some advantage to visit a garden at this time of year, when one can study form and foliage without being distracted by the claims of blossom, which are apt to monopolise one's attention in the spring. And by the way, one can get considerab joyment of form by taking a walk in garden in semi-darkness, and looking the towering shapes of the trees agains sky. Now, as to form, one often doe give one's plants a chance of showing cause they are overcrowded, and I was a case in which this was remedied b removal and consequent visibility of a mense bush of Rhododendron rotundifo better known as R. orbiculare.

The remarkable creeping Rhododer repens was largely represented, sometim the top of retaining walls by the side of and sometimes in the walls thems though in the latter case they had on cently been planted and were quite One good pod of seed did I see, and tha all, and, being of considerable si wondered whether the bumble bee ha some foreign pollen on to the flower.

Happening to mention that I had up a plant of Magnolia nitida, whic owner had kindly given me, on the plea it was young and looked rather soft, I his opinion on pots, their susceptibili changes of temperature, and the difficu keeping them rightly watered. So, o turning home, I had a large pit dug fo aforesaid M. nitida in a sunny spot b with quite 3 feet of good loam, to wh laboriously added—for it was quite 400

An upright Lavatera

Lavatera Olbia fastigiata, flowers rose satin pink—a fine piece of pure colouring

Adenophora Farreri

A robust plant from China with Campanula-like flowers, pale mauve-blue bells, and white styles

These two good flowers of July and August were noted in the hardy plant nurseries of W. Wells, Junr., Merstham the drive—four barrowsful of leaf- and granite-gravel, planted it, and a bodyguard of seedling Rhododen- ampylocarpum x hæmatodes at the nd seven R. Valentinianum in front. efter I put a 3-foot wire-netting guard ro d it and three pans full of dead leaves we the plants, for the place is sunny y perhaps be rather hot for Rhododen- ext summer.

mention of pans leads me to the con- on of tools in general and the ordi- ilk-pan in particular. This is useful eral purposes, especially in a hilly gar- r it is light and it has two handles, so u can take hold of one and rest the e lower edge on your thigh-bone and y it uphill full of good stuff for your or of leaves with which to mulch them. an fill it with stones for a pit where nge is needed or of weeds to be carried n of the various heaps whereon they rot e useful later on. You can carry leaf- granite-gravel, manure, and loam to tting-shed, and thereafter mix and, if ary, sift it into the pan in such quanti- you may desire. Whence it may be ded that this somewhat unconventional well worth adopting.

ook's fork, that long, three-pronged n extolled by Mr. Bowles, is another rable companion. It is quite invalu- r weeding, and will take up anything a big dock or burdock, in attempting , indeed, I have broken one or two. ricking out small seedlings I use an ry kitchen fork, which is not only for raising them from the soil, but also for hoeing and weeding in miniature, ll as in disentangling matted roots. lanting the seedlings, if they are very a pair of watchmaker's forceps is not despised, and the late Mr. John wen years ago initiated me into the use first-class dibber. You take an old rush, break off the brush, take the re- to the grindstone, and sharpen the r end into a blunt point. Then you the thicker end, using the former for g the hole and the latter for pressing il home round the plant. It is hard, it ctically indestructible, and the soil does ick to it as it does to wood.

eteen years ago a certain old colonel me as a wedding present a Shaw's t fly-fisher's knife, and it is still a con- companion, although, like the doll in es Kingsley's "Water Babies," it is what the worse for wear. Part of the -blade is left and half the file. There is of screwdriver at one end and a pair y scissors which are chiefly used for g leaves of seedlings which are damp- ff, and a slender spike which is quite able for undoing knots in string and ionally for disentangling fine roots. there is Messrs. Holtzapfel's combined ng-knife and secateurs, which I have extraordinarily helpful, for one can it in one's pocket without its tearing a and take cuttings or cut dead twigs, rs, or brambles without having to go etch a special tool for doing so. This I ed to a friend the other day, and he ed at it. But this morning, to my ement and pleasure, he sent me a nificent pair of "Rolcut" secateurs, h he, having tried them all, avers is the workmanlike. So I went out and them at once and found them superior to Aubert's which heretofore I had ght far the best of the larger patterns. y, after years of experimenting with g scissors of various sorts, and all of unsatisfactory, I was in the stores last g getting some trout flies, and there saw I had wanted all the time, namely, a small pair of angler's blunt-pointed scissors, which you can keep in your trousers pocket without danger to life or limb, and which are, consequently, always there whenever they are wanted.

PETER THE HERMIT.

Border Phloxes

PHLOXES are indispensable in the flower borders, but want special care in our dry, sandy soil, and especially in a droughty summer, such as the one through which we have just gone. They enjoy good feeding and timely waterings in dry weather. If specimen blooms are wanted, they are best secured from cuttings in the spring, grown on in a liberal compost, when they form a single flowering spike in the late summer. But in the borders they can stand for two years, and are then divided into pieces with three or four flowering crowns. If they are left longer they become woody at the root and do not divide well.

G. J.

Border Phloxes enjoy good feeding

Transplanting Phloxes

For some time I have been interested in Phloxes of the Decussata section. They come into bloom in late summer, just at a time when flowers are not too plentiful. The best of summer species are over, and autumn species have not yet come into bloom. I grow the Phloxes in beds, principally of one variety, for I find that this is the most telling method of display. As this is the season when Phloxes are being planted and transplanted, I would indicate that they rejoice in a deep, well-worked soil. Wherever possible, it is advisable to dig to the depth of 2 feet and apply farmyard manure at the rate of 1 cwt. per 10 square yards. Fortunately, I have not been troubled much with the bacterial disease that affects Phloxes so badly in some places. Though I can claim no scientific backing for the contention, I believe that my immunity is largely due to the fact that I sprinkle good, clean leaf-mould beneath and about the roots when they are planted. About half a bucketful of this substance is used, and a nest is made of it, into which the Phloxes are laid. Any of your readers who may be adding to their collection of this species will find that the following varieties are of special merit and enchanting beauty:—Flambeau (salmon-red), Baron d'Arche (salmon-rose), Doctor Charcot (violet-blue), Griedur (clear pink), Fascination (white, shaded with mauve), Coccinea (vermilion, with a dark centre), and Atala (purple, with white centre).

G. H. C.

Lysimachia Henryii

Few of the Lysimachias or Loosestrifes in cultivation may be classed as flowers for the rock garden, the vast majority being border plants. Old plant though it is, and dubbed as "common" by the connoisseur, the Creeping Jenny L. nummularia and its golden-leaved variety aurea may yet have a place in the rougher parts of the rock garden and may be employed also as a carpeter for early bulbs. A species from China has made its appearance within a comparatively short period of years, and has been acclaimed as a good rock plant. This is L. Henryii, but it is not likely to be appreciated everywhere. It is not too hardy, and, in many gardens, must be kept under glass in winter or it may be lost. This species grows about 6 inches in height. Those who are enamoured of it call it a "grand rock plant," with masses of orange flowers. Many, however, will agree with Farrer's dictum that it is "neither hardy nor choice," and that it is a "lush, leafy thing." If tried it should have a warm, sheltered position, and a young plant or two kept under glass in winter, leaving the parent one in the open to take its chance. Increase is effected by division. To give it a better chance in a wet winter in the open the soil should be light and well drained.

S. ARNOTT.

The Loganberry

Where it succeeds this is a very valuable fruit, but in late districts it seldom ripens, so should not be planted. A strong wire fence 8 feet high is necessary on which to train the growths. The treatment necessary is similar to that required by the Raspberry—old canes removed each autumn and young, strong growths trained in their place.

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Hardy Heaths

Everyone whose garden is free from lime should possess a few of the hardy Heaths, and in extensive gardens they should be largely grown, as a nicely arranged Heath garden is sure to become one of the most beautiful and interesting features throughout the whole year. In this case grouping should be resorted to, using the tall-growing species, such as Erica lusitanica, E. australis, E. arborea and its variety alpina, E. mediterranea superba, and the Corsican, E. stricta, in such a way that while each species forms an independent group it acts as a relief to the more lowly forms growing around it. These tall-growing kinds should be planted 4 feet apart, and dwarf kinds, such as E. carnea, E. cinerea, E. ciliaris, and E. tetralix, should be put in at 2 feet from centre to centre of plant. E. vagans and E. vulgaris in all their delightful varieties, and also the early blooming E. Darleyensis, require a distance of 2 feet 6 inches. The present is an excellent time for planting, and no enrichment of the soil should be given.

Garden furniture

Seats, tables, playing tackle, etc., should now be put safely under cover for the winter. Large summerhouses form good storage for most of these. It is advisable to wash all iron and woodwork previous to storing, placing those in need of repair on one side for attention during inclement weather. All netting must be absolutely dry before storing, and a rather drier place is desirable for this costly material than the average summerhouse.

Hepaticas (Anemone)

The present is a good time to make a plantation of these most lovely spring flowers. Position is important, and this should be cool and partially shaded. The soil should consist of two parts rich loam and two parts well-seasoned leaf-mould and sand. With such accommodation there need be no anxiety as to the plants' welfare. There are many lovely kinds, including H. triloba, in blue, pink, and white, one of the most lovely being the soft, pale blue H. Barlowi. There is also the Hungarian H. angulosa and its varieties, of which one of the most desirable is lilacina grandiflora, and the American H. acutiloba.

Climbing Roses and various other climbing plants

These may now be pruned and securely tied into place. Thin congested plants, and those which develop an unusual amount of wood at the base should be pruned severely rather than otherwise, and in the case of ramblers cut the old spent wood out entirely where sufficient good, strong, young growth has been made to take its place. These must be tied securely and be limited in number.

Spraying fruit trees

Following the pruning—and to prevent walking about on newly dug ground—spray the trees with a winter wash, such as caustic alkali, or one of the other winter washes. This will clear the trees of insect life, destroy Lichens and other foreign matter, rendering the trees clean, more healthy, and productive.

Propagating bush fruits

Where a fresh or increased stock is required, desirable cuttings should now be taken and inserted firmly in rather sandy soil on a cool border. Gooseberries, Currants of all kinds, and even Apples may be struck in the same way. The cuttings should be selected from the strongest shoots of the current year and should be from 1 foot to 18 inches in length. A distance of 1 foot between the lines and about 6 inches from plant to plant will suit them.

Peach trees under glass

The pruning, cleansing, and re-training of these must now be undertaken and the houses thoroughly cleansed. Avoid overcrowding of the wood when tying the trees in. A distance of 4 inches or 5 inches should be left between the growths, otherwise congestion will follow in spite of severe disbudding when the trees are again started into growth.

Perpetual flowering Carnations

A few cuttings are now available, and these should be inserted in clean sand in the propagating frame, where, with bottom heat, they will not be long in forming roots.

Bedding plants in frames

These must be watered with great care during the next two months, as growth is practically at a standstill, and an excess of moisture at this period will set up serious damping and loss, especially of very soft-wooded plants. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Figs

This fruit is very subject to attacks of Scale, and during the dormant season is the time to tackle this pest. If disbudding and pinching had proper attention during the growing season very little pruning will be necessary, but any hint of overcrowding must be attended to. The house should be thoroughly cleaned and then the trees treated with a suitable insecticide applied several times at intervals of a few days.

Planting Vines

This is not, of course, the season for the actual planting of the Grape Vine, but as the border has to be well and thoroughly made, it is desirable to have this work put through during the winter months. A detailed account regarding this important operation is impossible here, but, in brief, proper and thorough drainage is the first consideration, while the very best fibrous turf must furnish the major part of the compost, and should be cut and stacked at least nine months before being used.

Renovating old Vines

It is not always allowable to root out old Vines and replace with new canes, and in many cases, if well treated, the old stagers may be induced to produce quite good crops again for a number of years. As with planting new Vines, provide the very best available turfy loam and apply it liberally.

Remaking the border

With a digging-fork carefully dig out from 9 inches to 12 inches of the old soil, starting at the point furthest from the rods. A strip 5 feet to 6 feet wide should be treated at a time, so that the roots be bared for only a short time. In digging out the soil every care must be taken of the roots. When a section has been removed replace at once with the fresh material, making it firm as the work proceeds. The roots should be raised rather than lowered, so the fresh soil must be carefully worked under them.
bone-meal and old lime from a demo
building should be mixed with the loam
no animal manures. A suitable quant
Thomson's Vine Manure, however, is
lent for this purpose, and should be us
directed by the makers.

Nephrolepsis

This fine warm-house Fern is not,
rule, a long liver, or, at all events, do
retain its full beauty for any great len
time. It is advisable, therefore, to be
ing on fresh plants frequently to tak
places of those that are losing their b
As this plant sends out " runners " it is
possible to find nice young plants grow
the ashes or other material with whic
stages are covered. If these small plan
carefully lifted and placed in 3-inch p
light, sweet compost they will soon
hold, and by late spring will be fit for
into the 5-inch size.

Regal Pelargoniums

It is usual to advise that these plan
soon as they begin to start into gr
should be shaken out of the old soil a
potted into fresh compost, but this is
all necessary providing the plants a
decent-sized pots. Treated in the follo
manner they will bloom to perfection
soon as they break into growth give
water, setting the pots on a light, airy
in a house or pit from which frost is
excluded. About the middle of Feb
prepare some good, fresh compost, and
top-dress the plants with this. First,
ever, with a pointed lath loosen an in
more of the surface soil. Replace with
of the new compost and then sprin
heaped teaspoonful of Thomson's
Manure all round the plant, fill up, and
firm, and floriferous plants especially w
pay the little trouble expended.

The cold frame

Except during spells of frost never
this useful structure, but tilt the
4 inches to 6 inches at the back and so
damp and give sturdy health to the va
plants wintering therein. It is damp
than cold that usually destroys or
plants wintering in the cold frames.

Morello Cherries

Fruiting mainly on the wood of the
ous season, it is essential that as ma
these young shoots should be nailed or t
as room can be found for, dead or wor
wood being removed. This is a distinctl
popular job during cold weather, so c
mild spells for pushing on with it.

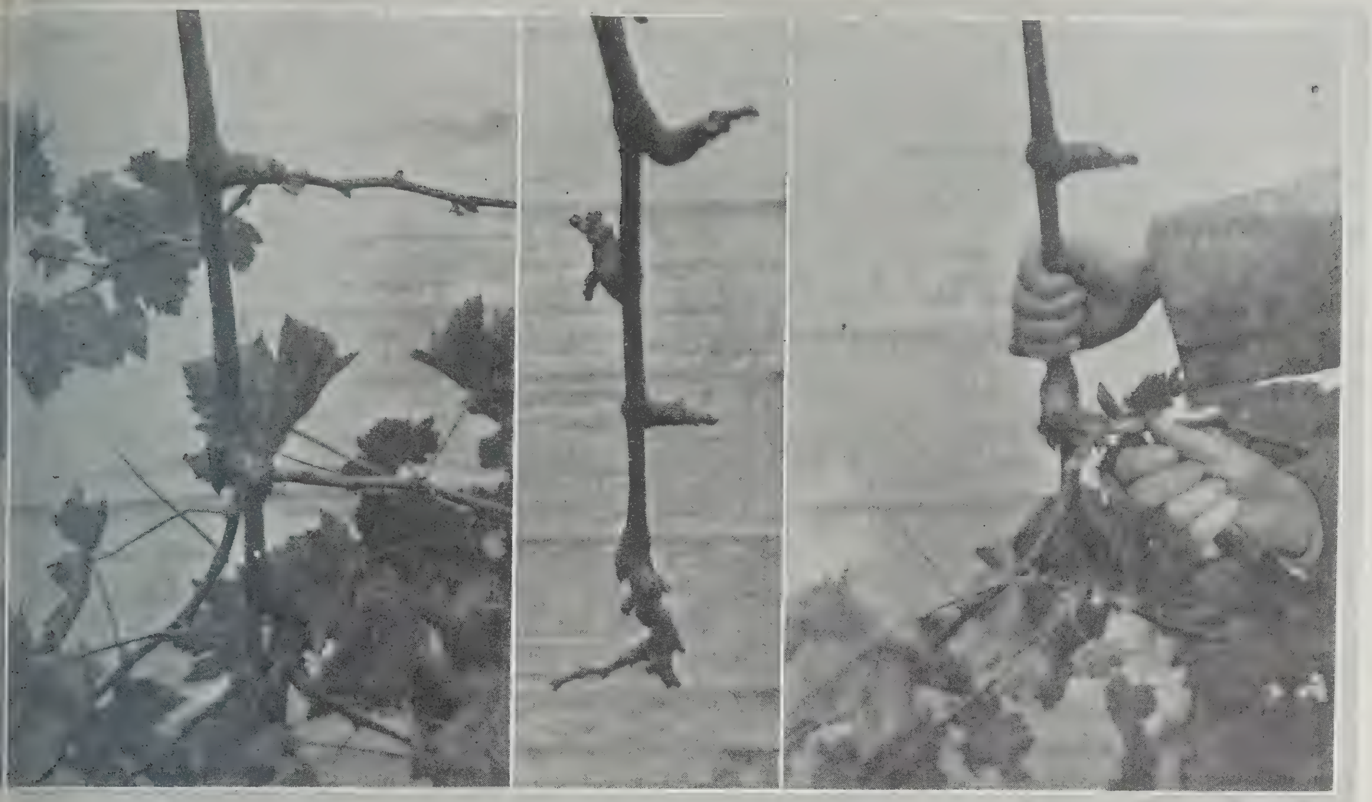
Brambles or Blackberries

In many districts the supplies of this
able fruit from wild plants are so short
numbers have to do without, or procure
from a distance. It is advisable, ther
in such cases to plant a few bushes of o
the heavy-cropping sorts in the garden w
if given a little attention, will amply
any little outlay within a very short
They can have similar treatment to the
berry. Two good varieties are the Pa
leaved and Wilson Junior.

Mulching fruits

On light soils especially, fruits of all
in course of time exhaust the soil, and
there are signs that this is occurring it
good plan to afford a fair mulch of
rotted manure all over the surface,
may be very lightly forked in. Apply
pruning, and in burying the manure d
damage the roots. C. BLA

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.



PRUNING VINES ON THE SPUR SYSTEM

he first illustration shows the rod before pruning, and next to it is the same rod after pruning. The fig. on right shows the rod in the
rocess of being pruned. N.B.—Pruning should be done as soon as the leaves fall, and the side growths are cut back to form short spurs

ning Vines on the Spur System

is a very simple method of pruning.
l the side-shoots or laterals, as they
termed, are cut back as soon as the
all to one or two buds. Such free-
varieties as the Black Hamburgh
er's Seedling may be cut back closer
uld be desirable with the less free-
kinds. The short wood springing
sides after pruning are called spurs,
h young shoots which annually spring
em are cut back in winter to the
The Vines to be pruned should be cut
t where the wood is firm and ripe,
next year the formation of the spurs
in.

is nothing unseasonable about
Vines that have not been much forced
some of their leaves up till the end
mber. In such cases it is an advan-
give them a little artificial heat to
the ripening of the wood before
Ventilation is, of course, a neces-
what is required to ripen Vines in-
make late growth is warmth, and a
at in the pipes for a fortnight will
next year's crop, and enable the
produce larger and better bunches.
ning may be done immediately after
aning up has been finished.

est time to prune Vines is directly
es have fallen, for then they have
heal over the cuts, so that there is
of bleeding or running out of the sap,
occurs when pruning is deferred late
eason. It is advisable to get all the
at fruit early pruned before Christ-
he application of manure cannot be
a better time than just after the prun-
mpleted, for, although the roots may
ery active, they are not entirely dor-
r any length of time, and the winter
rains will carry the manurial properties down to the roots, so that the shoots will find the benefit of it very early in the season, as it is not until the crop is swelling off that the Vines need the utmost assistance that can be given to them; but if the winter application is not enough, it can be supplemented in the growing season by guano applied in liquid form.

There is no difficulty in pruning Vines on the spur system, as it only needs that the leading shoot may be allowed to extend to whatever length there is space for, and that the side-shoot be cut in close to the stem, merely leaving one, or at most two, eyes for fruiting next year, and when these start to grow disbud to one good shoot, and reduce the bunches to one on each shoot if fair-sized bunches are desired. If this is not attended to, a crowd of weakly shoots will spring from each spur, and the Vine will soon be ruined; but under careful management the same rods will continue fruitful for at least 20 years. It is advantageous to carry up a young rod from the base after the old one gets hard and knotty, and then cut it away entirely.

If it is intended to have two rods to each Vine they ought to be trained up from the base. They will grow from 10 feet to 20 feet the first year if well managed. At pruning time—that is now—cut them down to within 3 feet or 4 feet of the base of the rafters, and when they start into growth in the spring train one shoot (the leading one) straight up the rafters. The lateral growths should be trained right and left, and all of them ought to be got down carefully under the trellis-wires. It is also necessary to snap off each alternate growth in some instances. The laterals should be 15 inches apart, less or more. An inch or two must be allowed. As the laterals push out they must be stopped two leaves beyond the bunch of fruit, and all subsequent growths beyond the fruit must be pinched off as soon as they are formed. Each rod may be allowed to carry three or four bunches, and the leading growths should be allowed to run to the top of the house again. At pruning-time cut the laterals back to two eyes, and leave 3 feet or 4 feet on the leading growth. When they start into growth the following season see that the shoots are carefully trained out again at right-angles to the main rod. The pinching of them is very simple. Always stop the laterals at two leaves from the bunch of fruit, and all laterals beyond the fruit should be pinched close back, the first of them to a leaf, but the others clean out as a rule. The rods should be about 3 feet apart.

LATE PRUNING

Many Vines are weakened by bleeding, or running out of the sap, caused by the pruning being deferred until the sap is in motion, or so near to that date, that the cuts have not time to heal over before the sap commences to run out, and when it does so, it is by no means easy to stop it. We impress on all that it is far better to get their Vines pruned directly the leaves drop than defer it until the days lengthen, for if this is done, such a press of work comes all at once that something is sure to suffer; and, although few fruit trees suffer to the same extent as Vines from late pruning, it ought to be the rule to get all pruning done as early as possible; in fact, it is the first winter's job to take in hand, for until that is done little progress can be made with other routine work, such as the manuring and cultivating of the soil about the roots. Although some fruit trees are fruitful without any pruning, the Vine is not one of them.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ago

Melons in pots

MELONS are generally planted out in houses or in hotbeds, both of which entails a considerable amount of time and labour. This season, desiring to have Melons with as little labour as possible, we determined to grow them in pots. About the middle of June, our pot Vines being all cleared out, we plunged our Melons (previously prepared for the purpose, and in 11-inch pots) in a bed of leaves, and trained them in the ordinary way up a trellis. We allowed them to grow to their full length before stopping them, and after the laterals showed fruit, they were stopped at the first leaf beyond the fruit. In this way we were able to cut three or four Melons from a plant averaging 3 lbs. and 4 lbs. each, and one of them weighed 6 lbs. 2 oz. The Melons are now all cut, and Cucumbers, also in pots, occupy their places. Cucumbers grown in pots are better able to withstand the disease than planted out; at least, that is so with us; indeed, we have never been troubled with it. One lot of plants in 11-inch pots are 10 months old and fruiting still. We find Dell's Green Fleshed Melon to do well in pots; on some of our plants we had four beautiful fruits. It is a free setter, strong in constitution, and good in flavour.—J. W. B.

—December 6th, 1879.

The best Potatoes

AMONG the great variety of new Potatoes many are puzzled to select; but Mr. Peter McKinlay, the well-known and most successful Potato grower and raiser, told me the other day that he believed that Woodstock Kidney, taking it in all ways, is the best Potato in cultivation, and the one which he would take with him to a Potatoless island if he were allowed one kind only; but for light and chalky soils he considers the International Kidney almost as well worthy of praise.—V.

—December 6th, 1879.

The Iris Society

Annual Meeting

The writings of the late W. R. Dykes

The annual meeting of the above Society was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Victoria, on Wednesday, November 20th, 1929, Sir William Lawrence, Bart., occupying the chair.

The Hon. Secretary in his report commented on the steady progress of the Society, both in membership and in the increase of its activities. The 1929 Show held on June 6th and 7th proved a great success, the attendance being much larger than at any previous show, and the number of exhibits showing a large increase on that of 1928. He expressed the gratitude members of the Society felt towards Mr. G. N. Bunyard for his research work on Iris diseases, to Mr. Geo. Dillistone for organizing the annual show, and to Mr. P. R. Barr for undertaking and bringing so near completion the arduous task of compiling a check list of Iris names. He also announced that the Society would in future publish a Year Book in July instead of a Bulletin, but that there would be special information leaflets circulated from time to time dealing with important matters regarding Iris culture.

The Hon. Treasurer presented his balance sheet, and stated that despite the heavy (and in some cases not recurring) expenses incurred during the year, the Society maintained a satisfactory balance in hand.

Both reports were adopted.

The President then announced that at a previous committee meeting it had been decided to recommend the Award of the Foster Memorial Plaque to Mr. G. L. Pilkington, for his enthusiastic and onerous work on behalf of the genus, and for his indefatigable efforts on behalf of the Society. Mr. Pilkington therefore becomes the second English recipient of this honour, and joins a small, select coterie consisting of himself, Mr. George Yeld, Mr. J. C. Wister (United States of America), and Mons. S. Mottett (France). The meeting received the announcement with enthusiastic applause.

The Dykes Memorial Medal for 1930 (for the best seedling Iris) was awarded to Joyance, a new seedling raised by Mrs. Dykes. Thus the first award of this medal for a bearded Iris made in England goes in recognition of the foundation of a new series of seedlings laid by the man in whose honour and memory the medal was instituted, although in this case it represents the actual work of Mrs. Dykes, who continues her late husband's work.

Mr. Geo. Dillistone was then called upon
to report progress with regard to t
lication of the writings of the late Mr
Dykes. He stated these were now r
Press, and submitted a specimen of t
ing, paper, and type it was proposed

The book, he said, would make a
lent companion to the "Handb
Garden Irises," being about the sa
(approximately 280 pages). It could
duced for sale at about 10s. 6d. or
and he thought it would prove to be
useful and interesting book on th
hitherto published. It would appe
cularly to the amateur grower. T
was emphasised by Mr. Geo. Yeld,
assisted in the revision of the copy,
Mr. G. P. Baker, who had made hi
sponsible for collecting many of the
and also for obtaining guarantees for
of production. Mr. Dillistone was
instructed to proceed with all speed
publication of the book, which he
could be produced early in the New Y

Mr. P. R. Barr reported that he
completed his undertaking to compile
list of Iris names, and submitted the
inspection, and it was decided to proc
its publication as early as possible.

The officers elected for the ensu
were:—President, Sir William La
Bart.; Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. L. Pil
Lower Lee Woolton, near Liverpoo
Treasurer, Major Geo. Churcher
Editor, Mr. Geo. Dillistone, 50, C
Road, Tunbridge Wells; Hon. Audi
L. Caldcott; the Executive and Spec
mittees being re-elected *en bloc.*

After the meeting the members
dined together, and some of them
discussing their favourite topic un
midnight.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish p
be named should send fair examples of e
stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets c
and points of shoots are useless.) Not m
four plants should be sent in any one wee
same correspondent. Where more than
is sent they should be numbered. Of con
cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in
stages of colour and size of the same kind
assist in its determination. Single, un
deformed specimens are difficult to na
do not undertake to name more th
varieties at one time.*

ORCHIDS

Stanhopea tigrina

In basket. Has finished flowering. Room for new growths. Please advise concerning future treatment. "ANTHURIUM."

[Stanhopea tigrina requires a warm, buoyant atmosphere when growing, not less than 60 degs., but 65 degs. to 70 degs. is better. Do not re-basket if avoidable. In spring pick out old decayed compost and insert new Osmunda fibre and Sphagnum with a little peat added. In late autumn and winter, if no growths are present, keep cooler —about 60 degs.—and water very occasionally. Watch for Red Spider and Thrip on the leaves. See special article on Stanhopeas next week.]

Oncidium tigrina

This is now in flower and was repotted just prior to purchasing last year. Strong plant. Eight flowers on stem. Room for new bulb. Will it be necessary to repot this plant, please? "ANTHURIUM."

[Should not be necessary to repot Oncidium tigrinum, but next spring see that compost is firm. The pseudo-bulbs should mature shortly after the flowers are finished, and as
there is then no active growth, keep
and dry. Withhold water throug
winter until growth recommences if
do not shrivel.]

Repotting Cypripediums

("Interested").—The best com
these is lumpy peat, fibrous loam
silver sand, and some Sphagnum.
should be about one-third the bul
peat. Allow plenty of crocks, mi
pieces of charcoal, to ensure perfect
Remove all the old soil from the r
well work the new compost in amo
You can repot now if you can ma
temperature throughout the winter of
to 60 degs. Keep the roots moist,
constantly saturated.

FLOWER GARDEN

The Madonna Lily

I wish to grow some white Lilies
candidum) in my garden next y
should be pleased if you would give
particulars how to grow them, also
plant.

[Lilium candidum (the Madonna
grow in practically any position exce

he ideal situation, however, is full egards compost it is not particular, l in light sandy soils or heavy loam. bble or a little chalk incorporated xting soil is beneficial, and subsoil of ature. Bulbs of this species should d during August, soon after flowers never plant after September. Being void of stem roots, shallow planting ry, a covering of 3 inches to 4 inches sufficient. In heavy clayey soils 2 3 inches is ample.]

perennial plants of distinction

).—Scabiosa caucasica Goldingensis, wflake, Thalictrum dipterocarpum, la persicifolia Telham Beauty, C. Chelone barbata, Chrysanthemum Mrs. J. Tersteeg, Delphinium D. Harry Smetham, Phlox Eliza- pbell, P. G. A. Strohlein, Erigeron y, Coreopsis auriculata superba, la paniculata Bristol Fairy, Ver- Gainsborough, Sidalcea Sussex Eryngium Cliverianum, Poterium

Carnations

McL.).—After incubation of the sent for examination the fungus Rust of Carnation developed. In to this, there are many discoloured t have no connection with the Rust. no fungus present, but the patches ing with bacteria. Many cast skins s are present, and these have, in all ty, served to spread both the Rust bacterial spots. If all the foliage is s that sent we should think your best ld be to burn the plants and not to rnations on the same site for a year. ink the plants worth trying to save, could be controlled by hand-picking ised portions and spraying the plants weak solution of liver of sulphur. nts should be kept free from Aphis hroughout the summer by the use of insecticide. Are you sure your cul- nditions are right?

almas Daisy Climax reverting

y garden I have several clumps of mas Daisy Climax which have all re- the common Michaelmas Daisy, and of my friends in this neighbourhood d the same experience this year. Can any reason for this, and is there any f improving the plants? E. N.

r plants are probably in need of divi- l richer soil. Lift the roots and divide to quite small pieces, with not more ree stems each, these being taken e edges of the clumps, and replant in lug soil which has received a good of farmyard manure, and give them position. This should bring back iginal form. We have never known Daisy to display the tendency you n of unless it had become starved. give no other reason for it.]

nula-like plant from Canada

B.).—The plant of which you sent and dried seed-stems is not a Cam- proper, but a nearly allied plant of tural Order Campanulaceæ (Adeno- the Gland-bearing Bellflower). horas are widely distributed over the arts of China and adjoining countries, but a few species occur in Europe, hey frequent open woodlands in the ins. For some obscure reason these lants are much neglected in our gar- lthough their standard of beauty is a e and well deserving of general culti- In the absence of root-leaves it is ble to be quite sure of the species pped up accidentally in your garden among seedlings of Campanulas, but we think it is safe to assume that your plant is either Adenophora liliiflora or the nearly allied A. latifolia, both species belonging to the European group of this genus. Adenophoras, like most Campanula species, tend to vary to pale or even white flowered forms, and you will probably find that seedlings from your solitary plants will give you the whole range of colour shades, from pure white to violet-blue. See illustration page 824.

Double yellow Tropæolum

(Italia).—It is just possible that on your warm wall this fine old plant would survive the small amount of frost you are accustomed to; in any case, it is worth trying, and could be given a little protection during frosty nights by means of a Fir branch pushed into the wall and allowed to droop over the plant. Of course, it is not hardy in England, and must be propagated from cuttings each year. The experiment with the old trees will be very interesting and we shall be glad to know the results.

Aster Amellus Sonia

(Mrs. Thornely).—This splendid addition to the Amellus section can be obtained from Mr. T. Bones, Cheshunt, who, I believe, was its raiser. In any case, he sent out this useful late-flowering Aster. For the benefit of those readers who know nothing of this plant, I am pleased to repeat that its height is 26 inches, the plant is of compact growth, and develops beautiful flowers 1¾ inches to 2 inches in diameter, and these of an attractive soft pink colour. The plant comes into flower about the middle of September.

D. B. C.

Sweet Peas

(" Interested ").—(1) Most exhibitors pinch their plants and then permit one or two of the strong basal shoots to grow. If the variety is a strong grower two shoots are retained, but with the weaker sorts one only will give best results. (2) If the ground has been liberally manured and well trenched, no artificial manure should be required, but the Sweet Pea must be well supplied with water. Should there be any want of vigour, an occasional soaking of clear soot water and ordinary liquid manure will greatly help, but these should only be applied the day following a good soaking with clear water. (3) It is hardly possible to say just how long any flower-spike will take to develop, and you must have them coming on at intervals and not expect that every bloom will be perfect at any given date. All side-shoots must be pinched out, and it is also well to cut off the tendrils as they appear. (4) Yes; do not be constantly watering, but when the soil is approaching dryness give a thorough soaking.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Chrysanthemums of dwarf compact habit

(M. W., Wilton).—So far as we can discover there are no other varieties of Chrysanthemum of the same habit as Blanche Poitevene, but a few good dwarf sorts that might suit are :—Caprice du Printemps, In Memoriam, Ruffisque, Dolores, Jean Paterson, Red Paterson, Malta, David Ingammels, Golden Marvel, Baldock's Crimson, Kathleen Thompson, Mrs. Greening, and Poupre Poitevene. The proper name of the native " Spindle " is Euonymus europæus.

Exhibiting sprays of Chrysanthemums

(Constant Reader).—Your inquiry, " What is a spray of Chrysanthemums? " is a question that is constantly recurring. Hardly a season passes without someone writing explaining trouble at a Chrysanthemum Show because of the want of a proper definition of a spray. There was a lot of trouble at the " National " many years ago attributable to the same cause. The Floral Committee of that Society was asked in 1913 to define " a spray," and after the matter had received its very careful consideration, the following definition of a spray was unanimously adopted : " A spray is the last flowering growth consisting of one stem with a central flower or bud, and with its surrounding flowers or buds." There is a great diversity of opinion as to what constitutes a spray, but the above definition met with general approval and has been generally recognised at exhibitions.

FRUIT

Vines not bearing at the bottom of the canes

(O. V.).—If the roof has a steep pitch the Vines usually produce better and finer bunches at the top than the bottom, and this will always remain so unless the system of training is altered, so as to equalise the flow of the sap. Something may be done in the pruning in autumn by cutting to a good stout bud. The spurs, of course, will look ugly, and there is nothing for it but either to alter the system of training, or cut back to the best buds. See article on Spur-pruning Vines, page 827.

Pear for name

(Tinto).—The Pear you send is most probably Beurré Bachelier, which requires more warmth than you are able to give it, as even in the south on cool soil and as an open standard we find it of little or no use. We would advise you to head your tree down in February and put in a few grafts of Clapp's Favourite, or some other hardy, better-class Pear.

Walnuts not keeping

(Cum).—The Walnut you complain of is the thin shelled variety of the Common Walnut (known to the French as " a coque tendre ") and has shells so thin that they are easily pierced by birds, and when gathered will not keep. Some Walnuts keep well when stored in moist sand in a cool house, but we do not anticipate much success, even if you adopted this method; it would, nevertheless, be worth trying.

Apples not fruiting

Fourteen years ago I planted four Blenheim Orange bush Apple trees in this garden. Two commenced to fruit right away, but two did nothing—not a single Apple for some seven years. I therefore moved these two in 1923 to another and very favourable position, and, of course, in the process, they lost some root, which I thought to be good for them. For three years they did nothing. Then they began to have a little blossom and set a few Apples each year. They have been liberally treated with cow-manure, bone-meal, and lime. They make a lot of new wood each year, even from the lower stem and branches. I have regularly cut out the latter and pruned other shoots back to about three eyes.

Can you suggest a treatment which would bring them into proper bearing? The trees are the same size as the others, which fruit very heavily indeed. Regular Reader.

[The reason why two of your trees fruited well and at an early age while the other two were disappointing is that the latter must have been grafted on to " free " stocks, while the others are on " dwarfing " stocks. You have also aggravated the trouble with the non-bearers by over generosity in the way of manure. To give healthy Apple trees liberal dressings of cow-manure before they have come into full bearing is simply to retard indefinitely that desirable condition. You also prune much too closely. Leave the shoots much longer, especially the leader on each branch, taking care, of course, to prevent overcrowding. Give no more manure until the trees have become fruitful, which they eventually will. This might well be hastened by again lifting the trees and replanting in poorer soil.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Clematis Sieboldi wanted

(R. J. W., Somerset).—We know of no one who is able to offer this rare plant to-day, and we doubt whether it is obtainable.

Conical-shaped Box trees unsatisfactory

(V. H.).—If there are any signs of buds near the central stems we would advise you to cut the trees in close all the way up and take off a section of the top completely, then if the trees are all right at the roots they will break away and form new columns. We suspect the trees having been dry at some time, which would account for their present condition, and it might be advisable to repot them. The cutting back should be done in April, but the potting may be carried out now.

Dwarf hedge to divide lawn from garden

(R. R.).—Any of the following may be planted now :—Myrtus Luma would make a nice hedge, but naturally grows into a very large shrub, and we are afraid that by the constant cutting necessary to keep it low you would sacrifice its beautiful flowers and fruits. The other Myrtles are liable to be damaged by severe frosts. We recommend Pernettya mucronata, a dwarf, dense growing evergreen with most beautiful berries from September until March, preceded by rather lovely white flowers. We advise you to get a mixed collection in order to enjoy the various coloured fruits, which are white to pink, lilac, crimson, and purple. Berberis subcauliata would also be very lovely for such a position being laden with coral berries through autumn and winter. The grey-leaved Senecio Greyii, yellow flowers, is also worthy of your notice.

VEGETABLES

Diseased Celery

(J. W. S.).—Your Celery is affected with Heart-rot, which is caused by bacteria. All the crop so affected should be destroyed by fire and not thrown on the rubbish-heap to decay. Another season use some superphosphate of lime at the rate of 1 oz. and ½ oz. of sulphate of potash per yard run of trench. These chemicals should be applied when the farmyard manure is added to the trench. Just prior to planting the Celery give the trench a good soaking with permanganate of potash. Use sufficient crystals to colour the water a bright pink. Your other cultural details are correct. It appears to us that you have the disease present in your garden and have rendered the Celery especially liable to attack because you have used manures largely nitrogenous in character. By using the phosphate and potash advised above you should correct this.

MISCELLANEOUS

Poultry manure

I noticed in a recent issue of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED that dry poultry guano can be obtained at 2s. 6d. per cwt. To what use could this material be put at this time of the year? J.

[We are of the opinion that to buy dry poultry manure at this time of the year at the price stated is a sound proposition. To obtain the full benefit of the material it should be made up into a heap as follows :—A layer about 3 inches thick of the guano should be placed on the floor of a shed; this layer should be covered with about an inch of fine soil; alternate layers of manure and soil should be placed in the heap until the desired quantity is in the heap, finally cap the whole with a layer of soil and firm down with the back of a spade. Leave the heap in the shed until April, then chop down with a spade and if at all lumpy press it through a ½-inch sieve. Now add 11 lbs. of kainit and 22 lbs. of superphosphate for every cwt. of the poultry manure used in making the heap and thoroughly mix. A manure so made is a valuable balanced general fertiliser suitable for most garden crops. As a top dressing for lawns, the grass of which is poor, such a mixture has few equals. All vegetables after being thinned out to their final distance would benefit, as would also the flower beds. The mixture takes some preparation, but it does form a valuable manure if kept clear of rain until ready for use. If only small quantities are bought an Apple barrel makes a fine receptacle for compounding the manure in during the winter. A layer of manure and a layer of soil until it is full, plus the potash and phosphate in spring would make valuable material for next summer's exhibition crops. Two ozs. to 4 ozs. per square yard should be used, applied as a top-dressing and hoed in. Poultry manure can, of course, be used as a direct manure when preparing soil for any crop.]

Rare plants wanted

Would you kindly tell me where I can procure plants of Daphne rupestris gloriosa, Chætogastra Lindenia, and Lysimachia Leschenaultii? The average nursery gardener does not keep them, and I want information as to whether they would be hardy enough in Hampshire. A. L. P. B.

[We regret to say that in spite of extensive searching we have been unable to locate these rare plants.]

Chloride of lime

(Marlovian).—The only use we can think of for chloride of lime is as a possible weed-killer. It is useful for destroying Algæ and Mosses growing on brick or slate greenhouse paths, but when used the houses should be well aired during the whole of the period the material remains on the floor, or the fumes will burn any vegetation that happens to be in the house. Unless you wish to do serious damage to your soil chloride of lime must not be used in your garden.

Green Tomato pickle

(W. F. Askem).—Two quarts green Tomatoes, two tablespoonsful salt, 1 quart vinegar, 1 gill treacle or syrup, one tablespoonful mustard, one dessertspoonful curry powder, half teaspoonful mixed spice, three large Onions, ½ teaspoonful cayenne pepper. Wipe the Tomatoes, remove stalks, and cut them in thin slices, sprinkle them with the salt, and let them stand for 24 hours. Put the vinegar, treacle, mustard, curry powder, and spice into a saucepan and bring them almost to boiling point. Add the Tomatoes, the Onion very thinly sliced, and cayenne pepper. Cook for five minutes and pour into bottles or jars and cover in the usual way.

Making chutney

(W. F. Askem).—Two lbs. Apples, 1½ pints vinegar, 1 lb. brown sugar, one tablespoonful salt, one dessertspoonful ground ginger, 1 oz. Garlic, ¼ lb. Tamarinds, ¼ lb. Mustard seed, five or six Shallots, one or two Chillies. Use good, sour baking Apples, peel, core, and slice them, and put them into a lined or earthenware saucepan with the vinegar. Boil until the Apples are soft, then add the sugar, salt, ginger, Mustard seed, and the other
ingredients chopped. Allow the mi
cool, then let it stand in a warm pl
the kitchen fire for several days to
Mustard seed swell. Store in jars,
them in the same way as jam. This
will keep well and is very good.

Sea sand for garden purposes

(F. W.).—The sea sand should pro
ficial to most garden crops, provid
not overdone and that the land receiv
dressing at intervals of manure. Fo
purposes (except in the case of large
such as Chrysanthemums and thing
kind, which require large quantities
we should, however, prefer silver sa
sharp, salt-free sand.

Town gardening

I saw some weeks ago a question
paper as to a suitable book on town
ing. I have found "The Smal
Garden," by H. M. Swanwick, very

[Owing to exigencies of space, we
pelled to hold over many replies
week.—ED.]

NAMES OF PLANTS

F. Robertson.—Cotoneaster Simo
A. C.—Cotoneaster microphylla.
W. R., Llanelly.—Cypripedium in
G.—5, Oxalis tropæoloides; 6
bretia crocosmiæflora; 7, Veronica
tina; 8, Aconitum Spark's Variety; 9
Powelli alba; 10, Helianthemum rh
12, H. tomentosum; 13, Aster Profu
Aconitum autumnale; 16, Ailanthus
losa; 17, Aralia edulis.
A Regular Reader.—1, Specimen
cient, flowers necessary, but pro
Phalænopsis; 2, Cœlogyne cristata;
Verschaffelti; 4, Abutilon Thompson
E. C. Devon.—1, Acæna margyrica
2, Acæna inermis; 3, Acæna novæ-Z
Rev. W. O. W.—Cratægus coccin
let Haw).
H. W. Laing.—Saponaria
(Common Soapwort).

NAMES OF FRUITS

H. H., Newbury.—Alfriston.
Wait, Titley.—Fearn's Pippin.
R. M., Birmingham.—1, Adam
main; 2, Baxter's Pearmain; 3,
Orange.
Robinet, Sevenoaks.—1, Bismark
Suffield; 3, Dummelow's Seedli
Wellington.
F. K. S.—Pear Duchess d'Angoul

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John Benn Hostel Bazaar

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quarters of Benn Brothers, Ltd., an
ated companies, was the scene on
evening, November 29th, of a very s
bazaar, held in aid of the funds of
Benn Hostel, an institution establish
East End in memory of the late
Benn, the founder of the firm. The
which was organised entirely by the s
held after office hours, was opened
Benn, who said it was an excellent
every business organisation should ha
piece of social work in which all the
could take a personal interest. Th
nine stalls in the fine Reception H
numerous side-shows in various par
building. The public attended
numbers and the proceeds amounted
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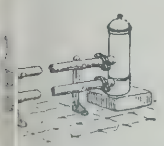

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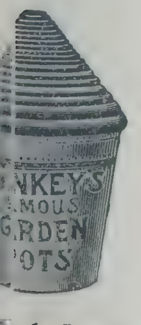

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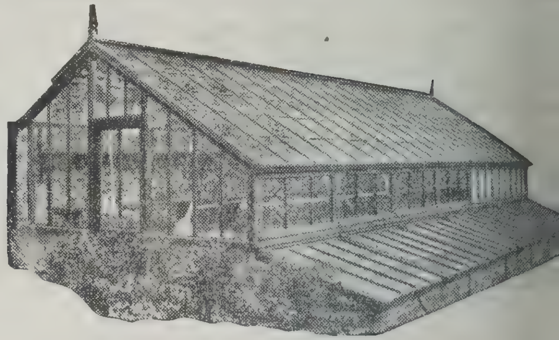

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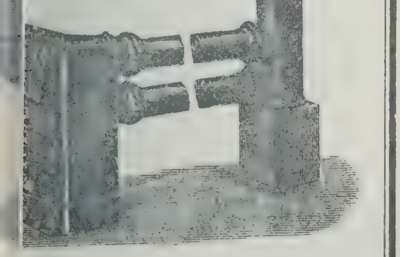

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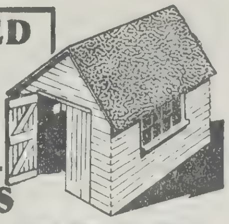

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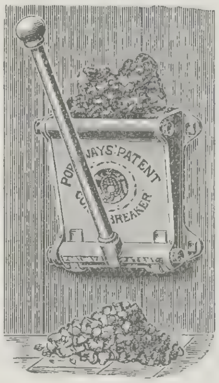

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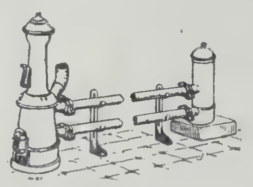

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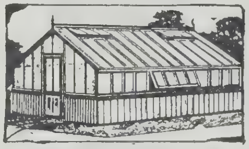

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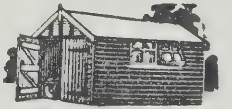

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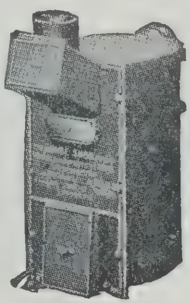

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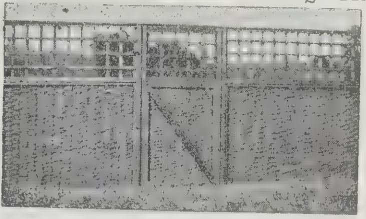

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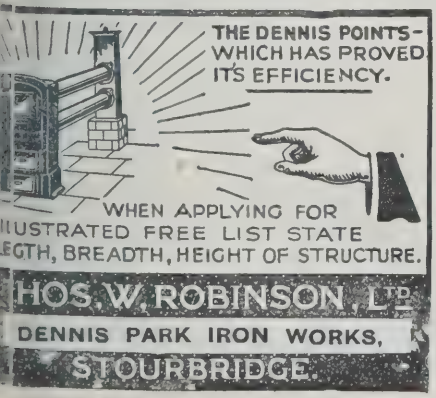

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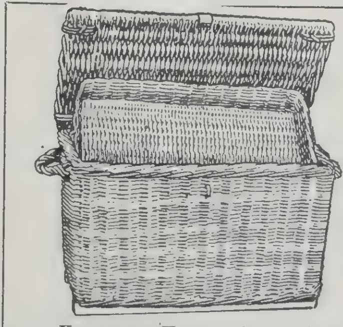

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No. 2649—Vol. LI. DECEMBER 14, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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The Small Rock Garden in Winter

THE average rock garden is too apt to be a barren waste (save, perhaps, for a few Sedums and Saxifrages) during the long winter months, a state of things particularly regrettable when the garden is a conspicuous feature in a restricted "lay-out," so that the sight of its dreariness cannot be avoided. There is not the least necessity that this should be so, for with the aid of dwarf evergreen shrubs and bulbous plants the small, neat unpretentious rock garden can be made quite cheerful, if not absolutely gay, in winter. The winter-flowering Heaths, for instance, will help matters greatly, and as unlike most of the family, they have no objection to lime, they will thrive in almost any soil. The rose-red Erica carnea is specially suitable for the small rock garden, as it only attains a height of some 8 inches or 9 inches, but the slightly taller Erica carnea hybrida (which is a cross between E. carnea and E. Mediterranea) has the advantage of blooming earlier, sometimes beginning to open its deep pink flowers, which it bears in great profusion, in November. Erica Mediterranea is best fitted for the back of the small rock garden, as it grows from 3 feet to [illegible] feet high; its very pale pink blossoms are produced later than those of the Heaths previously mentioned, and it is just a little less hardy. There are white varieties of both E. carnea and E. Mediterranea; these are decidedly pretty, but not quite so floriferous as the pink types.

Of the many dwarf evergreen shrubs that are valuable in the winter rock garden, one of the most effective is Cassinia fulvida, sometimes called the Golden Heath, its bright yellow stems and leaves making a delightful splash of warm colour, especially in sunshine. Admirable, too, are Cupressus Fletcheri and C. minima glauca, both charming little pyramidal shrubs with glaucous-blue foliage; Berberis buxifolia nana, B. Darwinii nana, B. Wallichiana, which has big purple berries, and B. Thunbergii (this last is really deciduous, but if the season be a mild one will retain its leaves in their rich autumn tints far into the winter), Abies excelsa compacta, a Christmas tree in miniature, Juniperus Hibernica compressa, a 12-inch pillar of shining blue-green foliage, and Cotoneaster adpressa, which will lose its leaves when the frosts come, but will keep—if the birds permit—its vivid scarlet berries on its branches for many weeks. Other desirable dwarf shrubs are Daphne Cneorum, Veronica Canterburyensis and V. cupressioides, Hypericum balearicum, and Juniperus prostrata, the last-named forming a glistening blue-green carpet that is most attractive. Another shrub of similar habit to the Juniper is the blue-berried Coprosma acerosa, while a third good carpeter (this, however, is not a shrub) is the evergreen Gaultheria procumbens, with its scarlet berries studding a close-growing mat of vivid green leaves.

With the aid of hardy Heaths the way through the garden is cheerful, if not absolutely gay, in winter

For actual flowers in winter, dependence must be chiefly placed on bulbous plants. Earliest of all, often beginning to bloom in November, is Iris unguicularis (stylosa), which is as lovely as it is capricious! It undoubtedly does best when planted in poor, gritty, even stony soil, pressed hard down, in a sunny place sheltered from cold winds. Slugs are extremely fond of this Iris, and directly there are any signs of flower-buds it should be dressed with alum or soot mixed with sharp cinders. Next in order of flowering to I. unguicularis comes I. histrio, I. histrioides, and then that gem for the rock garden, the violet-scented I. reticulata. The cheery little Winter Aconite should be grown in as large patches as possible (Eranthus Tubergeni is an improvement on the old type, both as regards colour and size), as should Snowdrops in several varieties, of which Galanthus byzantinus is the earliest and biggest, but the winter Crocuses imperatii, susianus, and Sieberi should be planted with a carpeting of Mossy Saxifrage over them, through which they will grow with very pleasing effect. The dainty miniature Narcissi cyclamineus, nanus, minor, minimus, and Bulbicodium (sulphur, yellow, and white) should all find nooks in the small rock garden, of which they are ideal inmates. N. Bulbicodium, by the way, should be grown in pockets of sandy, peaty soil and provided with plenty of moisture during the growing season, otherwise it may fail to establish itself satisfactorily.

R. E. HEAD.

Thinning water plants

Where a lot of thinning or transplanting has to be done among Water Lilies and other lovely plants which have their roots actually in the water, the latter should be drained off, as far as circumstances will permit of its being done, and a few days allowed for the surface to drain, when such work may be carried out.

Correspondence

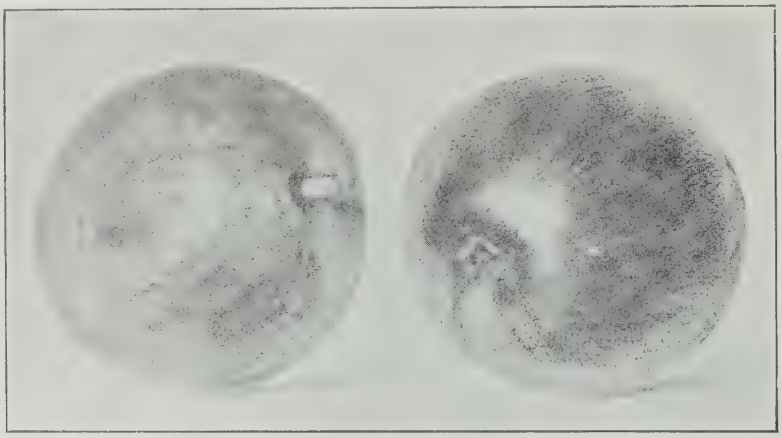
Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Flavour in Apples

LAXTON'S SUPERB, I think, can be bracketted equal first with Cox's Orange Pippin for flavour. As one follows the other, there need be no worry as to which is the better.
D.

—— In reply to Mr. F. Herbert Chapman's note under the above heading on page 817, *re* my remarks on "American Mother," probably he is correct in pulling me up when I referred to its dullness. I should have said "dark crimson." Mr. Chapman says in good seasons it colours a bright red. It certainly colours a good deal if harvested well, but at its best, by what I have seen of it, it is not to be compared to the brightness of Gascoyne's Scarlet or Rival.

Mr. Chapman mentions Orleans Reinette, an old Apple I have not seen or heard of for many years. The last time I had dealings with it it was grown in pots in the orchard house, as we could not grow it in the open owing to it being subject to canker. Possibly Mr. Bunyard has found the right kind of stock for it. Some of the old Apples are really worth bringing back to notice again.
W. E. WRIGHT.



Laxton's Superb, a valuable late dessert Apple

Wanted: A Society for the protection of rare British plants

Mr. Herbert Cowley has done well to bring the above question before readers of GARDENING ILLUSTRATED (see page 816 in December 7th issue). It is a real shame to see the destruction done in this beautiful vale of Glamorgan by motorists and others pulling up roots of flowers and Ferns which are not likely to be replaced, even by Nature. The worst part about it is that they are usually pulled or dug up in the growing season, and when replanted in the garden there is very little chance of them growing. In these parts there are many species of native Orchis growing wild, but as soon as they are spotted, up they come and are taken away. A true botanist or anyone who knows anything at all about a flower and wanted a plant or two would mark the spot and lift it carefully when growth was completed. I have seen hundreds of Bluebells and Lent Lilies pulled up wholesale when in full bloom. Let the children pick the flowers by all means, but do not take, or rather destroy, the roots or bulbs. This problem could be solved if the Society provided notices for the owners of woods and fields which are open to the public, stating that anyone who destroyed or took away roots or flowers would be prosecuted. As all true garden lovers know, a plant which is growing wild in a wood or grass field is not going to take kindly to the soil in either a front garden or backyard. So leave Nature alone and spare what native plants we have in the country.
W. E. WRIGHT.

Tregarth Gardens, Creigiau, near Cardiff.

—— I read with interest the note in last week's GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *re* the need of a Society for the protection of rare wild flowers. I heartily agree that anyone who up-roots these ought to be punished by law. I feel murderous towards the person who up-rooted Gentiana Pneumonanthe. I do hope that the Society, which you state is out to "rob the children of their Buttercups and the cyclists of their Bluebells," is not Flora's League. I can hardly think so, as that has been in existence for some time, and is out to protect rare wild flowers and the senseless gathering and throwing away immediately of any wild flowers. The roads in spring and summer are strewn with blooms which have been gathered only to throw away.
VICTORIA SLADE.

The Rock Garden Society

One is glad to see that "A. T. J." has written a protest against the suggestion that members of the Society "should be allowed, on producing their membership card, to be shown other members' gardens." From experience one knows only too well that the time and convenience of those to whom the gardens belong would be much encroached upon without a corresponding benefit. It is a pious hope that none but those really interested in rock gardens and their flowers will be members of such a Society. It is a pity, but there are vast numbers of people who, because gardening is fashionable, will talk loudly in praise of flowers, but care nothing for them. And what of the people who come to a garden in hope of being given, if not roots or plants, at least a handful of flowers, and who, now and again, do not hesitate to beg "a bunch of flowers," even if the giving these would tend to destroy the appearance of the garden.

One has had experience of these and other undesirable types of garden visitors, whose visits, frequently at awkward hours, are in sharp contrast to those paid by others w
knowledge of and keen interest in plants
a delight to perceive, and whose departu
viewed with regret. No one would re
permission to visit his garden to the
and would indeed be delighted to see hi
S.

The Phlox disease

In a useful contribution on page 82
transplanting Phloxes, mention is mad
the bacterial disease which affects Phl
and your contributor attributes much o
immunity from this trouble to the us
leaf-soil. Whatever the cause, this dis
has made too much progress in recent y
and, if not checked, will be a more se
menace in the future. I think a good
should be done in private gardens
nurseries by destroying the affected pla
burning being the most satisfactory me
It is a great pity indeed that this dis
should have become so prevalent, and
glad to see that some nurserymen and
deners are alive to the necessity of ado
strenuous measures to eradicate it. Is
propagation not at the bottom of a good
of its activity?
S.

Grafting Rhododendrons for lime s

This is a limestone district, though a
of the Chinese Rhododendrons grow
well here. Is any nurseryman or am
gardener trying to graft the hybrid Rh
dendrons on to Chinese stocks for
soils? It would be most interesting if
could give us an article on this subject.
G. F. ORMER

Stratford Park, Stroud, Glos.

[Our correspondent raises the intere
question of grafting the choicer lime-h
Rhododendrons on to stocks which appe
a measure to tolerate limestone soils.
regret that we are not able to give any ver
finite information on the subject, thoug
understand that Messrs. Hillier and Son
trying Rhododendron rubiginosum
others as stocks. Apparently hard limes
rocks are better adapted to these pec
Rhododendrons than the soft limestone.
fact, the soft limestone is said to be n
as bad as chalk for Rhododendron gro
We seem to remember Kingdon Ward
ing, "When you leave the limestone
you leave the Rhododendrons." So fa
we are aware, there is very little reliab
formation available at the moment on
subject of growing Rhododendrons on
stone. We should be interested to hear w
species are growing well with our corres
dent in Gloucestershire and how long
have been growing on limestone. Shad
of course, a great factor in the cultivati
all the Rhododendrons, especially the b
leaved species. It may be taken as a ge
rule that the broader the leaf the greate
shade required.—ED.]

A flood incident

There have been floods everywhere i
lower lands, but we hardly expected to
the floor of a greenhouse flooded, a
steady stream coming from the overflo
tank. This time, however, the dil
agency could not be attributed to Ju
Pluvius, but rather to Bufo vulgaris, f
investigation the gardener found—a fin
toad sitting on the ball-cock! G.

Clerodendron fallax

This Clerodendron is, at the moment,
attractive in the cool stove. Its vivid tr
of bloom are very effective in the dull
and as the plant is of a dwarf habit, i
be very tellingly used for decorative pur
in rooms at the Christmas season. C. f
is easily raised from seeds sown in heat

Lachenalia glaucina

ig January and February, and the seedlings ould be potted on as occasion requires til they are in 7-inch pots, in which good sses are secured. Any ordinary compost its C. fallax, but the plants must at all nes have a little heat. I consider this plant be a good substitute for the Poinsettia—hich does not appear to be so popular as it as in former years.

A Scottish Gardener.

The best twelve Pears

The issue of December 7th was specially teresting—doubtless to others as well as to e—on account of Mr. Bunyard's " Second houghts " concerning the Pear, and the ptes by other writers on such fine varieties Thompson's Pear and Beurre Alexandre icas. I have always been more than dinarily interested in this fruit, and I read th avidity everything which I find written out it. The immediate purpose of this note to ask Mr. Bunyard if, out of his wide perience, he would indicate what, in his inion, is the best dozen. I am well aware at such selections are usually the result of rsonal taste or of the individual palate, t it is always of great interest to learn what ay be the opinions of others, and how far ey coincide with one's own. In order that may not be supposed that I ask for the rpose of argument or of criticism, I append at I consider to be the best dozen—not, wever, in order of merit, but simply as ey occur to me:—Winter Nelis, Josephine Malines, Doyenne du Comice, Thompn's, Fertility, Marie Louise, Louise Bonne Jersey, Chaumontel, Glou Morceau, Van ons, Passe Crasanne, and Beurre Bosc—th Jargonelle, Conference, Beurre Super-, Forelle, Beurre Hardy, and Autumn Bermot as runners-up. But, as I have said, much depends upon the personal equation, en Pears are in question, that it would be difficult, if not impossible, for two men to agree in a selection. Nevertheless the expression of personal preferences is always interesting and instructive, and Mr. Bunyard's contribution would be specially so.

A Scottish Gardener.

Lachenalia glaucina and L. orchioides

In your issue of March 2nd is an excellent article on Lachenalias. I note that all the hybrids described are in shades of yellow, red, and green. Some of our most attractive species are blue. L. orchioides we often call the opal Lachenalia. The flowers are a soft blue, shading off into pink, but even more attractive than this one is L. glaucina; the flowers are larger and flower-spikes longer, and flowers a wonderful soft blue, while the foliage is a pretty soft blue-green. A good pot of these plants makes a lovely show. Perhaps some of your readers could tell me if these are still cultivated in England.

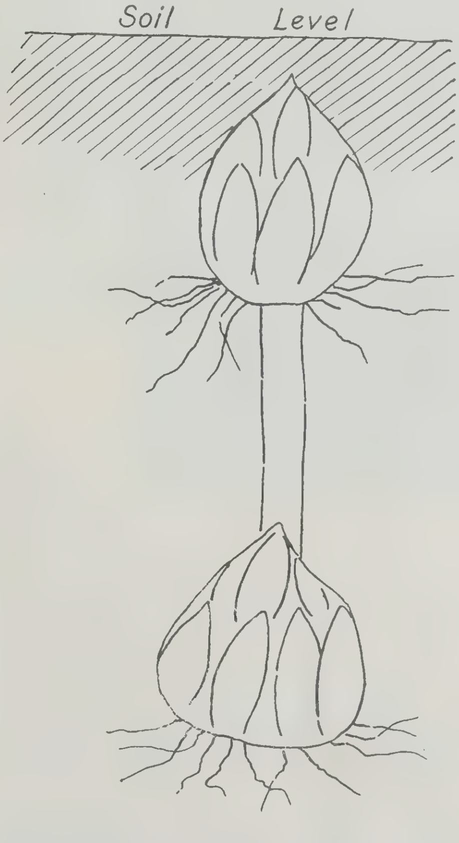
K. C. Stanford.

Bloem Erf, Banhoek, Stellenbosch.

The depth to plant Lilium regale

It may be instructive to fellow-gardeners if I point my own mistake to warn them from the same blunder. I shall give the whole culture as concisely as I can.

I first started L. regale with bought seeds in May, 1926. They germinated within a fortnight in a pan of light soil, where they stayed all summer in the open. In October I put the pan in a cold frame where it was protected from rain, but not from cold.



In March, 1927, before vegetation started, the tiny bulbs were potted separately and plunged in the open garden. Each bulb was about as large as the end of my little finger.

In October I plunged the pots again in the cold frame.

In March, 1928, I blundered, for when I put them definitely in their flowering quarters I followed too closely the advice of books without exercising common sense; that is, I planted them at the required depth for mature adult bulbs, quite oblivious that such baby bulbs must go shallower.

A few flowered all the same, and I supposed that the others were not strong enough.

One thing ought to have given me a hint. In October, 1928, when I was tidying the border, on pulling out a withered regale stem I found bulbils on the buried part, but I was too dense to understand that language, and left the mother bulbs to their fate.

This summer they ought to have all flowered, but did not, so I have been taking them up now, and at last I understand. The bulbs, instead of building flower-stems, have been busy these two last summers in sending up a large new bulb overhead at the requisite depth.

The lesson is, the young seedling bulbs must be planted shallow at first, and will probably dive down alone when their time comes.

Here is a sketch of the double bulb, life-size. The connecting link is a thick yellow tube.

Each bulb has its own roots, and both are quite plump and healthy.

Our garden is rather bleak, on a north slope, with cold, clayey loam, and the Lilies were not protected last winter, but came through all right.

Belgian Reader.

A greenhouse climber

If " Juro " desires to have a climbing plant which will grow most exuberantly; which will, if not drastically dealt with at frequent intervals, speedily take possession of his small greenhouse; which necessitates constant training and regulation; which prevents the plants grown under it from thriving; which is a haven of rest and security for Thrips, Red Spider, and, if it be present within a mile of " Juro's " greenhouse, for Mealy Bug; and which, when in flower, is singularly ineffective and dingy; then by all means let him plant Cobæa scandens, as recommended by " F. Mordaunt " (page 803) in the issue of November 30th. " Juro " would do better were he to plant, if there be a little heat, Stephanotis floribunda, one of the Bougainvilleas, a good form of Heliotrope, or Passiflora cœrulea. The Ivy-leaved or Zonal Pelargoniums, or a climbing Rose, Maréchal Niel or La France, for example, would do well. Solanum jasminoides or Ceanothus Gloire de Versailles, one of the Japanese Honeysuckles or a Wistaria, Clematis indivisa lobata—these would do excellently in an unheated house. But Cobæa scandens or its variegated form are anathema to true believers.

A Scottish Gardener.

Passer domesticus

In your reply to " Worried " *re* the destruction of sparrows (issue November 30th, page 814), I venture to say that should the editorial advice be taken it will only end in ignominy and defeat.

In our great city the sparrow has become a character, an institution, and we have come to think of him in company with other notabilities, such as the friendly pigeons of our squares and open spaces, the pelicans of St. James's Park, and the lions of Trafalgar Square.

When the gentle and learned Linnæus began to name our birds in universal Latin, he designated him " Passer domesticus," the great naturalist recognising that here was no creature of the wilds, never found in the lonely forest, or the deserted mountain, but always in close company and association with man, and as much a part of his everyday surroundings as the utilitarian fowl of the backyard or the lordly swan of our ornamental waters.

Be it admitted that he has many vices,

being greedy, destructive, impertinent, quarrelsome. These are all human vices, no doubt copied from early man, and if this should not be so, a bird so spry and intelligent would have no difficulty in learning them all from the present generation.

To his credit, be it said, he has shunned our more deadly sins, for neither adultery, polygamy, nor divorce are tolerated in sparrow communities.

True it is that at certain times and seasons he plays havoc with our border plants, takes heavy toll of our Crocus, and

> "From the housetops he watches us sowing
> our seeds
> In ample supply for his daily needs."

Yet, as in all great criminals, there still lingers in him a spark of divinity, and those of us who wake and rise early are easily persuaded as we listen to his chirruping in the grey dawn that this is the best he can do by way of returning thanks to that Providence which has ever watched over him, for all the good fare of yesterday, for the food and fighting prospects of the new day, and for not being caught.

Against him it has been said that he has no loveliness, being drab, sooty, tuneless, but beauty and song are graces not in the choice of either man or sparrow.

Ever since A.D. 33, when it is recorded that he was sold in the open market place at five for a farthing, there has been set against him the cruel trap and inveigling net, the poisoned grain, powder, soot, and many other evil inventions of the sparrow clubs, but all in vain, and he may be likened to our own race, having spread, flourished, and been victorious from the east to the west, from the far south to the very confines of the frozen north.

I am on the side of the sparrow.

Hyde Park. T. HAY.

The Crown Imperial

THE Crown Imperial, being a strong grower, needs to be planted in a deep, rich loam which is not too stiff and wet, but well drained to prevent water from standing about the roots. If the soil is not rich it should be made so by the addition of a good dressing of well-decomposed manure. When the plants are well established the stems send out just above the bulbs a number of strong young roots, and then it is that a top-dressing of rich manure greatly benefits the plants. They succeed in any situation, but they are especially fitted for shrubbery borders and outlying situations, where they can remain and establish themselves. It is a good plan to see that the clumps be divided once only in five or six years, for they require to be established to bloom freely. If bulbs are planted now in autumn, Crown Imperial blossoms are in perfection during the month of April. HERBERT PARKER.

Fritillaria imperialis (the Crown Imperial)

Tree Ivies

I am, truth to tell, no great admirer of any of the Hedera family, not even of the golden-leaved or silver-leaved forms, but I cannot withhold a word of praise from one or two of the Tree Ivies. At the present time H. arborescens is very noticeable with its heavy crop of black berries. These, on occasion, and when Holly berries were scarce, I have dipped in red lead—"raddled" them—and they have made passable substitutes for the Holly berries tucked in among the spiny
leaves of the Holly. The Golden Tree
H. aurea, sometimes called aurea mac
is merely a golden form of H. arbores
The Silver Tree Ivy, H. argentea variega
neater and more handsome than the pr
ing—its small leaves are shaded with si
grey, and margined with white. H. ch
carpa is, of course, the yellow-berried
Ivy, and when in full fruit it is by far th
of the family. All are perfectly hardy
require no coddling.

A SCOTTISH GARDEN

Chrysanthemum Framfield and sports

This has become a quite large family
original (Framfield Pink) producing bl
of a soft pink colour. This plant gave a
sport which was named Heston White, g
very extensively at one time by market
private growers for Christmas uses.
sports have appeared here and there
several years past, notably Winter C
probably the best of the series. The c
may be described as deep rich pink. Th
also Salmon Cheer, a salmon sport
Winter Cheer, possessing the same
and flowering at the same time. B
Cheer is an orange-bronze sport from W
Cheer, and Mayfield Sunrise is also an
sport from the same variety. The co
however, is old rose, with gold points.
A. Vanstone is a pure white incurved
from Heston White, but the flowers are l
than those of the latter variety. I be
there are other sports which have not g
the same amount of notoriety as those I
mentioned. D. B.

New certificated Chrysanthem

About a dozen new varieties were
mitted to the Floral Committee of
National Chrysanthemum Society on De
ber 2nd at the New Hall of the Royal H
cultural Society. Varieties that receive
much coveted First Class Certificate of
special Society were the following :—

Gladys Pierson.—A promising decor
flower of Japanese incurved form.
florets are fairly broad and of good le
incurving towards the centre, buildin
grand bloom for market about 6½ in
across. Colour, golden buff. Shown
Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co., Sawbr
worth.

Golden Balcombe.—This is a glori
rich golden-yellow sport from the well-kn
decorative variety Balcombe Beauty.
florets are broad and stiff and of good
stance, and build a good market decor
flower about 6 inches across. Shown
Mr. Thos. Stevenson, Cowley, Middlese

Mrs. A. H. Boaden.—A welcome add
to the smaller-flowered incurved section.
florets are fairly broad and of good substa
and build an attractive incurved bloom a
3½ inches in diameter. Should prove valu
either for exhibition or for decorative
poses. Colour, golden yellow. Shown
Messrs. H. J. Jones, Ryecroft Nurs
Lewisham, S.E.

Kenneth Hastie.—This is a splendid
quisition to the late-flowering Japanese
corative section. The florets are broad,
and of splendid substance, and develo
most attractive bloom about 5 inches in
meter. Colour, bright crimson, lightly ti
gold. Small foliage and wiry stem. Sh
by Mr. H. Shoesmith, Jnr., Mayford,
Woking.

Balcombe Bronze.—One of the most att
tive decorative blooms exhibited on
occasion. Florets of medium width, ev
reflexing, building a beautiful bloom quit

nies in diameter and very full. Colour, bronze, tipped yellow. Shown by Mr. . Vinten, Balcombe, Sussex.

r. Thos. Stevenson, of Cowley, Middle-e exhibited a number of blooms of Yellow ument which he had brought up to the ting a fortnight before. The blooms were in ite good condition after the lapse of a fort-t. Yellow Monument is a sport from the e variety Monument, now so largely wn for exhibition and for decorative uses. ; a plant of easy culture, and is con-ntly good.

r. Stevenson also exhibited Yellow ourite, a pale yellow sport from the chaste e variety known as The Favourite—a ular white sort with market growers, ering at Christmas. Flowers of both e varieties may be cut at a later period Christmas as the quality of the ms is so good. D. B. CRANE.

Peltaria alliacea

ELTARIA is a plant little known in gardens, but useful for filling up spaces among June-flowering plants, such as es and Peonies. It is a Crucifer, coming Isatis and Crambe. It has something appearance of Iberis on stems a foot high. s good to look at, but undesirable to dle, for when touched it gives off a strong ll of Garlic, as is indicated by the specific e. Peltaria is easily raised from seed, ch it forms in quantity, for it may be in-sed by division; but plants in their second from seed are best. G. J.

arge-flowered single Chrysanthemum varieties

N no section of the Chrysanthemum has reater change taken place than in the ingle-flowered type of this flower, and this nge has been gradually progressing during last 15 years. In earlier days a single-ered Chrysanthemum was defined as a er having a single row of ray florets ly disposed around a central disc, and ny good decorative singles used to be con-ed to the rubbish heap because they pos-ed more than the single row of ray florets. he central " eye " or " disc " was said to oo large in proportion to the ray florets, single flowers with only one row of ray ets were of no use to market growers, as would not travel satisfactorily—they ted single Chrysanthemums with an ye " small in proportion to the ray florets, with several rows of stout florets of sub-ce that could travel without damage. As sult of this request, a small sub-committee he National Chrysanthemum Society met, hich the writer was the chairman, and r spending a lot of time discussing the ter, finally re-classified the " singles," iding them up into sub-sections and giving ain well-known varieties as examples of the ective sub-sections. This re-classification duly accepted and passed by the Floral nmittee and the Executive Committee of N.C.S. All certificates for novelties since rded have been made on the basis of this classification. I here give a list of 18 ieties of large-flowered single Chrysanthe-ms, each of which has been shown in ex-ent form during the season that has just cluded. Most of the varieties have from ee to five rows of ray florets. They are he kind that market men grow, and grow uge quantities.

rs. J. Palmer.—A large flower, with eral rows of ray florets. Purest white. orous grower.

obt. Collins.—This is a 6-inch flower of asing form on a stiff, erect stem. Colour, ght rich amber. Good form.

Fusilier.—A striking flower, the colour being crimson-scarlet. Rather late. Much valued for market. A flower of good form.

Rona.—This is a large, rich purple flower of good form, having stout florets. Good grower. Useful for its colour.

Molly Godfrey.—Another large exhibition flower and very dependable. Colour, pink, but the buds must not be retained too early.

Susan.—Rosy sport from Molly Godfrey, with same characteristics as the parent variety.

Bronze Molly.—This is a pleasing bronze sport from Molly Godfrey, and with the other two members of the family makes a beautiful trio.

Isobel Felton.—A very large single with several rows of ray florets. It is a variety that pays for good culture. Colour, pale yellow.

Sportsman.—This grand single was shown in fine form at the " National." It is a large flower, and the colour orange-red and terra-cotta. Good habit.

Audrey.—Another large flower of good form. Colour, yellow, shaded bronze.

Rita.—This is a large flower that has good keeping qualities, and most effective under artificial light. Colour, chestnut, suffused yellow.

Golden Seal.—A flower about 5 inches in diameter, having fairly broad florets of good substance. Colour, buttercup yellow.

Kirkland's Crimson.—A very large, refined flower, shown in grand form at the National and Finchley Shows. The colour is a brilliant crimson.

Catriona.—This is a very distinct flower of good form and highly regarded. Colour, old rose, with narrow white zone round the yellow disc.

Reginald Godfrey.—When well grown this is a valuable large flower for exhibition. Florets broad, slightly incurving at the ends. Colour, chestnut-red, with old gold reverse to the florets.

Phyllis Cooper.—This is not so large as some of the others, but its rich orange-yellow colour makes it indispensable. It has several rows of florets of medium breadth.

Rose Molly.—This is still another sport from Molly Godfrey. The colour in this instance is a deep shade of rose. It was seen in grand form at the " National."

D. B. CRANE.

Peltaria alliacea

A seasonable gift

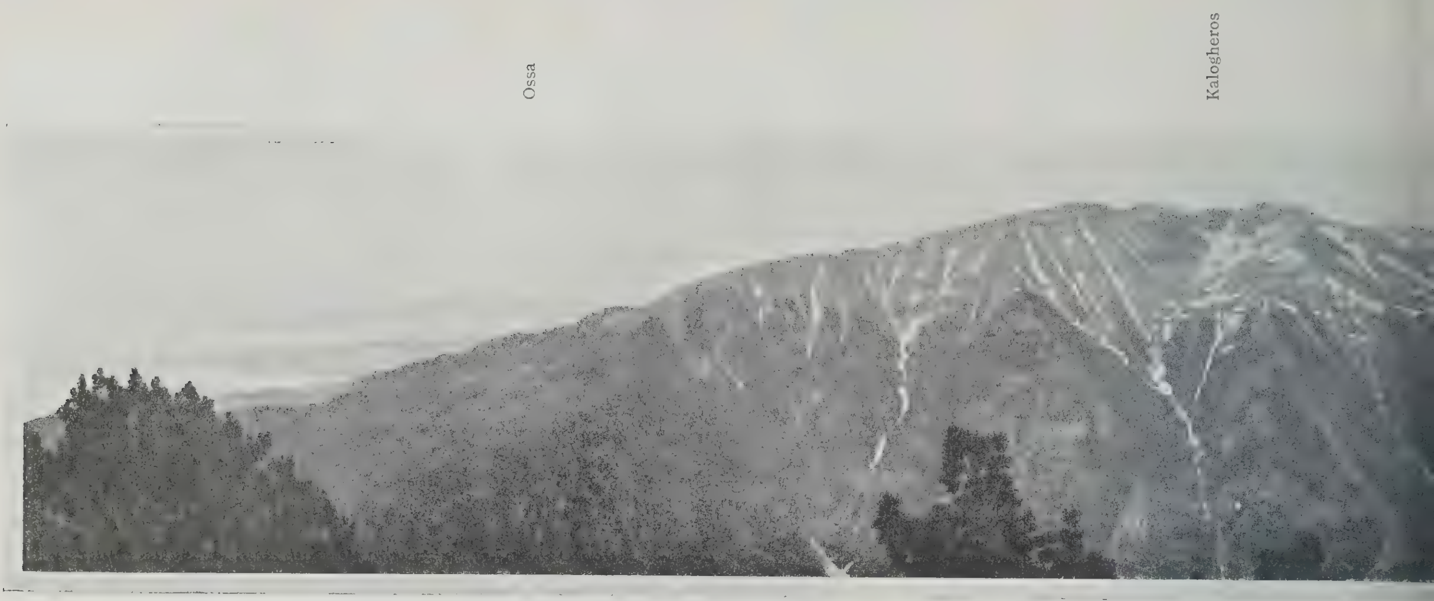
This little note is to remind readers that there is one Christmas gift welcome to all garden lovers—*i.e.*, a year's subscription to GARDENING ILLUSTRATED. Readers who are at a loss to know what to purchase for their gardening friends would do well to follow this suggestion. For the sum of 13s. GARDENING ILLUSTRATED will be stamped, addressed, and posted from the office each week for the whole year. Such a present would be a useful and constant reminder of friendship throughout the coming year.

Planting Peaches

In the future success of the trees the proper preparation of the soil is most important, and no efforts should be spared before planting takes place. The soil first of all should be dug out to the depth of 2 feet or more and if the drainage is not what it should be, put in a 6-inch layer of rubble, clinkers, etc. Over this place a 3-inch layer of turf. A compost should then be prepared of good, turfy loam, coarsely chopped up. To every barrowload add a good portion of old mortar, broken shell, or well-slaked lime. Mix this well with the soil, and if a sprinkling of bonfire refuse is also added, so much the better. The great thing is to keep the soil from binding and to ensure porosity. Fill in the hole with the compost and tread down to a depth which will allow each tree to be planted at the same depth as before. This can be seen by the soil mark on the bark. Plant firmly and finish off with a mulch of light litter. This prepared border should be at least a foot beyond the spread of the roots. F. H.

The vineries

As the wood ripens, pruning should be carried out, and spells of bad weather taken advantage of to have the houses thoroughly cleansed. This is a comparatively easy task where there is no Mealy Bug present, but Vines infested with this terrible pest require to have a great amount of careful work lavished on them to try and check its activities as much as possible.



PANORAMIC VIEW

PLANT COLLECTING ON OLYMPUS

By P. Giuseppi, M.D., F.R.C.S.

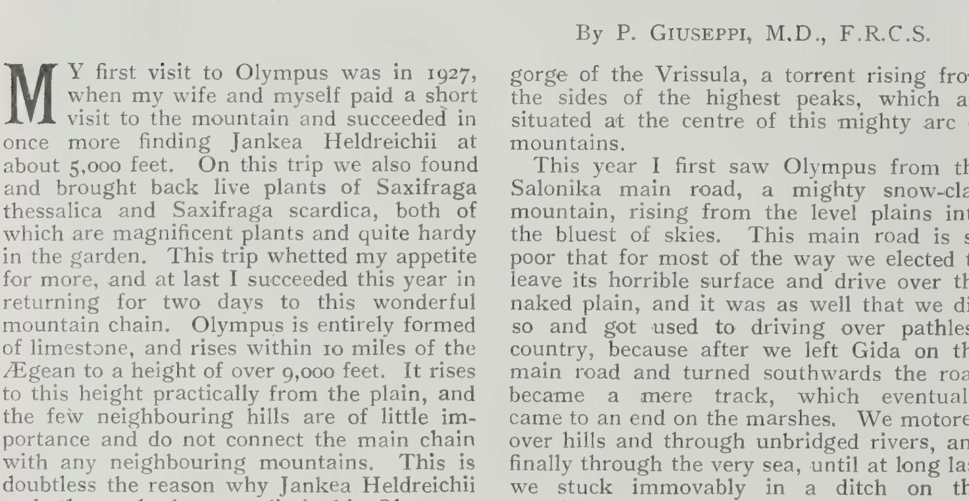
MY first visit to Olympus was in 1927, when my wife and myself paid a short visit to the mountain and succeeded in once more finding Jankea Heldreichii at about 5,000 feet. On this trip we also found and brought back live plants of Saxifraga thessalica and Saxifraga scardica, both of which are magnificent plants and quite hardy in the garden. This trip whetted my appetite for more, and at last I succeeded this year in returning for two days to this wonderful mountain chain. Olympus is entirely formed of limestone, and rises within 10 miles of the Ægean to a height of over 9,000 feet. It rises to this height practically from the plain, and the few neighbouring hills are of little importance and do not connect the main chain with any neighbouring mountains. This is doubtless the reason why Jankea Heldreichii and other rock plants are limited in Olympus.

The mountain is a huge amphitheatre, with its concave side facing the east and the whole chain, even at its extreme ends, varies but little in height.

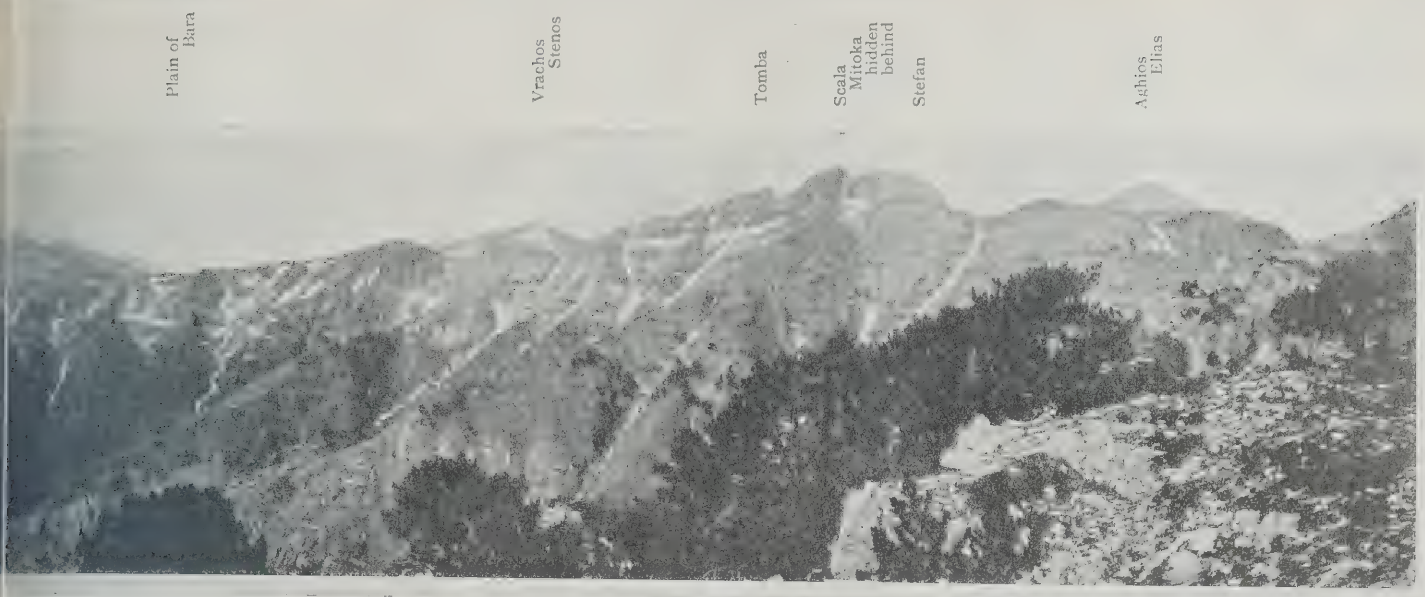
The hollow of the amphitheatre is the gorge of the Vrissula, a torrent rising from the sides of the highest peaks, which are situated at the centre of this mighty arc of mountains.

This year I first saw Olympus from the Salonika main road, a mighty snow-clad mountain, rising from the level plains into the bluest of skies. This main road is so poor that for most of the way we elected to leave its horrible surface and drive over the naked plain, and it was as well that we did so and got used to driving over pathless country, because after we left Gida on the main road and turned southwards the road became a mere track, which eventually came to an end on the marshes. We motored over hills and through unbridged rivers, and finally through the very sea, until at long last we stuck immovably in a ditch on the marshes and were, after much trouble, dragged out by two bullocks led by a charming old Bulgar. We were tired out when at last at 7.30 p.m. we arrived at Katerini; the only thing which cheered us up at all was the glorious view of Olympus in front of us which, like a magnet, drew us ever onwards.
day at 4 a.m. we left for Litochoron, a
town nestling just below our mou
Here we were met by Mr. Atchley
Secretary of our Legation in Athens, wh
very kindly made arrangements for
and horses. We were told that there
two bands of brigands on our side
mountain and one on the west side, an
we must take up five soldiers. We s
few hours walking up the gorge
Vrissula, which becomes impassable a
time. Here, at about 500 feet above th
we found our first Jankeas growing in
cracks on limestone crags. At 2 p.m
imposing cavalcade of eight horses,
guides, and five soldiers left Litochoron.
chief guide was the famous Olympus
Christos Kakkalos, who has made ove
ascents. The path ascends the footh
wide lacets, affording wonderful views
Ægean, but with little to interest the
hunters of rock plants. We found the f
ing plants of interest: Asphodeline lib
in large numbers, two miniature Irises,
flower, a Lilium, probably chalcedon
and Thalictrum olympicum, which has
ing underground stems.

We had a rest at a spring and then
ceeded through woods in which grew Pr
rubra, to about 4,000 feet in height, wh
teresting flowers began to appear. We
a huge rock covered with hundreds of m
ficent specimens of Jankea, all in full fl
a really glorious sight. There were also
ing on these rocks Saxifraga thessalica
Saxifraga scardica. We now began t
very fine views of the southern loop o
Olympic amphitheatre, and after a very
day of toil, we arrived at our camp at Sk
at 9 p.m. It was a very difficult thing t
up our tent as we were hemmed in betw
cliff and a clear drop, but with some ca
were able to erect one tent against the
cal face of a rock, and at about 9.30 p.m
sat down to a well earned but very li
dinner. After dinner we had a delig
warm in front of a huge wood fire, an
tired to bed in our flea-bags in our small
Next morning we were better able to a
the glorious views from our camp, which
situated high above the Vrissula and f
south, with a magnificent view of



The party about to leave for Olympus



MPUS FROM THE NORTH

ern loop of Olympus rising above a sea ouds. The only water is obtained in from the rocks, and washing under such tions becomes a mere matter of form. ct, I think that the best definition I of an optimist is a man who takes a razor up Olympus.

started for Aghios Elias at about n., and, after some 2½ hours' climb, g which we found Saxifraga scardica, alica, scardica erythrantha, Spruneri, lla, and many others, we came to a from which a complete view of the main could be obtained. In order, from right t, the following points could be dis- ished : Aghios Elias, Stefan, Scala, and, n by Scala, Mitoka, the highest point, a, in front of which are the Vrachos s, then the plain of Bara, then the three , and finally the mighty precipices of heros.

glory of the view is quite beyond de- ion, but perhaps the most impressive were the cone-shaped Aghios Elias, a, and the stupendous cliffs of Kalo- s. On the way to Aghios Elias the ridge which we were walking became very w, but at last we arrived at the foot of al cone of Aghios Elias. From this point scent is easy, but extremely fatiguing. e summit is a small chapel built of rocks hich many names are written; on one rs the names of four brigands, three of have been shot, and the remaining one is captain of one of the three present bands. The summit of Aghios Elias is composed of shale, and from it can be seen a wide panorama of the Ægean and the mountains of North Greece. The view is so sublime that it can be readily realised how much it must have affected the early Greeks and compelled them to place the seat of Zeus on its summit. On descending to the camp I explored the high cliff above it and discovered there the highest plants of Jankea, facing south, at a level of 6,300 feet, and Viola Delphinantha, of which Farrer thinks that it is difficult to grow and not much fun when grown, as it does not flower readily nor give notable pleasure when it does. " It has all the look," he adds, " of a rather miserable Delphinium . . . with specially narrow leaves and erect stems." Farrer cannot possibly have seen the plant, for both its shrubby growth and delightful pink flowers with long spurs are attractive and make us hope that its seeds will germinate.

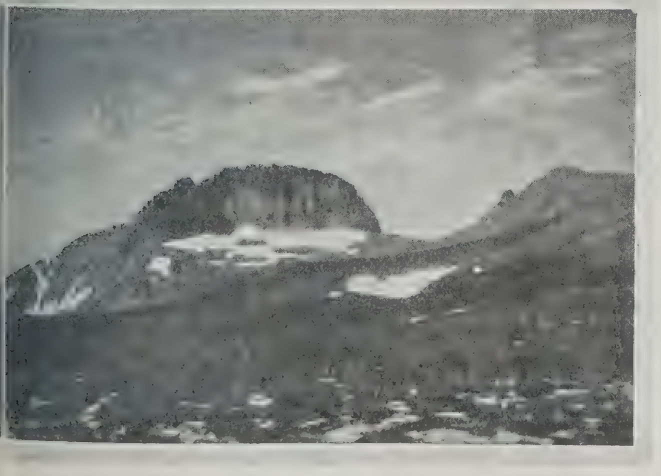
Jankea is very curious in its distribution. I have found it only along the Vrissula, on the eastern slopes of the mountain, and from 500 feet to 6,300 feet, facing all directions, north, south, east, and west, though the best plants grow in the shade. It grows in cracks in limestone rocks, and its lavender flowers, with their crystalline sheen, make it one of our most desirable plants. I think the secret of its growth will prove to be protection from the wet for its leaves and a cool root-run.

I suspect that it will not be found on any of the other slopes of Olympus except the eastern.

Saxifraga scardica was evidently from his description one of Farrer's favourites, and it certainly, with its beautiful white flowers, thoroughly deserves his praises. The rare Saxifraga, described as erythrantha, is perhaps the most beautiful of the plants of Olympus; its flowers are pink of all shades, and quite possibly it is a hybrid between scardica and thessalica.

Saxifraga Spruneri, another of our finds, is composed of rosettes far smaller than those of scardica, and forms masses on the crags. Next day we returned to Litochoron, there to find that one of the brigand bands had descended into the plains and we were compelled by the military to go to Katerini, preceded by a motor-bus carrying armed soldiers.

Our finds on Olympus included, besides the above described plants, the following : Paronychia Kapela, Arenaria rotundifolia, Euphorbia Myrsinites and capitulata, Dianthus hæmatocalyx, Silene Saxifraga, Helleborus cyclophyllus, Ranunculus Sartorianus and brevifolius, Kenera saxatilis, Viola rupestris glaberrima, Geranium sanguineum and macrorrhizum, Sempervivum Heuffellii, Sedum sartorianum amopetalum and magellanse, Saxifraga exarata var. Heldreichii and rotundifolia, Potentilla deorum, Rosa pendulina, Smyrnium rotundifolium, Armeria



Stefan

Aghios Elias

rumeliaca, Veronica teucroides, Digitalis ambigua, Orabanche caryophyllacea, Sideritis scardica, Salvia argentea, Calamintha grandiflora and Alpina var. granatensis, Globularia cordifolia, Galium purpureum, Achillea holosericea, Stahelina uniflosculosa, Centaurea pindicola, Allium flavum (yellow), Fritillaria mesanensis, Ornithogalum nanum, Crocus veluchensis, and many varieties of Crocus and Scilla. In addition to these we found a sulphur-yellow Linaria and a purple Oxytropis, which are said by Mr. Turrill at Kew to be new species.

Our Olympus holiday was such a great success, not only owing to its floral results, but owing to the wonderful scenery of this great mountain, that in spite of the dangers of its bandits, like a magnet it will draw us to visit it again.

Near Olympus: Peasants dancing the Bolo

Silver Leaf disease and the Silver Leaf Order

Silver Leaf causes quite heavy losses among fruit trees in this country annually. Plum trees suffer most, but the disease also affects Apple and Peach trees and Nectarines, whether grown in the open or under glass. Pear trees, on the other hand, are very rarely attacked, but there are entirely different kinds of plants, such as Laburnums and Horse Chestnuts, that may be devastated by the disease.

Silver Leaf can be recognised easily during the summer months by the fact that the leaves show a curious silvery or leaden sheen. First it appears on one branch and later spreads throughout the tree. Sometimes an affected tree recovers, but more often the branches begin to die back until ultimately the whole tree is killed. For a long time the cause of the disease was a complete mystery, but it is now known to be due to an attack by a fungus. This fungus can only enter the tree through wounds, such as those made in pruning or by the breaking of branches. Once it has entered the disease usually grows rapidly through the wood in all directions. Its progress is marked by a deep brown discoloration, which shows when a silvered branch is cut across. The fungus does not actually enter the silvered leaves, but its presence in the tree causes the upper skin of the leaves to become separated from the cells immediately below, with the result that air penetrates and makes the silvery appearance in the same way as the entry of air into a crack in a block of ice causes the formation of a white streak.

After one or more branches of the tree have been killed, the fungus begins to break out through the dead bark and forms flat, purple-mauve coloured incrustations on it. These produce myriads of minute spores which are shed and carried by the wind to other trees. If they alight on bare cuts or wounds on a tree they may germinate and start the infection afresh in that tree. There is an exception, however, in the summer months, when the tree is capable of forming a barrier of gum on top of an exposed wound so quickly as to protect it from the fungus. If a wound is more than three months old the fungus, likewise, has no power to enter through it.

Now these points are found to be of importance in combating the disease; there is no cure, and burning up infected wood, coupled with prevention of spread, becomes the only remedy. All dead wood bearing the purple-mauve incrustations should be destroyed as soon as possible. It is best done during the summer, when the fungus cannot easily infect other trees. The Silver Leaf Order of 1923 requires this burning to be done by the 15th of July in every year. Where the dead wood on the trunk extends to the ground the whole tree, including the root, must be burned, and the order applies to the wood of any kind of tree; if allowed to multiply on these the spores of the fungus will be carried along to infect other trees and probably valuable fruit trees.

All pruning wounds and other unavoidable injuries to trees should be protected as soon as possible by soft grafting wax or a thick paint, such as white lead paint. Tar or paints in a very liquid condition are found to be of no use for the purpose.

There is one other interesting point about this disease; all varieties, say of Plums, are not equally susceptible to it. Victoria and Czar are very much more so than Yellow Pershore, Rivers' Early, Prolific, Blaisdon Red, and Damascene, whilst Monarch, Purple Egg Plum, and Damsons are midway between the two sets and fairly resistant. This is a good point to know, for in planting young trees in a district where Silver Leaf is rife it is best to choose some variety other than Victoria or Czar.

From Gardening Illustrated

Fifty Years Ag

Baroness Rothschild Ro

AMONGST all the leading sor
Roses, this one has bloomed
freely this autumn. There
some very fine flowers on it in Octo
and the last of them was not cut
the middle of November—C. A.

Variegated Vine

(Vitis heterophylla fol. albo-v

The use of this handsome
climbing Vine in suspended ba
and vases and on trellis-work is com
enough, but few persons have any
of the charming effect which it prod
when used as an edging around
flower beds and groups of dark-le
plants and shrubs.

From our "HOME PETS" Secti

A propos of birds being ta
music, we are to have a revolutio
canary training if what we hear
the colonial papers be true. A ge
man in some town in South Aust
has turned his attention to teac
canaries to sing, not only tunes,
part-songs and choruses. The wa
manages to do this is as follows :-
places his feathered pupils opp
looking-glasses, and hidden mus
boxes play the different choruses,
the birds are required to learn.
mirrors deceive the birds into thin
there are on the opposite side
canaries, and they consequently try
imitate what they think is a real
singing choice music. It seems t
but a step from observation to in
tion with our friend the can
—A. D'A.

—December 13th, 187

Eremurus robustus

This is one of the noblest of ou
plants, and there are many position
gardens where its tall column-like sp
well-fitted. It is valuable also for b
stately effects among dwarf-growing
in a sheltered corner, while it succe
mirably at the back of the herbaceous
In whatever position it may be, the
spikes invariably attract attention.
ground is the great secret of getting
effect out of the plants in which be
flower is the dominant feature. To
this plant successfully they sho
planted in early autumn, and the soon
the foliage dies down the better.
drained soil it will thrive, but is
richly-manured loam, freely mixed
mortar rubble or charcoal and san
southern aspect and in a sunny pos
ensure the plants a good ripening.
commences very early in the spring,
young foliage is very susceptible t
from frost and cold winds. It is ad
therefore, to afford some protection
bad weather, a few evergreen boughs
the purpose exceedingly well. Slu
snails play havoc with the young g
this plant, often damaging it before
is apparent. I usually make a practi
moving the soil carefully from the cro
my hand, and then throwing in a goo
ful of lime before replacing the soil.
H. STE

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Suthern and Midland

ooms

all of us are able to command a supply able manure for the growing of Mush- but where such is available further hould be made up, remembering that eparation of the manure, a suitable ature, and a spawn of good quality are of the utmost importance. A shed has been thatched, both inside and out, nswer admirably, and little or no arti- eat will be necessary, providing new e made up at regular intervals, as the ising therefrom will give all that is re- except a light dewing of floors and vith tepid water occasionally when dry- felt. The beds should be about 2 feet s in depth, bricked in on all sides, and shed will accommodate a bed on each a central path, with each divided in tre, fresh beds can be made up and a nt supply of Mushrooms maintained. the temperature—which should be om 55 degs. to 60 degs.—tend to fall very cold weather, fresh droppings along the path to a depth of 1 foot and daily will renew the warmth.

ng and trenching

is constant and must be pushed for- whenever the conditions of soil and r will permit, as it is most desirable avy land particularly should be turned exposed to the weather over as long d as possible. Many will be faced with reasing difficulty of obtaining manure farmyard type and must resort to reli- tificials, using leaves and other decay- atter for bulk and for producing n.

agus

urther batch of roots must now be in the forcing house or on mild hot- s, and a further supply of Seakale, y, and Dandelion (roots) must be t in to prevent a break occurring in anched material which is so much ated. A further supply of Rhubarb nay also be lifted and left exposed for ys before adding them to the forcing k

house climbers

e should now be taken down from their ts, pruned and cleaned, and looped together so as to enable the washing f wood and glass and limewashing of to proceed before they are again re- Large specimen plants grown in tubs ge pots for decorative purposes and for should be attended to at the same Avoid overcrowding, as this is not only ntal to the plants, but offers refuge to ests.

r-flowering Begonias

e of the earliest of these will have shed looms, especially those which have sed for indoor decoration. Such plants cut back to half their height and in- to throw cuttings. These plants must on the dry side for a time, and grown the glass in a temperature of 50 degs. legs. Watering is of the greatest im- e at this stage, otherwise there will be ency on the part of the plants to rot ase.

Algerian Iris (I. stylosa)

r in blooming with one this year is this ul Iris which should now be given a rotection in the shape of Fir branches, ise the delicate blooms will be spoilt by frosts. A look-out must also be kept for slugs, which eat out the centres of the buds when the latter are emerging from the leaves.

Flowering shrubs for forcing

Most people grow a few of these for forcing, and many are purchased for the same purpose, such as Mollis Azaleas, Lilacs, Staphyleas, Forsythias, Prunus, Viburnums, Roses, etc. The time has now arrived when a small batch should be brought forward in gentle warmth. With the weakening of the Chrysanthemum supply it will be advisable to pot up and place in warmth small batches of prepared bulbs, Spiræas, Dicentra spectabilis, and Solomon's Seal, all of which will be found extremely useful in the New Year.

Preparation for, and planting of, trees and shrubs

This must be brought forward whenever the weather permits. Large specimens are best dealt with during the very cold weather, when such work may be carried out more speedily and with greater comfort. Large specimen Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Andromedas, Enkianthus, etc., may be moved without the slightest anxiety; also the majority of deciduous trees and shrubs. It will, however, assist the latter in becoming re-established if their branches are cut back somewhat.

Fruit store

Maintain an even temperature and air the room when conditions are mild and favourable. Keep stored fruit examined and remove suspicious examples, as one bad fruit may easily start a dozen in decay. Use dessert in rotation, and when at its best only, and dispose of any surplus kinds which are past their best in other ways.

E. Markham.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Amaryllis

The earlier bulbs will now begin to push up their flower-stems, so they should be set in a light place and given a little more water than formerly. Those still dormant require very little water, but it is a mistake to keep the soil so dry at any time as to kill the roots, for it must be borne in mind that a bulb with roots intact has much less to struggle against when growth becomes active than has one that has first of all to produce fresh roots. A temperature of about 55 degs. is ample at this period.

Bring in more bulbs

A further batch of the various kinds should now be moved from the "plunge" to a cold frame, where they should be kept for 10 days prior to being taken into a heated house or pit. Daffodils require longer to root than the majority of the others, but even these should now be ready. Stand them for a fortnight in a cold frame and they will come on much better than they would if taken direct to a heated structure. Very gentle heat, especially at first, must be accorded this bulb.

The cold frame

The plants that can be safely wintered in a cold frame are so nearly hardy that it is only when sharp frosts threaten that the sashes should be closed and a mat thrown over the glass. At other times keep the sashes well tilted at the back, and so permit of a circulation of fresh air among the plants, while at the same time they are shielded from rain. It is damp, rather than cold, that is the cause of losses during the winter and early spring months.

Lime for the garden

A kitchen garden that is annually dressed with farmyard manure is certain in time to become "sick," and the best "medicine" it can have is a moderate dressing of fresh lime. This can be used in several forms, but the most easily applied is that known as ground lime. In this form it is easily applied and is very effective. It should be evenly scattered over the selected plots at the rate of, for heavy land, 8 ozs. per square yard, while lighter soils should have less.

How and when to apply

It is often vaguely advised "to spread it on the surface and dig it in." This is a wasteful procedure, as the mineral has a natural tendency to work downwards. It is easy to see, therefore, that when dug deeply into the ground it is only the subsoil that is benefited, the top spit being left as it was. The most effective and economical method is first to dig the ground, and in early spring scatter the lime evenly all over the surface and then *lightly* fork it in. This can be done at any time if three weeks or so is permitted to elapse before sowing or planting is carried out.

Protecting Celery

Not infrequently this valuable vegetable suffers badly from damping during the winter months if nothing is done to throw off excessive rain or snow. Long straw laid over the ridges like thatch is excellent, but is apt to be displaced by the wind unless means are taken to prevent this happening. Old corrugated iron roofing, if available, is probably as good as anything and can easily be moved when necessary. Fix it so that the rain is shed away from the roots of the plants.

Jerusalem Artichokes

This is one of the plants that will thrive all right for a series of years on the same site, providing it is well manured and dug each season. It is well, therefore, to have the crop lifted now and stored against a north wall, where, if covered with sifted coal ashes, the tubers will be safe from weather and vermin. The ground can then be manured and well dug, and the planting will thus be a simple matter in February or March.

Seed Potatoes

A periodic overhaul of these is necessary so as to see how the tubers are wintering. Not all of us are blessed with a cool yet frost-proof shed or cellar in which to store them, so it frequently happens that growth sets in prematurely and the "sets" run considerable risk of being permanently ruined. It is, of course, the larger "eyes" that start away first, and if this be permitted to go on, the "seed" loses most of its vitality, so it becomes necessary to rub out these started growths and trust the secondary "eyes" to produce good sprouts.

Chrysanthemum cuttings

No suitable cuttings should now be allowed to grow too long, but as soon as they are 3 inches to 4 inches high have them off and inserted round the edges of 3-inch pots filled with very sandy compost. Make firm, and then give a good watering. If the pots are set on a cool ash bottom or in shallow boxes having some sifted leaf-mould laid in the bottoms, the cuttings will root all right, although they may take a little longer to do so than they would in a close case. In the latter, however, many would be lost through damping-off.

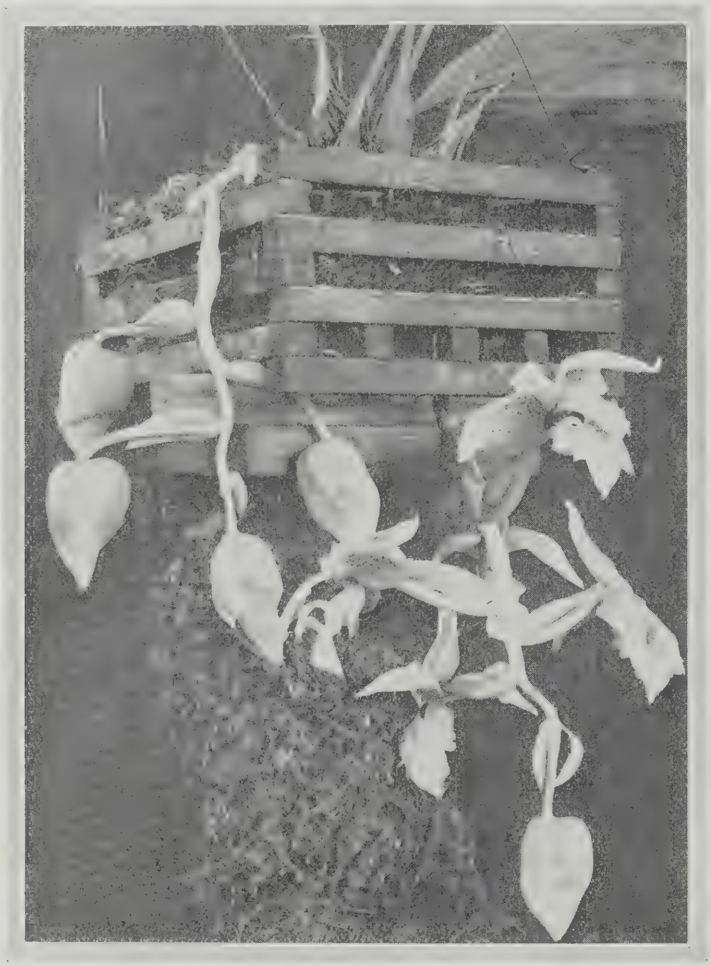
C. Blair.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Stanhopeas

EVEN among Orchids this genus is noticeable for the size, curious shape, and fragrance of the flowers, and, above all, for the extraordinary manner in which the energies of each flower appear to be concentrated in its labellum, as a means to the end, common to all flowers, to obtain fertilisation, so developing seed and obtaining the continuance of the species.

The greater number of Orchids are entirely dependent on insect agency to ensure fertilisation and avoid inbreeding by the transference of pollen to a stigma situated on a different flower either on the same spike or on another plant.



Stanhopea Wardii with two flower spikes, showing details of the flowers in different stages

The left-hand inflorescence is still in the bud state, with the sepals completely enclosing the vital parts of the flower. In the left-hand flower of the other spike the arched column and the two horns are clearly shown, as is the epichil, slightly reflexed, as if to give easier access to an insect

As some special insect has usually to be attracted, with Orchids there is commonly a fixed flowering season for each species and often a marked attraction to induce the particular kind of insect to visit the flower.

In Stanhopeas, though the flowers are comparatively fugitive, lasting but from three days to a week, they are of considerable size, moderately or even highly coloured, and often powerfully scented, while the lip is developed to a remarkable extent. Variation is present, more or less, in each species, but always that organ is the heaviest portion of the flower, with a highly polished, wax-like surface, thick in substance, in decided contrast to the flimsy texture of the sepals and petals. Further, it is divided into three well-marked sections, the outer usually heart-shaped, with rounded, waved edges, termed the epichil. The central portion, known as the mesochil, reduced in width, but thickened for strength, gives rise to two prominent horns, so curved and inclined as to guide the favoured insect beneath the arched column. Probably for the sake of economising material there is often a deep groove on its upper surface. The basal portion of the lip—the hypochil—generally consists of a deep cavity with thick, rounded edges. The brightest colouring of the flower is usually concentrated here, and the scent is strongest, so that the insect is lured from the epichil, between the horns, to the base of the lip, passing beneath the column. A projection from the column cap is so placed that in retreating from the flower the pollen adheres to the insect.

The sepals and petals are for attraction, to an extent, and also for protection, chiefly while the flowers are in the bud state.

The illustration shows a plant of S. Wardii with two spikes, the left-hand inflorescence still in the bud state, with the sepals completely enclosing the vital parts of the flower. In the left-hand flower of the other spike the arched column and the two horns are clearly shown, as is the epichil, slightly reflexed, as if to give easier access to an insect.

In the natural flower the sepals are broadly triangular in outline, over 2 inches long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad. Slightly concave, they retain their expanded shape, but the smaller
petals, though expanded at first, as
conscious that in this species they
ferior to the sepals, in a short tim
strongly, so much so that one over
other behind the base of the uppe
This position leaves the labellum
posed. Their colour, though hardly
that of the sepals, is still sufficient t
the general attraction.

The hypochil is deeply but
saccate at the base, deep golden-ye
colour, with two large maroon-black
Its anterior portion, again of a bright
is curiously ridged on the sides, as
four short, flattened horns, two o
side, had been imperfectly welded
leaving a deep fissure between them
upper surface.

The mesochil is short, creamy-yello
two flattened horns of the same
These horns curve outward at the ba
ascend, but have their upper portio
projecting forward over the epichil,
still lighter in colour, broadly hear
in outline, with the rounded sides
raised and the apex depressed.

Both sepals and petals are dark
thickly sprinkled with red. The f
has a decided vanilla base and is s
on the hypochil. In all probability t
of the "sac" offer in this and other
an attractive food to insects, so act
bait.

S. oculata, a species closely allied to
is more frequently met with in cult
It was imported as far back as 182
found in Mexico, Guatemala, etc.
wide distribution it naturally varies
ably, but differs from others, chiefly
presence of ocellated red spots on the
sepals and petals—as a rule, paler i
than those of Wardii. The basal hal
hypochil presents another character
bears two, four, or more blackish spot
distinctly round in outline, but so
merging into confused blotches.

Other species, owing to their v
often confusing in their resembla
shape, colour, and scent to War
oculata, are Bucephalus, with or
spotted flowers, the spots more thickl
on the column than in most species;
a highly scented kind which, like
sometimes has as many as eight bl
an inflorescence. In some of its fo
colour is uniformly of a bright yellow
are quite dull, while many are sp
more or less, with red. The hypochi
quently a deep maroon-purple on th
surface.

S. graveolens can also be like
Wardii, but is readily separated f
allies by its smell. The name
"strong-smelling," and the flowers
carry out the name-meaning—unpl
so. The prevailing colour is straw
shading to rich apricot on the base of

Inodora has flowers slightly small
those of the preceding species, pale
and, as in graveolens, a deep
hypochil. The name is indicative of
tinguishing character or lack of ch
Contrary to the greater number in this
the flowers are without scent.

The finest member of the genus is
S. tigrina, a native of Mexico.
known in cultivation since 1837, the
always attract attention from their
rich colouring. The combined ch
enable it to be readily identified
bloom. The scapes are three
flowered and the lateral spread of
dividual exceeds 6 inches. The sep
practically blood-red, even deeper,
yellow area apically and broken by
spots basally. The petals, though
size, are similarly coloured, but poss
proportion, exhibit more yellow

horns and epichil are ivory-white with purple, while the hypochil is ange-yellow on which purple blotches to stand out, so contrasting are the lours. Not content with its colour, chil is very broad, more so, I think, any other kind, and is three-toothed . The broadly winged column is llow spotted with red.

type would seem to be sufficiently but there are several varieties known are considered to excel it in colour if beauty. The variety superba has which are certainly more richly hued, ally only two are produced on a scape. variety grandiflora the crimson areas uced in size, but the yellow is, con- ly, increased, if anything is brighter and as four flowers compose the aver- ke, individual taste must decide as to is the more beautiful.

thirty different species have been in ion, and each has its own merits and ons.

of them are easily recognised as Stan- by the generic character of horns on sochil, but ecornuta is the exception rule, the horns for some reason being However, quadricornis compensates ng two horns on the mesochil and two horns on the hypochil. Tricornis, a an species, now apparently lost to ion, is said to have a third horn at e of the epichil.

gh slight differences are present in and pseudo-bulbs, on the whole Stan- bear a strong family likeness in habit. lbs are comparatively small, clustered r, conical, and bear a single large, y plicate leaf. On account of the nature of the spikes the plants are suited with Teak-wood baskets rather ots, and drainage must be so arranged llow egress to the inflorescence.

n grown in pots scapes may be pro- by the plant, but are never seen, as to reach the air and light they decay. burnea, a species with large ivory- sparsely, red-marked flowers, the il is hornless, but two imitative ap- es spring from the hypochil, saccata, terised by a large cavity in the il, and in ecornuta. The spikes are d to assume a lateral rather than a t position, but, even so, the pot rim is oo great a barrier.

mmodation can be found for the ty, if not all, of the species in a general or Cattleya house. A mixture of da fibre, Sphagnum Moss, and a little nibre appears to meet their requirements ards compost.

plants can remain suspended near the hroughout the year, but avoid over- ng, particularly after growth is com- The plants benefit by a fairly d rest during the winter, and, if pro- treated, are not so liable to start into ture growth.

n growing, several species produce ties of adventitious roots, an indica- at the plants revel in a warm, moist phere.

ler suitable conditions Stanhopeas sel- ail to produce their flowers, and as the increase in size several spikes may be ed.

E. COOPER.

ort on conditions of horticultural crops

ccoli (hearting).—Excellent heads being Cornwall. Crop late in Kent. Rather ointing in Middlesex, and below aver- Yorks., but elsewhere making good ess generally.

ssels Sprouts.—Crop and quality below ge in Beds. and Hunts. In Essex the crop has recovered. Late in Kent and likely to be short. Good in Middlesex and Lancs.

Cabbage (autumn-sown).—Making good progress generally, though backward in Lincs. (Holland) and Kent.

Celery.—In Lincs. (Lindsey) most of the best heads are being cleared, especially from Blackland, and supplies of good material are short. Only fair in Warpland, and from this soil there is likely to be a short supply for Christmas. In Cambs. patchy. Generally good in Norfolk and on fenlands in Hunts. Below average in Isle of Ely, and poor in Lancs. and Lincs. (Holland).

Leeks.—Generally below average. Reported to look well in Middlesex, where first batches are being marketed.

Onions (autumn-sown).—Making good growth on the whole. In Essex, however, the crop is patchy and progress slow.

Parsnips.—In Cambs. much below average. Fair in Middlesex, and good in Devon, though in both counties disease is prevalent in places. In Yorks. the crop has been reduced owing to attacks of fly, and is below average.

Savoys.—Good in Lancs. and Northumberland. Average in Yorks. Below average in Essex, and poor in Lancs. (Holland). Good supplies available in Middlesex.

Turnips.—Fair generally. Good growth in Middlesex.

Carnations, Perpetual (under glass).—Satisfactory.

Chrysanthemums (indoor).—Blooms good in quality and yield satisfactory generally. Only fair in Herts., where many plants are small.

Roses (under glass).—Satisfactory.

Aberystwyth Chrysanthemum Show

In our report of the Aberystwyth Chrysanthemum Show (November 23rd issue) we omitted the name of Mr. H. Sheraton, the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, who was successful in securing the G.I. Medal. Mr. Sheraton has been runner-up for our medal several times, only missing it by one or two points on each occasion. It was offered for most points in the amateurs' section. Mr. H. F. Elenor, Chairman of the Committee, and last year's winner of the G.I. Medal, was successful in securing the Silver Cup in the keenly contested class for a decorated table of cut blooms.

Derbyshire Horticultural Association

At the monthly meeting of the Derbyshire Horticultural Association, held at the Guild Hall, Derby, on Monday evening, December 2nd, Mr. J. Woodward, of Draycott, was awarded a certificate of merit and first prize for two dishes of Gascoyne's Scarlet and Peasgood Nonsuch Apples in the professional class, Mrs. E. S. Ayre, The Limes, Mickleover, being a close second with Lane's Prince Albert and Allington Pippin (gardener Mr. G. E. Palfreyman).

In the amateur section, Mr. C. S. Buck, Derby, took first prize and certificate with a dish of Charles Ross, the following members also competing with the varieties named :—Mr. W. Whitehurst, Derby, Lane's Prince Albert; Mr. W. L. Armin, Ockbrook, Newton Wonder; Mr. T. Woolley, Brailsford, Bramley's Seedling; and Mr. H. W. Banks, Derby, Lord Derby. The fruit was afterwards sold for the hospital funds.

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

TREES AND SHRUBS

Hedge required to keep out wild pigs in Western Uganda

I was much interested in your reply to a query for an impenetrable hedge. Can you recommend a suitable hedge for a garden near Ruwenzori, in Western Uganda, guaranteed to keep out wild pigs? Barbed wire is useless. Soil volcanic, and everything grows extremely quickly. Altitude, 5,000 feet. It is said that Mauritius Thorn is the only hedge that will keep them out. Is this possibly the same as Ægle Sepiaria? How can one get hold of the seed of Ægle Sepiaria? It would be the only method of getting it there. I am told that another garden pest is "hippos," but I expect no hedge would be effective against them.

M. T.

[Having experienced the strength and determination of tame pigs reared en masse under free woodland conditions in this country, we certainly cannot recommend anything of a living nature which could hold wild pigs at bay. We would suggest a stout iron fence or one of stout timber bearings and cross rails, with ordinary pig fencing wire between, such as is used by breeders in this country. Either could be planted on the inner side with Ægle Sepiaria or the American Cockspur Thorn (Cratægus Crus-Galli). We do not recollect the Mauritius Thorn. Nor do we find seeds of Ægle Sepiaria listed, either in this country or by Continental seedsmen. You might try the Yokohama Nursery Co., Ltd., No. 21-35, Nakamura, Yokohama, Japan.]

Plane tree leaves

I should be much obliged if you would tell me if it is a fact that all Plane tree leaves should be burnt? We have a very large Plane tree with Chestnut and other trees on either side of it. The leaves get hopelessly mixed up, and we have stored them all in a pit. Would lime counteract the bad effect of the Plane tree leaves? Have they an injurious effect on plants?

A. M. H.

[While Plane tree leaves do not make good leaf-mould, we would not say that they are actively injurious to plants. Few gardeners, however, preserve this kind of leaf, but a few mixed with other good kinds like Oak, Beech, and Elm will do no appreciable harm. You should note, however, that Horse Chestnut, Walnut, and Lime tree leaves do not make good leaf-mould. We do not think that the use of lime would do much good. Better, as far as possible, burn the kinds above named.]

Daphne indica foliage

(F. M. Wilson).—We have carefully examined the foliage sent for examination and have failed to find a fungus that could be connected with the damage. It appears to us that the spotting has been caused by insect attack. Some piercing-mouthed insect has been piercing the leaves and sucking out the cell sap. After the injury the tissue has turned brown. Keep a careful watch for insect attack next year, and when noted use a suitable insecticide.

When to plant Azara microphylla

(Italia).—The present is an excellent time for planting this Chilian evergreen, which usually transplants very well, as it carries a nice ball of soil and fibrous roots. After planting, give a good soaking of water and a mulch of litter. Also see that the tree does not suffer from want of moisture until growth is evident. This is important during April and May, especially in your country.

Small-leaved Ivies (Hedera)

(G. T. B. B.).—The following are recommended:—Hedera Cænwoodiana, H. digitata, H. Donerailensis, H. tricolor minor, H. elegantissima.

Planting flowering shrubs

(Constant Reader).—Both the Spiræa and Philadelphus should be planted at 3 feet apart. All the Berberis should be planted at 4 feet apart, otherwise they become a congested mass, without individual form or outline, within three or four years.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Early-flowering Chrysanthemums

(F. W., Oxford).—There is an article in our issue for December 7th, page 819, giving 12 good early-flowering Chrysanthemums for the border. It is our intention to publish other articles on Chrysanthemums in forthcoming issues, which will, no doubt, be of special interest to you.

Chrysanthemums immature

(H. Green).—There appear to be several causes for the unsatisfactory condition of your Chrysanthemums. We should imagine that you have either potted too loosely or else been over-feeding them, while damp in the atmosphere of the house and lack of fresh air are very likely to have added their quota. The Chrysanthemum is very hardy and must have abundance of fresh air, both day and night, when frost is absent, while a damp, muggy atmosphere it quickly resents. The stems sent are very soft and immature, which would seem to indicate loose potting or over-feeding, to which we have already alluded.

Chrysanthemum questions

(M. S.).—While we are always anxious to give full information on any gardening subject, to attempt to give the dates when the various varieties of single-flowered Chrysanthemums require to be pinched is rather more than we can find space for. Had you given a list of those you wish to grow, we could have managed it. Speaking generally, however, we would say that the bulk of the late-flowering singles do well if pinched early in April. Some, of course, could be again pinched in June, which would slightly retard the date of flowering. It is difficult, especially in the south, to have singles last till Christmas, but by pinching well back in July there should be some that could be kept back for that season. If late decorative varieties are pinched in April, and again about the middle of June, they should bloom at Christmas. Red varieties blooming in October are by no means numerous, but these may suit:—Brightness, Champagne, Charlotte Harley, Ernest Baltet, Red Almirante, Red Emperor, R. C. Collicott, and Wembley. November red decorative varieties include Brilliant, Crimson King, Emperor, Felix, In Memoriam, Market Red, Mrs. R. Collins, Mrs. R. F. Felton, Poupre Poitevine, and Miss Eva Hudd. December-flowering red Chrysanthemums are distinctly scarce, Baldock's Crimson, Black Knight, Dr. Jacobs, and Crimson Conquest pretty well exhausting the list. The Chrysanthemum articles appearing in our pages should prove helpful, especially in selections.

Chrysanthemum cuttings

You recommend that pots of cuttings should be set on a coal-ash bed in a cool house. For those with only a cool house of an ornamental kind attached to a residence, this would seem to be untidy. Is the ash bed a necessity, and what exactly is its use?

E. McA.

[Ashes form a cool bottom for pots of cuttings and generate a little moisture which assists in keeping the cuttings from flagging. They also prevent worms entering the pots to a large extent and allow of a bell glass or small hand frame to find its own air-tight settlement. Gravel can be used in exactly the same way, or even slates, but whatever the propagating case may be it is absolutely essential that it is made airtight.]

FLOWER GARDEN

Morning Glory

(Mrs. M. S.).—The seed should be sown in the middle of February, singly in pots, and grown on in the greenhouse till planting out time in early June. Your Indian seed is no doubt that of the kind that flowers too late in England, but that is excellent under glass where it can have room to ramble. It is important when buying seed in England for outdoor planting to make it quite clear that the earlier blooming kind only is desired.

(A. C. Rolt).—There are two forms of this that are sent out by seedsmen, an early and a late blooming kind. It is well in ordering the seed not to say merely Ipomæa rubrocœrulea Heavenly Blue, but to make it quite clear that the early flowering kind only is desired. The later kind is a much stronger growing plant, quickly covering a large space of wall, and if flower-buds show at all they come too late, and are sure to be destroyed by frost. It may be that it is a useful flowering plant in Cornwall and other favoured parts of our climate, but it is only the early flowering kind, which is altogether a less vigorous plant, that can be trusted elsewhere.

How to grow Gentiana sino-ornata and Gentiana Farreri

Will you please give me some advice on growing Gentiana sino-ornata and G. Farreri? The G. acaulis flourishes here, but I find the other two more difficult. Do they like leaf-soil and peat? The garden is heavy clay. What is the best time to propagate, and do they grow from cuttings or solely from division of roots? I divide the G. acaulis every second year, and top-dress them at this time with leaf-mould and road scrapings, and it is a mass of bloom in spring. Even now there are several lovely flowers showing.

G. B. Caraher.

[Gentiana acaulis will thrive in soil which would spell death to the others. The above Chinese Gentians may be propagated by cuttings taken in spring or by division of the roots in April, the latter being the method usually adopted, and the first week in April is preferred. These glorious plants revel in a deep bed consisting of light loam, leaf-mould, and peat, with a little sand, the loam forming about one-third of the whole. Potash in any
form should be avoided, even that
from the garden fire. As your land
clay, we advise you to dig out a be
depth of 15 inches and fill in with a
as near to that given above as
Plant in April, water the plants dur
longed spells of drought, and re
certain.]

Cross-fertilising Compositæ flowe

(E. P., Som.).—All Compositæ
have a method of preventing self-pol
The flowers are protandrous. The
shed into the tube formed by the
The style and stigma elongate thro
anther tube and brush out the polle
pollen so shed is carried away by
visiting the flower-head, but some o
doubtedly reaches the receptive stig
flowers that have opened earlier wi
same flower-head. The stigma, afte
ing out the pollen and growing out
the tube, then unfolds, and as the up
face only of the anther is receptive,
lination is prevented. If cross-pol
does not take place the stigmatic lob
back and reach the pollen, and self-
tion results. In spite of all this
authorities maintain that at least on
posite is never pollinated, namely, the
lion. The seed of this is produced
pollination at all. Most new vari
Chrysanthemums are raised from n
fertilised flowers and from "sports"
from existing varieties.

Christmas Roses unsatisfactory

(K. M. B.).—Your plants appear
need of division, in which case only t
portions should be used for repla
small, healthy pieces only being use
from three to five crowns apiece. Ch
Roses should never be transplanted
clumps intact. The best time for th
is September and October, but they m
success be planted up to the end of Fe
Prepared soil is preferable for these
as once a bed is thoroughly trenched,
and enriched it will require no furt
turbance for seven or 10 years. T
should consist of equal parts of good
loam and well decomposed manur
fibrous peat, and half coarse sand. Th
drainage is most essential, stagnant
being most injurious. A cool positio
tered, and partially shaded should be
and if a mulch of litter can be placed
the plants during very hot weather this
found an advantage and prevent the
ing of the flowers later. We advise
tear your plants to pieces and wash
roots, removing any which appear to
healthy before replanting, and plant
a part of the new bed with freshly int
roots.

Tropæolum speciosum

Kindly say, through the medi
Gardening Illustrated, the ha
Tropæolum. Its description reads lik
thing we are seeking to cover a wall
a Rose bed, but before purchasing
your advice, as a few years ago we
something similar, the roots were mu
Bindweed, and in a few seasons spread
wide, choking many choice plants.
anxious to avoid a repetition, and sh
glad of any advice in reference to the a

Gravesend. H.

[The account of this plant which
close is correct so far as it goes, but we
not expect it to be successful on hot,
walls. The fact is that its ideal is
sandy, and leafy soil, deeply trenc
start, its roots and lower portions p
shaded, such as the foot of a large hed
on the cool side, beneath bushes of
or other shrubs of a deciduous natu

the low branches of Yew, Holly, or , through which it will push its slender ng growths and ultimately clothe them a veil of brilliant scarlet flowers and fruits. At the foot of a north wall, something to cling to, it grows freely very beautiful. The roots are almost al with those of Bindweed, and it els quite as freely as that pest when y situated.]

GREENHOUSE

sa not flowering

P. C. C.).—The varieties of the sa (Acacia) are very numerous, and of them bloom very sparsely at any Without knowing the variety, it is possible to suggest any treatment to result in inducing your plant to . One thing, however, is likely, and is you are feeding the plant unduly. arving it.

um capsicastrum not fruiting

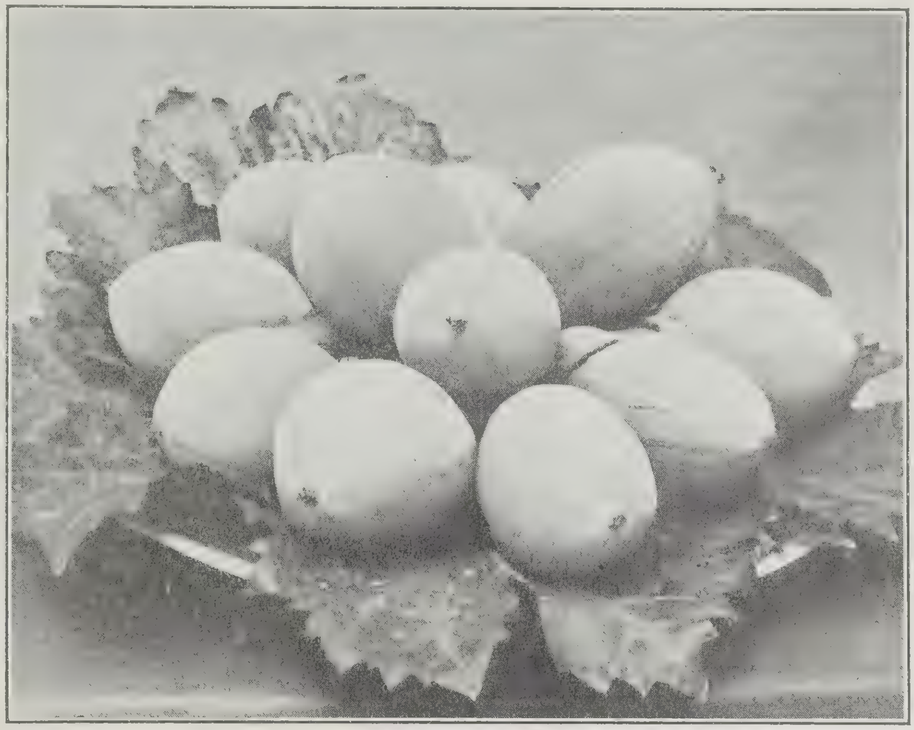
tia).—The plant arrived in good condi- nd enlightens us somewhat as to the of its not fruiting. It is a seedling and ot been stopped more than once, and we t think that you will get any berries on mainder this year. Seedling plants are fruiting, at least a large percentage of are, and that is the reason why large rs prefer cutting plants. In January bruary cut your plants back hard, or at a portion of them, and place them in a greenhouse, where, if kept on the dry they will soon break into fresh growth, le for cuttings. When these are about es long they should be taken off and in- in small pots of sharp sandy soil and under a bell-glass until rooted (several gs dibbled in around the edge of a 3- or 4-inch pot is the best method). When rooted, pot off singly and grow on in a rature of 55 degs. gradually hardening off as root action becomes free. When es or 4 inches of growth has been made should be stopped, and stopped again, a nice bushy plant has been formed. in May, the plants having been well ned, plant out in rows on a sheltered r, water freely during dry spells, and the fruits are seen to be setting freely occasional stimulants. Treated thus, hould have handsome stocky plants and of berries. The first week in October e plants with a nice ball of earth, and in a cool greenhouse or frame, shading bright sunshine if there is a tendency e part of the plants to flag. Some rs pot their plants on and plunge the up to their rims in ashes, but we prefer rmer method. In your own case the s did not come into bloom soon enough, re drawn and weakly. You might try of them in a house having a night tem- ure of 60 degs., but we are afraid you et little from them this season.

ated greenhouse which gets no sun

orge Brown).—The best use to which a house could be put would be that of ing Alpine plants, many of which would ry well in such a position during the r and early spring months, after which could be accommodated in the open and ouse used for raising seeds of various , including flowers and vegetables. Ferns would be found to succeed in a house; they must, however, be of a what hardy character, such as Adian- pedatum, Polystichum munitum, P. tichoides, P. angulare, Adiantum us-veneris, Asplenium trichomanes, pendrium vulgare crispum, and Poly- um angulare dinisolobum densum. Of es, the following should succeed:—Pyrola rotundifolia, Hepatica triloba in variety, Oxalis enneaphylla, O. magellanica, Ramondia pyrenaica, Anemone sylvestris, Hardy Cyclamen, Cypripedium pubescens, Linnæa borealis, Primula Juliæ and its various forms, Primula denticulata, P. auricula, P. pulverulenta, Sanguinaria canadensis, Mossy saxifrages, Violas, Mazus pumilis, several of the encrusted Saxifrages, Sedums, and Campanulas, such as C. pusilla, garganica hirsuta, pulla, and Fenestrallata, Calceolaria John Innes, and many other choice subjects. In the early spring, about April, seeds of most annual flowers could be raised, and also herbaceous flowers, by sowing thinly in well-drained boxes of sandy soil, and some may be pricked off and flowered in pots for use indoors. Sweet Peas and Garden Peas could be raised in pots or boxes for planting out, and some Lilies could at least be started in such a house and transferred to the open later.

Soil for Gloxinias

(M. B.).—A suitable compost for Gloxinias is two-thirds of good fibrous loam, broken up to the size of pigeon's eggs, and one-third made up of chopped leaf-mould, peat, a little bone-meal, and sand. The plants should be potted up about the end of March and stood on a shelf—near the glass for preference—in a house having a temperature of from 60 degs. to 65 degs. at night. Water for a time must be given with great care, but the pots should be syringed almost daily. Apply no stimulants until growth is strong and advanced, and grow in a slightly cooler and more airy temperature when the flowers begin to open. During growth abundance of moisture in the atmosphere is much appreciated by them. Your plants have suffered from having been grown in a temperature too low and dry, with too much water at the root, hence the surface green; a humid atmosphere is imperative during growth. Both the seedlings and any older corms you may have should be gradually dried off, sufficient moisture only being permitted to maintain the corms in a plump condition. A suitable store for them is a house or room which is just frost proof. In March shake out the corms and proceed as above.



The edible fruits of Passiflora

Passiflora edulis

COULD you say if Passiflora edulis is the plant which bears fruit known in some countries as Granadillas? A nurseryman's catalogue I have suggests that Passiflora edulis can be grown in this country on a warm wall in the milder districts. I do not suppose that the fruits would compare with those grown in sub-tropical countries, but I should be obliged for any information you might be able to give about it.

Dorset. JOHN ADAMS.

[This plant may be grown in this country on warm, sheltered walls and in favoured districts. Its fruits, however, cannot always be relied upon. The variety usually grown is Passiflora cœrulea, which produces attractive blue flowers 2 inches across from July to September, and rich orange-coloured fruits as large as egg Plums. The plant is often cut to the ground in winter, but usually springs into growth again the following year. The West Indian "Granadilla" is Passiflora quadrangularis, and although the former name is frequently applied to several species of Passiflora, the facts are as here stated.]

FRUIT

Melon for frame

(R. P. C. C.).—Hero of Lockinge is probably the easiest managed of all Melons when grown in a frame. Munro's Little Heath is also excellent.

Apple pollination

(R. Smalley).—We see no reason why Allington Pippin, Ellison's Orange, Lane's Prince Albert, and Newton Wonder should not crop well together. Golden Spire is a good variety, especially in the North of England. You should certainly plant Annie Elizabeth; it is rather slow coming into bearing condition, but it is a fine late cooking variety, and will keep until April. James Grieve is a good variety, and as you say it does well in your district, we should advise you to plant. The Beech hedge should answer for a windscreen on the western side. We think that on the eastern side it would answer your purpose if you filled up with flowering shrub. If you feel you must have a low hedge, try Berberis or Golden Privet; both could be kept to any desired height.

VEGETABLES

Keeping Celery

I have a trench of Celery which requires lifting at an early date to allow cultivation of the ground. Please advise best method of keeping till required. Would it be advisable to transplant in a convenient place and protect from severe frost? D. McL.

[A good plan is to make a ridge or bed, slightly higher in the centre, and then dig up the Celery and lay them nearly touching, but with their roots at the highest part. A layer could be laid down on each side, with the roots touching in the centre. When a layer is completed, heap 4 inches of soil over the roots and stalks, but leaving an inch or two of the leafy ends protruding. Another layer can then be laid on and also covered with soil, and so on until the whole is treated, finishing off with a good layer of soil, which should be beaten smooth with the spade so as to shed as much of the rainfall as possible. The advantage of having the roots at the highest point is to prevent water lodging in the centres of the plants and causing decay.]

Small Cauliflowers

(J. Jackson).—While autumn sowing is all well enough for providing plants for early supplies, we consider that much finer produce can be grown, if seed be sown out-of-doors early in March, the best varieties being Sutton's Favourite, Early Dwarf Erfurt, Walcheren, and Veitch's Autumn Giant. The ground should, of course, be made fairly rich, but must be well trodden down before the plants are set out. Plant firmly, allowing about 21 inches each way for the early sorts and 27 inches to 30 inches for the late varieties. Well hoe the ground at frequent intervals throughout the growing season, and should there be any sign of want of vigour about the plants, give the roots an occasional soaking of weak liquid manure. A dressing of fresh lime, at the rate of 6 ozs. per square yard, applied in spring and very lightly forked into the surface, is very beneficial to this plant.

Mushrooms

I should be glad if you could give me some directions as to the best method to start cultivating Mushrooms, quantity of spawn required, etc. I have a greenhouse 30 feet long, with border (under staging) each side 4 feet wide. What is the best time of year to begin? M. L.

[The most important requirement in the cultivation of the Mushroom is a plentiful supply of fresh horse droppings, said horses to be "hard fed." That is, on oats and hay. A quantity of fibrous loam, but not more than a sixth of the whole bulk, may be made use of by mixing thoroughly with the droppings. The fresh droppings, collected daily, should be spread out thinly in an open shed until such time as a sufficient amount has been got. The whole is then thrown into a conical heap to ferment. This should be turned and mixed every third day, and by about the tenth day the mass should be made into a bed, treading it well down, but not making it actually hard. The bed must not be less than 2½ feet thick, and should be 3½ feet to 4 feet broad. It will heat violently, or should do so. When the heat has declined to about 75 degs., "spawning" should be carried out. Break up the cakes of spawn into pieces the size of an egg. Bury the spawn 2 inches under the surface and 6 inches to 9 inches apart. In a few days the bed should be covered with 2 inches of the best fresh loam. Lay evenly all over and beat down smooth and firm with a spade. While it is possible to grow Mushrooms in a greenhouse, this is not an ideal place for this purpose, as it is hardly possible to keep a glasshouse at a steady temperature of about 55 degs., the warmth at which the Mushroom succeeds best. Also the drip from the staging would be harmful unless you had some protection provided to shed this off. Beds can be started at any time, but from September till March is when the bulk of them are made.]

BEES

Candy for bee feeding

I would be greatly obliged if you could inform me of the proper way to make "Bee Candy" for winter feeding.

"DOUBTFUL."

[The following is a simple recipe:—To 6 lbs. of the best white granulated *cane* sugar add 1 pint of hot water. Use for preference an enamelled or an aluminium pan. Stand it beside the fire, stirring occasionally until *all* the sugar is dissolved. Now add a small teaspoonful of cream of tartar. Place the pan over a brisk fire or gas ring and boil for about five minutes, then remove from fire and stand the pan in another vessel containing cold water until the liquid begins to cloud over. Directly cloudiness appears stir vigorously. When the syrup has so thickened that further stirring is impossible, it should at once be transferred into some suitable receptacles. Bottomless boxes with glass lids, such as section cases, glazed on one side are very suitable. The glass enables the bee-keeper to see when the candy is consumed without disturbing the bees. When the candy is set it should be a moist, solid mass, easily cut into with the finger nail. If the candy is too hard the bees will be unable to make use of it without leaving the hive to obtain water; if too soft there is the risk, with the heat rising from the bees, of the candy running down between the combs and smothering many of the inmates. Failures in making good candy are often the result of (1) the sugar not thoroughly dissolved before starting to boil up; (2) over boiling; (3) stirring the syrup before it has cooled down sufficiently. In making candy it is advisable to keep the pan covered during the actual boiling, the confined steam will then melt any particle of undissolved sugar that may be adhering to the side of the pan. A few undissolved crystals will often cause the whole mass to crystallise during the stirring process. Should this happen the candy must be re-boiled for five minutes with another pint of hot water. A special candy-making thermometer is made which marks on the scale the exact temperature to which the boiling syrup should rise, with a lower mark showing the temperature at which stirring should commence. This thermometer can be obtained from the office of the "British Bee Journal," 23, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C., price 5s. 3d. Though candy feeding during the winter months may be necessary to save the life of a colony, the correct time to feed bees is during September, when sufficient liquid food should be given to last the colony until the honey flow commences in April.—L. BIGG-WITHER.]

LEGAL POINT

Legal status of park superintendent

(a) What is the legal status of a park superintendent as to notice to quit in face of the fact of no agreement on that point when engaged? (b) Is a park superintendent liable to pay unemployment insurance? (c) What would be considered a fair average wage for a park superintendent with a staff of, say, five or six assistants and grounds consisting
of tennis courts, bowling greens,
greens, shrubberies, herbaceous borde
all the general work of mixed beddin
rock work, water garden, etc., w
course, a house to live in? HORT

[(a) We are not aware of any particu
tom. The position of a park superin
must be a matter of agreement as
notice. Failing that, we should say
month's notice would be required. (b
since his employment would presuma
volve manual labour. (c) We cannot e
what would be an adequate wage.
pends upon so many circumstances.]

MISCELLANEOUS

Heating a greenhouse

(South Norwood).—It is impossible
the average annual cost of heating the
house specified. It depends on several
—the price of fuel, the number of mo
the year the heating apparatus would
quired to be in use, the character
winter, whether severe or moderate, th
of plants, etc., that you contemplate g
—whether those requiring a forcing te
ture or intermediate, or ordinary coo
plants. As a very rough estimate fo
six months firing, from October to t
of March, we should say 5s. per wee
regards the suggestion for taking a
from a modern constant hot water s
we presume this refers to a domestic
apparatus, in which case we do not
the experiment.

Garden peat

(R. Smalley).—Most Heaths and
dendrons require a soil that is a
character. A few species will do well i
containing plenty of chalk, but the m
will not tolerate lime. You say your
tenacious loam, overlying limestone.
soil formation does not sound parti
hopeful for Heaths and Rhododendro
cept the few that grow well on lim
To grow the others you will have
peat in quantity. We do not care to p
opinion as to the material mentioned i
letter without examination. If you c
send us a sample we will report in due

NAME OF FRUIT

J. M., Dunbar.—Newton Wonder.

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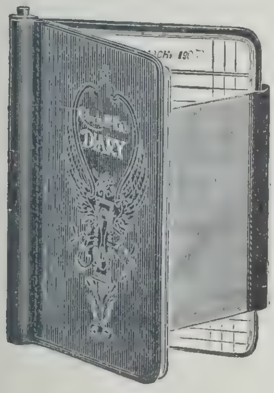

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of understanding between giver and reci
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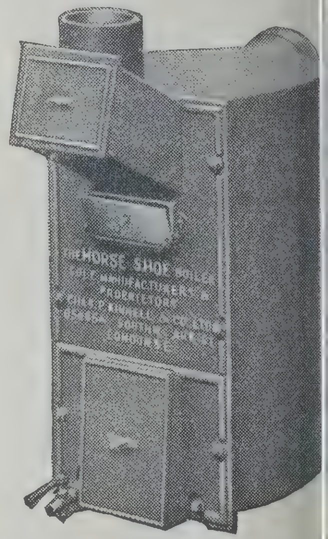

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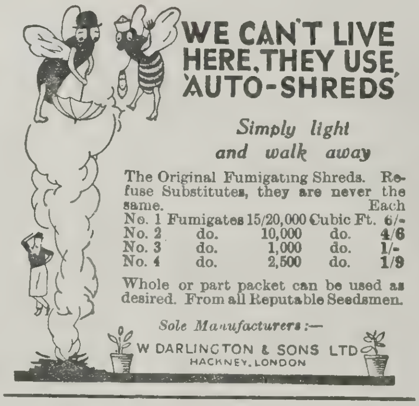

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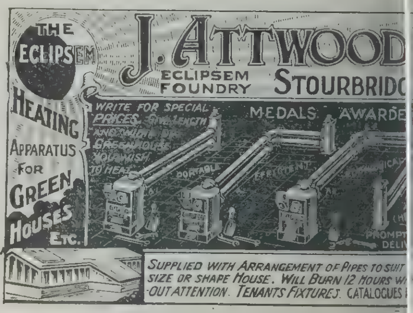
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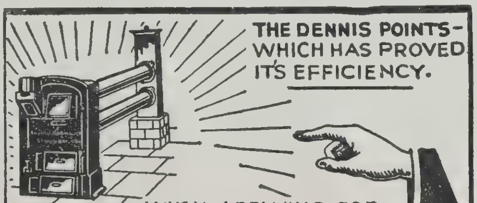
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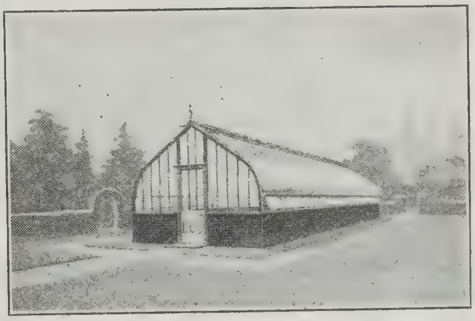

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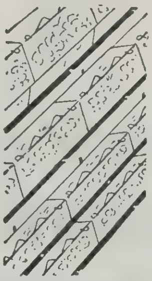

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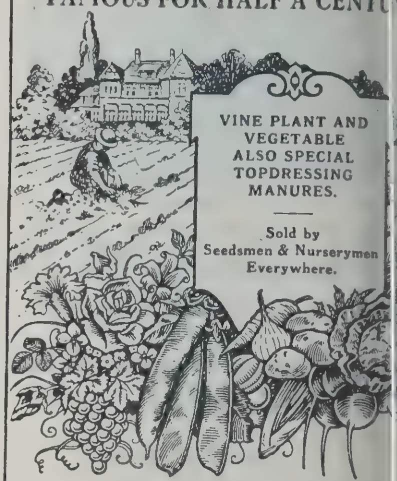

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GARDENING ILLUSTRATED

2650—VOL. LI. DECEMBER 21, 1929 [Prepaid Annual Subscription to any part of the World, 13/-

Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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Christmas Plants

HEN the celebration of the Winter
Solstice, the re-birth of the sun, was
absorbed into the festival of a later
ty, the Holly, Ivy, and Mistletoe had
taken over by the new religion. But
were not very warmly received. Mistle-
o which a very pale tradition of the old
nalia clings persistently, is still excluded
the church decorations, while even the
ly Ivy and Holly were only reluctantly
ted, and you cannot help feeling that
three old pagan plants have never been
converted. They hold their place with
tain northern stubbornness,
erhaps because they are
ble to set some dark chord
ncestral memory faintly
ng.

MISTLETOE

ny told us that the Druids
to cut Mistletoe reverently
the Oak trees with a golden
, though you would need to
h the length and breadth of
and now-a-days to find a
e Oak tree with Mistletoe
ing on it. But the Druids
been rather overworked in
ause of romance, and, on
ther hand, the Mistletoe is
a strange plant that it needs
of the little glamour they
lend to enhance its impres-
of mystery. In its uniform
of yellowish-green it looks
like a tangled sea plant set
dim pearls than a land
ler with respectable rela-
, among whom, by the way,
hall find the Indian Sandal
d. Yet it is quite easy to
if you have patience; first
ait until the seeds are quite
in February, and then to
a year or two while the germinating
allows itself to be buried by the over-
ing bark of its host. The seeds should
wn by sticking them with their own glue
the underside of a young shoot of an
e, Hawthorn, Poplar, or Rowan tree, to
h they will do no perceptible harm, for,
ugh the Mistletoe is properly classed
parasite, it is partly self-supporting. An
more desirable plant, if we could get
of it, would be the Mistletoe with red
rs and orange berries, which grows on
Holm Oaks in Italy, and was probably
"Golden Bough" which served Æneas
passport to the lower world.

HOLLY AND IVY

lly and Ivy seem to have been associated
e old winter festival, for we find them
d together in several mediæval songs.
following one was jotted down in his commonplace book at the end of the fifteenth century by Richard Hill, a grocer's assistant:—

Holly stood in the Halle
  Fayre to behold;
Ivy stood without the dore,
  She is full sore a-cold.

Nay, Ivy, nay.
  It shal not be, I-wis;
Let Holly have the maistry
  As the manner is.

The front garden of an old Kent farmhouse

The trailing Rockspray (Cotoneaster horizontalis) and the Japanese Quince (Cydonia) are growing over the low wall to the left of the steps, and Pyracantha Lælandii, with orange-scarlet berries, is trained up the front of the house

Holly and his merrie men
  They dauncen and sing;
Ivy and her maidenis
  They weepen and wring.

Nay, Ivy, nay, etc.

and the swing and stamp of the rhythm suggest that it was part of a singing game, which was probably played with a troop of boys on one side and a troop of girls on the other, for in the eighteenth century it was a custom in certain Kentish villages for the girls to burn a "Holly Boy" stolen from the boys, while the boys burnt an "Ivy Girl" stolen from the girls. Another song of this kind, with rather a charming lilt to it, is included by Chambers and Sidgwick in their "Early English Lyrics":—.

Holver and Hivy made a great party
  Who should have the maistrie
  In landis where they go.

Then spake Holver "I am freece and jolly;
  I will have the maistrie
  In landis where we go."

Then spake Hivy, "I am loud and proud;
  I will have the maistrie
  In landis where we go."

Then spake Holver, and sat him down on
    knee,
  "I pray thee, jentil Hivy,
  Say me no vilanie
  In landis where we go."

THE GLASTONBURY THORN

Another Christmas plant, which is much less familiar than Ivy, Holly, and Mistletoe, but far more Christian, is the Glastonbury Thorn. According to legend this sprang from the staff of Joseph of Arimathea, which he thrust into the ground one Christmas day at Glastonbury, after an unavailing sermon in the course of his campaign in the West against "the Druids and their Ægiptian learning." In the sixteenth century the historical bush was still growing at Glastonbury Abbey and drawing crowds of pilgrims by flowering on Christmas day. Slips of it were distributed to neighbouring monasteries and found their way into private gardens, where their descendants may be found to-day, flowering a little less punctually than of old, but giving us a few blossoms at intervals throughout the winter, and occasionally a regular show in the mild weather of our modern, earlier Christmas day. In the outcry against the reformation of the calendar an appeal was made to the Glastonbury Thorn to decide the righteousness or unrighteousness of the change, and a bush in a certain churchyard was carefully watched to see whether it would flower on the old Christmas day or the new. But, after the manner of oracles when pressed for a decision, the Glastonbury Thorn refused to commit itself, and began to flower before the new Christmas and continued till the old Christmas day was past.

Botanically this Thorn is only a variety of the Common Hawthorn, in which the peculiarity of flowering twice a year has become fixed. But whether it sprang from the staff of "Joseph Abarimacie" or from a piece of the crown of thorns that he brought with him from Palestine, or whether it appeared, shall we say "spontaneously," at Glastonbury Abbey, it is an ancient plant and well worth a place "in the gardens of the curious."

JASON HILL.

Christmas Greetings

We have added many new readers recently, and our post-bag increases at such an alarming rate that we have difficulty in keeping pace with correspondence. These are lively and healthy signs, imparting a feeling of seasonable optimism for the future. To our many friends at home and abroad, and to the wide and ever-increasing circle of readers unknown to us, but who, we are proud to think, are our friends, we take this opportunity of expressing cordial greetings for Christmas and sincere wishes for happiness and prosperity in the New Year.

The Alpine Garden Society

The proposed Rock Garden Society is now formed, with the title of The Alpine Garden Society. There was a good attendance at the inaugural meeting, held at the New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society on December 10th. Sir William Lawrence was elected President; Mr. Selwyn Duruz, Le Chalet, Montagu Gardens, Wallington, will be the Hon. Secretary; Mr. F. H. Fisher (Chester) will be the Assistant Secretary for the North of England, and it is hoped to appoint an Assistant Secretary for Scotland. The annual subscription, 10s. 6d., should be sent to Dr. Giuseppi, Hon. Treasurer, Trevose, Felixstowe, and the life membership has been fixed at 10 guineas. The following have consented to serve on the Committee :—Mr. G. P. Baker, Mr. George Yeld, Dr. Giuseppi, Mr. Renton, Mr. Amos Perry, Capt. Symons-Jeune, Mr. W. E. Th. Ingwersen, Mr. Herbert Cowley, Miss Victoria Slade, Mr. F. H. Fisher, Mr. Clarence Elliott, Viscountess Byng of Vimy, Mr. Maurice Pritchard, Mr. F. C. Puddle, Mr. J. R. Pulham, Mr. G. Reuthe, and Mr. Edwards.

It was decided to hold the first show of this Society on May 8th and 9th, 1930, and to organise other exhibits throughout the season. The appointment of an Editor is under consideration, and it is hoped to publish pamphlets written by experts on different genera, *i.e.*, Alpine Violas, Dianthus, sections of Saxifrages, Campanulas, Ramondias, Primulas and the like at intervals of not more than two months.

NOTES OF THE WEEK

The Garden Club

We hear that Dr. Giuseppi is lecturing before the Garden Club on his recent plant hunting expedition on Olympus. The lecture takes place on March 11th, 1930, after a garden dinner, which is one of the features of this exclusive Mayfair club.

Wild flower protection

A Society has been formed which aims at the preservation of our existing British flora. It is hoped by education and legislative action to prevent the plundering of the countryside. The scheduling of our rarer wild flowers and herbs against destruction (in the same manner as wild birds are scheduled) is not an impossible task. An inaugural meeting is to be held in London early in the New Year, and full particulars may be had from the Hon. Secretary, Cyril Harding, Sunnyside, Lenham Heath, Kent.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Erinacea pungens or the Hedgehog Broom

THE rather formidable name of this plant is by no means inappropriate, for the plant is dwarf, much branched, and the tips of the branchlets are stiff and spiny. Like many of the other shrubby Leguminosæ, the small leaves on the new growth soon fall off, leaving the bare green stems on which the handsome blue flowers are borne in twos and threes. The flower-stalk is very short, and the calyces are curiously inflated, much in the same way as the Anthyllis. Older plants grown under glass produce a certain amount of seed annually, but the hedgehog character of the plant is soon manifest when any attempt to collect seed or to remove dead flowers is made. The seed pod is short and contains only one or two seeds; these germinate readily if sown at once. The seedlings grow slowly, attaining about 5 inches in height and 10 inches in width in four years, when they commence to bloom. If planted on the rock garden a well-drained, sunny position should be chosen; if sheltered from heavy rains by an overhanging rock, so much the better.

The plant can also be propagated by cuttings. Growth is slow, and an annual potting will be found sufficient; the soil should consist of three parts loam, the other quarter consisting equally of lime rubble, sand, and leaf-mould. Pot firmly. Careful watering and free ventilation are essential. The vogue of the Alpine house will probably make its cultivation more common than in the past, as it is an ideal plant for that structure. An old plant, which once gained a "Cultural Commendation" has flourished for over 20 years in a cool house and still bears a plentiful crop of flowers each season. In the open it appears to miss the sunny, dry climate of Spain, for although introduced in 17
still somewhat rare in private garden

Handcross. J. Co

The Hedgehog Broom (Erinacea pungens). A prickly subject with bluish-purpl Pea-shaped flowers ; native of the dry hills of Spain

The fine specimen here figured is nearly a yard across and flowers in great profusion as pot plant in Lt.-Col. Messel's garden at Handcross, for which his gardener, Mr. J. Comber received a Cultural Commendation from the Royal Horticultural Society

Wanted: A Society for the prote of rare British plants

Whilst one can warmly sympathis
Mr. Herbert Cowley in his condemna
the removal of 18 plants of the
Gentian from a wild part of Surrey
more difficult to appreciate his point
when dealing with the objects of the r
formed Society for the Protection o
Flowers. The normal gatherer o
flowers gathers indiscriminately, and
with a disregard of results to the pla
endeavouring to influence young peo
the direction of sparing and careful ga
ing, and the avoidance of removing roots
Society seems to be starting in the right
The need for gathering wild flowers in
way is a real one. I reside just outside
London area, yet within three to four
of where this is being written Primroses,
Early Purple, the Fly, and the Green Wi
Orchids have almost disappeared.
Spotted, the Pyramidal, and the Bee Orc
show unmistakable signs of the annual
and broad sheets of rich hued Bluebells
been reduced to weakly patches of stu
growth and poor colour. All this has occu
within the past 20 years, yet most of
damage could have been avoided by cut
or the careful breaking of flower stems.

Now to return to the 18-plant man.
the true value of his native flora been
plained to him early in life he would p
ably have realised that seed from one of
plants he so selfishly lifted was capable
giving him greater interest in raising it,
a far better chance of establishing the pl
in his garden. Moreover, there would

re plants to gladden the eyes of those njoy its beauties on that wild piece of Common. A. M. SWAIN.

I am interested to see the note about arsh Gentian.

t spring a woman dug up all the spring n she could find in, I believe, Middlende.

It very difficult to know what to do, as oes not want to stop children picking s, and yet the Primroses have gone all our roadsides here in my lifetime, ritillaries have entirely vanished, and things are getting scarcer.

m having cards printed somewhat on lines :—

Are you a motorist?
Then spare the wild flowers.

ase do not dig up the roots.

ve them for others to enjoy as well as

ase pick few or soon we shall have none

mroses and Cowslips are getting very e in many counties.

emone and Bluebell woods are getting er. These flowers fade before you get

ld Daffodils and Fritillaries are nearly out.

sque Flowers and Marsh and Spring ian are so scarce they should not be d at all.

ggestions from others *re* other flowers want protecting would be welcome.

HARRY PEACH,
Hon. Secretary to the Council
for the Preservation of Rural
England Exhibition Committee.
St. Nicholas Street, Leicester.

—"One must exaggerate nothing," as the ch say, and the cutting of our commonvild flowers by the town dwellers is not g to exterminate them, but the uprooting em must inevitably do so in time. So s all join in asking everybody to leave oots of plants in peace

ur rarer floral treasures are not immune danger, they fall an easy prey to the strians and climbers who, smitten with charms, cut or uproot these gems to themselves a transient pleasure, little ing that by so doing they are endangerthe existence of a rarity.

is difficult to cope with such conduct, which, since it arises from ignorance, e is some excuse. There are, however, se offenders, though their numbers being r their power of destruction is less.

hese are the self-styled botanists and sod flower-lovers, who hunt for rare plants ematically, and gather and uproot them lessly on purpose to dry them as botanispecimens, or to plant them in their own lens under the impression that the scientiknowledge which they possess excuses vandalism.

urely such people should be summarily lt with like those who cage our song birds ll treat animals.

o bring home to all reckless destroyers of tish flora the error of their ways a society ed Flora's League has been formed. Its ge costs one shilling. There is no subption. The following are the rules which members themselves observe and try to others to follow also :—

. Enjoy flowers as they grow.
. Gather sparingly.
. Pluck carefully.
. Allow them to seed freely.

he badges and literature of Flora's gue can be obtained from its founder, Sir Maurice Abbott Anderson, Madeira Cottage, The Walk, Lyme Regis, Dorset.

To keep the earth in touch with Heaven,
The flowers—God's Thoughts—to it are
given! VICTORIA SLADE.

Eritrichium argenteum and E. nanum

I WISH to express my appreciation to Mr. Roger Bevan for his excellent cultural directions for Eritrichium nanum. Eritrichium argenteum will probably be amenable to the same treatment if limestone is substituted for granite chips. This plant, classed by Farrer as a form of E. nanum, differs at least in one important particular from the latter; it is always found on limestone, never, to my knowledge, on granite or schist. E. nanum apparently has precisely the opposite preferences. It may be of interest to your readers to see a portrait of this lovely plant. It grows between 12,000 feet and 13,000 feet, usually on steep, rocky slopes, forming little tuffets of silvery down. The flowers are small and pure deep blue. The illustration is about two-thirds natural size, but the plant is, unfortunately, almost out of bloom. The flowering season of E. argenteum is in July, while I reach the mountains at the beginning of August and see only the remnants of a glory that has passed.

Allow me to note that in M. Correvon's letter on page 752 the word "rootlet" is a misprint for nutlet. LOUIS BRAND.

University of Cincinnati.

Thoughts for the birds

And when you have finished decorating the house—when even the kitchen has been given its bright adornments—why not take a piece of string two or three yards long and tie upon it here and there pieces of Coconut, lumps of fat, Raisins, and half-shelled Brazil nuts. Festoon this from tree to tree or from one tall stick to another in the garden and the birds, particularly the tits, will make a living decoration outside your window during the whole of Christmastide. (From "Flower and Vase: A monthly key to room decoration," by Anne Lamplugh.)

——So many fail to realise how helpful birds are in ridding the soil of pests. As soon as the crops have been gathered in the ground should be dug over, leaving the surface quite rough. The grower should get this done before the hibernating insects have gone down any great depth, when a great number of them will be brought to the surface and devoured by birds. If the surface spit of soil is turned over several times during the winter the cleaner it will become by next spring, and the pests not eaten by the birds will fall victims to frost as the cold weather arrives.

Another thing must not be lost sight of, that weeds are also attacked as well as cultivated plants. Therefore, well weed the land, for if allowed to remain they may be feeding the pests. It will thus be seen it is advisable to keep weeds in check, either by burying them very deeply or destroying them by burning. F. H.

Gardening
Gardening

The foreman and a pupil

Eritrichium argenteum

Flowers small and pure deep blue, arising from tuffets of silvery down

Euphorbia palustris

Several articles have appeared in GARDENING ILLUSTRATED recently about autumn colouring, but these have all related to shrubs and trees, and nothing has been written about the colouring of leaves of stems of plants in the Herbaceous border. Almost by chance I discovered recently that such a plant, easily grown, but seldom seen, possesses a most remarkable beauty of colour in autumn, which may rival anything of the kind amongst shrubs. I refer to Euphorbia palustris, one of the Spurge—or Milkworts. Like all members of the Euphorbia Family, the flowers have a greenish-yellow hue, and these are remarkable in the spring by reason of their large size and the wealth of blossom. The plant dies right down in the winter and starts away early in the spring and attains a height of 4 feet in about six weeks. After the flowers are over, the stems continue to grow and carry pinnate leaves of a light green colour. The real wonder of the plant is not revealed until the autumn. I mentioned that I discovered this by chance. In previous years I had cut down the stems in late summer, but this season they were left; as the leaves were falling the light green stems changed to a light pink, then to rose colour, and finally, when the stems were bare, they became a bright red. A remarkable feature of the colouring is that on the side towards the south the stems colour more deeply than those on the east and west, while the side towards the north remains light green. The effect of these various hues on the one plant seen in sunlight is very beautiful, and must be seen to be realised. Although I have many trees and shrubs in my garden grown entirely for their autumn colouring, there is not one that can rival the beauty of Euphorbia palustris.

Plant in late autumn or spring, when it may also be increased by division; give the same good treatment as to any other plant in the herbaceous border. It is thoroughly hardy. F. H. S.

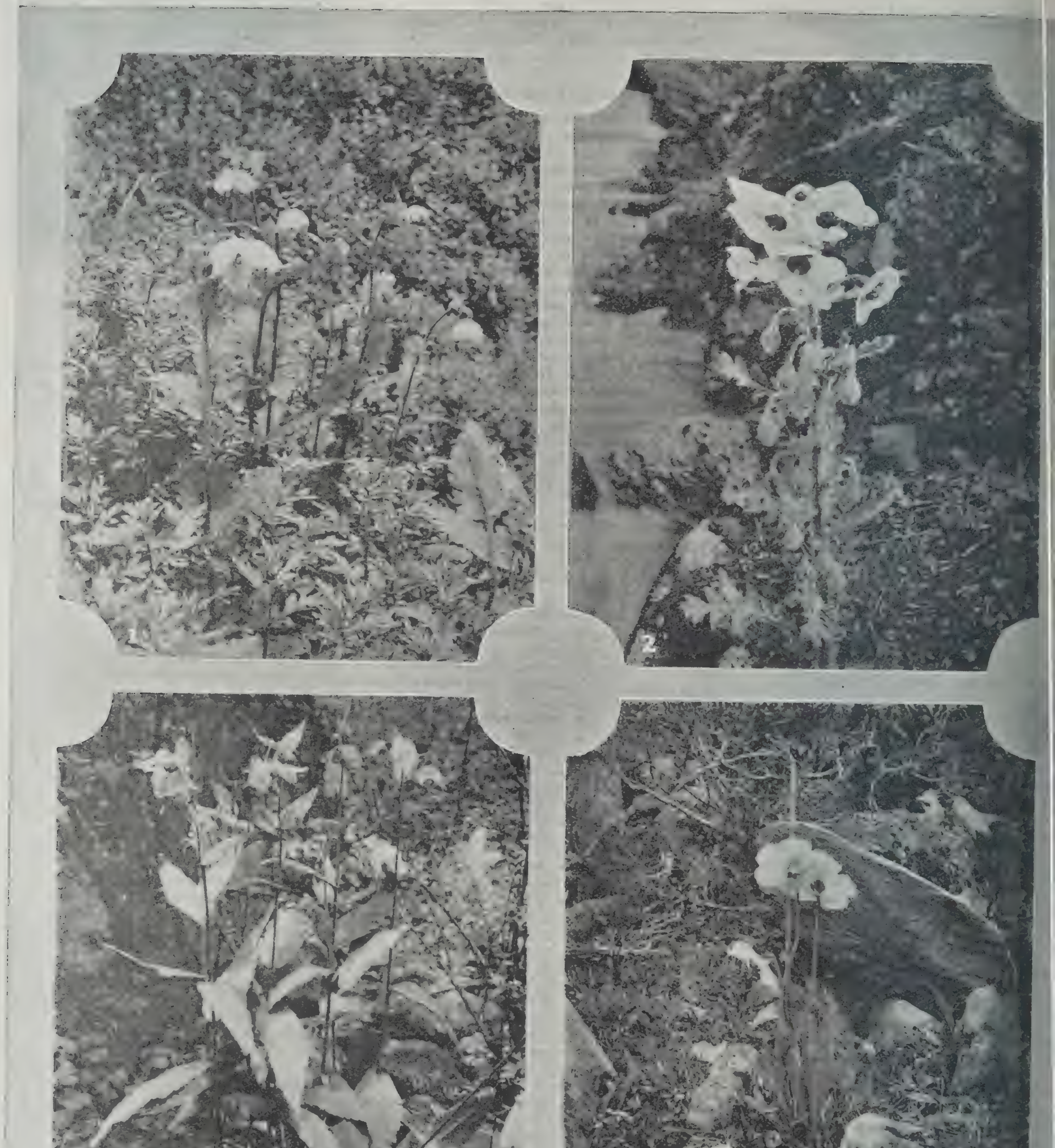
Herts.

Gardening enthusiasts

"ROVER," an old hand at the nursery, and known as the foreman, brings home the GARDENING ILLUSTRATED every week.

He now considers that "Mush," the Persian kitten, a new arrival, should also be trained to become interested in reading each week's best gardening news.

W. T. G. H.



BLUE POPPIES IN THEIR WILD HAUNTS

1. Meconopsis betonicifolia syn. M. Baileyi in Upper Burmah.
2. M. violacea, a violet Poppy discovered in Upper Burmah (Kingdon War
3. M. Baileyi ; flowers sky blue with golden-coloured anthers.
4. M. simplicifolia form, an ivory white Poppy (Kingdon Ward).

An Evening with Kingdon Ward

A fairyland of epiphytic Rhododendrons and Blue Poppies

Tuesday evening (December 10th)
pt. Kingdon Ward was the guest of
Horticultural Club, and after dinner
ed a large audience with an account
recent journey in Asia. The region
was along the Assam frontier be-
Assam and Thibet, through climates
g from tropical to arctic. The lecture
lustrated by a most interesting series
tern slides depicting natives, scenery,
lants of special interest in this little-
corner of Asia. The primitive
key rope " and Bamboo bridges over
and torrents looked very insecure. One
in the form of a tunnel made of rings
mboo canes had taken years to con-
though it was cut down in a few
ls after crossing by a runaway follow-
trivial domestic dispute. The jungle
y is sparsely populated, and villages
riodically wiped out by famine. The
e coincides with the periodic flowering
Bamboos, which brings swarms of
the jungle that later consume all the
of the natives.

narkably fine pictures were shown
iphytic Rhododendrons, including R.
ocolum on a tree over a river. R.
vorthii was also shown growing on
trees. Many Rhododendrons are
ytic in this region. It is curious to see
perched high on forest trees—it is only
the branches reach the light that they
r to flower at their best.

tures in their native habitats were
n of the late-flowering R. crassum, the
leaved Sino-grande, the small Heath-
pecies, and R. patulum of higher eleva-

ner interesting plants were Viburnum
lii, a Gentian resembling Sino-ornata,
Primula (Omphalogramma) Soulei.
rence was also made to the much dis-
d Blue Poppy, Meconopsis Baileyi syn.
etonicifolia. In gardens this plant is not
ys pure sky-blue, and it certainly shows
rked tendency to produce more petals
we expect from a well-behaved member
e Poppy Family. Capt. Kingdon Ward
ed his audience that in Nature it was
ys pure clear blue and invariably four-
led. His remark that in cultivation it
have become entangled in morganatic
iage and " the nearer Heaven it is grown
earer are the flowers to pure blue " did
we think, bring consolation to those who
lained of the many-petalled, dingy puce
muddy purple hues attributed to this
e jade. Be that as it may, is it not
ble that soil and situation influence the
r of this Poppy? Of this we are quite
that Meconopsis Baileyi at its best is
of the treasures of an English garden,
one of the most lovely of all the plants
ecent introduction. H. C.

imula Eucyclia (K.W. 6,822)

is delightful Primula has an elfin charm
wer and form that makes an irresistible
al to all who meet with it.

e plant is of slightly spreading habit,
ing a small hillock of thin, wiry growths
ches high, the round, five-lobed, deeply
hed leaves of a pleasing chrome-green
covered with short soft hairs. The flowers
ar singly or in pairs, borne stiffly erect
-inch stems, are of a soft rosy-pink with
early defined yellow ring in the centre,
le the petals have a deeply cut margin,
ng a fringe-like effect that enhances the
ant appearance of these flowers that may
be likened to a pink flattened-out
lanella minima.

It is, however, the attractive autumn-tinted foliage that has called for this note, for at this time admirably blended colours of red, purple, and gold in the older, combining with the soft green of younger leaves form an effective picture most rare among Primulas.

This plant is ideal for the Alpine house and responds to good culture in a compost of two parts broken fibrous loam, three parts leaf-mould, to one part broken sandstone and sharp sand. A light potting is to be recommended; ample water and shade through the summer months is essential for its welfare. Cuttings taken in late June form the best means of propagation. These should be inserted in clean sand and placed in a cold house, preferably under a bell-glass, while " Irishman's Cuttings " may be taken of the stolon-like shoots that run over the surface of the soil emitting roots as they advance. These however, do not seem to make plants so quickly as the real cuttings.

The apparently amiable nature and rapid means of raising stock should soon place this rare charming Primula within reach of all.

J. T. Wall.

Lewisias

Lewisias are not grown nearly so extensively as their value for the rock garden or Alpine house merits. This is no doubt due largely to cultural errors when frequent losses occur, and their shyness in setting seeds wherewith to replenish the stock.

It may not be generally known that the offsets (of such species that make them) of Lewisias root readily with a little care.

The rosettes should be cleanly severed from the parent plant with a sharp knife. If this is done carefully no further trimming is necessary. Insert the cuttings in clean, well crocked pots filled with sharp moist sand, make firm, keeping the rosette well down. The pots should then be watered and placed in a cold house under a bell-glass. Care must be taken not to over-water, as, being rather succulent, they are very apt to damp out; the one watering should suffice until they are rooted. September is the best time to insert the cuttings, and they will be ready to pot off in about four weeks.

Lewisias in the garden are best grown vertically in an open position facing west or south-west. Use a good loam in which a few pieces of old mortar rubble has been incorporated. For the Alpine house a little decayed leaf-mould and coarse sand should be added to the soil. W.

December jottings from Nice

DAHLIA IMPERIALIS has been unusually beautiful this genial and sunny autumn, reaching the unusual height of 10 feet with its crown of pendant Lily-like blossoms, and continuing in beauty the whole month of November. December began with warm rain, which was needed in the garden, but the moist air is scented by the fragrant sprays of Buddleia auriculata and the fine form of Chimonanthus which pervades the whole garden, so that visitors ask where all the sweet smells come from, not realising that the big bush (near an Orange tree) with sprays thick with leaves has its flowers hidden by the still abundant foliage. Yuccas are in especial beauty this month; they bloom twice a year, and since I learnt from a travelled American friend that in Texas they use the young flower-spikes, eating them like giant Asparagus, my autumn crop is much increased, as I mercilessly cut and eat the young flower shoots before I leave my garden in May. So good are they that I think of devoting a wild bank to their culture, as they are useful as well as ornamental, and require no care after being once established.

Acacia podalyriæfolia burst into fine flower with the first rains, and I see Snowdrops and Crocuses of various sorts asserting themselves. Hakea eucalyptoides is another beautiful December flower, though it more often chooses to open in November. Last winter tried this fine bold shrub severely, but it has recovered fully. Lantana elegantissima also is in much beauty, which will last till Kennedya Comptoniana takes up the same lovely shade of colour. Will this season allow us to enjoy the Bougainvillea's rich purple or red sprays? After last winter one looks askance at the bold spikes of the true Aloes that are now fruiting on sunny banks. In many places they were entirely destroyed, but the long hot summer seems to have made those that are left even fuller of flower than ever, so hope springs anew in the gardener's breast.

How many Salvias are in flower? It is difficult to give them all their correct name—who and where is the final authority? French gardeners are wedded to their own names. There is one I frankly do not know, with bold, upright growths and broad foliage crowned by long spikes of red flowers with brown woolly calyxes, but it does not make branches readily. This season, however, it is really beautiful because it was cut to the ground last winter, a thing that must be repeated. The straggling semi-scandent Salvia chamædrifolia is another special beauty, with brown woolly calyx and lavender blooms with a rich purple lip, most attractive. It begins when the good old Salvia eriocalyx comes to an end in December, but it is happiest when tied to a Palm trunk or scrambling through an Orange tree, where it contrasts so prettily with the fruit. Lopezia miniata is another pretty straggler against a wall, where its dainty sprays recall the autumn beauty of a flowering Heather that has blushed pink. Mina lobata, with its scorpioid racemes of cream bells shading to crimson bracts, is very decorative just now, scrambling up from its hole into a late Arbutus bush; one wishes it were more amenable to English conditions. Erica multiflora is also very full of flower and a great delight when found growing wild on

Farrer's Gentian with 103 blooms

Mrs. J. Raymond sends a photograph from which the above illustration is prepared. It shows a plant of Gentiana Farreri in her open rock garden which has had 103 blooms on it this autumn some wooded hillside. It is one of the puzzles of gardening to find that where it grows freely you will not find the fragrant Myrtle.

EDWARD H. WOODALL.

Cytisus præcox

THIS fine hybrid Broom is a splendid subject for growing in groups and masses. Treated in this manner it is exceedingly effective when in bloom. It has a distinct graceful, and bushy habit, ultimately reaching a height of about 5 feet. The flowers are produced in great profusion along the slender shoots in April and May of a sulphur-yellow colour. Known also as the Warminster Broom, on account of its having had its origin at the latter place. Unfortunately, the flowers are possessed of an unpleasant odour, which detracts somewhat from its usefulness for planting near to dwellings. On the other hand, it is a most pleasing sight when in full bloom viewed from a distance.

The illustration shows one of several groups that were originally planted on the edge of a plantation of trees and shrubs.

The Warminster Broom (Cytisus præcox)

Looking after Fuchsias in winter

More Fuchsias are lost during winter than at any other time of the year, not because of frost so much as through plants being put away in some out-of-the-way corner and forgotten. When greenhouses are filled to their utmost capacity with plants in bloom and coming into flower, Fuchsias often have to take their chance, and not infrequently they are packed close together under the greenhouse stage in semi-darkness, where, being near heat pipes, they either get dried up or are subject to drips from plants above. During winter these showy summer-flowering plants ought to be given a rest, and, for this purpose, coolness is essential, the best place, of course, being a cool house, away from actual frost, or in a spare room or shed where light can reach them. It is very desirable in the case of standards that every care should be given them at this time of the year. The aim should, therefore, be not to hurry plants unduly, but to keep them just going, so that by the time February comes round when they can be cut back and repotted, and then given a little extra warmth, they will jump into growth. It is not much that Fuchsias ask now, but the extra care one can give them is well worth it.

W. F.

The Holly bough with berries red

" And these who on this social eve,
Its old observances with joy fulfil;
Their simple hearts the loss of such would grieve,
For childhood's early memory keeps them still,
And therefore do they deck their walls with green;
There shines the Holly bough with berries red."

There can be but little doubt that the decoration of our dwellings at Christmastide is simply carrying on the Ancient Roman custom of decking their buildings with green boughs during the Saturnalia, and in the curious astrological and botanical works the Holly is dedicated to Saturn.

In many of the old herbals the Holly is called the Holy Tree, and it certainly appears likely that our name is a corruption of this one that is far older. In Denmark, Sweden, and Germany the Holly is always termed Christ's Thorn, or the Christdorn. The bright red berries have been likened to drops of blood, just as the Mistletoe berries have been likened to drops of sweat. From its association with the religious practices of the Druids the last-named plant is never to be found in the decoration of Christian places of worship, and it is curious that the Holly is not under the same ecclesiastical ban. It is as frequently used in them as in our homes, and the early church seems to have permitted its use for decoration, as it was no longer regarded as dedicated to Saturn, but an emblem of Christ with its thorny leaves and scarlet berries.

It is a remarkable feature of these leaves that when seen on the upper shoots they have a more simple outline and are devoid of their characteristic spines. This even outline of the leaves on the more exposed shoots no doubt allows the winter snows to slip from them more easily, and their smoothness is beneficial for the same reason. In more sheltered positions within the reach of browsing beasts that might be tempted to devour their shiny green leaves when green food is scarce, the spiny character must preserve them from injury and also protect the younger defenceless ones near them. The Holly is certainly one of
the finest evergreens we have for the
tion of our gardens, especially in the
months. The so-called Hedgehog H
a real curiosity, as the spines are to be
all over the leaf and are not confined
strangely undulating edges. The vari
Hollies, both the silver and gold va
are the most beautiful addition
shrubbery, and the yellow-berried var
very bright and pleasing amongst
The flowers of the Holly are much b
by bees, and by thus attracting them
garden plants and orchard trees are
fitted. In the gardens of Chiswick
that are now thrown open to the
nothing is more remarkable than the
less character of the foliage of the
Hollies that are some 60 feet in height.
botanical name of Ilex given to the
means " alluring " in the old Latin t
and if given because of the great bea
the tree at a time of year when there i
green or bright to be found among
majority, it has been indeed well best
Most of us would feel there was som
lacking were the walls left without
" Christmas " boughs at the merry s
The branches form such a delightful d
tion at Christmas time that it often se
pity to remove them, but according
ancient superstition and folk-lore it is
unlucky thing for anyone to keep the
the walls after Twelfth Night.

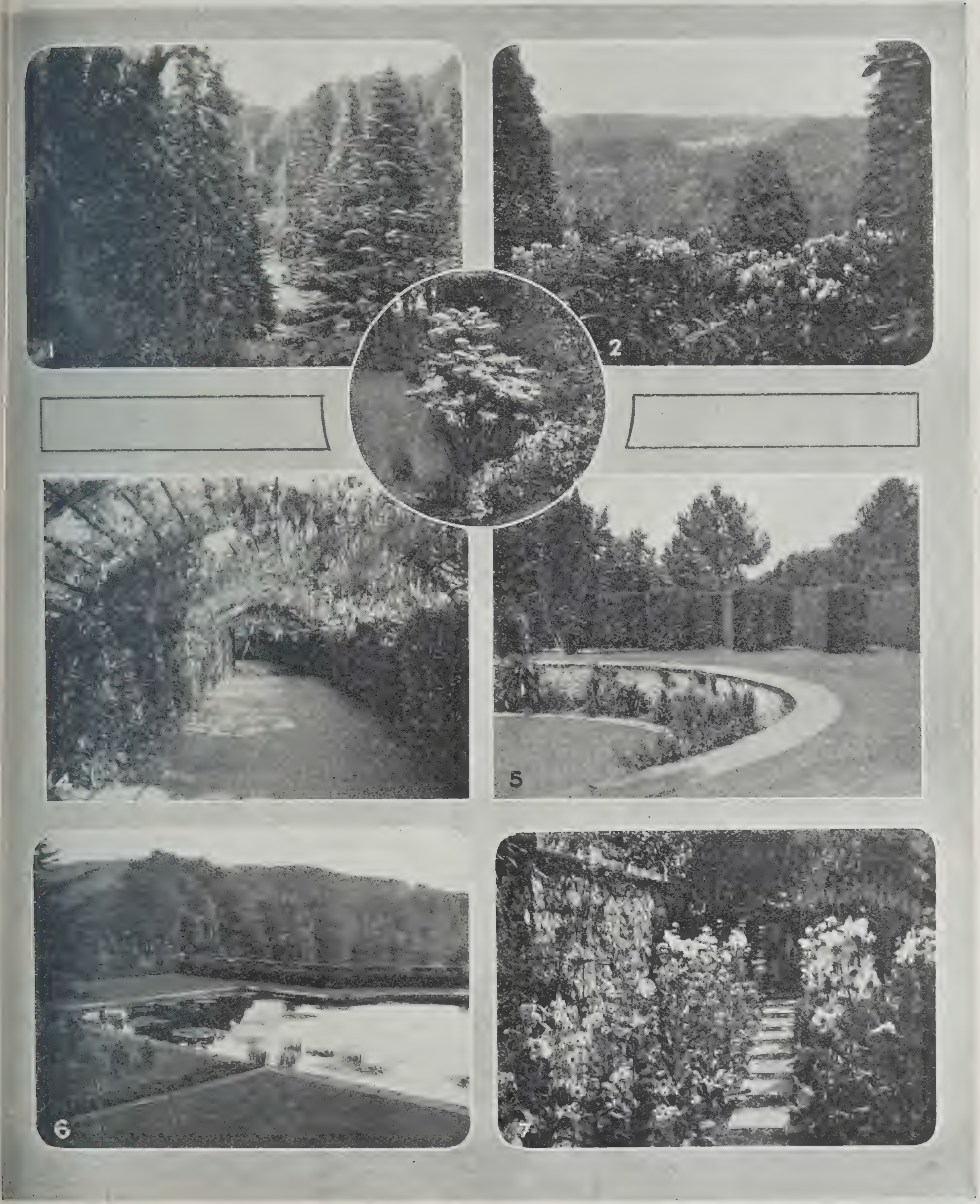
H. H.

Nierembergia rivularis

In the lovely Nierembergia rivulari
have one of the many plants about wh
is difficult to say whether it will bloom i
particular garden or not. It is well er
known among growers of experience tha
plant may succeed in one garden and f
another which appears to offer similar
tions. In nature this native of the Arge
covers great spaces by the banks of th
Plata with its leaves and dazzling
flowers of the purest beauty, and in
gardens in this country we may meet
large plants spreading freely and flow
bravely. In others the greatest care ma
even be rewarded by miserable little p
and a few flowers. Without attemptir
dogmatise upon the subject, I am of op
that the question of summer moisture e
largely into the factors for or against
cess. I first formed this opinion after t
N. rivularis in a dry garden with a sand
and gravel below. Even with plenty of
applied, the results were not at all com
surate with the work involved. On vis
the garden of a friend I saw there mag
cent, large plants of the Nierembergi
perfect mass of bloom. My friend infor
me that he could not succeed with it in
rock garden or border, so he was grov
it in large pans set in pails with the w
just over the bottom of the pan so that
roots of the Nierembergia were always
to reach the water. In autumn the
were taken out of the pails and wint
nearly dry in frames. It is not everyone
would care to cultivate this plant in
manner, or who could spare the time to
tend to it, but the experience may give
to some ideas by which such a trial c
be modified with success. It would app
that underground water, plenty of sun,
an open soil are important factors in gr
ing this gem. I see that Farrer, who d
not minimise in the least the troubles wh
await so many would-be growers of N. ri
laris, suggests a gentle, sunny slope of
rich but light and open loam, well-wate
from beneath. In very sunny gardens
thinks the slope might be away from
southern sun, but personally I consider t
N. rivularis delights in sun.

S. ARNOTT

BODNANT GARDENS, NORTH WALES



1. Conifers in the Dell.
2. Bodnant from the far side of the Dell.
3. Viburnum tomentosum var. Mariesii.
4. The arched walk of Laburnum.
5. Yew hedges on the stage of the Canal Terrace.
6. The Water Lily Terrace.
7. Meconopsis Baileyi and Primulas in a sheltered spot.

The Mistletoe Bough

THERE is so much to be learned about the cultivation of the inhabitants of the garden that there is seldom much time to devote to the study of other aspects of them. The festive season gives us a few hours to follow up this interesting pursuit. There is no need to think about any plants other than those conspicuous at the moment, for to unravel the history, legendary or otherwise, of the Mistletoe can make hours of study and the perusal of many books.

Viscum album, the Common Mistletoe, is sometimes erroneously stated to be the only European species of the order Loranthaceæ. True, maybe, that no other kind can be found in Britain. But Loranthus europeus is quite common in Southern Europe, where it grows freely upon Oaks and Chestnuts. The leaves of this species are very similar to our Mistletoe, but there is a difference in that Loranthus europeus is deciduous. Again, the berries of this kind are yellow as against the white viscid fruit with which we are familiar.

Mythologists apparently have cause to doubt whether the Common Mistletoe is the original in the famous legends, including that of Balder the Beautiful. One of the chief points concerned is that the Mistletoe only attains its importance when found on the Oak. As already stated, Loranthus europeus chooses the Oak quite often in the countries where it flourishes, but we all know how seldom Viscum album is to be found on the Oak in Britain. Religious worship always favours the rare. There is no doubt that is why the shrub that never touched the ground was held up to so much reverential esteem. Continuing the thought that religion prefers the rarity, it is quite possible that our Mistletoe was, after all, the right one when it was found on the Oak. Anyway, probably on account of its importance in the legend of Balder the Beautiful, it has, right from the time of the ancient Druids to the present day, been respected, despised, or treated singularly by peoples of all nations.

SOME QUEER USES

In our own country the Mistletoe has been put to many uses other than that of decorating the house and encouraging frivolity. The Druids gathered its branches off the Oak tree with great ceremony, and distributed twigs among the people. The "Heaven-born" plant was considered to be a remedy against poisons and a safeguard against all diseases, as well as a charm against all witchery.

Coming to comparatively recent years, the Worcestershire farmers gave it to the first cow of their respective herds that gave birth to a calf in the New Year. This ensured good luck in the dairy. In Lincolnshire St. Vitus' Dance was thought to be overcome by water in which the Mistletoe fruit had been boiled.

Going to Italy we find our subject was considered to be a cure for epilepsy if carried about on the person. The theory was that as Mistletoe had never touched the ground, the bearer could not fall. Another use in that country was for the cure of ulcers. Some of the chopped up leaves were eaten, and some applied to the sore. Still another queer supposition was that Mistletoe would extinguish a fire, or any building containing it would be immune from destruction.

In Germany a piece of Mistletoe was carried by the huntsman to bring him luck in the chase; and a belief was current that it would cure green wounds.

Japanese gardeners had so much faith in the Golden Bough that they believed it made their gardens bear plentifully. The leaves were chopped up finely, much prayed over, and then mixed with seed. Most of it was scattered over the garden, whilst the remainder was eaten.

Perhaps the most peculiar belief of all was that existent in Austria, where they thought it to be a key to open all locks. A twig laid on the doorstep would also stop the householder from having nightmare.

Another name for Mistletoe in Fran
Herbe de la Croix. The Cross of
Saviour was supposed to be made of its
The plant was then a normal tree, but
afterwards degraded into a parasite and
to remain so.

Mistletoe was originally called Misti
which is an Icelandic word that mean
slender twig." Considering the quali
the wood, this name is rather apt.

ITS CULTIVATION

The most favoured host of the Mist
is the Apple, next the Hawthorn.
trees on which it is found frequently ar
Poplar, Lime, Willow, Maple, and Mou
Ash.

March is the time to try and establis
plant. To do so, rub the berries on the
on the under side of a branch of the hos

There are catalogues listing Viscum al
in their pages. The firms concerned di
bute by disposing of young Apple trees
Mistletoe complete.

G. E.

Mount Usher, a lovely garden in the Wicklow Mountains

Mount Usher

IN the Wicklow Mountains is a garden
is justly called one of the most beau
on this planet. Mount Usher belong
Mr. E. H. Walpole, and I do not feel a
competent to write about such a wonde
place.

To tell of half the treasures there w
fill a large book, and it is difficult to
in a short space any idea of the real be
of the garden. The first thing that str
me was the mass of wonderful colour, no
sightly labels, and everything growing
happily and naturally, a result which c
only be achieved by one who thoroughly lo
and understood his subject. To anyone
loves beautiful flowers, plants, and trees
is, indeed, a paradise, and such an inter
ing paradise one would like to stay there
many months to see the different shrubs
plants in bloom in the different seasons.
is impossible to give a list of them all,
among the things I admired most were
Eucalypti; some of them have grown t
height of 80 feet to 100 feet, and such perf
shaped specimens, with their graceful gr
blue leaves. They make a lovely backgrou
for a garden. When I was there at the
of August, two nice trees of Brugmansia a
Datura were in full flower, with their fasc
ating bell-like blooms, one a glowing sha
of orange, and the other a soft shade of y
low; it was marvellous to see them bloomi
in the open. Lapageria rosea climbs up t
trees, and anyone is lucky who can grow t
plant with its rosy, bell-shaped blooms dro
ing in myriads and making a lovely glow
colour. Celmisias and Tricuspida
lanceolata thrive well, and drifts of Myos
tideum nobile, the beautiful Chatham Isla
Forget-me-Not, and Meconopsis Baileyi—c
there be two more beautiful blue flowers? T
species of Magnolia do well; Rhododendr
Zeylanicium from Ceylon, and the rare Bir
Betula Wilsoni, and, needless to say, the mo
attractive of all Brooms, Dorothy Walpo
originated at Mount Usher. A great char
of the garden is a river running right throu
it, and many little streams running from
to other parts, with all sorts of Ferns a
flowers hanging right down to the water
edge. Through the kindness of Mr. Walpo
members of the R.H.S. of Ireland are a
mitted to his beautiful gardens on five da
of each week, and many people must owe hi
a debt of gratitude for enabling them to vie
such a rare and magnificent collection.

DOROTHY BUCKNALL.

[We are indebted to the *Dublin Evenin*
Mail for the use of the three delightful phot
graphs of Mount Usher that accompany th
article.—ED.]

MOUNT USHER

The gardens of Mr. E. H. Walpole at Ashford, Co. Wicklow

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

The wild garden

Many plants which have been naturalised are now rather untidy in appearance, especially those with very large leaves, and as in many instances Snowdrops and other early-flowering bulbs are planted among them, it will be advisable to have this decaying foliage removed so that the bulbous plants, both large and small, may be seen to advantage. The present is a very good time to make fresh plantations of coarse-growing subjects which do not call for the same care as plants of a more refined nature—Funkias, Day Lilies (Hemerocallis), Lysimachias, Saxifraga peltatata, Solomon's Seal, Water Forget-me-Nots, Primulas, and King Cups; Michaelmas Daisies are plants which could still be planted.

Rubus, Rose species, and ornamental grasses

Among the former are many very handsome evergreen kinds which, allowed a fair amount of freedom, form rather beautiful carpets of attractive spiny growths and pretty leaves. Many people train these to rough poles, and in this way they are often very attractive, but there are some of them which absolutely refuse to thrive when so elevated, but which revel when left on the ground, rooting and extending quite freely.

Groups of Rose species

These are very lovely, both in flower and fruit, and require little attention except preparation of the soil before planting. I strongly recommend the following for this purpose:—Rosa rugosa in all its forms, R. rubrifolia, R. altaica, R. hispida, R. Gallica, R. Moyesii seedlings, R. Duponti, R. rubiginosa, and R. Anne de Geirstein. Split up and transplant ornamental grasses of all kinds which show loss of vigour.

Hardy Ferns

Most of these may be safely transplanted at the present time, and where from exhaustion or other reasons plants have developed signs of distress, they should be broken up and replanted in fresh soil. Most Ferns enjoy leaf-soil, and this should be generously provided. Partial shade is desirable for the majority, and plenty of space should be given to the large growing kinds such as Osmundas, Struthiopteris, and Polystichums. Christmas Roses are often very happy growing among Ferns.

What not to do

Do not tie newly-planted climbers out immediately they are planted, but allow the soil to become settled, and thus avoid suspending the plant. The same applies to newly-planted trees, which should be lightly slung to supports for the time being, their final tying being reserved for a later date when the soil has settled down. Do not prune Clematis alpina, Chimonanthus fragrans, Hamamelis, Cornus mas, Jasminum nudiflorum, Stachyurus præcox, Amygdalus nana, Forsythias, Corylopsis, Nuttalia cerasiformis, Ribes laurifolium, Pyrus japonica, Parrotias, or Staphyleas until after they have bloomed.

Christmas fare from the outdoor garden

Our Hollies (probably the finest evergreens in the world) will be in great demand this year owing to the extraordinary crops of berries, red, orange, and clear yellow, which render them so gorgeous in the open. I would, therefore, draw attention to the necessity of planting a few of those which a
most strongly while the idea is fresh in
mind, as they may now be seen in fruit
should be chosen before they have been
by the birds. Ilex Hodginsii, Wilsoni,
nocki, Camelliæfolia, Shepherdii, Mu
Aquifolium var. fructuluteo, Altaclar
are a few worthy of the notice of inte
planters and could be planted safely
Danæ laurus (or Victor's Laurel) is an
precious plant, the graceful growths of
are in great demand, not only during th
tive season, but throughout the whole y

(*By Edward Goodyear*)

A Christmas decoration: Poinsettias, Dracænas, and Cocos Palm

The fruit garden

Pruning calls for daily attention and
be pushed forward at every opportu
This will be followed by a sprayin
caustic alkali. A light dressing of basic
or approved fertiliser will then be given
the surface soil lightly pointed over, the
being carried out when it is too cold
pruning. Fruit in store must be frequ
examined, and this provides useful
during inclement weather.

Potting

No further potting of plants can use
be carried out. Any such contemplate
any rate will be all the better if left until
New Year is with us, even plants growin
warm houses. This, however, does not a
to bulbs, which may be potted up at aln
any time.

Lilies

Lilies are now being offered freely, and
should grow a few of these, which may
potted up and placed in cool houses or fr
proof frames.

Chrysanthemums

As these lose their freshness they should
cut down and the stools removed to
frames for the production of cuttings,
flowers in decay are not only offensive
injurious to fresh and later blooming kin
and liable to spread mildew.

Kitchen garden

Complete draining and alterations as so
as possible. Inspect all tools, attending to
repairs, and make a note of necessary
newals. Prepare a good stock of labels, a
during bad weather a start must be ma
with the preparation of Pea and Bean stick

E. MARKHAM

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

The vineries

As the various houses finish off the ripe
ing of the wood, pruning should be carri
out and full advantage taken of incleme
weather to have Vines and houses thorough
cleaned. Those fortunate enough to be fr
of Mealy Bug have a comparatively easy jo
but where this pest abounds it is impossib
to be too particular in clearing the rods
all loose bark, painting them with a stro
solution of Gishurst Compound, or oth
suitable insecticide several times, removing
loose debris, and burning such at once whi
carefully limewashing walls and brickwor
Scrub all glass and woodwork with soap a
water, and do everything possible to get r
of this pest.

Peach houses

The Peach is very easily excited in
growth, and when the buds begin to swe
they are very easily knocked off, so it
always desirable to get pruning, training

Esther (Selene x concolor)

A neat flower, pale greenish yellow with broad white edge to the dorsal. Shown by Mrs. Carl Holmes, The Node, Codicote, Herts. Award of Merit

Memoria J. H. Walker

Very bold and well proportioned, with large dark maroon dorsal edged white. The pouch is reddish bronze and wings golden bronze. Shown by Armstrong and Brown

Cypripediums richly coloured formed the chief feature at the R.H.S. last meeting of the old year, when no less than 17 groups of Orchids, all of very high quality, were on view. Above are two new Cypripediums shown on this occasion

cleaning carried out while the trees are quite dormant. Be as thorough as pos- ie in the way of cleaning both trees and uses. Trees in good bearing will be bene- d by having an inch or two of the surface loosened and removed and some good n fresh loam put in in its place. Be care- not to damage the roots.

rly Tomatoes

o have ripe fruits during May a small ving should now be made, but there is no in attempting this unless a good light use with a temperature of 55 degs. to 60 gs. can be given them. Sow thinly in 4- h pots, and as soon as growth shows have m raised up on a sunny shelf quite close the roof glass. Prick off into 2-inch pots soon as large enough to handle.

akale

here will now be less difficulty in getting crowns to start than was the case six eks ago. Introduce fresh roots as often is necessary to ensure a steady supply of od tender produce. A genial, moist at- sphere and total darkness give best re- lts, a strong dry heat making the stalks gh and insipid.

hubarb

Another batch of Rhubarb should also be anted in warm quarters. It grows more pidly in darkness, but the stalks are of or colour and quality under these condi- ns. Planted in a fairly light place (under e stages of a warm greenhouse will suit) the crop will be finer and the crowns will continue in bearing much longer, so it is a matter of taste as to which method is pursued.

Planting Rhubarb out-of-doors

While plantations of Rhubarb continue to bear well for quite a number of years if well treated in the way of manure, it will eventually require to be transplanted, and the present time, if the soil is in a fit state, is quite suitable for laying down new plantations. The ground should be double-dug and plenty of good farmyard manure mixed with both bottom and top spits. Allow some 5 feet between the rows and 4 feet from plant to plant in the rows.

Attend to the Rose bushes

By reason of their being swayed backwards and forwards by the action of the wind, many Rose bushes are considerably damaged, and if not attended to may even be killed by the spring. It is desirable, therefore, carefully to go over the beds and with some old potting soil fill in the holes round the "necks" of the plants, setting each upright and then ramming the fresh soil well home with a blunt dibber. This may have to be repeated, but is well worth the little trouble entailed.

The rock garden

Usually quite a quantity of leaves and twigs get blown into the rockery, and these, if left for any length of time, will inevitably do considerable harm to many of the finer Alpines, besides being an eyesore at all times. Select a calm day, therefore, and get all the worst of this debris removed before harm results.

Planting hedges

Any work of this kind can very well be carried out during open weather. It should be remembered that much better results are had with hedge plants if the ground is properly prepared before planting begins. Deep digging and the introduction of some good fresh soil will be well repaid later.

Plant hardy trees and shrubs

This is work that can often be successfully carried out while the soil in the kitchen and flower gardens is too wet for digging. It is a mistake to imagine, as some planters seemingly do, that any kind of soil is good enough for these. It will pay where the soil is really poor to introduce a little good soil in which to give the young plants a start.

Vacant flower beds

Leaves are down for the season, and it is now in order to manure and dig deeply all vacant beds and borders and so make everything tidy for the season. Where manure is scarce, excellent results are had by the substitution of decayed garden refuse. Apply this liberally and nothing but good will result. Do not rake the surface of the beds, but leave rough so that the elements may sweeten and pulverise the soil to some depth.

C. Blair.

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Answers to Queries

***Queries**—Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E.C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

***Naming plants**—Readers who wish plants to be named should send fair examples of each—the stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of leaves and points of shoots are useless.) Not more than four plants should be sent in any one week by the same correspondent. Where more than one kind is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers the cones should always be sent.*

***Naming fruit**—Several specimens in different stages of colour and size of the same kind greatly assist in its determination. Single, unripe, or deformed specimens are difficult to name. We do not undertake to name more than four varieties at one time.*

FRUIT

Vines

Could you advise me as to temperature of vinery after annual cleaning. The Vines' roots are outside; also, about what time to start into growth. IGNORANT.
Bickley, Kent.

[Keep the temperature as low as possible, but do not, of course, allow frost to enter, not that a degree or two would do any harm to dormant Vines. If the Grapes are only wanted in late summer and autumn, early in February is a very suitable time for closing the house. Do not make the mistake of beginning with a high temperature. From 45 degs. to 50 degs. is about right for the first fortnight or so, afterwards gradually raising it as the days lengthen and the sap begins to rise. For early Grapes you must start now, but with the roots in an outside border the process would be rather slow.]

Old Vines

I have two Vines on the spur system, six rods to each Vine, and about 18 inches between each rod. I am thinking of cutting each alternate rod out and running up new ones next year in their places, and then, at the end of next year, cut the other three old rods out and run new ones in their places. Shall be pleased to have your advice.
REGULAR READER.

[Your method for improving your old Vines is quite a good one—up to a point. You cannot have a young rod in full bearing in one year, so if you desire to carry up six rods again you cannot do this in successive years, but must wait until the first three have attained full fruiting capacity. We are not, however, in favour of having rods only 18 inches apart, this being much too crowded. Had we the management of these Vines we would only have three rods instead of six, and would then have much better fruit. We would, as you propose, cut out every alternate rod, run up fresh young growths in their places, and a few years hence, when these young canes have come into full bearing, would cut away the other three old rods, but would not replace these with fresh ones.]

Peach trouble

(A Regular Reader).—We are not familiar with a fungus causing a black spot on the foliage of Apricot and Peach. If you would like to send us specimens of the damaged foliage, packed in a tin box, we could probably help you. Peach Scale can be killed by thoroughly spraying the trees with lime sulphur, using three quarts of the concentrated material to 10 galls. of water. The creatures not killed by this treatment should be sprayed with a good insecticide during the growing season.

Apple Scab

(Sunflower).—Your specimen fruit is affected with Apple Scab. The fungus can be controlled by spraying with lime sulphur in the pink bud stage, *i.e.*, when the flowers are showing colour but the petals are unopened. The strength at this stage is usually 1 in 29. A second spraying is given when all the petals have dropped from the flowers, and a third three weeks later. The strength of wash used for the second and third sprayings is usually 1 in 59, but certain varieties liable to spray damage are sprayed at the strength of 1 in 99.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Spraying Chrysanthemums

I should be so much obliged if you could tell me of a strong-spraying wash for "Red Rust," which I could use on the stools of Chrysanthemums before we take fresh cuttings.

Unfortunately, I had some new plants sent last year and they must have had the rust on them, as several of the plants have been badly attacked. However, I propose to thoroughly clean and spray the house and plants when the show of bloom is over. It is said that one can never eradicate the rust, except by burning the entire stock, but as I have several rather good Chrysanthemums (some 30 kinds), I should be sorry to destroy a collection made during several years.
Rye, Sussex. MAY Y. E. TATE.

[You should write to H. J. Jones, Ltd., Ryecroft Nurseries, Hither Green Lane, Lewisham, S.E. 13, and ask for particulars regarding their Anti-Blight Powder. We believe this preparation is very effective against Chrysanthemum Rust. Dilute Bordeaux Mixture is also sometimes effective.]

TREES AND SHRUBS

Destroying Elm tree stumps

Would you be so very kind as to tell me how best and most quickly to destroy Elm stumps and roots We have just had three large Elms felled in our garden on account of the mischief done by their immensely long roots, with which the flower beds anywhere near were quite stiff. I am very anxious to kill these roots thoroughly, and to destroy the stumps. Can it be done with saltpetre and firing We cannot dig the roots out on account of the large area they cover.
M. L. WILLIAMS.

[In such a case saltpetre would be of very little use. Drill a few large holes with an augur as deeply as possible without going right through the wood. Fill these holes with petroleum on two or three successive occasions, in this way the petroleum will penetrate to all parts of the stumps.

When thoroughly soaked, place a pile of dry wood over each stump and set it alight. Keep the fire attended to for a time and most of the stump should burn out. Another method, where such is possible, is that of blowing them out with gunpowder and time fuse, a hole being drilled fairly deep into solid wood, the charge and fuse inserted, and the hole wedged up tight and fired, but this
only be carried out by someone experi
in the matter.]

Magnolia fruiting

(R. B.).—It is not altogether unusua
Magnolias to produce fruits, and no doub
very hot, dry summer assisted them in
so. The fruits are curious looking; son
them are even more peculiar than the
which you send.

Holly not fruiting

A perfectly healthy Holly is covered
year with blossom, but never has any ber
Soil and situation are good. Can you
cate any treatment? H.
Sunderland.

[The Holly is a peculiar tree. Frequ
it is unisexual in character, and such pl
may produce pollen-bearing flowers
The fruits fail to appear if both sexes are
grown. No doubt this is the cause of
Holly not fruiting.]

VEGETABLES

Celery diseased

(A. R. P.).—It is probable that your pl
are affected with Heart-rot (see reply in i
December 7th, page 830). This troubl
encouraged by the liberal use of manu
largely nitrogenous in character. By us
phosphates and potash as advised you sho
correct this in future years.

Seaweed as manure

(S. M.).—This is quite useful for
Brassica family, but we do not agree tha
requires supplementing by kainit. Seaw
contains a good deal of potash and a g
deal of salt, which are the important
stituents of kainit. Moreover, we sho
never advise lime to be mixed with it. T
would involve a loss of nitrogen. Apply
lime in advance.

FLOWER GARDEN

Manure for flower borders

("Landale").—We do not favour the
of the two materials you name. An excell
substitute for farmyard manure is w
decayed garden refuse. If this is free fr
stones, perennial weeds, and woody su
stances it may be freely used among h
baceous plants, lightly forking it in all o
the beds or borders. A good sprinkling
bone-meal, in addition to the decayed refu
would be beneficial and lasting. If you ha
none of this material at hand, Wakele
Hop Manure is excellent, clean to use, a
beneficial to most plants. Directions for
are supplied, along with the manure.

Diseased Alpine Pinks

(W. H.).—The specimens sent for
amination are affected by a Carnation Le
Spot. If only a few plants are affected y
should take them out and burn. Sprayi
the others with a weak solution of liver
sulphur might help to check the spread
the disease. Keep as much air on the fran
as you can. In wet weather put a 3-inch p
under the lights at each corner, then yo
plants would get plenty of air and, at t
same time, be protected from rain. The Le
Spot present always gives rise to trouble
plants kept on the damp side.

GREENHOUSE

Cyclamen grubs

(R. R. Penshaw).—Your Cyclamen a
attacked by the grub of the Black Vin
Weevil, Otiorhynchus sulcatus. We a
afraid that the only control you can adopt
this period is to shake out the attacked plan
and destroy the grubs. Another year yo

d attempt to trap the adult weevil before begin to lay their eggs. A good soil ticide would kill the grubs if you could t into the pots, but we are doubtful if can do this. See Correspondence note is subject next week.

enium foliage

rs. F. Dashwood).—The specimens of enium (Pelargonium) foliage are at- ed by a mite similar to Begonia Mite. creature is not unlike Red Spider, but ler and colourless. You cannot see the with an ordinary pocket-lens, but you see numbers of them if you use a glass times. The pest can be controlled by sulphur in a Campbell's Sulphur Vapor- You can obtain this apparatus through seedsman. Full directions are sent with apparatus.

agating Carnations

I. A.).—Select sturdy but not unduly side shoots and insert firmly round the s of small pots filled with very sandy ost. If a little bottom heat can be given uch the better, but really strong heat lead to failure.

MISCELLANEOUS

len Pests

B. E., Alnwick).—Your specimens arrived safely this time, and they are imens of the so-called "Cutworms" or rface Caterpillars." This term is used over the caterpillars of a number of moths h have similar life histories. The moths erned are The Heart and Dart Moth otis exclamationis, L.), The Turnip h (Agrotis segetum), and the Yellow erwing (Agrotis pronuba). We think your specimens are the caterpillars of latter. Cutworms spend the day resting he surface soil and feed at night, usually ng through the plant attacked just at nd-level, hence the term "Cutworm." caterpillars feed more or less through- the winter and pupate in April. The hs appear in June and July. Hand-pick- is a good method of control. All plants ch show signs of attack should be mined and the surrounding soil stirred a blunt stick. The culprit can usually discovered and destroyed. In all positions re an insecticide can be used try the effect a good soil insecticide, such as naphtha- , at the rate of 2 ozs. per square yard. ead the material on the top of the soil and it in 5 inches or 6 inches deep. This is frequently confused with leather et.

nts and lime

notice in your issue of November 23rd you , in reply to "E. D. D.," that "some nts will not tolerate lime in the soil." ilst well aware that such is the case, I e never been able to find a list of those nts that are averse to lime, and, as I have ntly applied burnt lime fairly heavily to a tion of my garden, should be much obliged ou could let me know what plants to miss until the lime becomes absorbed.

JOHN H. MAXWELL.

You do not state to which section of your den you have applied lime. If your vege- le garden has been dressed you will find all your crops will do better, with the sible exception of Potatoes. A direct ap- ation of quicklime, while not affecting the ntity of the Potato crop, does not improve quality. Our warning was put into D. D.'s" reply because there are many es and shrubs which appear not to be able grow in a limestone formation or in a soil ere lime has been added in fair quantities. give a detailed list of plants averse to e would be impossible, but, broadly speaking, plants that delight in peat and leaf-soil will not tolerate lime. Most plants in the Natural Orders Ericaceæ and Vacciniaceæ do not like lime, and often refuse to grow at all where it is present. Genera which grow best away from lime are:—Rhododendron, Azalea, Kalmia, Pernettya, Erica, Gaultheria, Ledum, Arbutus, Andromeda, Vaccinium, Clethra, Dabœcia, Menziesia, Arctostaphylos, Pieris, Zenobia, Leucothœ, Lyonia. It must be pointed out that there are many exceptions in the above list, *e.g.*, Rhododendron hirsutum and R. Chamæcistus do best when lime is present. Erica cinerea and E. mediterranea thrive on chalk. Most conifers do best away from chalk, but quite a number thrive when chalk is present.]

Lawn sand

The formula for lawn sand frequently quoted consists of amm. sulph., iron sulph. (copperas), and sand in proper proportions. I take it that the sand is simply a "vehicle" for diluting and spreading the chemical components. (On heavy soil it is also, no doubt, useful in itself.) Both amm. sulph. and iron sulph. being readily soluble, would it not be equally efficacious to dissolve them in water, dilute to necessary strength, and apply to lawn when the surface is dry by means of a fine rose can, or, better still, a sprayer? If the sand is really necessary it could be spread separately, preferably before spraying. I have never seen such a means of applying "lawn sand" suggested, and I should be glad of your comments before experimenting with it. I have for the past two seasons mixed my own lawn sand, and I therefore know the difficulties connected with the thorough drying of all ingredients, and also the difficulty of spreading evenly when there is the very slightest movement in the air.

"COPPERAS."

[The sand in the formula such as you quote is used as a carrier and helps to ensure even distribution. Applying ammonium sulphate or iron sulphate in solution would not have the desired effect upon your lawn. The theory underlying the practice of using lawn sand is that salts such as ammonium sulphate and iron sulphate when applied dry to green plants burns the foliage because of the great affinity these salts have for water. The water is in the main extracted by the salts from the foliage on which it alights. The use of lawn sand is permissible because the plants which are desired have upright, narrow leaves and the salts applied do not stay on the foliage any length of time. The plants that are not desired—Clovers, Plantains, Daisy, Bugle, etc.—have relatively broad, flat leaves. The salts lodge on this class of foliage, with the result that these plants are gradually destroyed. A dressing of lawn sand is most effective if applied so that seven or eight days without rain follows a dressing of lawn sand, and is of little use if followed immediately by rain. Leave out the sand by all means if you can spread evenly the desired quantity of ammonium sulphate and iron sulphate. Fine, dry garden soil is a good substitute for sand. The effect of lawn sand applied dry is first to burn the foliage of weeds, and secondly to encourage the grasses to grow, and so fill the blank spaces left by the dead weeds.]

Seeds of Photinia villosa wanted

(Mrs. F. Olway Johnson).—These are very difficult to find, but a few are obtainable from Messrs. W. Th. Ingwersen, Ltd., Birch Farm Nursery, Sharpthorne, East Grinstead, Sussex.

Aponogeton distachyon wanted

(C. L.).—This plant is offered by V. N. Gauntlett and Co., Ltd., Chiddingfold, Surrey, and also by Messrs. Perry, Enfield, Middlesex. It may be safely planted at the present time.

Lachenalia glaucina and L. orchioides

In reply to K. C. Stanford's inquiry *re* these Lachenalias I cannot trace anyone growing them in England, and have been trying to find them for several years. Thanks to the Botanical Society of South Africa, I received seeds of both species and raised a good quantity of both, and hope in the course of time to see them in flower.

G. H. DALRYMPLE.

The Nurseries, Bartley.

SHORT REPLY

"*Ignorant.*"—You cannot successfully grow Tomatoes in an Orchid house.

NAMES OF PLANTS

"*Farthing Green.*"—Iris histrio.

G.—1, Chrysanthemum cinerariæfolium; 2, C. maximum.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

Sutton and Sons, Reading.—General seed catalogue.

Baggesen's Nurseries, Pembury, near Tunbridge Wells.—Ornamental trees, shrubs, climbers, fruit trees, Roses, and hardy plants.

Dobbie and Co., Ltd., Seed Growers, Edinburgh.—General seed catalogue.

TRADE NOTE

Player's Please

There are few in these days to whom a gift of cigarettes for Christmas is not acceptable. Handsomely Decorated Tins of Player's Navy Cut Cigarettes can be obtained. For the pipe smoker such old favourites as Player's Navy Cut, Player's Navy Mixture, and Player's "Airman" and "Digger" Tobaccos provide an excellent choice.

The National Carnation and Picotee Society

The above Society held its 51st Annual General Meeting at the New R.H.S. Hall, London, S.W. 1, on Saturday, December 14th, when there was a good attendance of members. The Council's 1929 Report (for nine months, as the Society's year now ends on September 30th instead of December 31st) showed that the Society was in a flourishing condition, and that the period under review had been very successful, with an addition of fifty members and affiliated societies, and a balance in hand of £70 as against £50 for the previous 12 months. The fifty-second annual exhibition held on July 18th and 19th in conjunction with the British Carnation Society was most successful, and, notwithstanding the adverse weather conditions prevailing at the time and last minute cancellation of entries, the space filled was much larger than on the initial joint occasion. The Society's thanks were accorded to the Hon. Sec. of the B.C.S., also the R.H.S. Officials for their wholehearted co-operation. It was intimated that another combined exhibition will be held in the R.H.S. Old Hall on July 15th and 16th, 1930. The Hon. Sec. reported the gift of three additional trophies for 1930—The "Lady Hudson" Cup (Open) for Clove-scented Carnations, the "Abol" Cup (Open) to be won outright for 12 vases consisting of three of each Border Carnations, Clove-scented Carnations, Picotees, and Pinks (any section), distinct varieties, three blooms or stems of each, and the "Julia B. Wells" trophy, to be won outright (Amateurs only) for Picotees. It was intimated that the Society's publication, to be known in future as "The Carnation Annual," would be issued in the New Year and would be a great improvement on previous issues and a book well worthy of the Society. At future exhibitions the Society's special medal will be awarded to all winners of Cups. The retiring President (Mr. Edmund Charrington) was unanimously re-elected with the best thanks of all for his continued support and generosity. The following were elected on the Council for three years:—Messrs. T. J. Child (Catford), S. H. Gregg (Bowes Park), A. S. Hampton (Reading), H. A. Knapton (Orpington), A. E. Mustow (Worcester Park), and F. W. Seymour (Finchley). The Hon. Sec., Mr. A. E. Amos, of Colchester, Hon. Assistant Secretary, Miss J. B. Wells, of London, and Hon. Treasurer, Captain E. M. Wilkinson, of Havant, were unanimously re-elected with aprpeciatory thanks for past services. The new appointment of Hon. Show Superintendent was filled by Mr. T. J. Child (London), and Messrs. Howard, Morris, and Crocker, of Portsmouth, were elected Hon. Auditors, whilst a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the retiring Auditors, Messrs. Burnett, Burnett, and Swayne, of Southhampton (occasioned through the Hon. Treasurer's change of address.)

Hull and East Riding Chrysanthemum Society

The Hull and East Riding Chrysanthemum Society recently held their highly successful 29th annual Show in the City Hall. Besides Chrysanthemums, there was a great show of vegetables culled from the 300 acres of land in the possession of local allotment associations. The scene in the main hall was a feast of beauty, considerably enhanced by the fine Trade Exhibits, both of local firms and those from other centres.

The judges said they had never seen exhibits so advantageously staged; there was no corner of the main hall from which the whole of the many exhibits could not be seen to good effect in every detail. Trade exhibitors put up some varied and wonderful displays. E. P. Dixon and Sons, Ltd., Hull, occupied one end of the main hall with a varied display of 'Mums, floral designs, and fruit, prominent among which was a floral lighthouse illuminated, and with the revolving lamp in action all the time. The opposite end of the hall was occupied by A. Train and Sons, Hull and Thirtleby, with banks of flowers, foliage, and plants, conspicuous among them being a new Asparagus, A. Sprengeri elegans. Trade exhibitors from other parts were represented by Sutton and Sons, with one of their usual fine displays of vegetables, common and uncommon; Kent and Brydon, of Darlington, with an exhibit solely of Potatoes, including Sefton Wonder, for which they offer prizes; Mr. Woolman, of Birmingham, with some especially fine Chrysanthemums, including Desert Song, single, Trent, White Joy, and Hugh Mitchell, Jap.; and Mr. A. G. Vinton, of Balcombe, Sussex, who had a fine display, including such varieties as Enid, G. Fox Wilson, Golden Absolute, and Balcombe Bronze, a fine terra-cotta decorative. Among the principal prizewinners were the Right Hon. T. R. Ferens, P.C.; Arnold Reckitt, Esq., Elloughton; Captain Adrian Bethell, of Rise Park; T. W. G. Hewett, Esq., Weelsby Old Hall, Grimsby; A. D. Hall Watt, Esq., Bishop Burton Hall; The Lord Hotham of Dalton Hall; Major G. L. Bennet, Grimsby; Sir Alexander MacDonald of the Isles, Bart., Thorpe Hall; Mrs. Edwin Robson, Sutton House, Sutton on Hull; and T. B. Sissons, Esq., The Grange, Willerby.

When We Were Very Young

From the first Christmas Number of Gardening Illustrated

Dried Grasses in Christmas decorations

Ornamental grasses, though beautiful, are not much appreciated by the generality of people; still many florists are now beginning to use them largely for decorative purposes; doubtless amateurs will follow suit. There is an immense variety of elegant species well suited for bouquets, and assortments of 20 or 30 varieties will be supplied by any London seedsman for a mere trifle. It is almost needless to mention that both grasses and Everlastings may be mixed with ordinary flowers, either when fresh or in a dried state. Of late years, it has become the custom to use both Immortelles and preserved autumnal foliage along with the evergreens for Christmas decorations. The Maple, Oak, and other leaves are very beautiful, varying from pale yellow through all the shades of red and brown to the deepest crimson tint imaginable and, being sold loose, they can be arranged according to fancy. With such materials some very elegant arrangements in the way of wreaths, crosses, bouquets, and vases may be made, according to the taste and ingenuity of the artist.

Keeping Walnuts for Christmas

Having tried to keep Walnuts in such a condition that the substance surrounding the kernel would peel off, say, at Christmas, or afterwards, I confess to not having been so successful as I could wish, although I have tried all the plans that I could hear of. I even tried bottling some and sinking them in water, or, rather, filling some jars with them, corking them up, and placing them in water, but the result was not satisfactory. Packing them in sand was strongly recommended some twenty or more years ago, but it was not an easy matter to get the sand out of the wrinkles of the shell, even with a brush and water. Bran did not answer at all, and dry wood ashes seemed to have an unpleasant habit of clinging to the shell, without in the least increasing the keeping qualities of the kernel. I was lately induced to try salt, and filled a jar with alternate layers of Walnuts and dry salt—a plan which I certainly prefer to sand, owing to the difficulty of getting rid of the latter; still, neither of these plans secure the fresh taste possessed by the Walnut when gathered from the tree, and the inner skin, if we may call it so, does not peel off well. I have found no plan so good as that I recommended some dozen years or more ago, but to the discovery of which I lay no claim. As, however, it may not be known to all, I will mention it here. It consists simply in keeping the nuts in as cool a place as can be had. Each day as they are wanted for use, take some and slightly crack the shell in one or two places—if a piece comes off no matter—and put them in warm water for an hour or so. Afterwards take them out and put them in cold water with a little salt in it. The cold water restores the crispness, which the warm water had in some degree injured, and the nuts eat as well or nearly so as when fresh gathered, the inner skin peeling off quite readily.—KENT.

Pitmaston Duchess Pear

This is becoming a very popular Pear; it is a free grower, and produces very fine fruit, rich and melting. One fault belonging to many of our finest Pears is that they either refuse to grow or produce such weakly wood as to be unable to perfect a crop; but this variety appears to grow well in soils of various descriptions, and I hear it highly spoken of by growers who have all the best varieties from which to select.—J. G.

—December 20th, 1879.

Ridging vacant ground

The drenching season we have experienced far and wide must have taught the majority of cultivators that the earlier this work is proceded with the better, especially soil of a retentive nature, so that it may rid itself of superfluous moisture under the drying influence of wind and any sun that may be given us during the next few months. There is no reason, as far as our knowledge lays, why soils of a light and more porous soils should not be treated similarly; such exposure to all weathers, as we well know, tends to sweeten it, and many soils are over-fed with rich manure year after year which, if opened up to the elements for a time, will eliminate whatever weather may be in store for us.

On the other hand, there are hungry soils which would benefit by intermixing a little fresh loam, lime, wood-ash, or partly-decayed leaf-soil, while in the case of a more or less clayey nature would lay more open if something in the way of a strawy character from either the stable or cow-house could be worked in between the spits, whether it be two or more, whichever each case admits. We manure and dig our ground in the of the year as a rule, as labour is none plentiful in many gardens for such work be done after the shortest day has pass Where it is otherwise the manuring of li sandy or stony soil in the early months wo provide more food for the respective cro as the goodness of manure put into ground in autumn must in some seasons washed out of existence by the time cropp comes round in the early spring. Avoid much as possible the working of the grou while in a very wet state; it is uncomforta for the men, they are lifting extra weig and cannot make the progress they would under drier conditions. Ground dug with few degrees of frost in or a drying wind p sents the ideal opportunity of performi such laborious work.

For preference, the ridges are best runni north to south, as they get the maximum sun in the short days ahead of us during next couple of months or so, and ground treated always works down most satisfacto after the winter's weather, whatever may forthcoming.

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FOGWILLS GREAT ONION - GROWING COMPETITION

The following Prizes are offered for the HEAVIEST and BEST-SHAPED TWO ONIONS grown from FOGWILLS GUILDFORD CHAMPION ONION SEED, supplied during 1930. The price of the Onion Seed is 2/- per packet, post free

1st Prize - £4 and Gold Medal 2nd Prize - £2 and Silver Medal
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For full particulars see our 1930 Catalogue of 'Best-Result' Seeds post free on request

The winners of the 1929 Competition were:
1. Mr. W. ROBINSON, Sunny Bank, Forton, Nr. Garstang.
2. Mr. J. BINNINGTON, The Gardens, The Heights, Witley, Surrey.
3. Mr. J. MILLS, Shavington Gardens, Market Drayton, Salop.

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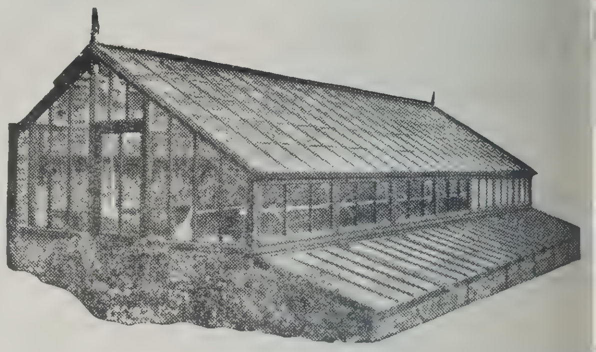

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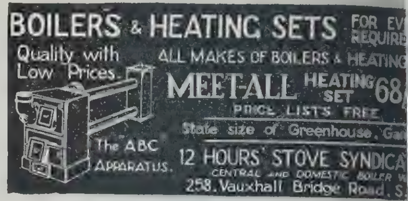

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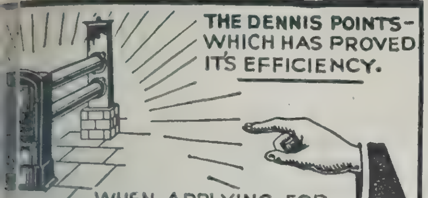

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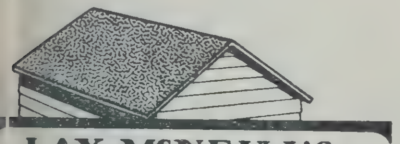

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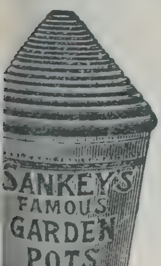

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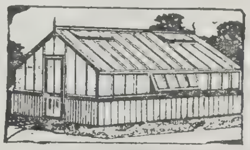

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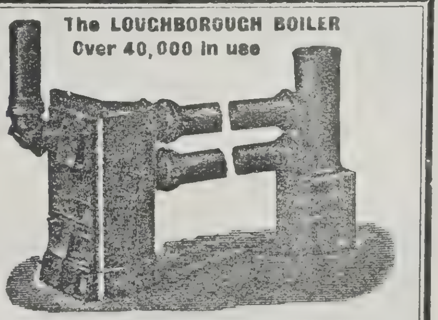

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Founded by W. Robinson, Author of "The English Flower Garden"

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December Flowers in the Open Air

URING all the recent gales and storms here has been a determination on the art of some of our hardy outdoor sub- ts to produce their handsome blooms in ildest profusion, the first of which is inter Jasmine (Jasminum nudiflorum), has never been more lovely. It is most ful if properly thinned and cared for, would rival the Wistaria in its season, its long, elegant arching sprays of ang yellow flowers, which continue for rs on end. Those who are satisfied with congested, gd mass of this er we so often e with know hg of its grace- eauty when ly treated, or kceptional love- as a cut flower, e of which is a deed in a sunny ow on a Decem- day. Another which arrests nostrils of rs-by at the nt time and an habitant of gar- is the Japanese nthus Aquifoli- and its purple y which are with deliciously d white flowers ne in axillary rs.

garden friend nly halts, and ms: "What a ous fragrance! e does it come ?" when a little ration reveals nyriads of tiny vers. Well- red branches of are welcomed in a cut state. Then we the handsomest of all the evergreen sters (Eleagnus macrophylla), with its silvery leaves (delightful in wind and); this shrub is flowering in the wildest sion and charging the air with its de- s fragrance. The flowers are borne in rs in the leaf axils, silvery without, v within, and not unlike a Fuchsia in , its flowery branches, and current n's trails—the latter often 5 feet in h—add beauty and variety for use with evergreens during the festive season.

s one of Marie's fine introductions from Japan. Then we have the Winter Sweet (Chimonanthus fragrans), beloved by all who care for fragrant flowers, the buds of which are already on the point of bursting; never have we seen the bushes—whether on walls or in the open—so laden with them as at the present time.

It is the practice to cut a few branches in advance of bursting and allow them to open indoors, as severe frost is liable to damage fully-opened flowers.

The Fern-leaved Clematis (C. calycina) on cool walls is a shrub of more than passing interest when laden with its drooping yellow flowers, stained with reddish-purple; indeed, when nicely situated, it is a very pleasing shrub which comes from Corsica.

Several of the Heaths are beginning to make a brave show, but all are later than usual. Here we have yet to see the first Algerian Iris, also later than usual. A few Christmas Roses are in bloom, and the beauty of Disanthus cercidifolius is now passing; Viburnum fragrans is in bloom, but has yet to reach its best.

The deliciously fragrant Chinese Witch Hazel (Hamamelis mollis) now flowering in the open at Cannizaro, Wimbledon

Hamamelis mollis

I THINK it will interest you to hear that my Hamamelis mollis is already in flower, in fact, it has been so for nearly a fortnight. This is quite a month earlier than usual, and shows the extraordinary mildness of the winter so far. S. KENNETH WILSON.

Wimbledon, December 18th.

The Shamrock Pea

This delightful little plant was badly hit last winter, but quite a number of roots survived where they nestled at the foot of a low wall on the outside of the Lily Pool, and are now flowering quite freely, the inimitable blue of their lovely pea-like flowers surpassing that of their nearest rival, Gentiana sino ornata, which carpets a large bed on the opposite side of the path. But what astonishes me most (and this in mid-December) is a few boxes of Shamrock Pea lifted in November and stood in a cold frame merely as a precaution against a repetition of last winter, when so many treasures were lost entirely. These are literally covered with twin flowers of exquisite loveliness, and lead one to consider whether such a beautiful subject would not prove remunerative if grown largely in this way, the flowers being used in the same way as Violets in addition to their graceful charm in a growing state.

A plant possessing such splendid qualities should appeal to all, and especially to those who have rock gardens, when it should be planted around the base and on the cool side of boulders, soil of good heart only being used, neither too rich nor too poor.

Planted between paving stones and especially near moist places this little gem of India's river valleys should find a congenial home. E. MARKHAM.

Sussex.

Correspondence

Contributions to these columns are invited, but the Editor is not responsible for the views expressed by correspondents

Passer domesticus

I CANNOT refrain from penning a note of thanks to Mr. Hay for his gentle, yet spirited, defence of the sparrow. Like the " deil " (as we say in Scotland) he is " no' so black as he's painted," and there are other birds for whose faults he is sometimes blamed and, alas, punished. Consider the chaffinch. A pair of chaffinches will do more damage to a bed of seedling Brassicas in half an hour than many sparrows would do in a day. What of that beautiful bud-destroyer the bullfinch? Passer, poor outcast, may be bad enough, but he does not, and apparently out of sheer mischief (not to call it devilment), lay waste and destroy the buds of Plum trees and of Damsons. He does not, as the blue tit is alleged to do, peck holes in our choicest ripening Pears; nor does he devour our Cherries, Raspberries, Strawberries, and Gooseberries, as the blackbird and the thrush most undeniably do, given opportunity. He does not, like that gaudy thief, the pheasant, consume incredible quantities of Brussels Sprouts; but, having acquired a bad name, he is persecuted. I am with Mr. Hay in agreeing that the sparrow has his faults—his vices, if you like—but he is such a jolly, argumentative, occasionally disreputable fellow, but always so cheerful, so contented, and so industrious that I have more than a sneaking liking for him. Once upon a time a lady, of whose gardens I then had charge, issued a decree against the sparrow. A sparrow-net was procured, traps were set, a bounty of 6d. per dozen was paid, in spring, for sparrow eggs. Ivy-clad walls, hay-ricks, and other sanctuaries were netted; persecution was relentlessly carried out. The numbers were, not unnaturally, greatly decreased—and then came the reaction. " I do so miss the sparrows; let them get up again." Of this permission they quickly availed themselves and never afterwards were they disturbed—the sparrow-net descended to other uses. Mr. Hay, of course, writes more particularly of town or city sparrows, but their country cousins are no whit less interesting, and I, too, am on their side, believing, as I do, that they are more sinned against than sinning. I do sincerely hope that " Worried," if he does institute a crusade (perhaps pogrom would be a better word) against Passer domesticus, will discriminate between the house sparrow and the charming little hedge sparrow (which is Accentor modularis), a perfectly harmless bird in the garden. A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

TO THE SPARROW.

Oh! Fortunate Bird,
A voice has been heard
 Defending your manners and life;
It seems in Hyde Park,
From daylight to dark,
 No bird thinks of aught but his wife.

What a lesson to man
Who, I'm told, seldom can
 Attain such a rigid exclusion;
We will spare you our seeds,
As we see how it leads
 To a worthy and righteous conclusion.

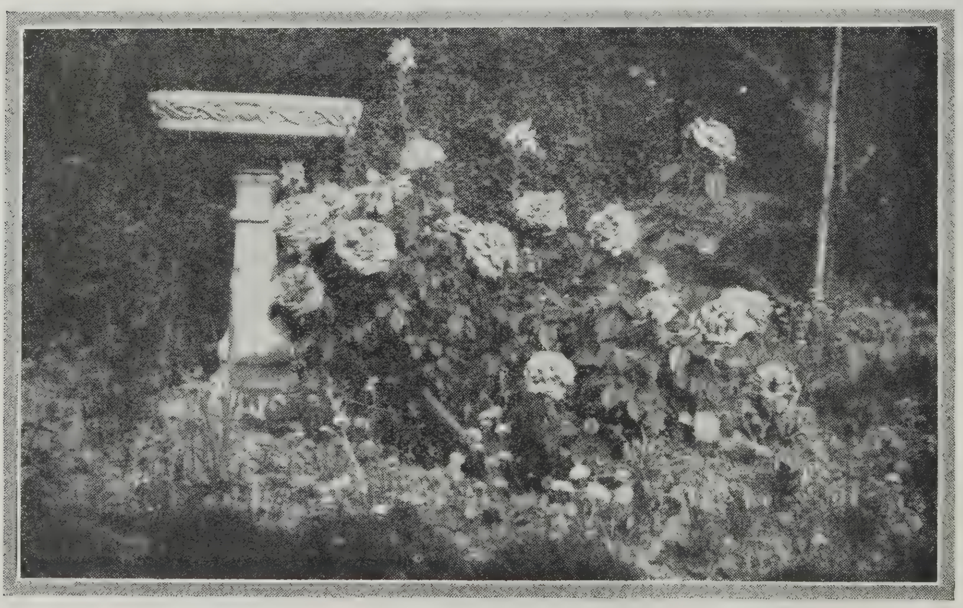
So, wake me at morn,
Though I don't like the dawn,
 At least, what I've seen as a sample;
Destroy all my flowers!
I devote my last hours
 To admiring your moral example.

ANON.

Rhododendrons in lime soil

In further reference to my note (issue December 14th, page 832) I am growing the following Chinese Rhododendrons:—Yanthinum, pseudo-yanthinum, polylepis, Yunnanense, micranthum, oreodoxa, pachytrichum, and irroratum. R. ambiguum and R. Delavayi are both killed by last winter's frost, though the latter has dwindled ever since planting. R. intricatum and R. hippophæoides grew and flowered well up to last year, but are now apparently dead. All the small-leaved Rhododendrons were seedlings when planted five years since, they are now growing well, one or two of them between 3 feet and 4 feet high. A few inches of decayed peat moss litter was dug into the border at planting time. An old outbuilding was pulled down to make room for the Rhododendron planting, so that the
contains a good amount of lime-rub
we did not trouble to sort this out. Th
drawback to all the Chinese Rhodod
that I have seen is that they start
too early in the spring and are invaria
back by the late frosts. Mine have a
shelter from the north and east, and
does not reach them until after mid-da

Stroud, Glos. G. F. ORMI



The old Bourbon Rose Zephyrine Drouhin
Bright silvery pink and very fragrant

The Alpine Garden Society

I cannot at all agree with A. T. J
jections to members of the Alpine
Society being allowed to see over other
bers' gardens.

I have been over a good many of th
dens which were opened for the Hos
and have never been shown round, bu
always gone round by myself, though
ably in that way I have missed a great
treasures which I should have liked t
seen.

Mr. Robinson's well-known gard
Gravetye are often open, but there, to
goes round alone.

My garden was open last spring, and
wandered about as they pleased, and w
trouble. I noticed many of them
Americans, who were more interested
actual effect than the individual plants

Everyone knowing what an au
A. T. J. is on Alpines would natura
anxious to see him, and hear his vie
rock gardens. I do not think that
owners of gardens are as good-natu
A. T. J.

I should imagine that only keen grow
Alpines would join the Alpine Garden S
and those, one would hope, would
trouble in any garden. N. S

——When I read that one
aims of the Society was to reveal
members the sanctuaries of rarer
plants abroad I raised a pensive eyebr
read on and found that this was justi
saying it was " up to " Alpine countr
defend their own rarities—or words to s
effect. A second eyebrow followed its

I fancied that the old principle of
him keep who can " was a little den
but, in any case, no members of the
Garden Society will be invited to my
if this is to be their slogan.

" ONCE BITT

Ægle separia

Your Uganda correspondent will fin
of Ægle separia listed in Messrs. Vilm
tree seed catalogue under the headi
Citrus triptera. G. F.

Twelve best Pears

In reply to " A Scottish Garden
courteous request I have pleasure in
my list of the 12 best Pears—that is, P
would rather have in their season sup
all others were available:—Laxton's S
Thompson's, Beurré Superfin, Com
Lamy, Louise Bonne of Jersey,
Louise, Doyenne du Comice, Glou Mo
Duchesse de Bordeaux, Winter
Josephine de Malines, and Passe Crasa

E. A. BUNYA

Larvæ of the Vine Weevil

Noting in the files of GARDENING
TRATED that some of your correspon
have been troubled with larvæ of the
Weevil (Otiorhyncus) destroying the ro
certain flowers, they may try the foll
treatment, which I have found very
tive:—Primulas and other pere
affected: Stir well into soil of bed
flake naphthalene at about two tablesp
ful to each square foot. Roots of

ul, of course, be well washed before
ng if pest is suspected. This in early
n. Potted plants of any kind : Mix well
potting soil in about the same pro-
n. See that roots are free from pest
potting.
harm results from the use of this
al, which I have proved to be most
ve out here against the Vine Weevil
though as a deterrent or as an insecti-
e have not yet proved.

WALTER B. ANDERSON.

mological Laboratory,
225, Roslyn Road, Victoria, B.C.

Rosa laxa as a stock

e writing my " grouse " as to the be-
ur of laxa as a stock for Roses I have
that the Roses at Kew are budded on
ock. This being so, I must retract my
ks, as I have never seen finer Rose
in my life, and can think of no better
isement for Laxa than a walk round
w Rose beds. N. LESLIE CAVE.

ey.

Jasminum rex

MINUM REX, from South-West
m, described in the Kew " Bulletin,"
21, is one of the finest species of the
but as yet not too extensively known.
cellent subject as a climber for a stove,
dark green leathery leaves on the upper
with a slightly paler colour beneath.
wers are a pure white, in drooping
, and are scentless. An individual
measures from 2½ inches to 3 inches
. The size and pure whiteness of the
s seen against the dark background of
liage render them very striking, and
than compensate for the absence of
J. rex requires no special cultivation,
fairly easy to propagate. It requires,
er, plenty of water, as it has the benefit
excessive rains from the south-west
on of its native habitat. It is flowering
stove in the Royal Botanic Garden,
urgh, and its flowering at this time
l be a recommendation for its wider cul-
n. The accompanying photograph
part of the plant in flower. J. J. C.

burgh.

he protection of wild flowers

M SIR MAURICE ABBOT-ANDERSON,
C.V O.

attention has been drawn to a para-
in your issue of December 7th, page

Wanted : A Society for the
protection of rare British plants."

Herbert Cowley says : " A Society is
eing formed for the protection of wild
s. It is out to rob the children of their
cups and the cyclists of their Blue-

I, therefore, bring to your notice
a's League "?
amphlet issued by the League tells of
ms and activities, and the card which is
ut with the badge points out that we
not forgotten the rare wild flowers.
I would like to make a special point
ill be seen on F. 4 of the pamphlet)
lora's League has no desire and no
ion of robbing the children of their
cups. As regards the cyclists and their
lls. Is it not possible that they pick
and unnecessarily, and that in-
ally they are robbing everyone else of
that are public property and not in-
for their personal enjoyment only?
here we would countenance picking in
ation, but, unfortunately, this word
does not appear to be part of the wholesale picker's vocabulary.

I should take it as a great compliment and also as an act of fairness if you would kindly make our views known through the columns of your valuable publication.

MAURICE ABBOT-ANDERSON,
Founder of Flora's League.

10a, Abercorn Place,
St. John's Wood, N.W. 8.

——I have read with interest and with sympathy the correspondence in connection with the protection of wild flowers. It may be feared, however, that the formation of a society would do but little good even were it backed by legislation—and that is hardly conceivable. No doubt such a society might do something toward educating opinion regarding wild flowers, but, so long as human nature is what it is, the vandal we will have always with us. The plucking of Wood Hyacinths, of Foxgloves, of Primroses, and the like by children, who afterwards scatter their spoils by the way, is not an unnatural trait—rather, I would say, the reverse. Children rarely uproot wild flowers, and the damage done by them is not permanent. Hawkers are confirmed offenders in the latter respect. They uproot Ferns especially, and Primroses for the purpose of earning a few coppers. It is difficult to circumvent these vagrants—equally difficult it would be to ask people to refrain from purchasing such ravaged plants. At the present season many of us have to deplore ruined Holly trees, Laurels, Yews, and other shrubs which abut on public highways. During the past week I have seen motor-lorries pass in which torn-off—torn off!—boughs of Holly were lying. The drivers, delivering coal or goods, know that there is a market in the town for such; they watch their opportunity and help themselves without scruple—I daresay without realising that they are doing damage, but sure that "trink geld" will be forthcoming from some shopkeeper who is desirous of cheap Christmas "decorations." But even those who know, or ought to know, better are not free from blame. I once discovered a very fine colony of Scolopendrium crispum under an overhanging bank of a stream. Elated by my discovery, I selected two of the best and left the others—some dozens. Unfortunately, I confided my find to the farmer through whose field the stream ran—saying that many a nurseryman would pay a good price for them. Will it be believed? Next day he went with a horse and cart and cleared them out to the last plant. Since then I have made no confidants concerning any plant discoveries I have made. Within a mile from where I write I know of a shady glen in which the rare Filmy Fern (Hymenophyllum) grows sparingly; but wild horses will not drag the secret from me. Occasionally I make a solitary pilgrimage to gloat over the plants, but there they will remain so far as I am concerned. I cordially wish such a society success; but its efforts, me fears, must be educational rather than compulsory.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

The Pampas Grass (Gynerium argenteum)

The graceful plumes of the Pampas Grass, when well harvested and dried, have considerable value at the present season in decorative schemes. Yet it is rather surprising, when one looks around, how few people who know the plant grow it. The Pampas Grass is by no means difficult to grow, thriving, as it will do, in almost any kind of soil, even if that be of a poor and sandy description. By the sides of avenues, in shrubberies, or as isolated specimens on lawns, its feathery plumes show to much advantage, and when plants are established they require but little attention beyond an occasional top-dressing of leaf-mould or of manure during the winter. I enter my respectful protest against the practice followed by some florists of dyeing these plumes in various vivid colours—green, orange, crimson, and the like. The natural silvery-grey colour of the plumes is greatly to be preferred to any artificial hue which they are made, mistakenly, to assume.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Jasminum rex flowering in the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh

Beautiful autumn colouring of Michaelmas Daisies

Some Michaelmas Daisies, like Climax, after flowering, have been exceptionally beautiful for several weeks, the foliage and stems assuming a bright golden-yellow colour, adding very much to the autumn colouring in the garden, which has been so fine this season. I have never seen Aster foliage take on such a brilliant colour before. The plants are growing in a border with a north-east aspect.

J. L.

Chrysanthemums of 30 years ago

Looking through my diary for 1900 I find a list of the Chrysanthemums which were grown in that year. Many of the varieties have now practically disappeared, and if a selection of the Chrysanthemums of that date may be deemed of interest it is here appended. Miss Alice Byron, Mons. C. Molin, Mrs. C. Bown, Mrs. Coombes, Western King, Viviand Morel, Mme. E. Fabre, Mme. C. Audiguier, Lady Hanham, Comte F. Lurani, William Seward, John Shrimpton, La Triomphante, Yellow La Triomphante, Louise, Vivid, Phœbus, Mrs. Greenfield, N.C.S. Jubilee, Chas. Davis, Chas. Longley, Mrs. Geo. Mileham, Souvenir de Petite Amie, Lord Salisbury, Soliel d'Octobre, Bronze Soliel, Source d'Or, Lizzie Adcock, Henry Perkins, Miss Mildred Ware, Miss Olive Miller, T. W. Pockett, F. S. Vallis, and George Penford. Doubtless there were others, but the varieties named were, for some reason which was not noted, specially mentioned. Of all the sorts given above the sole survivors, so far as I am concerned, are La Triomphante and its yellow form.

A SCOTTISH GARDENER.

Lilies after flowering

Japanese Lilies are frequently grown in pots and the open border. Their glorious flowers now being over, many amateurs are wondering how to make them flower well another year. The dead flowers should be cut away, but the stems and leaves allowed to remain as long as they are green. Give soot water once a week, but directly the leaves commence to turn yellow, withhold water entirely. Lay the pots on their sides in any dry, frost-proof shed until the time comes round to start the bulbs again in spring. Provided the soil is well drained, the bulbs in the open border may be left in the soil, but if the latter is wet and heavy the bulbs should be lifted and stored in boxes of sand or dry soil.

F. H.

Olearia Haastii, a hardy New Zealand shrub

Olearia Haastii

FLOWERS on hard-wooded things are so few in the late summer that one is all the more thankful for this good New Zealand shrub. It is the hardiest of its kind, coming from altitudes of from 4,000 feet to 5,000 feet, and is said to flourish even in the Orkney Islands. For several years it remains as a neat bush, well covered with bloom, rising later in rather more straggly form to anything from 8 feet to 10 feet. The one shown in the picture was planted about 15 years ago. It is one of the most satisfactory shrubs in London gardens. Its tenderer relation, O. Gunniana, cannot stand severe frost; it was killed to the grou
the late severe winter, and though i
grow again from the base, it means th
for two years of its pretty grey foliag
masses of little Daisy blooms in the
summer. Olearia macrodonta, grown
a little tree, was also killed down,
making good bushy growth from belo
is a fitful bloomer, only flowering freely
a hot summer.

G

New certificated Chrysanthem

Two meetings have been held wit
period of six days, at which new Chrys
mums have been submitted respective
the Floral Committee of the Royal
cultural Society and to the Floral Com
of the National Chrysanthemum So
The meeting of the first-mentioned bod
held on December 10th and that of the
body on December 16th, and the foll
honours were gained:—

KENNETH HASTIE.—A late-flowering d
tive Japanese variety. Colour, bright
son, tipped gold. A full description o
variety in the issue of GARDENING
TRATED dated December 14th last. Aw
Merit R.H.S. December 10th, 1929.

THANKSGIVING PINK.—A splendid ad
to the late-flowering decorative Jap
The blooms are about 5 inches in dia
having rather short, fairly broad flor
good substance, building a full f
Colour, bright rose-pink. First-class
ficate National Chrysanthemum S
December 16th and Award of Merit R
December 10th, 1929.

LYONESSE.—A decorative Japanese
6 inches in diameter with florets of m
breadth reflexing in even fashion. C
(officially), Indian red—really a bright,
bronze. F.C.C. N.C.S. December 16th.

JOAN HIGGS.—This is a chaste pure
incurved variety and a sport from
well-known Japanese variety Autocrat.
blooms are of good form, having fairly
florets evenly incurving, and are ab
inches to 6 inches in diameter. F.C.C. N
December 16th. The last three were s
by Messrs. Keith Luxford and Co.

BALCOMBE SUNRAY.—A very distinct d
tive Japanese that is seen to great adva
in sunlight or artificial light. The flore
fairly broad and evenly arranged, build
charming decorative bloom about 4½ i
to 5 inches across. Stiff, erect flower-s
Colour, golden-amber. F.C.C. N.C.S.
cember 16th and A.M. R.H.S. Dec
10th, 1929. Shown by Mr. A. G. Vinte

BEBE GERARD.—This is a handsome d
tive Japanese fully 7 inches in diameter.
florets are long and of medium breadt
pointed, building a full bloom of es
value for Christmas decoration. C
pink, paling off towards the ends o
florets. F.C.C. N.C.S. December
1929. Shown by Messrs. Keith Luxfor
Co.

D. B. CRA

Prune pot Roses

If not already done, it will now be adv
to have this attended to. In the ca
the pure T.'s hard pruning must not b
mitted. Remove, however, any dea
weakly growths and shorten the strong s
to about half their length. H. T.'s
H. P.'s may, with advantage, be cut fu
back. If it was found impossible to top-
the plants in autumn this should be se
now. Loosen and remove about a cou
inches of the surface soil and replace
good rich compost and a dessertspoon
Thomson's Plant Manure to each 9-inch
A Peach-house at rest is a good place for
plants in the meantime.

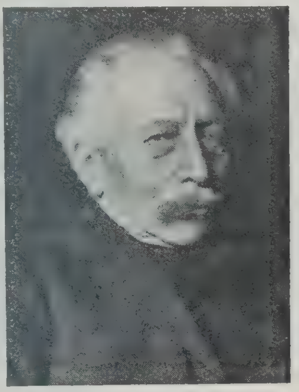
Memories and Plants

I.

“For some we loved, the loveliest and the best
That from his Vintage rolling Time hath prest
Have drunk their Cup a Round or two before
And one by one crept silently to rest.”

N the garden they live again.

William Bateson introduced many curious plants to Burford. One day he brought ' son, his god-child, a Lithops, a Stapelia, mosa pudica, and a piece of Tilandsia noides which ll hangs on rod in the ve where he ng it. The iegated Sanviera, leaf ttings of ich throw off eir white in, producing altogether een plant, ly-of-the alley with iped leaves, d the fas- nating sal- on-fringed eranium, a imæra which orts to an dinary Zonal Pelargonium, were amongst s contributions; to him we gave Begonia raf Zeppelin and the decorative Pelar- nium Pearl with its sport White Pearl. he ordinary garden plant, were it ever so re or so beautiful, left him cold, except here a brilliant mass affected him, as would e pure colour of a Japanese print or of an riental embroidery. In plant, in print, or in nbroidery he disliked shading.


William Bateson

William Rickatson Dykes was a most imulating teacher and the kindest of friends. urford is full of his plants. In addition to s Tulips, of which we have a large collec- on, there are the bearded Irises—I love armony best—the Juno Irises, Iris Wattii, olchicum montanum from Croatia, Anemone montana, Dietes spathacea, and the exquisite little Crocus, C. minimus. As these plants reach their apogee William Bateson and William Dykes live again.

William Rickatson Dykes

II.

Myrtle

“Sprig” is a delightful word which takes us back to the eighteen-seventies; rigged muslins, a sprig of Nobility, and a rig of Myrtle. All Victorian brides had a yrtle sprig in their bouquets, for is not yrtle sacred to Myrtilla, a Greek name for enus. Milton places Myrtle in the bower of ve, and Thomson compares “the lovely ung Lavinia” to a Myrtle which breathes its balmy fragrance o'er the ild.” Our Myrtles go back to my grandmother's wedding bouquet. A more modern plant commemorates Lord Lambourne, who, when Lady Lambourne died, always wore Myrtle in the place of the Malmaison.

III.

“ I sometimes think that never blows so red
The Rose as where some buried Cæsar bled;
That every Hyacinth the garden wears
Dropt in her lap from some once lovely Head.”

Omar Khayyam, it is reported, said to one of his pupils, “My tomb shall be in a spot where the north wind may scatter Roses over it,” and over his grave at Naishapur grows Rosa damascena, a cutting from which is trained on the shed in the Alpine Yard at Kew.

Lord Lambourne

Perhaps the most famous plant to be associated with a great man is Napoleon's Willow. Salix babylonica was introduced to St. Helena by General Beatson in 1810; this tree attracted Napoleon's attention, and he had a seat placed under it. In 1821 the tree was blown down, but Mme. Bertrand planted cuttings round Napoleon's grave. Cuttings were brought to England in 1823, when a plant was established in the garden of the Roebuck Tavern on Richmond Hill. The Kew cutting was struck in 1825 and grew into a tree, which was planted near the Main Gate. This, the Director tells me, is now dead, but Kew possesses trees which are direct descendants of the St. Helena plant, apparently, a male plant of the ordinary Weeping Willow. The members of the British Association when they visited St. Helena this year do not appear to have noticed a Weeping Willow, but I hope to have more information on this subject a little later on. Napoleon's Willow was planted all over London—1, Porchester Terrace; 2, Lee Place, Lewisham; Beaumont Square, Mile End; in my grandmother's garden at Ealing, and at Chatsworth.

Over the fountain of Vaucluse, in Provence, grows an ancient Briar from which, the story tells us, Petrarch plucked a Rose for Laura. We brought cuttings home, though the Rose does not appear to go back to 1337!

An authentic link with Linnæus is Sempervivum soboliferum, from the wall of the garden of Linnæus' house at Upsala, for does not Linnæus tell us of how he found it and planted it himself?

IV.

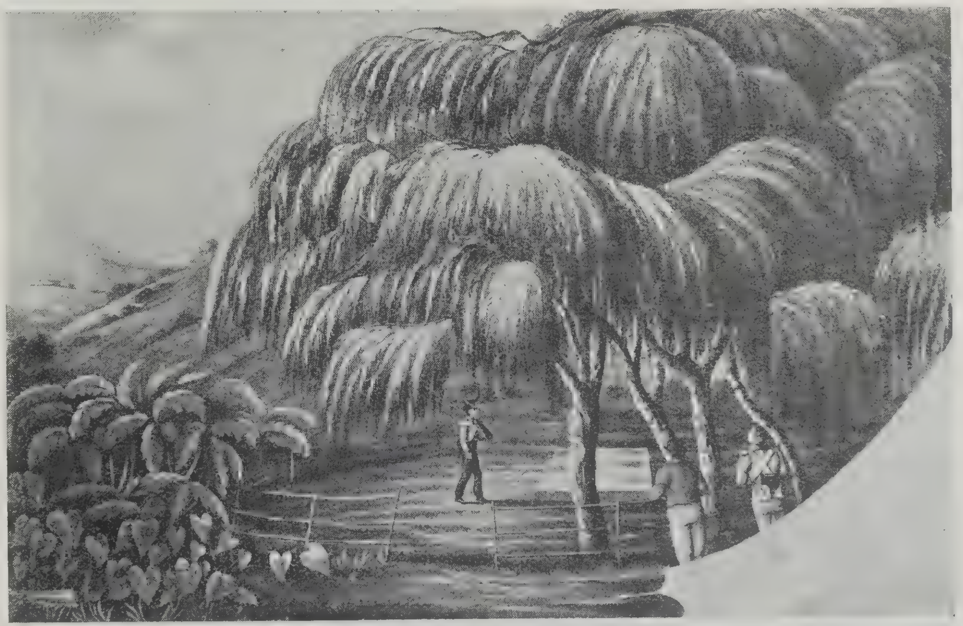
“ Lo! sweeten'd with the summer light
The full-juiced Apple, waxing over-mellow,
Drops in a silent autumn night,
All its allotted length of days,
The flower ripens in its place,
Ripens and fades, and falls, and hath no toil,
Fast-rooted in the fruitful soil.”

William Lawrence.

Japanese Maples

These plants form a wonderful and beautiful group, especially in the autumn. This year they have been glorious, and this, no doubt, is owing to the beautiful summer. Groups in the shrubbery border are very effective, and they also prove very suitable in the flower border. Their habit of growth is variable, and some of the smaller kinds are useful as isolated examples in the rock garden. In soil that is poor, growth is somewhat slow, but where the medium is good their growth is good, producing ample foliage which turns to glorious shades of colour in autumn. Some of the varieties retain their colour throughout the season.

F. H.


Napoleon's tomb at St. Helena, drawn on the spot by Capt. Marryatt, R.N., 1821

Napoleon was interred at his own request under some Willow trees near a spring of water, from which he daily sent for the water used at his table. Here he lay from May 8th, 1815, till October 15th, 1840, when his remains were removed to France. The Willow is Salix babylonica, the Weeping Willow

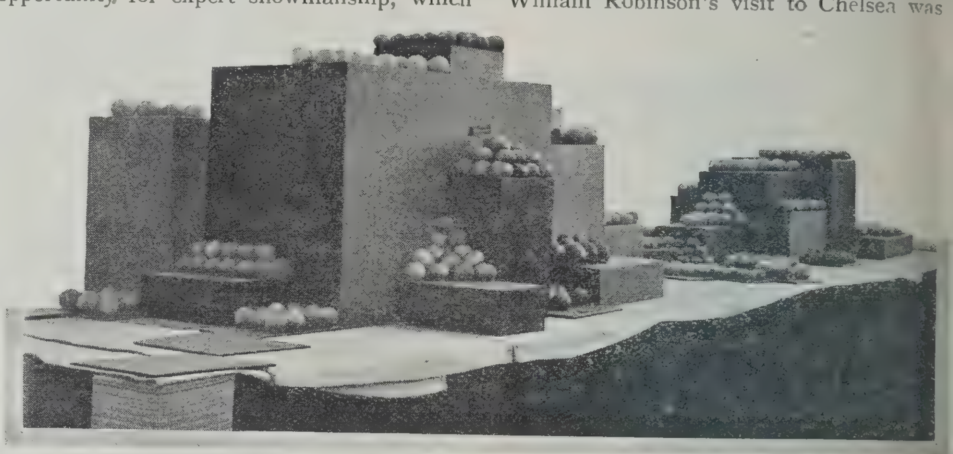
Achievemen

LOOKING back on the year's achievements in horticulture can be a very pleasant occupation, especially for the purposes of this now regular annual review, which encourages reflection upon some of the outstanding performances at shows, at trials, and in the propagation of new plants. In dealing with these horticultural high lights we brush aside for the nonce all consideration of failures and disappointments; these do not exist for us now that the year is closing, because this is also a time of looking forward. If there have been mistakes and failures we resolve not to repeat them—they are but stepping-stones in the pool of fame, upon which we have momentarily slipped—and where the report is all of progress and prosperity we shall regard this as but the harbinger of still finer prowess and of the best that is yet to be.

To march with the Daffodils and continue throughout the whole year's procession of big exhibitions of Irises, Roses, Dahlias, Carnations, and Chrysanthemums, Chelsea, York, Shrewsbury, Edinburgh, and Southport will not be expected of us; we take these big events and all that they signify of horticultural enterprise for granted, and long may they and their like flourish.

A symphony in blue

Mention must certainly be made, however, of the meritorious debut of the British Delphinium Society. It will stand out indelibly as a symphony in blue in the minds of those who rendered their homage to the flower at the R.H.S. Hall in July. It showed that masses of one genus can escape monotony, and, by skilful planning and grouping into a composite display, achieve a complete and satisfying harmony. Specialists like Blackmore and Langdon and Wm. Wells, who shared the premier honours, were given an opportunity for expert showmanship, which they utilised to the full. Among Rhododendron displays at the special show for these shrubs we recall Wallace's grand group of hardy varieties awarded the Rothschild Challenge Cup, and Gill's mammoth exhibit mounted as for a pageant of summer.



Bunyard's Apples. No dishes, no baskets

The scheme of this exhibit is obviously influenced by the cubist movement

A symphony in blue

Blackmore and Langdon's winning exhibit at the Delphinium Show

"Black" fruit

We remember with delight Bunyard's fine accomplishment with perfect Irises in a far from perfect season, to which were added a glorious group of Pæonies (we now talk of the Pæony as a coming flower), and t "break" in the exhibition of fruit in cubist setting completed a grand tri William Robinson's visit to Chelsea was many one of the big surprises of the show and his revised edition of "The Wild Garden" provided an additional reason fo adding his name to the scroll of this year' honours. The long services of G. W. Leal (R. H. Bath, Ltd.) to the Daffodil wer recognised by the award to him of the Pete Barr Memorial Cup—a most popular an thoroughly deserved honour. The Iri Society's third magnificent show found al the principals giving a very good account o themselves, but we would like to single ou Mrs. Dykes for the novel and most charmin display of her flowers. Her simple potter transfigured by harmonious hand-painte colours was an inspiration. It gives us distinct pleasure and a special sense of appropriateness to record her subsequent winnin of the Dykes Memorial Medal for Iri "Joyance."

A "close-up" of California

Mrs. Sherman Hoyt's extraordinarily vivic conception of Californian desert flora anc fauna and of the mighty Redwoods struck an entirely new note, and a slight tinge o sensationalism may be pardoned for the enterprise and skill with which it was so effectively staged.

A Dahlia garden

Another novel exhibit for which Cheal's received many congratulations was their display at the National Dahlia Show of assorted Dahlias planted in an undulating grassy mound on the floor. The restraint used here in planting was admirable, and every variety stood out in its full beauty. The galaxy of incomparable Star Dahlias has been augmented during the year by Bognor, a good bedding variety, bright rose-pink with crimson ring, Faygate, a very showy brilliant scarlet, and Margate, salmon-red suffused, tipped with rose, with yellow at base of florets. New large miniature Pæony sorts and Nagpur, a Camellia-flowered brilliant scarlet and a highly recommended variety, are promised for the coming season, as also

f the Year

their new dessert Apple King George V. ady Thornycroft x Cox's Orange Pippin), hich has the R.H.S. Award of Merit.

Further exhibits in London that we recall ith particular pleasure are Dalrymple's March group of Freesias in a variety of ew colours. The colours in his palette are mazing, but since nothing of the perfume is acrificed, only a churl will complain of the haste Freesia sporting in art shades.

ome new Alpines

Clarence Elliott, Ltd., made further notable ontributions to the flower garden in Leucocoryne ixoides odorata, Loassa acanthifolia, erbena corymbosa, and Tropæolum azureum, ll of which received the R.H.S. Award of Merit. Calceolaria Darwini was another interesting plant seen for the first time on their Gold Medal Rock Garden at Chelsea. Many ood performances by W. E. Th. Ingwersen nclude his re-introduction into cultivation of he rare Jankæa Heldreichii, Fritillaria uichiardii, Ramondias Nathalie and erbica, Ranunculus crenatus—a very fine orm from Mt. Kopravnick—and the scarce nd beautiful R. brevifolius, from the very ummit of Mt. Olympus. Other treasures ollected from the Near East which will require working up include the rare and lovely each-blossom coloured form of the true axifraga scardica.

Autumn glory

At the final Autumn Show among many ood things probably the most interesting pectacle was Mr. Lionel de Rothschild's Gold Medal group of young trees and boughs f a hundred berried and other shrubs. Here was an exhibit that drew everybody like a magnet. Autumn kept high festival in the Hall that day by this abundantly rich outpouring of her russet and ruby vintage. The ornucopia was no less lavish in the monumental display of Mr. Vicary Gibbs, whose every exhibit is an achievement in itself. Mr. Edwin Beckett, we understand, collected his ooth Gold Medal during the year.

The close of the year saw yet another Society launched, for which we predict a big uture. This was the Alpine Garden Society, oreshadowed in our pages earlier in the ear, and there are already signs of widespread interest in its development. Some enthusiasts are, even at this stage, bold enough to prophesy a boom in Alpines. In year of slumps one hesitates to hazard an opinion, but an auspicious start has been made, and a big advance in the New Year s assured.

pecial distinctions, awards, and novelties

The " Clay " Cup competition for a new Rose with the true Rose scent is always keenly contested, and the coveted trophy this ear was captured by B. R. Cant and Sons' Aroma. Their beautiful single Rose, Senorita d'Alvarez, satiny salmon-pink, with canary-yellow base, was a star at the New Roses Show of the National Rose Society, and received a Certificate of Merit. They exhibited Roses at nearly 50 shows and secured many irst prizes, gold medals, and silver cups, including the Ipswich Cup (for the second successive year) and the Canterbury Cup. The Gold Medal novelties of Alex. Dickson and Son, Gladys Benskin and Aureate, seen at the summer show of the N.R.S., were prominent among the Rose successes of the season. Golden Dawn, a vigorous yellow hybrid tea, distributed by D. Prior and Son, Ltd., and which they regard as the most outstanding introduction among yellows for many years, secured an Award of Merit at the Autumn Show of the society. This firm's dwarf Polyantha, Jack Hobbs, which had already received the R.H.S. Certificate, was granted a similar award at the International Test Gardens, Portland, Oregon, after a two-years' trial. The Rose is velvety orange-scarlet, with picotee edge, semi-double, and perpetual flowering. The Wigan Cup for autumn shown Roses, another much-desired trophy, this time went north to Th. Robinson and Son, of Nottingham.

Another jubilee

Dobbie's Sweet Peas lifted Gold Medals in London and Norwich, and, for the third time in succession, the Eastbourne Cup at the National Sweet Pea Show. We are glad of this opportunity and we know that readers will join with us in conveying heartiest congratulations to Mr. William Cuthbertson, who this year celebrates his jubilee with the enterprising and popular house of Dobbie and Co. Over 20 new Roses competed for the Nickerson Cup at the N.R.S. summer show, Dobbie's Duchess of Atholl being the winner. The R.H.S. also gave it an Award of Merit. The Abol Challenge Trophy at the Royal Caledonian (Edinburgh) Show is offered for an exhibit demonstrating the greatest post-war advance in any one family of horticultural species. This high honour was bestowed on the new Orchid-flowered Dahlias shown by Dobbie's. Further success among Potatoes was represented by their twelfth Gold Medal from the R.H.S. at the Autumn Vegetable Show.

Jankæa Heldreichii, re-introduced from Mt. Olympus

To enumerate the long list of Kelway's successes and novelties would exceed the limits of our space. Gold Medals at the Royal Cornwall, York Gala, Cheltenham Floral, Royal Welsh, Shrewsbury, and Southport are a few of their distinctions for Gladioli, Pæonies, and herbaceous plants Various of these have been selected for trial at Wisley. Among a host of good things we ought to mention at least the following three: Antirrhinum Kelway's Volcano, which has been described as the most brilliant of all Snapdragons, is of a pure self-colour, bright rich scarlet, and of vivid flame-colour in sunlight, and promises to achieve a wide popularity; His Majesty Pæony is a wonderful new colour in these flowers, having incurved outer petals of richest maroon-crimson, surrounding scarlet central petals with bronze-yellow reflexes—a most attractive and distinctive variety; Kelway's Lovely is a grand semi-double Delphinium of a delicate milky lavender and sky-blue with large white eye, and is one of the largest-flowered Delphiniums yet raised.

Two outstanding Delphiniums are among the year's achievements of Hewitt and Co., Ltd. Pompadour, granted the Award of Merit at the Delphinium Show, has a tall, imposing spike of spiral habit, the inner petals being gentian blue with a buff eye, the whole tinted with paler blue; this had a very good press. Hewitt's Superb, a 6-feet grower, was selected for trial at Wisley. This has perfect semi-double flowers of pale-blue suffused pink, with cinnamon eye.

A new race of Dahlias

A very considerable array of novelties in all departments is to be accredited to Unwin's, of Histon, and of special interest is the new and valuable race of dwarf bedding Hybrid Dahlias, which, by their easy cultivation and effectiveness, may be said to raise Dahlias to the level of popular half-hardy annuals. Seed of these is offered for the first time. Growth rarely exceeds 2 feet; they are early, very free, seldom require staking, and their delightful range of colours makes them a decided acquisition for July bedding. Principal awards for their Gladioli were a Gold Medal and many first prizes at the R.H.S. Gladiolus exhibition, large Gold Medal and Championship Silver Trophy (for the second year) at the British Gladiolus Society's Show, and large Gold Medals at Southport (fifth successive year), Shrewsbury, and Leicester.

Special Chrysanthemum successes were those of H. J. Jones', Ryecroft Nurseries, three Gold Medals with successive exhibits at the R.H.S. and the Gold Medal group of Keith Luxford at the National Chrysanthemum Show, which included a sterling novelty and First Class Certificated buff exhibition flower in Rise of Day. The Melba, a primrose-yellow sport from the popular Japanese exhibition variety Louisa Pockett, and Friendly Rival, the deepest of yellow incurving varieties, will be distributed in February. H. Shoesmith, with his usual consistency, brought many good introductions before the judges and collected no less than Awards of Merit for 14 of them.

W. H. Simpson and Sons, the originators of numerous Antirrhinums of distinction will distribute four of the year's special successes next season. Chief among these is C. H. Herbert, a very robust, pure old gold, large-pipped variety spoken very well of by the Park superintendents who have been trying it out; selected for trial at Wisley it received there the Award of Merit. Others are Huntsman, a tall, self-scarlet sport from R. F. Felton, and White Wings, which can be recommended to admirers of tall whites with a close-set spike. R.H.S. Awards of Merit were gained by their short-jointed, free-cropping early Tomato Radio, Cauliflower All-the-Year-Round (an early, medium, and late cropper), Lettuce Continuity, and Dwarf Bean Canadian Wonder Improved (First Class Certificate in trials under glass).

At the Lupin trials of the R.H.S. we believe that they headed the list by obtaining awards for Exquisite, Northern King, Highlander, and Etna, and eight varieties Highly Commended. Isaac House and Son are still persevering with their excellent strain of Scabiosa caucasica, and several novelties are announced. Their Pentstemon heterophyllus True Blue and the Blue Pimpernel Anagallis Moselli Vilmoriniana took the fancy of many at Chelsea. The Gold Medal for Sweet Peas at Chelsea was awarded to the monster grand group of R. Bolton and Sons, who followed up this success by Gold Medals at Harrogate, Ipswich, and Saffron Walden.

There may not be anything spectacular about Toogood and Sons' achievements this year, but they are of a solid and eminently practical nature all the same, and consist chiefly of improved vegetables, like Roscoff Early Broccoli, Blood Royal (Globe) Beet, Toogood's Early Market Forcing Lettuce (under glass only), Early French Breakfast Radish, and Cauliflower All Seasons. Their Viola Avalanche is a pure white, coming true from seed, a compact plant and first-class variety for bedding.

Blackmore and Langdon began the year well with a Gold Medal for their January display of Cyclamen persicum at the R.H.S., and in addition to their triumph of three first prizes in the three principal classes at the Delphinium Show, F.C.C.'s for Blue Gown, Lady Bath, Lady Emslie Carr, and Lady Eleanor, A.M.'s for Mrs. Paul Nelke and Lady Elizabeth; their Delphiniums obtained two R.H.S. Gold Medals and first prize at the Royal Harrogate; their Begonias R.H.S. Gold Medal and Silver Cup, large Gold Medals at Shrewsbury and Southport, first prizes at York Gala and Harrogate, and Award of Merit for Mrs. Raeburn Mann.

After creating a sensation among the Poets here, Mr. F. A. Secrett exhibited at the International Daffodil Show in Holland for the first time the Award of Merit Poeticus ornatus varieties Red Rim and Wide Wing, and obtained similar awards there, as also for the bright red-cupped Incomparabilis Naomi and that fine Barri J. K. Ramsbottom. Huon, a very early Poet; Edgar Thurston, a very early yellow Trumpet (selected for trial at Wisley); Finality, a Poet Narcissus; and May Glory all obtained R.H.S. Awards of Merit. The last two named secured this distinction at Chelsea, and are, therefore, among the very latest to flower.

Among other British bulb successes were those of The Welsh Bulb Fields who, at Haarlem, secured awards for six varieties of their own raising. Gold Medals were gained at the Midland (in addition to awards for Daffodils Mrs. Watts and Jorrocks) and at the Royal Botanical, Manchester.

One looked to Ernest Ballard for special novelties among Michaelmas Daisies and was not disappointed. His new-comers are the early-flowering Pink Pearl, a large, beautifully fringed, delicate pink, with broad rays and small eye, and Snow Sprite, a very dwarf mid-season Nova-Belgii, of branching habit, flowering freely down to the ground, and blooms semi-double white.

The all-round excellence and keenest rivalry among the trade Carnation exhibits is reflected in the Gold Medals awarded at the British Carnation Society's Show in November to C. Engelmann, Stuart Low, and Allwood Brothers. The "Daily Mail" Gold Cup for the best scented Carnation again went to Mavis, raised by Walter Hemus, Ltd.

Several new plants of special interest have been offered by Gavin Jones, among which were noted Rosa Damascena, the Rose of Omar Khayyam; Papaver Phenomenal, a remarkable oriental; Echinacea Letchworth, a striking blood-crimson cone flower; Clematis macropetala from China; Aquilegia fragrans, introduced by him through seed from Kashmir, Centaurea stricta, found in the Alps; Dagenophora montana, a composite from Tasmania; Ononis cenisia, a choice and scarce Rest Harrow; Tunica Saxifraga fl. rosea pl., a prostrate and dainty treasure raised at Letchworth.

Chelsea rock

Of "Chelsea" one could hark back to so much according to individual preferences, but amid the many examples generally admired or worthily judged as typical pieces of the real "Chelsea" one must pay a tribute to Gavin Jones for his intrepidity among the "rocks." It was greatly daring of him to experiment in an entirely new métier, and whether you liked it or not you could not help but feel that you were in the presence of a masterpiece, and we hope that more such innovations are in store for us on the rock embankments of the future. Whitelegg's "best yet," a typical piece of work, made a grand foil to it.

Sutton's display of annuals was on a still more grand and prodigal scale, and once again outdistanced all rivals for Chelsea's Blue Riband, the Sherwood Cup.

Sutton's big year

Sutton and Sons' "bag" of Gold Medals for 1929, in addition to the Sherwood Cup and Gold Medal for the third time in nine years, was 14 for Sweet Peas, five for annuals and other flowers, 10 for vegetables, and three for Potatoes. At the R.H.S. Vegetable Show customer exhibitors of the produce of Sutton's seeds scored amazingly with 32 out of 35 first prizes, the R.H.S. Challenge Cup, the Sutton Cup, and 1st 2nd, and 3rd prizes, Silver Cup and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes, and many other successes.

Carter's grand group of Sweet Peas and florists' flowers was, as usual, one of the outstanding exhibits at Chelsea and obtained the Gold Medal. Many other awards were obtained throughout the country, notable among these being the Gold Medal of the National Sweet Pea Society for Flaming June, and the R.H.S. of Ireland's Award of Merit for their "Fruit" Tomato.

Laxton's new Apple Epicure (Cox's Orange x Wealthy) which was reserved for the Bunyard Cup for the best new seedling Apple last year, had this award confirmed last October. Advance, an early red dessert, is another good novelty of high colour with the Cox's flavour. A new Plum, said to be the earliest with the Greengage flavour, Blue Tit (Czar x Greengage), is self-fertile and a heavy cropper.

Among the amateurs

A word must be said for the amateurs, who really need an issue to themselves for us to do anything like justice to their performances, which, in Orchids, Irises, Carnations, and other classes, compare very favourably with the best work of the professionals Many hundreds of successful exhibitors i all parts of the country were recipients o the GARDENING ILLUSTRATED Medal, which i offered yearly as a first prize at most o the principal shows. We again have to congratulate Mr. G. L. Pilkington for hi achievement of the Runciman Challenge Cu award for the best exhibit of an amateur a the Iris Society's Show, in addition to th Silver Medal of the American Iris Society To Mr. W. J. Caparne and Mr. Frank Gals worthy we pay our tribute for their remarkable collections of flower paintings at thi show. Mr. W. B. Cranfield has dominate in Ferns, and at Southport collected th chief trophy and most of the first prizes i this class. Viscount Hambleden was th Sutton Cup winner at the Autumn Vegetabl Show. At the Orchids Show Mr. F. J. Hanbury secured the Gold Medal and Silve Challenge Cup presented by Baron Schroder and for his group Mr. R. Paterson won th Orchids Challenge Cup. Lord Howard d Walden's Cup at the Carnation Show, a well as Stuart Low's Novelty Cup, went t Lady Emslie Carr. The Reginald Cory Cu for 100 blooms was awarded to Mr. Samue Wallrock.

Lady Aberconway and the Hon. H. D McLaren, whose exhibits, large or small, are always distinguished, gave of their best in their display group of uncommon plants and shrubs at Chelsea. A Gold Medal was awarded this, one of the choicest delights o the show. And so we might go on ad infinitum. As we single out a few successes as they have come at random into the mind, we are conscious of our injustice to numerous equally worthy accomplishments which fickle memory has slighted. We must leave our readers in a mood of reminiscence, as they themselves pass the year in review and fill in the gaps according to their own judgment, because the year's horticultural round is seen from almost as many points of the compass as there are points of view, and even as "many a flower is born to blush unseen," so countless meritorious performances among flowers, fruit, and vegetables must necessarily go unhonoured and unsung.

RUSLIN LIEVES.

Endive

In the preparation of winter salads some good Endive is indispensable, and for use in late autumn and winter requires protection from frost. The best way is to lift and plant in cold frames. This operation should be carried out not later than the third week in October. Place the plants moderately thick together in any fairly good garden soil, taking care to lift the plants with as good balls as possible. The soil at this season being quite moist, no water will be required. As damp is the greatest enemy to Endive in frames, the leaves must be kept as dry as possible by giving air on all favourable occasions. When the weather is very damp or showery, the lights must be kept over the plants, but propped up with a large flowerpot at the back. On fine days remove the lights entirely, but replace them in the evening. When frost prevails the lights and also the frame must be well protected by any covering material that is handy. F. H.

Seakale and Chicory

Roots of these should be prepared and planted in borders or deep boxes in the Mushroom house or other warm house where it can be kept in the dark. If the plants are dewed over occasionally the results will be more satisfactory; it must, however, be in the form of a light mist.

Anticipation

By T. Hay, M V.O , V.M.H., Superintendent, Hyde Park

HIS word was no sooner written than I vas assailed by an uneasy feeling that it night have a more subtle and compre- nve interpretation than is generally given ; I then consulted the dictionary, and ry be confessed here that my bookshelf eak in dictionaries. The first one re- rl to was entitled " A Concise Pocket onary, price 1s. 6d." Here the meaning r title was given as " to anticipate; a aste "—a rendering which was of little In these days of high prices no doubt s a mistake to expect much for a miser- ighteenpence.

tionary No. 2 purported to be " A Com- Dictionary and Companion for the ," price not stated, and although a much bulky volume, strange to say the same words given in Dictionary No. 1 were repeated. Plagiarism is evidently ram- among dictionary compilers.

then paid a visit to the local Public ary, and here one might revel in dic- ries and reference books literally by the At my request the courteous attendant ed me the redoubtable " Webster." e, as I expected, " Anticipation " had y a whole coloum all to itself, embel- d with quotations from the poets and ics. It also provided the exact value of vord in every department of knowledge. ng a multitude of other synonyms and itions it may mean " foresight," " prior eption, " intuitive prevision," " appre- ion," " forestalling," " a previous im- sion," etc., etc., and, most curious of all, title has a legal significance—this being as " expectations under a will."

make short, then, what might well be ng story, the word " anticipation " as here simply means a consideration of things as may give pleasure and interest e near future, but readers who prefer the rendering, that is, " expectations under ll, are quite entitled to have it, and the is here expressed that all their expecta- may be speedily realised.

e all know how entangling a subject ny can be, particularly when it comes to naming of plants, but I am now con- ed that it is simplicity itself when com- d to the possibilities of our everyday uage.

rdeners are busy people, and when the ogues arrive they prefer those which con- on page one the names of all plants new ncommon. There is little amusement in ng through from " Abutilon " to gopetalum " in the mere hope of finding ffer of a golden yellow Sweet Pea, a rose- red form of Romneya Coulteri, or a blue ia. There should be some advantage in having brought together some news e plants that may be expected to interest delight us in 1930, and the plants ioned here may be additional to the good provided by our many enterprising hardy merchants.

ide of place must be given to the new nopsis—M. regia—from Nepal, which been fully described in the September of the " Journal of Botany " by Mr. aylor. It has all the appearance of being eat addition to this fascinating and popu- genus. M. regia, even without flowers, be a lovely plant. Its affinity is with uperba, but the flowers are yellow, while of M. superba are white. It is probable from the Nepal collection of seeds there be a second new species of Meconopsis, his the botanists will decide.

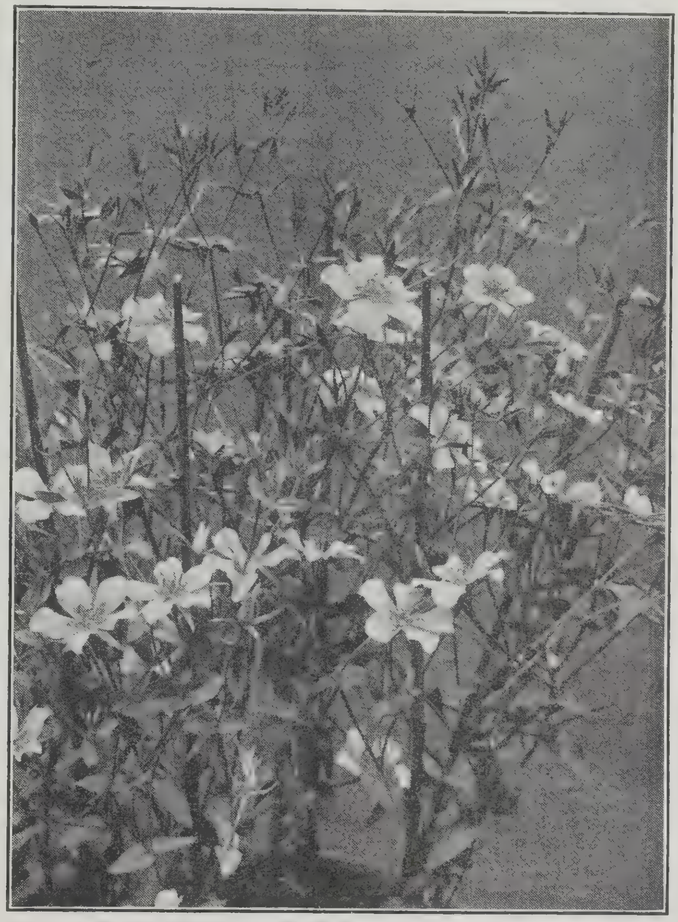
e Gentiana ornata of Wallich has been raised successfully. It is a plant new to cultivation, but it has arrived too late to carry its great name with dignity, as it will not compare in beauty with its Chinese cousin, nor with the peerless G. Farreri, but this Nepal Gentian will be a very pretty companion to both of these famous species. Gentiana Kurroo—the true plant—has also been raised in quantity and will soon be much more plentiful than it has been for many years.

Of the Nepal Primulas raised there may be one or more that are new to gardens, and if not, there will be an increase of stock of some that are never too plentiful.

Among other interesting Cape plants that may reasonably be expected to blossom in the coming season is Aristea capitata. It is many years since this plant has flowered here, and few of us have seen its long, arching wands of gentian-blue flowers.

We may also hope to see Gerbera asplenifolia and several other additions to the Cape composites. Caryopteris Wallichiana has germinated in plenty, and the dried specimens of this plant give good reason to hope that it will be as fine as any, if not the best member of this attractive family.

There is a splendid sheet of specimens at South Kensington of Mutisia subulata, a bright scarlet-flowered species, and plants are now of good size in several gardens. The recent arrival of living plants of this species direct from Chili makes this a certainty in 1930.



Sabbatia campestris

A half-hardy annual that has come to stay. Native of Arkansas and the Red River, it inhabits the open prairies, spangling them with bright pink star-shaped flowers with clear yellow centres

From Nepal and Kashmir have come two Morinas, M. Coulteriana, which has yellow flowers, and M. polyphylla, a dainty, pretty species very rarely seen in gardens.

Paraquilegia cæspitosa—the Isopyrum of some authors—looks happy in a young state, and may prove a nice addition to the rock garden.

Anemone tetrasepala is said to be a first-class species, and this, it is hoped, will be of sufficient strength to flower in 1930.

Many more interesting Himalayan plants will also show their merits and faults at an early date.

The Cape Anemone—A. Capensis—is at last here and in fine, healthy, vigorous specimens. This is said to be one of the finest of Anemones, and is beautifully figured in " A Book of South African Flowers," by Messrs. Bolus, Barclay, and Steer.

There are strong clumps of Campanula rupestris to be seen up and down the land. Farrer praises this species highly. It is one of which a good deal is expected.

The present year has proved rich in the production of new or forgotten Pentstemon species, as the Award List of the R.H.S. will show, and 1930 should give us several species that promise well from their botanical descriptions in the floras. If Lagotis glauca is half as pretty an Alpine as Royle's picture declares it to be, it will be a gem. The same may be said of Primula macrophylla, which is now with us in plenty.

The charms of Sabbatia campestris have already been appreciated in spite of its slow growth and trouble during its infancy. We may hope that S. dodecandra and S. angularis will be more easy : they are both said to be showy plants, and both species have

REMINDERS FOR THE WEEK

Southern and Midland

Lawns

Give lawns and grass paths a hard sweeping now that all leaves have fallen, in readiness for their annual dressing, which may consist of fine soil, wood ash, soot, and on grass inclined to be mossy add freshly slaked lime. Soil which has been discarded from potting will answer, providing a percentage of freshly-chopped loam is added to it. The whole should be passed through a ¾-inch sieve and be mixed as follows: 1 cart-load of soil (or 12 barrow-loads), 4 barrows of wood ash, 1 bushel each of soot and lime. Mix thoroughly and apply to the lawns with an even spread, which should average ½ inch to ¾ inch in depth. Previous to its application, however, the lawn should receive a surface dressing of sulphate of ammonia at the rate of 2 ozs. to each sq. yard; this will effect a vast improvement upon impoverished lawns, which will prove conspicuous immediately the grass begins to grow in spring.

Shrubs

Azalea and Rhododendron beds and those of other shrubs are in need of attention at this season as they usually become collecting stations for all kinds of drifting leaves, in addition to their own. Lilies are often planted freely in beds of the former, for which reason it is not advisable to dig among them even in the lightest form; something, however, must be done to improve their appearance, especially those bordering lawns, and to prevent their leaves from dispersing all over the place. The best method is that of scattering surplus soil over the surface of the leaves, as this not only keeps them in place, but hastens their decay to the great benefit of the shrubs and Lilies and leaves the beds presentable.

Crocus and Snowdrops

These do remarkably well beneath Azaleas, and a top dressing such as that described above improves them considerably.

Cutting flowers

Sprays of Winter Sweet (Chimonanthus fragrans), Jasminum nudiflorum, and similar winter-blooming flowers if cut and placed in a cool room whilst in the advanced bud stage open their flowers beautifully, and when secured in this way prevent disappointment, as the fully expanded blooms are destroyed in a single night.

Bare spaces

The foreground of trees and shrubs retained for the purpose of growing masses of annuals and other flowers should now be dressed with a little manure and deeply dug in order that such may be worked by frost and thereby cleansed somewhat, and those spaces now occupied with autumn-sown annuals should be given an occasional dusting of soot as a check to slugs.

Gooseberries

Keep a sharp watch on these from this date as birds often play havoc with their buds about this time of the year, just as they do with Forsythias and Prunus Pissardii before one realizes what is happening. Should attacks commence, the bushes should be sprayed with a bitter substance, such as Quassia Extract, and repeated if the attacks persist.

Digging, trenching, and manuring

This work is more or less constant in the kitchen garden now, but during inclement weather roots in store must be sorted, and, where not already done, the seed of the various kinds of Potatoes and Artichokes must be selected and laid out thinly on shelves where they may green and harden. Early kinds of Potatoes intended for forcing must be placed in a warm house to sprout; it will be advisable to keep them away from the glass.

Perpetual flowering Carnations

If these have been well and strongly grown they will not only sustain themselves through the many dull, dark days of the coming month, but will produce a good display of flowers. A cool, fresh, buoyant atmosphere must be the order, a crack of air being left on most of the time, always remembering that a close, humid house will favour the development of disease. Secure nice healthy cuttings when available, and thereby obtain a few good early plants for blooming in large pots.

Arum Lilies

Plants now developing flower spikes will appreciate a little feeding, either of liquid or artificial manure, as these take a lot out of the plants; it is also well to bear in mind that in Nature is a water plant, therefore do not allow the plants to suffer from want of moisture at any time during growth.

Strawberries for forcing

These should be plunged in ashes up to the rims of their pots in cold frames without delay, as failure to do so will result in a lot of split pots. E. MARKHAM.

Gravetye Manor Gardens,
East Grinstead, Sussex.

Scotland

Daffodils in pots

If these were potted at the time advised in these notes, the pots will now be well filled with roots and the tops should be making a little growth, in which case it is advisable to have them removed from the "plunge" and set in a cold frame. That is, of course, if the weather be mild and open. For the first two or three days a mat should be thrown over the lights, but later all light possible and a little air should be given. At the end of a fortnight place the pots of bulbs in a slightly heated pit or greenhouse.

Do not force unduly

On no account employ strong heat for these Daffodils, especially at first, or the chances are the flower-stems will never appear. While the soil must never get really dry, it is bad for this plant to keep it constantly sodden from frequent applications of water. A light, airy structure will give flowers of fine colour and substance.

Early vineries

Where fairly early ripe fruit is desired it will now be necessary to close the ventilators, providing, of course, that the Vines have been pruned and dressed and the house cleaned. It is wrong to start away with a high temperature, a gentle warmth of 45 degs. to 50 degs. being ample for the first fortnight or so. Well damp floors, etc., so as to maintain a nice genial atmosphere in the house. Beware of dryness at the roots, but, at the same time, do not constantly saturate the soil.

Manuring and digging

With the long-continued wet of the present autumn and winter these important jobs have been sadly hindered, and it is seldom that I have seen so little of the soil turned up at this season. It will be necessary, therefore, to take full advantage of any favourable sp
get arrears worked off.

Fruit trees on walls

The necessary pruning of these and
fastening to the walls should, if the we
be reasonably mild, be carried out. I
walls are properly wired the fastening is
an easy and expeditious matter, but w
the old-fashioned nailing is still in vogu
work is both slow and tedious, and in r
cold weather almost impossible of b
carried out.

During inclement weather

There are many days during our w
season when it is impossible for the ou
staffs to stand out, so advantage shoul
taken at such times to get various item
through that might otherwise be left
until they were urgently required, when r
valuable time would be lost putting the
rights. Tools of all kinds should be cle
and closely examined to see that they a
good working order. Such things as wo
rakes should be re-toothed where neces
lawn-mowers thoroughly cleaned and
and, if not working properly, sent to
maker for overhaul.

What may be made

Provided with a saw, square, and ham
with, of course, suitable wood and nails,
handy man can soon put together the n
sary number of cutting-boxes, and also r
old ones where necessary. Wooden t
are very cheap, but with a good plane
soft, clean wood, it is easy to turn out r
bers of these of various sizes. Birch be
are always in demand about a garden,
quantity of these should also be made.

Other necessary items

Stakes of all kinds should be sorted
tied in suitable bundles, and any requirin
be repointed attended to in this respect.
saves much time when staking is in
swing. Wheelbarrows look much better
do not get sodden if left out if given a c
of coats of paint.

The seed order

The annual deluge of seed-lists has be
and the sooner one gets going among t
selecting the various items it is intende
grow in the coming season, the better it
be for all concerned. Early ordering en
everything ordered being received, wh
also ensures that all seeds are at hand
the time comes for sowing, and it will
be a short time until several kinds have
got in. The seedsman will, also, bless
early "orderer." C. BLA

Preston House Gardens, Linlithgow.

Jasione humilis

The Jasiones are not greatly prized by t
who crave after rare or exceedingly c
rock plants, yet in most rock gardens of
size there are places where a good pla
Jasione humilis—one of the best of the d
species—may be accommodated with
vantage. It has been well said that
Jasiones aim at being Globularias, but
are short of attaining that goal, nor are
Phyteumas, but occupy a place between
two. This species, which is only abo
inches in height, is a neat little plant
many heads of pretty blue flowers prod
in summer. J. humilis is quite hardy,
may be raised from seeds or propagate
division. S. ARNOT

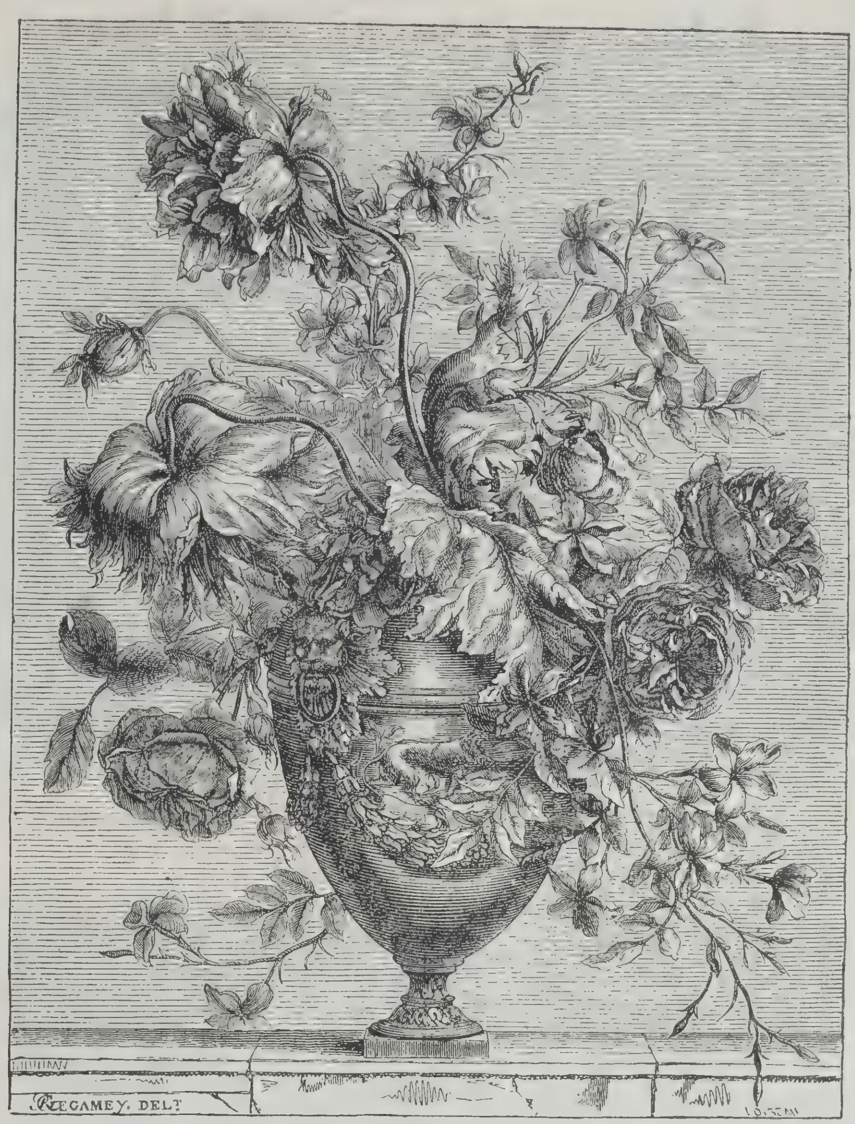
ardening Illustrated 50 years ago

When We Were Very Young

Are old fruit trees worth saving?

MY experience leads me to say
"Never cut down an old tree
unless it is quite dead." I have
any large old fruit trees, of which
me twenty or thirty were trans-
anted twenty years ago. All of them
ere grafted with other sorts of
pples, and, with the exception of one,
hich died, all are doing well, and are
ne trees. I have also several espalier
pple trees, some of which are a hun-
ed years old, and, having been
afted afresh, have done well,
pecially one, an old Pomme Roy.
his tree having exhibited symptons of
cay, and having also become afflicted
ith American blight, was, some seven
eight years ago, grafted in two
aces, an operation which has given
so much new life and vigour that
st season it bore twelve bushels of
pples of the Pomme Roy kind, and
ne bushel on the grafts, and this from
n espalier more than a hundred years
d! Therefore, an orchard of old trees
ight be kept for many generations in
ill flourishing and fruiting condition,
erely by fresh grafting any trees that
ow symptons of decay. The new grafts
ut into the old tree have grown with
much vigour that three faggots have
en removed, yet the space out of
hich they were cut is hardly visible.
e do not, however, as a rule, prune
pple trees here; on the contrary, all
ings are permitted to grow as they
ill. The old tree of which I more
rticularly speak is 60 feet in height,
vering the walk, arbour-like, and
nning its branches through the ever-
een shrubs on both sides. On other
d trees here the grafts grew quite as
gorously as on the one just alluded to,
t they have been partly shortened.
R. W., *Reading.*

—*December 27th*, 1879.



Woodcut from the first volume of "Gardening Illustrated"

Rare trees and shrubs at Wimborne

ave received a copy of a catalogue of
and shrubs from W. J. Marchant, of
er's Hill Nursery, Stapehill, Wimborne.
more than a catalogue, it is a work of
nce of 88 pages, and is a model of cor-
omenclature, spelling, and descriptions,
from a most interesting collection of
nd uncommon plants.

s firm is a young one, and has done
ers in the short time it has been in
ess.

ke the genus Berberis. Over 110
s, varieties, and hybrids are listed, and
careful study of this genus has resulted
e plants being true to name. Over 50
easters are listed, and their autumn
y in foliage and berry is emphasised and
ciated. There is a good collection of
species. The Prunus and Pyrus sections.
oth have been very carefully classified,
grown in quantity here. The rarer
include Acer nikoense, A. Sieboldian-
Anopteris glandulosa, Banksia quercifolia, the true Berberis Sieboldii Boldoa fragrans, Fothergillas, Eucryphias, a fine collection of Gaultherias. But why go on mentioning names when you can obtain a copy of the catalogue? It is free, but I would gladly pay for it, as surely it is far too good a list to distribute broadcast.

After studying the list I was determined to pay the nurseries a visit, and did so, and found an afternoon with the proprietor all too short. Mr. Marchant was up to his neck lifting and despatching orders, but very kindly put himself at my disposal and showed me his stock—he is a real plant-lover, and knows his plants, and ever ready to learn and to teach. I felt ashamed at having taken up so much of his time and got so much information out of him and at the end of it bought so few plants in return, but my garden is tiny and full to its limit. What struck me about the place was the health of the plants. I found the ground is trenched 3 feet, is of a light nature, and there is abundant leafmould on the place. The plants lift from the open ground with a mass of fibrous roots.

The rarer plants are grown in pots and kept plunged in frames which are shaded in very hot weather by laths.

The Prunus and Pyrus have made fine growth in spite of the intense and prolonged drought; thorough cultivation has proved its value there this past summer. The stock of Prunus subhirtella autumnalis is a very large one, and all plants are on their own roots.

I came away amazed at Mr. Marchant's knowledge and his skill as a propagator, and I think when the second catalogue is printed there will be a good many more items included of still rarer plants, as there were hundreds of pots of seeds of rare things from all over the world which in time will, I hope, be available to our gardens. F. D. T.

Ranunculus nyssanus

It is now a good number of years since I first grew Ranunculus nyssanus. It is still little known in gardens, and does not even find a place in many large and fairly complete works of reference, although offered in some catalogues. It is, however, described in Farrer's "The English Rock Garden," as "a handsome thing." It is of running habit, and, if left alone, will soon cover a good space, but it must not be allowed to trail among smaller choice plants. It has hairy, fur-like leaves, above which are borne the flowers on 1 foot high stems in May. These are of a golden yellow, and are quite good in their way, although some consider the blooms are too like those of our native R. acris. R. nyssanus seems rather indifferent to sun or shade, moisture or dry soil, but evidently grows and flowers better in a moist place with a little shade, and is increased by division.

S. ARNOTT.

Achievements of the Year

One corner of Sutton and Sons' group awarded the Sherwood Cup at Chelsea

Mr. K. Luxford's Chrysanthemum The Melba. *(See page 867)*

Addresses of Secretaries ofte wanted

Alpine Garden Society (Mr. Sel
Duruz), Le Chalet, Montagu Gard
Wallington.

British Carnation Society (Mr. F.
Alesworth), 17, Avenue Road,
worth, Middlesex.

British Delphinium Society (Mr.
Halford Roberts), 3, Warwick R
Thornton Heath, Surrey.

British Florists' Federation (Mr. C
H. Curtis), 5, Tavistock Street, Co
Garden, London, W.C. 2.

British Gladiolus Society (Mr. A.
Amos), 10, Bergholt Road, Colchest

Garden Club (Col. Cameron), 9, Che
field Gardens, London, W. 1.

Gardeners' Club (Mr. F. C. Pudi
Bodnant Gardens, Tal-y-Cafn, Denb
shire.

Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Institu
(Mr. Geo. J. Ingram), 92, Victoria St
London, S.W. 1.

Horticultural Club (Mr. G. F. Tin
855, London Road, Westcliff-on-
Essex.

Iris Society (Mr. G. L. Pilkington), Lo
Lee, Woolton, near Liverpool.

London and South of England Viola
Pansy Society (Mr. J. H. Little), B
Tor, Brentwood Road, Romford.

Midland Daffodil Society (Mr. H. Smi
19, Tenby Street, Birmingham.

National Auricula and Primula Soc
Southern Section (Mr. A. S. Hampt
63, Tilehurst Road, Reading.

National Carnation and Picotee Soc
(Mr. A. E. Amos), 10, Bergholt Ro
Colchester.

National Chrysanthemum Society (
Chas. H. Curtis), 5, Tavistock Str
Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2

National Dahlia Society (Mr. W.
Chittenden), "Merissa," Colborne W
Worcester Park, Surrey.

National Pansy and Viola Society (Mr.
Allison), 39, St. Oswald's Road, Sm
Heath, Birmingham.

National Sweet Pea Society (Mr. A.
Bartlett), 19, Bedford Chambers, L
don, W.C. 2.

National Rose Society (Mr. Court
Page), 28, Victoria Street, Lond
S.W. 1.

Rhododendron Association (Mr. G. W
son), 53, Hove Park Villas, Ho
Sussex.

Royal Gardeners' Orphan Fund (Mr. A.
Bartlett), 19, Bedford Chamb
Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

Royal Horticultural Society (Col. F.
Durham, C.B.E., M.C.), Vinc
Square, Westminster, London, S.W.

R.H.S. Gardens (Mr. F. J. Chittend
F.L.S., Director), Wisley, Rip
Surrey.

United Horticultural Benefit and Pro
dent Society (Mr. A. C. Hill),
Alexandra Road, West Kensington Pa
London, W. 14.

Overhaul roots in store

The various root crops stored for the win
should have an occasional look over,
showing the least sign of decay being
moved. Seed Potatoes should also be gi
attention, as should Apples and Pears in
fruit room.

Planting Apples

tical advice—Pitfalls to avoid and
e importance of correct labelling.

E notes given below are, in the main,
attempt to answer several corre-
ondents who have written to us on the
subject, and while we are not going to
vith the actual planting operations,
of the points discussed should serve a
purpose.

e first place, we would ask the planter
d the reply given to "Experimenter"
November 16th issue of GARDENING
RATED upon the question of Apple
, because the choice of the correct
for the purpose in view seems to be
e game.

OF TREE TO PLANT.—This question
be answered without taking into con-
ion local conditions. Standard and
andard trees are the types to use for
ng in grass. They are slow to come
earing, but on reaching maturity large
for many years can be expected. The
mistake is to plant this type too closely.
planted at 10 feet to 12 feet apart the
ook to have plenty of room, but in ten
he trees require thinning, and another
e is then often committed by attempt-
keep the trees within the space avail-
y drastic pruning. Such treatment re-
in more growth and unfruitful trees.
y-five feet to 40 feet apart, according
iety, is the correct distance to plant
pe of tree.

the open garden, bush trees are the
l type in use, although in large estab-
nts half-standards are often per-
le. If bush type trees are used see that
es have a clean stem 2 feet in height.
istance apart of planting must vary,
ane's Prince Albert on Malling No. 1
requires at most 12 feet; Bramley's
ng on the same stock requires at least
that distance. In very small gardens
-trained trees are undoubtedly the
plant. Walls or fences clothed with
trees give excellent results, and no
is too small for this class of tree.
ees should be planted 2 feet apart and
angle of 45 degs. At this angle a
r length of stem can be obtained on a
height of wall or fence, and, what is
nore important, the lower buds of the
break better.

IETIES TO PLANT.—This is a very vexed
on and one about which few are agreed.
st gardens the real problem is to pro-
supply of fruit for kitchen and dessert
s long a period as possible. Even this
so straightforward as it would appear;
the problem could be solved by sitting
with a catalogue and selecting a good
so that the period August to the fol-
June was covered. If this were done
would be some years in which some
s would be Appleless because all varie-
not crop every year. The best re-
re got by choosing enough varieties of
consistent croppers to cover the period
The varieties should be as few as is
there is no advantage and some dis-
age in having too many varieties.
conditions influence the selection of
es, and we would urge our readers to
exactly what varieties suit the soil and
t. It is far better to grow a suitable
well than to waste many years in try-
grow something which does not like
il. All wish to grow Cox's Orange
, but a well-grown Allington is better
badly-grown Cox.

RECT LABELLING.—Many plant Apples
en promptly lose the names. As the
ome into bearing a desire to know the
is raised. Samples are collected and
sent to this, that, or another authority. If the variety is a largely grown commercial sort and the specimens sent are typical the naming is fairly easy. Those who know Apples best will be the first to admit that to name varieties is generally guesswork, and that the easiest way of being sure of the variety is to keep it labelled. We should be saved much work if this was always done. Incorrect labelling from the nursery does on occasion happen, but it is rare with a good firm. If doubt arises as to a variety being true to name an expert can usually say whether or no it is correct.

ANIMAL DAMAGE.—All newly planted trees should be protected from rabbits and hares. Valuable trees can be ruined in a night by these creatures, and not only are the trees ruined, but a year's growth is lost, because one must start again.

SHELTER.—Apples, like most other plants, do not like exposed situations. Wind is the cause of many failures, and it is not generally realised that it is the S.W., W., and N.W. winds that are most to be feared. N. and E. winds do little damage to Apples.

Apricots on walls

BOTH Peaches and Apricots gave good accounts of themselves last summer, the trees carrying full crops. Of the richness and lusciousness of well-ripened Apricots there can be no two questions, and it is surprising they are not more frequently met with in amateurs' gardens. Apricots can only be grown in this country as trained trees on walls, houses, or closed fences in the warm parts of the country. East and west aspects are suitable, but those of south-east or south-west are to be preferred, whilst in the northern parts a southern aspect is essential. The Apricot will succeed in any good garden soil or loam; if rather sandy than otherwise the better. Soils of a strong, clayey nature do not suit it, but these may be improved by the addition of light garden soil, sand, or lime-rubble. In adding any of these, incorporate them thoroughly with the natural soil before planting the trees. The ground must be well drained, and if not naturally so it must be drained in the usual way. There is no need for wide borders, 3 feet to 5 feet being quite broad enough. My plan is to confine the roots to this width by cutting a trench the whole length of the border at this distance from the wall and two spits deep. By this system the trees are prevented from growing too strongly, and when the roots are confined they are better supplied with water and liquid nourishment in dry weather, and carrying heavy crops of fruit.

I consider the best time for planting to be the end of September or commencement of October, as the soil is then warm, and fresh roots form before winter and will start more vigorously in spring than when planted later. Early planting, however, is not absolutely essential, and so long as the soil is not frozen, the trees may be planted all through the winter, but not later than the middle of February. The best trees to plant are the dwarf fan-trained, inserting them 12 feet apart. Some growers, I know, advise a greater space, but Apricots, unfortunately, are liable to go off partially or wholly in a most unaccountable manner, and the gap is then not so difficult to fill with a young tree. To secure a greater crop a fan-trained standard or rider may be planted between the dwarf-trained trees.

The fruit is produced on shoots of the preceding summer's growth, and also on spurs two or more years old. Train the main branches to diverge equally, say, 10 inches or 12 inches apart, and when extended far enough they may be sub-divided so as to be the same distance apart again, repeating this as the tree extends. Some young wood may then be laid in between the main branches, and this wood frequently produces the finest fruit. Spurs should be allowed to form along the branches, but not too thickly, and any young shoots which push from them to two or three buds when they have attained a few inches in length should be pinched back. All the pruning required in winter is to cut back any long spurs or shoots passed over in the growing season. For fastening the shoots to the wall, the finest things are the lead-headed malleable wall nails, which, although holding the branch or shoot firmly, allow it to expand. Shreds which harbour so many insects are entirely done away with.

As the blossoms of the Apricot appear early in the season they are liable to be cut off by frost, therefore protection must be given at this critical time. I find the best means of protecting both Apricots and Peaches is to fix a strong, stout wire stretched very tightly just under the coping. Hessian curtains are then run on this, reaching nearly to the ground. The curtains are hung on the wire with brass hooks, which slide backwards and forwards as required. At every 6 feet or 7 feet poles are fixed to prevent the curtains blowing against the trees. This protection is well worth fixing up, as the curtains can be run in front of the trees in a few minutes. If protected from frost, Apricots set their fruit thickly, therefore thinning must be liberally carried out. Leave the largest and best shaped fruits for the crop; the thinnings may be used for tarts. The trees, when carrying heavy crops, must be kept moist, and in dry weather have copious supplies of water and liquid nourishment. Insects are often troublesome, one of the worst being a small, light-green caterpillar which does great injury to the leaves. The only remedy is to go over the trees daily, squeeze all leaves that are curled, and so destroy the caterpillars. Scale also attacks the trees and must be destroyed with an insecticide when the trees are dormant. Aphis is sometimes troublesome during summer and is best destroyed by fumigation under sheeting temporarily put up, selecting a quiet evening for the operation. Whole branches of the Apricot sometimes die off without any apparent cause. Some attribute this to sunstroke, some to severe frost. My experience teaches me that the cause is allowing the roots to become too dry in hot weather. Three good varieties are Moorpark, Hemskirk, and Shipley.

F. H.

Restrictions on Potato planting

The Ministry of Agriculture has recently had under consideration the question of what further steps could be taken to guard against the appearance of Wart Disease in the important Potato-growing areas around Boston and Wisbech. A considerable quantity of the produce of the Potato fields in this district is exported every year to other countries for use as seed, but the trade is dependent on the continued freedom of the producing districts from Wart Disease, because practically all the importing countries require a certificate from the Ministry that there has been no case of Wart Disease within at least 5 kilometres of the place where the Potatoes were grown. A slight outbreak, even one in a cottage garden, in the producing districts would, therefore, result in stopping the export of Potatoes from an area of about 30 square miles, and a few such outbreaks might entirely prevent the export of Potatoes from the whole of this important district.

More than 90 per cent. of the outbreaks of Wart Disease recorded in this country have occurred in private gardens and allotments, and it was considered that an additional safeguard would be provided by the issue of an

Order restricting Potato planting in such premises to certified stocks of immune varieties, *i.e.*, Potatoes which are the subject of a "True Stock" certificate. This suggestion was favourably received by the two National Societies representing allotment holders and by the Minister's Potato Advisory Committee, which is comprised of representatives of all the important associations interested in the Potato trade; this Committee recommended that action on the lines indicated should be taken.

The Minister has accordingly made the Wart Disease of Potatoes (Amendment) Order of 1929, which comes into force on January 1st, 1930. It applies to the following area:—The administrative county of Lincoln (parts of Holland), including the Borough of Boston; the Petty Sessional Division of Wisbech and the Borough of Wisbech in the administrative county of the Isle of Ely, and the Petty Sessional Division of Freebridge Marshland, and the Borough of King's Lynn in the administrative county of Norfolk. Within this area the planting is prohibited in any allotment not exceeding a quarter of an acre in extent, or in any private garden, of any Potatoes which are not certified stocks of an approved immune variety. Exceptions from this requirement have, however, been made in respect of (1) the following five early varieties, which are not immune from the disease:—Sharpe's Express, Eclipse, Epicure, May Queen, and Duke of York; (2) Potatoes of immune varieties saved from the crop grown on the same land in the previous year; and (3) before June 30th, 1930, any Potatoes saved from the crop grown on the same land in 1929.

Copies of the Order and lists of the approved immune varieties may be obtained on application to the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10, Whitehall Place, London, S.W. 1.

The Potato crop

The yield per acre of Potatoes is estimated at 6·9 tons which, although ⅘ ton above the ten years' average is about ⅓ ton lower than the record yield of 1928. There is, however, an increase in the acreage, and the resulting total production is consequently higher than the heavy crop of last year, being estimated at 3,588,000 tons, as compared with 3,513,000 tons in 1928. The best average yields per acre were obtained in Norfolk where the average of 9·9 tons was 2·6 tons per acre above the average for the county, and in the Isle of Ely where the yield of 8·1 tons per acre was 1·5 tons above the county average.

Shelter hedges of evergreen

On a windy day one can enjoy the garden better when walking in the shelter of a Yew hedge that protects our choice plants. As a hedge plant on boundaries the Yew is too poisonous to live-stock, but in the garden it may be safely employed. Provided the site is deeply dug and manured, the Yew is not so slow-growing as some imagine. If the young plants are kept clean and a dressing of nitrate of soda given during the growing period, their rate of progress will be fairly rapid. Another good hedge plant is Berberis stenophylla, a close grower, and very prickly. After flowering it can be cut back to restrict to hedge proportions. Viburnum tinus (Laurustinus) also makes a good shelter hedge. Not only is it evergreen, but flowers the winter through. From time to time cut it back into shape like the Berberis. Cupressus macrocarpa also makes an excellent screen.

F. H.

Belladonna Lilies

BELLADONNA LILIES are justly claimed to be amongst the most beautiful of autumn-flowering bulbous plants. Coming from South Africa it is reasonable to suggest that they are not hardy in all parts of this country except in the southern and western counties. It is possible, however, to grow them successfully inland. A site should be chosen for them on the south side of a house or wall, where the plants will receive the full benefit of the reflected heat and sunshine. This is essential for the ripening process, to enable the production of the delicate pink and white clusters of flowers, which are borne on stout, leafless scapes, from 1½ feet to 3 feet high, arising from the large Pear-shaped bulbs. Flowering after the leaves have disappeared, there is naturally an interval of nakedness before they throw up their scapes. In early autumn there is an absence of rich colours among hardy plants such as Belladonna Lilies provide, hence they are all the more worthy of cultivation with a view to providing a display of bloom in early autumn. Besides the typical form, there are several important varieties of Amaryllis Belladonna known respectively as A. B. maxima, A. B. blanda, and A. B. kewensis, all of which are distinct and of excellent merit. The three varieties above mentioned are characterised by a more vigorous habit, freedom of flowering, and richer colour than the typical kind, the latter having dwarfer scapes bearing flowers of a paler hue. There is also a variety called A. B. alba. In addition to the above there are a number of varieties said to be bigeneric hybrids between Brunsvigia Josephinæ, a many-flowered bulbous plant from the Cape of Good Hope, and Amaryllis Belladonna. When deciding to plant Belladonna Lilies, a suitable site should be selected and the ground thoroughly prepared. The soil should be taken out to a depth of about 3 feet, and 6 inches of broken bricks or other material placed at the bottom form drainage. Then cover with a g layer of half-rotted manure to keep drainage open, which ultimately will as in feeding the plants. If the natural soi poor or unsuitable it will be advisable replace it with good fibrous loam, leaf-s and sand in suitable proportions. This sho be made firm by treading as the work filling-in proceeds. Plant the bulbs in sn groups about 1 foot apart. If the sp allotted allows for more than one row, clumps in the second row should be al nately planted with those in the first. Ins the bulbs 6 inches to 8 inches deep and co them with sharp sand to keep them fr rotting. A good time to plant is during summer after the foliage has died do when root action commences before flower-stems are sent up. They may also planted in autumn after flowering. Onc border has been planted it should be severely alone for a number of years as plants are impatient of removal or distu ance of any kind and slow to recover.

During dry weather, and when plants are making growth, an occasio soaking of clear water and liquid-man will be very beneficial. As the plants be to push forth new leaves in the ea spring they should be given protection fr spring frosts. The bloom in the autumn dependent on the freedom and the heal condition of these, so that injury to leaves should be carefully avoided. Rem the foliage as it ripens off, and clean border before the blooms begin to p through the soil. Although Belladonna Li are reputed to be somewhat erratic and certain in their flowering—largely attrib able to climatic conditions prevailing in t country—these sun and warmth-loving s jects well repay for the periods of waiti and enrich the garden with one of the b of early autumn blooming plants in seas when they do well.

J. L

Answers to Queries

Queries—*Queries and answers are inserted in* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *free of charge if correspondents follow these rules: All communications should be clearly written on one side of the paper only, and addressed to the* EDITOR *of* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED, *Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E C. 4. Letters on business should be sent to the* PUBLISHER. *The name and address of the sender are required in addition to any designation he may desire to be used in the paper. When more than one query is sent, each should be on a separate piece of paper; the name and address being added to each. As* GARDENING ILLUSTRATED *has to be sent to press some days in advance of date, queries cannot always be replied to in the issue immediately following their receipt. We do not reply to queries by post.*

Naming plants—*Readers who wish plants be named should send fair examples of each— stem, leaf, flower, or fruit. (Snippets of lea and points of shoots are useless.) Not more th four plants should be sent in any one week by t same correspondent. Where more than one ki is sent they should be numbered. Of conifers t cones should always be sent.*

Naming fruit—*Several specimens in differe stages of colour and size of the same kind grea assist in its determination. Single, unripe, deformed specimens are difficult to name. do not undertake to name more than fo varieties at one time.*

Twelve good early flowering Chrysanthemums

(King's Co.).—The varieties referred to on page 819, issue December 7th, 1929, could be obtained of Messrs. H. J. Jones, Ltd., Ryecroft Nursery, Lewisham, S.E., or any other well-known Chrysanthemum specialist.

NAMES OF PLANTS

Mrs. A. B., Ilnacullin.—1, Pinus Pinaster (Maritime Pine), native of the Mediterranean region; 2, Pinus montana, native of Central and S.E. Europe, common in cultivation; 3, Pinus contorta with rather large cones, native of Western N. America, approaching var. Murrayana; 4, Pinus halepensis, native of Mediterranean region, rare in cultivation.

C. E. M., Thurlestone.—Osmanthus illicifolius syn. O. Fortunei. Yes; these flowers which are produced in autumn are white a fragrant.

NAMES OF FRUITS

Wm. B., Essex.—1, Northern Greening; Beauty of Hants.; 3, Wellington (Du melow's Seedling).

A. K., Aston.—1, Lady Henniker; Northern Greening; 3, Hubbard's Pearma 4, Golden Pippin; 5, Scarlet Nonpareil; Paroquet.

Peg.—1, King Harry; 2, Yorksh Beauty; 3, Nonpareil; 4, Pear Gansel-Seck 5, Pear Catillac (small fruit); 6, Pear Bu Dumont (small fruit).

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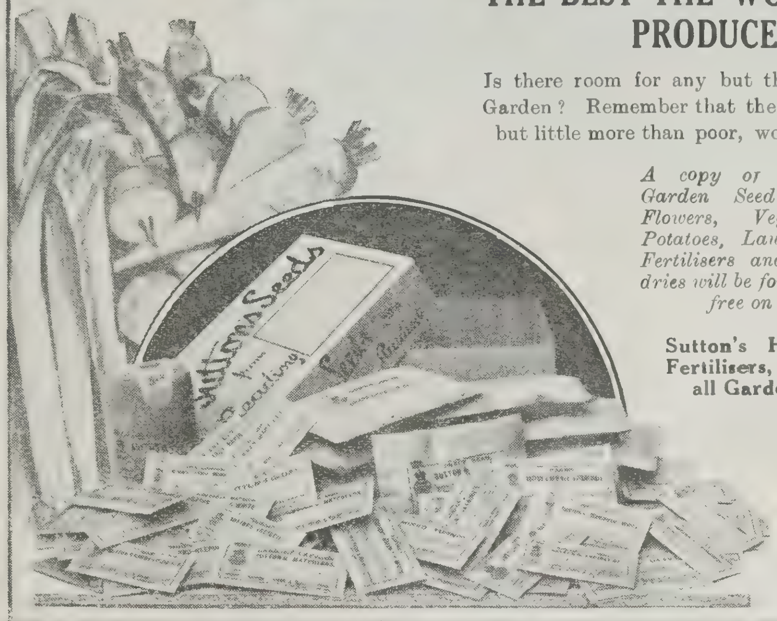

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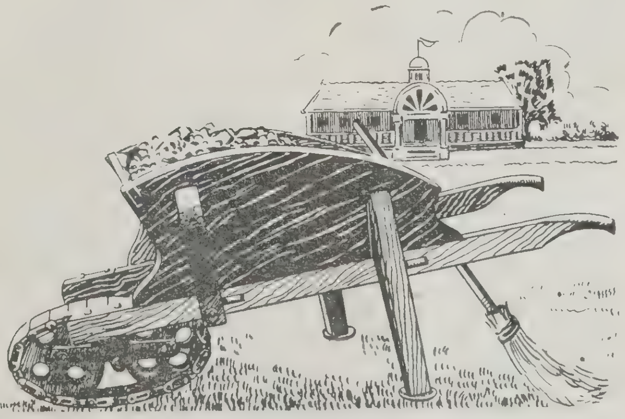

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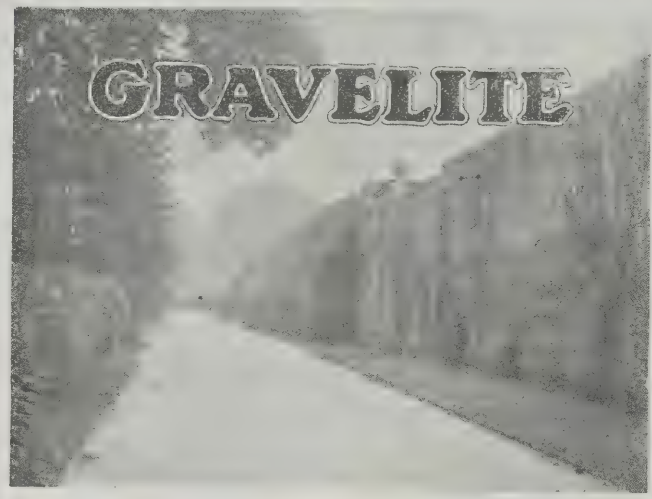

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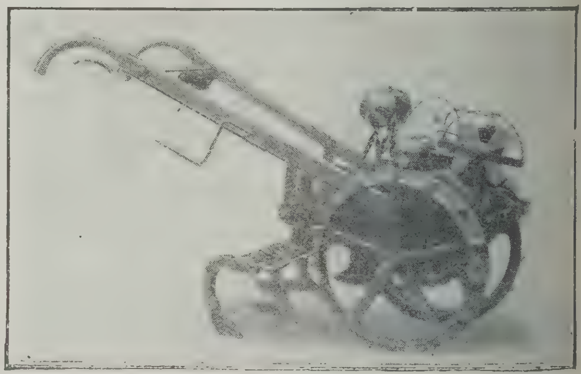

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